

The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina convened for a Strategy Session on Monday, March 1, 2021 at 5:20 p.m. in Room 267 of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center with Mayor Vi Lyles presiding. Councilmembers present were Dimple Ajmera, Tariq Bokhari, Ed Driggs, Larken Egleston, Julie Eiselt, Malcolm Graham, Renee Johnson, Matt Newton, Greg Phipps, Victoria Watlington, and Braxton Winston II.

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Mayor Lyles welcomed everyone to the March 1, 2021, Strategy Session and said this meeting is being held as a virtual meeting in accordance with all of the laws that we have to follow, especially around an electronic meeting. The requirements also include notices and access that are being met electronically as well. You can view this on our Government Channel, the City's Facebook Page, or the City's YouTube Page.

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ITEM NO. 1: SAFE CHARLOTTE GRANT UPDATE

Marcus Jones, City Manager said I will ask Julia Martin to come into Room 267 as we go through this short presentation. I just want the Council to take a look at maybe one of the hardest working folks that we have on the team. This is one assignment, as you will recall, you approved the Safe Charlotte Plan back in October and there were six recommendations and what with those six recommendations I can tell you that we are in the process to have deliverables all of those before the end of this fiscal year, June 2021, with one exception that will be a little bit later. One of the reasons I'm bringing this to your attention tonight is that as Julia and her team have really put their collective foot on the gas, there is a grant opportunity that you will vote on, on the 22nd of this month, but I would like to get the process started and I would like to explain the process a little bit to you. As you may recall your recommendations, for example, Recommendation Two dealt with Civilian Response for Low-Risk Calls; Recommendation Three, External Analysis of Police/Civilian Contact; Four Civilian Response as it Relates to Mental Health Calls; Five, we talked a bit about our Youth Programs and then Six, Training and the Training of Officers and What they Received. With the exception of Item six, all of those will be done, RFP (Request For Proposal) processes for the most part before the end of this fiscal year.

I would like to talk about the first item which is the million-dollar grant for our non-profits. What we have done up to this point, we've engaged, not just members of the Community Input Group, but also non-profits that are in this space throughout the City. In November we worked with those Community Groups to identify priorities and we had two Community Safety Summits with nearly 100 organizations, not people, organizations in attendance. We released a Community Safety Survey and had about 80 responses. We reconvened this Community Safety Summit group back in January and basically what rose to the top, has supported our youth, provide safe and constructive outlets during non-school hours and demonstrate that there are alternative pathways to violence. As the group continued to work through this a few things came out in terms of a framework. These intentional decisions, one is a maximum organization budget of \$150,000. The sentiment from the input group is that smaller non-profits cannot compete with some of the larger organizations, and also there was clearly a break point from the community survey in terms of these different size organizations.

I would say that there is also an opportunity here that we've created an eco-system if you will and let's start off with the Jump Start Grants. Started off at \$100,000, made its way up to \$500,000, but those Jump Start Grants top out at \$5,000. Then there is Unite Charlotte which is a United Way Grant Program which also has grants up to \$25,000. For this Safe Charlotte Grant, we are looking at a flat \$50,000 for 20 organizations. So, wherever you are I guess in the eco-systems, there are pathways or entry points, but together we think that this is a better way of proceeding. What Julia and her team have been able to do is really build something from scratch within a five-month period and partnering with United Way to administer the grant, we believe that is going to help us expedite the process. United Way has put together a robust package of support for the grantees that includes capacity building by BYE (Bringing You Excellence) which is an

MWSBE (Minority, Women, Small Business Enterprise) and Urban League to develop monthly training for the grantees as well as a data collection and evaluation program from UNC-Charlotte and two sessions on Data Collection and Performance.

While I will ask for your approval of the Grant to go to United Way to disperse to these organizations on the 22nd of this month, we would like to get the process and the application process started on the 8th of this month and that is why I'm coming to you tonight; two fold, one the work has been extremely collaborative, but also exciting to get so much in play over such a short period. They've gone so fast and gotten out in front of me a little bit, which is not necessarily a bad thing, but I just wanted to get a nod from you that all of this makes sense so that we can begin this partnership with United Way, we can begin the grant application process, but you would approve the million-dollars going to the United Way to disperse the entire million-dollars. The admin costs will be paid for, not out of the million dollars, but I just wanted to bring you up to speed with that and hopefully, there are no issues for us to move forward.

Mayor, that is the report that I have as it relates to Safe Charlotte and will take any questions.

Councilmember Watlington said I just want to know if we have bench marked and documented whatever Julia and her team were able to do to move as quickly as they did? Is that an opportunity to standardize?

Mr. Jones said if I understand your question Ms. Watlington; we've been thorough in our engagement with the community as well as making sure that part of this process is to have performance measurers and outcomes so that we will know we are doing, not just now, but in future years. One other thing that I think is important is that we are utilizing CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) funds to do this. These will be 501-3-C organizations with the concept of sustainability as we go into future years and not using just the \$1 million for this year and be a one and done but have the sustainability by using the CDBG funds, the 15% set aside in outside years.

Ms. Watlington said what I'm hearing then it is sustainable, and I think that is awesome. In addition to that, I wanted to know from the operation standpoint, whatever she and her team did to be able to execute as quickly and efficiently as they did? I'm wondering if that is something that can be benchmarked across the organization.

Mr. Jones said now I understand, yes, one of the things that has made this possible, if we had to build this internally with the City staff it would have really slowed us down. Because United Way has a mechanism in place that can help us in terms of the grant-making, the administration, that helped greatly, and what is also important is in terms of our budget question, but I want to make sure that I put this in the room, is that many of the people from the Community Input Group will be on the decision making of who gets the grants.

Ms. Watlington said thank you, I look forward to seeing the grants.

Councilmember Phipps said I guess I was wanting to get clarification; so, this million dollars that would be split between 20 organizations yet could be selected? Is that correct?

Mr. Jones said that is correct, yes sir.

Mr. Phipps said for some reason I thought it was just \$50,000 split between 20 and that is like \$2,500 and I don't think that would make much of an impact, but I'm glad we are working off the million-dollar number.

Councilmember Winston said full disclosure, I was part of the Selection Committee for the Unite Two Grant cycle last year so I'm familiar with it, so this is kind of where my question stems from. I know they have a very specific rubric that we as the selection group kind went through as we consider all of the applicants. But that was a United Way rubric; I believe that this money if I am remembering correctly, is the money that

community non-profits that came out of the whole violence interruption discussion and there was particular concern there and as we've been building with the community we have been saying we hear what you are saying and we are going to be responsible. My question to the Manager is how do we hold United Way accountable for distributing this money in a way that meets our particular standards and not necessarily the United Way standard for how we need to interact with these non-profit groups in our community? If this doesn't get done right and we don't have proper accountability, it is good that it happened fast, but it won't be good that it didn't happen right.

Mr. Jones said that is an excellent question Mr. Winston, so let's not think about the United Way in terms of deciding who gets the grant. Think about the United Way in terms of we set the parameters of who should be eligible, but then the panel, much like, if I'm understanding you being a part of the panel that includes Tonya Jameson, Don Thomas, Robert Dawkins, [inaudible] people that have been familiar with the work. That panel will decide who gets elected for the grants.

Mr. Winston said to follow up, that is great, that makes more sense, but still, that panel needs the guidance on how to weigh the decisions they are going to have to make and some of them might be difficult. Are we leaning on United Way to come up with that or are we going to provide that kind of rubric that needs to be present?

Mr. Jones said we will provide that rubric which is consistent with the priorities of the City and it is consistent with the priorities of the Safe Charlotte Plan.

Councilmember Eiselt said Mr. Manager, just to clarify, is this sort of the next phase of the micro-grant program, or is that still out there as well? Is this a different budgetary item in addition to a micro-grant, or is it to replace a micro-grant?

Mr. Jones said right now Ms. Eiselt, this is in addition to the micro-grant program. So much of that half a million dollars for the Jump Start Program have been allowed throughout the year. There is I believe one more cycle of the Jump Start Grant Program, but this is on top of it. As we move forward in FY2022 that is a great question that we have in front of us, is there an opportunity to scale one up and maybe one down? Having this Unite Charlotte as another piece of it is important so I think the concept is meeting organizations where they are but also being able to scale these organizations up over time with capacity building using some of the partnerships that are outside of the City.

Ms. Eiselt said okay, thank you, that makes sense and I appreciate it. Sounds like a great program.

Mayor Lyles said the Manager is going to move forward so I just want to summarize, you said you would have the opening of the grant applications starting March 8th, which is next Monday, and that you are hoping to get it up and running, using the United Way, Urban League and several other folks on capacity building data analytics and regulatory work. I wanted to make sure, and this is coming out of the 15% allocation from Community Development Block Funds that we ordinarily use every year for these kinds of human service purposes and because of our Safe Communities, this is what we are going to do as a high priority.

Mr. Jones said absolutely.

Mr. Phipps said we set parameters on what kind of expectations we want to see from the work that these non-profits are doing. How do we measure success on any of these efforts? Have we set that up because crime prevention and avoidance can be a very frustrating and difficult sort of thing, so how do we intend to measure success on a go-forward basis with these expenditures?

Mr. Jones said I guess the best way to respond to this is much like one of the responses that I had for Cure Violence or the hospital interrupter program. You take them together, for instance, we haven't launched any of the programs for the Safe Charlotte Plan yet, the six recommendations, but we are on the way. I guess your next question would be

well tell me where we are with violent crime today and none of the recommendations can help us with that because we haven't implemented it. But what we are doing specifically with these programs are bringing in partners like UNC-Charlotte, bringing in partners like United Way or the Urban League because what has been different in the past is one, measure what is going on, but secondly, give these organizations additional support so that they can be successful in their operations. The metrics will be a part of each program, but again too early to say what the impact is because we haven't launched them.

Mayor Lyles said I'm going to follow-up with Mr. Phipps; I would hope that as we make these awards and people begin down a path if we have to stop and re-sharpen or refocus that that doesn't happen after 12-months of work, that we are actually building capacity which means often times the ability come in and say we need to make a change here, sharpen your focus here, redesign something, reposition something. As long as we are monitoring carefully, and I think that was one of [inaudible] paths that you have. Mr. Jones, I think you are ready to go and very much appreciate the work that everybody is doing.

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ITEM NO. 2: CHARLOTTE FUTURE 2040 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE, AND TRANSFORMATIONAL MOBILITY NETWORK UPDATES

Marcus Jones, City Manager said I should have said with the last presentation, thank you Council for giving us an opportunity to just move forward and move fast, but also to do it in a way that we are making sure that we are making good investments. So, again, I thank you for providing us the opportunity to do this.

What we have today I guess on the last item before we get to City Council Committee Report Outs is what I would say what we attempted to do on the second day of the Annual Strategy Meeting and that was to show how the 2040 Comprehensive Plan, the UDO (Unified Development Ordinance) and the Transformational Mobility Network, back then we called it Charlotte Moves, actually all work together. So, in reverse order, I'm going to do just a little bit of an update on the Transformational Mobility Network. The last time we spoke about this was at the last Strategy Session and we are geared up to talk with you again on the 22nd of this month. I will tell you that transitioning from the Task Force work to the staff analysis is just not a simple task because where the Task Force was setting a vision at a very high level, now it is up to the staff to take a look at how the legislation could and should be drafted as well as a financial plan.

We are refining our Legislative ask and also refining the financial assumptions. We are trying to flush this out with confidence so that we know that the numbers that we've placed before you are good numbers and we are assembling a strong bench of partners. We have mobility infrastructure experts, legal advisors, and local partners such as the Charlotte Alliance. We've been getting a number of questions and it is clear there are a number of questions and concerns voiced by particular stakeholders and we are taking that feedback as we begin to do more analysis, but again, the concept for us, we are still doing the work, bringing in partners and we would come back on the 22nd of this month with more information for you regarding the legislation and refining the financial assumptions. That is without slides Mayor, but just a very, very quick update before I turn it over to Taiwo.

Taiwo Jaiyeoba, Planning Director/Assistant City Attorney said thank you very much for your support of us on this work which we started a little over two years ago on the Charlotte Future 2040 Comprehensive Plan. The Unified Development Ordinance obviously started way before then. Tonight we are not asking for any action; this is really more of an informational update on those two items to update you on where we are with the project, but also to share further details with you with regards to some of the comments and concerns that we've been hearing from the community. We will be able to answer questions and take your comments.

I will lead off with a few things with regard to the engagement and then I will turn it over to Comprehensive Plan Project Manager, Alyssa Osborne to kind of walk through the details, and then we will pause, take questions and comments that you may have on the Charlotte Future 2040 before we move into the Unified Development Ordinance. Because the two of them are really closely tied, it is likely that some of your questions after the Comprehensive Plan may actually border on the UDO so when we get to that point we will let you know so we may want to move some of those questions forward.

Over the past two years plus we have engaged broadly and widely in my experience in Comprehensive Plans, and I think I have about seven different Comprehensive Plans that I have worked on throughout the United States. This is probably the most robust engagement that I have been part of that really carve out our Council Districts but including areas in the extra territorial jurisdictions (ETJ) that we have. We have piggybacked on the County's Meck Playbook engagement meetings, we've piggybacked back on the Charlotte 2040 Center City Plan, just whatever opportunities have been out there, we've really tag-teamed with a number of our partners to make sure that we are there receiving information, taking in comments and most of those obviously have been processed and the result in what we have in front of us today.

It is a 320-page document, but that I really because this is the first time we will be doing something like this in the spirit of the Comprehensive Plan that was developed in 1975. So, about 45-years, I think we knew going into theses that it was going to be more of a lot of touch points [inaudible] and residents and business people, but to get us to a point where we have this document, 320 pages in all, but only 170 pages really carve out the policy framework, division values and a lot of graphics in there and you have a place types manual in that document as well that really answers a lot of questions with regard to place types. Most of the document is very graphically, vision pleasing and so I would continue to encourage everyone to go through it.

COVID-19 (mild to severe respiratory infection caused by the coronavirus) hit us early in 2020 and we've had to move to virtual engagement since then until the draft plan was released back in October of 2020 where we have about 500 people in attendance. The number that I want to focus on, on this slide is actually the key stakeholders. One of the focuses from our engagement from the very start and especially since we move into the virtual space is the nearly 500 advisors and ambassadors who have actually met monthly to help put this plan together. Page 185 of the plan actually acknowledges these individuals and lists them out there. These are not just residents of our City from each Council District, but they also represent their own building relating industries. We've actually met with the REBIC (Real Estate & Building Industry Coalition) and NEAP leadership multiple times, probably more than any other group and we've met with in the City over the last two years. Nearly 10 individuals representing the development industry, both leadership, and members, actually volunteered to be members of that nearly 500 key stakeholders in the last two years. We are actually having another meeting tomorrow with NEAP and REBIC as well.

I will pause here to just quickly highlight some of the concerns we've had from them with regards to the Plan. There have been concerns obviously about community benefit agreements and how it will work and whether there is the potential for losing predictability in permitting or even getting Raleigh's approval for inclusionary zoning in the document. Yes, a Comprehensive Plan by nature is a big picture document, it is a 20-year plan and there are things in the document that may not be doable today, but because you do not want a Comprehensive Plan to be developed and updated every two years you put a lot of things in there in anticipation of what may happen. So, it is aspirational, it is visionary, but there are certain aspects of it that are also pragmatic, and you know that you can actually take care of today. We've had how do we provide comments, we are going to talk about that during this presentation and whether there will be other drafts, but I have said the way the process works is that all the comments will be received until March 22nd when we have a public hearing and rather than have a piecemeal response to comments, they will respond at one time so that way we are touching everything and everyone in the process.

Yes, we've had complaints and concerns obviously comments that the document is very big, as I said it is a 320-page document, but it is really very easy to read because most of it is graphics and appendices. The main document that deals with policy is actually less than the 50-pages total in the document. There are a lot of comments that we've had not just from the homebuilders and development industry but from our residents. Unlike all of those comments, the way we are looking at them is let's put all of them together, but I will tell you that most of the comments have been very positive. I will say very, very positive about the Plan and that there will be more questions actually than comments, and we expected that again going into this. Knowing fully well this is the first time we will be experiencing a cohesive citywide plan of his nature and all of those were responding to them. I believe last Monday when we presented to the Transportation, Planning, and Environmental Committee we had about 250 comments. Today we have about 300 of them and again, we continued to take them, receive them, some of them are questions like I said, and we will be responding to them over time.

I've noticed a large document and I've made reference to that and people have a lot of other priorities. Definitely, the Comprehensive Plan is not the only thing people are thinking about when they are doing their daily businesses. And unlike us, who live with this every day, we definitely expect that a lot of people will still need the opportunity to navigate through this. Our initial schedule was that we were going to release a public draft back in September of 2020 and bring it to Council for adoption in December of 2020. But once COVID-19 hit us we felt that we needed to pivot and make a release of the Plan in October and provide a five to the six-month timeframe from that period through spring for people to still be able to review it whether people had seen it for the first time or they were reviewing it for the first time if they had not been part of the process. The goal was to have people have enough time for folks, so we created 40 or more different ways to connect with our residents throughout the City because we know that again, it is a big document, and navigating through it will be a challenge. We wanted to provide different ways by which people can engage and so we will continue to ask people. I think you will remember that we had the board game that went throughout the entire City, probably many homeowner associations to look through this as well, but we do know that because we are now getting to a point where we are going to be asking for Council to adopt it, and people are seeing this for the first time, some people are seeing this for the first time, it is very important to build that five-month period.

These are the different ways by which we have engaged people and we really want to continue to encourage people to send us comments. We have a public hearing fully on March 22nd, we think that will be another opportunity for us to receive more comments and then be able to respond to them and share our response, first with the TAP (Transportation Action Plan) Committee and then ultimately with Council. So, this presentation that Alyssa will give you will focus on one of the plan goals regarding housing diversity. We've heard that that is probably the one goal that has attracted a lot of comments and questions and we are going to speak to that today. Further, we've also heard from you Councilmembers and some members of the community how the place types and the Unified Development Ordinance regulations, how they will work together. We are going to kind of walk through this together today and I am not guaranteeing that you will not have questions afterward, I'm sure you will have a lot of them, but we just want to make sure that we answer those two in terms of housing diversity and also how the place types connect with the UDO. At this point, I will hand it off to Ms. Osborne to take us through the rest of the presentation on the Comprehensive Plan and then we will be back to answer questions that you may have.

Alyssa Osborne, Comprehensive Plan Project Manager said thank you for the opportunity to share about the Plan. Taiwo mentioned the planning process started in 2018 and here is out it lays out; in October we released a document to the public and started that six-month review process and we are currently three months into that and receiving comments, actually just doing more listening than we are trying to respond, but making sure that we hear people, answer their questions and provide various ways for them to share their thoughts, concerns and their questions with the staff. That all leads to a tentative adoption date in April. In March of this month, we will have a public hearing on the 22nd, and that all leads to the tentative April adoption date.

As Taiwo mentioned there are various ways for our residents, including the staff and our elected and appointed officials to share their comments about the Plan. This is really important to have various ways because one, because of COVID, but also to meet people where they are with their level of comfort with technology. You can use the electronic document and actually comment directly on the plan. You can e-mail us or provide your comments directly using our website and for those who might be visually impaired, you can call 311 and leave your comments over the phone.

As Taiwo mentioned we have over 300 comments received to date. Comments are available on our website cltfuture2040.com and the spreadsheet is updated every five minutes. So, what you see before you are just a snapshot in time of the comments we've received to date. Many of them are received via e-mail directly to the staff, sharing their comments or online within the document. The public has really been vocal in sharing their comments as you know but also the staff and our elected officials have comments that they are sharing as well as we go through the process.

Here are the types of comments we are receiving, general is the Plan document, but we are also getting those very detailed comments about grammar and graphics and those types of things, so as we are proposing revisions to the document we will have a general statement that takes care of those grammatical or graphic areas that we may have. I will walk through some of the general comments or comments that we are receiving directly on the Plan. The Plan is divided into five sections; the most comments that we are receiving are about the policy framework. That is where the 10 Plan goals live around neighborhoods, jobs, open space, those types of things. That is where we are getting most of our comments. The next area that is receiving more comments is on the complete community and places section of the Plan and that is where the place types are. Folks are really asking how will this work and those types of things and I will run through those comments later? An implementation strategy is also where we are getting a lot of comments; how will this Plan work? Again, to Taiwo's point, we haven't had one in almost 50-years so there are a lot of questions about the mechanics of what happens once the Plan is adopted, how it will be related to the Unified Development Ordinance, and then where do community area planning fit into this process as well.

The next couple of slides have more words that I particularly like to have on a slide, but I wanted to give you a snapshot of what we are hearing from the community based on each section of the plan. The first section really is a community-based vision and there are comments that are pushing us and saying we didn't go far enough in establishing the vision. How might we be more intentional in defining equity in our definitions since equity is a common theme throughout the Plan, let's be really bold about how we express what that means for Charlotte. Also creating some language around equitable growth as we are creating a Transformative Mobility Network, how might we be more intentional about making sure that equity is a front and center theme in creating that mobility network?

The other section Complete Community and Places again are where the place types live and the big question about that is what this is, how will it work, and how does it relate to the UDO. So, hopefully, in the next weeks to come and definitely in this presentation, we will share with you all how that might work and how the Plan will connect to the UDO in implementation. Again, in the policy framework section, many of the comments are around to what you guys are receiving, comments about the single-family neighborhoods, how does the Plan address that and we will talk in more detail about that a little later. But then, how are we paying for this Plan? There have been some questions about the finances and how we are thinking about being fiscally responsible with this Plan as we grow, how are we paying for it, and accommodating for that growth in the future. Again, questions about displacement; a lot of our residents are concerned about as we grow how does this Plan speaks to mitigating displacement and really putting numbers to the narrative about our vulnerable population and how do we plan to address that moving forward?

The implementation strategy, a lot of the comments again were about place types, mapping, UDO, and then there were really concerns about how will the community planning process work in the future because this Plan does make some really bold

recommendations about making sure we improve our processes to be more transparent and predictable for our residents. So, some questions around the mechanics of that and then the future phases of Plan implementation will address those concerns about the community area planning approach.

I wanted to stop for a minute and just focus on the 10 Plan Goals, particularly the one around Neighborhood Diversity and Inclusion. As Taiwo mentioned that you all have been receiving a lot of comments about this one and what I want to say what the plan really seeks to do; we are committed to preserving and protecting our vibrant communities. Many of these goals support our neighborhoods, our businesses so everyone in Charlotte can have a vibrant place to live, work and play. These are the 10 Plan Goals that speak to that. The one that we want to focus on in the next series of slides is around Neighborhood Diversity, what is in the Plan and what is it not in the Plan. The language that is actually in the Plan and I want to be clear to say that the Plan is a policy document, it does not change the zoning nor does it encourage tear down or elimination of single-family homes. However, the Plan does provide policy direction to remove barriers to creating more diverse and inclusive neighborhoods throughout our entire community. Some of the ways that the Plan seeks to do that is to allow more housing types within our single-family neighborhoods, but not just carte blanche, but to provide some specific dimensional development standards around how that might happen in the future. Laura will speak a little bit about that, but I will show some illustrations to talk about how that might happen. Duplexes, triplexes, and quads are some of the new housing types that we would like to see provided equitably or throughout the entire community and that is what the Plan actually speaks to.

Why is diversity important? It offers a range of building types throughout our neighborhoods, it increases the opportunity for affordable housing options, it doesn't ensure, but it does provide more of an opportunity for that. Then it allows some of our residents to age in place. As we get older in our community should you live in a single-family home, you might want to stay in that neighborhood, and having housing options would allow you to do that. That is just an example of how diversity could work and why it is important to our communities moving forward.

This map shows where our plex houses or duplexes, triplexes, and quads are today. On the left, there are currently 5,600 units citywide, but only a third of those were built in the 1950s, and as you can see the next two maps are by decade and we haven't built as much of that housing diversity since the 1950s and definitely not in the past decade. So, what we heard overwhelming from our community, particularly our ambassadors, and strategic advisors is that as we grow as a community we need to have more housing options, more than just single-family homes and apartments. How do we address in this Plan that missing [inaudible] density or housing options moving forward?

How might that work? I will just briefly talk about the development part of it. The Plan introduces the mix of building types which you see on the left. The ordinance will provide guidance on dimensional standards that should new development or redevelopment happen what might that look like in terms of the width of the building, the height of the building and as you can see in the picture, what is proposed is that if there is a tear-down for example, that what comes in as new development will look and feel like the rest of the neighborhood, so it will be built consistent with the character. Also, another thing to point out is that as we introduce these housing types that there will be one driveway proposed for these units as well as no parking in the front yard.

I want to shift to talk a little bit about the path forward and how we are continuing to engage the community. Again, engagement doesn't stop with this process nor does it stop after the Plan is adopted. Next week we will hear from Charles Hales who is the former Mayor of Portland, Oregon to share his experience with comprehensive planning and definitely Portland has a lot of the elements that we are thinking about in this Plan so join us for that. This is part of a three-part series to hear from experts around the country. Also, we will host a city-wide community conversation in a townhall style meeting, not necessarily a town hall, but a townhall style meeting on March 16th, offering two times, one for our lunchtime resident and business owners at 12:00 and again at 5:30 and that is available

on our YouTube Channel, our Gov Channel, and our Facebook page. Now, I would like to share a video that talks about the next steps and how the Plan will work.

A video was shown.

Mayor Lyles said we are going right into the UDO; who is doing the UDO Update?

Laura Harmon, Planning Division Manager said I am managing the Unified Development Ordinance and wanted to give you guys an update on where we are. It has been a while since we've been here. A little bit of a reminder of why we are doing this again since it has been a while since we've been here. The UDO is our primary, regulatory tool for implementing the Comprehensive Plan and a number of other policies that you all have adopted. We think it is really important to get it in place to help move forward with development consistent with your vision for the community and the community's vision for the community. We also want to have development regulations that provide greater predictability as well as flexibility for future development so that it is clear to everyone to have a good solid set of standards that work together, that are aligned together, and that everyone can have access to and understand to see what the development regulations will be for our community. We also are working to include best practices and revised development standards. If you are familiar with our regulations you may know that our Zoning Ordinance has not been comprehensively updated for almost 30-years. A lot has changed in the way that communities develop, and the Unified Development Ordinance will have update zoning regulations as well as a number of regulations that include those best practices.

We also want to get all of our development regulations that the City manages into a single document and then group the regulations so that they are easy to find. So, if you are looking for something related to streets it is easy to go to one chapter of the UDO and find the regulations related to streets. It is a little bit more challenging with the way things are set up now with our regulations. Then we want a more user-friendly document to simplify terms, use common language across many areas of the ordinance and increase the use of graphics. Finally, we want an ordinance that complies with the updated Planning Legislation in North Carolina 160D.

So, the connection again between the vision, mostly through the Comprehensive Plan, but through other Council adopted policies as well is really important with implementation coming through the UDO. You can see that we are taking regulations that are in eight different places right now and putting them into one Unified Development Ordinance; Zoning Ordinance, Sub-Division Ordinance, Trees, Streets and Sidewalks, Stormwater, Floodplain, Erosion Control, and Driveway and Access Regulations are all in different places right now. They will all be in the Unified Development Ordinance as we complete this.

What you can expect to see when you see the Unified Development Ordinance, the way it will be organized is shown on the screen. We will obviously have the introductory provisions, but three major substantive components, the zoning piece, subdivision, streets and infrastructure, stormwater, and natural resources. Then we will have a chapter on administration and approval of plans.

Where are we now? As you know in the past we have brought to you all a number of items that were kind of preview to the new UDO, the new TOD (Transit Oriented Development) Districts, and we've actually updated them once, based on what we've learned. New sign regulations and updated those as well and an update for the Tree Ordinance for urban sites. We've also done with you all a rezoning for the TOD zoning and aligned that on the ground. We are now in the middle of actually developing the full UDO; we are drafting the document, we drafted many components, coming to you all periodically and our Planning Commission with updates and working closely with an Ordinance Advisory Committee review. We will be moving into community engagement soon and the adoption process. After that, we will move into implementation of the UDO with a number of items including how we get from the current zoning that we have to new

zoning districts in the future and how we educate and train people on what the new regulations are.

We are not doing this alone, this is not just the Planning Department initiative, but we are working with Camiros who is our Lead Consultant, and I actually have Arista Strungys with us tonight in case we have detailed questions on some of the regulations that we will be talking about. They also have a sub-consultant, Parker Poe who is working with our Attorney's Office and will be providing legal support and review of the UDO. Again, this is just a Planning Department effort, but a number of other agencies within the City, as well as a couple of agencies within the County, are working very busily on putting the UDO together and working with our consultant, they are providing input, reviewing sections of the ordinance. They will be working in community engagement as well, particularly with different group's expertise and through the adoption and implementation process.

As I mentioned earlier we have an Ordinance Advisory Committee of 30 plus volunteer community members. A number of them have been with us for actually a few years now and they are neighborhood representatives, people representing sustainability interest, and also folks from the design and development sector. So, with a wide range of perspectives, we wanted to hear from folks with different interests and different areas of expertise. We are taking different components to them they are giving us advice and feedback as we take components of the UDO and then we are using that to make adjustments and updates to those different components. Since the adoption of the TOD Districts in April of 2019, just to give you an idea of the number of times we have met with them, we've had 18 regular Ordinance Advisory Committee meetings, three optional drop-in meetings, and before the release of the first draft we anticipate seven more meetings. So, this has been a very active and engaged group and they have provided us a lot of very helpful feedback and we will continue to get feedback from them.

Moving a little bit now into what we actually have been working on within the UDO. I wanted to give you guys an example of how the UDO and the Comprehensive Plan and the place types component of the Comprehensive Plan work together and as Alyssa talked about our neighborhoods, we want to talk to you all about how the policies and place types are showing up in our regulations for the UDO. As we have been developing the UDO, first looked at the policy from the Comprehensive Plan and then the specific place types as we are developing our zoning districts and then are producing regulations that we think reflect what is in the policy, reflect and interpret the policy and the place types. Tonight, we will focus on the Neighborhood 1 area and talk through at a high level the regulations, the proposed zoning districts that we will have for Neighborhood 1, at least as currently written.

Again, the Neighborhood 1 zoning districts; policy is to have a mix of single-family residential and low-density multifamily and that is coming straight from the Comprehensive Plan. Then, as we look at the regulations we've developed six base districts and three overlay districts to help implement that. The base districts are mostly translations and updates based on the policy of our current residential districts, our lower intensity residential districts, R-3, R-4, R-5, R-6, and R-8. We are also kind of reworking our lower intensity urban residential districts and we are adding a new district, N1-F which is our smaller projects for townhomes or multifamily and arterials designed to be built into the neighborhood context, and then we have three overlay districts. I will talk about each of those as well.

The first five districts, we are calling them N1 for Neighborhood 1 place type; N1-A, N1-B, N1-C, N1-D, and N1-E have based off of again the land use proposals out of the Neighborhood 1 place types, primarily single-family detached areas, but also accommodating accessory dwelling units or ADU's ((Affordable Dwelling Units), duplexes, triplexes, quadruplexes, and some smaller commercial buildings. So again, how does that translate into zoning? These districts would allow single-family, duplex, and triplex dwellings on any lot in the district. As long as you meet the lot standards, the size of the lot, the width of the lot, etc. in any of these districts, you could place a single-family home, a duplex, or a triplex on one of those lots. There would also be quadruplexes allowed on arterials when an affordable housing unit is provided under certain conditions.

In many conditions, accessory dwelling units would be allowed. These districts would allow your civic and institutional uses such as schools, religious institutions, and parks, and then we have a provision for our neighborhood commercial establishments that you find in a few of our in-town neighborhoods, already existing buildings maybe were built close to 100-years ago for commercial, we want to accommodate those remaining.

As you look at these districts you will find that the building envelope, which is really the setback from the front on the sides and the rear as well as the height set that envelope for where a housing structure can be built is very similar to what we have today and it is the same regardless of what type of housing you put on that lot. We also have some building coverage standards that are essential to what we have today as well and apply to any type of housing that goes on the lot. Another District, the N1-F District is where we would allow small-scale townhomes and multifamily. Again, responding to the place type policy and desiring to provide additional housing choices in our neighborhoods. These would primarily be allowed on arterials or as you may be used to hearing them thoroughfares or major streets. We would allow either townhomes or multifamily attached, which is side by side housing, or multifamily stacked, which is your more traditional housing one unit above another and limit the number of buildings that you can have in one of these developments. So, we are not looking for large-scale multifamily development in the N1 area, but we are looking for more diversity and small-scale developments. You can see an example on the left of this picture of where we have this. I believe this is in one of our in-town neighborhoods, this may be Elizabeth, but we are starting to try to accommodate the pattern that you see in a lot of our current in-town neighborhoods. This district would include on-site open space and again typically located along those thoroughfares or arterials.

We also, as we have in our current ordinance, have some options for alternative ways to design a site so, you have a base set of standards, but then you have an alternative approach that you can use. The first is what we are calling conservation development which is kind of reworking our current cluster development standards if by chance you are familiar with those. This is designed so that you can place buildings differently, you might have smaller lots, but in exchange for that, you are providing additional open space and actually, tree save on the site. So, you are saving those important environmental elements on the site, but then you can lay out your site differently with smaller lots.

A mixed-income bonus is another item that we have here. You may be familiar that we have something in our ordinance now but have had some trouble because it has been very limited in where it could be applied. We are proposing that this be allowed throughout our community, that you can go up one zoning district as far as percentage of a lot if you have 50% of the additional units allowed. There is actually I think lots as well, would be a bonus to be set aside for households earning 70% or less of the area median income. So, we are really trying to provide incentives for providing in this case, an affordable housing component. So, you get to do a little bit more development with this, but we also have an affordable housing component that would come with that additional development.

Then at a very high level some overlay districts; these would, to be applied actually come through a rezoning that came to Council for a decision, so you might have a base district and someone says I want to do something a little bit different than what is allowed in the base district or for the neighborhood may say we want some slightly different standards. So, the first is the Cottage Court Overlay which is typically where development occurs around a central green space and we have some different standards for this where 50% of the size of the lot. The new lot could be 50% of the size in the base district so you could have again smaller lots, but again with that open space a lot more flexibility in how you design as long as you place those dwellings on a common open space or public street. Then we have a Residential Infill Overlay District designed to ensure or promote the character of a new development being compatible with what already exists in an established neighborhood. This would facilitate compatible residential infill, designed to be applied within Route 4 or effectively four miles from the center of town, so it is our in-town neighborhood and to maintain and compliment that existing pattern through additional controls on height and dwelling unit size.

Finally, we have a Neighborhood Character Overlay District which is intended to allow for the creation of standards that are unique to neighborhoods. So, if you have a neighborhood that has a certain character, maybe all of the lots have greater setbacks than what we are providing in the ordinance or all of the homes are single-story, you could come in and use this District through the development of a plan that staff would work on and then bring to Council and once the Overlay is applied that plan would have regulatory standards. That would be unique to each neighborhood.

Not to get into detail on this, but we've also worked extensively on Mixed-Use and Non-Residential zoning districts that apply to place types. You can see we have for these place types at least one zoning district and frequently more than one to implement the different mixed-use and non-residential place types. Finally, you will be seeing Additional Overlay and Special Purpose Districts; the Historic District Overlay, which exists now and really is just being cleaned up as well as the Airport Noise Disclosure Overlay. The same thing as now, just tweaking the language and then a couple of districts for manufactured housing.

So, where we are now, we are actually in Phase Two, working on completing drafting the UDO, OAC (Ordinance Advisory Committee) meetings, coming to Council and Planning Commission. We will be moving soon into Phase Three which is really the point at which we will be releasing the public draft. Near the end of May, we will be continuing talks to the Ordinance Advisory Committee and to you all and the Planning Commission. Then as currently scheduled we move into Phase Four where we are going to the public once we've released that draft, having conversations, public review, getting feedback from the community. We will continue to talk with the Ordinance Advisory Committee, especially as we get feedback from the community and are thinking of potential changes to the ordinance, and are looking at releasing a public hearing draft in August. Then coming in September and October, through the public hearing process, taking it to the Planning Committee of the Planning Commission for recommendation, Transportation, Planning and Environment Committee for a recommendation, adjusting the UDO as necessary, and requesting adoption from City Council in the latter part of October.

After the adoption of the UDO, this doesn't end. We will actually have a fair amount of training both with internal and external users as well as sessions with City Council as you all would request in order to continue to inform you about what is going on with the UDO, provide more detailed information as necessary. We will be translating our current conventional zoning that is on the ground to the new zoning districts and then after that, we will be looking at what is the zoning pattern and how does that align with the place type mapping and we do we need to do alignment rezonings like we did for Transit-Oriented Development?

Mayor Lyles said we are going to go in the order of the question for the Plan in the order that they came. The first set of questions are for the Mobility Plan and then we will go to the next set on the 2040 Plan and then the UDO would be the last set of comments. I know it might be difficult because I think what the Manager said is we are trying to knit these all together, but I'm also trying to make sure that everybody gets the opportunity to comment. I think if we do it this way if it overlaps I will try to get it back to where we are. Let's go to the Mobility Plan.

Councilmember Ajmera said I have a couple of questions on the Mobility Plan since we were given an update on that last. I know there were conversations that were occurring with Norfolk Southern; has there been any update on that since our last update?

Mr. Jones said no.

Mayor Lyles said we continue to have these conversations so let me tell you the first conversation. We had an MTC (Metropolitan Transit Commission) meeting once again confirming that the Red Line to the northern Towns is still a very important issue. I have talked with the Mayors of the six Towns in Mecklenburg County and asked them to help us do this. I think it was kind of assumed that the responsibility for getting the Red Line rested with Charlotte and what I have pointed out to them is the power of collective

countywide political effort, as well as staff effort, would be much more effective and every one of the Mayors have agreed to that effort. That is the latest update on the Red Line.

Ms. Ajmera said thank you for that update; yes, it is going to take all of us, including the Towns working together to really get the Red Line moving forward. I did have a conversation earlier today with Mr. Bill Russell with the Lake Norman Chamber of Commerce. He had sent us a letter and there were several concerns that he had raised in my meeting with him where the concerns around having North Mecklenburg input on how their tax dollars are being spent and really having a seat at the table. He expressed concerns that that had not been the case so I'm trying to understand what have we done and if there is a plan to ensure that they can also have a seat at the table. We are incorporating their input in how North Mecklenburg tax dollars are being spent. He emphasized the point where they wanted to see more money being spent on building roads, etc. as they are seeing more traffic and congestion. I just wanted to get an update on what has been our approach and how we can address the concern that he has raised.

Mayor Lyles said Ms. Ajmera, I have replied to the Lake Norman Chamber and have asked for a meeting, but we have a contractual agreement on how the monies are funded and raised. That is what the Metropolitan Transportation Committee does; everyone has an equal vote in that Committee and every Mayor has one vote and then the County Commission has one vote. So, the allocation of all of the transit funding for the last 20-years have been approved by everyone that is on the MTC. So, I think that what he often refers to is on the issue of roads you have a different agency that is required by the federal government for roads that then comes down to a regional plan which the City of Charlotte has representation on, which is the Transportation Coordinating Committee. So, on the MTC, I just want to make sure our agreement is that we have the MTC and every Mayor has an equal vote and every representative of the Towns has an equal vote with the City of Charlotte as well as Mecklenburg County, but on the side of the roads, that comes from the state. You have to meet state requirements and federal requirements and that is a much more complicated process because it requires federal funding for roads and highways as well as state funding. I think he has two points that he was making, and I would say those two definitions of how that works are separate and for our sales tax for transit, everybody has had an equal vote for the 20-years that the tax has been collected.

Ms. Ajmera said I appreciate an update on that. I understand how the MTC works, I guess the Mobility Plan that the City has designed and now seeking input from North Mecklenburg and other smaller towns, I'm trying to understand the effort there and if we have engaged North Mecklenburg to really provide their input on how their tax dollars are being spent. The concern is bigger here where they feel they don't have a voice at the table and the plan has been something that has come from the City of Charlotte without any input from them. I think that is a valid concern that they have that I think we need to address.

Mayor Lyles said I agree; I think that is very much a concern, but we were treated all equally. There were representatives from across the County on the group that made the recommendation for the plan that we have now. That plan came from a Citizens Advisory Group to the Council and then I believe the staff took it everywhere and we've been in every town and the County Commission to discuss it. I have regular communications with each Mayor on a regular basis, often on weekends and nights to talk about issues with the plan. I would say that I can understand that, but I think that Charlotte has not been treated any differently, or at least I was not treated any differently than any other Mayor. We had people from across the County representative in the Charlotte Moves efforts, but I also think that we stumbled. We stumbled when we said Charlotte Moves, we stumbled when we shouldn't have made some of our languages be more inclusive, so I agree with that. It is a valid concern and I can understand that very much, and I think that we are working very hard now that we are now meeting on a regular basis with the Mayors. The Manager meets with the Managers and the Planning Directors meet with the Planning Directors, nothing is perfect, and we are doing our very best and I think that we are making headways on it in terms of this. Again, I say that the governance structure for the use of the sales tax money has not changed and is not proposed to change, so the use of the funding will be an agreement by the eight voting members of the MTC. It is really

interesting, we had a meeting and someone asked me how was the train going to get to Concord or Belmont and I say they would have to pay their own way, and some people just assumed that the Mecklenburg County folks would be willing to pay to go outside of the County, which I guess it was just my budget numbers head saying I would never do that, but it was a question. So, sometimes we make some assumptions and what we have to do is be much more concise and much more definitive and we are working hard on doing that.

Ms. Ajmera said I'm good on the Mobility Plan and I appreciate your response. I will wait to ask my questions on the 2040 Plan.

Councilmember Driggs said I just wanted to comment in regard to the last question; that the fact that the person objecting to the plan is in the minority as far as the CRTPO (Charlotte Regional Transportation Planning Organization) is concerned. We were talking about needing to consolidate support for this plan in order to improve our chances of getting it accepted in Raleigh and that we wanted to rally everybody around so, I don't think it is at all irrelevant to point out that there are people as part of that organization who are stakeholders and aren't happy and I think we need to give proper consideration for the purposes of our promotion of the plan to input from everybody and not just disenfranchise people who happen to be in the majority on that body. My question is for Mr. Jones; I assume that we are proceeding now in the Mobility Plan on the assumption that we will not be able to have a referendum until next year. Is that right?

Mr. Jones said Mr. Driggs, yes, we are continuing to go along, plug along with this as we've talked to legal advisors, there are ways to have a referendum in 2021 as well as 2022 or later. So, until we have a fatal flaw in any draft of legislation that would suggest that this could not happen, we will continue to use our internal Attorneys as well as outside Attorneys as we draft legislation.

Mr. Driggs said I would just comment on that, I think the idea of trying to do a referendum absent in any other major election may be technically legal but is a very questionable way to proceed. Also, it looks very likely that we are going to get the advice from the General Assembly that our election needs to be deferred until next year, so I'm operating on the practical assumption rather than the legal one that we probably will not be able to do the referendum this year. I'm wondering since the comment was made and maybe this is a Comprehensive Plan comment that relates to mobility; since the comment was made on how the Comprehensive Plan depends on the Mobility Plan, if we have no certainty about the Mobility Plan then shouldn't we be thinking harder about coordinating our movement on the two plans, putting the Comprehensive Plan in place as is proposed in April and then not knowing until possibly next year, likely next year, whether we actually have the public on board for the Mobility Plan strikes me as being a dangerous approach. I don't feel that the public approval of the Mobility Plan is by any means is a slam dunk or something that we can just assume. I guess that is a comment rather than a question but I'm really kind of frustrated with a lot of this because we are just moving ahead and we are getting these presentations and objections to the presentations are being treated as questions rather than possible reasons to actually change what we are doing. At some point, it is going to be impossible to avoid the reactions that we are getting from some people who are not supportive of what we are doing.

We cannot continue to just move ahead on the basis of these [inaudible] assertions that everybody that matters is excited about this. There are some very serious questions about the General Assembly's acceptance of what we want to do on Mobility and related to the 2040 Plan and I really think that we ought to just slow down and give more thought to what we are hearing from some important people. In the last week or two, as you are probably aware, and we will talk about NEAP and REBIC when we get to the 2040 Plan, but I just want to make the general comment that this stuff keeps moving forward and anybody that expresses an objection is treated as having a question rather than making the contribution that maybe ought to be considered or they are disregarded. There are plenty of instances of people who said they went to meetings and didn't feel that anything they said had any impact. So, I just hope that we can broaden this conversation and can be more realistic about accepting some of the places from which we aren't getting all

kinds of favorable reinforcement. We need to be realistic about this or we are going to have a hard time later.

Mr. Jones said I appreciate that Mr. Driggs, I will just way as it relates to the Transformational Mobility Network, the Plan, it is going to take us time to get the type of collaboration that we need to even have an opportunity one day, whatever day that is, to go to the General Assembly and ask for permission. I don't want to come across as I was standoffish is what you said. What I do want to say is we are continuing to work out the legislation, whether it is in 2022, 2023, 2024 and that is what we are doing, working on that and trying to refine the numbers because it is extremely complicated because even when you think about the multiple lines, the Red Line, the Silver Line, the Gold Line; those are three different modes and how we compete in the federal process to get whatever percentage of the federal funds, whether it is 50%, 40% or 35% so I just mean that we are continuing to do the two tasks that you gave me, which was to draft legislation and to also refine the estimates whenever it is the right time to present this sir.

Councilmember Winston said I have a large question about Mobility, and I guess it goes to the staff as well as colleagues. I went back and listened to Charlotte Talks last Monday that had a bunch of the Mayors and Representatives from Lake Norman Chamber of Commerce and obviously, there was a lot of resistance, although there was a lot of desire for the Red Line in particular, but no real desire to come up with a plan to figure out how to get it done. We also continue to run, even if we are able to figure it out as a community, we still seem to have this conundrum in Norfolk/Southern. Also, kind of thinking about the delays and the ability to continue to refine the plan, but also looking at the age of the plan. The 2030 Plan which we are basing everything off of, I don't think it considered the growth that is happening in different parts of the City, in particular since I've been serving on Council I've served with two different District 3 Representatives but both of them have very similar concerns about the dramatic actions that are needed to deal with mobility in areas like Steele Creek for instance. And you look at the plans that are there, you look at the difficulties in dealing with the roads out there, I just question why we haven't looked at providing a mass transit option there if the northern part of the Red Line won't be possible. On top of that, we are 310 square mile City so that means that we have a lot of borders and that means that we have different relationships with different folks. I know there was a couple of years ago in Mr. Driggs' District at that Ballantyne Club, there was a huge Mobility Conference and there was the possibility of South Carolina even wanting to play as a partner in our Regional Mobility desires and needs. I guess my question will be to the staff, has there been any other type of discussion that looks westward and southward for that second half of the Red Line? Has there been any conversation with the folks over in South Carolina to see if there has been any movement there? I've heard colleagues say in the past, do we want to think about different options should our initial plans not be feasible, whether it be political, whether it be planning-wise, or whether it be cost-wise?

Mayor Lyles said that is a big question so, planning wise that is one, cost-wise, there is probably little ways to pay for that unless we do property taxes and property taxes are much more regressive than sales taxes and would be a huge burden on those folks that live inside of our City instead of everyone that participates in our mobility inside of the City.

Mr. Winston said why would we have to do a different type of tax to get rail out to Steele Creek?

Mayor Lyles said we could do the one percent, but if the one percent isn't something that we could do, there are very few other options for taxes of that size. I'm not saying we couldn't do it with the one percent, I'm going to let Planning talk about planning, but I just saying that revenue-wise it is pretty tough to think of how you generate that many millions and billions of dollars and do it in the most equitable way. That was the cost, I'm going to give Taiwo Planning.

Mr. Jaiyeoba said I can answer that in three ways. The Task Force looked at different tax revenue options. One of them being city-centric which will focus on property tax. They

looked at scenarios where it is a four-cent increase of something like that, probably would generate about \$1.7 billion over a 30-year period. But, understanding also that property tax was something that was not necessarily desirable for a lot of residents and that is why at the end of the day the conclusion was looking at sales tax countywide because it only is done countrywide. That is one answer; the second answer to that is in addition to the sale tax, I believe about three Mondays ago when we talk about a Transformational Mobility Network we showed you a number of what we currently do right now Steady State that can yield \$500 million over a 10-year period because of our \$100 million bond cycles for transportation. That, whether the sales tax goes through or not that will continue to be there because it does not need any increase in tax, but over a 10-year period that \$100 million every transportation bond cycle will only give you about \$500 million which means doing what we continue to do today. The third answer is something that is beyond the City and that is the work that Counsel of Government is working on Connect Beyond, which really looks at 12 counties, two states, including South Carolina, and how the Red Line is not just about Charlotte to North Meck and the Silver Line from Matthews to the Airport, but it really looks at different areas, but not only on the rail but also looks at different modes of transportation, express bus, local buses and all of that. There is no number attached to that one yet because that work is supposed to conclude this fall. That work is going on and CATS (Charlotte Area Transit System) and Charlotte Regional Transportation and Planning Organization are both partners with the Counsel of Government on the Connect Beyond work. The easiest way to answer in terms of geographic areas is obviously, the property tax, but that was considered as part of the Task Force work, but it was set aside in favor of a countywide sales tax proposal.

Mr. Winston said I don't quite understand the answers that I'm getting. What I'm understanding is that we haven't considered if we are unable to build the northern part of the Red Line, we haven't considered an uptown to out west alignment because we think it would be more expensive and basically other plans having considered this in the past.

Mayor Lyles said no, I think it is about planning and the time and ability to plan different lines and routes.

Mr. Jaiyeoba said without going into a lot of details, the 2030 Plan that was adopted in 2006 is really what we are going by with regards to the Red Line, the Silver Line. The only exception to that 2030 Transit System Plan is the Extension of the Blue Line from I-485 and South Boulevard to Pineville and Ballantyne and even the extension of the Silver Line to Union and Gaston Counties. So, the Red Line has always been from Charlotte to North Meck. Can we take a look at that, obviously that will be just like we've looked at the Blue Line and extending that to Pineville and Ballantyne? That will probably have to be a subject of conversation, but I do see where you are going with that, but the 2030 Plan right now is the basis of what the Transformational and Mobility Network is when it comes to the rail program.

Mr. Winston said that is what I said that this 2006 Plan probably didn't consider a 2021 Steele Creek or southwestern corridor which is given all of the conditions that we are dealing with right now might it not make sense that we look a different way, especially if we don't have willing partners that are coming to the table to provide paths forward. We can't make other people work with us if they don't want to put forward other ideas, but we still have the compelling responsibility of moving folks around our City. So, that is what I'm saying; I hear you that it wasn't done because we are off this 15-year plan, but I guess I address part of this, my colleagues, might we want to look at literal different routes?

Mayor Lyles said I think that is a good point because I think we would have to study it and figure out does it qualify; how does it work and that is what went into these other plans? We do have the ability to do that Mr. Winston, we would have to study it to meet those requirements, but there is nothing wrong with studying for the future. I agree with you.

Mr. Winston said I would like to do that and whatever we have to do to have that Council conversation I hope we can do that.

Councilmember Watlington said a quick question for Taiwo; a while we talked about traffic and man-management and given that there wasn't a lot of plans from a proposed transit standpoint down to Steele Creek, I know we have discussed before how do we enhance the Park and Ride, how do we make it more attractive, and we also talked about working with businesses down there to incentivize employees to use public transit because I tell them we would convert people in the volume that we would need for the bus to be reliable. I just wanted to know where that stood and how does that fit because I know we are talking a lot about the capital incentive component for this mobility plan, but where are some of the lower-hanging fruit?

Mr. Jaiyeoba said I think what you are talking about in regard to those two is what is referred to as the Transportation Demand Management Tool where we can involve employers in working with us either to provide employer-specific shuttles so that employees in that area can maybe part their car at a particular Park and Ride lot and then a particular shuttle can pick them up and take them to their respective destination in the Steele Creek area instead of people driving. That is doable in the absence of a Comprehensive Plan, [inaudible] a Transformation and Mobility Network. I think what is more important there is if a couple of employers can step forward and say we employ 50 to 200 and some people in the Steele Creek area and CATS has that program. CATS has shuttle services, or vanpool I should say that if we have a conversation with employers, even though it is new in the region, but it is not necessarily new to North Carolina, I think that is a conversation that can be had, but it is going to have to do with almost like a public/private discussion to make that happen.

Mr. Watlington said I would like us to prioritize that because that is something particularly because of the status of the election and whether or not we will get the bonds at all. To your point we can do that regardless so, I would like to see us have some of those conversations just to see what is possible.

Mayor Lyles said now we are going to move to the Comprehensive Plan.

Councilmember Egleston said I've got one question and then a couple of comments that Taiwo or the Manager might want to respond to. My first question to either of them, there is a reference to July 2021, there are some things that the City of Charlotte needs to have done and other municipalities around the state needs to have done to be in compliance with state law. Can someone please, as explicitly as possible outline what those things are or types of things those are and how much work it will be required to get those done before July 2021?

Mr. Jaiyeoba said I speak to that, but I would like for the City Attorney to weigh in on that as well. This process with the Comprehensive Plan started in 2018, the UDO started before then, probably about 2016; 2013 was the Study and then in 2016 the UDO started. There was nothing in the NCGA (North Carolina General Assembly) legislation with regard to that so we were moving right along, pushed the UDO back so we could complete the Comprehensive Plan. In the process of working on the Comprehensive Plan the NCGA issued a statute, I believe it is Chapter 160D that actually requires municipalities jurisdictions within the state to consistently update their regulations and ordinances and have their Unified Development Ordinance completed by July of 2021. The effective date of that Chapter is actually January of this year, but we are now required to have it completed by July of 2021. Why that has not been the driver of our schedule because we started anyway working on this before, what it did to our schedule was to put some sense of urgency on what we need to do and be able to be in compliance with that. I don't know if the City Attorney wants to weigh in on that.

Mr. Egleston said what you are telling me is that every municipality in the State of North Carolina, maybe I misheard you. If I didn't mishear you and there is a discrepancy between some people's interpretation of that and what you just said. Are you telling me that every municipality in the state has to do a Unified Development Ordinance?

Mr. Jaiyeoba said yes, that is what Chapter 160D in my understanding says.

Patrick Baker, City Attorney said they have to have their ordinances comply with 160D. That is the effort that all municipalities are going at and that is what we are doing here.

Mr. Egleston said I might save the rest of that conversation for a later time because it might take longer to unpack than we want to do tonight. The rest of this I will preface with saying first of all I do appreciate the amount of engagement that has been done with the community. It has been a robust engagement. What I will tell you is that there is a difference and I think people are feeling this difference between being engaged and being heard versus having questions that have been asked answered and having concerns that have been raised reflected in the final product. Typically on something like this I would expect that one side of the coin or the other and when I'm thinking of the two sides of the coin I'm thinking of folks who are neighborhood advocates versus the folks who are actually out building the things in our community that this will govern.

In this case, I've heard similar feedback from both sides of that coin, and I think that to me underscores the validity of what they are saying, that they have undoubtedly been engaged. They have undoubtedly been listened to, but they have asked questions they have not gotten answers to, they have pointed out things that they don't feel have been corrected or changed. I've got a couple of things that come to mind here, one is I'm all for our Comp Plan being aspirational. I do think you have to set a vision that is aspirational for our community on all things and so I use one example. We, as a Council whatever year it was 2018, or 2019 adopted the Vision Zero Goal which states we will strive to get to zero traffic-related fatalities in our community. That is probably not something we are ever going to achieve, but it is a laudable goal and it is something we should strive towards and until we get to a point where we are at zero traffic-related deaths we should not be satisfied. So, I don't ever want us to say we can be satisfied with 10 people dying in our streets from traffic-related accidents, however, I do think on that and a host of other things that are in this plan we can be aspirational by saying anything short of perfection will never be acceptable to the City of Charlotte and yet we also acknowledge that we've got to set achievable interim goals to help us get there. So, if that reduces traffic-related fatalities by 50% over the next decade, we say that is not the end game, we are still not satisfied if anyone is dying on our streets, but that is an achievable interim goal that we can set and we can be realistic about. I think aspirational goals as it relates to things that we don't necessarily currently have the authority to do, we've got to be clear about too. I think in one case in this plan it is spelled out that we don't have the authority currently to do inclusionary zoning. It does acknowledge that, but then there are other things in the Plan that don't make that same acknowledgment that there is a hurdle in terms of what we actually have the capability or the authority to do currently. It doesn't mean that we shouldn't aspire and we shouldn't strive and lobby to get that authority if that is something we think can help us achieve the goal we've set forward, but I do think we have to be more clear-cut in acknowledging those things.

Goals that are in conflict with each other, an example I think Mr. Bokhari has used repeatedly over the past couple of years, sidewalks and trees. We want to have an interconnected sidewalk network, it helps with mobility, it helps us achieve Vision Zero, and lets people be able to move around our City safely as pedestrians, and yet it also is in conflict to some degree or another with trying to preserve our tree canopy and trying to not create too much impervious surface, which then generates bigger stormwater issues. I think where we've got goals that conflict, we can't just say we don't want to tear down any trees, we do want to connect all the sidewalks and we don't want to make stormwater worse. We've got to acknowledge that all those things are interconnected and figure out some system that gives priority to one versus the other depending on the situation at hand. I've got questions about how much influence the little cartoon kind of showed neighbors getting to decide what place types they are going to have in certain parts of their community. I'm curious to know how much influence they will actually have because I can tell you, you are going to be getting a lot of requests for neighborhood character overlays and historic district applications are probably going to go through the roof because people are going to say if that is how I quote/unquote preserve my neighborhood, whatever that means, that is what everyone is going to want to do. They are all going to want to do the less intense thing. Are we letting them do that just to see what they say, is it actually going to have any influence? I think they will fairly ask that question.

I've got questions about the duplex/triplex map as well. I know of things literally built within a couple of hundred yards of my home that duplex in the last 10-years and aren't on that map so I'm curious where that information came from because that is kind of a minutia point. I'll wrap it there but for me, and I will only speak for myself, but I've talked to others who I think are starting to be on the same page. There is very little chance I'm going to feel like I'm in a place come April that I could vote for this. I want to vote for a Comprehensive Plan; I think April is an unrealistic timeline given a lot of the things that have been pointed out where this still needs some more work, and it is not that there hasn't been community engagement because there has. It is because people feel like they have sent in questions, they have sent in discrepancies, they have sent in things and not gotten an answer and they have not seen those changes made in some instances things that just flat out they deem to be wrong. I think if we are not going to change it because we disagree with their opinion, we've got to give them a response that explains why we don't think their opinion is accurate and a lot of that doesn't seem to have been done. And again, it is not the development community saying this or the neighborhood advocates are saying this, it is both sides are painting a similar picture of yes, we've been at the table, but we're not sure we've been heard. Sorry to throw all of that on you at once Taiwo; I think you and your team have done amazing work on a lot of this and a lot of other things, but I just don't think we are inside of 60-days being ready to move this thing to a vote and I think we, and I count the 12 of us amongst us. I think we all still have a lot of work left to do before this is going to be ready for showtime. Any feedback on any of that is welcomed and appreciated.

Mr. Jaiyeoba said thank you Mr. Egleston for your comments on that. That is not the first time I will hear that about a Master Plan or Comprehensive Plan, but like I said during my intro, one of the things that we did not want to do and you do not want to do about a Comprehensive Plan is getting 10 comments today and respond to them immediately. We typically will acknowledge them because in the process of responding to them you are likely going to get another comment that may contradict the previous comment. So, it is often always good to make sure that you have comments that come in and we actually thought at the beginning that we should set a deadline for comments, but we decided that we were to going to do that because once you set a deadline for comments, then people will tend to think they don't have the opportunity once they miss that date. What we've been doing is we sit in them. In many instances when they come by e-mails we acknowledge them, thank you very much for the comment and we document them, but the vast majority of commenters goes straight to the website and they actually make their comments there. We could do this, revise the draft document to mirror some of those comments, but what we do not want to do is to have to produce another 300 plus page documents that has revisions or responses to comments. That is the reason we are saying we will begin to share with TAP (Transportation and Planning Committee) and Council and the community how we will respond to those comments after the March 22nd public hearing. You could have somebody who has not provided any comment at all who will show up at a public forum on March 22nd and provide comments. We may not be able to respond to those comments that evening but we will hold ourselves accountable to respond to those comments shortly thereafter. So, it is really about responding to them together rather than the piecemeal approach. That is pretty much why for everyone that sent an e-mail to us, we try to address the comment, we thank you very much for sharing this with us, we make sure that we consider this. And again, I do know that sometimes when people read some of these documents it may not necessarily be reaching out the very way that they have suggested them. So, there has got to be a way we can rephrase some of those statements that are more planning speaks so that when the UDO is set in place it understands what that statement or policy is about. So, that could be there, I acknowledge that we've got a lot of comments, but I will also say that we've also received a lot of messages from people who felt that the document reflected what they have said before. We will go back and make sure that we look at those comments as we are responding to them, and questions as we are answering them to make sure when we come back, probably after the March 22nd hearing you have a document that actually not necessarily a revised document, but you see how those comments, every single one of them have been responded to.

Again, it is the process. I've been through multiple Comprehensive Plans and that is typically the way you do the process. You gather all the comments, respond to them at one time rather than gather comments now, respond to the people, get another comment. Some of the comments are grammatically related and we go there and fix them, but we just want to make sure that after March 22nd when you have the public hearing, that is when we will release information and how those comments are being responded to.

Mayor Lyles said I will be sure that I understand what you just said? What you are saying is I've seen the comments, they range all the way from vision to punctuation and what you are going to do is keep the comments and that you will provide a response to every comment that you have so far and those that are coming in. When is the timeframe for doing that?

Mr. Jaiyeoba said we have March 22nd public hearing and we will still have comments.

Mayor Lyles said prior to or after the public hearing?

Mr. Jaiyeoba said we are still having comments all the way to March 22nd and after March 22nd is when we are going to step forward with responses.

Ms. Osborne said I think the other thing to know as well about receiving the comments is that staff will not make the unilateral decision as to what gets incorporated into the Plan which is the other reason why we collect them and present them to Planning Commission and then to the Council who makes the decision what gets incorporate to the Plan. If we were to respond now and just start responding to questions that we are receiving, then revise the Plan that would be something that staff would have to do and that is not our role, it is Council to make the policy and actually say what gets incorporated.

Mayor Lyles said I think it is a misunderstanding of communication of what the plan, how do we respond, and what is going on, but it doesn't alleviate some of the other ideas that how do we get more of those things into the public space so that people can see all of those things and not being heard is an important thought and if people are saying that they are not heard then we need to figure out to make them heard before March 22nd if we are going to meet the deadlines that we talked about. I know that is another conversation.

Mr. Egleston said I have a 10-second question for Mr. Baker if I may. I just want him to clarify again because I'm not sure I heard correctly. The state requirement is requiring every municipality to have a UDO, yes or no and by what date because that is not my understanding of what that is requiring.

Mr. Baker said a Comp Plan is what the state requires and that has to be done by July of 2022. Every municipality's development ordinance whether it is in a UDO or otherwise needs to align with Chapter 160D by July 1 of this year.

Mr. Egleston said okay, that is more in line with what my understanding was.

Ms. Osborne said I have one other comment about responding as we were receiving the comments. The residents or neighborhood are receiving an e-mail where we are offering to have a meeting to discuss their comments, so we are scheduling those up until adoption, if that be April or at a later date, to really talk to people, so they have an opportunity to speak with us directly about their comments.

Mayor Lyles said it might be helpful to inform the TAP Committee as well as all of the Councilmembers of those meetings, this is game time, and everybody needs to be in, and it can't be the B squad and not the A squad so get everybody in.

Mr. Driggs said I just want to also pick up on what Mr. Egleston said; the requirement that we have this year is to remedy any discrepancy between our existing ordinance and state law. Is that correct Mr. Attorney?

Mr. Baker said yes.

Mr. Driggs said we can satisfy that requirement by identifying any issues we may have, any discrepancies that may exist and we can remedy those. So, I would like to propose that the staff tell us what the issues are that need to address in order to be in compliance with the state law about getting our ordinance in order. The other point is that the law about the Comprehensive Plan as I understand it says that every city must have a Comprehensive Plan by the deadline in 2022. We have a Comprehensive Plan currently, it is an old one, but we have one. Is that not true?

Mr. Jaiyeoba said we do not. The state does mandate the completion of a Comprehensive Plan however, what the state did not indicate in its requirement is what that Comprehensive Plan should look like.

Mr. Driggs said what I'm saying is that is an old Comprehensive Plan that we adopted a long time ago that is still in place and on the basis of that we are in compliance with the requirement that municipalities have a Comprehensive Plan. There is no deadline by which we have to adopt a new one. Is that wrong?

Mr. Jaiyeoba said there is no existing Comprehensive Plan. We do have area plans. Maybe the City Attorney can correct me on this, but this is really what Chapter 160 says. It is [inaudible] current city and county enabling statutes for development regulations that specifically say that into a single unified Chapter. So, it is not about the Plan as much as it is about development regulations which are coded in the UDO. So, in order for us to be able to get that UDO done the way we are approaching it right now, which is having eight documents in one we need a new Plan that is citywide to be able to help us do that because the UDO will be citywide. What we have today is we have the Centers, Corridors, and Wedges and then we have the different community plans.

Mr. Driggs said Mr. Jaiyeoba, excuse me, but I would like the City Attorney to clarify a legal question, not necessarily in this meeting, but I would like to hear from the City Attorney exactly what the obligation is that we have to satisfy in 2022 and to have him confirm that nothing exists right now might actually satisfy that. The most critical piece of this is that the 2021 requirement is one that could be met and again, I would like the staff to tell us what it would take to meet that requirement without necessarily adopting a UDO or some huge plan because what my feeling is, and not my advice that I've had from outside is that again, here is a finite list of corrections or amendments that we have to make to the framework we have right now and we could meet the 2021 legal requirement. At the moment I'm just going to put that out there as something that is pending, but I think it is an important issue.

Mayor Lyles said Mr. Driggs, could I just say I would like to ask not put it out there in the future; this is a deadline and the question is whether or not we have to meet the deadline. I would like to say to Mr. Baker, Mr. Driggs is asking can we be legal with the existing or without a Comp Plan and we need to get that answer more quickly than not. We shouldn't just put it out there, let's get a deadline and have it done. Sorry, Mr. Driggs I just thought your question was important.

Mr. Driggs said thank you, Mayor, I appreciate the clarification. In a more gentle vein, I would like to note that I think in the last few weeks we've seen a big increase in interest in this Plan and activity, and I will be the first to admit that engagement is arriving late and I fault some of the people who are starting to make themselves heard for leaving this long before making their position known. But, at this point, I'm being presented with actual lists of comments and issues and some of them are very broad in nature. For example, the contradictory nature of some of the goals of the Plan and the legal question about parts of the Plan. I don't want to try and enumerate or quote from any of that, I'm just saying that based on this input from industry sources and from the public I think we still have a lot of work to do.

I am particularly concerned that the idea that we are not going to hear any response from the staff to the concerns that have been raised until after March 22nd and the expectation

is that we are going to adopt this Plan in April. I don't think that the input that we are getting now is properly resolved in a couple of weeks. So, I'm with the Egleston in terms of thinking we've got to allow more time to work on this and I would just love to see us have a more meaningful engagement with some people who are affected by this and don't like the way it looks right now. A lot of the things that are being brought out are not self-interest driven or [inaudible] they are valid questions and in particular, as it relates to single-family neighborhoods, what we are doing is we are saying that single-family homes will be permitted, but we are still targeting single-family neighborhoods and in some tweets, these have been characterized as the source of discrimination in housing in the past. I think we need to be very sensitive and accepting of concerns about people who live in single-family neighborhoods, appreciate that lifestyle and not responsible for the racial divide and have a right to be heard. The single-family neighborhood is an American tradition everywhere in the country and in other countries and the dream has been, you get a job, you get married, you buy a house. I think if we are setting our sights on single-family neighborhoods with the goal of breaking them up and making them include other types of housing, that is something that is very serious and is going to get more and more response from the public as the public becomes aware.

And again, Mr. Jaiyeoba, I fully accept that we made every effort to publicize this thing and to reach out, but I've said in past meetings I don't think that the response that we've had really reflects the mix of the community and we are starting to get that other input now. I think we need to take our time and make sure we get this right. We don't have an election this year so there is no issue about us having to campaign for office, we can take out time and for something as important as this that looks that far into the future I think getting it right is more important than getting it done in April. I hope that we can change the schedule on this and that we will hear a much more significant and respectful response to some of the objections that are being raised from the staff.

Councilmember Newton said I would agree with both of my colleagues; I feel there is a lot of work that needs to be done. I am not familiar with 160D, so this conversation has contained a lot of nuances, a lot of novel information for me. I would be interested in finding out more about that Mr. City Attorney and to Mr. Driggs' point having a better understanding of what is short of a full-fledged 2040 Comprehensive Plan that we are being presented with today, we can do to meet whatever standard we have to meet by July 2021. Maybe that is everything, but it sounds like maybe it is not and to the extent that it is not I would like to know that and so, I just wanted to make that additional slight clarification on the request because I'm not sure if that nuance came across a moment ago.

Mr. Jaiyeoba had mentioned that there are a lot of people in the community that are still asking a lot of questions and not really making as many comments and I think that really illustrates the point here that this is a very, very complex, very intricate Plan that we are talking about with a lot of moving parts and it is hard for regular people, let alone Councilmembers like myself to wrap our arms around it and fully understand what is going on. Personally, I feel like that have been times when I thought I got it and then something else is presented and it changes my whole perspective. I think I have a good understanding right now, but I had some questions just to get some confirmation on that, just preliminary speaking, some questions for confirmation. The first being about these place types and whether place types will be binding on developers. It sounds as though place types are going to be replacing our current zoning designation altogether and in that regard, they would be binding. Is that the case; are we talking about a Plan here that is reassessing all of our zoning designations and replacing them with place types?

Mr. Jaiyeoba said I'll start and then I will have Ms. Osborne jump in. No, place types will not replace our zoning designations. The place types map will however replace what we have today which is called the future land use plan. It is the place types that eventually will be translated to zoning districts through the UDO process. In the Comprehensive Plan document I think probably the last 50 pages or so is really the place types manual where it describes each one of the 10 place types in terms of land use, character, everything that is associated with a particular place type whether it is Neighborhood 1 or Neighborhood 2 or campus or institutional or whatever those uses may be, it has

illustrative concepts maps on those areas but they are not set in stone because the Plan is that Council upon adoption of a policy framework and concept behind the place types the community will then go ahead and work with us and map what each of these place types will be like before it is translated into zoning districts. I don't know if you have it in front of you, but it is electronically available as well, but once you get to the last 50-pages of the Comprehensive Plan, that is when you see an entire Place Type Manual and that really helps to describe that. So, place types and zoning districts are not the same. Place types will be translated into zoning districts. Today, we have a lot of zoning districts; what the place type does is to reduce the number of zoning districts we have without, for example, I think Laura showed you that in Neighborhood 1 they are going to have R-3, R-4, R-5, R-6/R-8 so those are in our current zoning ordinance but they will be part of a place type. Once we translate the place types into zoning districts that will be through the UDO process.

Mr. Newton said I think I'm hearing you that they will complement one another. We will be engaging in rezoning or a reassessment of our zoning depending upon what the place types are. Is that an accurate assessment?

Mr. Jaiyeoba said I think I'll answer the question you may be not asking and correct me if I am wrong. The adoption of the Comprehensive Plan policy and place types concept is not the end of community engagement and the community mapping process. The Council is adopting a Comprehensive Plan along with its policies that will eventually obviously if that is a decision the Council makes then we spend the next six months working with the community to map each one of those place types and then those places types will feed into the UDO. We will translate them. The best example I can give you is the Transit-Oriented Development Ordinance that you worked on about a year or so ago. Remember that it came first of all in the form of policy around the Blue Line Light Rail and then we developed a set of criteria and maps for you, devising the policy and eventually those translated into remapping all the districts along the Blue Line to be able to conform with what that TOD Ordinance says. That is at the micro-level and the translation between place types and the zoning districts into the UDO will be at a micro-level.

Mr. Newton said zoning districts will change though?

Mr. Jaiyeoba said zoning districts will be different, yes they will change based on certain things.

Mr. Newton said the place types will limit the scope of what those zoning districts will be, correct, or at least what they will allow?

Mr. Jaiyeoba said the place types actually make the zoning districts more transparent and more predictable. It also makes the number of zoning districts that you have to deal with manageable and minimum in number.

Mr. Newton said, and I guess in that regard, limits the scope of what eventually the zoning districts will become. Correct me if my assessment on this is wrong; we are talking about the Comprehensive Plan at least in as much, there are a lot of different plans that go into this, that we can as much as development is concerned, we are really talking about the establishment of what the place types would be and then thereafter in the UDO, it is not as those the place types are going to be adopted in the UDO, rather they will be referenced for the sake of establishing those new zoning districts?

Mr. Jaiyeoba said yes, so what you are adopting inside of the Comprehensive Plan are those 10 place types and once they are done they will eventually be translated into the UDO, so yes you got it right.

Mr. Newton said now if there is any type of zoning that doesn't fit within the place types that we are talking about adopting in this Comprehensive Plan, which could happen I guess as early as April if it is not there it won't exist, and once planning is conducted for the UDO later.

Mr. Jaiyeoba said you are not adopting any zoning district that is part of the Comprehensive Plan. You are only adopting the concept behind the place types. Then once we translate them into the district everything in that particular place type that we've mapped with the community will translate into the district, so you are not going to miss anything. Now, does that mean that the place type cannot change in terms of mapping after the adoption no, once we start working with the community those place types may very well change but they will inform what the zoning district eventually will be that will go into the UDO?

Mr. Newton said but if the zoning designation doesn't fall within one of those place types that is adopted then it can't exist later on in the UDO in the mapping sequences is what it sounds like to me. I guess my question maybe underscores the point that we've heard from so many in the community more recently in as much as the triplexes and duplexes are concerned, it sounds like within the residential place types that are included in the Comprehensive Plan every single residential place type, even the lowest density place type which would be an R-3, would allow for duplexes and triplexes and in that regard would allow for essentially the opportunity to include twice or maybe three times as many units, and that is before the GDP. Is that right?

Mr. Jaiyeoba said maybe there is a longer way I can answer your question Mr. Newton; when we started engaging the community there were a number of things we heard very clearly. One was affordable housing being a priority for us as a City, and if you really truly want to be able to have more housing units, especially for [inaudible] one of those things that you do is to be able to allow them in different parts of the City because today, where we can have them, is pretty much limited, and is the reason why what you have today is about 5,600 or so units that were built mostly in the 1950s. That is what led to that because it was a response to what we were hearing. Understanding that today they are limited to corner lots and certain other places, but how can we have more opportunities for townhomes, attached single-family homes, triplexes, and duplexes in other parts of the City rather than in just one area of the City where you will be able as far a market would determine that? Obviously, we know that, and land values, we cannot regulate those or even make policies around those. That is really what led to that.

Now we had some qualifier; a quadruplex, for example, will only be allowed along [inaudible] rail provided that there is an affordable housing unit that comes along with it. These are just different ways, is it the only solution? By all means no, and it is the reason we also talk about inclusionary housing, and at some point in our future, maybe that is a tool in our toolbox that we may be able to add to this. But, as you bring different tools into the box, eventually we continue to have different opportunities for us to be able to increase the number of affordable housing units we have as a City. That is a long answer to address your question, but again, that is really what we've been hearing during our engagement about the needs to do this throughout the City, but now that we are hearing that there are concerns about it we obviously have to look at that as well as to how do you really bring this to life through the UDO which is really what Laura went through with you. It is not going to say just because [inaudible] City it is going to happen.

Mr. Newton said I get it, we definitely have a need for affordable housing in our City, this is one way to address that need, but what I'm really talking about here is the uptick in density literally anywhere and it being allowed under these circumstances if it were to move forward being allowed by right. When we talk about equity, you can look at the map and so I think the great thing about this draft Comprehensive Plan are all the maps within it. Now, I was disappointed that I didn't see the mapping of the place types, but now I understand that is something that will be done later in the UDO process, but nevertheless, there are maps throughout the entire Comprehensive Plan and it really shows where we are falling short in different areas throughout the City. Certainly, in East Charlotte, my side of town, we have the fewest jobs. I would love to hear more about whatever the job plan is for East Charlotte, but nevertheless, once you get further from the City core what you will see, and this is illustrated in maps, you will start to see fewer amenities available to the local populations. When we talk about equity and we are talking about creating livable neighborhoods where people can live, work and play, and certainly doing it in a context where people can commute or travel where they need to travel within a 10-minute

period, but nevertheless, there are areas where development is occurring at a very rapid pace and those amenities, that infrastructure, the transportation and jobs don't exist there today and if we are talking about a blanket provision allowing for this potential up zoning my right, if we are talking about allowing developers who are already building today to just further expedite that process even more and put us further behind as a City in catching up with the needed infrastructure and other amenities of the community, that really, really concerns me here. I would ask that there be a lot more work done on that. We are a 310 square mile City; I think Mr. Winston said that earlier. That is a lot of territories and we are not covering it all. We don't have public transportation everywhere; we don't have laps in sidewalks. I could go on, but to allow the growth in these areas where it is already occurring to continue to occur exponentially I think is just inequitable, not the smartest way of going about doing it.

I appreciate that we are going to continue this conversation. I agree with my colleagues that I think there is a lot more work left to be done. I would like to know more about what the job plan is here, some economic development in those areas that have been identified within the Comprehensive Plan document do not have those jobs. I also have a question pertaining to the UDO, but I will wait to ask that in the next round of questions.

Councilmember Eiselt said my comments have to do with a lot of what my colleagues have said, and in talking to people over the weekend and today, and I think this is an example of the fact that we need an opportunity to talk about this more and address the questions. I don't even know if everybody has had a chance to read the whole presentation and all the e-mails that we've just been getting. I think what would be more productive is if everybody had a little bit of time to go through it and also the e-mails where REBIC and some of these organizations have questions and then we have a separate meeting just to be able to ask these questions. This feels like this alone could be a half-day discussion as a Workshop on its own. It is probably the most important thing and the most transformational thing any of us will do in our time on Council and the flip side of that is the staff has put in two-year's worth of work on this and so have a lot of people in the community, anybody who has work on this and the UDO so just to be fair to everybody now is the time when we've got to really dig into this, talk to constituents, talk to whoever is giving feedback and then be able to have opportunity to talk with you more fully, and not just as a single agenda item for the evening. So, I wonder as a group or even in small groups and I wonder if perhaps we should be scheduling that instead.

Mayor Lyles said I think considering the strategy portion of this, usually we have something that has had a lot more dialogue, a lot more cohesiveness in thought and action and what I'm hearing are more questions that would ordinarily be addressed outside of a meeting like this. Usually, we are asking here what else do we need to do and I'm hearing us say well, we don't know the questions to ask and we don't know the deadlines and we don't know the requirements. I've heard a lot, but I would say that we could probably schedule something this week, even morning, afternoon or evening and we can do it in two groups or we can do it as a whole and just have a public meeting because I think it is fair to actually as you talk about this, and you've talked about it in a number of ways around engagement, to have it be a virtual meeting where people can actually talk of maybe even have it with the ideal of the townhalls that are coming up to be able to communicate their questions and participate.

I think we did that when we did the Safe Charlotte work; we had the discussion and then it was opened up for comments from the public, not just those that were active in the group that was helping us develop this. A lot of this depends on what our limitations are and what we have to do to resolve it and right now I think none of us really have a firm handle or at least what I would call a common foundation and understanding of it. I don't know, the calendar is full, but I would ask if the Council would be willing to plan and schedule something, and we would work with Ms. Jackson to get that done within the next seven days minimum I guess. Ms. Eiselt, you suggested it, right now we have five additional questions to be made and addressed now or five people to speak on this. I think it would be very helpful if you said here are my questions and then we just listed them and Taiwo wouldn't have to go through the explanation. I think to continue to have the questions from Councilmembers and ask the staff to plan a meeting in the next five

days, perhaps by the end of the week if at all possible. If you agree with the idea of an extra meeting as quickly as possible, I can see you physically, would you raise your hand, please. Okay, we have Mr. Phipps, Ms. Eiselt, Mr. Winston, Ms. Johnson; we have four people that are willing to have a meeting and I think that is worth doing. Mr. Driggs is rebooting his computer, but I think having that four people meeting would really help because at least it can be live-streamed, and everybody would be able to see it as a virtual meeting. We will go ahead and plan that for those that wish to attend and if others don't that is okay as well.

Let's have the meeting and then what I would like to do is ask if we are going to ask questions that you like the staff to respond to, or do you want to make statements for the remainder of this meeting. If you would like to ask a combination or would you like to ask questions only? Mr. Winston, Ms. Ajmera, and Mr. Bokhara would like to ask questions, and Mr. Phipps, that is four, so we will proceed with that. We will have the meeting with four and we will have four people to ask their questions for a response and we could do those questions at that meeting in real-time after we get them tonight. Who would like to continue to be on the list to speak tonight? Mr. Winston, Ms. Ajmera, Ms. Johnson, Ms. Watlington, Mr. Phipps and Mr. Bokhari.

Councilmember Phipps said it was stated earlier that the existing covenants or restrictions or whatever would not be interrupted so my question is in the case where you have a planned urban development would those existing covenants and deed restrictions be in place or would this UDO still allow quadruplexes, duplexes or whatever to override those covenants and be developed in the community?

Mayor Lyle said we will ask the City Attorney to prepare an answer for that question for the meeting. Do you have other questions, Mr. Phipps?

Mr. Phipps said no, that was it. I have some comments, but my colleagues have already addressed them, I've been in similar meetings over the past week and one thing that was said was that the people thought the Plan needs repair, not a rewrite, so that is encouraging.

Councilmember Ajmera said my question regarding place types have already been addressed so I just have one question left and Taiwo you don't have to respond to that right now if you are not prepared. It could be part of our follow-up package, but I know that the staff has done an extensive amount of community outreach and we have had hundreds of engagements with various Stakeholders. I'm trying to understand what changes have been made as a result of the community forum and I think it goes back to Mr. Egleston's comment earlier about making sure people are not only being heard but their input has been also incorporated in our 2040 Plan.

Ms. Watlington said I concur with a lot of what a lot of my colleagues have already said here. I don't have any questions, and I'll refer back to what Mr. Driggs said earlier about comments and directions being treated as questions. I think that is essentially what I am hearing as a theme here. I think it is very clear there are concerns with the single-family and the density piece. I'd like to see that sooner rather than later updates to that. As I think about how we execute and Mr. Egleston mentioned this, I think it is important that we have more granularity about how the timing falls, not in the law, but how we plan to execute some of these values. We know where we want to be, but we've got to consider where we are, for example, when we talk about increasing density or allowing an increase in density, or incentivizing it to get 70% AMI that in many cases where it is going to go, it is going to be rental and it is going to be well above that local market because let's be honest, development is going to happen where the land is cheaper. That is what we are seeing right now. In that case that is actually doubling the community concern because it is driving out, not only opportunity for homeownership but also raising the local market rates. Those are some of the issues that exacerbate instability and already vulnerable neighborhoods. I'm confident that the staff and everybody around the dais is wanting to improve equity and that they are approaching it with that heart, but I do think that if we are not careful about how we do this we are going to end up delivering the exact same result after all this effort. So, I'm extremely concerned about that. I would like to see

some new options. I'm not so much interested in having another conversation about giving the same feedback or about asking questions, I want to be able to see how we are changing based on what we've seen so far. I'm in the same place as Mr. Egleston mentioned in terms of having a hard time seeing how I'm going to get behind this without substantial changes to that particular component. Overall, however, from what I've been able to read so far, I am hopeful in this plan.

There is something though that I still have not heard that I would like to know. What about this new plan improves the process such that we won't be dealing with decade-old plans? I hear us say that we are going to require that we update this every five years. I have to believe that with the existing area plans that was probably the intent as well and I haven't heard anything in this process specifically that would give me confidence that we are not going to be talking about a Comprehensive Plan or a place type that are more than five-years-old at some point, given that we've got the same amount of staff and larger landmass and more people and development. Those are the two things that I want to see differently the next time we have this conversation.

Mayor Lyles said we will try to have that question addressed during the virtual meeting as well and make sure that Councilmembers get a link to all of this.

Councilmember Johnson said I have a couple of comments and some questions also that can be answered later. The first comment that I want to make is to draw the attention to my colleagues about the concern and the input from the residents about implanting multifamily or duplexes or triplexes in a single-family development. This only validates the resident's concern on Petition No. 2021-18; this is exactly what is happening with that. This was originally a conventional rezoning; this was not up for public input and once it was this is the kind of input you received from the residents in District 4. On social media, this could have been alluded that that was Nimbysism, but it wasn't. They were trying to protect the character and the cohesiveness of their neighborhood, so I would hope you all are as concerned about the petition that I brought to your attention as you are for all residents of the City.

My question that I wanted to know is where can we see the feedback from the residents prior to the March 22nd meeting? Are we as Council, able to see that feedback maybe in a weekly report or something like that if there is a pie graph or something so we know what the residents?

Mayor Lyles said it is online Ms. Johnson. We will have the staff send the link tomorrow where all of those comments are online.

Ms. Johnson said that would be great because I went online when they were talking about it and I didn't see where I could find those comments publicly. I would like to be able to see that.

Mayor Lyles said we will send the link and you can click on it and it will be there.

Ms. Johnson said is that correct, these comments are viewable online?

Mr. Jaiyeoba said they are online, but we will send the link to you.

Mr. Johnson said I know the Plan or the UDO is going to be adopted, I think in October 2021, I wanted to know when it would be implemented and the reason I ask that is because in January of 2020 I asked during a Strategic Planning session if an interim Plan was available so that neighbors or potential homebuyers could have some type of predictability when they are buying their home. So, if it is not going to be available until 2022 if there is something that residents can rely on of what the neighborhood is going to look like if it is possible to have some type of interim report. I also wanted to know with the UDO will we have more conventional petitions, meaningless community feedback, and if so is it possible that residents will have the option to use the protest petitions? I know that used to be a tool for residents, but I just want to know if there is going to be more conventional petitions, how are our residents able to have input in the development

in their neighborhood? Also is the list of community members published that are a part of the Plan. You mentioned that there were community member volunteers, I wanted to know if that list is public or are all Districts and income levels represented. I wanted to know diverse that list of volunteers was.

Mayor Lyles said it is public so we will get the list to you.

Ms. Johnson said one of the things you said was quadruplexes are allowed on arterial streets. Is that a consideration for duplexes and triplexes as well? We know we need more density, but what residents and Council is asking for is smart design and to preserve the neighborhood character and congruency and some design oversight in accountability. I wanted some clarification on the building envelope and coverage, the mixed-income guidelines, and the neighborhood character overlay. One of the Councilmembers said I think a lot of people would be asking for that exemption because most neighborhoods have a unique character. If we could get some more information on what the requirements are going to be for neighborhood character overlay. And then, the thoroughfares, many of the thoroughfares are state-owned in my District, and I know in other Districts, so will the process for approval for rezoning, will there be more coordination with the state or is there some consideration for state-owned roads?

Councilmember Bokhari said we've heard a lot tonight and I will address this as a comment to the City Manager. Mr. Manager; I hope this is crystal clear to you that there is no path where this can happen in the next 60-days. We have staff that have done a lot of hard work, but I think it has become crystal clear a lot of that work over the last two years has been focused, maybe not entirely on all the things it should have been, and we are not going to solve this in a series of three-hour afternoon meetings of Council getting together. We need to take a hard, long look inward, pump the brakes and figure out how we reset from here. This Comp Plan is truly our blueprint, it is the instruction manual when we sit down to build out the UDO and it is too important for us to get wrong. It is too important for us to try to figure out how to jam it through in the last hours. This is as complicated as a blueprint can possibly get, it is a rocket ship blueprint, and what we are going to do if we jam this through in the next 60-days we are going to find when we sit down to assemble this rocket ship, we are going to have opened up a 320-page manual of beautiful pictures of rocket ships and lists of great places you can go in rocket ships and we are going to have to spend the next several years in monthly rezoning meetings trying to figure out how we get ourselves out of the situation we've created for ourselves with a Plan that is ultimately just full of a lot of aspirational themes which can be good and I believe in this case can be bad. We are setting ourselves up for the failure of ultimately how people of the community, how everyone is going to measure us in what we can do and all the buzz words in the world and pretty pictures that are inside there right now are not going to come to bail us out at that point.

I have been saying this and I'm sure I sound like a broken record for three and a half years on this Council which is when this community realizes what is going on, and they are not going to realize it through board games and all kinds of fancy videos. When they realize what is happening there is going to be an awakening and a push back potentially of significant proportions. Perhaps the largest we've seen in modern history and that means we have to get this perfect. We cannot mess around and I hope that you all kind of see the same thing I see, which is there are people that we always hear from on these topics whenever they are and then there are people who I'm great friends with that literally wouldn't talk about City Council with me if I paid them to sit down and do it. Those are the ones that are calling me and say, what are you guys doing, what is going on? As soon as I hear that I know that this has hit a different level than we are used to seeing and it could be very, very serious. So, in my opinion, there is only one path forward from this point which is to pump the brakes as hard as you possibly can, get with the City Attorney, and figure out what the absolute minimum criteria is to meet the 2021 legal requirements and then go back to square one, using what we have as a starting point, but bring the stakeholder groups around the table and figure out who wins in the scenarios between trees and sidewalks when they come up? What ultimately happens when that dwelling unit in a quadruplex is going to be decided upon and who gets it first between the four people that are in those lots, and the dozens, and dozens and dozens of other

unanswered tactical questions that you have to have in your blueprint or in your instructions when you sit down to build the rocket ship because if we are building this thing while it is flying we are going to experience some serious, serious turbulence.

Mr. Winston said this conversation reinforces that a lot of people want change, but a lot of people don't want to be part of the change. A lot of the criticisms that I've heard from my colleagues are less an indictment of staff or anybody else, but it is an indictment of ourselves. It is our job to create policy, give guidance, and adjust that guidance to the staff as we go through the process. All of my time that I've been on Council I have been part of the Transportation and Planning Committee and I can tell you that the process and the way this has gone basically follows step by step the guidance that we have given the staff. As this process started, for folks that were on Council, you will remember that we started the Comprehensive Plan process while the UDO was already in progress and we went step by step even as the Plan was initially introduced to change the way we interact with our constituents. The roadmap, everything that has been laid out here City Council had guided the staff to do so, that is the need we operate here. If you guys want this process to change then we have to talk less about the politics of constituting groups and talk more about the policy and the different types of guidance that we want to give the staff. It is not the staff's job to change interpretations of policy based on constituent feedback, it is based on six votes at least of Council. So, I hear a lot of folks saying well you haven't done it, we have not told them to do anything differently. We've expressed our ideas, concerns of our constituents, but we have not come together as a group to give them different guidance. Now, I know we've been dealing with a lot over the past year in terms of Council action around COVID, pandemic relief, Safe Charlotte, this, that, and the other, but we can have all the meetings that we want with groups and stakeholders, but if the 11 of us are not having policy discussions amongst ourselves then these kind of political questions that have been put here are never going to get answered.

Yes, I think we should have more meetings to do more of our work, but I will put it out, especially to the District Reps, I would love to work with you as an At-Large member so that we can hear everybody's concerns and figure out a way if the need be to craft this into a policy and guidance discussion that we can effectively work on in an efficient amount of time. Nobody has suggested that to this point, but please reach out to me, I will reach out to you guys after this and see if we can set up some one on one time to get a better understanding of the Comprehensive nature of the guidance that we have already given the staff and what we think we might need to do to recalibrate them to be successful.

Mayor Lyles said I'm thinking back, I think it was 2016 that I went to a meeting at the UNC-Charlotte Campus downtown sponsored by the Real Estate Community that was on the Comprehensive Plan where they brought in the folks from Denver to talk about the kind of plan that they thought was appropriate and our Plan models that. So, I do think that this is a big step for us, I do think that we have heard that the staff has spent over three years working on something that the Council has not reached a consensus on. Now, that is what I would call a problem, but maybe it is an opportunity so I'm going to try to look at it that way because I agree that we've got to figure out what we are going to do.

We are making an assumption that we can just get by with something, so that is the best option, can we get by with something, but what if we are actually required to do something? We can't stop now unless we know exactly where we are going forward. One of the things that I really appreciate is that I think the questions are coming but they have to be specific around something. I really feel like we need to have at the end of the meeting and the questions that are going to be held, I know that TAPE (Transportation, Planning and Environment Committee) is going to be meeting, and at some point, we've got to say we are going to go in this direction and all of the questions that have been raised about the process and the contents aren't bringing us to a consensus around where we are. I am just very aware that this has been a lot of work and the work now isn't really the staff's work, it is the conversation the Council has to have that says this is where we want to go to give the staff some direction.

I also don't believe that we can do it alone. We can have the individual questions and answers, but the Council has to actually - we often ask our citizens to be engaged. We

said please come out, give us the information, work with us, collaborate, collaborate, and yet we have to learn to work with each other and collaborate and come together on some sense of direction right now, otherwise, I'm not quite sure where we land on this, but I'm going to say it is an opportunity. It is an opportunity to make a decision on the direction that we are going to go. I would like to ask the staff to actually remind us of the places that we chose to follow when we began this process and perhaps the problem is that we didn't reaffirm enough. I've heard Councilmembers say that, and I have a lot of appreciation [inaudible] we get a lot of stuff done, but sometimes the big stuff is the hardest and the most challenging and the biggest opportunity.

People are going to come here no matter what. We may not build a duplex or a quadruplex on any block, we can continue where they are, but they are going to live somewhere. So, this Council has an opportunity to think about how we can build, and I think that is the greatest opportunity that we can participate in.

I'm going to suggest that we not go to the UDO because we don't have a UDO without a Comprehensive Plan and I was going to make sure that we do have a question, the Attorney understands his role, Taiwo understands his role; Ms. Jackson is going to work on a time, we've got a TAPE Committee meeting and we have the questions to get back and I hope everyone will feel like they can get to a place of consensus among the Council at our very best, that is what we do well, and I think that is really important in this matter more than anything, but that doesn't let us off the hook. I hope that consensus says what we are going to do now and in reaction to whatever that is now that we commit to doing something that will take us down the road that we want to go to accommodate the growth and the infrastructure that we need for the community.

Ms. Eiselt said may I ask a question for clarification purposes? I'm a little bit confused now because you said within the next seven days we would get another meeting scheduled, but the majority of the Council didn't even want to do that. To Mr. Winston's point if people aren't asking the questions then I'm not sure what we are doing. I think the elephant in the room is the single-family zoning and we absolutely need the space to be able to have policy debate is what Mr. Driggs has been saying, but if people don't go through the documents and pull out the other concerns they have and say here is the other issues I want to talk about and do what Mr. Winston is saying is find the space to get together and talk about this, then I'm sure a meeting in the next seven days makes sense if only four people were willing to do that. We can't just have meetings for the sake of having meetings unless we are going to really dig into these policy issues.

Mayor Lyles said I think that is a question for the group.

Ms. Watlington said I just wanted to respond to that; Ms. Eiselt said it at the end. I think the key is not having a meeting just to have a meeting. The difference between having a meeting and everybody come with questions versus do your pre-work; I've been able to read through the first part of the document and send my specific questions, but I think a number of the staff come with that and then we can talk about some policy, but to continue to have meetings where everybody doesn't have the information that is not value adds to me. I think if we are going to proceed in that manner everybody go read the document from front to back, bring your specific concerns or if you have questions ask those questions before the meetings so when we are having that meeting we are talking about is everybody good with this section, great. Is everybody good with this section, no you've got an issue with this section, how many other people feel that way? Is there a way to be in the middle? Unless we are going to get down to that technical level then it is not a policy discussion to me. That is what I would need to support something like that.

Ms. Eiselt said I agree with that.

Mayor Lyles said I think Ms. Watlington has made a suggestion that everybody read the book, the recommendation, and then we have a meeting. Is that something that is more productive? I'm just trying to figure out your path, we need a path.

Ms. Eiselt said that was my intention for offering to say we need a meeting. Everybody has got to read this thing first and come with your questions. For some reason, and I don't fully understand why seven people didn't want to do that, maybe it was because they didn't think it was productive, but that is what we have to understand here. At what point are we going to have a policy discussion and a healthy debate on pieces we agree with or don't agree with or getting feedback on. That is what is missing and that is what I meant by saying to schedule something, but we don't need another presentation. We've been having presentations for two years in TAP and I wish more people would attend that, but now the questions are coming up, that is all that matters and we've got to have that face to answer those questions amongst each other, or first of all ask those questions.

Mayor Lyles said I think Ms. Watlington was suggesting the same thing Ms. Eiselt and maybe the clarification is that if you are going to have the time to read the document and show up, I think the four people may have understood Ms. Eiselt, but maybe not as clearly as Ms. Watlington stated it. So, I think that is a fair question that is being asked, if you are willing to have a meeting that everybody commences to read the document and attends with their questions, would everybody agree to do that.

Ms. Watlington said if there are process questions or questions for the staff, I will speak for myself, that is what turned me off. If those questions can be answered in the interim after we read the document, so we are really asking questions of each other about our values and our position, then I'm okay with that. That is the only piece that turned me off.

Mayor Lyles said I agree with you, the staff has been working on this for a long time. This wasn't about the staff, there are some questions that maybe we had gotten out that they can answer, but I think they have answered pretty much everything they can unless someone asked them a question that is different.

Mr. Newton said I think also real questions that still remain regarding the timeline here and the deadlines. I feel like if we are certainly under the immediate July deadline for the entirety of this Plan then it makes more sense to me that we would be acting such a sense of urgency, but I would like to know a little bit more and would like to get a little bit more feedback from the City Attorney and maybe the Planning Department on what those deadlines are. To Mr. Driggs' point, there may be this possibility that we don't have to proceed as quickly on the entirety of this Plan and so I would like to know a little bit more about what exactly we do need to proceed with the sense of urgency before we move forward with that urgency.

Mayor Lyles said I think that is a good comment because to me it is kind of like what Mr. Driggs said, I don't want to be pushed to adopt something with a sense of urgency and I also don't want something to just lie restless without it. We've asked the City Attorney to give us some information about what the law says; he can do that this week, but I would also say to you, if it is his interpretation we don't have to do anything, let's not let that become the reason that we don't do anything because I think this community has gone through enough actually.

When you look at the number of participants and the number of contacts we have made on this Plan, let's just find out what the answer is. I heard Mr. Bokhari said to pump the brakes. What I would say let's figure out whether or not we have the time to pump the brakes, but I would not say pump the brakes, I would say figure out how the Council can come, as Ms. Watlington said, to a consensus around the policy. I think the tactics part or maybe it is just my thing; you have a vision, you have a policy and then you have the tactics, really needs to have the Council's full complete adoption, vision, policy, tactics. That is what we are looking for here. So, Mr. Baker, can you get us something fairly quickly in the next couple of days, but even with that, I think the question is how long would it take? Would everybody on the Council be willing to read the document? I've had meetings on Saturday where we've tried to have good policy discussions, I don't like them necessarily, but they are often the times that my best conversations are had with the Council, so it just depends on what you guys want to do.

Mr. Bokhari said if there are people who haven't gone through this document that is a whole different thing.

Mayor Lyles said there are people who have not gone through the document.

Mr. Bokhari said I think the punchline is this, none of us are Planners by trade. I've got a laundry list of questions, but the fact of the matter is 12 of us can't come around the table with City staff who are professional Planners and just even give our laundry list of the things we've found and stumbled on that we are hearing from different focus groups out there. There are steps that this should have been done and I know folks are like well different people were at the table, we've certainly heard several accounts tonight of either people feeling like they were at the table, but not necessarily being heard or there are things incorporated like that needs another round. We need a transparent list from the staff of here is where we are in agreement with everyone, here is where the developers are off to one side, and here is where the neighborhoods are off to another side. Right now, we've got this big lump of stuff that is presented to us as this is it, we did, do you have any questions? We are not Planners; we don't have the ability to ask those questions. Now we can talk to Planners, talk to the constituents, but it goes back to where we started this whole debate which is right now how in the world are we getting deep pushback from both the communities and the developers? Either people are a little mad or one person one and they feel good and we are in this situation where everybody is super mad. That is why I'm against us having a meeting where we bring our items to the table when legally we have an opportunity to hit the pause button a little bit, fulfill the 2021 legal requirements, push back into 2022 and then get this right, of which we need to be invited to those tables with all of these stakeholders and be part of the conversation, not get periodic every couple months presentation that we are oh, can't wait to see it, can't wait to find out what it is.

Mayor Lyles said Mr. Bokhari, thank you for that. The complete list of areas of questions or concerns are on the website identified by section of each of those from the public. I agree with you, but I think that we also have a responsibility to read something that is available to us, the objections, the questions, the punctuation, the grammar, the vision, the tactics, all of those things that have been submitted. The staff said earlier today that they didn't want to make some of those decisions, not knowing where the Council was. So, if we can hit the brakes, that is an acceptable decision, but we will know that in the next couple of days. If your position holds true or your interest the way you stated it holds true then I think the next question is well how do you resolve something that this community has been working on for two and a half years, which you have some ideas about as well and I think that is really valuable. I think what we are trying to do is get additional information, get your questions answered, ask Marie what is on the website from everyone, get the list of people who are engaged, and then have some thoughtfulness around what you see. The Planners have said what they've got to say and where you think those things might not be consistent with the people that you represent, whatever the interest group would be. I guess Mr. Baker, mid-week?

Mr. Baker said I was texting Ms. Hagler-Gray during this meeting, we are on the same page.

Mayor Lyles said so we will know whether or not to schedule a meeting, but I think the kind of meeting we are talking about is the one that Ms. Eiselt and Ms. Watlington described, not a meeting that is just a list of well can you tell me what is on page 2 or 22? Do you see what I'm saying, and it is a choice? It is certainly a choice by the Council. If you guys think about this and mull it over some more the rest of this week before we find out where we stand, I think that is a great idea. It has got to have some ownership, it can't have 12 different owners, but we've got to have some ownership for what is the next step and I think all of us can appreciate that and maybe find some common good or link between what everyone had said.

Mr. Driggs said I just wanted to say that I've had conversations with industry representatives and have gotten lists of concerns they have. I think it is important that we understand the standpoint of the industry because they are the creators of all of these

buildings and this development. I don't think we need to be bound by what they say to us, but I think we need to understand their input because they represent a kind of expertise, as Mr. Bokhari pointed out, that we don't have. So, we have our Planners and we also have this professional community of people with commercial interests who are important to our economy. So, I hope that we can reach a point where we understand where they are coming from and we accept or reject the kind of input we get from them in a meaningful way. I've also talked to residents, the single-family thing is a flash issue I think right now. What I've been exploring is what do we have that is good and are we talking about patching it up? Is there anybody out there that really thinks that if this thing doesn't fly, there have been very general comments about how it is soft of aspirational? It doesn't deal with priorities, it doesn't reconcile competing goals so, in my own mind I'm trying to work through how we get from here to a place where we've responded to some of those issues and have something that we can then proceed with.

I'm on board with Ms. Eiselt and Ms. Watlington in terms of wanting to have us all sit down, but I hope everybody will at least look at the written documents that have been produced by the industry and come to this conversation with an understanding of that perspective as well as the understanding that we will gain from e-mails about what a lot of our constituents think. Personally, I think we can fix it, I think there are things that we can do that will leave us with a UDO and a Comprehensive Plan that everybody can accept or even get excited about that addresses some of our key priorities. I've been very outspoken just because I think there are observations that I'm hearing that I think are important and relevant and I hope that everybody will understand those observations before we try to finalize.

Mr. Phipps said I recall sitting in on several meetings that they had on the eighth floor when the room was packed with industry representatives, discussing in granular terms some of the contentious issues brought up by this Comprehensive Plan. I would be interested in knowing were there any transcripts available where you can document where some sort of consensus was reached by that group of industry, developers, and architects? Are there any notes that would show even some of the things that we are talking about where it would have seemed to have reached some sort of consensus or agreement on how best to proceed? Also, when you talk about documents, I'm aware that I think one of the industry groups said they submitted a 13-page document of concerns that they had about the Plan. Would that be available to all of us before we meet so we can see and get a grasp of what specifically is really bothering them with the Plan?

Mayor Lyles said I think Mr. Driggs may have more e-mails like that. I think he has indicated that he has had some conversations with the community. We can probably find the transcripts that we have for notes so we will try to get what I would call the prior documents that led to some of these recommendations. I think at some point you are hearing from the constituents and if you have those e-mails and would share them among each other that would be very helpful.

Mr. Phipps said I'm told that this 13-page document was shared with the Planning staff.

Mayor Lyles said we will get it out to everyone.

Mr. Driggs said I have a copy of what I think Mr. Phipps is referring to if anybody else can't find it.

Mayor Lyles said why don't you just go ahead and send it out to everyone Mr. Driggs, that is probably easier. Oh, it is on the list of documents that are online from the comments so that is also included in the list of materials. It may be their document, but it is included in the information that is on the website. We will send that link again, we will make sure it gets out.

Ms. Johnson said I have spoken to Ms. Eiselt and also the City Attorney about us having a meeting. I don't think that our questions or concerns tonight can be discounted as not reading the document. I think these policy questions are our responsibility and the reason we were voted so I wonder if there is an opportunity for us to meet as a Council to talk

about our philosophy on things like this and the petitions and even with the zoning drop-ins. It is not a matter of process that we have questions about, there are policies that some of us have concerns about. So, we as a Council never have the opportunity to really meet without a structured or an agenda that is driven by City operations. So, if there is an opportunity for Council to have a Strategic Planning Session where we are not inundated with the information where we can list our priorities and our philosophies, I think that would be great for us. We could also discuss the consultant's recommendation so if there is a team-building session that we are able to have and really talk about our priorities I think that would be an opportunity to talk about the big ideas like the UDO. This is the first opportunity that we've spoken about it as a group. I think these questions were expected or should have been expected. I don't know if there is an opportunity for us to meet as a group, again, not into a small group, we need all of us to hear our thoughts and find out what our priorities are. I think if there is an opportunity for a true Strategy Session for Council, I think that will be great for us.

Mayor Lyles said I think that is what Ms. Watlington and Ms. Eiselt were suggesting.

Ms. Johnson said right, I talked to Ms. Eiselt this weekend about that.

Mayor Lyles said I think there is if the Council decides to do so. This is what I've heard everyone say; that there are concerns about whether or not there is any possibility of meeting what is supposedly a statutory deadline and we need to figure that out first and foremost and even with that we need to make sure that the ideas and questions and comments that have come from all of the interest groups that Council knows who are the interest groups and what they've said, and the staff is going to get that back. Then I think there has been a question for each of us to say what is our philosophy around a Comprehensive Plan? I think Ms. Johnson just articulated that pretty well. Then there is a question of whether or not there is a meeting that would allow for that kind of conversation as well as applying that conversation to the Comprehensive Plan as Ms. Watlington has just said. I think I've asked several times just to put your hand up if you are willing to do that in that context and that framework. I don't know if that is something that you want to think about, I know several people have said well, we need to do something that is a little bit different, but it does take some organization to do that even if we are doing something a little bit different than just going through and talking about policy. If we are actually going to set up meetings with various interest groups, we have to have some way to get to that point.

I'm going to ask once more before we close this out to raise your hand if you are willing to participate in a Council policy discussion around the work that is being done after the City Attorney provides the information by Wednesday on the deadline. I would still say that we need to have a frame for this community to be able to know that we are working on a Plan because growth is coming, and they know that. I've got Mr. Winston, Ms. Ajmera, Mr. Driggs, Mr. Phipps, Ms. Eiselt, Mr. Newton, Ms. Johnson, Mr. Egleston, and Ms. Watlington. Okay, that is a larger group, let's go ahead and plan in that direction. We have a plan so I would suggest that those folks begin to think about what the agenda should be and perhaps work with Ms. Eiselt or whoever wants to put that agenda together and start working toward it.

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ITEM NO. 3: COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORT OUTS

Mayor Lyles said everybody has their Council Committee reports; what I encourage at this time and during this section is everybody can read their reports so the question that I think about is for each Committee that you ask the question of your colleagues what is the most important question that you want to pose for the most important topic that you are developing, either as a program or a policy. I know that the Workforce Development had a large contingent of people at that this afternoon and I'm going to start with the Workforce and Business Development and ask Mr. Bokhari if he has any questions for the Council that he thinks he needs to address prior to the Committee continuing deliberations on the Workforce Development Plan.

Workforce Development Committee

Councilmember Bokhari said of course you can read the update and I would also encourage everyone to go back and watch this morning's meeting if you weren't able to be there, particularly because this was less about an update on the Strategic Employment Plan, the corridor studies, the things we are doing which all are important parts of it. It was more about finding the touchpoints to other related topics, whether that is affordable housing or transportation and transit or CATS and our bus services and Planning and Development. We had great robust conversations with the leaders of each of those areas and we really worked on figuring out and teasing out what the cross-sections of that work is. This was just the appetizer for where we are ultimately going in the work that staff has been doing, but I do believe that it is fundamental. Again, it relates directly to the conversations we've just had tonight in that these Strategic Plans become our blueprints by which we then go and execute. So, that we get that right, it is absolutely fundamental that this pre-work we do with touchpoints to all of those different areas again, not vertical, but horizontal outcomes that we are looking for is done, so I would encourage you all to go watch that Workshop that we had earlier today and we will circle back with more details.

Safe Communities Committee

Councilmember Egleston said I will be brief partly because the Manager went over some of what is going on there at the beginning of our meeting tonight. Also, we've got a meeting tomorrow at noon and we will be getting an update on CMPD's (Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department) Search Warrant Policy that I hope you will join us for. At our last meeting, we discussed the Char-Meck Family Justice Center which is now going by the moniker of the Umbrella Center and we will be getting more information back from the staff on that, but happy to take any questions tomorrow at noon at the meeting. I hope you will join us because we will have some good updates on some good work being done by our Police Chief.

Mayor Lyles said do you want any feedback on any of the topics for your meeting tomorrow Mr. Egleston?

Mr. Egleston said I'm always open to feedback. I'll take questions if we have them.

Mayor Lyles said are there any questions for Mr. Egleston?

Intergovernmental Relations Committee

Councilmember Watlington said I just wanted to point out that I appreciate the updates to the dashboard for the violent crime data to be able to go to that next level and really see a kind of Pareto analysis so we can focus our efforts. I'm glad to see this act has been incorporated and I'm looking forward to conversations with the Chief about the CRU (Crime Reduction Unit) that we've got scheduled.

Councilmember Phipps said I had a question about the agenda for tomorrow's meeting. I thought that the Umbrella Center was going to be a part of that agenda tomorrow. That has been moved now.

Mr. Egleston said no sir, it was covered in the last meeting and we don't have back the information to move forward with that discussion yet based on the questions that were asked at the last Community Safety meeting. That was never scheduled to be on the agenda for tomorrow.

Great Neighborhoods Committee

Councilmember Graham said I will have a short report as well. The Council got the handouts and did much of the heavy work relating to the Source of Income Discrimination on February 22nd, which was probably the major component of the Great Neighborhoods Committee meeting. Within the last two weeks, as you can read, we had a number of

topics that are coming to the Committee as we speak in reference to knowing the Source of Income recommendations that we are putting into action that Council approved, but also Fair Housing Update. This is abatement as well beginning to do work on the street name changes pilot program. The report speaks for itself and I stand ready to answer any questions if there are any.

Mayor Lyles said is the appointment to the Advisory Committee for Source of Income going to be an informal process or a formal process that would need to be on the agenda?

Mr. Graham said I think that is a staff function; if Ms. Wideman is available she can respond to that.

Mayor Lyles said don't worry, we will get something out so that we know; I just didn't know if the Committee had discussed that.

Mr. Graham said I think the staff is going to outreach too; there is a constituency group on both sides to identify potential candidates.

Intergovernmental Relations Committee

Councilmember Winston said next week is our congressional meeting. It will be different this year because it will be virtual, but it will still be good to get time in front of our delegation. We are in the process of completing the kind of run of show for those meetings and we will be in touch about that in the coming days. If there is anything that colleagues think about in terms of that run of a show and coordinating those meeting times between now and Monday please reach out to myself or Mr. Bokhari. We will have half hours with our delegation each, so we are going to have to use that time wisely.

Councilmember Bokhari said that is really the crux of it. Usually this time of year we would be going up to DC, we would have time with our lobbyist to kind of strategize, then we would go in and we would have these buckets of time. Not only is it going to be remote and full of distractions, it will be super-condensed, so we are working with Mr. Fenton and everyone else right now to make sure we really maximize that time in both letting them know what is important to us and garnering insight and intel from them.

Mayor Lyles said thank you very much; I'm looking forward to that next week.

Budget and Effectiveness Committee

Councilmember Driggs said I just wanted to say I look forward to participating in Ms. Watlington's [inaudible] analysis once she explains to all of us what it is. So, we will have a good time with that. I do have a question for the Manager, which is slightly off-topic, but I'm wondering if we've had any indication of what the latest round of CARES Act Funding might mean for Charlotte?

Marcus Jones, City Manager said I think we have Shawn Heath that is available and can give us an update. In round numbers there is an allocation that is for CMS, an allocation for the County and an allocation for the City and I think Shawn can give you some of those numbers at a very, very high level.

Shawn Heath, Special Assistant to City Manager said you are correct Mr. Jones, \$1.9 trillion relief package that was passed by the House on Friday has now made its way to the Senate and there are a number of features included in the draft legislation as it stands now. I won't go into all the details, but as of now the modeling done by Congress suggests that the City of Charlotte could receive \$149 million, which coincidentally is about the same amount that we received last year as part of the CARES ACT (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) Act.

Mr. Driggs said thank you, Shawn, I just thought that might be of interest to all of us on Council given that this seems to be moving forward. So, briefly from our report, there are three topics that the Committee had worked on, the census data and redistricting which

we discussed on Council. I think the status is that based on the State Board of Elections recommendation we are waiting to see if we get legislation that tells us how to proceed with our election. We heard about Stormwater and budget Water outlooks as you see in the report. I think the good news is there are no shocks, so we will discuss rate increases, but they are essentially in good financial condition and I think the rate adjustments will be incremental. I would ask Council to look at the March Budget Workshop agenda and let me know if there are any kind of suggestions related to that. The committee agreed that these topics were suitable topics for our new Workshop. There are issues about Solid Waste Services that will be explained to us and could imply a need for some action by Council. Similarly, with the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) Consultant's Report, the Capital Investment Plan priorities discussion is kind of in line with conversations we've had. We know about Arts and Culture and then the budget outlooks as I previously indicated. So again, my only request to Council is to let me know if you have any comments on that proposed agenda for the Workshop.

Mayor Lyles said Mr. Driggs; I just wanted to make sure, I've got the Budget Workshop starting at 1:30, and does it end at 5:30 or 5:00?

Mr. Driggs said that the schedule was established by the staff.

[Speaker not identified] said 5:00.

Transportation, Planning and Environment Committee

Councilmember Eiselt said my colleagues will be happy to hear me say pass. I think we've said what we need to say today on this Committee.

Ad Hoc Committee on Arts Committee

Councilmember Eiselt said we shared the write-up with all Councilmembers, hopefully, you guys read that. I did get comments back from Ms. Johnson and Ms. Watlington so thank you all for reaching out with your questions. Maybe some of the other Councilmembers spoke with colleagues as well so I will let them chime in on that as well.

Mayor Lyles, you charged this Ad Hoc Committee of Councilmembers with developing a policy for Arts and Culture as an economic strategy for Charlotte. We recognize as a Council that Arts and Culture play an important role in economic development by attracting businesses and visitors to our City and in providing a vibrant quality of life for all residents. We feel that if it is properly resourced that the sector has the potential to grow substantially and to diversify the kind of industry that provides primary and supportive jobs in the creative economy. More broadly the sector has the ability to raise Charlotte's profile as a destination City and it also plays a critical role in addressing some of our community's greatest challenges around social justice, education, workforce development, and equitable access to opportunity for everyone.

The Council Ad Hoc Committee met twice, we focused our lens on Arts and Culture resources and those include the resources that we own, so buildings as well, to address these tenants and the relation to the Council's policy priorities regarding accountability, inclusion, diversity, and economic opportunities. A number of questions were raised and from that committee members went back and talked to each other for about 10-days to craft a plan that would be potentially a budget recommendation to the City Manager for a 25% increase in funding that we provide to Arts and Culture in this year's budget. We recognize that our Arts Organizations have been through a lot of trauma because of the pandemic. For the most part, all of them you can't just open a theatre and have 50% or 10% capacity, so it has been all of nothing. A lot of organizations have been hurt as well as individuals. The increase in funding would first of all make sure that the recipients of last year's Arts and Science Council grant receive funding at a level equal to pre-pandemic levels which was our fiscal year 2020 with an understanding that we have a commitment to develop a comprehensive Arts and Culture Plan in future years and what that will do is with that funding we are recommending to go to \$4 million, but we are also saying it would be contingent upon the private sector also matching that money so that

we would have available \$8 million, not only to keep those recipients whole but also to look at other ways that we can be supporting the sector through a lens of economic development.

That money would go into an individual separate account, we are not administering that account. We are asking the Manager to contract with somebody who would essentially be an Arts Commissioner and would put together a table much like we were talking about with the Community Safety Grant, of stakeholders that would have a voice in this matter in a very broad level that includes not only the Arts and Science Council and those that have traditionally been a part of the conversation, including our legacy organizations but different voices at the table that thus far maybe haven't had that voice and that absolutely we want to have to be part of the conversation. That would mean that if the private sector did match that, there would be more funding available, but we are very intentional about the fact that this needs to be through a different lens, so it is not excluding the lens of Arts and Culture as philanthropy, but it is also saying and an economic driver to create jobs and to have people want to come to Charlotte, not because it is the gateway of Gastonia.

I will let my other Councilmembers chime in, and Mr. Winston, I hope that you will mention the great opportunity tomorrow night along the lines of what we are talking about with the Delilah. So, I will let you all make comments.

Councilmember Winston said I think one thing I would like the community to keep in mind is, it is our responsibility as a City Council to be great stewards of our tax dollars and to get the highest and best return on all of those tax dollars. One of the best ways we can do that is making investments to get more Charlotteans jobs. Full disclosure, everybody knows that I've been in working in this industry for 15-years and that has always been the constant desire for folks I think in the creative arts, science, media community. How do we grow our careers and be able to stay in the City that we love and where we want to be, and that is not always the case? I think if we do look at the economic development of industries that support art, culture, science, and media we can be successful and there will be a couple of opportunities to talk about that as a community.

Tomorrow night Charlotte will be hosting a virtual premiere of Van Foot Delilah which is produced by Warner Brothers but will for Opera Winfrey Network several of us have been involved and I think the Mayor will be part of it. I will be part of it and after the show, there will be a panel discussion with some of our community partners like the Charlotte Panthers and Tepper Sports as well as Charles Randolph Wright was Executive Producer here and part of the conversation does go into why Charlotte is primed to provide more TV and movie production jobs and what the entire ecosystem could look like. I just say that TV and film is just one example of a sector that we can continue to grow here. Ms. Eiselt and I will be part of a community conversation on Wednesday evening with County Commission Chair Dunlap and County Commissioner Susan Rodriguez-McDowell as well as head of the ASC (Arts & Science Council) hosted by Hugh House. We will be able to talk about other potential sectors, what support could and will look like. This is not only about one organization, this is not about anyone entity, this is not about anyone's business model, but this is about how do we put more roofs over people's heads and give them more ability to put more food on the table for their families.

Mr. Driggs said as a member of the Committee I just wanted to point out that in approaching this topic we have been mindful of the role that the ASC has played in Charlotte and our history of working with them. I think we reached sort of a juncture when we realize that Charlotte, in order to be more competitive with other cities in areas like economic development and tourism, needs to be very intentional about investing public money in such a way as to further our goals in those respects. The good news here is that the investment we are making is going up so there will be a greater investment in the Arts and is attached to a requirement that we have a match from the private sector so there will actually be \$8 million available for investment. We are going to protect the clients of the Arts and Science Council and talk to them about the role they might play as members of this supervisory group and how we can coordinate their philanthropic activity with the particular pursuit that we have with our goals. I just wanted to note that; I think this is a good move for the Arts and the fact that we are stepping up our investment will

benefit the Arts community and we are doing so with a full appreciation of the role that the Arts and Science Council has played.

Councilmember Ajmera said I appreciate the Committee's recommendation in terms of increasing the funding for Arts and our cultural activities. I had some questions; I have been going through e-mails, I'm sure we have all been receiving a lot of e-mails over the weekend about the new direction, so I have a couple of questions on that. I was able to go through all those e-mails and compile a few questions, although some of them were addressed by the report, there are some other questions that have not been. I know that we are looking at the private sector match of an additional \$4 million. Is that not currently feasible with the current structure of ASC?

Ms. Eiselt said if we do it through ASC we don't have the ability to really say how we are using our money with our policy so, the second step of this is that we have to have a policy much like we did with affordable housing when we upped our bond to \$50 million. We put in place the housing framework; we've done this with Safe Communities. Hard work really goes into framing that policy and what it is we expect out of that return and so, that is our decision to make. That is our money to invest, we are not trying to tell the ASC how to run their organization. Again, we are going to make the organizations whole that have been funded by the Arts and Science Counsel that we have provided money to. We haven't increased our money to the Arts and the Budget Team can correct me, but I think in at least 15-years and there is this constant conversation about it, and the corporate community says to the City, you need to step up, and we say to them well you need to step up. So, what we are saying is alright if we do this together we will step up and we will make this commitment. The long-term goal is that there is a sustainable form of revenue for the Arts because they can't continue to go every year not knowing what they are going to get, where the funding is going to come from. So, we need to make some kind of commitment, but like we've been doing with all of our other policy areas, we need outcomes. We need to decide what it is that we are trying to accomplish and that is for us to do. We can't really give that to somebody else and say now let us tell you what to do with it.

Ms. Ajmera said I understand that; we've got to put the policy in place to figure out how we are going to spend these dollars that align with our goals. That leads me to my second question and one of the e-mails that I received was from Ms. Wells and she does ask the question in the e-mail that she sent to Council, but she said why create a reputation of ASC instead of partnering with them to address the policy goal?

Ms. Eiselt said that is the big question and that is a good question. We are not replicating it, we are asking to have an individual group with different voices that haven't been at the table to be the ones to create that and in the end, they might say we have the organization, but this is what we want in terms of how the funds are used and they want it a different way to use those funds. Right now, we don't have the ability to say that, that is not up to us to determine how ASC uses their funds. I'm still willing to hold ourselves accountable for how that money is spent, but you can't keep using the same model over and over.

The model that Arts and Science Counsel was based on was workplace giving and that has gone away. United Way has had to struggle with that and make some major changes and the Arts and Science Council is going through the same thing right now. They are having to redo that, perhaps they shouldn't have to raise that money, perhaps we should be having a reliable and predictable revenue stream. There has been talking about that for years and if that is going to happen then we have to talk about what it is that we are investing in. There are a lot of people at the table who want to be a part of that discussion and the way ASC is set up right now is they have their own Board and they have their own framework to go ahead and make those decisions.

Ms. Ajmera said that is where I struggle here. I'm trying to understand legally the structure-wise. Could we give funds to an organization with a list of things, here are our priorities, and those funds have to be used based on those criteria?

Ms. Eiselt said we could; I think the biggest challenge was, we wanted to ask for this budget increase but we are in the budget process right now so we will be approving the budget in a couple of months and we don't have the time to be able to go through what we want as a policy and establish a policy for how we invest in Arts and Culture. We want to have conversations about how our buildings are being used and we invest, not only just the \$3.2 million in the Arts and Science Council, but we also pay almost \$8 million a year to finance the debt of some of our biggest Arts Organizations that we own so we have a responsibility to see that those are being used optimally as well. In addition to that, we have almost \$3 million that goes into the public Art Program that Arts and Science Counsel still manages. So, absolutely, the possibility is there that we could end up just doing it differently with the Arts and Science Council, but we are not going to be able to come to that conclusion in this budget cycle and get that done by the time; hopefully, the Manager would agree to go to \$4 million and hopefully Council will agree to go to \$4 million.

I think the second thing is that it is hard for us to say to the private sector we want you to put \$4 million into somebody else's organization. What we are talking about here is the potential to have \$8 million to support the Arts this year. We did this way with our CARES Act money when the Manager said he could free up because of some things that happened with the funding streams for the CARES Act. We had a million dollars that we could invest in the Arts and we got the private sector to match it. The Foundation raised a million dollars, the County ended up coming in with a million dollars, but we had a different set of people at the table and the ASC was at the table. We also had organizations like Hugh House, Charlotte is Created and other voices that were representing other creatives in the community and I think that is important because they are also helping us understand what constitutes a creative community. So, to Mr. Winston's point, we were working with this assumption for the past couple of decades at least of what we think Art and Culture is, well maybe it is actually more than that. Mr. Winston and Mr. Bokhari talk about that a lot, but we are working with the same model over and over and if we want to have different results we have to make some space to be able to talk about what that could actually look like. It is really important and I think my four colleagues that were on the Committee will agree that we really tried very hard not to say we know how that needs to be spent and what this is doing it is providing space for us here to (A) hopefully get this budget increase this year of \$4 million, (B) get the private sector to step up as well and (C) have those conversations. In the end, if we come back to the same place again, I hope at least that we are saying to ASC, they our agency, I hope at least then what will come from those conversations will be a reframing, a new lens through which we see Arts and Culture in our creative community in Charlotte and one that starts to put us on the map for Arts and Culture and gives us some new ideas to be able to not only provide it to our residents but to attract people to Charlotte.

Ms. Ajmera said I saw the e-mail we all have received from ASC, that acknowledgment of how in the past they have fallen short in their obligations to support Arts from traditionally marginalized voices and they are making efforts to improve that. I appreciated that acknowledgment.

Mr. Winston said I just wanted to follow up on Ms. Eiselt's comment to level set what we are doing here. It kind of carries on from the conversation around the Comprehensive 2040 Plan. What we are proposing is guidance to give to the staff so staff can understand the direction that we are trying to go so they can do their work and bring us back something to decide on. The conversation I think we will have during the Budget Workshop is going to be very important. If folks want to change the guidance that we are giving to staff that is totally and wholly appropriate but let's approach it from that responsibility standpoint so that we actually do get to decide on something in the coming weeks and months that moves our community forward.

Mayor Lyles said when we talked about this we were at our Strategy Session talking about how do we develop a better industry for our Cultural and Arts groups, but I think there is a short-term aspect to this that Ms. Eiselt has really approached and explained? I would say that we can only do this if we are a part of the change that needs to occur. What we are talking about is a short-term beginning to turn the map towards something that I think

is the real outcome for this, is the longer-term development of industry around good-paying jobs for the creative class. I don't mean that class in the way of people doing amounts of things by statute, but actually, the people that would come here. I've said this, you are going to have to have a violinist for the symphony, but you are going to have to have one for your house of worship and you are going to have to have one for the wedding and you are going to have to have one here if the film industry decides that they are going to have a production that requires a violinist. This is more around getting people engaged in the idea that we need to look at this to support the folks that help us do what I think the long-term goal in this community is, which is to have a really strong Arts and Cultural sense of who we are and to bring people in this community that will be a part of it.

Mr. Phipps said I was fortunate enough to be around back in 2005 when Charlotte embarked on the Cultural Campus where we moved the African American Museum from next to Little Rock AME Zion to uptown. We lured the Bachler here, the Mint Museum, and also the NASCAR Hall of Fame, we became a NASCAR (National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing) Hall of Fame City and during all of that, you talk about economic development, you had construction going on, a new Hall of Fame being built and those museums and then we had Discovery Place getting some updates and the Blumenthal. So, that is what I can an economic drive or impact and even with NASCAR, it was tied to an industry that was located right here in the Carolinas, in the Charlotte Area, the Motorsports Industry. That is not unlike other areas of our country where we have signature presences like New York has the Theatre District and Broadway; LA has its film industry. We used to do a lot more productions here in the Carolinas and even in Charlotte when we had the film credits. I don't know what happens to those, but I guess they have gotten taken away from us, so we haven't been able to leverage those.

Mayor Lyles said I think we know who did that.

Mr. Phipps said yes, but one of the things in all of that I see Arts and Science Council, they were really critical to a lot of this. When you say we want to get a matching from the public sector to our investment if is approved; do we have the assurance that they are comfortable with a break from ASC on this? This seems like it came out of the blue out of nowhere, this break with the Arts and Science Council and I'm just wondering what is the County's role going to be in Arts funding? Are they going to be still tied to the Arts and Science Council and we are over here with our Ad Hoc Committee? It seems like we are more or less gearing up for a disjointed funding model for our whole area here. I'm wondering why is it that we cannot leverage our existing model and make improvements to it in as much as they've been around a long time. To overlay another ops bureaucracy on top of what we already have is concerning to me and I'm just trying to get my head around it.

Reading all those e-mails over the weekend, I realized that, and I just want to question that and see how did we arrive at something so much of a departure of where we've historically been with the Arts and Science Council. Those are my comments and I'm hoping when we get to the vote is there a way to delink the increase in funding from the structure that we want to entertain? Would it be two separate votes or would that be something that is combined as one and the same?

Mayor Lyles said I don't know the answer to that right now Mr. Phipps. I think that we know that we have a deadline for the budget, I'm not so sure that we have a deadline for how to organize this in a way, but the Manager is going to present a budget and I think the Committee is going to continue to work on their recommendation. I expect that those are two separate decisions. The money I think is there to support the organizations that we built facilities for as you mentioned and how we distribute that money is still something that the Committee is working on if that is a fair statement Ms. Eiselt.

Ms. Eiselt said the Plan is what we laid out. I had the City's seat on the Arts and Science Council Board a couple of years ago and the discussion is the drop in private giving to the ASC and it was getting to be a crisis. The response that the then Director had was that the City and the County needed to step up and fill that gap. That was just to make up for what was lost on the private sector side so what we are saying is, this isn't a

conversation that just started. This has been going on for a few years and I said this at the time and Mr. Phipps, I think you were still on Council, that the ASC is asking us to step up and there wasn't a lot of will to do that. The conversation then became let's not cut the funding to the Arts and this was at the time when we were looking at going from a \$15 million to a \$50 million housing bond and the Council's priorities were really more around housing. I guess the response that I have for you is that this is a conversation that has been going on for a while and if we are being asked to fill the gap where the private sector hasn't stepped up, then we need to find out why they are not, what they want and if we are going to fill that void then we need to know what it is that we expect our of that investment. We've got to answer that for ourselves.

To the point that Ms. Ajmera brought up, we are not asking the Manager for a permanent structure or a permanent person. It might be that we just want a fuller Culture Plan that also takes into account economic development. Do we want to be a City that has a South by Southwest type festival or a Nashville that said we've got to more than just about Country Music, we want to be about all music? There are ways to brand our City in a way that we just haven't approached before, so this is an opportunity to have that conversation. This is not a recommendation for any permanent structure at all.

I will just leave it at that Mayor, but I also want to mention that I did put it on my Twitter account and I hope the City will put it on their account, the link for the Delilah Premier tomorrow night is free. As Mr. Winston said, this is a production that was filmed here in Charlotte and features Charlotte. It says that it is filmed in Charlotte; anybody can attend that so people want to sign up for that, go to that link, and hopefully, again the City will put it on their social media site, and they can sign up for that.

Ms. Ajmera said I have a question for our Manager; speaking of budget and funding, when you discuss the Arts funding could you please also include in terms of this new structure where we end up having Arts and Culture Commissioner, in terms of the cost, what we are looking at and also there is an Administrative Fee for the fund that will need to be incorporated and who manages the fund? Some of those questions can be addressed later on in the budget, but I just wanted to make sure that my questions are out there.

Mayor Lyles said the Manager has that. This has been a really good meeting because sometimes good meetings are defined by the level of honest, candid conversation and I really appreciate that from each and every one of you and that has been very, very helpful today.

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ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 p.m.



Stephanie C. Kelly, City Clerk, MMC, NCCMC

Length of Meeting: 4 Hours, 02 Minutes
Minutes Completed: April 29, 2021