

The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina convened for a Strategy Session on Monday, July 6, 2020, at 5:06 p.m. in Room CH-14 of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center with Mayor Vi Lyles presiding. Councilmembers present were Dimple Ajmera, Tariq Bokhari, Ed Driggs, Larken Egleston, Malcolm Graham, Renee Johnson, James Mitchell, Matt Newton, Victoria Watlington, and Braxton Winston II.

ABSENT: Councilmember Julie Eiselt

Mayor Lyles called the meeting to order and said I hope all of our community had a chance to celebrate our July 4th, the Independence Day. I think that most of us recognize this time as it sits in the environment that we have in our community and across our country right now. It is one that is a reflection time so, if you have not read Fredrick Douglas' letter on July 4th, I would commend it to everyone.

Once a month the Charlotte City Council schedules a session that is really around completely having strategy and discussion among the Councilmembers. We have several topics tonight that we are going to discuss. Before we begin, I would like to send our condolences to the Family of Julie Eiselt, our Mayor Pro Tem who lost a nephew this weekend and she will not be able to join us for the meeting tonight. We are giving her our very best of our prayers and her family. The loss of a young person is always very so Julie, we are thinking about you and all of your family.

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ITEM NO. 1: CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Lyles said we are going to go into closed session as the first item on our agenda. I will ask the City Attorney to read the motion.

Patrick Baker, City Attorney said we need a motion to go into closed session pursuant to G.S. 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.

Motion was made by Councilmember Ajmera, seconded by Councilmember Mitchell, and carried unanimously to go into closes session pursuant to G.S. 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 Council went into a closed session at 5:09 p.m. and returned to open session at 5:45.

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ITEM NO. 2: COVID-19 RESPONSE UPDATES

Mayor Lyles said although we like to hope that we would be getting better; in some parts of this country, we are seeing a lot of increases in the number of cases and a number of hospitalizations. We are going to hear from our team about what is going on here in our own community, our City and our County.

Marcus Jones, City Manager said I believe we have Chief Johnson and Chief Graham tuned up to give us our report.

Chief Bonham, Deputy Chief of Business Administration said I am the Director of Emergency Management for Mecklenburg County. I'm going to give the update; I think Chief Johnson and Chief Graham are here to talk about some other things. This is day 117 of the EOC (Emergency Operations Center) activation; the number of cases as of about an hour ago was 12,792 in the County; the number of deaths is 156. There has been a county-wide mask distribution plan in place through Mecklenburg County, Atrium

Health, CharMeck Response, and other community partners began distributing two million masks to residents across the greater Charlotte area. These were provided by the Federal Government. This public/private partnership is ongoing to assist residents in complying with Governor Cooper's recent Executive Order which requires people to wear face-covering in public places when six feet of distancing isn't possible. Mecklenburg County, with assistance from the EOC, continues to maintain hotels for isolation and quarantine residents and for the general public and social distancing hotel options in response to overflow from the homeless shelters. RNC (Republican National Convention) is still in place and the NFSE designation is still August 24, which is Monday. It continues to monitor the number of indicators to both [inaudible] related to COVID-19 and policy calls with all City and County Managers and Department Heads continue to occur three days a week. We are standing by for an update from Governor Cooper on schools and the impacts on the County and specifically the need for child care for government and healthcare workers. Field Observers were sent out to local stores last week to report commodes and how they are available locally. Quantities and variety may not be what we are typically used to seeing, but there are some things out there. The North Carolina National Guard continues its mission of supporting our North Carolina Food Banks and lastly, there are two tropical systems, one is sitting over Georgia right now and will cross the Carolinas and set off the coast later this week and another one is off the coast of South America.

Chief Johnson, Charlotte Fire Department said during the last update we had some discussions about mandating face covering. That was obviously addressed in the Governor's Executive Order 147 which spelled out requirements for face covering. In that order, it encouraged local governments to adopt similar policies. This week we plan to provide a joint proclamation with the County and other towns for the Mayor's signature. It will require face coverings in City-owned and leased facilities by employees and customers as outlined by the CDC (Centers for Disease). Again, we stressed last time and this time as well that working together with the County and the Towns has been very fruitful for our response to COVID-19.

Councilmember Winston said I have a question for the Manager about how we are approaching our staff and thinking about the long-haul for essential services, knowing that a lot of our workers have to work in teams. I know we did a lot of stuff immediately a couple of months that was good, but really kind of concerned about the flare-ups that are happening. Will we be instituting a systemic testing requirement for our own employees, especially those that have to work in congregate working situations?

Mr. Jones said thank you, Mr. Winston. You are correct, we have been working with our employees, especially those employees doing operations, and what we have done is before we brought employees back is to make sure that the property safety items are in place. Directly, to your question in terms of what we are doing with many of the safeguards, some things like temperature testing while some recommend it.

Mr. Winston interrupted and said I'm going to clarify because I mentioned temperature testing probably in our first meeting. I am now talking about COVID-19 testing, nasal swabs [inaudible] if available to ensure that the continuity of workers. I know there are others, for instance, sports teams that are coming on back on line. They have to work together obviously, there is a systemic testing approach that is needed to make sure that those workforces are safe as this exploding in our County and around us. I'm concerned about our workers so, how are we are going to approach testing workers in a systemic way for COVID-19 before they come to work?

Mr. Jones said I better understand your question so, in terms of those types of testing, we don't have that. That is something that I will talk with Gibbie Harris about that it came up tonight. But short of that we are doing as many protocols that we can do in terms of keeping our employees safe.

Mr. Winston said this Councilmember would like us to look into especially our congregate working situations, having a systemic testing approach for all of our employees.

Councilmember Newton said it is my understanding that the Governor is requiring face covering for everyone in public. Is that correct? We are stopping just short of that is what it sounds like for all City employees and maybe if you could expound upon that regarding City-owned facilities. So, we are talking about anybody that enters into City-owned facility, but all in all between us and the Governor what kind of coverage are we looking at from the standpoint of face coverings for everyone?

Mr. Jones said before Chief Johnson gets back up, that is one of the reasons that he is talking about the declaration for the City and the County and Towns that will sign on too. The Governor's ordered there wasn't specificity to local government buildings and that is what we are trying to rectify with that. Have I got that correct Chief?

Chief Johnson said that that is correct Mr. Jones and I was having a difficult time understanding or hearing Mr. Newton's questions, but the order itself clearly defines when we are supposed to wear the mask when we are not able to social distance, whether it is inside or outside.

Mr. Newton said I'm sorry, I know it was a confusing question. I guess what I'm asking is what exactly are we bringing to the table with this new local executive order that didn't already exist in the Governor's order?

Chief Johnson said in the Governor's Executive Order 147, it did not clearly state how local government facilities, whether owned or leased, they did not fall under that particular executive order with face coverings, so this gives us the opportunity to do so with the County and the Towns to make sure that we are able to identify for employees as well as customers that come into these facilities, what the expectations are with face covering.

Mayor Lyles said did you ask about exceptions Mr. Newton because I know that children and people that may have medical issues, but I don't remember all of them. Chief Johnson, is it posted online so that we can access the information and details about it?

Chief Johnson said yes ma'am, I believe there are 11 exceptions that are clearly defined in the executive order for the Governor. I'm sure that can be found on the State website. There will be some additional ones, obviously dealing with private offices, those people that have private offices don't necessarily have to have a mask unless they have someone visiting or they at a common area less than six feet, not able to social distance.

Councilmember Driggs said I wonder Chief if you could comment on the research that has actually been acknowledged on the World's Health Organization website and the CDC to the effect that the masks are not effective. It seems to me that those websites acknowledge on the one hand that there is no science supporting the suggestion that they are effective. At the same time, those organizations have found even recommend wearing masks when you are in proximity to others. Has the government's law and are we trying to track whatever the message is from those organizations? I will comment too that some of the statements that have been made by the State have given rise to the confusion that I heard too that Mr. Newton alluded to. There was an apparent contradiction I think in some of the public statements versus the law. But I wonder if you could specifically comment on the science around the effectiveness of masks?

Chief Johnson said it stated that we actually follow Public Health Director Gibbie Harris' direction on this, and she works closely with Dr. Cohen from the State. I know there has been some misinformation and information has been provided that says that face coverings don't provide protection and then there are other studies that do. We are going to obviously work closely with Director Harris as well as works closely with Dr. Cohen and the State. Right now, moving forward with face coverings has been directed or mandated.

Mr. Driggs said right; I looked at myself and both of those organizations do acknowledge the issue of the uncertain science around the masks. I just wanted to try to clarify that in fact, the order that the Governor issued appears to be intended to somehow chart a course taking on board the fact that those organizations recommend wearing masks when in proximity to others, but they haven't found that they are effective, or they haven't been able to prove their effectiveness. I think there is some burden on us also to be aware of those discussions that are going on in the major health organizations as they pertain to us. So, is the City requirement that we have added any different from what the Governor provided for those other places and all we are doing is saying that the same rules that the Governor established will apply in City-owned establishments?

Chief Johnson said if I heard the question correctly, one I will address distance [inaudible] with Director Harris [inaudible] regarding this study [inaudible] but as far as the requirements for our City-owned or leased facilities, yes it will be in line with what CDC and the Governor have put forth.

Councilmember Johnson said I just wanted to ask our colleague if maybe you can send Council the research that you are looking at; we have enough divisiveness in the community and I'm looking at the CDC website right now and it says the face-covering help to slow the spread of COVID. Then I had a question about the City employees and the COVID protection, trying to piggyback off of Mr. Winston. Mr. Manager; are we tracking employees who are testing positive, the number of cases in the City, and the Departments that they are in? My second question is there an update on the protection for the City bus drivers on those partitions?

Mr. Jones said we don't track all of the City employees that have tested positive for COVID-19 for the most part because in some cases we don't know. We do have some numbers, but they are not comprehensive, and I don't know if Taiwo is on the line, I know the last time we talked about the changes to the buses with trying to put the partitions in and I'm not sure all of those would have been done over the course of the last week. I saw Taiwo just popped in.

Taiwo Jaiyeoba, Assistant City Manager/Planning Director said we are still working on those. It will take us another 60 to 90 days to get that done, but we have removed seats on buses so much that we are able to accommodate the six-foot physical spacing but we also providing masks for riders as well when they come on board.

Mayor Lyles said Ms. Jackson just informed me that the face-covering guidelines are on the City's website, charlottenc.gov at the top of the yellow bar. That is what we are doing in communicating with the residents in the City, from our website charlottenc.gov on the top of the yellow bar.

Mr. Newton said I have a quick follow-up on Ms. Johnson's question about tracking any City employees who tested positive. Is that something you can do? I know Mr. Manager you said it is something we don't do. I'm concerned about from a tracing standpoint, employees that may have been exposed to someone that they did not know were positive. Is that something we can do from the standpoint of ensuring that everyone's health and safety, and if we don't do that is that something maybe someone else can do? Is that something that the County because I know there are people tracing when someone does test positive. Is that something maybe they are doing that they could report to us on? Is that something we are doing or something that from a roundabout way we could get more information on?

Mr. Jones said I can see what the County is doing in terms of tracking. I don't know if Chief Johnson if there is anything outside of our first responders that we have a tracking system for.

Mr. Newton said is it something we can do I guess is my first question. Then the second question is that something that the County is doing anyway?

Mr. Jones said for the second question, I do not believe the County is doing that. For the first question, it is absolutely is something we can do, I just know it will never be comprehensive.

Mr. Newton said I would be interested in hearing a little bit more about that and maybe looking into it and seeing how effective that might be and helping other employees and making sure we are doing our part [inaudible]

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ITEM NO. 3: CORRIDORS OF OPPORTUNITIES AND VIOLENCE REDUCTION FRAMEWORK UPDATE

Marcus Jones, City Manager said I believe Sarah Hazel is going to come in and join me with this presentation. I do want to start off by saying that what we are attempting to do tonight is really two-fold; one is to remind the Council of the efforts that have occurred over the course of the last nine-months in collaboration with the County to address violence and also to put into a perspective something that the Council has been working on since I would say the Retreat back in January. That is these Corridors of Opportunity and then you layer that in with what has been occurring as it relates to Reimaging Policing and the work of Safe Communities Committee. What I would like to do tonight is use this more so as a backdrop of all of the things that are occurring. I did have a conversation with the Chair of the Safe Communities Committee as well as the Vice-Chair and I'm trying to also take into account what Councilmember Watlington has put together as a strategy to move forward. Just put that out tonight and allow Council to talk a bit about that. With that said I'll jump into the presentation.

While the presentation is loading, I'll just talk a little bit about what has been occurring in terms of the corridors and in terms of violence framework. You may recall that the Safe Communities Committee last fall in collaboration with the County, worked on a Violence Framework. The concept with which Gibbie Harris brought before us was Violence as a Public Health Issue and that has informed a lot of work that has been happening by the staff as we move forward towards some of the charges that are on the Community Safety Committee.

Again, the purpose of the presentation today is to provide you an update on the work, share some new opportunities, and receive feedback and direction from you. Maybe the most important slide in this is a little bit difficult to see, is the priority areas which are in the tan and our Corridors of Opportunity which are in blue. In terms of the priority areas, we started off with the term hot spots and moved those to priority areas and what the City and County had agreed upon was this evidence-based way of looking at violence reduction. It was interesting to see our corridors, and I will mention what Councilmember Graham said coming in, and that was these corridors had a bunch of studies, a bunch of discussions but not necessarily enough action. So, we blend these two together and we see that this is where we do have an opportunity, and what we've done as a part of this FY21 budget is we have a multi-discipline approach where we have economic development, Planning, Transportation and Housing and those four directors working together with the staff resource of Cherry Grant who is well-known throughout the community, trying to pull all of our resources together to have a positive impact in these areas.

Where we are right now in terms of the corridors and the continuum is that what we have done is we over-laid the priority focus areas as well as the Corridors of Opportunity and where you see any area in bold it means that it is both a priority area and a Corridor of Opportunity. In these three, I'll call them stove pipes, for now, is really this continuum. When you start to get to the far right it is program and project implementation, but before you can get there, there needs to be extensive community engagement and before that, there is planned community engagement in various phases. That is where we started, and this is where we are now. There are clearly two corridors that have been studied and studied and engaged and engaged where we believe there are great opportunities for project and program implementation, and that is

Beatties Ford and LaSalle as well as West Boulevard. But Beatties Ford and LaSalle, there has been a lot of work around the urban main and the West Boulevard there is actually a West Boulevard Playbook which has become a prototype for other Playbooks throughout the City. What we have teed up right now in this next phase is I-85 and Sugar Creek as well as Central Avenue and Albemarle Road which we would have extensive community engagement well on its way to program and project implementation.

So, as we move forward let's talk a little bit about the funding that you just approved in terms of the FY21 budget. All of these funds are available now for specifically for these corridors. So, it is \$10 million in PAYGO (Pay As You Go) and there is \$14.5 million in the CIP for a total of almost \$25 million. So, how does this breakdown? In terms of the breakdown, when we talk about the PAYGO, which are the dollars that are available that are not infrastructure, Economic Development \$5 million; Housing which includes the Land Trust that we found from West Boulevard as well as what we call aging/staying in place, a program that has been discussed; Community Safety and Engagement another \$1.5 million there; implementation about half a million of that \$600,000 is just for the Urban Main implementation and then almost \$400,000 in contingency. What is key with this table is that we looked at programs that worked throughout the City and we said let's use those programs that have been working and have a renewed effort specifically for these corridors. So, the concept was as we went back to January is that going to the toolbox, those tools that don't work or haven't given us the outcomes that we want, let's stop utilizing those and those that have, let's double down on those. Those are your PAYGO investments that are specific to the corridors.

Some of the initiatives that are occurring right now in the corridors include, as you may recall we are using the CARES money for Public Wi-Fi, Youth, and Teen Opportunities at the Y. Again, there are Placemaking and ED (Economic Development) Partnerships as well as Strategic Housing Partnerships that are taking place as we speak, not having to start from scratch, but some good work that has been happening with economic development and housing. Then in terms of the framework to address violence; this is the strategy that came out of the Safe Communities Committee and what is important here is the partnership between the City and the County and some of our other partners. If you go to the next slide, those items that are in yellow, we have some preliminary work on them and there are some opportunities to expand. In the green, the work has already started so let's start off with the Intergovernmental Collaboration. It is a busy slide, but the bottom line is that at the top of everything that is going on are our residents, but there is this opportunity with the Executive Leadership Team that gets input from the Council, from the Board of County Commissioners as well as the two Committees that are associated with those in each body to give feedback to a team that is led by me and the County Manager with a concept of us being able to have key stakeholders in each of the four priority areas to give feedback so that we are working together as one team and that includes not only the employees but the residents.

Here are some of the outcomes that we have already to this process. In terms of some of the evidence-based programs that we have, we start off with how do you interrupt violence? We have identified, if you go back to the \$10 million that I discussed earlier, with the Jumpstart Funds there are opportunities for us to have violence interrupters, which again are evidence-based solutions that help address or to lower violence in our communities. There is both the Hospital-Based Violence Intervention which was presented to the Steering Committee as well as Street Outreach Violence Interrupter which there are a number of examples throughout the country as well as some of our residents here have pointed out that this is an opportunity for us. We would like to, with your approval, move forward with launching both of these as a pilot in the fall. One thing that I will do on the next slide, which really will help us, is that we've already begun to invest in our community-led efforts with the Street Outreach Program and I commend Federico and his team because these Upward Mobility Fellows will actually be in communities to help address economic immobility as well as infrastructure for organizing within the communities. We believe that having this as a basis already in the communities will allow us to be more successful with the Violence Interrupter Program. What is also encouraging is that we have already begun in our next phase of

implementation, the I-85/Sugar Creek design sprint where there are wonderful people in the community such as Gregg Jackson with Heal Charlotte. We have Public Health, CMPD, we have hotel owners and gain the concept here is to get that community engagement to understand what are the needs of the community before we just start to pour in funds?

Lastly, which is probably the most important is that we started off with analyzing data. We've been working with UNC-Charlotte and some of our other partners and we are finalizing a Violent Crime Dashboard which will be launched in July. If there are any questions about where we've been, I'll answer those before we start discussing some plans for where we're going.

Councilmember Mitchell said City Manager; thank you for that feedback on the Corridors of Opportunity. I think after the Retreat in January there were Councilmember that said we need to put some energy behind our corridors so thank you for putting them in the budget and for sharing us with the strategy. My first question is, is Cherie Grant our go-to person for the Corridors of Opportunity?

Mr. Jones said yes sir, she is and much like you she is ready to go.

Councilmember Watlington said I like Mr. Mitchell, am pleased to see what we've done so far since the Retreat because as he said there was a lot of energy around these particular corridors and investing in our people. I'm happy to see what is in the pipeline and some of the upcoming pilots in the fall. I have a couple of follow-up questions about where we've been. Are you able to tell me or remind me of what percent of the total crime accumulated or accounted for in the hot spots?

Mr. Jones, I may be wrong with this, but I think the population was something like two percent, but the crime was closer to 10%. I can make sure that we get you that right number before we leave tonight.

Ms. Watlington said okay, the reason I asked that is just to manage expectations in terms of the work we are doing in the corridors. We expect to see that this investment would see a reduction of around up to 10% of crime across the board.

Mr. Jones said I don't know if we could say it that way, but what we can say is because there is an imbalance between the population and the percentage of crime for the entire City, we believe by having a higher concentration in these areas will give us a quicker benefit if that helps.

Ms. Watlington said my next question is, in regard to Nations Ford and Arrowood; I noticed it was on the map as a, I don't want to use the term hot spot, but I can't remember what you called it, but it is not in the Corridors of Opportunities. I was just curious about what the strategy was around there.

Mr. Jones said it is in the priority area, but not in one of the corridors. What will occur Ms. Watlington is that much of what we do for the violence reduction strategy will be focused in that priority area, but not necessarily the concentrated dollars for the corridor program, but funds will be available through anything that we could consider a violence reduction, yes.

Ms. Watlington said you mentioned the role of the other entities; that was a question that I had. I'm interested very much so in the economic development dollars. I saw this on the schedule, and I think \$5 million from ED and I think that will really help us in terms of crime prevention with building business capacity to make sure they've got what they need as business owners to prevent and deter crime in their areas. I look forward to that and just as a follow-up I'm excited about working with Cherie, she has shown great promise thus far and I'm looking forward to her leading this and kind of raising the flag for this for the City. I do want to ask specific to Federico's work, will he be a good contact in terms of from the workforce development conversations that I'm having?

Mr. Jones said yes, he would be and as we go to the second part of this presentation you will see that I'm recommending a larger role for Federico as we deal with not just violence reduction, but also enhancing our corridors.

Mr. Watlington said awesome; thank you.

Mr. Jones said I do have an answer; the four priority areas represent two square miles of the City however, eight percent of the violent crime. I would like to add one more thing, Rebecca Hefner, who has been working diligently on this as well as Sarah Hazel and the entire team, Gibbie and Dena have been great partners here and I just want to make sure that I'm acknowledging that publicly. There is a lot of things going on with COVID-19 and what Sarah has been doing is continuing the communication with Gibbie. Our strong desire as we continue to have this collaboration and we just thought tonight it was important to come back to you to let you know that a lot of good work is happening, but it only works well when we have the partnership and they are very willing partners.

Ms. Watlington said got it, thank you.

Councilmember Winston said can we bring up the organizational chart slide again, please? So, as an Intergovernmental approach has there been a consolidation of budgets between the City and County?

Mr. Jones said Mr. Winston; that is exactly how we started off. We had some jumpstart grant money, the County had various grants and we were looking at those as how could we, I guess do some cross-pollination and I promise I won't say it again in this presentation, then everything changed in March. What we are trying to do is just to get ourselves back on track and to some extent take a little bit of the lead as we start to move forward because we understand how important it is for us to be in these corridors and having action.

Mr. Winston said I don't think you answered my question. How are we going about consolidating budgets for this work between the City and the County? Is it we just hope that everything is going to align or is there a common strategy? I have a couple of questions about the Intergovernmental approach. Do you want to ask the question and let you kind of go or do you them one by one?

Mr. Jones said whatever you want to do we will do it. We started off again, not looking at two multimillion-dollar budgets, but those budgets that were specific around what we would call violence as a public health crisis and for us it was easy to look at some of our jumpstart grants and the County has several significant grants, I think ranging from a few hundred thousand to maybe up to \$5 million. What we were trying to do as we start to think about things like violence interrupters and things of that nature is how could we collaborate within three of four funding streams, not the entire budget, which I think you are headed, but just three or four funding streams, how could they work together to get the outcomes we were looking for.

Mr. Winston said in what the City Office of Department will an Effort of Violence Prevention be housed? What is our internal structure of how we hold our organization accountable?

Mr. Jones said what we were initially doing, and it is tough to see at the end of this box, is that Mecklenburg County Public Health was looking to form an office of Violence Prevention and I'm not sure if that came out of their budget this year, but I will find it out. For us we know that it doesn't make sense, what we've seen, again as we start to look across the county with evidence-based programs, it does not make sense to put something like this into the Police Department so we would not have an office of a function like this in CMPD. It seems like we would be better off in something like the office of upward mobility and immigrant emigration.

Mr. Winston said I would agree that it shouldn't be in CMPD so the answer to the question is that we are thinking this is going into Federico's office?

Mr. Jones said that is the initial thinking yes.

Mr. Winston said I have concerns about this is an Intergovernmental approach, it seems like while we have good leadership in place that wants to work together, I am unconfident right now that there is a good systemic way that we are working with to interconnect the two sides of this work. I think we need to have some serious conversations if this is going to be successful. How do we streamline this work; how do we elected have oversight of this and how does this not get caught up between two different budget cycles that one is always going to be an election year which makes things crazy? I am unconfident about this and I think we need to have serious conversations about the structure. My last question is why are we waiting till the fall? You know that we need violence interruption during the summer months especially, we know that we need it now and given current events. We know that we have plenty of community members who are waiting and ready to do the work; why are we waiting?

Mr. Jones said Mr. Winston; I was just giving ourselves a little bit of time to make sure that we do this the right way. It is now and as we go about doing it the right way, if we can beat the fall, I totally agree with you, but we just wanted to make sure as we do it, we do it in a way that works for Charlotte and not just something off the shelf that may not work for Charlotte. I would love to beat the fall.

Councilmember Graham said thank you for the presentation Mr. Manager. I know we talked about these priority areas months ago and although our attention was the [inaudible] because of COVID-19, so what practical steps have they been taking since those initial conversations surrounding these priority areas and specifically on Beatties Ford Road that you can talk about publicly. What are they doing to combat the crime notwithstanding what we are trying to do, but day to day, week to week law enforcement? What are they doing?

Mr. Jones said I heard part of what you said, Mr. Graham.

Mr. Graham said the question is what is CMPD (Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department) doing on a day to day basis to stop the violence on Beatties Ford Road, notwithstanding the fact that we are going to do this violence interruption, but we talked about this early in the year. It is not a new concept that Beatties Ford Road and those other areas are hot spots so what are they doing tactically day to day, week to week since the initial conversation to stop the violence on the corridor?

Mr. Jones said we do have Chief Jennings that is also in Room 267. I would like for him, before we finish tonight, to talk a bit about what the policing that is happening in the Beatties Ford Road Corridor. We will cue him up.

Mayor Lyles said Chief Jennings is on Mr. Graham; do you want to repeat the question?

Mr. Graham said good evening Chief Jennings and again congratulations. My question is there is no mystery around the fact that Beatties Ford Road specifically has been a hot spot for years. The Council talked earlier this year about Beatties Ford Road yet again, so just help me and the public understand the day to day tactically plan for policing Beatties Ford Road, what you guys are doing since the beginning of the year, what you are doing now and why the recent activity?

Chief Jennings, CMPD said I think what you are asking is probably something that needs to be more comprehensive than just me talking off the top of my head of what has been going on. We certainly can get that done. I do know that there have been a lot of shifts in patrols that have gone towards the Beatties Ford Road area, that we've also worked with a lot of the businesses in that area as well and tried to help with some quality of life issues with the Beatties Ford Road area as far as graphite is concerned and things like that. There is work, as you said, has been going on for several years,

probably ever since I have been on this Department as well, but what I can do is put together something that is more comprehensive than outlines a lot of the details of that work.

Mr. Graham said I would love to see that because again, I clearly understand the direction that the Manager is going in; I agree with it, but like Mr. Winston said we can't wait until the fall. This has to be tomorrow; what happened yesterday to really combat what is happening on the corridor so I would like to see that report sooner than later. Another question I have for you Chief Jennings; and again, these are questions I'm getting from my constituents so I'm just asking the questions in a public atmosphere because they deserve answers. When did you see drag racing in the street when does that get interrupted? The first time it happens, the second time it happens or the third time that it happens?

Chief Jennings said I think a lot of it is circumstantial as well, but I think the first time that it occurs you would hope you could take some sort of action to make that stop, whether it is enforcement action on the individuals or just deterrent actions to keep it from occurring. My hope would be the first time you see that occur and you address it best you can, but it also depends on circumstances on how you can safely address it.

Mr. Graham said okay, again I think we have to interrupt the violence when we see it and that is a part of any violence interruption plan. Mr. Manager and Chief Jennings; I requested the calls for service for 3201 Beatties Ford Road where the young man was killed last week, the 14-year old and I'm holding up here seven, eight and ten pages of call-ins from citizens from District 2; Lottering, injury to personal property, domestic violence, disturbance, drug sales, alcohol sales, citizen conduct, welfare check at this one address so when does this become a public nuisance and what enforcement as an interruption of the violence can we take control of this one property. I shared the information this morning with the City Attorney and I asked him specifically about abatement action, nuisance action that this particular site is a public nuisance. A lot of the crime that is occurring up and down the corridor, that is the spot. So, help me understand the type of enforcement at that particular site based on the calls for service and Mr. Attorney, what steps do we have to take based on the information I shared with you to declare 3201 Beatties Ford Road a public nuisance and does this record that I have demonstrated that we have the legal authority to move forward with that? If the Attorney could answer first before Chief Jennings.

Patrick Baker, City Attorney said thank you Councilmember Graham; I did get a chance to take a look at that list and certainly the list that you showed me looks at a lot of criminal activity that would absolutely fall under the category of a nuisance abatement action under Chapter 19 of the General Statutes. One thing I would like to do, and I've already reached out to the Attorneys assigned to the Police Department, is to identify police records. Hopefully, there are reports, not just the calls for service, but reports that can precisely place that criminal activity at that location. Once we've done that review, I think we will be in a better position to determine what our next steps are going to be. I have seen certainly in my past working on this particular nuisance abatement statute, we've done multiple things including sending letters to the property owners, advising them that the conduct on their property may be subject to Chapter 19 of the General Statutes and that they actually may own a property that is, in fact, a public nuisance and it needs to be abated immediately. There are a couple of options there but depending on the quality of the evidence that would be contained in the Police report, I think we will be in a better position to make that decision and I will certainly work with the Police Department and I would absolutely have to work with the Police Department to gather that evidence and we are going to start that process. I have not had a chance to speak with Chief Jennings about that, but we are going to start that process based on the calls for service you provided to me and certainly want to hear from the Police Department as to what they are seeing on the ground as well.

Chief Jennings said I can also confirm some of that as far as some of the notifications that we've sent to the property owner as well as some of the work that is required in order to take that property over. Again, it is more than calls for service as far as the

reviewing of the reports and having the reports, and arrests and things like that are directly related to the business, not just the block address or the street address.

Mr. Graham said what official steps do we have to do today to move that forward Mr. Manager?

Mr. Jones said Mr. Graham; I think the first thing we need to do is follow our Attorney's lead in terms of the information we get from Chief Jennings as well as having a path forward. I would love to be able to come back to you at the next Business Meeting with a strategy to move forward.

Mr. Graham said if we could get that before the next Business Meeting Mr. Manager; when you see the information, I have in front of me. When you talk to the Police Officer they are not washing cars on that lot Mr. Manager, they've been selling drugs on that lot for quite a long time and so I think the urgency is now Madam Mayor for us to take some proactive action and so, if we can get a directive from you to really take a look at this site, 3201 Beatties Ford Road to see what immediate action that we can take from a civil perspective to get control of that property, talk to the owner, do what we have to do, that is the springboard for everything that is happening on the corridor from that site. I hear what you said Mr. Manager, I really appreciate it, I think we need to move quickly so anything we can do this week working with Chief Jennings through the Attorney's Office to move this forward, I think that would be the best violence interruption that we can take today to move and reduce the balance on the corridor.

Mayor Lyles said Mr. Jones; I think what Mr. Graham is saying and that we need to start the work and get some updates. Our next meeting is on the 13th when we will all be together, and I think that it might be a good idea for Chief Jennings to come back on the 13th. Maybe we have our premeeting, have Chief Jennings come back, and talk about Beatties Ford Road. I have talked to Mr. Baker once or twice about some nuisance properties and while he was very successful in Durham, I think it took two-years. So, we need more immediate as well as the long-term so if you will just keep Mr. Graham informed about what we are doing on a regular basis this week and we will be back together next Monday, and we can have a more formal report. Chief Jennings; I'm saying that we will have a report on Beatties Ford Road, I hope that that is acceptable with your schedule as well.

Chief Jennings said yes ma'am.

Mayor Lyles said we will keep moving; I think Mr. Graham is right. When we were out there, I think it was Mr. Graham and me, we continue to find people that are living and want to do right, but when you don't have people that help you or come out at night in situations that knockdown almost everything you do for the good, it is hard to want to say I'm going do my part when nobody else is doing their part. I think Mr. Graham is right in saying that we need to do our part.

Mr. Jones said I would like to add to that; there were several questions from Councilmembers about a number of cases that are out there related to Police and Public Safety so I would like to be able to have Chief Jennings come back next week to address some of those too, to the extent that he can, including the events on the night of June 2nd.

Mayor Lyles said Chief Jennings; your agenda gets longer for July 13th.

Chief Jennings said that sounds good, I can be prepared for that. Thank you.

Mayor Lyles said feel free to bring any of your team that you feel necessary. I think sometimes we do get some distance between the folks that are doing the work. When we were out there, we talked to the officers; we learn a lot about what they are doing, but if you feel like you need to have some of your team come in and talk to us it would be great. It might be good to have our Code Officers come in as well in this session because I think that you will hear more from the Safe Communities that this isn't just

about policing, it is about how do we build good neighborhoods and how do we help people be their very best. I would say that it would be helpful to have our Code people there to hear what our Officers are saying, Mr. Jones.

Mr. Graham said one more than Mr. Manager; thank you very much for reporting in terms of where we are doing with violence interruption. I just want to make sure that it doesn't become too bureaucratic and that we allow room and space for grassroots leaders to really participate in how we shape this. One individual, in particular, is Robert Dawkins and his group. We talked about this earlier in the year as well, making sure that that plate is at the table as well. These guys are on the streets doing the work and in talking with them over the last couple of days, I believe he and others can provide valuable expertise as it relates to on the ground working with some of the same population that we are trying to address. I clearly support the notion of working with Mecklenburg County, issues relating to homelessness on the corridor, drugs, substance abuse on the corridor, etc. It is to wrap-around services that are missing for sure, but I also want to be very loud and clear to everyone on the corridor and the Council and to the Police Chief in particular. We only expect one thing on Beatties Ford Road and that is to protect and serve everybody and treat the corridor as though it was SouthPark and things that you allow over there. I am 100% behind Chief Jennings; I am extremely excited about his tenure and I think this is a new beginning that we need to send a strong message from this Council and certainly from this Councilmember that foolishness crime, what happened that night was not about celebrating history in tradition, it was a reckless disregard for human life and every time that occurs no matter the circumstances, you've got to intervene. I am fully supporting the Police Department, we need Police, we need police reform as well, but what happened over the last couple days in the corridor simply cannot and should not happen again. It calls for strong law enforcement, it calls for dotting I's and crossing T's and it calls for a decision in a number of perspectives when we talk about economic development later and I don't know Cherie Grant, I'm looking forward to meeting her and working with her. I just hope that the Manager and Tracy have empowered her to do the job and to be out of the box in terms of what is necessary, not only on this corridor but the corridors throughout the City.

Councilmember Driggs said Chief; I have a question for you; a couple of years ago we had a situation where there were another hot spot, drug activity, and other things and we talked about cracking down there. The advice we got at the time was that if your crackdown on a location the activity just goes somewhere else. Do you see a problem like that in addressing this specific issue on Beatties Ford Road?

Chief Jennings said when you talk about dispersing crime sometimes that is the answer to what you are trying to achieve because if you can send individuals out into smaller areas, you can probably better deal with it than if they are gathered in one particular location that is continuously occurring. I do have to echo some of the difficulties when you start talking about nuisance abatement and all of that. I think the Mayor touched on the fact that it takes years to do and then if there is a business that is trying to show progress and improve that even delays it further. I think what you have to look at all of the effects of what you are going to do, but if dispersing it to different locations and not to one particular location then make it better manageable for us as a Police Department.

Mr. Driggs said thank you; I hope we all appreciate in these conversations the difficulty and I appreciate Mr. Graham's comments, but we are simultaneously asking CMPD to be more effective about law enforcement and at the same time we are conducting this wide-ranging review of what they do, and we are responding to calls for defunding them. I don't think that sends a very unified message so I hope we can be very clear that we support CMPD and that we appreciate the importance of their law enforcement efforts, their public safety efforts and that we will consider the issues that have been brought to our attention, looking for improvements. I feel that CMPD is in a very tough spot right now. On the Beatties Ford Road thing, for example, the officers in light of the protest that had been taking place did not want to be a highly visible presence and I think the Chief confirmed that when I asked him about it. They were trying to be sensitive to the mood around those protest and they weren't as strongly present, as visibly present as

they might have been. I think we need to give top priority to public safety, we need to appreciate how many lives have been lost as a result of violence compared to the lives that are lost as a result of encounters with the Police and keep our priorities straight. I hope that we are unambiguous in expressing our support for CMPD even while we consider ways to improve community relations and the effectiveness of policing.

I would mention Mr. Manager; as well that I welcome your conversation with the County and the cooperation between the County and the City. I think among other things, I heard that CMPD was feeling that their mission had been broadened because of the deletions of funds and budget cuts in other area and that they found themselves having to sort of taking over responsibilities that they didn't originally consider to be a part of their core mission. So, if we can work with the County to restore funding outside of the CMPD budget so that they can focus on what it is that they do best I think that is a very good thing. I did have one question as well on interruption; it was the one slide that showed the hospitals and the streets. The jumpstart funds that have been identified for this effort, is that not part of the PAYGO and the other money that you referred to before on the \$24.5 million?

Mr. Jones said that is correct, yes.

Mr. Driggs said on the street outreach violence interruption, who are the people exactly going to be that actually do that? Are we going to hire new people or how does that work in practice?

Mr. Jones said thank you Mr. Driggs; a couple of things that I think will help with this. If we could go back to the framework; it is important to know that all we are doing is implementing what the Council has already approved in terms of the framework and you see a lot of collaboration whether it is Intergovernmental or community-led efforts, but this is evidence-based, based on collaboration and then if you go to the next slide which is very important, I think this may have gotten lost in the discussion. There has been talk about Robert Dawkins and Heal Charlotte and I agree with everybody. It is so important to have the individuals who are on the ground to be involved and as you see each priority area has a Stakeholder Group and that group would be made up of those individuals. Specifically, to your question Mr. Driggs; for the street Outreach Violence Interruption, again, we would be working with those individuals who are already in the communities because they have the connections. That is what we are finding with the different violence interruption programs. What I do think is extremely important is that the upward mobility fellowship that is already in place that Federico and his team have been working on, we will learn a lot from those individuals because they are a community-based organizers. Between the street outreach from the upward mobility fellowship as well as what we see as the violence interrupters, both inside the hospitals and in the community, we really think that with this evidence-based approach we can do some things that will give us that the results that we are looking for and that is reducing violence and not just through policing.

Mr. Driggs said so it is not that we are going to hire a whole lot of social workers or other people to go out and try to mingle, we are going to play a coordinator role as it were and try to establish contact with people who are already out in the streets.

Mr. Jones said right and those individuals who are already a part of those communities will be a part of the violence interruption program and in many cases, those individuals are funded. That is what we would do in this process.

Councilmember Ajmera said thank you Manager for the presentation. I wanted to follow-up on Mr. Graham's question on a site, 3201 Beatties Ford Road; are there other locations or other sites that we should also be looking at so that we are really taking a comprehensive approach to violence interruption throughout the City?

Mr. Jones said yes, Ms. Ajmera; and I would add to it that not just from the violence interruption piece but also thinking about this with economic and upward mobility. Are there opportunities for us to use some of these funds to attract different businesses to

communities that the communities want? I look at this as a holistic approach again, taking about \$25 million in a concentrated effort. We didn't even talk about the capital improvement funds, I think that slide got lost, but there is still \$14.5 million to do sidewalk and safety and lighting and street improvements that also create neighborhoods that people are proud of.

Ms. Ajmera said I appreciate that comprehensive approach in terms of not just interruption but also the prevention and economic development is a huge piece of that. Could you go back to the slide where it shows PAYGO funds and how the funds are allocated? I see that you have here housing, aging, and staying in place for \$2.5 million. I think the Corridors of Opportunity Investments that you are referring to on the top, some of this funding is city-wide, especially around aging and staying in place. I'm just trying to understand what is that specific funding just for the corridors? Like you've got the jumpstart, placemaking, transit improvements, are those just specific to those corridors?

Mr. Jones said right; so, in this case, consider this as one project and that \$10 million would be deployed only in the corridors as with the \$14.5 million of infrastructure CIP would only be deployed in these corridors.

Ms. Ajmera said I remember [inaudible] and that was for all residents across the City so, now is it \$2.5 million just for the corridors?

Mr. Jones said did you say aging in place?

Mr. Ajmera said yes.

Mr. Jones said the aging in place started off at two separate years of \$750,000, I think that is correct, and what we found out with the reveal that while we set all those funds aside to have something that was complementary to what the County did, in other words addressing a group of individuals who would not be covered by the County, I think we spend about \$30,000 of that. So, the concept is what we thought, going back to January, going back to the toolbox, and if you have a toolbox that is not giving you the results or the outcomes that you want, you rethink it. So, to have the level of community engagement Cherie Grant was very big into that as well as Sarah Hazel and other folks, and to have roughly \$30,000 spent we believe that there is probably a better way of thinking about the outcome. The outcome was that we wanted to make sure that individuals could remain in their homes and not be priced out of it whether it is the gentrification of whether it is a reveal.

Mr. Ajmera said Mr. Manager; what I'm asking is that this \$5 million that you have on the slide, is that specifically for the Opportunity Corridors?

Mr. Jones said yes.

Ms. Ajmera said but this slide shows the most are in economic development [inaudible] opportunity centers throughout the City and I know for the east side [inaudible] the \$5 million number, yes it does seem like a big number, but comparatively, it is a very small number. What is the plan to have an economic catalyst that brings jobs to [inaudible]?

Mr. Jones said thank you for that question; last year that number was zero so what we said is that instead of having funds in the City that it spread throughout the entire city, why wouldn't we take some concentrated funding and put it into the corridors? If you go fast forward, the two corridors that are ready to roll are really West Boulevard because they have a playbook that is enumerated in what is at the top of the list is their community land trust. Also, Beatties Ford Road as I believe Mr. Graham would say has been studied and studied and studied. So, what we did we took what we had in terms of capacity in PAYGO and if you go back to 2020 and look at that versus the FY2021 we basically took a number of the neighborhood and economic development-related programs and tried to do a concentration in these corridors. In other words, if there are some things that we can do that are incentive-laden with these dollars it would give us

an upper hand versus what we've done in the past. I would love that \$5 million to be \$20 million and maybe one day it will be, but what we had to do was say right now what can we do, it is July 6th, these dollars are available, there are some development opportunities in the pipe-line and this can get those moving a lot faster.

Ms. Ajmera said well it is good that you are looking at partnerships with the private sector. One area where I would like us to explore is that when we go out and recruit a company to relocate to Charlotte can we incentivize them to choose a location in the opportunity corridor by providing higher incentives so they can really bring jobs and opportunities in parts of our City that lack opportunity.

Mr. Jones said I'm in total agreement with you, yes. And this is what we would do with some of these resources.

Mr. Ajmera said right; I know that we have done a lot of accommodations with grants and that number is really high so when I look at \$5 million it is just a really small number, but I'm looking forward to seeing the overall plan for that area and how we can really bring jobs to that corridor. If you can provide that in your next report as to what recruiting tools, we have used to bring jobs to those corridors that would help.

Councilmember Newton said I think it is so important that this be a City/community collaborative process and it sounds like that is what we are doing here. A bi-product of that of course is going to be ensuring that the Stakeholders who are involved are the true leaders of the community, the folks on the ground. I heard you say that Mr. Manager; and I just want to make sure that we are ensuring that this as far into the process as possible to select those folks. There was a slide that is not in front of us right now, but the slide that was like a bubble slide that had a couple of bars. You can see where we have that steering council, there are four bubbled Stakeholder groups there, each that is a reflection of the four hot spots that have been identified. I wanted to ask; so, what is the processor is there one here in place for the selection of those Stakeholder members for each of those Stakeholder groups, has that been contemplated yet?

Mr. Jones said no Mr. Newton, but what we do know is that it won't be a committee that really selects those individuals. It will be feedback from those communities. For instance, one of the discussions we had, two of the areas that the County and the City agreed upon to be the first two that we work on in terms of issues such as violence interrupters were Beatties Ford Road as well as I-85 and Sugar Creek. So, because there has been some work already done on Beatties Ford Road, that is why we have this initial community engagement exercise going on right now at I-85 and Sugar Creek. So, if I said today that we had a list of folks that would populate these groups, and I appreciate what you said, I totally agree with you that Stakeholder group is the most important group on that slide and having the right individuals from those communities which we will rely very heavily on Federico and Lacy because to a great extent they are in those communities and it is important that we get the right people.

Mr. Newton said I would ask Mr. Manager; that Councilmembers be included in that process and within those conversations, particularly the Councilmembers whose Districts are included in those individual hot spots. I know that Central and Sharon Amity is one of those hot spots and that is in my District and so I would be very appreciative if I were to be included in that process is what I would request. I wanted to also ask about violence interruption. I know that in the presentation we have a slide pertaining to violence interruption, and I think likely so, we are focusing on victims of violence and providing those wrap-around services to assist those victims, I think that is extremely important within the context of domestic violence situations. We know that oftentimes the lack of wrap-around services continues the cycle and prevents the domestic violence survivors from escaping the situation that they find themselves in. It is also extremely important from the standpoint of families and breaking the cycle interracially speaking but there is a flip side to this coin, and it is also the perspective perpetrator of violence as well and ensuring that wrap-around services are provided for -those individuals, so it is just not the penal system or incendiary punishment through some

incarceration, but services to just stop the cycle or interrupt the violence there as well. Do we have strategies from that standpoint to combat perpetrators or perspective perpetrators?

Mr. Jones said Mr. Newton; if we are talking about the hospital-based violence intervention, I don't want to name him yet, but we do have somebody from Atrium who is eager to help us in this process and who has built most of his career with addressing the question that you have. So, we feel that we have the right types of people with the right types of expertise that can help us get these things started quickly.

Mr. Newton said I just don't want us to forget that side of the equation as well because I think it is important to disrupt violence there and then collaboratively approach this problem and find solutions in that regard. Thank you so much, I appreciate the presentation.

Ms. Watlington said I just wanted to touch on a couple of things. The first thing is as it relates to the Stakeholder group, I want to make sure that we keep top of mind that we already have neighborhood organizations in place; we've got the Historic West End Collaborative, we've got the West Boulevard Neighborhood Coalition, we've got SWAN (Southwest Area Neighborhood Association) , we've got several other neighborhood organizations and in addition to Federico and Lacy, of course, we've got [inaudible] and Housing and Neighborhood Services team. I just want to remind folks that we are not starting from scratch here and that we really need to lean on the people that are already in the neighborhood. I don't want us to overthink that piece of it because much of this work is already going on. The next thing, Mr. Manager; I want to follow-up on Ms. Ajmera's question because I thought I understood that we already had incentives outside of this \$5 million whether it came from the County or the City or the State to locate in particular areas. Can you just refresh me very briefly what programs already exist that would supplement this \$5 million? This is focused on one particular scope, but I don't want this \$5 million to be compared to Eastland development dollars.

Mr. Jones said I think this is just unique; when we talk about incentives a lot of times, we are talking about Business Improvement Grants which I call "but for". But for the business coming here producing the revenue, and I'm going to be careful how I say this, and you could still have a "but for" grant in these corridors. What I would challenge the Council is this over and above anything else that is out there. So, it is how creative and how innovative we can be with a source of funds that don't exist elsewhere. So, I'm excited about it; we just need to make sure that it is not the City, or it is not just the staff deciding what is best for a community, it is what the community is asking for and how we utilize these resources to get the Stakeholders in the communities what they want.

Ms. Watlington said absolutely; thank you for clarifying that. I see this as a great thing as well, this is over and above what is already out there. I don't want the residents to get the impression that they are not receiving what people in other areas are receiving that the scale is awkward. We are getting something new that is over and above what is already existing. The next thing I wanted to ask, and it was in relation to the nuisance abatement because I also have had some questions about particular areas, West Boulevard and Remount for instance, and I understand that it certainly is not an overnight thing. I just wanted to ask that when we are pulling together the report for the other nuisance abatement items that are in the pipeline that we can bring West Boulevard and Remount Road back. I did get a chance to sit down with CMPD about nuisance abatement earlier in the year, pre-COVID so I know there has been some work here, but I also know that businesses can easily change ownership or change their LLC and then you start from scratch. So, if you could roll West Boulevard and Remount into your update Chief, I would appreciate it.

The last thing I wanted to address was something Mr. Driggs said. I just want to make sure that folks are clear that choosing to do our due diligence and review our policing in the community is something that is necessary regardless of whether people are e-mailing us about defunding police. I don't want it to be construed that our interest as a whole in reviewing and what we can do better is an endorsement of defunding police. I

reject the notion that we have to choose between the two because black and brown people in the community want their Police Officers in their community and they want to be safe just like everybody else. That is not [inaudible] exclusive from expecting that they are treated on par with everyone else in their community. I want to be very careful that we are not saying that we need to choose between those two priorities; they can both co-exist.

Mr. Graham said I think Ms. Watlington just said what I was going to say, and I think Chief Jennings' shoulders are broad enough to carry both conversations to a successful conclusion. Both conversations are needed so I concur with Ms. Watlington in those last comments. I just want to remind everybody about the nuisance abatement, I know it is a process, but every journey starts with the first step and if it is going to be two years, 18-months or 12-months, whatever we've got to take the first step. It took me four years to get statewide comprehensive gang legislation done and as a result, Hidden Valley is a little bit better than it was back when gangs were running around terrorizing folks in that community, so I think we've got to take the first step. Lastly, Mr. Manager; I think you are going to get to economic development I don't want to interrupt your [inaudible] on that, but I do have a lot of economic development questions. I think there was a Part Two of your presentation so I will hold those questions until I hear your Part Two. If I am correct that is going to be more economic development focused.

Councilmember Johnson said I want to say Mr. Jones that I'm also excited about this plan and the attention to I-85 and Sugar Creek as the District Rep. So, thank you for that. I've had a chance to speak with Rachel and Grant in the City staff; Rachel, who is part of the Planning Department, attended a zoom meeting with some faith-based leaders in the University area. She has been engaged with the Stakeholders in the community so I'm very excited and looking forward to this project, so thank you.

I would like to, if we are looking at nuisance properties, we know that there is a strong congregation of hotels in the I-85 and Sugar Creek and some of them are working with the community and working with CMPD, but I think there is at least one that can be identified as a nuisance. I would like to if there is any way to gather that information, work with the precinct in the University, and pulling the information for the nuisance project or the hotel in that area where we are getting a lot of calls. That would be great; there are issues like human trafficking and drugs and just really acute issues that I think can be addressed and interrupt more potential violence. I also wanted to ask, as far as the funding, will that be equally distributed in the corridors? What I would like to see is maybe a table or graph of the distribution of that funding and where that will be going if you know. If you can get that information that would be great. I just wonder if there is a plan for how that funding is going to be distributed among the corridors.

Mr. Jones said thank you Ms. Johnson; a couple of things, one is that it is good that this is being well received. I would hope that as we move to future budgets, we could have a continuation of some funding streams for these corridors. For the first roughly \$25 million I think it would be disingenuous if I just came out and said let's divide it into fifths or whatever the right number is. There are going to be some needs in some areas that may be more infrastructure-related that may include streets and sidewalks. There may be some funding needs in some areas that may be more ED related. What we will find out is that there are a couple of these corridors that have just done a lot more work than others so I may use the term shovel ready, there may be some shovel ready projects, but I'll make sure that as we go through this and Cherie's list is just getting longer and longer, that we do try our best to make sure that just two areas don't eat up everything. But, let's make sure that we are trying to focus the funding on the most pressing need or the biggest opportunity in the area. We didn't come into this saying that we would carve out a certain percentage for each area.

Councilmember Mitchell said I just want to follow-up on the nuisance and abatement program. The Manager did make a good point that our City Attorney has had experience in Durham so I think it would be great Patrick if you could give us a lesson learned from Durham. (A) Why did it take so long to two years because I think you clearly heard from Council urgency needs to be a priority so, I would like to see a lesson

learned, what programs were Durham trying to do, what are some of the guidelines and what are some of the things took two years to be implemented?

Mr. Baker said very good questions. I will tell you the first nuisance abatement action that we did took a number of years and I've characterized the nuisance abatement process is almost like the nuclear bomb of the law enforcement because it is the law enforcement tool's last result. When you are essentially going after the property and taking property from a private citizen and then handing them a bill for your trouble of taking away that property, usually what we have seen with law enforcement is that they are working on the so-called hot spots for a number of years and in Durham, once they sort of got frustrated with that process and they were not making the progress that they wanted to was when they came into my office and we looked at the body of evidence that they had. They then made a decision about going forward and certainly in a nuisance abatement action you want to make sure that you have every single duck in a row. You don't want to start a nuisance abatement action and not win because it sends a message, good or bad, to the community about your effectiveness and being able to handle these locations. I can tell you the first action that we took probably took over the course of two years and that is from initial police interaction with a business owner or property. Those weekly briefings that the Police Department have as they keep talking about the same location, those are the types of things over the course of months that get built up. These calls for service as I mentioned to Mr. Graham, not only are you looking for calls for service, but you are looking for the Police reports as well to tie a particular action to a particular piece of property. We don't want to have arrests that are occurring in the general vicinity of the area, we want to see there is a certain criminal activity that is happening at that particular property. So, depending on how properties and they found in Durham some of the challenges that were going on, the property was being changed and there were shell corporations going on and we had some challenges with that as well. That is why I say it is a long process because you've got to have a lot of evidence to move forward with probably again a tough law enforcement tool which is, we are just going to take your property and hand you a bill. That is not to say that we can't, depending on my conversation with Chief Jennings, and what type of information that we have right now, we can certainly get started on that right now to see what the police reports are out there and nothing prevents us from reaching out to the owner of the property to let them know that we are looking at what we call a nuisance abatement investigation to get that process started. I know that after we did three of four successful nuisance prosecutions, it usually took a letter or two, to a property owner to get their attention and to have them working and taking much stronger efforts, more effective efforts in addressing the problems on their property. Again, I look forward to having that conversation with Chief Jennings about what to do in the corridor and that particular property specifically.

Mayor Liles said I think everyone has commented on the section on Our Corridors of Opportunity and Violence Reduction so we will go to the second part with the framework Mr. Jones.

Mr. Jones said in this next short presentation what the team is trying to do is to again make sure that there is the foundation of the committee's work from the fall, which is violence as a public health issue, but also what I'm going to call tonight Reimaging of Policing with the overall concept of Charlotte is a safe and inclusive community because as we think about the last discussion we talked about housing and economic development and policing and street lighting so, there is so much that goes into having a safe and inclusive community. A lot of this will feed into what is happening with the Safe Communities Committee and if the Chair or the Vice-Chair jump in from time to time I would not take offense to it.

If we start to think about both safety and people at the core of everything that we do it starts with people and each of the four Council Committees and I don't have the Intergovernmental here or the Budget and Effectiveness Committee, I apologize Chairs, but I just started off with the Great Neighborhoods, the Workforce and Business Development, Transportation and Planning and Safe Communities, and you will see over and over again, it is about people and neighborhoods and jobs and opportunities.

So, using that as a backdrop as we start to focus on people and safety, what I've been hearing from the Council, and more specifically from the Safe Communities Committee is how can we Reimagine Policing? I think Councilmember Winston has talked about this over and over again, how do we Reimagine Policing. We talked a bit earlier about violence prevention and reduction strategies because I didn't want us to lose sight of the work that is going and I've heard everyone loud and clearly, get it done faster. Along those lines as we focus on people and safety, there will be potential policy changes and budget adjustments. So, in concept and this is where there would have to be buy-in from the Mayor and Councilmembers, is there an opportunity to charge all the Committees to take on some aspect of this issue? Because we have been talking about housing and we've been talking about economic development and workforce development, to have it all in Safe Communities, I just don't know if we would really have a holistic approach. So, it doesn't take away from what the Safe Communities Committee is discussing, but it also provides us the opportunity for other Committees to broadly see how they can also work and impact what is going on and always provide some safety, equity and upward mobility lens. I foresee Committee meetings not just having myself or Chief Jennings there, but there are opportunities for Willie Ratchford or for Federico and Lacy so we can look at this from an upward mobility lens also.

Timeline for Safe Communities; so, what I've gathered and what I would like to throw out in front of the Mayor and Council tonight is really a short-term timeline and then some opportunities that go beyond these next 90-days. It is clear from the Council Committee, we had a direction in the month of June, you are in July, and so here is an opportunity to have an update to Council on the approach from the Committee. There is an opportunity for us to launch a resident engagement structure so, much like the violence interruption and when we start to discuss our violence is a public health issue, Stakeholders became very important then and my recommendation is the Stakeholders will be very important here. To conduct a national panel on local change there are different leaders throughout the country that are working on this for different groups, whether it is the Conference of Mayors, whether it is Police enforcement individuals to retire on the different talk circuits, the vision would be to have a broad community zoom meeting to discuss policing and what is happening across the country.

Then as far as the Committee is concerned, it seems like the first couple of opportunities for level setting with the review of police-community engagement in July as well as a review of Police Youth Programs and the reason I'm putting the Youth Programs there is because the Council has already made an investment in our Teen Opportunity Centers and it is not just the investment in the Teen Opportunity Centers, but we've talked about those 18 to 24-year old for the last couple of years and what type of opportunities just for them. As we move to August there is an opportunity to talk about the review of the Role of Police, the recruitment, the training, and everything that falls under that as well as the rules of conduct. The Committee would be able to review the role of the Citizens Review Board as well as the Civil Service Board and the Eight Can't wait. That is a lot but there is a lot to be done.

So, when we get to September, roughly 90-days, there is an opportunity for an update at that Strategy Session as well as a review of Police Transparency and Access to Information, and then an opportunity to select the next series of policies to review and potentially bring forth the first set of recommended changes to the full Council. So, again, in that 90-day period the one thing that I hope I have corrected here, as Ms. Watlington put together at the Committee meeting a number of issues related to Police. I tried to capture those things that may not have fit so easily under community engagement and youth and the role of Police and the transparency, but some of the topics that remained were Passive Protest and Peaceful Demonstrations, First Amendment Activities, the Criminal Process, Management of Subjects with Mental Illness and Response to Resistance as well as the issues to consider with Police Oversight and the Police Budget.

That is kind of a timeline and I would like to talk about an approach. If ultimately things are going to come to the Committee for deliberations, whether they are policies or budget, how did it get there? We've talked about community engagement is important,

but I also understand that the Council wants action. I believe these can work simultaneously so, in terms of community engagement there is this national panel that I discussed earlier that we should have in July. The Council has talked about being out in the community one on one engagement even it means if a Councilmember with members of the community going through some time of simulation to get a better understanding of what happens with Police. There are race manuals for juvenile justice; we have opportunities to have multiple classes, whatever it takes for us to get a better understanding of the needs of our community as well as the needs of our law enforcement officers, then again, having a focus group. Now in terms the community input group which is that [inaudible] you would have a combination of community organizers and activist, neighborhood stakeholders, law enforcement officials and whoever else you want to put in that box because having feedback from the community before the Committee deliberates, I believe is important. You would always have staff resources, you have me, you have the UNC-Charlotte Urban Institute that is actually working with our Interagency Data Sharing Team and you have the office of Equity, Mobility, and Immigrant Emigration so we believe that we could put a system together. I think from time to time Council ask me to create a vehicle to get something done and this is what I'm suggesting. So, it is not just community engagement and waits, it is action from the Committee with community input and this community input group, if we have the right mix of people in there with very differing opinions it is almost as if you have a laboratory in which you can test some things before they come to the Committee. So, with that said that is why I offer from staff support in terms of the next steps as it relates to this Safe Communities Committee.

Mayor Lyles said thank you Mr. Jones; a lot of hard work has gone into this. I want to recognize this Safe Community Chair, Councilmember Egleston to start off the conversation or discussion around questions or comments.

Councilmember Egleston said I hope that everybody is in agreement from the standpoint of, and we talk about it so much, and I think the previous portion of Mr. Jones' presentation perfectly illustrated it because District Councilmembers were pointing to specific things in their community that leaves their community feeling unsafe, and not all of those are maybe specific around criminal justice. A lot of those are things are related to work that is done in the Economic Development Committee, the Transportation and Planning and Environment Committee. I think certainly Housing and Neighborhood Development and I think that though the Budget and Intergovernmental Committees weren't on that first slide, I think that the work that we all tackle around making our community safer in each of our Committees is going to yield ideas that inevitably will need buy-in from our counterparts, Mecklenburg County, the State of North Carolina, the Federal Government that will require the Intergovernmental Relations Committee to be involved in advocating for it and certainly the solutions that we would bring forth from all these Committees towards this objective of creating a safer community will create budgetary needs that will go to the Budget Committee and be considered there. So, there is absolutely work for everyone to do on this front and I think that if we all, and certainly we will continue to welcome any Councilmembers that want to be guests at the Safe Communities Committee to stay abreast with the work that we are doing there, but there is a lot of work to be done and I think sharing it amongst the Committees and acknowledging that if someone doesn't have a safe roof over their head if they don't have a job that pays a living wage if they don't have a neighborhood that we have as the City government invested and demonstrated has worth, those are the conditions that lead to people being the perpetrators and/or victims of violent crime. So, I think that we've got work to do on all those fronts and I think that we certainly want to make sure that the community is a part of that work both from this group that Mr. Jones just discussed, that I think can give us real-time feedback as we go along with the process of doing some of the review and some of the reimagining of the Police that has been discussed. With UNC-Charlotte taking a more data-based and scientific approach to understand what our community wants as well as analyzing what are opportunities for us looking for best practices from other parts of the country, I think is going to have to be a multipronged approach because it is a multipronged issue and will have multipronged solutions.

I appreciate all the feedback that we've gotten from everybody on this and we certainly have a lot to do. I think you will see in that timeline that Mr. Jones laid out there too, Mr. Winston and Mr. Graham underscored this point early on, we can't wait. The most imminent threat we have right now is that we've got a summer that we now kind of in the midst of where a lot of young people, young men, in particular, are not going to have available to them many of the facilities and the activities that they would have during a typical summer because of COVID-19. I think reviewing the youth programs early on was certainly a part of our thinking along those lines because if we don't give young people in this community other options for things to occupy their time this summer, they will find things to occupy their time this summer and it will lead to an increase in violence beyond what we've already seen. I think there is an urgency that we take action and take action quickly because while we are Reimagining the Police and considering whether all the things that have been dumped on the plate of the Police Department, similar to the case that we have with our teachers. Teachers, Police Officers, many of these folks are asked to be things far beyond the scope of what their job was really intended to be. As we reimagine what should be the role of Police in our community and how they interact with the public, we have to do stuff now to address the violent crime that we are seeing in our community because I think that is certainly on par in terms of priority with the other. Those have to be done on parallel tracks of one cannot be ahead of the other and I think that every day we open the paper and we see incidents of violent crime in this community. I know that is certainly a concern for as many of our constituents as anything. So, we want to make sure that this plan equally prioritizes those two scopes of work. I look forward to working with everybody on this and I do think we've got a good game plan to move forward, and not only make long-term meaningful change but have short-term meaningful impact.

Councilmember Winston said I still don't think we are getting it. I graduated from Davidson College, so I know all about academic papers and writing theories and doing studies. That is not what we are here to do. We provide municipal services and when people call 911, we have to provide a service. We want people to show up that are in law enforcement that is trained to handle the situation that they are showing up for. Eighty to 90% of the calls that we show up, there is no suspicion. Upfront we need to figure out how to respond to these 911 calls with trauma-informed first responders. We know what people are asking for, we want people to show up with training in social services and mental health experts. We don't need to do a study here, we need to provide a different set of services. We have had the community interaction, we are all elected to be experts about our community's needs. We will continue to engage them, but what I'm seeing here; I would like that timeline piece for June, July, August, and into September to be put up on the screen. I like the idea of utilizing all Committees to handle the workloads, but we've got to give these folks the work. Why is Community Engagement or Youth Programs first up to look at in July? Is this something that we are going to clearly look to move funding from CMPD to places that are more appropriate for this funding to go to?

Mr. Jones Mr. Winston yes; I'm not saying that yes that is what we are doing, but there are funds in CMPD's budget that are dedicated to Youth Programs as well as there are funds that you have in your CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) funds that are related to Youth Programs and other places in the budget like Neighborhoods and Housing, yes.

Mr. Winston said we get a lot of presentations over the years of the money, the good stuff in the community that we funnel through CMPD's budget. Is that what we are going to do again or are we going to be looking to actually move those funds into more appropriate places out of the CMPD budget, of is going to be more informational slides?

Mr. Jones said the Committee would have the opportunity to make recommendations related to funding for Youth Programs. I think it is what Mr. Egleston said, is that one of the needs right now that we know relates to 18 to 24-year old.

Mr. Winston interrupted and said no, no, no, I don't want to go there. The needs are when 911 is called and who shows up and does what. We can talk about the existential

approaches to dealing with violent crime sure, and we will do that, and we are doing that, we just spent a couple of hours talking about that. But what are we talking about changing up the municipal services that we have to provide when 911 is called because that is what is asked for, that is what has been moved upon, and that is the charge?

Mr. Jones said I don't disagree with you, Mr. Winston. How this is approached is this is just something I provided for the Committee and it is the same concept, and I think you and I have talked about this again, it is one of those things that Police Officers should be doing versus the things that they are doing.

Mr. Winston said okay, so the things that we should be doing; the eight can't wait, why are we not starting right off and building a framework around adjusting the policies that exist within CMPD to make sure that true implementation of the eight can't wait because you know after we made this motion CMPD put out a graphic that all of these things have been adopted in years past, but then you've got the originator of the campaign that said that is a sham explanation, which many folks already know. You have to go into the policies, into the laws, into the ordinances; why is that policy not being set up right now to do that? Why is that not the number one thing to do in July?

Mr. Jones said I won't speak for the Committee but my understanding –

Mr. Egleston said I will.

Mr. Winston said I'm asking the Manager.

Mr. Egleston said well I will tell you what the thought process was in the conversations I had with the Mayor, the Manager, and my Vice-Chair is what I just said. You have said yourself there is an urgency here because we have a violent crime issue in this City.

Mr. Winston said no, a policing problem. You are talking about a problem which is a different problem than policing.

Mr. Egleston said, and we will work on them both on parallel tracks, but the fact that we have young people in this community who are dying weekly if we are not addressing that first we are missing the mark and so, we can address those things at the same time.

Mr. Winston said we talked about that for two-hours; now we are talking about that other parallel track. You are complaining about the two topics, just like it gets done in cycles over time and over years. So, when are we going to be talking about the change to the municipal services that we have to provide?

Mr. Egleston said in August.

Ms. Watlington said it says we are doing that in August.

Mr. Winston said why are we not talking about that right now?

Mr. Egleston said I also think review Police community engagement is part of what you are talking about too, which is in July.

Mr. Winston said that is not what I'm talking about.

Mr. Egleston said I don't know what else Police community engagement means; I'll let Marcus try.

Mr. Winston said Police showing up to 911 calls; how that happens. Not walking in the streets, going into schools, going into groups; the services that we have to provide, how are we changing them up, and how we have a plan to continuously look at how we are changing those services.

Mr. Jones said my attempt this evening was to take what came out of the Committee, which was approved by the Committee and tries to put into a sequence of topic areas that could be discussed so that information could come back to the full body.

Mr. Winston said I think we have a disconnect; thank you.

Mr. Newton said I think I'm losing track of all the different taskforce groups that are being created. I think I remember the Community Safety or Safe Communities Committee, there was talk of an advisory group being created. I wondered what Councilmembers would sit on it. If I remember correctly; I could be wrong on that, is that what we are talking about in this presentation when there was mention of the community input group? Is that what that is? Is it one and the same or is it to separate groups?

Mr. Jones said the concept that came out of the Safe Communities Committee was the task force with the Committee Members as well as some members of the community. What I have provided tonight was in place of that, but again it is the Council's choice and I believe it is with the okay from the individual who put out the strategy is to have the Committee do the work, however, this community input group that would not sit on the Committee would be able to review information, provide feedback to the Committee prior to the Committee taking up a topic.

Ms. Watlington said yes, that is correct Mr. Manager. That is exactly what we discussed. I never heard anything about a Councilmember being on an Advisory Committee, so yes that part Councilmember Newton; I'm not sure where it came from, but that was never the intent. Feedback from several Councilmembers was that rather than setting up an Advisory Committee, regardless of whether or not they had a vote, it was preferred that we consult-

Mayor Lyles said Ms. Watlington; we can't hear you, we missed about 30 seconds at least.

Ms. Watlington said I was just saying that the intent was never to include Councilmembers as part of a separate Advisory Taskforce. My original proposal was to include seven additional advisory members to a task force over and above the Councilmembers that are the Safety Committee members. However, what I received as feedback from some of the Councilmembers that were not on the Committee was that they would like us to consider having folks to come in that have the different points of view as it was required based on what we were looking at. I did go back to the Committee because again, we voted as a Committee that we would move forward with some semblance of my proposal and they were agreeable to having the community engagement similar to see what you see here. I like the way that it has shaken out here.

Mr. Newton said maybe I'm getting my wires crossed on this; I thought there was a proposal and I think this might have been raised by Mr. Winston, but I thought there was a proposal whereby there would be a separate group that the Safe Communities Committee would meet with and sit with that was comprised of members of the community that would be selected the Safe Communities Committee. I guess what I'm hearing is that I heard that wrong.

Mr. Egleston said Mr. Newton; this is that group. This group will be community members and their feedback will be brought to the Safe Communities Committee to inform the work that the Committee is doing. I think maybe you misheard a detail in there, but this is a community-led group whose feedback will be an integral piece of the conversations we are having.

Mr. Newton said I gotcha so I guess what I was assuming from before was there wouldn't be this liaison, there would be a direct relationship between community members and community leaders, and it sounds like there is now a semblance of some level of separation between the City Councilmembers, particularly members of the Committee and the community. Also, I want to ask the question about the process here;

I'm assuming that this new Committee, the process is one that we were just recently informed of, of Councilmembers making a recommendation but then the appointments being made by the Mayor. I guess we are talking about the consolidation of appointments in one person rather than a broader range of people on the Committee itself. Is that something that maybe I misheard before as well or was that always kind of a part of the plan here?

Mayor Lyles said I think what I heard Mr. Newton; and Mr. Egleston, Ms. Watlington, Mr. Mitchell as members of the Committee just thinking through this, what I heard is that while we were talking about ways to engage the community and strategies around violence prevention and engage around that, this is specific to how do we reimagine our Police Department. There are many people who would like to participate in that effort and bring us a certain amount of expertise, but also we are trying to move in a way that we are overlapping in some respects so that these community inputs would actually be people that could have conversations and be facilitated and bring information to the Committee as a result of a common discussion or a shared discussion whether they be activists or organizers of neighborhood leaders and especially including our law enforcement, CMPD in the discussion. As we are talking about what we are trying to accomplish you are getting an overview from different points of view, but discussions that have actually been facilitated and organized to bring a report to the Committee so the Committee can have that while they are interacting with the management of CMPD and the City Manager. That is what the purpose of this approach to this is; I've kind of gotten that idea in my head from the Committee's discussion or the Chair's discussion with the Vice-Chair and Ms. Watlington. Does that make sense Mr. Newton?

Mr. Newton said sure; my concern is grounded in the idea that we are talking about there being a liaison between that Committee and the Council or that group and the Committee members so someone else bringing that information forward I think it may be more prudent to have, if we are talking about separating the Committee members from the group at this point, it might be more prudent to actually have a representative of the group itself come back to the Committee members to discuss recommendations and finds of the group rather than an intermediary or liaison from the City at the same time. So, what is the process for the appointment of these folks, the identification, and the appointment? Is it the process that we were just recently appraised of which was a Councilmember making a recommendation for final appointment by I'm assuming by your Madam Mayor?

Mayor Lyles said let me go back to your first question; I think the idea of having a representative of the group is just something that we can do, but I think staff supporting them, I think is reasonable to consider. The Committee can address that and then what I understood, and I've just been reading the e-mail chain that was done last night between all of the Councilmembers. My understanding was to have every Councilmember suggest a name, but Ms. Eiselt also suggested that we look to make sure we have a balance in each of these. So, the broad groups of community organizers and activists are to get as much of a communitywide perspective around policing nominated and then to make sure that it was balanced in a way that we would have various points of view discussed. I'm going to again look to the Council and the Committee to say that in these community input groups we need people that are specifically interested in how we police and how Police should interact, and I think to connect in some ways to what Mr. Winston said. What is the first thing that we see in policing when you call 911 or 311, or whatever the number is? I think that is part of it and the second part of it that I believe that is important is that we have to have some people that understand historical aspects of policing as well as the training aspects of policing so that we have that point of view as well, which is why I think it is important to the law enforcement participate in a broader discussion with the community. I think that is where the Committee was trying to go and reading the chain, it was just a matter that everybody suggests names and it is looked at, the way I would suggest is the Chair would then send out the list of suggested names, have some kind of vetting process that the Committee would choose from because we need not delay. We need to move as quickly as we can.

Mr. Newton said do you know how many people will be on the Committee or on this group? Are we at that level of detail yet?

Mayor Lyles said I don't believe that I heard a number.

Mr. Egleston said we've asked Councilmembers to make recommendations; some of you have. Some of you I have talked to and you had indicated, and I think rightfully so, that you would like to better understand the game plans being laid out tonight before you consider who that might be that you think would be a good fit to represent the voices of your constituents in that discussion. I might also add, and the Mayor or Manager can correct me if need be, but the work that is charged to the Committee is in this game plan that Marcus has laid out here. How the Committee decides to go about tackling that work I believe to be the prerogative of the Committee and in this case, that is what happened. I appreciate the feedback and the input and certainly, it will all be taken into consideration, but ultimately this Committee has to decide how to tackle the work that it has been charged with and it has decided how it is going to do that. So, it doesn't mean changes can be made as we go along, but this is an information-sharing exercise and showing what the game plan is; all of this comes out to the full Council before anything can be adopted in terms of changes obviously. This is how we believe we can most efficiently and effectively move forward on what we've been charged with doing to get to some outcome so the full Council can consider.

Mr. Newton said I would agree with that, I think it is the Committee's work. So, did I hear that right; if the Committee that is going to, we are making the recommendation, each Councilmember, it is the Committee that is going to be finalizing who is actually appointed to the group.

Mr. Egleston said I think we can talk more if there is some strong sense of how that should take place, but I think it will be something along those lines, with the input of the Mayor as well.

Mr. Newton said thank you for all of that information, I really appreciate it. I had one more question; it has come to my attention recently and I don't think I'm the only one that the Citizens Review Board in the past has made recommendations and that that hasn't filtered up to Councilmembers or to our level. So, former recommendations or maybe even current recommendations from the Citizens Review Board, is that going to be included in this process?

Mr. Egleston said I think the Citizens Review Board and the Civil Service Board will both integral partners in this work and the Council will ultimately be taking on.

Mr. Newton said fantastic, thank you.

Councilmember Graham said I know when to lead and I know when to follow and I have an enormous amount of respect for Councilmember Egleston and so I'm going to follow his lead on this. I only ask a couple of things on this, one I think we need to be consistent in what we do, I think we really need to be focused on what we do, and I think we really, really need to be decisive and we've got to keep it simple. I think Mr. Winston makes a really good point; we gave the Committee two initial charges. One was to evaluate the eight principles and we gave the Manager a charge to bring back a report on what happened on that night in June. I think that is the starting slide and I'll just leave it there.

Mayor Lyles said alright; let me see if I can say this. The June report I think was an action on the report on the June 2nd activity and then there was also a detailed report requested around that night and that activity and there is one more and I'm sorry I can't put my finger on it right now Mr. Graham that you had suggested that was a part of the charge to the Committee as well. We do have that written up for the Committee as well as the second one which is the policy and budgetary review.

Mr. Graham said it is the eight can't wait that was going to be sent to Committee and it was also again as you indicated, we know we did the FBI report, that came back, Council got it a week after it got back, just as a side note we got it. The Manager was supposed to bring back to Council that the policy implication because FBI said there was no policy violation, but there were also some other issues around that night and that is what I'm still waiting to kind of get an understanding if no policy was violated, what happened?

Mayor Lyles said I don't recall, and I read the FBI; I don't recall a policy violation being included.

Mr. Graham said I said there was no policy.

Mayor Lyles said okay, I'm sorry, I thought you said policy violations so no policy violation. I think that what we are going to try to do is get that on the 13th from Chief Jennings so we can have that kind of detailed report next week.

Mr. Graham said I understand that but that was not the charge. The charge was for the Manager to bring it back and I guess if the 13th is fine that is when we are going to do it. I'm not going to belabor the point, but I will follow Councilmember Egleston. The other point I think is the other Committees involved and obviously, Economic Development is a part of any crime reduction scenario and certainly, I think if we want to reduce the crime on Beatties Ford Road, that hot spot, there are enough shovel ready projects being discussed as the Manager indicated up and down the corridor, two specifically, Oaklawn and Beatties Ford Road and another Beatties Ford Road and LaSalle. The Vast Water Plant is being renovated, there is an opportunity there for public parking which is needed to make that economic development project work on LaSalle. There is an opportunity for a placemaking scenario with the Vest Water Plant in terms of doing something with that [inaudible] do something to get some community involvement and I think we need to acknowledge that [inaudible] in the corridor at the end of the year, over \$180 million of economic development projects are coming to an end. So I think economic development can be a key driver in this and I know I'm pivoting back to our last conversations but I was under the impression that we were going to talk more about economic development as it relates to corridor revitalization but we spent a whole lot of time talking about crime, which is important as well, but I would be remiss if I don't kind of champion in knowing the Beatties Ford Road Corridor, but the other corridors as well the importance of economic development being a lead driver in all that we do and certainly as the Manager has laid out, have the other Committee doing the work with the Public Safety Committee in terms of areas of focus I think is a good strategy. Councilmember Egleston, I'll follow your lead, I know we text and exchange e-mails, my only advice to you my brother is to keep it simple.

Councilmember Driggs said I just wanted to say having heard the view from Davidson, I have to say the view from Princeton is that that different and the concern I have here is this is an incredibly ambitious, all-encompassing plan and when you've been doing this for a few years you've seen too often that plans like this come back to kind of a realization that there aren't that many things to change. Cities everywhere in America and around the world have Police Departments somewhat like ours. The Police Foundation Report that we spent \$400,000 on said that our Police Department was exemplary. I think we would be much more responsive to the input we got from the community if we identified a few actionable items pretty quickly. Mr. Winston suggested let's look at who responds to a call. Okay, that is something we can talk about. The fear that I have is that we will end up a few months down the road, if we are back in the Chamber by then, a room full of angry people, disappointed people and who think that because we are reimaging CMPD that things are going to be a lot different. I don't have the confidence that they will. I think we are up against some social challenges that are being experienced everywhere and for us to promise too much or to aim too high or to be too comprehensive in the way that we go about this is a receipt for disappointment. Mayor; you will recall after the Keith Lamont Scott shooting, we came up in pretty short order with a Community Action Plan and it targeted housing, it targeted jobs, it targeted policing. We commissioned the report from the Police Foundation and Mr. Graham also

mentioned simplicity. I'm afraid of all of the complexity of all of this and of the sort of bureaucratic nature, the time that it will take to do this exhaustive review and these citizen bodies, etc. It is not my sense that that is what the people that communicated to us so loudly in the last month so are hoping for from us. I'm happy to cooperate in whatever the Council decides to do. and we can go through these motions, but I just caution you there is no really good answer out there waiting to be found. Somebody would have found it by now and we are dealing with things that are incredibly difficult. We have to dissolve the conflict between the desire for greater public safety and improvement in relations between the Police Department and the community and that is not simple. I just hope we don't kind of get lost in the woods in this process and I hope we can define some pretty clear areas of studies and pretty clear opportunities for action quickly and not find ourselves two-months from now in this kind of mire of disputes and disagreements and suggestions and let's change the appearance of the interview rooms at Police Stations. We really need to think big picture, keep it simple, and try to do something soon.

Mayor Lyles said Mr. Driggs; I just want to follow-up on a couple of things. I do believe that in 2016 we did a tremendous amount of work, but I also believe that the work that we are talking about having the Committee do now may be more sustainable for what changes we can expect, not only in our City but across the country. When we start talking about, and I sent everybody a link to the article in the New York Times Magazine yesterday, that talked about reimaging or reforming Police Departments and I just think this work is complicated. It is going to be difficult, but I also think it is more important at this time because we are in the midst of not just being a part of a small group, but we are actually one, as the 15th largest City, we are being compared against the top 25 cities as we look at this work in Police. I think there are some things we may be able to check off. If you look at that article it is like how do we do our training, is it consistent? How do we address training with officer behavior, little things like that, but one of the big questions in this whole idea is how have we invested in policing and if we invested in the police purpose which is I believe the idea that we have Police to prevent crimes and investigate crimes but we need to actually address something that is bigger than that? I think it is the referral of mental health, it is the referral of how do we build our neighborhoods and so that is why I think it is important for all of the Committees to participate. I want to say that we need to do the work in the right way, using the right amount of time and a framework that works, but it is going to be harder and it is going to be more examined and it is going to be I think more sustainable for us in the long run.

Councilmember Bokhari said I would chime in and say that at Radford University we also had a saying which was if you don't learn from the past you are destined, to repeat it. I would just say that looking back at 2016 and the four years that came after that a lot of work was done and this City was taskforce and committee to death over it and a lot of good outcomes came out of it. To Mr. Driggs' point, I see a whole kind of tapestry of stuff, half of which is stuff we already do and that is what these Committees are there for. The other half of which are things that we talked about before in making this organization more horizontal and less vertical and connecting the work of economic development and public safety and housing and transportation. So, part of me feels like we are just kind of rebranding a little bit the stuff that we already know we need to do, or we've said we need to do in order to kind of package it up nicely and say, and this is our response to this thing. I think the other part of me feels like if we are saying that we are not better off and we are in some shape where we have to reimage the whole City, I think in the same part and parcel we have to admit the fact that we as a body, this group failed in the response after 2016 because I don't think we can say both things. I have to agree with what Malcolm said a bit, what Ed said, and some others which are like if we are going to do all of this stuff that we need to be doing anyway, let's just keep doing it. Let's work on it, let's tighten it up, make it more horizontal, make it more connected where we know if affordable housing connects to transportation and connects to economic development and that is what makes upward mobility happen. Let's not try to retrofit it within the narrative that maybe wants to appease a certain part of the community. I would just end by saying I think the most important thing we could do is to that point made, fine some simple items that we already know and have heard, to Mr. Winston's point, well maybe this needs to be reimaged. Should we be using tear gas

when something happens? Those are the basic questions that we've spent the last month or two compiling. Let's just hit them one after another and see if we can't find the answer with the Police, not to the Police. I think the most important part if something needs one of these Davidson or Princeton white papers and all this stuff behind it, I think what that is how do we make a top-down statement. That is like we are going to take this stuff away from the Police and put it towards more productive things. I'm in theory good with all, where I'm not good with it is how that actually works in practice because we start every conversation with, well you know what, we are asking the Police to do too much, and it started that way when we did the Noise Ordinance conversation. Look at all these hours-long conversations, you know how much work we put the Cops through to give us the analysis on their response times and how much time they spent on noise because we wanted to solve that problem, right. At the end of the day, what happened, we ended up giving them more work and more responsibility as the outcome of what started as a way to minimize that. I think if there is a real study, a real true analysis that has to figure out with controls and guardrails put around it, if we are going to take responsibility that maybe don't belong inside the Police's world, which I think there are many cases of that, how do we make sure when we start that conversation we don't end up by actually giving them more with less money, with less resources actually saw for it because that is the track record of what happens around here.

Mayor Lyles said I think that is an excellent point. Every article I've read has been about traffic, it has been about how do we better serve mental health, domestic violence, etc. But I want to actually ask the Committee to address this because I think that is why or one reason that you want to look at where the Youth Programs are, and how do we do that because Youth Programs in a Police Department sends a message and it is not just going to play basketball at school or whatever, it is actually the idea of how do we get youth engaged in the value proposition around what it means to be a resident in a city and what does it mean to be a resident in your neighborhood so there are some things, but I'm going to ask Mr. Egleston to respond to the comments that we have from the Council. This is really important work and I think he understands where we are trying to go and how we have to be inclusive.

Mr. Egleston said I was just going to put a bow on it if possible, and in my conversations with Ms. Eiselt I just wanted to give a voice to the comment, I think she would have made tonight were she able to be here with us. Again, our condolences to her and her family for their loss yesterday. She has repeatedly pointed out as Mr. Bokhari touched on, a lot of work has been done, much of it before some of us were on Council and so we don't have to start from scratch on this work, and Mr. Jones can chime in with whether or not this is in your inbox yet or not, Committee members have received this in the giant binders and information you were given, but as Ms. Eiselt has pointed out, there is a lot of this work, some of which has led to changes and results and policies and things like that, some of which had not all been addressed. Some of the recommendations have not all been adopted and so she has asked at different times for updates on where we stood as it relates to some of those. Mr. Jones has assured me that he will make sure that all Councilmembers, not just the members of the Committee, have those most up to date information on where we stand with those recommendations with that work that has been done in the past. We are not trying to reinvent the wheel, some of it we can kind of pick up from work that has been done and continues to move the ball forward.

Mayor Lyles said Mr. Jones do you have any other comments?

Mr. Jones said no Mayor; that is all that I have.

Mr. Winston said one note I was going to tell the Manager; this national panel idea, obviously, I've said how I don't think you need more panels in front of audiences, but I think it would make sense if this was a structured work session with Council like we do at the Retreat that aims to come out of that day long or couple days long or whatever it may be with national thought leaders and policymakers to come out with actionable items for a plan to reimagine things.

Mayor Lyles said I'm glad that we can find something that we can all agree upon. Thank you very much, Mr. Winston. That is really helpful; we had talked about looking at one of the authors of the 21st Century Police and also Lori Lightfoot, who is Mayor of Chicago actually chaired their Citizens Review Board and then became Mayor and she is doing some work around this. If you have other suggestions for national panelists that would allow us to really have an informative session feel free to e-mail Larken.

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ITEM NO. 4: COMMUNITY RECOVERY TASK FORCE UPDATES

Mayor Lyles said I know that the Aviation report was concluded and I talked to all of the organizers of the group to say can we go ahead and begin to close out these programs and the task force until we come back to perhaps a September update and that we can recognize the people who helped format and recommend these programs that we've put in place and we would recognize them at our August Council Meeting. Anything that is left we can put into our Council Committees as we are doing this workaround safety and coordinating economic development and housing with some of those efforts. Mr. Driggs; do you have anything for Aviation, any update, or anything that you want to say?

AVIATION

Councilmember Driggs said no, I just wanted to briefly summarize Madam Mayor; we met five times, we created a report that we worked out in cooperation with the Airport and concessionaires and other stakeholders. The plan that was then adopted by Council results in about \$7 million worth of relief to members of the Airport Community, especially the concessionaires. We do not have any future meetings scheduled.

HOUSING

Councilmember Graham said I want to update the Council on the work of the Housing Task Force. One, we have met for 10 consecutive Thursdays; we are on currently a three-week hiatus, we will resume meeting again on July 26th. We will finish our work by the end of August. I feel an obligation Madam Mayor to finish what we started through our work plan and so we are scheduled to be done by the end of August. I spoke with Ms. Wideman to induce our calendar so we could meet that deadline; she assures me that we can. We also have two sets of recommendations that the Task Force has forwarded to the City Council for their approval and implementation. They are great recommendations based on how do we increase the supply of affordable housing as well as financial assistance? I spoke with the Manager as well as Ms. Wideman in terms of how do we process those recommendations through the Council? Again, I feel an obligation to take that ball across the finish line based on the work that the Task Force members have done, which is good work and again, we want to demonstrate our commitment to that work by making sure that the Council reviews it and votes it up and down as part of how we move forward on issues related to increasing the supply of affordable housing as well as financial assistance.

We've already allocated \$10 million and there is still another \$10 million that we have jurisdiction over if I can use that word, and so we will be working through our work plan between now and the end of August and we will move forward expeditiously as we can.

Councilmember Winston said I just wanted to echo what Mr. Graham said; the Task Force Committee has been doing a lot of great work. I just wanted to point out something that we identified at the end of the last meeting to the rest of the colleagues on Council, specifically around evictions. I think we have a pretty good plan set up to try to mitigate the increase of eviction actions that will be filed. I think we've done a lot of good work trying to short circuit those processes, but we have to assume that there will be people that still find their way through the process and end up getting physically evicted from their homes. The Task Force has not been able to kind of wrestle with that and finds some solutions with that in the end or with us on Council that has to respond to the public and not those Task Force members that have served very well. So, just to

put it out there for our colleagues as sort of do-nut hole in the middle that I think we are going to have to address and we are going to be expected to address. I just wanted to put that out there, so my colleagues don't get caught by any surprises down the line.

Mayor Lyles said Mr. Winston; you bring up a great point. The eviction part of what has happened through COVID and the eviction that happens as a part of perhaps just the normal part of living and what is going on with our housing stock, all of that is very important. I think that the Council Great Neighborhoods Committee also has the framework that we are looking at overall for our housing policy and I hope they will consider that, not just the COVID part, the COVID part is here, but we've got a lot of other things that are going to be a result of just change that we are going to be seeing that is going to be more permanent and we will have to address that, so I think that is a great point. Thanks for bringing that up.

Mr. Graham said thank you, Mr. Winston.

SMALL BUSINESS

Councilmember Mitchell said last Tuesday in our meeting, Phase I Access to Capital, we awarded 79 small businesses with grants. The breakdown is 73 were micro-business grants and six were small business grants for a total of \$880,000 for a total of 79. Let me share the demographics of those just so Council will know. Of the 79 awarded 52% classified as African American; 32% classified as Caucasian; eight percent were Latino/Hispanic; five percent were Asian; one percent was American Indian, and two percent was other. We were very satisfied, at least in round one; it was truly a reflection of our community very inclusive. Also, the City staff awarded 12 partners for support for a total of \$1.9 million. Our total cap was \$2 million and Mayor; to your point, we all agreed that our last small business recovery meeting would be Tuesday, July 14th. I think those Councilmembers and particularly Patrick Baker; thank you so much for your work around the grant program. That caused a lot of challenges for us, but you were able to work and gain confidence, not only among Councilmembers but the community, that this grant program was the right way to provide relief for our small businesses in the City of Charlotte. Thank you, sir.

Mayor Lyles said as those Committees begin to phase out, I'm going to ask the Manager to provide a list of current Council Committee referrals as well as those that were making from tonight so that everybody can have a list and the Committees can begin to do a work plan as we are getting ready to move forward.

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ITEM NO. 5: COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORT OUTS

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Councilmember Winston said yes, Mr. Bokhari; do you want to start off

Councilmember Bokhari said we have an e-mail that we are going to send out with additional information. For those of you who have been around for a couple of cycles, you will recognize it well and for those of you that are new, this could be a couple of your first processes. Over the next several months we embark upon a Committee organized and orchestrated process together on what items could be on our Legislative Agenda, vet them. They come from the community, they come from your elected officials, Mayor and Councilmembers, they come from staff members and all of that makes its way into a process that really has a couple of major milestones that we know of. Today is actually a milestone where we mentioned, and I will hand it over to Mr. Winston in one second, but where we essentially announced on July 6th that this Strategy Session is kicking off the request formerly to you all to start thinking about what items you would like included on there. We are marching towards an August 10 Business Meeting where we are going to have an up-dates on that. There is a September 21st Intergovernmental Relations Committee meeting, there likely will be one

if not two additional ones before that, but as we march towards that point all of those pieces are going to come together.

On October 19th we are going to have another IRC (Intergovernmental Relations Committee) meeting; November 2nd Strategy Session we are going to discuss that Legislative Agenda with the Council, then there will be a November 16th Action Review where staff presents the proposed Legislative Agenda and then on November 23rd Business Meeting we are going to adopt our State and Federal Legislative Agendas and then that takes to our State Delegation briefing December 7th through 18th and then March 7th through 10th in 2021 our Congressional Group briefings, which we did not have the opportunity to do that today. One last point for me and then I will hand it over to anything Mr. Winston would like to add, we were discussing this today, Mr. Winston and I and we wanted to not just kind of do it like we've been doing it, we've been working over the last three years to really refine and enhance and mature this process. I think we've done a really good job in kind of formalizing it and structuring it to this point where we have parking lots, we have formal items, we have ways to do things and lobby and influence may be in relation to some things that aren't baked and ready for prime time. We've created that structure and we've created a really detailed way to make sure everyone's input gets fed in. I think both Mr. Winston and I agreed as we've been discussing this, the one piece that is still a little difficult is that we as Councilmembers and Mayor still really manage this from the bottom up at a very tactical level where we will say we want this very detailed thing included or this very detailed thing. I think it is okay for us to have those thoughts in mind, but I think it is more important in our role, the Board level at which we serve, that we start the beginning of this process with a little more top-down micro nature to it where we say this is a big topic that we know we want to make a dent in and if there is something we can do in the Legislative Agenda that is what we want. That way, Mr. Winston and I have already chosen one thing that we would like to bring forward at that level as an example, the digital divide. We know we want to do things in the digital divide, and we want to be able to at a top-down level give staff the ability to take away a big topic like that. Even though Mr. Winston and I may have items that we were particularly thinking of in there, to really look blue sky across that topic and see what they might bring back as we are brainstorming on our side as well. I think if we all do that, we are going to be quite honest, do it opposite of the way we've done it in the last couple years where we throw a bunch of sticky notes and very micro bottom-up things down and then we hand them to staff and ask staff to turn it into big topics. I think that is going to serve us really well if we start with the big topics, we want to make an impact on and provide that to staff to really go do an order of the possible analysis within this. Mr. Winston; did I say that properly, and please add anything else?

Mr. Winston said I think you pretty much hit it. I think for an example, I want to thank Ms. Watlington for sending one of her requests and this is a perfect example of how we might extrapolate it. Ms. Watlington was referring to this section between violence reduction, liquor sales, ABC regulations, and we are kind of thinking that as we get input from the other 11 of our colleagues that we are going to find intersections that we can really kind of put up under, especially for the new members. There is a strategy as we go about this; we don't want to have 12-point Legislative Agenda, but as many ideas as pacific as we can get underneath a big umbrella item is what we are trying to aim at as Mr. Bokhari explained. The only other note that I would put down is for Mr. Jones and we will send out this e-mail after the meeting, but we really want to put a focus on August 10th to be able to get a look, not just from our colleague's suggestions, but from staff's suggestions because we often find that because that list is so limited there are some very important things that staff is contemplating, but Council ends up having to make decisions really quickly without being able to message some items. So, we want to take a look at that August 10th date. To my colleagues, through your ideas at us; make sure that you are informing me and Mr. Bokhari, but also Dana Fenton who is our staff member who really works with us to corral all these issues and he has the real institutional knowledge to find what those umbrella topics are. Send all your ideas at us between now and August where we will bring in and continue to furnish you with more details as we continue to do the work.

Mayor Lyles said Mr. Egleston; do you have anything you want to talk about in Safe Communities?

Councilmember Egleston said I think we've pretty well covered it in the last two hours.

Mayor Lyles said I think you are right; thank you.

TAP

Mayor Lyles said I know Julie is not here, who is Vice-Chair

Mr. Egleston said that would be me as well. We've got our next meeting and I know we are going to talk about The Charlotte Moves Task Force later on in the evening so I will save that for then. Talk about Fourth Street Bus Pilot. We are back to holding meetings for Transportation and Planning and Environment Committee meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for July 27th but actually, a big part of the last meeting was around the Center City 2040 Vision Plan and I think it was mentioned in the presentation and I think some interesting ideas came out of it. I know the one that Mr. Winston and I are enthusiastic about and I think others are as well is how do we look at 277 going forward in the future of our City and does it still serve a meaningful purpose in terms of moving vehicles around the City and could it serve a better purpose as a way to connect neighborhoods in our community as opposed as to how it has historically severed neighborhoods in our community. I think a lot of it is a long-term vision and how we incorporate transit, how we move to be a less auto-centric community over time, but I think we have planted some good seeds and we will continue to water them.

WORKFORCE AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Councilmember Mitchell said we will be meeting on Tuesday, July 28th. We will be talking more about the Corridors of Opportunity, Upward Mobility, and Workforce Development.

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ITEM NO. 6: 2040 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

Taiwo Jaiyeoba, Assistant City Manager/Planning Director said I will do this along with Alysia who is Project Manager, but I will start off with it. I will share with you, the last time we came in front of you was February of this year and the last in-person meeting we had was in March. [inaudible] ambassadors and strategy advisers, but we've been meeting since then even though it has been virtual, and we are planning on having another in person drive-in theatre-style meeting in October, sometime in the fall hopefully at the Bojangles Arena. That is also the same time in the fall that we plan to come back to you with a draft document. Hopefully, that sets it up and the focus of today's presentation is really to provide a quick update of where we are and our next steps for engagement.

The last time we were here to present was in February of 2020 and at that time we were the 16th largest city by population in the country. In four short months, we've moved up a step as the 15th largest city by population, along with Phoenix, San Antonio, Austin and Fort Worth we are the fifth fastest-growing city in the country. So, we are [inaudible] growing with many opportunities, attracting newcomers and investments as we witnessed last week the announcement of [inaudible] location of its East Coast Offices to Charlotte. 0 With that group comes development and with the rapid pace of development [inaudible] our energies and benefits. The Comprehensive Plan helps to guide growth and distribute the benefits and the challenges as well.

I go to the next slide which you are familiar with; you've seen this a couple of times because the last time we were here actually there was no COVID-19 case that we were aware of in Charlotte and that was in February of this year when we came to you and there was no protest against racial injustice as a result of George Floyd's death.

However, these two sad and tragic events have definitely highlighted the inequities of our City and definitely cities across America in a major way. The impacts of the pandemic on minority communities and the racial inequities in planning and development have become such intense focus of discussions and attention, not only here in Charlotte, but nationally. I will be the first person to admit that our past planning and zoning practices [inaudible] in terms of responsible for segregation that we have in our community today, resulting in what we all know as the crescent and the wedge. Within the Comprehensive Plan, we will consider the impacts of inequity that still exist today as you can see in front of you there that explicit racist and segregation policies of the past that we definitely know land use and zoning has a lot to do with that and how we are going to address that.

Unknown to us when we started this journey back in September of 2018, unknown to us that events of the past few months will make the case for equity a topic of conversations. [inaudible] for the Comprehensive Plan was to have a map of equity and do what we call an equity atlas for Charlotte. We started by saying that equity if good business and our communities that make equity a priority will be the successful communities of the future. Little did we know that the situation we are facing today would happen to us. So, we feel that we started on a good path by making sure that equity, which is about being fair in investments in our City. It is an opportunity for everyone to have access to opportunities that are necessary to satisfy essential needs, advance their wellbeing, achieve their full potential. Equity development means it is being fair about what is added in different parts of Charlotte, and through the Comprehensive Plan, the City of Charlotte will guide fair public investments in the future. We've had a lot of conversations tonight where that is about an opportunity, Corridors of Opportunities, and how we set certain parts of our City up for investments. That means doing something about it so, equity is not about being fair, but also being just. If you know something is wrong, then what do you do to address that unfairness? Equity also means making something accessible for everyone and realistically we know that areas with the private investment will see more change more quickly, but what a Comprehensive Plan does for us is that it has a direct influence on how we put equity in public investments.

You have seen the next slide before, but it is worth bringing it up again that a Comprehensive Plan is really our City's guiding light. It is our City's guiding light and it will guide that fair public investments in our future and it is a way of addressing equity in a fair and just manner with the Comprehensive Plan [inaudible] the charge for us. As I said we started this journey in September of 2018. At that time, we made a commitment to you that it will a 24-month process and a four-phased approach so to speak. We came to you in February at the end of the second phase; we are now in that third phase in which we are actually focusing on those strategies, not only that but also developing policies around each of the Big Ideas that Alysia will be sharing with you in the next couple of slides. In Phase four, as we graduate towards Phase four, which will be this fall into spring of next year. We do not have a document to review with you and the public and of course for adoption in April or spring of 2021.

The Comprehensive Plan is not being done in isolation and it is very important to understand that. While it is a City-led plan, it has an impact beyond the City of Charlotte. We've had this over and over whether it is all the big plans that are being done in the community that is big, whether it is the all-in plan by Center City or the Meck Playbook by County, or the pre-study that we are working on the right with Charlotte Walks which I will talk about later or the Regional Transit Plan that is being led by the Centralina Council of Government. There are so many plans that are going but we believe that a Comprehensive Plan needs to connect all of these plans. Some of these plans are already in process, some of them are about to start. Why the Comprehensive Plan is not these plans, it is very important to connect it because at the end of the day it is an eco-system; food, housing, water, transportation, play spaces are very crucial to our future as our City's population increases, and development intensifies.

At this point, I'm going to turn this over to Alysia to kind of work you through the rest of the few slides we have. She is going to talk about the Guiding Principles and how, the

last time we came to you we talked about imagine ideas or imagines themes that we had been hearing from the community. She is going to share with you what those 10 Big Ideas look like and what we will be bringing back to you again in the fall.

Alysia Osborne, Planning said the current climate in our community, state, and country in the right direction. A lot of planners, not just in Charlotte, but throughout the country are asking that very question, are the things that we hope to achieve in this plan relevant today and for the next 20-years. The answer to that question, like I said, [inaudible] established by the community and the first two phases of the plan which outlined our guiding principles that Charlotte wants to be an authentic, equitable, integrated, and resilient community. The only answer to that question is that we head in the right direction.

We've also established through the first two phases the Vision Goals and Vision Elements of the Plan to talk about Charlotte being an inclusive, diverse community, livable and connected, healthy and sustainable, prosperous, and innovative and a regional community. As a result of engagement to date, certain things Taiwo mentioned are emerging at the core and are the core of our future growth. One is that our residents see a growth strategy that accommodates growth and development design around mobility, needs, and neighborhoods. Another idea is that our residents welcome a variety of housing types in our neighborhoods designed around small to moderate scale mixed-use activity centers. Residents of Charlotte are really talking about the same idea where you can have duplexes, triplexes, and townhome next to activity centers creating what we are calling the 10-minute neighborhood that you can get to essential goods and services within your community within a 10-minute transit ride, walk, bike or a short trip on transit. Another idea that we've been talking about in terms of 10 Big Policy Ideas, and I won't walk through them all, but around housing access for all and neighborhood diversity and inclusion. That speaks to the community's desire to have an address that missing middle in affordable housing in our neighborhoods. The other ideas are organized around health and environment, economic resilience, and opportunity.

Taiwo mentioned that engagement continues to be paramount to our process even in these uncertain and difficult times in our community. Many of you may recall that this plan began with equity atlas and Taiwo mentioned it before that looked at past development patterns in our City and who were typically engaged in the plan used to guide future growth. A key component of that work created an equitable engagement strategy that helped us identify those non-traditional voices in our process and target those arguments throughout the process. It required [inaudible] that we hadn't done in any other planning process prior to now, that we continue to do moving forward in the future.

I think we can all attest to the fact that COVID-19 has thrown us a bit of a curveball, particularly with our interaction with our residents. Charlotte is known for having its safe and informed communities, so we had to pivot from our in-person meetings to virtual platforms to meet those expectations around engagement. We had to be a creator in our engagement strategy with a primary goal of plan awareness and our education about what the plan is and why it is important to develop in our future, particularly in our current environment. What you see on the screen are a number of ideals that we try to do as we are virtual with our residents. We continued sharing key parts of the plan with our ambassadors and strategic advisors and the next slide is more in particular about that. We launched a social media campaign that featured ImagineCLT which was a Tik Tok challenge where we asked residents to make videos share what they believe are critical to building a great city in the next two years. The problem we had, we had over 12,000 views across various social media platforms. We also plan to have focus groups and they will be virtual and phone sessions with our target audience to discuss equity in the Comp Plan. We will host these sessions twice a month so participants can sign up ahead of time and participate over the next month and hopefully until December.

On the next couple of slides, I'll walk you through a few key engagement opportunities that we are pretty excited about over the next few months. Ambassadors and Strategic Advisors have been our sounding board and liaisons for information since the beginning

of the process. We want to say thank you to the 364 residents that volunteered their time to provide guidance on the plan development process. Taiwo mentioned our last two in-person sessions where we had over 300 participants. Since the stay home order, we posted three virtual exercises using public input, offered a paper version of those exercises to those who requested it, and also had six virtual chat sessions with over 2,000 views and over 900 comments on the key parts of the plan. On the screen is a virtual snapshot of virtual experience that looks very similar to how we set up in-person meetings. By incorporating visual platforms like idea slips which is a virtual sticky note wall and bamboo paper to create the wall graphic that summaries feedback during our virtual chat sessions with our Ambassadors and Strategic Advisors.

Many of you may recall the Growing Better Places board game; over 1,800 people played in person and online. It was a new and exciting approach to engagement in the planning process. We learned a lot from that process and wanted to build on the momentum and revise the game to achieve the simple short-term and long-term goals for the process. We want to thank Potions & Pixels, a local game group that creates games and host gaming activities throughout our community and the Knight Foundation for being great local partners on this effort. There are two big goals for the game, accessibility, and ease of play. The new game will be a card game made available online and in the deck of cards available in both English and Spanish, simple and fun for families from ages eight to 80. The second primary goal is that the game focus is on education and awareness and can be used beyond plan adoption in an ongoing engagement tool about planning. Participants will learn how the draft plan policies are used to create types of places in a growing City. We are looking forward to rolling this out online later this month and also the deck card version available by September.

When we began Phase Three engagement less than 10% of our engaged population was on youth. Over the spring we've held virtual chat sessions about equity in Charlotte with Generation/Nation and worked closely with CMS to strategize on how to reach our younger population, particularly during the stay home order. One of our key community leaders, Ms. Corine Iris helped us to connect with key distribution site coordinators to CMS to provide children's coloring sheets with [inaudible]. We wanted to continue partnering with local talent and reached out to Marcus Kiser who is a native Charlottean from Beatties Ford Road [inaudible] He designed a coloring sheet using his design aesthetic of Afro-Futurism which speaks to a future where equity in our community is normal. I'm sure many of you have seen his work at Camp North End along Beatties Ford Road and more recently at the Black Lives Matter mural in uptown. We will begin distribution of the sheets next week and also continue to work with local churches and restaurants to provide the coloring activities for children as well.

Taiwo mentioned Drive-In Community Workshop which is a drive-in movie style community workshop to safely gather residents to share and receive feedback on key elements of the draft plan adopted. The idea is to host two or three presentations in a live parking lot over four hours potentially hosting up to 350 cars each presentation. Where participants can hear the presentation on their radios in English or Spanish, provide feedback using their Smart Phone. We are also thinking about how to accommodate other modes of transportation such as cyclists, transit riders, scooters, etc. That may be a separate event that we gather safely, but we are thinking about how to just include other modes of transportation. With all the community workshops we've had in person in the past we will partner with city/county partners to provide a one-time experience for residents surrounded by major planning initiatives in the community such as Silver Line, Charlotte moves and Meck Playbook.

From producing the plan document by October is our next major milestone in the next few months. We've been working closely without City and County Partners in reviewing draft policies, projects, and programs to support the overall vision. Since March we've had two to three-hour policy work sessions with our community partners to talk through the draft policies and plans to support the vision of the area, but also [inaudible] in two key pieces of the plan, the Equitable Growth Plan which supplies an equity lens to the overall planning and prior to implementation, so it is not just about growing community, but how we grow and how we invest in areas that have needs, traditionally under-

invested in, how we are equitable in how we develop. Taiwo mentioned that a little bit earlier. We also will have a fiscal impact analysis which will give us an idea of our chosen growth strategy, how much it will cost us as a community to develop it in such away.

The next steps in the process are October is the draft plan, the community workshop and then we are expecting to have plan review and adoption by April 2021. Our next steps in the process in terms of engagement as I mentioned we will have Ambassadors and Strategic continue to engage our Ambassadors and Strategic Advisors in July, August, and September begin our focus groups discussions and the card game later on in July, our Community Workshop in October and continue our monthly updates without Planning Commission, with Council Committee and Council Update.

Councilmember Johnson said regarding the Safety Committee, I don't want to belabor the point, but I lost my audio for a while during the meeting so this kind of shifted from our plan during the Safety Committee that we talked about. Can you clarify that we are not nominating people tonight because I did give my word to a constituent as I thought that was the plan? Can you give me the logistics of what is going to happen with our recommendations for the subject matter expert?

Councilmember Egleston said Ms. Johnson; you are still nominating folks, but a couple of people felt like they need a little more time so, I don't think everyone is going to be able to make theirs tonight. If you've got it then please let me or the Mayor know.

Ms. Johnson said okay, just e-mail it to you?

Mr. Egleston said yeah, that will be great.

Mayor Lyles said so we don't have any questions on the Comprehensive Plan Update. You guys are doing a heck of a lot of work so thank you.

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ITEM NO. 7: CHARLOTTE MOVES TASK FORCE UPDATE

Taiwo Jaiyeoba, Assistant City Manager said I will do the same thing with this one as I did with the Comprehensive Plan. Sarah Hazel and I will be sharing this presentation. As you know in December of last year the Mayor announced that a Committee will be formed so I address the issues regarding mobility in Charlotte and in January you all had a very robust, I believe it was an entire day, that you devoted Annual Strategic Meeting to hear from all the communities in the country, Atlanta, Phoenix area as well as experience in other parts of the country with regards to how you undo mobility in a growing community. It is not just about transportation or public transit, but everything that allows people to move efficiently and reliably in a growing community.

In February the Mayor appointed a Task Force and some of you did nominate members and headed by Mayor Harvey Gantt, about 25 Committee members including people who are not just in Charlotte but also live in the County as well. We were supposed to originally start meeting in March but the pandemic definitely changed our plan and so we started to meet virtually in May of this year. Those monthly meetings will continue through the month of December when the Task Force will eventually recommend a transformation of a network of projects and a funding strategy to Mayor Lyles by the end of their task.

This slide is very important, and we developed this after we presented to you the Transportation, Planning, and Environmental Committee in May I believe and there were questions with regards to what are the roles and our relationship between Council and the Task Force? What you see there with the five or six dots essentially talks about the responsibilities of the Task Force. Number one, to review existing plans and policies and I will talk a little bit more about that as we go through this process to provide a forum for civic engagement so that people will call in and participate during the

meetings. I want to give a shout out to Councilmember Winston for calling in during the last meeting that the group had. Assess mobility needs, determine funding needs, and then make a recommendation to Mayor Lyles in December. I have been providing some support along with Sarah to them; I have also been making sure that there are other entities in our region and in our City that definitely need to know what is going on. We've made presentations to the Charlotte Regional Transportation and Planning Organization; we made presentations to of Course TAP and will be doing that again this month. We made presentations to the Metropolitan Transit Commission; we've also made presentations to the Transportation Coordinating Committee of the CRTPO. Most likely there will be a presentation to the County Board of Commissioners sometime in August. Today, Mayor Lyles, myself, and Dana Fenton and Sarah are able to meet with House Representatives, Becky Carney, Brenda Lofton, and Kelly Alexander and kind of shared this with them. At the end of the day when the Task Force is done the plan is to deliver and to make a recommendation to Mayor Lyles and then deliver that to the Council.

In May, this was our very first virtual meeting, we presented the Comprehensive Plan to the group, wanted to tie land use to mobility because how we live and how work is definitely integrated and should be discussed together. We talked about our Strategic Action Plan because as we viewed mobility for a great community, I will definitely mention our environmental goals becomes very, very important and so we presented that to them as well as our Strategic Mobility Plan which Charlotte Department of Transportation is working on, which is a very integral part of this particular assignment.

In June we also had a series of presentations to them of plans that had been done like the Charlotte 2030 Transit Systems Plan which was [inaudible] in 2006 and as in the last year or so been modified to include a couple of extensions such as the Blue Line to Ballantyne. We did share with them what a transformational mobility network is, and I will share it today, about that as well. So, what exactly is that transformational mobility network, how do we define it? In other words, how do you know when you get there? It is a network of projects that when they are implanted from a system that addressed the critical mobility needs of Charlotte and our region, whether that is transit, whether it is walking, whether that is biking, whether that is an improvement of our traffic signals. I don't know how many of you know this but in Charlotte today we have about 10,000 or our residents who are visually impaired. In another 10-years, that number goes to about 19,000. For a lot of the visually impaired population and those who use wheelchairs, improvement to our traffic signals is so important to them, in order for them to be able to connect to bus services or even to be able to move around at all, so what exactly does it mean when you have a transformation and mobility network? It allows anyone who lives in Charlotte to be able to move more seamlessly within the City and outside of the City to do business, go to work, go to school, to seek affordable housing. It helps economic equity, upward mobility for our people and it definitely allows people to be able to connect to their families as well.

The next slide you see exactly what does it look like; it's got to be a game-changer in terms of scale and those examples that you see there where it is implementing the Charlotte Gateway Station which will be very huge for our City or expanding the uptown cycling. It's got to be something that is big in scale but also connecting in other words, the train or the bus or the trails to not just be by themselves, they should seamlessly connect. There should be a system. It is also about the commuter shifts in terms mode so if you have some of the six percent of people who commute in Charlotte today, who use the single occupied vehicles. What is that going to mean for us in the future, can we reduce the number of people who drive? We've had it said in this meeting tonight about how we are trying to build a City that is less auto-centric but is more people-friendly. So, how do we begin to distribute the motor shifts? Also, that transformation mobility network sure would help people overcome barriers whether it is barriers to workforce development or whether it is barriers to upward mobility, whatever those barriers maybe, that network shall allow people to be able to overcome those. And of course, the big one is the funding piece. How does it become a reality to charge these Task Forces translate a mobility vision into reality so that something can be different in our City into the future?

The next slide actually shows you a little bit of that because it takes you down memory lane. In 1998 when the City was trying to really get into the light rail business, up until then it has been a whole lot of you build this and you build that, but in 1998 half-cent sales tax, the City and the County was really able to build the Blue Line and you know it today it is the symbol of Charlotte really being able to attract businesses and being able to grow as one of the best things that ever happened to this city in the last decade was really the expansion of the Blue Line connecting one part of the community to another. How can we replicate that success, again, how can we continue to build a safe and equitable mobility system in our community? So far, we have been doing it incrementally. The Task Force, Mayor, and Council lead in that yellow box there, how can you take us from incremental to something that is significant that will transform the way we are today as a City and really get this mobility network that can achieve the objectives that are set out for it to achieve?

If you go to the next slide you will see a connection between, it is not about looking at a map and throwing different darts and say that project stays no, it is looking at some guiding principles. You see a connection between these guiding principles and what Alisia just shared with you in the Comprehensive Plan. If our plan is to build and be able to connect that City, if our plan is to build a healthy, active and sustainable City, if our plan is to have a prosperous and innovative Charlotte that is inclusive and diverse and that is also regional, those are the same guiding principles that should define the type of projects that qualify for transformational mobility network. It should be the type of project that provides effective travel options for people and that results in viable choices for anyone, so if you don't want to drive; you are never going to get rid of the automobile, but it is an option for people if you don't want to drive, you can ride a bike and you will feel that you are going to get to where you need to go. But it also has to create exceptional travel experiences for those who use the system so people don't have to transfer two, three, four times for them to get to where they need to go or wait at a bus stop for 60-minutes before they catch the next bus. If you don't want to use transit you do have trails, you have other means that can get you to where you need to get to, but it has got to be an exceptional experience. Then obviously, we have priorities as a City, our priorities are job creation, affordable housing for people, but what are those things that can meet our community goals? Those guiding principles help us to be able to define the projects that really go into that transformational and mobility network.

I will hand it over to Sarah to take us on the next couple of slides as to have we have been engaging the community.

Sarah Haze, Assistant to City Manager said one additional component to have in Task Force is receiving input is through a variety of different public engagement methods. All of our meetings are streamed on YouTube where people can continue to provide input in real-time as well as make comments on Facebook. We also put together an e-mail address where folks can e-mail during the meeting and then we check it as we go as well as in between meetings. Then we caught up time at the end of each of our Task Force meetings to make sure that we can review the comments, the Task Force can have a discussion around them or answer a question and then we will continue to do that and also provide opportunities for the public to call in. So far this has worked well and in addition to having the opportunity to view this in real-time, there is a website that you all can go to and please share with other where we are putting our agenda, our presentations and we are looking to figure out how to make it more dynamic so people can truly interact with all of this information and with all of this important content.

Just to take it home here; Taiwo talked a lot about what we've already done really in May and June, built the foundation off of a great plan and engagement that is already been done and that is in progress. Then as we are looking at our July meeting we are going to be focusing on the regional perspective. [inaudible] who is on this Task Force and is Executive Director of the [inaudible] she is going to be talking a bit about connect beyond and the importance of regionalism as we are having these discussions. We will also be learning from other places about how they went about putting together transit initiatives in the package that they consider transformational mobility projects. We will

be learning from Austin; we will also be hearing from Brower County and from Nashville so both what worked and what didn't, what would folks do differently in places where it was not successful. Then as we look forward to the end of the summer and into the fall this is where we are really going to start talking about funding, about selection criteria and have those discussions with the Task Force as they start to draft the recommendation all with the angle of delivering a final recommendation that transformational mobility network and the recommendation for funding to the Mayor in December and then looking more ahead all of that work will be informing the Strategic Mobility Plan. With that Taiwo and I will take questions.

Mayor Lyles said are there questions for Taiwo about the work or Sarah or myself?

Councilmember Winston said I just have one comment as Taiwo said, I was able to take a look at the last meeting and the presentation that staff gave that really explained and showed what a transformational mobility network could look like in Charlotte was incredible. I really do think it was the best one I've seen in my 2.5-years on Council. Just to my colleagues and folks that are looking out there, the way to think about what a transformational mobility network, why it is different from what we have today, think about stitches, and one of the Committee members pointed it out. It is really taking the Robert Moses model of making cuts within the community that divides and flip transportation and infrastructure and ends up looking like a scar as if you were stitching skin versus taking two pieces of fabric and finding ways to use those threads to connect neighborhoods. So, you don't see the scars but all you do see are kind of panoramic systems of neighborhoods and areas and places and it really is incredible when you see the potential kind of spelled out. So, carry on, I hope to get great recommendations from the Task Force, and I look forward to trying to figure out ways to implement the thing.

Mayor Lyles said I would just like to say when we're talking about how to do this, we had a lot of support from almost every part of our County and beyond, our region. This is something that we've done in collaboration with the Alliance, with the many other groups all the way from every one of the Advisory groups that we have and I'm really grateful for Taiwo and Sarah and Harvey. When March hit, I thought oh my gosh, all of the great things that we've been thinking about won't get done and we are doing them, and we are going to continue to work hard on making this City a place that is accessible and provides an opportunity because you have to have an infrastructure. No matter how good we are and where we are, we have to build for the future for everyone, whether it is South End, SouthPark, Beatties Ford Road, or Albemarle Road. All of those areas have to have the kind of access and infrastructure to make it possible for people to be successful, so I'm grateful for the 25-members; thank you for each of you who supported someone who is able to join the Committee. I don't have any questions, I'm just thankful for this.

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ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Councilmember Driggs, seconded by Councilmember Egleston, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:31 p.m.



Stephanie Bello, Deputy City Clerk

Length of Meeting: 3 Hours, 49 Minutes
Minutes Completed: July 22, 2020