City Council Policy/Business/Consent Agenda Q&A's November 13, 2023

Updated as of 2:00

Submitted By:	Agenda Item # and Questions	Answers/Considerations	
Consent Items			
Mayfield	19. Cooperative Purchasing Contracts for Vehicles and Equipment		
	How many staff (by department) that live outside of Charlotte have access to drive vehicle to and from home vs parking at a designated site in Charlotte and using their personal vehicles to return home & back to Charlotte and is the city tracking the miles along with wear/tear of these vehicles?	City Policy: Assignment of City Vehicles as Take Home, states that that: City vehicles assigned to take home must be parked at a location that is within a 45-mile radius of the Government Center, Department's headquarters, or applicable service Division's headquarters, either at the employee's primary residence or a location approved by the Department Director.	
		Departments consider: Current requirements of the job; Productivity; Availability of pool or other city vehicles; and Cost to the city when determining the need for take-home vehicle assignments.	
		Several departments across the city use take home vehicles to ensure responsive to service needs. Departments are being surveyed to provide the requested information. The specific information requested will be compiled and distributed as follow-up information.	
Mayfield	20. Construct Pebblestone Drive Storm Drainage Improvement Project		
	Why is the lowest bid being rejected?	The low bidder, OnSite, contacted the city 5 days after the bid opening indicating they had made a bid price calculation error and asked to be released from their bid. The city found that the miscalculation created an unbalanced bid and was able to reject it. The City and OnSite were both in agreement with this decision. The city then moved to the second lowest responsive, responsible bidder.	
Mayfield	20. Construct Pebblestone Drive Storm Drainage Improvement Project, and 21. Construct Storm Drainage Improvement Projects		
	#21 The same company Zoladz is in item #20 was an overall bid rate discussed when it was identified the same company would be performing this work and using the same WBE/SBE companies? Why weren't the goals increased to ensure equity for the subs?	For clarification, item 20 and item 21 represent two unrelated and independent contracts. While the same contractor has been selected for the two contracts, the city is not allowed to negotiate to alter the bid proposals based on unrelated projects and bids. They are each evaluated and verified individually under the applicable bid laws.	

Submitted By:	Agenda Item # and Questions	Answers/Considerations
Mayfield	30. Bond Issuance Approval for Union at Tryon	
	Bond Issuance Approval: Prior to approving this request, has Council received an update from Inlivian leadership in regard to the complaints we have received from residents at their current developments such as Little Rock Apartments and others?	Inlivian sent a letter (attached for reference) to Mayor and Council on October 25 th outlining the progress Inlivian has made in enhancing the safety and security conditions at Little Rock Apartments. The letter provides a description of all of the actions Inlivian has taken since taking over the management of the development in November 2022. City staff are also following up with a resident that spoke at a recent public forum and expressed concern about Little Rock Apartments. For clarification specific to this approval request, The Union at Tryon development is a city-supported Housing Trust
		Fund affordable housing development. INLIVIAN has no affiliation with the development, other than acting as the bond issuing agent. Multifamily affordable housing bond issuances are standard for all 4% Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) developments, and INLIVIAN is the appointed bond issuing agent for all 4% LIHTC developments in the city including those in which they do not have any other affiliation.
Business Items		
Mayfield	14. The Carolina Theatre	
	What is the additional funding ASK from the County?	Currently there is no outstanding request to the County for additional funding.



Dear Mayor and City Council,

On behalf of INLIVIAN and our property management subsidiary Blue Horizon Management Company (BHMC), I would like to provide an update on the progress we have made in enhancing the safety and security conditions at Little Rock Apartments.

As we are all aware, the surge in gun violence across the country has affected communities nationwide, and Charlotte is no exception. It is our utmost priority to offer safe and affordable housing to our residents, and we are committed to working closely with our Resident Safety Department, Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department (CMPD), on-site staff, residents, and community partners to remain vigilant, adaptable, and proactive.

Since taking over the management of Little Rock Apartments in November 2022, we have faced significant challenges. Upon assuming control, we encountered a property with no maintenance team in place, minimal staff, and several vacant units occupied by squatters. We immediately mobilized a maintenance and management team to bring these units back online, remove squatters, and work with CMPD's Westover division to enhance surveillance and coverage.

One critical issue we identified was the malfunctioning camera systems with no monitoring capability. Within an impressive 60 days of takeover, we successfully analyzed, replaced, established on-site viewing, and integrated the system into our command center, providing round-the-clock surveillance capabilities. In addition to this, our Resident Safety Department began conducting regular site visits, engaging with residents and staff to build trust and foster healthy relationships.

In June 2023, we observed an increase in loitering by teenagers and an uptick in crime, particularly gun activity. We then initiated contract negotiations for a "Rapid Response" Team. In under 30 days, we swiftly assessed the situation, secured armed security contracts, and successfully implemented a new program within our organization to bolster our resident safety initiatives.

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Regrettably, within that same 30-day period, three separate shooting incidents occurred.

I am pleased to share that these efforts have yielded further positive results. In July, there were 16 reported crimes at Little Rock Apartments, ranging from vandalism to aggravated assault with a gun. This number significantly decreased to only 5 total crimes in August. As of today, we have gone well over 45 days with no reported violent crimes involving guns at Little Rock. Portfolio-wide, we have witnessed a 29% reduction in violent crimes year-to-date.

In October, we held a Community Tent Talk event, which provided an opportunity for our team, residents, and community partners to engage in a dialogue about our initiatives and progress. The residents expressed their gratitude for the implemented measures and expressed optimism about the improving safety of their community.

Additionally, our increased engagement has led to a surge in supportive services. We have partnered with RWCI to offer various programs to our residents, including mental health support, employment training, nutrition, health and wellness, and youth activities.

Our work is far from over, and we will continue to monitor Little Rock Apartments, as well as all our communities for any spikes in criminal activity. We now have a CMPD Police Tower on site at Little Rock intended to strengthen our presence and bolster our continued safety initiatives. While we understand that we cannot entirely eradicate crime, we are steadfast in our commitment to prioritizing the safety of our residents.

We are encouraged by CMPD's substantial recruiting efforts, which we hope will lead to increased security and stability in our community.

Thank you for your ongoing support and collaboration in our shared mission to provide safe and affordable housing for all residents. We look forward to continuing our work together for the betterment of our community.

Sincerely,

#19°

Fulton Meachem, Jr. President and CEO