

# Mecklenburg State Delegation Briefing

**MARCH 10, 2023**

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## Welcoming Remarks and Introductions

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# Remarks from Delegation Chairperson

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# City Updates



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## Concourse A Phase II Expansion

- ▶ Ten gate expansion on former rental car site
- ▶ \$231 million project
- ▶ NC Airport Improvement Program funds committed for the project
- ▶ Increases capacity to accommodate more flights, including to other NC cities



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## State Transportation Funding

- ▶ Transfer of State General Fund revenues to Transportation funds will keep critical projects moving
- ▶ When fully phased-in by FY 2025, \$643 million per year more for Transportation



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## Charlotte Gateway Station

► **Phase 1 of the Gateway Station project – track work - is complete**

- \$86 million project
- State, federal and local funding

► **Transitioning to Phase 2 to complete the transit hub**

- Amtrak station
- Bus facility
- Public-private partnership

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## Stowe Regional Water Resource Facility

- Groundbreaking in June 2023
- \$380 million project
- Meets growing population needs of Mecklenburg County
- Consolidates wastewater treatment of Towns and Mount Holly and Belmont
- Commissioning in 2026

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## CMPD CARES Team

- ▶ **Community Assistance: Respond, Engage, Support Team**
- ▶ **\$330,000 State of North Carolina STAR Grant**
- ▶ **Four clinicians respond to low-risk calls**
- ▶ **Responded to 100 calls since December 8**
  - Only 2 calls resulted in arrests
  - Most calls are response to homeless people
  - Help in obtaining shelter beds, ID documents, SNAP assistance, referrals to healthcare and community resources

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# City of Charlotte 2023 State Legislative Agenda

## Safe Charlotte – Civilian Traffic Crash Investigators

- ▶ City supports legislation that enables CMPD to redeploy law enforcement officers to areas of highest and best use
- ▶ House Bill 140 (Rep. Faircloth) and Senate Bill 251 (Sen. Lazzara) authorize local police departments to hire trained civilians to investigate non-lethal traffic accidents
- ▶ Partnering with NC Association of Chiefs of Police, NC League of Municipalities and others

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## Safe Charlotte – Pretrial Services

- ▶ City supports legislation to bring more accountability and reliability to the pretrial release system
- ▶ Requires Judges to determine pretrial release conditions for those arrested for serious crimes, and whether pretrial release is even warranted
- ▶ Partnering with NC Conference of District Attorneys and NC Association of Chiefs of Police

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## Affordable Housing – Homestead Tax Exemption

City supports programs that enable older adults to age-in-place

City supports legislation that increases thresholds used to determine eligibility for the Homestead Tax Exemption program

Partnering with Mecklenburg County, Charlotte Regional Business Alliance, REBIC, and others

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## Infrastructure – Powell Bill

City supports the data-driven programs that distribute State transportation funding for airport improvements, transit maintenance assistance, and local road maintenance

Over the last three years, the city's Powell Bill allocation for local road maintenance has been set at 2/3 of the FY 2020 allocation resulting in loss of \$7 million to \$9 million per year for the City's Powell Bill Fund

Limitations in funding will lead to longer periods between street repaving and maintenance resulting in more potholes, cracking, ruts, heaved areas, utility cuts, etc.

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## Powell Bill Uses

- ▶ Street paving and resurfacing
- ▶ Maintenance
- ▶ Drainage and storm sewer
- ▶ Traffic control
- ▶ Snow and ice removal
- ▶ Equipment leases

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## Mobility

Our region is growing rapidly, but we are faced with challenges around mobility, equity, access to opportunity, housing, and sustainability

Our vision is based on opportunity, and we want to ensure that our residents have a good quality of life and opportunities for economic mobility

We need to address these issues with a comprehensive approach that involves cross-jurisdictional collaboration and considers our key partnerships in the County and the Region

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## Mobility

- ▶ Continue to work with regional stakeholders and the General Assembly to secure mobility legislation that:
  - ▶ 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 roadway, bicycle, pedestrian, greenway, and public transportation systems
  - ▶ Enables local governments to issue revenue bonds for roadway, bicycle, pedestrian, greenway, and public transportation systems projects that would be backed by new and existing local sources of revenue

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## Discussion

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