



## Budget, Governance, and Intergovernmental Relations Council Committee Meeting Summary

Tuesday, January 3, 2023

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### COMMITTEE AGENDA TOPICS

- Agenda Overview
- I. Federal and State Legislative Agenda
  - II. Consideration of Changes to Forms of Government
  - III. FY 2024 Budget Development Calendar

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### COMMITTEE INFORMATION

**Committee Members Present:** Dimple Ajmera (Chair), James Mitchell (Vice Chair), and Lawana Mayfield. (Dante Anderson and Tariq Bokhari were absent)

**Staff Resource:**

Ryan Bergman, Strategy & Budget  
Patrick Baker, City Attorney  
Lina James, Deputy City Attorney  
Dana Fenton, City Manager's Office

**Meeting Duration:** 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

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### ATTACHMENTS

- I. Agenda
- II. Federal & State Report
- III. Consideration of Changes to Forms of Government
- IV. Budget Workshop Planning

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### DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS

#### **Federal & State Legislative Agendas**

Committee held discussion to determine the City of Charlotte's proposed Federal and State legislative agendas. Dana Fenton reviewed the proposed agendas that were developed based on city staff's input.

#### **Committee-Proposed Legislative Agenda**

- **Federal: Destination CLT**  
Continue working with Congress and the Administration to secure federal resources for the build-out of the Destination CLT capital program at Charlotte Douglas International Airport

- Secure a Letter of Intent for the federal government to provide federal funding for construction of the fourth parallel runway and north and south end around taxiways
- Secure competitive grant funding through the federal Airport Terminal Program for Destination CLT projects
- **Federal: 2030 Transit Corridor System Plan**  
Continue working with Congress and the Administration to secure federal resources for the build-out of the 2030 Transit Corridor System Plan
  - Maintain liaison with the Congressional Delegation to keep them informed of progress in advancing the 2030 Plan
  - Secure competitive grant funding through public transportation and multi-modal opportunities for capital improvements
- **Federal: Immigration**  
Support federal immigration policies that strengthens our economy and workforce, immigrant families and communities
  - Continue the H-1B Visa Program and make program changes to address issues related to spouses and dependent children
  - Support merit-based solutions to allow participants in the asylum, parole, temporary protected status, and deferred action for childhood arrivals programs to earn and keep legal status that eventually leads to citizenship
  - Support increased funding and support of resettlement organizations as they work with refugees in our community
- **Federal: Sustainability and Resilience**  
Support federal funding and policies that enable the City to reach its Strategic Energy Action Plan goals
  - Fleet Electrification and Infrastructure
  - Energy Efficiency
  - Environmental Justice
  - Workforce Development
- **State: Mobility**  
Continue working with regional stakeholders and the General Assembly to secure mobility legislation
  - Enables the voters of Mecklenburg County to authorize the Mecklenburg County Commission to levy dedicated, stable, and permanent sources of revenues for regional and local public transportation, roadway, bicycle, pedestrian, passenger rail, greenway, and safety projects
  - Enables local governments to issue revenue bonds for projects that would be backed by the new local sources of revenue
- **State: State Transportation Funds**  
Support data-driven approaches to the distribution of State transportation funding that are fair and consistently applied
  - Support the Strategic Transportation Investments program for prioritization of State transportation construction funding
  - Restore statutory funding levels for all municipalities receiving local street maintenance funding through the Powell Bill Program
- **State: Safe Charlotte**  
Support policies and increased resources that further initiatives to lower crime, increase public safety, and redeploy resources to areas of highest and best use

- Authorize police departments to convert low risk sworn duties to non-uniform units, such as investigations of non-lethal traffic accidents by trained civilians

**Vote:** Motion was made and passed unanimously to move forward with the staff-proposed Federal & State Legislative Agenda.

Mr. Fenton reviewed and next steps for Council's engagement strategy with State Legislators.

### **Engagement Strategy**

Mr. Fenton reviewed the intent for the engagement strategy related to building a sustainable strategy to guide Mayor and Council in developing stronger and more collaborative relationships with members of the General Assembly.

The framework consists of:

- Focusing on mobility as a Regional Issue
- Developing communications strategy
- Scheduling visits to the General Assembly

It was noted that staff will be working with our regional partners to develop actions steps to implement our engagement strategy including interactions with:

- Metropolitan Transit Commission
- Charlotte Regional Business Alliance
- Centralina Regional Council

Staff will work with these partners to schedule visits to the NC General Assembly.

A list of potential dates that may work for City of Charlotte was presented and will be revised to reflect committee input.

### **• Upcoming Events:**

- January 3 – Committee Chair discusses recommended agendas at Council Committee Discussions
- January 11 – NC General Assembly Organizational Session (one-day)
- January 23 – City Council consideration of legislative agendas
- January 25 – NC General Assembly reconvenes long session
- Targeting February 6 – 17 – State Delegation Briefing
- March 26 – 29 – Congressional Briefings

The committee gave consensus approval of moving forward with the framework of an Engagement Strategy with the General Assembly, that was developed based on the referral from Mayor Lyles.

### **Consideration of Changes to Form of Government**

Committee held follow up discussion with the City Attorney's Office on Committee's considerations specific to changes to form of government.

**Vote:** Motions were made and passed unanimously (3-0) for the Committee to recommend to full Council and Mayor to:

- Move to four-year terms for Mayor and Council
- Transition to staggered elections, and
- To add an 8th district representative while keeping four at-large

The committee voted to move each of these changes forward with the recommendation to make the changes effective by voter referendum.

In addition, the Committee requested information in terms of compensation for elected officials in cities nation-wide that are of similar size to Charlotte and council-manager form of government. The committee requested data to be shared in next Committee meeting prior to further discussion on Council compensation or full-time/part-time status.

### **FY 2024 Budget Development Calendar**

Budget Director Ryan Bergman gave an overview of planned budget workshop topics for FY2024 Budget Development:

- Capital Investment Program
- Revaluation and Employees
- Enterprise Funds and Partners

After discussions, the committee gave input to the workshop topics including to focus on Capital Affordability Update at the February Workshop including:

- City Facility Capital Investment Plan Projects
- Existing Capital Projects Updates, and
- 2024-2028 Bond Strategy and Priorities Discussion (to also include investments in Corridors)

Potential Options for the March and April Workshops included:

- March, an economic forecast, compensation, and two enterprise funds, and
- April, revaluation, staying in place, financial partners/MSDs and CATS.

Mr. Bergman will distribute a revised topic schedule at the next committee meeting that includes feedback from the committee.

Meeting adjourned at 1:33 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting is scheduled for February 6, 2023, at noon.