AGENDA

Meeting Type:	W
Date:	04-03-1989
SUBJECT	

City of Charlotte, City Clerk's Office

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CHARLOTTE.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
WORKSHOP AGENDA
April 3, 1989

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WORKSHOP AGENDA
April 3, 1989

5:00 pm	Park Master Plan presentation and use of Statesville Road Park for botanical garden
6:00 pm	Dinner
6:15 pm	FY90-91 Preliminary Budget Overview

Parks Master Plan

At the April 3 workshop, Planning staff will brief you on the proposed City and County Parks Master Plan. This briefing is for your information only; no action is being requested at this time. The City and County Parks Advisory Boards and the County Commission have received this information in the past two weeks.

Two public meetings will be held to receive general citizen input into the plan. The final plan will be presented to the Council and County Commission for formal adoption by early June.

CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG PLANNING COMMISSION

INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE March 29, 1989

FROM: Martin R. Cramton, Jr.
Planning Director

TO: Mayor Sue Myrick
Members, City Council

SUBJECT: City/County Parks Master Plan

In 1981, the Harland Bartholomew Needs Assessment and Action Plan was adopted for both the City and County Parks and Recreation Departments to serve as a model for future park land acquisition and development during this decade. Since the adoption of that plan, Charlotte-Mecklenburg has experienced considerable population growth. Acquisition of park lands and the development of facilities have not kept pace, making it necessary once again to access park and recreational needs.

This study is the first part of a two fold process to address park land and major recreational facility deficiencies. The goals of this segment included: reviewing the parks and recreation recommendations in the Generalized Land Plan 2005, inventoried existing parks and facilities, updating parks and recreation standards and selection criteria, and identifying unmet needs along with formulating project recommendations to meet those needs.

On April 3, 1989, during the Council workshop, we will be giving you a brief overview of the Master Plan. Provided below are the key points you might review prior to the meeting. Please take a couple of minutes to review these areas and have your questions ready for the meeting.

1. Standards and Criteria of the six major categories

a - State Parks	Page 6
b - Nature Preserves	Page 6
c - Community Parks	Page 8
d - District Parks	Page 9
e - Neighborhood Parks	Page 11
f - Special Facilities	
o Lake and River Access	Page 12
o Recreation Centers	Page 13
o Swimming Pools	Page 15
o Golf Courses	Page 15

2. Top 20 projects recommended — Pages 26-28

MRC/DT:sls

CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG PARK MASTER PLAN
PHASE I

CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG PLANNING COMMISSION
CITY/COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENTS

April, 1989

CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG PARKS MASTER PLAN
PHASE I

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

This phase of the Parks Master Plan updates a portion of the 1981 Harland Bartholomew Needs Assessment and Action Plan, by providing a guide for the location of public parks and major public recreational facilities over the next two decades. A subsequent process (Phase II) will address the adequacy of existing facilities, programs and design - resulting in specific recommendations. The implementation of this Plan will continue the commitment of the citizens of Charlotte-Mecklenburg to maintain and even enhance the quality of life in this rapidly urbanizing county.

In developing this twenty-year Plan, the staffs reviewed parks and recreation acquisition and development progress since the 1981 Action Plan, reviewed the parks and recreation recommendations in the Generalized Land Plan, 2005, inventoried existing parks and major recreational facilities, updated parks and recreation standards and selection criteria, reviewed 20 year population estimates, identified unmet needs and formulated project recommendations to meet those needs. Representatives of the following departments, agencies and committees were included in the discussions: City of Charlotte's Parks and Recreation, Budget and Evaluation, Engineering and Community Development Departments; Mecklenburg County's Parks and Recreation, Budget and Resource Management and Engineering Departments; City of Charlotte Parks and Recreation Committee, Mecklenburg County Parks and Recreation Commission, and representatives from the Towns of Davidson, Cornelius, Huntersville, Pineville, Matthews, and Mint Hill.

It is anticipated that this Plan will be updated every five years and will serve as the basic support document for the capital needs requests by the directors of both Parks and Recreation Departments, and their respective advisory committees.

BACKGROUND AND TRENDS

Plan Philosophy

In 1981, the Harland Bartholomew Needs Assessment and Action Plan was adopted for both the City and County Parks and Recreation Departments to serve as a model for future park land acquisition and development during this decade. Since the adoption of that plan, Charlotte-Mecklenburg has experienced considerable population growth. Acquisition of park lands and the development of facilities have not kept pace, making it necessary once again to assess park and recreational needs.

Phase I of the Master Plan addresses existing park land and major recreational facility deficiencies. As part of this process, staffs formulated standards for park land acquisition in terms of size and acres per 1,000 persons, in addition to establishing realistic service areas for each park classification. These standards apply to existing and future parks and major facilities.

In order to benefit from the "current thinking" concerning park standards, the planning staff analyzed the National Recreation and Park Association's 1987 document, Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines, in addition to surveying parks, recreation and open space standards of several cities of varying size and location.

The information obtained from the National Recreation and Park Association emphasized that every community should develop, its own standards, based upon the community's unique characteristics, needs, interests and traditions. In addition, the planning staff observed that many of the major cities in the United States have a considerable deficiency of park land and recreational facilities. There appears to be a severe strain on their existing parks/facilities, with little hope of increasing the acreage in these "built-out environments" to satisfy, adequately, the existing population.

Charlotte-Mecklenburg is a rapidly growing area, and this may be the last opportunity to acquire, and eventually to develop, the park land and open space that will be so vital to the future quality of life in this community. As population and density increase, citizens are becoming more aware of the quality of life and are demanding an enhancement of their urban surroundings and additional recreational facilities. A continuation of Charlotte-Mecklenburg's relatively high income level will also mean an ever increasing demand for more recreation. In addition, an adequate park and open space network is a valuable asset to City/County in attracting businesses which are considering the area for relocating. To help ensure that the park system will provide these necessary benefits, both Parks Departments need to concentrate on acquisition and "land banking" before development and land cost prohibit implementation of the Plan.

Utilizing the above information, while also recognizing Charlotte-Mecklenburg's unique characteristics and needs, the staffs revised the acreage requirements, population/ratio standards, service areas and definitions for various classifications of parks and recreational facilities. This revision should preserve the necessary greenspace, which will be needed to serve a rapidly urbanizing Charlotte-Mecklenburg.

The 1977 Short Range Park Plan recognized the park land deficit in Charlotte-Mecklenburg and, consequently, incorporated a composite population/ratio standard of 13 acres/1,000 persons, subdivided as follows:

Park Classification	Population/Ratio
Nature Preserve	4 ac/1,000 persons
Community Park	4 ac/1,000 persons
District Park	3 ac/1,000 persons
Neighborhood Park	2 ac/1,000 persons

Upon evaluation of the NRPA standards and the park systems of various cities, all departments concurred that the present 13 acres/1,000 persons ratio would leave the City and County with an inadequate systems similar to those which plague other metropolitan areas. To prevent this from occurring the acreage/population ratio is being increased to 19 acres/1,000 persons, subdivided as follows:

Park Classification	Population/Ratio
Nature Preserve	6 ac/1,000 persons
Community Park	5 ac/1,000 persons
District Park	5 ac/1,000 persons
Neighborhood Park	3 ac/1,000 persons

It should be understood that the official 2010 population estimate will be determined through the process of updating the 2005 Generalized Land Plan which will be undertaken during calendar year 1990; the plan presently lists the 2005 population at 573,866. However, for the purposes of this plan, specifically for the population/ratio standard, the planning staff has employed a 600,000 population estimate. The planning staff recognizes that this is a general estimate, and that existing population in Charlotte-Mecklenburg is exceeding past predictions.

Whereas the population/ratio standard is a useful measurement, this plan attaches major significance to determining the realistic service area for each park classification (both existing and proposed). Applying service areas to those sections of Charlotte-Mecklenburg which are developing or which contain undeveloped open space, provides the most accurate assessment of needs without having to predict a "built-out" population for the entire county. It should be noted that existing population estimates have been used to analyze park needs in

the developed portions of the city (mainly the Central District). The guidelines and recommendations in this Plan will, hopefully, remedy the present situation and establish a successful process of implementation, that will provide a high degree of diverse and quality recreation for Charlotte-Mecklenburg.

1981 ACTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

The recommendations included in the 1981 Action Plan were reviewed in order to determine which ones had been implemented. Listed in the appendix are those recommendations which have been implemented as a result of the 1981 Action Plan. The results of this evaluation revealed a considerable shortage of both park land and facilities within all classifications. While the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Master Plan recognizes what has been accomplished, it also goes further by specifying anticipated needs under the Top 20 and subsequent project groupings.

Within the Harland Bartholomew Master Plan of 1981, 11 separate items were laid out as physical changes and improvements that could be made to the City and County parks system. In each area, the City and County has made strides in carrying out the recommendations of the Master Plan.

The Roles of the Six Towns

The staffs met with representatives of the Towns of Davidson, Cornelius, Huntersville, Pineville, Matthews and Mint Hill. It was agreed that these towns will provide their own neighborhood parks, while the city and county parks and recreation departments will provide district parks, community parks and nature preserves for all the residents within Mecklenburg County. The City and County Parks and Recreation Departments will also provide facilities such as recreation centers etc. for all the residents within Mecklenburg County. If any of the towns desire additional facilities, it will be that town's responsibility for acquisition, development, maintenance and programming. Due to the location of service areas, it maybe necessary to locate park facilities within the jurisdictions of these towns. The facilities provided will be for Mecklenburg County citizens.

Scope of the Plan

In accordance with recommendations in the Generalized Land Plan, 2005, this Plan identifies needs and formulates recommendations concerning park land acquisition and development in addition to major recreational facility development. Additional issues (such as adequacy of existing facilities, redesign of specific parks, maintenance considerations, cost estimates and consolidation of the city and county parks and recreation departments) should be addressed in a subsequent study. The 1980 Greenway Master Plan will be updated during calendar year 1989.

Future Demographic Trends

The planning staff anticipates that Charlotte-Mecklenburg will experience continued population growth during the next twenty years. This Plan includes recommendations for land acquisition and general development of parks, facilities and open space based in part on this growth scenario. However, prior to the development of these parks, facilities and open space, it will be extremely important to recognize the needs of an aging population, the emergence of new trends, citizens' attitudes etc.

Over the next twenty years the "baby boom" generation will be maturing, resulting in a significant change in the type of leisure services users need; programs and facilities should be periodically evaluated to determine if user needs are being met.

Parks and Recreation Citizen Survey

As part of the planning process, the staffs, working with the Urban Institute at UNCC, formulated and administered a county-wide parks and recreation survey to determine citizens' attitudes concerning parks and recreational facilities.

DESCRIPTION/CURRENT STATUS/STANDARDS/CRITERIA-PARKS AND MAJOR RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Within this plan, parks, major facilities, and open space have been grouped into six categories: State Parks, Nature Preserves, Community Parks, District Parks, Neighborhood Parks, and Special Facilities which will include Lake and River Access, Recreation Centers, Swimming Pools, Golf Courses and Historical Sites/Urban Spaces. Greenways will be addressed in the Greenway Master Plan update, which will be undertaken during calendar year 1989.

It should be noted that, for the following classifications, listed facilities are possibilities which may be included within the specific park classification. Depending upon community need and/or site characteristics, the number and type of facilities may be altered.

1. STATE PARKS

Description/Current Status

There are no state parks located in Charlotte-Mecklenburg. The description of a state park is presently being reviewed on the state level. However, the potential for a partnership between the State and Mecklenburg, Iredell and Cabarrus Counties should be investigated.

Standards/Criteria

Standards and criteria for this park classification are presently being reviewed on the state level.

2. NATURE PRESERVES

Description/Current Status

Nature preserves are sites of 1,000+ acres encompassing unique qualities, which exemplify the natural features found in the region, the diverse land formations and the variety of vegetation and wildlife. This classification will provide opportunities to experience and understand nature on a variety of levels. Environmental centers and nature museums will serve to educate the public; camping areas may range from the most primitive to those designed for recreational vehicles; and trail systems need to be uniquely programmed to insure variety and fascination. Sites for picnicking and observation decks should be designated under this same criteria. The preserve experience will give users a variety of ways to acquaint themselves with aspects of nature found only in the Piedmont.

Charlotte-Mecklenburg has three existing nature preserves which are presently undersized and only partially developed. A fourth preserve

is needed and additional acreage is required to bring the existing three in compliance with the specified standard.

Desirable Site Characteristics:
Land chosen for future preserves and the expansion of existing sites should contain the previously mentioned characteristics accompanied with natural water features such as lakes, rivers and creeks. The sites should be contiguous, and not divided by public thoroughfares. Ninety percent of the site should be developed with only passive recreation, with the remaining acreage used for active recreation.

Nature Preserve Land	Existing Acreage	Deficiency
Latta Plantation Park	763.26	236.74
Reedy Creek Park	699.20	300.80
McDowell Park	894.00	106.00
Fourth Nature Preserve	0	1000.00
	2,356.46	1,643.54

Standards/Criteria

Service Area:
Entire metropolitan area.

Population Ratio:
6 acres per 1,000 persons.

Minimum Size:
1,000 acres minimum with sufficient area to encompass the resource to be preserved and managed. (10% of the site may be developed with facilities found in a district park.)

Facilities/Equipment:
Environmental Center
Nature Museum
Equestrian Center
Primitive Camping
Group Camping
Recreational Vehicles
Nature Trails
Observation Decks
Picnic Shelters with Barbecues
Picnic Tables with Barbecues (not under a shelter)
Beach
Swimming
Boating
Fishing Piers
Restrooms/Vending
Drinking Fountains
Parking
Caretaker's House
Service Yard (possibly)

3. COMMUNITY PARKS

Description/Current Status

Community parks differ from the other classifications, since they provide a wider range of recreational activities, which may include tennis and baseball/softball complexes, mega recreation centers, golfing, swimming, boating, fishing, as well as the other activities found in district parks. Community parks may function as district parks for the immediate area.

Desirable Site Characteristics:
Community park sites should ideally have a varying topography with a variety of tree species, and cleared areas for siting active recreation. It should be noted that fifty percent of each site should remain undisturbed. One or more natural water feature(s) such as a lake, river or creek should be included in community parks. Sites should also be contiguous and strategically located in order to be accessible to all users within the area they serve.

Community Park Land	Existing Acreage	Deficiency
Harrisburg Road Park	371.00	29.00
York Road Renaissance Park	472.00	0
Statesville Road Park	306.00	94.00
Mallard Creek Park	223.64	176.36
McAlpine/Boyce Road Park	433.00	0
	1,805.64	299.36

Standards/Criteria

Service Area:
5 mile radius.

Population Ratio:
5 acres per 1,000 persons.

Desirable Range:
300 to 500 acres.

Desirable Size:
400 acres. (larger, if the park contains a golf course)

Facilities/Equipment:
Recreation Center
Playgrounds
Full Size Basketball Courts (Lighted)
1/2 Basketball Courts (Lighted)
Tennis Courts with both Asphalt and Clay
Courts (Lighted)
Tournament Tennis Courts (Lighted)
Tournament Baseball/Softball Fields (Lighted)
Multipurpose Fields

Tournament Soccer Fields (Lighted)
Practice Soccer Fields
Volleyball
Enclosed Picnic Shelters
Picnic Shelters with Barbecues
Picnic Tables with Barbecues (not under a shelter)
Nature Trails
Benches and Bench Swings Sited at Designated
Facilities
Water Sports
Restrooms/Concessions
Drinking Fountains
Parking
Caretaker's House
50% of site to remain undeveloped

*Specialty Facilities--Golf Course, Environmental Center, Nature Museum, Amphitheater, Equestrian Center, Observation Decks, Swimming, Beaches, Boating, Fishing Piers, Specialty Sports

*Specialty Facilities--May be added to, or substituted for, other facilities, depending on community need or special site characteristics.

4. DISTRICT PARKS

Description/Current Status

District parks will function as the major source of active recreation in the communities they serve. Fifty percent of each site should be developed with only passive recreation, with the remaining portion being intensively developed with a variety of active uses. Depending upon community need and/or special site features, it may be necessary to site special facilities, normally found in community parks, within this classification. These facilities may include athletic complexes, mega recreation centers, swimming pools or other specified activities.

Desirable Site Characteristics:
Sites for district parks will normally be one-fourth to one-half as large as those sites required for community parks, thus requiring a relatively flat topography. This flat site will alleviate excessive grading when siting various activities and will help preserve the surrounding vegetation. Each district park site should maintain an equal balance of wooded and cleared areas. If a natural water feature is present, the adjoining land should be developed with, primarily, passive recreational facilities. Good accessibility to the surrounding neighborhoods is important, and consideration may be given to developing these parks in conjunction with school facilities.

District Park Land	Existing Acreage	Deficiency
Park Road Park	124.22	0
Freedom Park	98.15	1.85
Revolution/Clanton Park	182.69	0
Boyce Road Park	72.98	27.02
Idlewild Road Park	37.83	62.17
Kilborne Park	48.84	51.16
Sugaw Creek Park	30.95	69.05
Hornet's Nest Park	101.94	0
UNCC Park	35.96	64.04
North Mecklenburg Park	84.89	15.11
Holbrooks Flying Field	75.30	24.70
Ramblewood Park	78.85	21.15
Amay James Park	30.00	70.00
	1,002.60	406.25

Standards/Criteria

Service Area:
1 to 2 1/2 mile radius.

Population Ratio:
5 acres per 1,000 persons.

Desirable Range:
40 to 200 acres.

Desirable Size:
100 acres.

Facilities/Equipment:
Playground
Full Size Basketball Courts (Lighted)
1/2 Basketball Courts (Lighted)
Tennis Courts (Lighted)
Baseball/Softball Fields (Lighted)
Multipurpose Field
Soccer Practice Field with Moveable Goals
Volleyball
Picnic Shelters with Barbecues
Picnic Tables with Barbecues (not under a shelter)
Nature Trails
Benches and Bench Swings Sited at Designated Facilities
Restrooms/Concessions
Service Yard
Drinking Fountains
Parking
50% of site to remain undeveloped

*Specialty Facilities--Recreation Center, Tennis Center, Soccer/Football Fields, Running Trail, Boating, Amphitheater, Observation Decks, Fishing Piers.

*Specialty Facilities--May be added to, or substituted for, other facilities, depending on community need or special site characteristics.

5. NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

Description/Current Status

Neighborhood parks offer the public a convenient source of recreation. These parks are usually located within walking distance of the area served, and they provide a variety of activities to interest all age groups. Neighborhood parks should contain 15 to 25 acres, which will require that they be well designed and creatively developed. Fifty percent of each site should remain undisturbed, thus serving as a buffer between the park and adjoining property owners.

Desirable Site Characteristics:
Neighborhood parks should be developed on relatively flat, wooded sites. A buffer of vegetation should separate the park from adjacent land uses. Sites should be geographically centered within the neighborhoods they serve and also accessible to pedestrian and bicycle traffic. Consideration should be given to developing these parks in conjunction with school facilities and/or greenways where possible.

A complete listing of the existing publicly-owned neighborhood parks, including school parks, within Charlotte-Mecklenburg (excluding those owned by the six towns) is included in the appendix. It should be noted that some of these parks actually function only as playgrounds due to their small size and/or minimal development.

Standards/Criteria

Service Area:
3/4 to 1 mile radius to serve walk in recreation needs of surrounding populations.

Population Ratio:
3 acres per 1,000 persons.

Desirable Range:
15 to 25 acres.

Facilities/Equipment:
Playground
1/2 Basketball Courts
Softball or Baseball Field or
Multipurpose Field
Picnic Shelters with Barbecues

Picnic Tables with Barbecues (not under a shelter)
Benches or Bench Swings Sited at Designated Facilities
Drinking Fountain
50% of site to remain undeveloped

*Speciality Facilities--Tennis Courts, Nature Trail

*Specialty Facilities--May be added to, or substitued for, other facilities, depending on community need or special site characteristics.

6. SPECIAL FACILITIES

LAKE AND RIVER ACCESS

Description/Current Status

The Generalized Land Plan, 2005 stresses the importance of providing publicly-owned parks and boat access points along Lake Norman, the Catawba River and Lake Wylie. Ramsey Creek Park, a leased facility, (Lake Norman) and McDowell Park (Lake Wylie) are existing water access parks with boat launching facilities. Latta Plantation Park (Mountain Island Lake) provides water access without boat launching facilities. There are also several sites on Lake Norman, Lake Wylie, and the Catawba River providing only boat access; these could be enlarged for other recreational activities. For park land with lake access see community park standards.

Standards/Criteria

Service Area:
Entire metropolitan area.

Population Ratio:
None specified.

Desirable Range:
15 to 25 acres.

Desirable Size:
20 acres (boat access only).

Facilities/Equipment:
Picnic Area
Playground
Nature Trail
Boat and Observation Dock
Boat Ramps
Restrooms

RECREATION CENTERS

Description/Current Status

Recreation centers in Charlotte-Mecklenburg are programmed with a variety of activities, ranging from programs for special populations, cultural arts classes, play time for children, and athletic events. These activities (operated under a fee base structure) consume the majority of recreation center hours, forcing free time to be scheduled during the day when the majority of the public is working. There is also a lack of facilities and programs for the elderly.

Desirable Site Characteristics:
Sites for these centers will be determined through community need, size of the facility and realistic service areas. Recreation centers should be located within district parks or community parks.

At the present time, there are fourteen publicly-owned standard recreation centers in Charlotte-Mecklenburg. One of these centers is used primarily for the special population and senior citizens.

Existing Standard Recreation Centers

Albemarle Road
Amay James
David B. Waymer
Earle Village
Enderly
Greenville
Hawthorne
Latta
Marion Diehl (special population and senior citizens)
Methodist Home
Naomi Drenan
Sugaw Creek
Tuckaseegee
West Charlotte

It should be noted that whereas the above facilities contain similar functions, there is some discrepancy in size (8,000 to 13,000 square feet) and in age (5+ to 35+ years).

Standards/Criteria

I. Mega Centers

Service Area:
5 mile radius.

Desirable Size Range:
40,000 to 70,000 square feet.

Facilities/Equipment:

High Priority

- Gymnasium (multiple courts adequate for basketball, volleyball, indoor soccer, etc.)
- Exercise/Weight Room
- Room(s) which include facilities for:
  a) games b) dance c) arts and crafts d) meetings
- Kitchen
- Leisure Pool
- Nursery
- Restrooms/Locker Rooms/Showers
- Stage
- Snack Bar (customers would be served)
- Staff offices
- Bleacher seating for gym/pool
- Storage Room
- Lobby
- Control Desk
- Janitor's Storage Room

Low Priority

- Saunas
- Jacuzzi
- Racquetball/Handball/Squash Courts
- Jogging Tracks
- T.V. Lounge

II. Standard Centers

Service Area:
3 mile radius.
(In order to serve the social and physical needs of the low and moderate income families (such as Belmont), the city and county parks and recreation departments should consider recreation center proposals as a case by case basis, irrespective of service area radius.)

Desirable Size Range:
13,000 to 15,000 square feet.

Facilities/Equipment:

- Gymnasium (adequate for basketball, volleyball, indoor soccer, etc.)
- Room(s) which include facilities for:
  a) games b) dance c) arts and crafts d) meetings
- Kitchen
- Restrooms/Locker Rooms/Showers
- Stage
- Bleacher Seating (gym)
- Staff Offices
- Storage Room
- Lobby

- o Control Desk
- o Janitor's Storage Room
- o Room with Vending Machines

SWIMMING POOLS

Description/Current Status

At the present time, there are only four (all outdoor) publicly-owned and operated swimming pools in Charlotte-Mecklenburg. The natatorium will be constructed during fiscal year 1989. This facility will offer a variety of water sports to the community, and also host college and pre-olympic competitions. There are also plans to construct a swimming facility in two of the public high schools in Charlotte-Mecklenburg.

Existing Public Pools (owned and operated by local government)

Cordelia
Double Oaks
Greenville
Marion Diehl (programmed primarily for the special population)
Revolution (50-meter)

Standards/Criteria

Competitive pools (25 meters by 25 yards) will be sited at all public high schools, and leisure pools will be constructed in conjunction with public mega recreation centers.

GOLF COURSES

Description/Current Status

At the present time, there are seven golf courses available to the general public in Charlotte-Mecklenburg. Three of these facilities are publicly-owned, while four are privately-owned. Two of the facilities are nine-hole courses.

Existing Public Golf Courses

Publicly-owned	Privately-owned
*C.T. Myers (Harrisburg Park)	Eastwood
Revolution (nine-holes)	Oak Hills
York Road Renaissance	Pawtuckett
	Sharon (nine-holes)

*This is presently a nine-hole course. However, the second nine holes are scheduled for development during FY 1993-1995 (upon completion of the landfill operation).

Standards/Criteria

Service Area:
Entire metropolitan area.

Population Ratio:
(1) 18-hole course per 50,000 persons.

Minimum Size:
150 acres.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PARKS, MAJOR FACILITIES AND OPEN SPACE

This section of the Plan includes specific recommendations for land acquisition and general development of parks, major facilities and open space. The recommendations are intended to meet the twenty year park and recreational needs as determined by the 2010 population estimate and the above standards and criteria. Implementation of these recommendations and the maintenance of existing facilities should provide stormwater and creek erosion protection to maintain high water quality thoughout Charlotte-Mecklenburg.

1. STATE PARKS

At the present time, there are no state parks in Charlotte-Mecklenburg. The closest state parks, Duke Power, Crowder's Mountain, Morrow Mountain and Kings Mountain in North Carolina, and Andrew Jackson in South Carolina, are located a distance of 20 to 60 miles from Charlotte. In response to the anticipated growth in this area and the recommendation in the 2005 Generalized Land Plan, it is recommended that a State Park (minimum of 2,000 acres) be developed in Northern Mecklenburg County, possibly in conjunction with Iredell and Cabarrus Counties.

2. NATURE PRESERVES

The 1995 Comprehensive Development Plan initially proposed the location of four Nature Preserves within Mecklenburg County. Three of those sites have been purchased and partially developed, they include Latta Plantation Park, McDowell Park, and Reedy Creek Park. However, those sites are undersized under the standards. The fourth site was recommended for southeastern Mecklenburg County, due to the expensive land cost in this area, the recommendation was never implemented. A possible solution to this problem is to locate the fourth nature preserve in Union County. This action would be compatible with the expected future "regional network" of communities. This facility could be a joint venture with Union County, resulting in a significant savings in land cost.

Recommendations:

(a) Acquire and develop a 1,000 acre nature preserve in the southeast - preferably Union County.

(b) Acquire and develop additional acreage at the existing nature preserves for the purpose of obtaining a minimum of 1,000 acres at each site.

Latta Plantation Park	- acquire/develop approximately 250 acres.
Reedy Creek Park	- acquire/develop approximately 300 acres.
McDowell Park	- acquire/develop approximately 100+ acres.

3. COMMUNITY PARKS

This Plan recognizes the importance of the 400+ acre community park containing a variety of passive and active recreation. When possible, it would be desirable to acquire over 400 acres at each site, since a portion of each community park will serve as a district park for the residents living within 2 1/2 miles of the site. This Plan supports the ongoing policy of reusing completed landfills for community park purposes.

Recommendations:

(a) Enlarge the existing Harrisburg Road Park by an additional 200 acres. This will provide the land necessary for the development of a second 18-hole golf course, a mega recreation center and additional active recreational facilities.

(b) Enlarge the existing Statesville Road site by an additional 100 acres.

(c) Enlarge the existing Mallard Creek site by an additional 200 acres.

(d) Acquire and develop 400+ acres for the Catawba River Park.

(e) Develop additional facilities at the existing Boyce/McAlpine sites.

(f) Acquire and develop 400+ acres for the Long Creek Park.

(g) Acquire and develop the proposed Highway 521 Landfill site (for a community park) after landfill operations have ceased.

(h) Existing community parks need to be continually reviewed and possibly updated, redesigned and/or redeveloped when it is appropriate.

4. DISTRICT PARKS

This Plan recommends the acquisition and development of several 100+ acre district parks, which would provide facilities for all ages and have a primary service area of 1-2 1/2 miles. The Plan recommends that existing district parks be expanded when they do not meet the specified

standard, so that they may adequately serve the existing population within their service areas. This Plan supports the ongoing policy of reusing completed landfills for district park purposes.

Recommendations:

(a) Enlarge the existing North Mecklenburg Park by an additional 50 acres.

(b) Enlarge the existing Sugaw Creek Park by an additional 50 acres.

(c) Enlarge the existing Park Road Park by an additional 50 acres.

(d) Enlarge the existing Hornet's Nest Park by an additional 100 acres.

(e) Enlarge the existing Idlewild Road Park by an additional 65 acres.

(f) Enlarge the existing Holbrooks Road District Park by an additional 25 acres and obtain access to the Huntersville-Concord Road as recommended in the Huntersville Land Use Plan.

(g) Enlarge the existing UNCC Park site (in conjunction with the University) by an additional 65 acres.

(h) Acquire and develop 100+ acres for the Highway 51 - West Park.

(i) Acquire and develop 100+ acres for the Highway 51 - East Park.

(j) Acquire and develop the 200+ acre Four Mile Creek Park site.

(k) Acquire and develop 100+ acres for the Eastway Area Park.

(l) Acquire and develop approximately 150 acres for the Albemarle Road Park.

(m) Acquire and develop 100+ acres for the South Mecklenburg Park.

(n) Redevelop the existing Freedom Park site.

(o) Redevelop the existing Clanton Park/Revolution Park and Golf Course sites.

(p) Acquire and develop 100+ acres for the Randolph Road Park.

(q) Acquire and develop 100+ acres for the Fairview Park.

(r) Acquire and develop 100+ acres for the Little Rock Road Park.

(s) Acquire and develop 100+ acres for the Steele Creek Park.

(t) Acquire and develop 100+ acres for the Rocky River Park.

(u) Develop additional facilities at the existing Kilborne Park.

(v) Acquire and develop 100+ acres for the Lower Steele Creek Park.

(w) Acquire and develop 100+ acres for the Coulwood Development Enterprise Area Park.

(x) Acquire and develop the proposed Matthews Landfill site (for a district park) after landfill operations have ceased.

(y) Acquire and develop 100+ acres for the Back Creek Park.

(z) Acquire and develop 100+ acres for the Mint Hill Park.

(aa) Acquire and develop 100+ acres for the Berryhill Park.

(bb) Existing district parks need to be continually reviewed and possibly updated, redesigned and/or redeveloped when it is appropriate.

5. NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

This Plan recognizes the need to provide easily accessible neighborhood parks in all areas of Charlotte-Mecklenburg, which meet the adopted locational criteria and standards.

Recommendations:

(a) Determine the need for and location of neighborhood parks in the future by the following methods:

1) through the area planning process.
2) action by the City and County Parks and Recreation Departments.
3) demand by the neighborhood.

(b) The city and the county should each designate an Acquisition/Development Fund for the provision of future neighborhood parks.

(c) The Towns of Davidson, Cornelius, Huntersville, Pineville, Matthews and Mint Hill should provide their own neighborhood parks.

(d) Explore the potential use (through the Subdivision Ordinance) of requiring developers to donate fees in lieu of land as a means of acquiring neighborhood park land and greenways.

(e) Consider the feasibility of joint-use agreements for school-parks in areas where land can't be located for neighborhood parks.

(f) Existing neighborhood parks need to be continually reviewed and possibly updated, redesigned and/or redeveloped when it is appropriate.

6. SPECIAL FACILITIES

LAKE AND RIVER ACCESS

As recommended in the Generalized Land Plan, 2005, there is a great need for more publicly-owned parks with access points and boat launching areas along Lake Norman, the Catawba River and Lake Wylie. This Plan supports the recommendation (2005 Plan) to acquire land on a lakefront site along Jetton Road (Lake Norman) for a major water access specialty park and conference center. The center would serve as a multipurpose retreat and recreation facility for public use, with a park to be developed on adjoining land. This Plan also supports additional 2005 Plan recommendations to purchase and expand the leased Ramsey Creek Park facility (Lake Norman) and to locate sites on the Catawba River and Lake Wylie for major parks with boat access.

Recommendations:

(a) Acquire approximately 250 acres along Jetton Road and Lake Norman for future development of a water access specialty park and conference center.

(b) Acquire the 46-acre Ramsey Creek Park (Nantz Road/Lake Norman) presently being leased from Crescent Land and Timber Company, and also acquire and develope an additional 50 acres adjacent to the park.

(c) Develop a boat ramp/park facility south of the Buster Boyd Bridge to provide boat access to Lake Wylie.

(d) Acquire Copper Head Island (McDowell Park) and develop boat launching facilities.

(e) Acquire and develop the Water Fowl Refuge on Mountain Island Lake.

(f) Acquire property in conjunction with the tentative future Water Shed Protection Program.

RECREATION CENTERS

This Plan recognizes the increased usage of recreation centers and the need to provide some larger, better equipped facilities to serve all members of the family. This Plan recognizes that centers "earmarked" for the special population, such as the elderly and the disabled, are special facilities and are not included in the recreation centers category for use by the general public.

The Plan proposes increasing the number of standard centers and developing several mega centers. The larger facilities would provide activities not found in the standard centers, such as exercise/weight rooms, leisure pools and jogging tracks.

Recommendations:

(a) Maintain all existing full service recreation centers.

(b) Develop four mega recreation centers in the following locations:

1) North Mecklenburg Park.
2) Harrisburg Road Park.
3) South Mecklenburg Park (proposed site).
4) West Mecklenburg (on city-owned land south of the airport).

(c) Develop four standard recreation centers in the following locations:

1) Highway 16 (NW) area (Development Enterprise Area).
2) UNCC District Park.
3) Matthews completed landfill.
4) Lower Steele Creek District Park.

(d) Pursue greater utilization of public school gyms.

SWIMMING POOLS

This Plan supports the construction of swimming pools (for competition, drownproofing classes and structured programs) in the high schools and also the construction of swimming pools (for leisure and social interaction) in the mega recreation centers. It was assumed that the school pools would be part of the school curriculum and, therefore, not readily available to the general public.

Recommendations:

(a) Locate a competitive, indoor pool (25 meters by 25 yards) at each public high school. Explore the feasibility of using retractable roofs.

(b) Locate a leisure pool at each public mega recreation center.

GOLF COURSES

This Plan addresses the lack of publicly-accessible (particularly publicly-owned) golf courses in Charlotte-Mecklenburg. Recommendations include developing 18-hole, 150+ acre golf courses located in existing and proposed community parks and the proposed state park; also, the redevelopment of some existing golf courses to accommodate 18-hole Par 3 courses. Privately-owned golf courses should be acquired when circumstances permit.

Recommendations:

(a) Designate an Acquisition Fund for the purpose of acquiring the following privately-owned golf courses when they become available for purchase. Also, establish the option for first right of refusal to allow the City and County Parks Departments to have the first opportunity to purchase these courses.

1) Eastwood
2) Oak Hills
3) Sharon
4) Pawtuckett

(b) Develop an 18-hole golf course at the future Mallard Creek Community Park.

(c) Acquire 150+ acres north of the McDowell Park Nature Preserve and develop an 18-hole golf course.

(d) Upon acquisition of Sharon Golf Course determine if it is feasible to develop the facility into an 18-hole Par 3 course.

(e) Develop a second 18-hole golf course on the future additional land at Harrisburg Road Park.

(f) Develop an 18-hole golf course at the proposed Long Creek Community Park.

(g) Develop an 18-hole golf course (if feasible) as part of the final reuse of the proposed Highway 521 Landfill site.

(h) Develop an 18 to 36 hole golf course at the proposed North Mecklenburg State Park.

(i) Develop a second 18-hole golf course at the future Mallard Creek Community Park.

(j) Redevelop Revolution Golf Course to accommodate an 18-hole Par 3 course.

URBAN AREA PARKS

This Plan has identified an area (surrounded by Route 4 and I-85), which may not meet the "normal" park standards which are applied throughout the county. Therefore, special considerations and innovative park solutions are needed for this Central District Area. The Central District Plan will address this issue in detail.

Recommendations:

(a) Determine the need for and location of urban area parks in the future by the following methods:

1) through the area planning process.
2) action by the Charlotte Parks and Recreation Department.
3) demand by the neighborhood.

(b) The City of Charlotte should designate an Acquisition/Development Fund for the provision of future urban area parks.

(c) Explore the potential use (through the State Enabling Legislation) of requiring infill developers to donate fees in lieu of land as a means of acquiring urban area park land and greenways.

(d) Acquire additional land for urban area parks when possible.

(e) Expand existing urban area parks when possible.

(f) Develop urban area park sites more intensively.

(g) Consider the feasibility of school-parks within the urban area to supplement the existing urban park acreage.

(h) Develop an urban design plan to address public plazas and open spaces.

(i) Develop more small parks (such as Colonial Park) within this area.

(j) Redevelop Clanton Park and Revolution Park and Golf Course.

(k) Existing urban area parks need to be redesigned and/or redeveloped when they no longer meet the needs of the communities served. This will be determined though periodic evaluations.

ADDITIONAL SPECIAL FACILITIES

Special Facilities such as zoos, arboretums, botanical gardens, aviaries etc. are desirable in urban areas. However, these facilities should be planned and implemented on a case by case basis. It is also recommended that these facilities be undertaken jointly by public and/or private sectors.

GREENWAYS

The 1980 Greenway Master Plan should be updated in calendar year 1989.

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

It is understood that special situations, concerning park land acquisition, can arise which have not been addressed in this Plan. It will be important to assess situations on a case by case basis. This may include opportunities to acquire properties out of sequence with the prioritized lists (the lists are not set in concrete), or acquire

sites which are not listed for acquisition. From time to time this will be the case, and to prevent property from being lost to other developments, both Parks Departments need the ability to respond quickly should such opportunities arise. Efforts should concentrate on acquisition and "land banking" as mentioned before. CIP request, however, should follow the first top 20 projects.

PRIORITIZED RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PARKS, MAJOR FACILITIES AND OPEN SPACE

Following is a listing of the top 20 projects (land acquisition and/or development) as prioritized by the City/County Parks and Recreation Departments, their Advisory Committees and the Planning Staff. In addition, the second grouping of projects (following the top 20) is included.

KEY: A - Acquisition
LR - Lake and River Access
CP - Community Park
D - Development
DP - District Park
MRC - Mega Recreation Center
NP - Nature Preserve
PGC - Private Golf Course (Existing)
R - Redevelopment

Ranking	Park/Facility	Type	Jurisdiction	Acquisition/ Development
1.	Water Access Specialty Park Site (Jetton Road)	LR	County	A
2.	Highway 51 - West Park Site	DP	City/County	A
	Highway 51 - East Park Site	DP	City/County	A
	Four Mile Creek Park Site	DP	City	A
	Eastway Area Park Site	DP	City	A
	Albemarle Road Park Site	DP	City	A
	South Mecklenburg Park Site	DP	City/County	A
	Randolph Road Park Site	DP	City	A
3.	Statesville Road Park	CP	City	A/D
4.	Mallard Creek Park	CP	County	A
	North Mecklenburg Pk.	DP	County	A
5.	Catawba River Park Site	CP	County	A

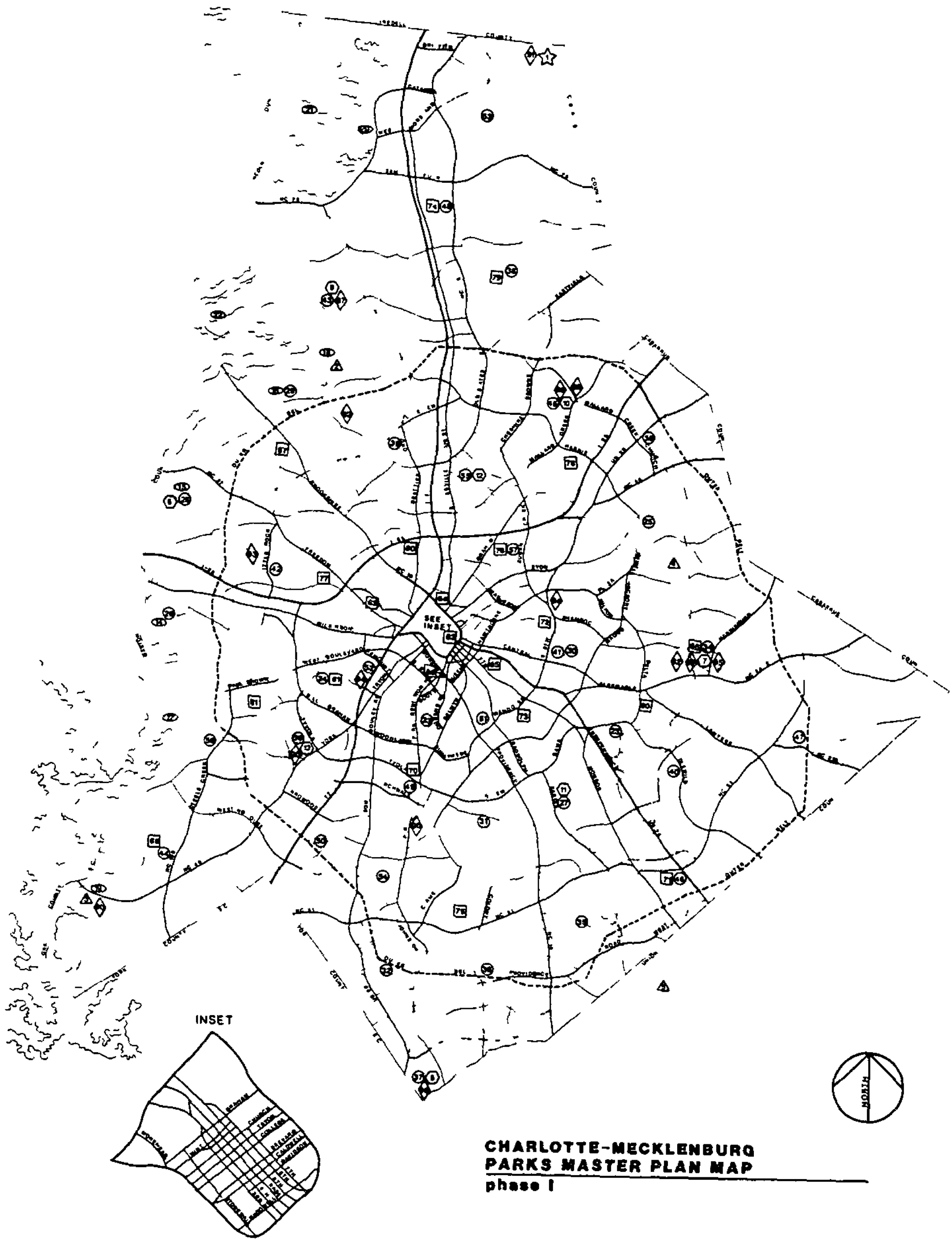
6.	Freedom Park	DP	City	R
	Clanton Park/ Revolution Park and Golf Course	DP	City	R
	Sugaw Creek Park	DP	City	A
	Park Road Park	DP	City	A
	Fairview Park Site	DP	City	A
7.	Reedy Creek Park	NP	City	A
	Latta Plantation Pk.	NP	County	A
8.	Urban Area Parks: Designate an Acquisition/Development Fund.			
9.	Neighborhood Parks: Designate an Acquisition/Development Fund.			
10.	Mallard Creek Park	CP	County	D
11.	North Mecklenburg Pk.	DP	County	D
	North Mecklenburg Pk.	MRC	County	D
12.	Acquire one of the following courses:			
	Eastwood Golf Course	PGC	City	A
	Oak Hills Golf Course	PGC	City	A
	Sharon Golf Course	PGC	City	A
	Pawtuckett Golf Course	PGC	City	A
	Designate an Acquisition Fund.			
13.	Hornet's Nest Park	DP	City	A
	Idlewild Road Park	DP	County	A
	Little Rock Road Park Site	DP	City	A
	Steele Creek Park Site	DP	County	A
	Rocky River Park Site	DP	County	A
	Randolph Road Park Site	DP	City	D
	Fairview Park Site	DP	City	D
	Four Mile Creek Park Site	DP	City	D
	Highway 51 - West Park Site	DP	City/County	D
	Highway 51 - East Park Site	DP	City/County	D
	South Mecklenburg Park Site	DP	City/County	D
	Eastway Area Park Site	DP	City	D
	Kilborne Park	DP	City	D
	Albemarle Road Park Site	DP	City	D
14.	Boyce/McAlpine Park	CP	City/County	D

15.	Harrisburg Road Park	CP	County	A (non landfill property to be used for second 18-hole golf course, mega recreation center etc.)
16.	Harrisburg Road Park (C.T. Myers Golf Course)	CP	County	D (including active recreational facilities and second nine holes of golf course on the landfill property)
17.	Harrisburg Road Park	MRC	County	D
18.	McDowell Park	NP	County	A
	4th Nature Preserve (Southeast of Charlotte)	NP	County	A
19.	Lower Steele Creek Park Site	DP	County	A
	Coulwood DEA Park Site	DP	County	A
	Holbrooks Flying Field	DP	County	A
	Idlewild Road Park	DP	County	D
	Hornet's Nest Park	DP	City	D
	Park Road Park	DP	City	D
	Little Rock Road Park Site	DP	City	D
	Steele Creek Park Site	DP	County	D
	Matthews Landfill Site	DP	County	A/D
	Sugaw Creek Park	DP	City	D
20.	Long Creek Park Site	CP	County	A

Park Category	Ranking	Park/Facility	Jurisdiction	Acquisition/ Development
Community Parks	HIGH	Catawba River Park Site	County	D
		Long Creek Park Site	County	D
		Highway 521 Landfill Site	County	A/D

District Parks	HIGH	Back Creek Park Site	City	A
		UNCC Park	County	A
		Mint Hill Park Site	County	A
		Berryhill Park Site	County	A
		Lower Steele Creek Park Site	County	D
		Coulwood DEA Park Site	County	D
		Back Creek Park Site	City	D
		UNCC Park	County	D
		Rocky River Park Site	County	D
		Holbrooks Flying Field	County	D
		Mint Hill Park Site	County	D
		Berryhill Park Site	County	D
Lake and River Access	HIGH	Water Access Specialty Park Site (Jetton Road)	County	D
		Ramsey Creek Park (leased land)	County	A/D
		Ramsey Creek Park (adjacent land)	County	A/D
		Lake Wylie	County	A/D
		Copper Head Island (McDowell Park)	County	A/D
		Water Fowl Refuge	County	A/D
		Berryhill Park Site	County	D
Recreation Centers	MEDIUM	Highway 16 (NW) Standard Facility (possibly DEA)	City	D
		South Mecklenburg Mega Center	City	D
		UNCC - Standard Facility	County	D
		West Mecklenburg Mega Center (on city-owned land south of the airport)	City	D
		Matthews Area - Standard Facility	County	D
		Lower Steele Creek - Standard Facility	County	D
Nature Preserves	MEDIUM	Latta Plantation Park	County	D
		Reedy Creek Park	City	D
		McDowell Park	County	D
		4th Nature Preserve	County	D
State Park	MEDIUM	North Mecklenburg	State	A/D
Golf Courses	LOW	Mallard Creek Community Park - 18-hole golf course.	County	D

Acquire 150+ acres north of the McDowell Park Nature Preserve and develop an 18-hole golf course.	County	A/D
Sharon Golf Course - potential Par 3 course.	City	D
Harrisburg Road Park - develop a second 18-hole golf course.	County	D
Long Creek Community Park - 18-hole golf course.	County	D
Highway 521 Landfill Site - develop an 18-hole golf course (if feasible).	County	D
North Mecklenburg State Park - 18-36-hole golf course.	County	D
Mallard Creek Community Park - develop a second 18-hole golf course.	County	D
Revolution Golf Course - potential Par 3 course.	City	D



CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG
PARKS MASTER PLAN MAP
phase I

PROPOSED ROADWAY

EXISTING ROADWAY

STATE PARK

NATURE PRESERVE

LAKE AND RIVER ACCESS

COMMUNITY PARK

DISTRICT PARK

RECREATION CENTER

GOLF COURSE

E - Existing facility
A - Acquisition required
D - Development required
UC- Under contruction
R - Redevelopment required

STATE PARKS

1 NORTH MECKLENBURG STATE PARK (A/D)

NATURE PRESERVES

2 LATTA PLANTATION (E,UC)
3 McDOWELL (E)
4 REEDY CREEK (E/UC)
5 4th NATURE PRESERVE (A/D)

COMMUNITY PARKS

6 CATAWBA RIVER (A/D)
7 HARRISBURG ROAD (A/D)
8 HIGHWAY 521 LANDFILL (A/D)
9 LONG CREEK (A/D)
10 MALLARD CREEK (A/D)
*11 McALPINE/BOYCE ROAD (D)
12 STATESVILLE ROAD (D)
13 YORK ROAD RENAISSANCE (E/UC)

DISTRICT PARKS

23 ALBEMARLE ROAD (A/D)
24 AMAY JAMES (E)
25 BACK CREEK (A/D)
26 BERRYHILL (A/D)
27 JAMES BOYCE (D)
28 CATAWBA RIVER (A/D)
29 COULWOOD DEA (A/D)
**30 EASTWAY (A/D)
31 FAIRVIEW (D)
32 FOUR-MILE CREEK (A/D)
33 FREEDOM (R)
34 HARRISBURG ROAD (D)
35 HIGHWAY 51-EAST (A/D)
36 HIGHWAY 51-WEST (D)
37 HIGHWAY 521 LANDFILL (A/D)
38 HOLBROOKS ROAD (UC)
39 HORNETS NEST (E/A)
40 IDLEWILD ROAD (E/A)
41 KILBORNE (E/D)
42 LITTLE ROCK ROAD (A/D)
43 LONG CREEK (A/D)
44 LOWER STEELE CREEK (A/D)
45 MALLARD CREEK (A/D)
46 MATTHEWS AREA (A/D)
47 MINT HILL (A/D)
48 NORTH MECKLENBURG (A/D
49 PARK ROAD (E/A)
50 RAMBLEWOOD (E)
***51 RANDOLPH ROAD (A/D)
52 REVOLUTION/CLANTON (R)
53 ROCKY RIVER (A/D)
54 SOUTH MECKLENBURG (A/D
55 STATESVILLE ROAD (A/D)
56 STEELE CREEK (A/D)
57 SUGAW CREEK (E/A/D)
58 UNCC (D)
59 YORK ROAD RENAISSANCE (E/UC)

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

SPECIAL FACILITIES (Lake and River Access, Recreation Centers Golf Courses)

LAKE AND RIVER ACCESS

14 BERRYHILL (A/D)
15 CATAWBA RIVER (A/D)
16 COULWOOD DEA (A/D)
17 LAKE WYLIE (A/D)
18 LATTA PLANTATION (E/UC)
19 BOAT ACCESS BELOW HWY 49 (E)
20 RAMSEY CREEK, (A/D)
21 WATER ACCESS SPECIALITY (A/D)
22 WATER FOWL REFUGE (A/D)

RECREATION CENTERS

60 ALBEMARLE ROAD (E)
61 AMAY JAMES (E)
62 EARLE VILLAGE (E)
63 ENDERLY (E)
64 GREENVILLE (E)
65 HAWTHORNE (E)
66 HARRISBURG ROAD (D)
67 HIGHWAY 16 (NW) STANDARD FACILITY (D)
68 LATTA (E)
69 LOWER STEELE CREEK STANDARD CENTER (A/D)
70 MARION DIEHL, special population (E)
71 MATTHEWS AREA STANDARD CENTER (A/D)
72 METHODIST HOME (E)
73 NAOMI DRENAN (E)
74 NORTH MECKLENBURG (proposed)
75 SOUTH MECKLENBURG MEGA CENTER (proposed) (A/D)
76 SUGAW CREEK (E)
77 TUCKASEEGEE (E)
78 UNCC STANDARD CENTER (D)
79 DAVID B WAYMER (E)
80 WEST CHARLOTTE (E)
81 WEST MECKLENBURG MEGA CENTER (D)

GOLF COURSES

82 C.T MYERS, 9 hole (Harrisburg road) (UC)
83 C.T. MYERS, 2nd 9 hole (D)
84 EASTWOOD 18 hole (A)
85 HARRISBURG ROAD, 18 hole (D)
86 HIGHWAY 521 LANDFILL 18 hole (D)
87 LONG CREEK 18 hole (A/D)
88 MALLARD CREEK COMMUNITY 18 hole (A/D)
89 MALLARD CREEK 2nd 18 hole (A/D)
90 McDOWELL PARK 18 hole (A/D)
91 NORTH MECK. STATE PARK 18-36 hole (A/D)
92 OAK HILLS 18 hole (A)
93 PAWTUCKET 18 hole (A)
****94 REVOLUTION PAR 3 (R)
95 SHARON PAR 3 (A/R)
96 YORK ROAD RENAISSANCE 18 hole (E)

* McALPINE/BOYCE RD. district park will be comprised of the existing McAlpine Greenway and James Boyce Parks

** EASTWAY DISTRICT PARK will be comprised of two or more sites in the vicinity of Kilborne Park. These seperate tracts will comprise the acreage needed for a district park function.

*** RANDOLPH ROAD PARK will be comprised of Grier Heights Park and Randolph Road Ballfields

**** The golf course at Revolution Park will be redesigned as a Par 3 course Clanton Road Park will be combined with

APPENDIX

Existing Publicly-Owned Neighborhood Parks in Charlotte-Mecklenburg

This list does not include those parks owned by any of the six towns.

Name of Park	Acreage
Abbott	5.80
Albemarle (two sites)	18.13
Alexander	2.46
Allen Hills	10.52
Anita Stroud	5.20
Archdale	16.60
Baxter	5.50
Biddleville	3.65
Briarwood	23.50
Bryant	6.60
Carmel Road	10.00
Cedarwood	8.60
Charles Avenue	0.65
Clemson Avenue	0.96
L.C. Coleman	11.40
Collins	3.07
Colonial	2.48
Cordelia	20.00
Derita Creek	23.61
Devonshire	1.74
Double Oaks (two sites)	17.73
Eastover	19.48
Edgehill	5.51
Enderly (two sites)	11.00
Firestone	18.97
First Ward	2.80
Five Points	9.18
Fourth Ward	2.00
Frazier	15.50
Fred Alexander	6.00
Grayson	12.20
Greenville	10.14
Grier Heights	4.03
Hoskins	4.47
Howie Acres	10.00
Tom Hunter	8.83
Huntingtowne Farms	26.33
Independence	23.57
Martin Luther King	27.35
Latta	31.32
Little Peoples	0.17
Mallard Creek Park	14.00
Methodist Home	10.59
Midwood	5.90
Morgan	1.94

Ninth Street	0.56
North Charlotte	2.58
Oakhurst	5.00
Oaklawn	4.00
Olde Providence	30.00
Pearl Street	6.00
Pressley Road	6.00
Progress	0.73
Thomas "Bus" Reid	2.00
Sedgefield	4.69
Shamrock	2.40
Shannon	7.33
Sheffield	7.89
Sixteenth Street	0.52
Solomons	0.66
Southside	10.80
Southwest	15.00
Springfield	11.30
Tryon Hills	1.76
Tuckaseegee	16.00
Veterans	17.59
Viewmont	11.08
Waddell	4.83
West Charlotte	3.20
Westerly Hills	12.42
Wilmore	1.50
Wayt and Tinnin	0.23
Yorkmont	2.80

Existing Publicly-Owned Neighborhood School-Parks in Charlotte-Mecklenburg

Albemarle Road Elementary
Alexander Graham Junior High
Allenbrook Elementary
Bruns Avenue
Collinswood Elementary
Druid Hills Elementary
Eastway Junior High
Hawthorne Junior High
Hidden Valley Elementary
Lakeview Elementary
Mason Smith Junior High
McClintock Junior High
Nations Ford Elementary
Newell Elementary
Northwest Area Center
Pinewood Elementary
Piney Grove Elementary
Rama Road Elementary
Randolph Junior High
Sedgefield Elementary
Spaugh Junior High

Starmount Elementary
Steele Creek Elementary
Thomasboro Elementary
Tryon Hills Elementary
West Charlotte High
J.T. Williams Junior High
Windsor Park Elementary

Recommendations from the 1981 Action Plan which have been implemented since 1981.

- The Reedy Creek Nature Preserve is being built.
- New district and neighborhood parks have been developed.
- A community park will be built in the Statesville Road Area.
- Two recreation centers have been built.
- Swimming pools have been improved.
- Stadium and Grady Cole Center have been upgraded.
- An on-going Parks Improvement Plan has been implemented.
- Unnecessary facilities have been decommissioned.
- The Greenway Program is advancing.
- Diehl Center has been 80% completed.
- A natatorium is ready for construction in addition to 2 high school pools.
- $ has been set aside for land acquisition.
- York Road/Renaissance Community Park is a reality.
- Harrisburg Golf Course will open soon.
- User Fees have been enacted.
- A design-build capability has been established.

ITEMS TO BE ADDRESSED IN FUTURE STUDIES

- The roles of each Parks Department.
- Consolidation of Departments' functions.
- Future funding.
- Redevelopment of existing parks.
- Time frame for proposed projects.
- Phase II Parks Master Plan.
  Issues will include the following:
  - Departmental Roles.
  - Consolidation of Parks Departments.
  - Funding and Joint-Venture Possibilities.

NOTES

Botanical Garden

March 30, 1989

TO C. Don Steger
Asst. City Manager

FROM. Martin C. Cramton, Jr.
Planning Director

RE Statesville Road Park - Botanical Garden Component

Background

In 1986 the City of Charlotte purchased 306.0 acres off Statesville Road in the Nevins/Derita communities. The property (which is currently being called Statesville Road Park) is being classified as a community park under the parks standards system developed in the 1989 Parks Master Plan. Community parks offer a wide range of recreational activities for active and passive activities. While providing traditional court, field, and plan equipment facilities, they can contain specialty facilities tailored to unique community needs or site characteristics.

Current Status

City departments are currently in the process of selecting a private firm to develop a master plan for Statesville Road Park Before interviews take place, it will be important to predetermine what role the park will play in the community

Attached is a letter received from the Charlotte Botanical Garden Society citing interest in having a world-class botanical garden within the park.

In order for the City to proceed with further design selection, a direction from City Council is needed in regards to their interest in locating a Botanical Garden in Statesville Road Park.

March 20, 1989

CHARLOTTE
BOTANICAL
GARDEN
SOCIETY

Mr Marvin F Billups, Director
Charlotte Parks and Recreation Department
600 East 4th Street
Charlotte, North Carolina 28202

Dear Mr. Billups:

The Charlotte Botanical Garden Society (CBGS) would like to formalize our discussions relative to the development of the City of Charlotte's Statesville Road Park

We are pleased to learn that the City is preparing at this time to make a final selection of an architect to develop the Master Plan for the Statesville Road site It is our desire to have the opportunity to participate throughout the master planning processes for this project, as it is our belief that the CBGS can significantly contribute through our expertise, comprehensive knowledge of the site, and vision for the future of a world-class botanical garden for our city

We want to emphasize that we are very excited about the extraordinary potential for this tract of land which is so conducive to the development of the type of facility we have discussed Some of the special features of the Statesville site are

(1) Rich, diverse native flora The UNCC floral survey confirms that the existing native flora is some of the richest and most diverse remaining in Mecklenburg County

(2) Rare, unspoiled forest land The site contains a magnificant mature beech grove, majestic oak trees, and exquisite native dogwoods in the 200 +- acres in the southern sector

(3) Diverse sources of water with natural springs, streams and several ponds

(4) Ease of access with public transportation Easy access to I77 and I85 city bus service, and a location less than 10 minutes from Uptown

In addition to these physical attributes, we feel that a botanical garden in this location is consistent with and an attribute to the City's 2005 Plan.

P O Box 31395
Charlotte NC
28231
704/ 331 5566

As you are aware, the CBGS has undertaken numerous community projects during the past year We

(1) Facilitated the contribution of over $10,000 dollars-worth of labor, services and plant materials to the "Park on the Square Project

(2) Provided leadership, expertise, and volunteers to assist "Bloomin' Charlotte '88 '

(3) Worked on the Bond Campaign Committee for the passage of the November bond referendum

(4) Entered our first garden in the Charlotte "Spring Show' which won First Place/Best of Show.

(5) Conducted educational seminars on gardening and horticulture

There is strong, broad-based support for establishing a botanical garden in Charlotte and to date we have received formal endorsements from the Charlotte Parks Advisory Committee, the Derita-Statesville Road Community Organization, the Nevin Homeowner's Association, the Charlotte Council of Garden Clubs

We are also receiving enthusiastic support from the horticultural, educational, industrial, and corporate communities This support has been an outgrowth of our grassroots efforts to build a botanical garden for all of the citizens of our city

While there are clear economic benefits to a major attraction such as a botanical garden, we feel certain that with thoughtful and creative planning this facility will give a new dimension of beauty, education and recreation, further enhancing the quality of life in Charlotte

We look forward to working with you, your colleagues, and the city leadership on this very important project

Sincerely,

Joan Weld

Joan Weld
Development Chair
Charlotte Botanical Garden Society

enclosures

NOTES

FY90-91 Preliminary Budget Overview

FY90 - FY91

CITY OF CHARLOTTE
OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGET
STATUS REPORT

Prepared by:

Budget and Evaluation
March 31, 1989

FY90-91 Operating Budget Status Report
(General Fund Only)

The following information was compiled in response to Council's request at the 1989 planning retreat for a status report on the budget process closer to the time of the Manager's Recommended Budget presentation. This information is still preliminary from the Budget and Evaluation Office. The City Manager has not made final decisions on many of the issues presented in this paper.

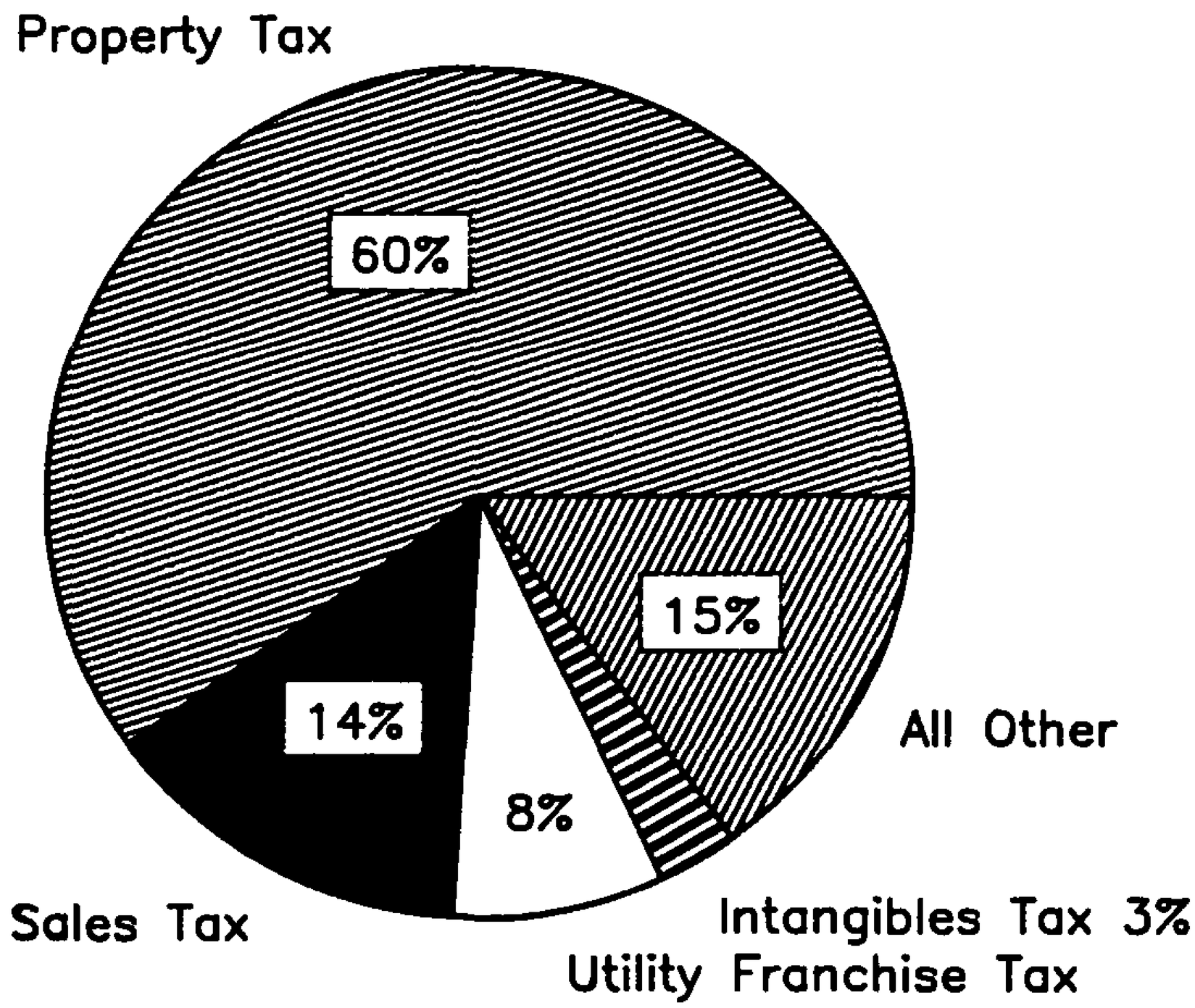
Council is asked to review and comment on this report. Particular attention should be given to the internal policies and guidelines being used to make the final recommendations.

FY90-91 General Fund Revenues

	Revised FY89	FY90	%	FY91	%
Property Tax	96.1	99.5	3.5	104.1	4.6
1% Sales Tax	22.3	22.9	2.7	24.5	7.0
Utility Franchise	13.5	13.6	.7	13.9	2.2
Intangibles	5.5	5.8	5.5	6.3	8.6
Other Revenues	24.3	25.0	2.9	26.1	4.4
Total	$161.7	$166.8	+3.2	$174.9	+4.9

- Property Tax growth 3.5%
  - Estimate is $1 million less than January retreat estimate.
  - Impacted by loss of household personal property value and business inventory values.
  - As administrative policy, County Tax Administrator estimates assessed value.
- Actual Utility Franchise collection for FY89 is $13.5 million or $1.6 million less than FY89 budget; growth for FY90 and FY91 are projected at less than 1% and 2% respectively.
- All other estimates remained unchanged from retreat estimates.

FY90 Projected Revenues



- Sales and intangibles taxes are allocated based on City/County tax distribution formula.

- County tax increase in FY89 will reduce City sales tax and intangibles tax.

- Proportion of Property Tax to all revenues has increased slightly from 58.2% in FY87 to a projected 59.7% in FY90.

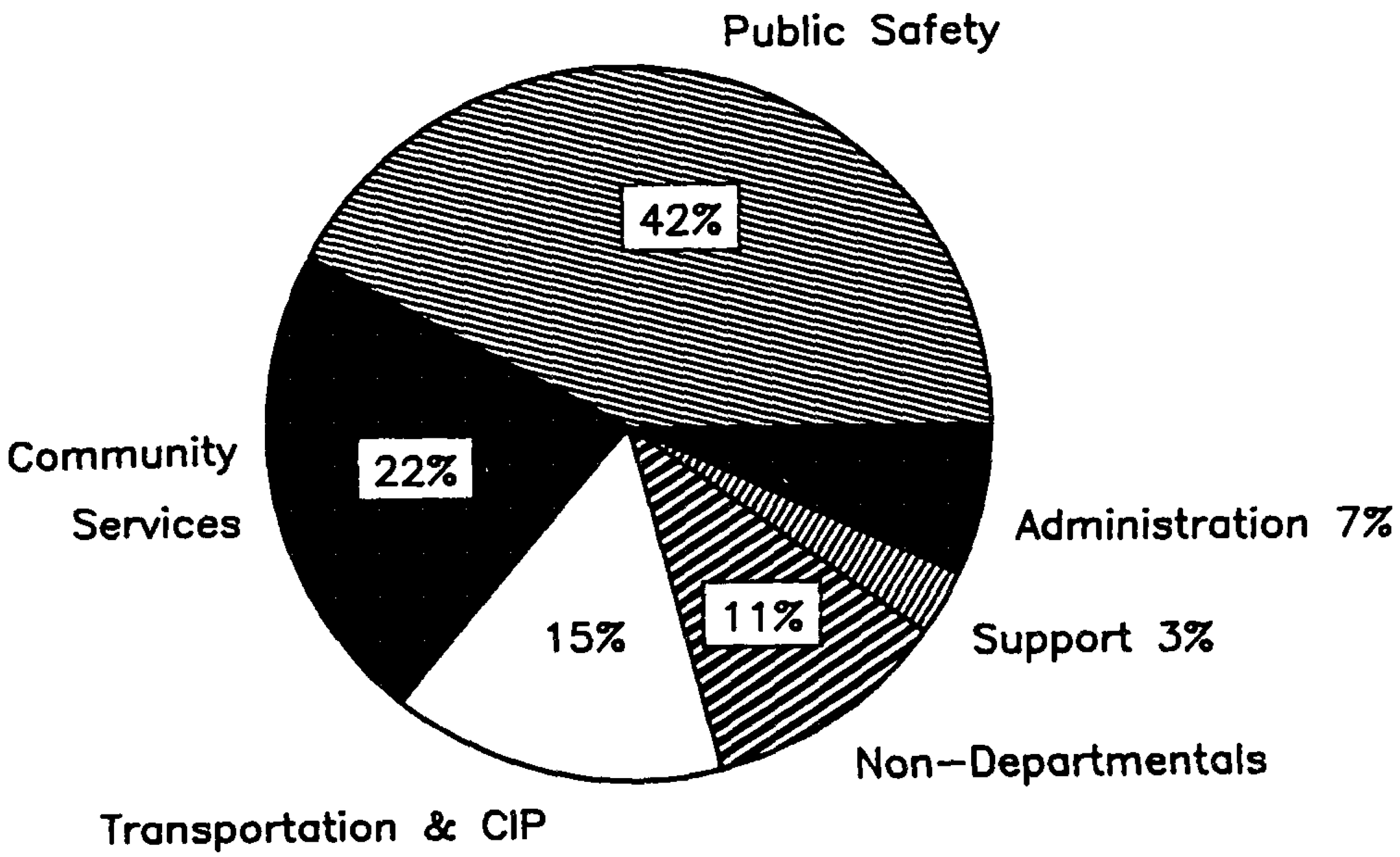
General Fund Benchmark/No Tax Increase Policies

FY90

	Expenditure Benchmark	Revised Revenues	Difference
FY89 Budget	$159.9 m	$161.7 m	$ 1.8 m
FY90 "Growth"	9.6	5.1	(4.5)
Total	$169.5 m	$166.8 m	$(2.7)m

- NO TAX INCREASE policy is in effect
- Revenues are projected to be $2.7 million less than benchmark
- Benchmark is based on 6% growth:
  - 4 1/2% inflation
  - 1 1/2% population growth
- Benchmark would require 1 1/2 cent tax increase

FY90 Current Level Projected Expenditures



Public Safety	-	Police, Fire, Animal Control
Community Service	-	Sanitation, Bulky Trash, Community Improvement, Parks, Mint Museum, Neighborhood Centers, Community Relations, Water/Sewer Collections
Transportation & CIP	-	DOT, Engineering, Planning, Street Maintenance, Street Cleaning, Street Lighting
Non-Departmentals	-	Contributions to Other Funds, Cultural, County-Shared Programs. Does Not include employee fringe benefits
Support	-	CMGC, Radio, Equipment Services, Central Services, General Services
Administration	-	Mayor/Council, Manager, Attorney, Clerk, Budget, Finance, Personnel, Purchasing, PS&I, Economic Development

General Fund Expenditures - Current Level Guidelines

1. Limit Growth in Operating Costs to Less Than 3%; reduce Departments requests by $10 million.

   - No increase in most line items
   - No increase in overtime hours
   - No increase in departmental supplies

2. Landfill Fees

   - Increased by $850,000

3. Pay Plan

   - Increase based on market research to bring 94% of job classes into competitive range for local market. Cost: $4.3 million in General Fund

4. Employee Insurance

   - 44% increase in employee medical insurance - $1.9 million in General Fund

   - No rate increase for life insurance or disability insurance

   - 3% rate increase for dental insurance

   - Actuarial study of funded reserves conducted; excess reserves will be used to offset increase on a one-time basis

5. General Insurance

   - Actuarial study of funded reserves conducted; excess reserves will be used to offset subsequent year payments

6. Non-Departmentals

   - The proposed budget includes <u>no</u> increase in outside contracts or the current request, whichever is lower (listed below). It is proposed that outside contracts be phased out over a three-year period reducing by one-third in FY91, one-third in FY92 and <u>no</u> funding in FY93. It is further recommended that

Council set aside $200,000 as seed money for new organizations with a three-year funding limit to establish their programs and secure permanent financing from other sources.

Festival In The Park	$ 23,560
YWCA Scattered Sites	36,542
Crisis Fuel Assistance	49,680
Carolinas Carrousel	5,000
Youth Involvement Council	45,000
Sister Cities	26,320
Housing Authority Crime Prevention Program	113,491
Economic Development Marketing	120,000
Senior Center	15,000
Victim's Assistance	168,350
	$598,443

Strategies for Current Year Savings

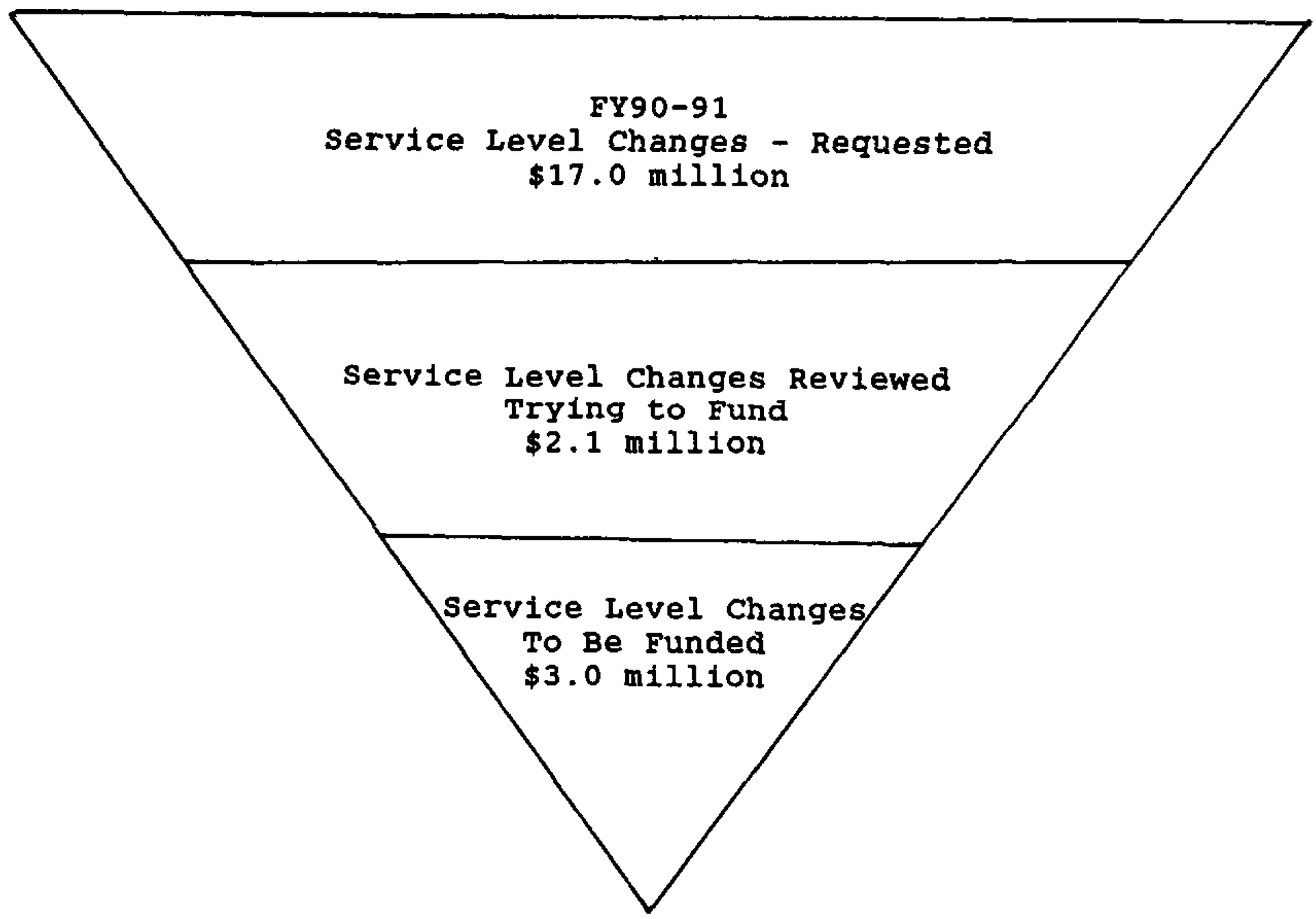
1. 800 MegaHertz

   - Fund capital outlay purchases for Police/Fire radio communications from current year revenues.

2. Recycling

   - Place order for recycling trucks to be ready for implementation date from current year revenues.

General Fund - Service Level Change Review



1. Each service level change is reviewed with the following questions in mind:

   - Does the service level change address the problem?
   - Is this solution the most cost effective solution possible?
   - Are there alternative solutions?
   - What will be the impact if the service level change is not approved?

Service Level Changes are:

1. Not Reviewed Because:

   - Reviewed in Past and Turned Down
   - Alternative Solutions Possible
   - Department ranked as low priority
   - Currently meeting objectives

2. To Be Reviewed, Because:

   - Cost effective solution based on preliminary cost/benefit analysis
   - Department identified internal trade-off for requested service level change
   - Driven by workload increases; objectives <u>NOT</u> being met
   - Will result in productivity improvement
   - Community expressed interest
   - Department ranked as high priority

3. To Be Recommended, Because:

   - Public Safety issue for community and employees
   - Open new facilities
   - Address problem in direct service delivery issue
   - Meets legal mandate
   - Will generate offsetting revenue

Reductions/Cost Savings

In order to fund <u>any</u> service level changes, direct dollar savings must be found in current level budgets.

Guidelines were followed to identify these reductions:

- Proposed reduction is duplicated elsewhere within City services
- Proposed reduction recommended in productivity or other study
- Position has been vacant for extended period
- Department identified service as a "quality of life" service <u>or</u> ranked service as low priority to mission of department

FY90 Budget Status Summary

Revenue	$166.8 million
Reserve Drawdown	
Employee Insurance	1.0 million
General Insurance	1.0
Total	$168.8 million

Expenditures	
Current Programs	$168.6 million
New/Expanded Programs	
Must Fund	3.0
Trying To Fund	2.1
Program Reduction	(1.1)
	$172.6 million
Difference	($1.7 - $3.8 million)

1. Current services are correct; Council lists from retreat did <u>not</u> identify reductions.

2. Increases for new programs will require offsetting decreases in existing services.

3. Formal Budget Recommendation in May will include Program Budgets for Council to review.

The following lists all Service Level Changes submitted by Departments in catgories: To Be Funded; Need To Be Funded; Not To Be Funded; and Reductions To Be Made.

Note: Costs are zero when revenues or expenditure reductions offset the cost.

1. Service Level Changes To Be Funded

Department/ Division	Service Level Incease	Cost
Police	Add 22 Officers in FY90 and 37 in FY91 for workload	$ 695,458 1,174,508
	Add two Officers in Felony Investigations	77,600
	Add Assets Forfeiture Specialist in Vice and Narcotics	23,000
	Add five Radio Dispatchers in both years	98,560 97,470
Operations	Provide start-up costs for yard waste recycling/mulch program; add positions in FY91	986,572 508,427
	Convert 27 temporary positions in Sanitation for trash collection to permanent	300,000
	Convert two temporary Bulky Trash Crews to permanent crews	29,420
Equipment Services	Implement expanded preventive maintenance program	100,000
General Services Administration	Add Telephone System Analyst and Telephone Technician	0

1. Service Level Changes To Be Funded (Continued)

Department/ Division	Service Level Increase	Cost
Fire	Add two permanent part-time telecommunicators	$ 20,088
Employment & Training	Add Human Service Assistant for On-The-Job Training Program	0
	Add Human Service Assistant to supervise and coordinate summer program	0
Parks	Open York Road/Renaissance Athletic Complex	59,165
	Add six Park Rangers	106,352 53,176
	Add one dispatcher for Park Rangers	13,985
	Add maintenance crews for York Road/Renaissance Park	194,150
	Add maintenance crews at Reedy Creek Park	53,925
	Add maintenance workers for new right-of-way maintenance and landscaped areas	88,361
	Add crew for water system maintenance in parks	82,844
	Add sapling maintenance crew	89,857
Engineering	Add Real Estate Technicians to provide technical research capabilities	0
	Add Civil Engineer and Contract Estimator for preparation of professional and construction contracts.	0
	Sub-Total	$3,019,337

2. Service Level Changes Trying To Fund

Department/ Division	Service Level Increase	Cost
Operations	Fund innovative methods for a "Cleaner City" program	$ 100,000
Personnel	Add resources for training	40,000
Parks	Increase hours at York Road/ Renaissance Tennis Complex	13,927
	Upgrade ROW mowing and intersection maintenance ("Cleaner City" Program)	767,981
General Ser./ Equipment Ser.	Add mechanic for ROW mowing program	21,265
	Add Fleet Manager position	27,380
	Add Assistant Superintendent for Technical Services in Equipment Services	31,762
	Replace or enhance automated fleet management system	200,000
PS&I	Implement Print Shop Five-Year Plan to produce 90% of City print jobs "in-house"	0
MIS	Purchase mainframe terminal devices	65,354
	Purchase hardware and software upgrades for existing personal computers	20,250
	Purchase additional microcomputers	230,500
	Purchase special application software	23,100

2. Service Level Changes Trying To Fund (Continued)

Department/ Division	Service Level Increase	Cost
MIS (Continued)	Continue purchase of mainframe software	$ 24,360
Engineering	Continue development of Geographic Information System (GIS)	60,000
	Add Accountant to assist in maintenance of job costing system and CIP cost estimates	0
Finance	Develop automated accounts receivable systems for Finance and Airport	90,000
Fire	Add auto mechanic for fire apparatus maintenance	21,274
	Continue implementation of Fire Information Rapid Exchange	134,331
Mayor/Council	Add Administrative Secretary	20,000
Non-Departmental	Provide special, intensive services in target neighborhoods (Belmont Task Force)	250,000
	Sub-Total	$2,141,484

3. Service Level Changes NOT To Be Funded

Department/ Division	Service Level Increase	Cost
Community Improvement	Add Community Improvement Inspector for Abandoned Vehicle Ordinance Enforcement	$ 27,571
Police	Add three Youth Investigators	116,790
	Add three School Resource Officers	142,728
	Add one Officer for Recruitment	26,130
	Add five Officers to Felony Investigations	193,850
	Make five temporary Dispatchers permanent	96,920
	Add six Dispatchers, five Records Clerks, one Crime Analyst, and one Police Investigative Technician	269,033
Personnel	Add part-time Personnel Assistant for employee relation program	14,624
	Add part-time clerical for employee medical services	8,840
Engineering	Add a Drafting Technician to Survey Division	0
	Add Administrative Officer for Contracts Division	0
	Add Civil Engineer III for administration of project management	0
	Add Construction Inspector in Contracts Division	0

3. Service Level Changes NOT To Be Funded (Continued)

Department/ Division	Service Level Increase	Cost
Transportation	Add clerical for Electronic Systems, and Planning	$ 21,012
	Increase permanent part-time Traffic Counter to full-time	4,212
	Add cellular telephones	17,600
	Add Uptown radio information station	17,041
Mint Museum	Add Painter and clerical assistance	26,931
Parks	Add clerical assistance for Recreation and Park Operations	36,360
	Add Reservationist	13,208
	Make temporary grounds maintenance crew permanent	18,462
	Add CIP Coordinator	25,336
	Add Interns for tree census and horticulture program	29,197
	Expand street tree program	300,000
	Staff Reedy Creek Nature Center	90,115
	Contract large paint jobs	125,000
General Ser.	Separate Telecommunications and Energy as two divisions	49,190
	Add Assistant Director position	51,255
	Add Administrative Officer	27,421
	Add clerical support for Fleet Manager	16,843

3. Service Level Changes NOT To Be Funded (Continued)

Department/ Division	Service Level Increase	Cost
General Services (Continued)	Add administrative support for Cable TV	$ 22,406
	Add Telephone System Supervisor and Telephone Technician	39,381
	Add Auto Parts Technician	15,854
	Add Auto Mechanic for ROW mowing	21,265
	Add Electronic Technician III	26,480
	Add Electronics Technician for phone system and microwave maintenance	21,850
	Add Administrative Officer and Maintenance Mechanic to coordinate events at CMGC	43,370
	Add clerical support for CMGC operations	14,989
	Add Storekeeper for inventory control	15,614
	Expand roof maintenance program	33,484
	Expand CMGC Building Maintenance Program	50,095
Planning	Add Planner I for Art Program	25,750
City Clerk	Make permanent part-time Office Assistant full-time	5,049
Attorney	Add Attorney for code enforcement	27,834

3. Service Level Changes NOT To Be Funded (Continued)

Department/ Division	Service Level Increase	Cost
Purchasing	Add clerical support	$ 20,711
	Add laborer in warehouse	14,157
Community Development	Increase General Fund support by value of increased tax base generated by Community Development rehabilitation loans	197,085
Fire	Add clerical assistance for Auto Maintenance Shop, Arson Investigations, and Administration	$ 18,304
	Make part-time Equipment Technician full-time	5,926
	Add an Auto Mechanic	19,504
	Add Firefighter Engineer and Captain for training	69,708
	Add Fire Inspector for education program	34,447
	Add Fire Plans Examiner position	36,651
	Lease new pagers	7,200
MIS	Over the Counter Payment System	90,240
	System, Programmer and Support staff	95,020
	Mainframe equipment for Police District Officers	24,159
	Property Appraisal System	97,896
	Sub-Total	$2,860,098

4. Reductions/Cost Savings

Department/ Division	Reduction/Revenue Source	Savings/ Revenue
Finance	Eliminate National Development Council Contract	$ 52,000
Animal Control	Eliminate night shift patrol	50,000
Operations	Charge user fee for Litter Critter	40,000
Engineering	Eliminate summer interns	28,000
Police	Eliminate PAL program	172,168
	Delete vacant clerical position in Planning	17,772
	Transfer Positive Identification to County	180,664
	Delete six Records Clerks after County opens intake center	95,754
Parks	Contract mowing of vacant City property	14,000
	Delete vacant Administrative Officer position	25,000
	Delete vacant Tournament Specialist position	25,000
	Contract out CIP work	115,000
	Maintain Street Tree Planting	45,000
	through Capital projects	50,600
General Services	Eliminate PTI contract	14,500

4. Reductions/Cost Savings (Continued)

Department/ Division	Reduction/Revenue Source	Savings/ Revenue
Fire	Reduce two Firefighter positions over minimum manning level	$ 50,409
	Delete fourth grade Fire Preventive Education Program/ substitute City produced video	41,409
Non-Departmental	Eliminate Federal Programs Representative contract	15,000
	Eliminate employee safety award program	85,000
	Total	$1,066,676

FY90-94 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
STATUS REPORT

FY90-94 Capital Budget: Significant Changes from Current Year

1. The following capital projects will require supplemental appropriations:

Project	Description	Additional Funds Required
Park Road	A large undercut problem, realignment i.e., buried construction materials, has been discovered which will require removal of the material and new fill. The current project budget is $3.5 million.	$2,000,000
Westinghouse Boulevard Extension	Coordination with the State on the Outer Belt construction has caused this project to be accelerated. Additional funding will be transferred from State Road Participation and Public-Private Leveraging.	5,000,000
Relocation of Fire Station No. 1	The original cost estimate for the project ($2.3 million) was understated and has been affected by the level of construction activity.	700,000

2. The following capital projects are new to the Capital Budget:

Project	Description	Additional Funds Required
Animal Shelter Expansion	Additional kennel and office space are needed to accommodate division operations.	$ 750,000 (estimate)
Underground Storage Tanks	New Environmental Protection Agency regulations require testing and remedial work to leaking tanks.	750,000 (estimate)

Project	Description	Additional Funds Required
800 MHZ Radio System	A new Public Safety radio range is necessary to relieve overcrowding and ensure adequate communication.	$ 2,534,000
York Road Methane Gas	Further remedial work will be required to contain gas.	250,000
Expansion to Law Enforcement and Police and Fire Academy	Architectural firms have been hired to conduct space needs studies for both facilities. Preliminary information indicates that both facilities need additional space.	No estimate at this time
Right-of-Way Protection	Amendment to the Subdivision and Zoning Ordinances have affected right-of-way dedications.	Not known

3. The following projects have been identified as a high priority need but no funding sources are available:

Project	Cost
Convention Center	Not Known
Freedom Park Reconstruction	10,500,000
Park Land Acquisition	27,000,000

NOTES

MEMORANDUM

DATE April 6, 1989

TO Carla E. DuPuy, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

FROM Pat Sharkey
City Clerk Pat Sharkey

SUBJECT. Financial Support For District Attorney

At the City Manager's request, I have been asked to inform you that at its workshop Monday, April 3, 1989, the Charlotte City Council adopted the following proposals.

1. Support the County's motion asking the General Assembly to provide more funds.

2. Support the County's request to be allowed to spend County dollars

cc: Gerald G. Fox
O. Wendell White

Consider the County Commission's request that the City Council approve additional support for the District Attorney.

The three proposals the City could approve are:

1. Support the County's motion asking the General Assembly to provide more funds.

2. Support the County's request to be allowed to spend County dollars.

3. Adopt a resolution seeking General Assembly approval for the City to spend tax and non-tax dollars for the District Attorney.

Attached is information which was prepared for the County Commissioners' meeting this morning.

Attachment

Matthews/Rousso #1

1st subst Dannelly/Fleming #1 + 2

passed 8-1

2nd subst Vincent/H Campbell #1, 2 + 3

failed 7-2

MECKLENBURG COUNTY
Office of the County Attorney

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Gerald G. Fox, County Manager

FROM: Sandra T. Bisanar, Associate County Attorney

DATE: March 31, 1989

RE: County and City Financial Support for District Attorney

Pursuant to our conversation, I have prepared this agenda item for consideration by the Board at its April 3, 1989 meeting.

At the request of Senator Jim Richardson and Representative John McLaughlin, I prepared for their convenience an appropriations bill which would increase the State's appropriation to the District Attorney's Office in the 26th Judicial District (Mecklenburg County) in order to address staffing needs. Attached is a copy of the bill that my office prepared, along with its supporting information which was provided to me by Peter Gilchrist. Funding for staffing of the District Attorney's Office is exclusively a State responsibility, and absent a change in the law, the County does not have the statutory authority to appropriate County funds for this purpose. Hopefully, the General Assembly will fulfill its responsibility and provide the District Attorney's Office with funds to staff and operate his office at a level to meet current work demands.

In the event the General Assembly does not make such an appropriation, the County will be without sufficient legal authority to assist. Although I have not specifically researched this point, I believe that the City does not possess sufficient legal authority to appropriate funds for the staffing and operations of the District Attorney's Office.

I do not purport to address in this memorandum the policy ramifications pro or con of supplementing a State responsibility with local appropriations. I am simply bringing this matter to your attention in the event that the County wishes to obtain such authority so that it can be done within the current legislative deadlines.

As you know, the concern for addressing the District Attorney's staffing needs was precipitated by the findings of the American University Report, the final copy of which was distributed this week. I have attached excerpts from this report which identify as the number one need of our criminal justice system additional staffing for our District Attorney in order to keep pace with the present volume and rate of increase in caseload. According to the report, our

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District Attorney is assigned by statute nineteen assistant positions. He has received no staffing increases since 1979 despite the fact that crime has risen 72%, according to the report. The report is very complimentary of the management by District Attorney Peter Gilchrist of his office, and the level of efficiency that he maintains. Also on page 6 of the report, it states that the indigent defense complement in Mecklenburg County has been given 33% more resources than the District Attorney, as well as additional representation provided by the private bar.

District Attorney Peter Gilchrist has pursued with the State legislative authority to hire assistants with non-State funds. The Attorney General's Office has prepared a bill which would accomplish this request. Without additional amendments to Chapters 153A and 160A, however, the non-State funds cannot be county or city appropriations.

As to the issue of authority for local funding for the District Attorney's Office, the Commissioners need to decide which of the following three most evident options they wish to pursue:

1. Seek legislative authority only if the City of Charlotte pursues the same authority, or seek it whether the City pursues or not.

2. Limit the authority to the use of non-tax revenue or include both non-tax and tax revenue.

3. Decline to seek legislative authority to appropriate funds for this purpose because it is the exclusive responsibility of the State.

If the Commissioners decide that they want this authority, then there is some urgency because of the deadlines set by the General Assembly.

If you have questions, please let me know.

STB/jrw/14