



Charlotte City Council
Housing, Safety & Community Committee
Summary
December 2, 2024

COMMITTEE AGENDA TOPICS

1. 2024 Committee Year in Review (Information and Discussion)

COMMITTEE INFORMATION

Committee Members Present:	Victoria Watlington (CMGC), LaWana Mayfield (CMGC), Tiawana Brown (CMGC), Renee' Johnson (Virtual)
Committee Members Absent:	Dimple Ajmera
Other Council Members Present:	n/a
Staff Resources:	Shawn Heath, City Manager's Office Rebecca Hefner, Housing & Neighborhood Services
Meeting Duration:	4:00 – 4:50 PM
Video available online:	https://youtu.be/KA0RbfA8EfE?t=21627

MEETING MATERIALS

All meeting materials are available online at <https://charlottenc.legistar.com>

1. Presentation: 2024 Committee Year in Review

DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS

City Council member Watlington called the meeting to order and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

Committee Year in Review

Rebecca Hefner provided an overview and update of the policy referrals completed by the Housing, Safety & Community Committee in 2024, and other initiatives and information that the Committee discussed in 2024. She shared that she believes there are innovative opportunities coming in 2025 through the priorities and policies shaped by the Committee. She also noted that staff will need time to fully activate the recently approved \$100 million bond, with these innovations in mind.

Shawn Heath shared that a new policy referral for Enforcement Authority for Minimum Housing Code Violations was recently made, which the Committee will begin discussing in early 2025. He also shared other topics that may become referrals or otherwise be items that the Committee and/or City Council will see in 2025.

Mr. Heath reminded the Committee that United Way is continuing to spearhead the A Home For All (AHFA) initiative. City Council will have an opportunity to review specific components of the initiative as they are fully developed. Council approved \$130,000 funding through the FY 2025 annual financial partner process for United Way to administer the overall AHFA initiative; no other formal AHFA earmarks have been included in the city's budget.

The Committee commented that a lot of work was accomplished in 2024. A summary of Committee feedback including possible 2025 meeting topics included:

- Explore leveraging the city's strategic progress tracker to keep the community apprised of progress.
- Interest in receiving community survey responses for housing bond investment priorities.
- Interest in receiving data on the impacts of the City Code of Ordinances updates that City Council approved in 2024 that recriminalized specific city codes, and the investments related to youth crime approved through the FY 2025 budget.
- Continue to find ways to engage and inform the community in new ways and meet people where they are at.

- Explore additional opportunities to integrate environmental sustainability in city-supported housing in a way that helps reduce household utility expenses.
- Receive an update from CATS on transit safety measures as housing investments are considered in transit-oriented development areas.
- Create equitable opportunities for MWSBE firms to participate in city housing initiatives, including NOAH preservation. Consider a presentation from Economic Development about their collaboration with a community partner to provide bonding services to MWSBE firms.
- Consider how to connect housing to other resident/household supports (known as the Beyond Housing model - e.g., housing + workforce, transportation, etc.).
- Find ways to hear from community partners and organizations that are doing innovative things that are making a difference.
- Keep in mind that the focus and work of each of the City Council committees intersects with housing, safety and community; make sure that the work of all of the City Council committees aligns.
- Align affordability requirements across city programs (e.g., Tax Increment Grants, City-Supported Housing, etc.), and explore extending minimum affordability periods to the longest period of time possible.
- Collaborate with Mecklenburg County and other service providers to provide wrap-around services that meet the unique needs of African American veterans experiencing homelessness.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 4:50 pm.