

**NEST Commission Members present (virtual):** Angela Ambroise, Nadia Anderson, Melissa Gaston, Mitch Gibson, Naiyar Ghaswala, Kim Graham (Co-Chair), Justin Harlow (Co-Chair), Tonya Jameson, Roma Johnson, Vicki Jones, GQ Lewis, Kathleen Maloomian, Marta Tatje, Kimberly Timmons-Hampton

**Ad Hoc Committee Members absent:** Kim M. Graham

**City Council Members present:** n/a

**City Staff present:** Shawn Heath, City Manager's Office (CMGC); Rebecca Hefner, Housing & Neighborhood Services (CMGC); Robin Byers, Planning, Design & Development (virtual); Holly Eskridge, Economic Development (CMGC); Jennifer Frost, Charlotte Water (virtual); Julia Martin, City Manager's Office (virtual); De Nona Paden, Charlotte Water (virtual); Nicole Storey, Housing & Neighborhood Services (virtual); Warren Wooten, Housing & Neighborhood Services (virtual)

**Meeting Time:** 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

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**Meeting Materials:**

1. Meeting Agenda
  2. Presentation – Initial Workplan; Current City Programs supporting Neighborhood Equity & Stabilization; 2040 Comprehensive Plan Update
  3. Summary Booklet - City of Charlotte Programs & Services supporting Neighborhood Stabilization
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Shawn Heath opened the meeting, welcomed everyone, and provided an overview of the meeting agenda. Commission members and City staff introduced themselves.

Mr. Heath reviewed the initial work plan. He shared that the City's focus on neighborhood equity and stabilization is not new. Council has long prioritized this work through City programs and services. Enhancements to City programs and services are regularly developed and implemented on an ongoing basis as needs and resource gaps are identified.

**City of Charlotte Neighborhood Equity and Stabilization Toolbox**

The Commission was provided with a summary of existing City of Charlotte programs and services that support neighborhood stabilization in advance of the meeting. City staff from the Housing & Neighborhood Services, Charlotte Water, and Economic Development departments provided a high-level overview of key City programs and answered questions from the Commission. The programs discussed included those addressing affordable housing including homeownership, neighborhood capacity and engagement, pride & beautification, utility support (water), workforce development, small business support including those offered through the City's Corridors of Opportunity, and the Staying in Place pilot program.

Ms. Hefner shared that one of the key things the Commission can do is to help staff identify how the City might be able to do things differently, including adjusting existing program guidelines.

**Charlotte Future 2040 Comprehensive Plan Implementation Update**

Robin Byers provided an update on activities surrounding the 2040 Comprehensive Plan, including the Policy Map adopted in March, and efforts related to the Unified Development Ordinance. Staff will be launching a community planning academy and developing community area planning toolkits later this year. Ms. Byers also provided an update on the Charlotte Equitable Development Commission, Community Benefits Task Force, and the 2040 Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee.

### Next Steps

Justin Harlow and Kim Graham, Commission co-chairs, shared that the next steps for the Commission will include establishing working groups that members can self-select based on interest and expertise. The work of these groups is proposed to be conducted in-between the regular Commission meetings. The Commission discussed potential general categories/focus areas for the work groups as well as possible topics for future meetings, such as small business support to reduce business displacement risk, community land trusts, community education, corporate/investor acquisition of residential properties, alternative homeownership models, and examining best practices from other communities as previously shared with the Commission.

### Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for May 11, 2022, at 5:30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:00 p.m.