

The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina convened for an Action Review on Monday, March 24, 2025, at 5:05 p.m. in Room 267 of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center with Mayor Vi Lyles presiding. Council members present were Dimple Ajmera, Danté Anderson, Tariq Bokhari, Tiawana Brown, Ed Driggs, Malcolm Graham, Renee Johnson, Lawana Mayfield, James Mitchell, and Marjorie Molina.

ABSENT: Councilmember Victoria Watlington

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ACTION REVIEW

ITEM NO. 1: MAYOR AND COUNCIL CONSENT ITEM QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Mayor Lyles said so, we are going to start our first item with our Consent Agenda, and I'd like to have anyone that would like to have a Consent Agenda to speak to, or to have a discussion around, please let me know.

Councilmember Mayfield said I will be speaking to 27, 29, 33 and 44, but it's all under the same statement.

Councilmember Anderson said I'd like to speak to 51 and 52, and I can speak to them at the same time as well.

Mayor Lyles said okay, thank you. The staff has pulled item 65, so that is no longer on our agenda for a discussion or a part of our meeting. It is withdrawn.

Marie Harris, Strategy and Budget said it's settled, yes ma'am.

Mayor Lyles said alright. Ms. Harris, is there anything else?

Ms. Harris said thank you. No ma'am, other than I'm not sure if it was for comment or separate vote on those items.

Mayor Lyles said Ms. Mayfield, are those for comment altogether, or a separate vote?

Ms. Mayfield they will be for comment, Mayor. So, I'm going to say pull those out for a separate vote, but together, 27, 29, 33 and 44.

Mayor Lyles said okay, thank you very much.

Anthony Fox, Interim City Attorney said and Madam Mayor, in regard to Item No. 59, Item No. 60 and Item No. 61, Mr. Tommy Odom, the agent for the property owner, is here and has requested an opportunity to speak and address the Council.

Mayor Lyles said so, he would speak at the public forum in the chamber?

Mr. Foxx said no, he speaks here.

Mayor Lyles said I'm sorry, wait a minute. I want to make sure that I'm hearing this correctly. So, usually we would have people come down and speak after we went through this.

Mr. Foxx said he's asking to speak on items relating to matters on your Consent Agenda, and the Consent Agenda is being carried forth here in this room.

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ITEM NO. 2: CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 27 THROUGH 66 MAY BE CONSIDERED IN ONE MOTION EXCEPT FOR THOSE ITEMS REMOVED BY A COUNCIL MEMBER. ITEMS ARE REMOVED BY NOTIFYING THE CITY CLERK.

Councilmember Mayfield said Mayor, there was a lot of conversation going back and forth, so I did not hear the motion or the second. So, with all the multiple conversations and pulling out 59 and 61, I did not hear a motion for everything. So, yes, I requested items 27, 29, 33 and 44, and you’re saying there was a motion and a second for all of the other items. There’s an item in there that I did not pull out that I’m going to be a no to, and that’s 28.

Motion was made by Councilmember Anderson, seconded by Councilmember Ajmera, and carried unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda as presented with the exception of Item No. 27, Item No. 28, Item No. 29, Item No. 33, Item No. 44, Item No. 51, and Item No. 52 which were pulled for a separate vote, Item No. 59, Item No. 60 and Item No. 61 which were pulled for public comment, and Item No. 65 which was pulled by staff.

The following items were approved:

Item No. 30: Generator Maintenance and Services

(A) Approve unit price contracts with the following companies for generator maintenance and services for an initial term of three years: National Power, LLC., Power Generation and Control, Inc., Premium Power Systems, Inc., and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contracts for one, two-year term with possible price adjustments and to amend the contracts consistent with the purpose for which the contracts were approved.

Item No. 31: Hydraulic Pressure Hose Repair and Replacement Services

(A) Approve a unit price contract with Pirtek Charlotte (MBE) for hydraulic pressure hose repair and replacement services for an initial term of three years, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contract for up to two, one-year terms with possible price adjustments and to amend the contract consistent with the purpose for which the contract was approved.

Item No. 32: Specialized Roadway Construction Services

Approve a contract in the amount of \$2,627,232.50 to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder OnSite Development, LLC for the Specialized Roadway Construction Services Fiscal Year 2025C project.

Summary of Bids

OnSite Development, LLC	\$2,627,232.50
United of Carolinas, Inc.	\$2,682,700.00
Hux Contracting	\$2,884,018.75
D.E. Walker Construction Co.	\$2,992,745.50

Item No. 34: Municipal Agreement for Interstate-85 Soil Stabilization Foam Injections and Asphalt Resurfacing

(A) Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to negotiate and execute a municipal agreement with the North Carolina Department of Transportation for soil stabilization foam injections and asphalt resurfacing, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to approve the reimbursement request for the actual cost of the utility construction.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 55, at Page(s) 517.

Item No. 35: Replacement Pumps, Pump Parts, and Process Equipment

(A) Approve the purchase of replacement pumps, pump parts, process equipment, and maintenance services by the sole source exemption, (B) Approve a unit price contract with Combs Technologies, Inc. for the purchase of replacement pumps, pump parts, process equipment, and maintenance services for a term of five years, and (C) Authorize the City Manager to amend the contract consistent with the purpose for which the contract was approved.

Item No. 36: Telecommunications Infrastructure Management Services

(A) Approve a unit price contract with PRS Tower Management Services, LLC (WBE) for telecommunications infrastructure management and consulting services for an initial term of three years, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contract for up to two, two-year terms with possible price adjustments and to amend the contract consistent with the purpose for which the contract was approved.

Item No. 37: Water Laboratory Chemicals, Supplies, and Equipment

(A) Approve the purchase of laboratory chemicals, supplies, and equipment from a cooperative contract, (B) Approve unit price contracts for the purchase of laboratory chemicals, supplies, and equipment for an initial term of 55 months under North Carolina Statewide Term Contract #4110B with the following: Fisher Scientific Company, LLC, Thomas Scientific Holdings, LLC, VWR International, LLC, and (C) Authorize the City Manager to extend the use of the contracts for additional terms as long as the cooperative contract is in effect, at prices and terms that are the same or more favorable than those offered under the cooperative contract.

Item No. 38: Dry Detention Retrofits Water Quality Enhancement Project

(A) Approve a contract in the amount of \$532,693.98 to the lowest responsive bidder GreenWater Development, Inc. (SBE) for the Dry Detention Retrofits Water Quality Enhancement Project, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to amend the contract consistent with the purpose for which the contract was approved.

Summary of Bids

GreenWater Development, Inc.	\$532,693.98
Pressley Site Works, LLC	\$587,979.11
Carolina Wetlands Services, Inc.	\$586,197.00

Item No. 39: Professional Engineering Services for Pond/Dam and Surface Water Quality Enhancement Projects

(A) Approve a contract with The John R. McAdams Company Inc. for Ponds, Dams, and Surface Water Quality Improvement Projects for an initial term of three years, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contract for up to two, one-year terms with possible price adjustments and to amend the contract consistent with the purpose for which the contract was approved.

Item No. 40: Storm Drainage Repair and Improvement Projects – F

(A) Approve a contract in the amount of \$743,678 to the lowest responsive bidder OnSite Development, LLC for the Storm Water Repair and Improvement Projects FY2025 - F project, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to amend the contract consistent with the purposes for which the contract was approved.

Summary of Bids

OnSite Development, LLC	\$743,678.00
United Construction Co., Inc.	\$804,433.68
United of Carolinas Inc.	\$1,826,191.71

Item No. 41: Storm Drainage Repair and Improvement Projects – G

(A) Approve a contract in the amount of \$4,516,008.54 to the lowest responsive bidder Hux Contracting, LLC for the Storm Water Repair and Improvement Projects FY2025 - G project, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to amend the contract consistent with the purpose for which the contract was approved.

Summary of Bids

Hux Contracting, LLC	\$4,516,008.54
United of Carolinas, Inc.	\$4,573,752.40
GreenWater Development, Inc.	\$4,707,275.88
OnSite Development, LLC	\$4,645,219.00

Item No. 42: Bus Particulate Filters and Catalysts

(A) Approve a unit price contract with TLG Peterbilt for the purchase of particulate filters and catalysts bus engine parts for an initial term of three years, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contracts for up to two, one-year terms with possible price adjustments and to amend the contracts consistent with the purpose for which the contracts were approved.

Item No. 43: Lease of City-Owned Property at University City Boulevard Parking Deck

(A) Adopt a resolution to approve a lease agreement with LPittFitness LLC dba The Pitt Performance Center for a 60-month term for retail space in the University City Boulevard Parking Deck, (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the lease for up to one, 60-month term, and (C) Authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute all documents necessary to complete the transaction.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 55, at Page(s) 518.

Item No. 45: Airport Badging Supplies

(A) Approve a unit price contract with ColorID, LLC for the purchase of Airport badging supplies for an initial term of three years, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contracts for up to two, one-year terms with possible price adjustments and to amend the contracts consistent with the purpose for which the contracts were approved.

Summary of Bids*

*The complete Summary of Bids is available in the City Clerk's Office.

Item No. 46: Airport Concourse D Escalator Replacement

Approve a contract in the amount of \$4,320,800 to the lowest responsive bidder Messer Construction Co. for the Concourse D Escalator In-Truss Modernization Project.

Summary of Bids

Messer Construction Company	\$4,320,800.00
Edison Foard	\$4,822,400.00
Keach Construction	\$5,781,600.00

Item No. 47: Airport Construction Field Office Relocation

Approve a contract in the amount of \$2,107,778.77 to the lowest responsive bidder Batson-Cook Company for the Construction Field Office Relocation Project.

Summary of Bids*

*The complete Summary of Bids is available in the City Clerk's Office.

Item No. 48: Airport Employee Branded Apparel Contract

(A) Approve unit price contract with Brand RPM, LLC dba AddLogos, LLC (MBE) for branded apparel items for an initial term of three years, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contracts for up to two, one-year terms with possible price adjustments and to amend the contract consistent with the purpose for which the contract was approved.

Summary of Bids*

*The complete Summary of Bids is available in the City Clerk's Office.

Item No. 49: Local Voice Communication Services Contract Amendment

(A) Approve a contract amendment to the contract with AT&T North Carolina for the provision of local telecommunication services to extend the contract by up to three, one-year terms, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to amend the contract consistent with the purpose for which the contract and this amendment were approved.

Item No. 50: Land Acquisition for Tree Canopy Preservation Program

(A) Approve the purchase of approximately 7.790 acres of property (parcel identification number 217-021-47) located at 16521 Shallow Pond Road, Charlotte, North Carolina, for the purchase price of \$918,480, (B) Authorize the City Manager or his designee to grant a conservation easement to the Catawba Lands Conservancy, and (C) Authorize the City Manager or his designee to negotiate and execute any documents necessary to complete these transactions.

Item No. 53: Refund of Property Taxes

Adopt a resolution authorizing the refund of property taxes assessed through clerical or assessment error in the amount of \$49,553.68.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 55, at Page(s) 527-529.

Item No. 54: Meeting Minutes

Approve the titles, motions, and votes reflected in the Clerk's record as the minutes of: October 7, 2024, Council Committee Discussions, October 14, 2024, Business Meeting, October 21, 2024, Zoning Meeting, October 28, 2024, Business Meeting, November 4, 2024, Council Committee Discussions, November 18, 2024, Zoning Meeting, November 25, 2024, Business Meeting, December 2, 2024, Council Committee Discussions, December 9, 2024, Business Meeting, December 16, 2024, Zoning Meeting, January 6, 2025, Council Committee Discussions, January 13, 2025, Special Meeting-State Legislative Briefing, January 13, 2025, Business Meeting, and January 21, 2025, Zoning Meeting.

Item No. 55: Set a Public Hearing on Dixie River Road Firehouse No. 44 Area Voluntary Annexation

Adopt a resolution setting a public hearing for April 28, 2025, for Dixie River Road Firehouse No. 44 Area voluntary annexation petition.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 55, at Page(s) 530-531.

Item No. 56: Resolution of Intent to Abandon a Portion of Right-Of-Way off South Gardner Avenue

(A) Adopt a Resolution of Intent to abandon a Portion of Right-of-Way off South Gardner Avenue, and (B) Set a Public Hearing for April 28, 2025.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 55, at Page(s) 532-533.

IN REM REMEDY

Item No. 57: In Rem Remedy: 909 Cantwell Street

Adopt Ordinance No. 952-X authorizing the use of In Rem Remedy to demolish and remove a dwelling and accessory structure at 909 Cantwell Street.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 68, at Page(s) 015.

PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

Item No. 58: Aviation Property Transactions - 8307 McAlpine Drive

Acquisition of 52,230 square feet (1.222 acres) at 8307 McAlpine Drive from Ashleigh L. Simpson for \$469,000 for Aviation Master Plan.

Item No. 62: Charlotte Water Property Transactions - Mallard Creek Basin Improvements - Phase 1 and 2, Parcel # 2

Resolution of Condemnation of 695 square feet (0.016 acres) Permanent Utility Easement and 599 square feet (0.014 acres) Temporary Construction Easement at 10400 North Tryon Street from James Frosst Alexander, Susan Burr Alexander Boone, Stella Alexander Harman, and John William Alexander for \$600 for Mallard Creek Basin Improvements - Phase 1 and 2, Parcel # 2.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 55, at Page(s) 546-547.

Item No. 63: Charlotte Water Property Transactions - Mallard Creek Basin Improvements - Phase 1 and 2, Parcel # 48

Resolution of Condemnation of 23,543 square feet (0.540 acres) Permanent Utility Easement and 44,710 square feet (1.026 acres) Temporary Construction Easement at North Tryon Street from James Frosst Alexander, Stella Watkins Alexander n/k/a Stella Watkins Alexander Harman, John William Alexander, Edward Alexander Boone, Rebecca Boone Thompson, Sarah Boone Brown, Ruth Elizabeth Boone McLean, Sarah Land Alexander, and Margaret S. Alexander for \$78,675 for Mallard Creek Basin Improvements - Phase 1 and 2, Parcel # 48.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 55, at Page(s) 548-549.

Item No. 64: Property Transactions - Remount Road and West Boulevard Intersection Improvements, Parcel # 2

Resolution of Condemnation of 3,994 square feet (0.092 acres) Sidewalk Utility Easement and 3,757 square feet (0.086 acres) Temporary Construction Easement at 1601 Remount Road from Tricare Real Estate, LLC for \$84,525 for Remount Road and West Boulevard Intersection Improvements, Parcel # 2.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 55, at Page(s) 550-551

Item No. 65: Property Transactions - Remount Road and West Boulevard Intersection Improvements, Parcel # 6

Resolution of Condemnation of 662 square feet (0.015 acres) Sidewalk Utility Easement and 375 square feet (0.009 acres) Temporary Construction Easement at 1536 Remount Road from Summit Avenue West Boulevard, LLC for \$28,375 for Remount Road and West Boulevard Intersection Improvements, Parcel # 6.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 55, at Page(s) 550-551

Item No. 66: Property Transactions - Severn Tyndale Avenue Storm Drainage Improvement Project, Parcel # 1

Acquisition of 2,584 square feet (0.059 acres) Storm Drainage Easement and 2,034 square feet (0.047 acres) Temporary Construction Easement at 4027 Chandworth Road from Andrew Neal and Kaycee Laird Neal for \$83,665.99 for Severn-Tyndale Ave Storm Drainage Improvement Project, Parcel # 1.

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ITEM NO. 27: ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR CITY FACILITIES

ITEM NO. 29: CONSULTING ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR FEDERAL CONTRACTS

ITEM NO. 33: SUBSURFACE UTILITY LOCATING SERVICES

ITEM NO. 44: SOUTH END STATION PROJECT SPECIALTY CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS

Councilmember Mayfield said so, for Item No. 27, Item No. 29, Item No. 33 and Item No. 44, the question that I submitted, and Mr. Manager, this one actually will fall into you, it's the same question, and that was, will Council receive updates as the work is identified to ensure that the selected subs are contacted? Generally, we don't receive further Council contact. Yet, I mentioned in previous meetings, that I have learned that there have been our partners that have been identified by the City, but three, four, five years later, they never actually received outreach to actually perform the work, even though we don't know that until we actually go to a community or a CBI (Charlotte Business INclusion), or an event, and run into someone. So, that is why I've asked, and I don't know if that's something that needs to be sent to a committee for discussion, but I am wanting to ensure that we have checks and balances in place, because all of these

are anywhere from three-plus year contracts. If we're not at least being notified which one of these partners, when we have anywhere from three to seven partners that have been identified, to ensure that they're actually getting an opportunity to do this work, we're doing a disservice. So, therefore, my request is that Council is made aware, whether it's in your memo. If we identify companies, we should be able to track back to this petition, this Agenda Item Number for this company, here's the companies that's actually being outreached in order to be able to have the opportunity to perform the work.

Marcus Jones, City Manager said so, Councilmember Mayfield, can I make sure that I will talk to staff to ensure that we can give you what you're asking? I'm sure we can, it's just what's the timeframe and in what format.

Ms. Mayfield said, and I appreciate that, because I would accept it in the Manager's Memo, because we're looking at three to five years. What I would hope is that we all see the value in ensuring that these companies that we identify are actually able to take advantage of the opportunities within the City.

Mr. Jones said sure.

Ms. Mayfield said thank you.

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ITEM NO. 27: ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR CITY FACILITIES

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Bokhari, and carried unanimously to (A) Approve unit price contracts with the following companies for various architectural and engineering services for new and renovated city facilities for an initial term of four years: ADW Architects, P.A., Boomerang Design, PA, C Design Inc., Creech & Associates, PLLC., Little Diversified Architectural Consulting, Inc., Neighboring Concepts PLLC (MBE), and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contracts for one, one-year term with possible price adjustments and to amend the contracts consistent with the purpose for which the contracts were approved.

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ITEM NO. 29: CONSULTING ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR FEDERAL CONTRACTS

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Bokhari, and carried unanimously to (A) Approve unit price contracts with the following companies for consulting engineering services for an initial term of three years: AECOM Technical Services of North Carolina, Inc., Bolton & Menk, Inc., Dewberry Engineers Inc., HDR Engineering, Inc. of the Carolinas, Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., RS&H Architects-Engineers-Planners, Inc., Rummel, Klepper & Kahl, LLP, STV Engineers, Inc., VIAS Infrastructure, PLLC (MBE), WSP USA Inc., and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contracts for up to two, one-year terms with possible price adjustments and to amend the contracts consistent with the purpose for which the contracts were approved.

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ITEM NO. 33: SUBSURFACE UTILITY LOCATING SERVICES

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Bokhari, and carried unanimously to (A) Approve unit price contracts with the following companies for subsurface utility locating services for an initial term of three years: CES Group Engineers, LLP (WBE), DRMP, Inc., NV5 Engineers and Consultants, Inc., Stewart Engineering, Inc. (MBE), Taylor Wiseman & Taylor, UES Professional Solutions 29, Inc., and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contracts for up to two, one-year terms with possible price adjustments and to amend the contracts consistent with the purpose for which the contracts were approved.

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ITEM NO. 44: SOUTH END STATION PROJECT SPECIALTY CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Bokhari, and carried unanimously to authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute a contract with Stacy Witbeck for the purchase of specialty materials for the South End Station Project.

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ITEM NO. 51: INLIVIAN HOUSING REVENUE BOND ISSUANCE APPROVAL FOR CENTRAL AT OLD CONCORD APARTMENTS

ITEM NO. 52: INLIVIAN HOUSING REVENUE BOND ISSUANCE APPROVAL FOR THE VUE AT HONEYWOOD APARTMENTS

Councilmember Anderson said I just wanted to pull this particular item, because we've been having lots of conversations throughout the community, throughout districts, around our partnership and working relationship with INLIVIAN. There is sort of a misnomer that City Council manages and controls INLIVIAN, and that is not true, and we've worked hard to clear that up. One of the things that City Council has an authority with INLIVIAN on is the approval and/or the denial of INLIVIAN's issuance of bonds for incurrence of debt. In Item No. 51, this is for an affordable housing effort. It's called Central at Old Concord Apartments, and it is within District One. I just wanted to highlight that we are, through this action, approving an issuance of a bond for \$28.4 million for this particular project to help finance land acquisition and construction costs. The Council has already allocated 4.2 million of Housing Trust Fund dollars for this particular effort, which does target 80 percent and below AMI (Area Median Income), but that's not only a financial investment from the Council, but also the approval of this issuance of bond. The same with Item No. 52, which is The Vue at Honeywood Apartments. It is for a bond not to exceed \$17 million, and it's actually within District Two, and the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency has approved a four percent tax credit for that particular project. So, I just want to be clear to the community, because I get tons of questions. I know other Council members do as well. It's important for the City of Charlotte to have a good working relationship with INLIVIAN. However, I want to just point out that over the course of the years, INLIVIAN has a portfolio of 48 community properties, and the City has historically invested in 32 out of those 48 properties, in some way, form, or fashion, covering over \$42 million. So, it's a significant investment that we do make in INLIVIAN in the name of affordable housing. I just wanted to point that out as we continue to educate our residents around the intersection between INLIVIAN and the City of Charlotte. Thank you, Madam Mayor.

Anthony Fox, Interim City Attorney said yes, this has come to my attention that a Council member, Ms. Johnson, uses property in an INLIVIAN building. I do not believe that is tantamount to a conflict of interest where there's a procure narrow or financial interest with regard to this, merely approving them to [inaudible] seek grant funding, but she wanted to put that on the record to disclose that.

Mayor Lyles said thank you, we now have that on the record.

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ITEM NO. 51: INLIVIAN HOUSING REVENUE BOND ISSUANCE APPROVAL FOR CENTRAL AT OLD CONCORD APARTMENTS

Motion was made by Councilmember Anderson, seconded by Councilmember Driggs, and carried unanimously to adopt a resolution granting INLIVIAN's request to issue new multi-family housing revenue bonds in an amount not to exceed \$28,400,000 to finance the development of an affordable housing development known as Central at Old Concord.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 55, at Page(s) 519-522.

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ITEM NO. 52: INLIVIAN HOUSING REVENUE BOND ISSUANCE APPROVAL FOR THE VUE AT HONEYWOOD APARTMENTS

Motion was made by Councilmember Anderson, seconded by Councilmember Driggs, and carried unanimously to adopt a resolution granting INLIVIAN's request to issue multi-family housing revenue bonds in an amount not to exceed \$17,000,000 to finance the development of an affordable housing development known as The Vue at Honeywood Apartments.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 55, at Page(s) 523-526.

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ITEM NO. 59: CHARLOTTE WATER PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS - DAVIDSON EASTERN ROCKY RIVER SANITARY SEWER OUTFALL, PARCELS # 3, 4, AND 5

ITEM NO. 60: CHARLOTTE WATER PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS - DAVIDSON EASTERN ROCKY RIVER SANITARY SEWER OUTFALL, PARCEL # 6

ITEM NO. 61: CHARLOTTE WATER PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS - DAVIDSON EASTERN ROCKY RIVER SANITARY SEWER OUTFALL, PARCEL # 7

Mayor Lyles said Mr. Odom has asked to speak on these items. We have a three-minute time limit.

Thomas Odom, 1109 Greenwood Cliff said good evening, everyone, Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem, City Council members. Again, my name is Tommy Odom, and I represent the May family, the Hennighausen family, and the Davis family. You may recall I spoke in front of you about two months ago voicing the objections of these families for allowing the City of Charlotte to authorize the taking of their land for a project at the request of a private developer. At that meeting, there was a number of questions asked. The matter was deferred until last month, and I believe ya'll may have discussed it in closed session, and then it was put back on tonight for a vote. I also sent all the City Council members, and all you folks another letter voicing their objection to the taking for a private developer. Last month, before the closed session, I set forth a number of questions that we had not gotten answers to. I haven't received anything with regard to those answers. I did also point out that on another property on this condemnation, there has been a lawsuit filed, not by me or my law firm, but by another law firm asking for an injunction, and that those not go forward, because the paramount reason for these is for a private, not a public purpose, although, there is some public purpose with regard to putting sewer in, but we believe that under the constitutional mandate, so United States Constitution and North Carolina Constitution, this would not be allowed in this particular

case. We would ask that this lawsuit that's already been filed run its course, and to find out what's going to happen in the courts, as the City Attorney's Office said to ya'll last time, instead of moving forward with regard to this case, because you'll be tying up these families' properties. I'm welcome to any questions, and again, we would ask that you not authorize condemnation.

Mayor Lyles said does Council have questions? Alright, so thank you very much.

Mr. Odom said yes, thank you for the opportunity.

Mayor Lyles said thank you.

Anthony Fox, Interim City Attorney said I will just reiterate what's in your packet is information that suggests that this improvement is for, not just a single property owner, but for multiple property owners, and this is in line with your previous commitment and agreement with a couple of outlying communities that are in need, and request that you support this condemnation.

Councilmember Driggs said I want to reiterate what I said last time. I think we would set a bad precedent if we depart from our normal procedure for things like this. The developer is a contractor for the City. The owners have the protection of due process in the courts. We are not a tribunal. It is not our job to make this determination, and therefore, I hope we can just go ahead and get this done tonight, and not find ourselves in the future facing similar challenges. Thank you.

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**ITEM NO. 59: CHARLOTTE WATER PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS - DAVIDSON
EASTERN ROCKY RIVER SANITARY SEWER OUTFALL, PARCELS # 3, 4, AND 5**

Motion was made by Councilmember Driggs and seconded by Councilmember Anderson for a resolution of Condemnation of 46,669 square feet (1.07 acres) Permanent Easement and 11,673 square feet (0.27 acres) Temporary Construction Easement at 18600, 18630 and 18642 Shearer Road, Davidson, NC 28036 from Christopher W. and Robbie A. Davis for \$27,950 for Davidson Eastern Rocky River Sanitary Sewer Outfall, Parcels # 3, 4, and 5.

The vote was taken on the motion and recorded as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Ajmera, Anderson, Bokhari, Driggs, Graham, Mitchell, and Molina

NAYS: Councilmembers Brown, Johnson, and Mayfield

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 55, at Page(s) 534-537.

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**ITEM NO. 60: CHARLOTTE WATER PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS - DAVIDSON
EASTERN ROCKY RIVER SANITARY SEWER OUTFALL, PARCEL # 6**

Motion was made by Councilmember Driggs and seconded by Councilmember Anderson for a resolution of Condemnation of 16,952.16 square feet (0.39 acres) Permanent Easement and 5,679.95 square feet (0.13 acres) Temporary Construction Easement at 18650 Shearer Road, Davidson, NC 28036 from William R. May and Dianne C. May for \$20,025 for Davidson Eastern Rocky River Sanitary Sewer Outfall, Parcel # 6.

The vote was taken on the motion and recorded as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Ajmera, Anderson, Bokhari, Driggs, Graham, Mitchell, and Molina

NAYS: Councilmembers Brown, Johnson, and Mayfield

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 55, at Page(s) 538-541.

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**ITEM NO. 61: CHARLOTTE WATER PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS - DAVIDSON
EASTERN ROCKY RIVER SANITARY SEWER OUTFALL, PARCEL # 7**

Motion was made by Councilmember Driggs and seconded by Councilmember Anderson for a resolution of Condemnation of 25,388 square feet (0.58 acres) Permanent Easement and 6,343 square feet (0.15 acres) Temporary Construction Easement at 18658 Shearer Road, Davidson, NC 28036 from Frederick S. and Lynn B. Hennighausen for \$13,950 for Davidson Eastern Rocky River Sanitary Sewer Outfall, Parcel # 7.

The vote was taken on the motion and recorded as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Ajmera, Anderson, Bokhari, Driggs, Graham, Mitchell, and Molina

NAYS: Councilmembers Brown, Johnson, and Mayfield

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 55, at Page(s) 542-545.

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ITEM NO. 28: CITYWIDE MAINTENANCE, REPAIR, AND OPERATING SUPPLIES

Motion was made by Councilmember Bokhari, and seconded by Councilmember Driggs to (A) Approve the purchase of maintenance, repair, and operating supplies from a cooperative contract, (B) Approve a unit price contract with Lowe's Home Centers LLC for the purchase of maintenance, repair, and operating supplies for a term of one year under OMNIA Partners contract #R240805, (C) Authorize the City Manager to extend the contract for additional terms as long as the cooperative contract is in effect, at prices and terms that are the same or more favorable than those offered under the cooperative contract.

The vote was taken on the motion and recorded as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Ajmera, Anderson, Bokhari, Driggs, Graham, Johnson, Mitchell, and Molina

NAYS: Councilmembers Brown and Mayfield

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ITEM NO. 3: ACTION REVIEW AGENDA OVERVIEW

Mayor Lyles said as many of you know, the CRVA (Charlotte Regional Visitors Authority) team has been working to bring the CIAA (Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association) Tournament back to Charlotte in 2028. Steve and his team are continuing to finalize a bid proposal to submit to the CIAA by April 15, 2025. They've worked

collaboratively with our business community, the state, and the arena, to develop a competitive bid for this wonderful program that we have the opportunity to host. So, now, I'd like for Steve to come and share the work that he's done, so that's Council's aware of what's going on in this engagement.

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ITEM NO. 4: ACTION REVIEW ITEMS

Steve Bagwell, CEO of CRVA said thank you, Mayor. Thank you, Mayor Pro Tem. Thank you, City Council for having us today. It's a pleasure to be here, myself and Mike Butts, who leads our Visit Charlotte team. Mike's going to come up and talk about our lodging package in just a minute. So, again, thank you for being here. I'm the CEO (Chief Executive Officer) of the CRVA. I've been in this position for about a year and a half, but I've been with the company long enough to remember all 15 years of hosting CIAA in our community. I got a front row seat to the \$650 million in economic impact that came to our community during those 15 years, and how CIAA really reaffirmed that Charlotte was capable of hosting big, big sporting events, and I think that legacy carries on to the events that we're still hosting today.

So, I want to share, as the Mayor said, details about what we've done so far to work on attracting CIAA back to our community. First of all, I want to point out that we feel we're best positioned to go after years 2028 through 2030. That is different that the RFP (Request For Proposal) that asked for a bid regarding 2027 through 2029. I have had informal, sidebar communications with the league about adjusting that timeframe a bit. I believe they are open to that, and that's important, because Spectrum Center is hosting ACC (Atlantic Coast Conference) Women's Championship and NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) Regional in 2027. The Convention Center also has a big convention during that time period. So, 2028 through 2030 is the time period that we'll be going after, and I just wanted to point that out first thing.

Okay, so, some background on the event. This is a reminder, we attracted the CIAA to Charlotte after a run in Raleigh for five years, and we hosted it from 2006 through 2020, and you can see the impact of the event, as I mentioned. In 2019, which was the last year before COVID, \$43.7 million in economic impact. The high-water mark for the event, \$57.4 million in economic impact in 2016. Generally, the event attracts 60,000 fans plus, over the course of the week, and drives 10,000 room nights to the hotel community. You can see the numbers in Baltimore are a little bit different, \$32.5 million in economic impact in 2024, 43,000 fans. You can see the lodging spin. Perhaps one factor here is how well-positioned Charlotte is geography to host this event. We have, I believe, seven schools inside the State of North Carolina that are members of CIAA, and we have one in South Carolina. So, eight of the 13 schools very, very close in location to Charlotte, which makes us have healthy attendance as part of the story there.

Here's the timeline that we're under to respond to the bid and work with CIAA after our bid response on what Charlotte has to offer. We notified the league that we were interested in bidding in January 2025. The bid submission deadline is April 15, 2025, so we're working hard to put everything possible together ahead of that deadline. Then, they'll be a period where CIAA analyzes the feedback that they've gotten from participating cities, and execute site visits, and there'll be a chance to present, in person, to the CIAA in June 2025. The league has let me know they really want to get down the road with hotel contracts, venue contracts in the selected designation ahead of a final announcement, that I presume will come out later this summer. So, that's the timeline we're looking at.

Here are the cities that were invited to bid. You can see 10 were in that group. We're only aware of Baltimore, and of course, Charlotte, that is interested and has responded that they will submit a bid. We're aware that a couple other cities visited Baltimore to learn about the tournament, but we're not aware that they have actually submitted interest in bidding on the event. So, right now, just Baltimore and Charlotte in the mix

that we know of. So, here's the key deal points of the RFP. We've got three important areas, lodging, fundraising for scholarships, and the venue package, and I wanted Mike to come up and talk about lodging first, and his efforts on that front.

Mike Butts, Executive Director of CRVA said thank you, Steve. So, with the hotels, obviously, that's one of the big wins when CIAA or an event like that comes to town. When you have an event this big, they make some pretty strong requests, and so this is representative of that one per 40 rooms complimentary, a \$10 room rebate, and then \$25 reservation fee, and then there's also another commission that goes to the housing firm that manages it. So, we are working with the hotels right now, the team is, and reaching out into who's interested into what kind of rooms, whether it's teams or whether it's staff or fans in general. So, they have categories of rates, and you can see down below there, the teams are looking for \$125 rates and staff \$200 and fans at \$225. The hotels are responding at different levels, some within and some not. I will say that these rates are in the range that they paid when they were here before. So, Charlotte is a little different community, and we're doing quite well. So, the hotels are at different locations in that rate category. Then, the other is the venues, and reaching out to the venues, so that they would be able to participate with the CIAA in where events get placed. Now, Steve's going to talk a little bit more about putting more events within the arena, but there would still be some outside events, and we want to make sure that we partner with those venues and with CIAA to make sure that they run smoothly.

Mr. Bagwell said thank you, Mike. I want to draw Council's attention to the right side of the page to talk about the venue package for a second. It's very important, very key part of our bid response will be Spectrum Center. The Commissioner's made clear to me that they want the tournament to be at Spectrum Center for the full week. Some of you may remember that we split the early rounds between Bojangles Coliseum and Spectrum Center previous years. The most important thing that's driving that is the footprint of the Uptown area, how everything is centered there. Everything is walkable. That is a really wonderful feature of our City that helps us draw conventions to our destination regularly. The CIAA values that greatly, and that's the reason that we really need to work on Spectrum Center being the home for the full week. So, we are working with the Hornets on that. We have not gotten to an answer yet. One of the challenges is being able to accommodate the NBA (National Basketball Association) schedule, and different activities that are flowing through the building at the same time, one of which will be ACC Men's Championship in 2028. So, we continue to have conversations with the Hornets about that, they are open minded about this, and I've appreciated their cooperation as we analyze this opportunity.

We also are looking at the opportunity, when it comes to venues, to put more activity into Spectrum Center, as Mike said. We exposed the CIAA to the renovations of the building, and they are looking at that as a potential positive. With the suite inventory the way it is, with the investment and different spaces in the building, there's the possibility to bring more activity into Spectrum Center, and that would be a good thing, because it would also help drive more revenue to the building and give the Hornets an opportunity to cover the cost of operating the event. Some of the things that we're looking at is the Step Show potentially at the Convention Center. None of this is affirmed at all, but things that are possible. Potentially, the Step Show or other activities from the Convention Center, luncheon's that take place around the community, day party receptions that would be perfect fits in the renovated sweet space. Those are opportunities that we're looking at to drive more activity to make that Spectrum Center even more of a hub for activities for CIAA. You can see, we'll also be using the Convention Center, and I put some dollar valuations there. Those are very tentative, but I did want Council to realize that the CRVA is planning to take on those costs, and we're planning for about a million dollars of investment there. The venues will see what they run, depending on the activity that goes in there, but the CRVA also generally makes investments in transportation and also marketing. We'll have a robust customized marketing plan to work with CIAA on.

So, one other thing on venues before I move on to scholarships. We have had initial, I would say encouraging conversations, with the North Carolina Commerce Finance

Center, and Mark Poole, who's Director of that organization. They're the ones that govern the use of the Major Events, Games, and Attractions Fund about potentially some funding going to reimburse expenses at Spectrum Center. If you'll remember from that legislation, Spectrum Center, Bank of American Stadium, the racetrack, golf events in town, would qualify for funding there. So, that's something that we're working on to see if that could be part of the equation. If we receive funding in that capacity, it could allow some of the money that the CRVA is planning on to go to another purpose, which would enhance our bid. So, that is one other thing I wanted to look at and mention.

The last column here is scholarships, fundraising for that. The RFP calls out a \$1.5 million minimum fundraise for that, and we're hoping that the corporate community in Charlotte can come together and help us satisfy that fundraising piece.

If we have strong success in fundraising, and potentially have money coming in from the state, we may be able to invest in some of the other areas that it calls out in the bid that could enhance the strength of our bid. Reducing team expenses. That could be in hotels, that could be transportation expenses. That is a place to invest. You can see the different categories here. The last one is ancillary event support for awards programs they have, the Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony that they do each year, Education Day, Career Expo, investment in events like that, and that'll wrap up our update. Be glad to answer any questions that you have.

Councilmember Mayfield said while we're on this slide, when we're looking at revenue opportunities, leveraging parking, concessions, other streams, what does leveraging parking look like to you all?

Mr. Bagwell said probably they're looking for a revenue share there for parking at the venues that are used. I'm not sure what opportunities will be there for that, but that was something that was outlined in the RFP.

Ms. Mayfield said because I know we made some changes last year with parking Uptown that also includes, I think after 10:00 p.m., I don't know if it's just Saturday and Sunday, but it's a flat rate for on-street parking, so you can't park for an hour or two for \$3. It's like \$10.80 flat rate overnight. I'm going to back up. Thank you for a great presentation.

Mr. Bagwell said of course, thank you.

Ms. Mayfield said you've given us a lot of good information. So, when we're looking at, you mentioned, possibilities with the newly redesigned spaces that we have at Spectrum, one of the challenges that I heard previously, was that we would open space for concert promoters, event promoters, to come in and be able to access some of our venue spaces, whether they had day parties, a lot of that potentially conflicted with the actual games. While we're having these conversations and we're talking about potentially partnering with space, has there been any conversation, or is there a possibility to have conversation, where there's a revenue sharing there? Where, if you're going to have a day party in our City during this time, that as part of you getting access to venues in this area, whether we identify Uptown specifically or a little further out, that a percentage on the front end, a percentage of that is going directly towards the tournament, because at the end of the day, this is a tournament for scholarships for our young people. Even with our commitment of \$1.5 million, which is a great start, there is a lot of money that is made over that week with outside promoters. If we can have the ability, I don't know if we do or if we don't, but if we can have the ability on the front end to have those conversations, where if you're getting access to any of our venue spaces, and I'm looking over here to HTA (Hospitality & Tourism Alliance) as well, I'm peeking over there, to put the language in place that here is what your commitment is going to be. If you're going to come into our city and make money and then leave out, this is how you're going to need to benefit, if there's a possibility of a consideration in that conversation.

Mr. Bagwell said so, I've got that noted. We have on rare occasion, I believe Mike, made sure that an entity like the NBA has a voice in approving the reservation of entertainment venues. I don't believe we've ever had a commission go back to an entity like that, but I've got that noted as something to look into.

Ms. Mayfield said like you said, we're a brand-new city in 2025 and beyond, so let's be creative on the front end, when we know that that was one of the challenges. So, I believe, if I can get my colleagues also to support that idea, that would help us to do more to help our young people to be able to achieve their academic goals. Thank you.

Mr. Bagwell said very good. I have that noted. Thank you.

Councilmember Driggs said thank you for the presentation, an exciting opportunity for us to cement Charlotte's reputation as a major center of sports of all kinds. I don't think we should discuss this without recognizing the question of safety. I remember in the old days, the event was fun, and it was kind of a holiday atmosphere, but we have to acknowledge that in recent years, there has been another element. This has become a destination during the tournament, people not attending, and there have been incidents, which I think concern the public. So, I'm generally supportive, but I will want to hear from CMPD (Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department) what measures they will take in order to ensure, for the benefit of all concerned, that we somehow control the influx and the activities that go on. A lot of these parties that are happening away from the tournament, and so on, so that we can realize the benefits of this, and not have a downside.

The other thing I wanted to ask about was, it's not clear for me, what public funds are we talking about of any description that are likely to be committed by us? Do you have this? I mean, I'm not sure, the way that description is. I assume the hotels have got to meet the requirements on room rates, and we're not subsidizing that, right?

Mr. Bagwell said Mike, is that correct?

Mr. Butts said the hotels pay a rebate to the housing company and to CIAA to help offset some of those costs. The only ones that are potentially something that we would look for maybe a sponsor to help with, and that might be some of the team rooms that are special rates. So, hopefully we can find some sponsors that would help reimburse the schools for those costs.

Mr. Driggs said private sponsors.

Mr. Butts said yes.

Mr. Driggs said right, but the rates themselves look pretty low compared to what people pay for hotel rooms in this town. So, from any source, we don't have public subsidies for the hotel room rates, is that right?

Mr. Butts said correct.

Mr. Driggs said okay. Then we have the budget for safety, so there'll be some CMPD costs. I don't know, from what you said, whether you expect that we will participate in the fundraising. So, long story short, I'd just like to know, in financial terms, what the ask would be from the City or from Hospitality Funds in order to make this happen, and you can get back to me about that. That's just something I'll need to get clear on.

Mr. Bagwell said okay, we'll get more details on that, but I do look at three major funding sources at this point. The CRVA, I talked about planning for probably a million-dollar investment to help attract and handle venues, marketing, transportation, things like that. The corporate private fundraising effort would be part of the mix, and then potentially if we can receive funds from the major events run at the state level. Those are the three areas that we're exploring right now.

Mr. Driggs said thank you.

Councilmember Graham said first, let me thank Steve and Mike for the hard work that you've been doing over the last several months. Steve and Mike let me tag along with them to Baltimore, and sit in to one of their staff dinners, and attend a meeting with the commissioner regarding the tournament. So, I really appreciate the work you've done thus far. I think I should start here. One of the most important things that the CIAA really wants the City's help with is their branding infringement and marketing. A lot of the incidents that Ed referred to had nothing to do with the conference at all. Someone had a party in the City, and the CIAA happened to be here, and something happened. So, they didn't sanction any of those events. They didn't authorize any of those events. They were not a part of any of those events. So, I think we need to be very, very clear about that. That's one of the topics that we talked about in Baltimore, was just making sure that we do work with them to establish a protocol that protects their branding and their marketing and their name, because they were just as upset about what happened as we were, in terms of those incidents. I've already had a conversation with the City Attorney, Attorney Foxx, about that, and any protection that he can provide the conference and the City to ensure that anything that happens is safe, and touch on some of the comments that Councilmember Mayfield said, in terms of trying to do as much as we can to lock down some of the facilities to ensure that the CIAA has first right of refusal. So, Attorney Foxx has already talked about working on that with me and the CRVA.

More importantly, again, while it's basketball, it's really about, as I say all the time, the front-line workers, waiters and waitresses and bartenders and Uber drivers, Lyft drivers, small business owners, all who work in the hospitality and tourism industry, that really benefit from this, or the PGA (Professional Golfers' Association) coming in May 2026, or other major sporting events for our community. This just happens to be basketball, and that's uniquely significant to a large segment of this population, who relates to Smith and Livingstone and [INAUDIBLE], Bowie State and Bluefield State, that others may not. So, I think it's really a tremendous opportunity for the community. It's not a slam dunk, but I like the momentum that we have moving forward, and there are some things that we have to clear, some free throws that we have to make, to ensure that we have a very, very successful bid. One of them, I think Steve outlined, is to ensure the availability of Spectrum Center. I think that's a must have, and we have great partners over at Spectrum, and I know a lot of folks have been talking with them about what it takes for us to really have a competitive bid. Certainly, I think anyone who's coming to Charlotte looking to do a large-scale event would want to go to the Spectrum Center based on the investment we're making over the last two years. I think the Spectrum is closing in a couple of weeks for the second round of renovations. We're breaking ground this week on a practice facility. So, they want to be in that A-1 space and so I think that's something that we really, really need to lean in. I think our community partners over there understand the request and we look forward to having more conversation with them regarding that. Corporate support and scholarships are extremely important, and I think there is, at least from my perspective, a commitment to help raise the money, 1.5 or even more to be very competitive. I don't want to say too much because we are in competition with others. I'm pretty sure that they are listening as we speak. I think we have the type of corporate support necessary. We all have to lean in corporations, minority business owners, City and local government to kind of create a proposal that's compelling. We just can't submit a bid. We don't have to take something away from somebody. We have to put our best foot forward to do that. I talked specifically about the branding and licensing. That's a real issue for the CIAA that we have to figure out. We have to figure out getting more people in the arena versus outside partying. That's a real thing. I think we should use the last tenure as a learning experience about how we can do better, do better on pricing, do better on public relations, do better on marketing, and lean in, as we lean in for the PGA that's coming in May 2026, and other major events that we want our City to host.

Lastly, the host institution, if we were to be successful, will be Johnson C. Smith University. They're a CIAA School in District Two, and I think the University sent some ambassadors tonight. The Gamma Delta Chapter from AKAS (Alpha Kappa Alpha

Sorority), I think are here. If the ladies would just stand and wave. They are here watching and monitoring and learning from their perspective. The chapter does a great job in terms of community outreach and support. So, they're here to be supportive of what we're doing here tonight, as well as hear our public safety discussion as well. So, I think President Kinloch is really involved in what we're trying to do and ready to lean in on a wide variety of issues relating to Spectrum Center or our corporate support, as well as the branding and marketing issue. She is a voting member of the CIAA, and has a lot of influence in terms of whether we get in or not. So, again, I think if we can hit those free throws, I think we'll be really successful in winning the competition. Thank you, Madam Mayor.

Councilmember Anderson said I think many, sort of, mourned the loss of CIAA. I know friends far and wide would come down to Charlotte annually for that experience. Certainly, having a potential opportunity to see it back in the City of Charlotte, just continues to add to the notion that we are a sports town already with being the home of the ACC. We just had a BCIC (Black College Invitational Championship) Basketball Tournament in Bojangles Coliseum this past weekend, and tournament after tournament, sports event after sports event, Charlotte is a destination. So, I think we always want to be able to look at the numbers and do some estimates around what it would take to bring a great sports event back to Charlotte. I do want to double click on what Mr. Driggs stated as it relates to public dollars. So, I understand these three buckets and they make sense, but it would be interesting, at least, for us to have some notion of what funds, if any, will the City of Charlotte need to put forward? Right now, I'm not hearing very much, but I just want to have that validated by you sir, who's doing all the heavy lifting and doing all the negotiations. Perhaps this is not the time to do so, maybe it's a little bit further down the road, but with that deadline coming up pretty quickly, I think everything needs to be crystalized in a pretty short manner. So, I'd like to see more information on that.

The whole concept of sanctioned events I think is also an important one. There are other festivals and programs that go on within the United States that sometimes have trouble with that. I'm thinking of Essence Fest in New Orleans, and they had trouble with many of their non-sanctioned events. So, the City of New Orleans leaned into protocols in working with Essence to ensure that it was clear, what was an Essence sanctioned event and a non-sanctioned event. That's a level of importance, as we've had these conversations, because it will help people in their decision criteria of which events they would actually attend and support. They might just think all events are CIAA sanctioned, when clearly that's not true. So, I think we need to lean into investigating what New Orleans and Essence did in partnership and come back with some potential learnings for the City of Charlotte.

The last piece I'm thinking about here is, we do have the PEC coming onboard, the Performance Enhancement Facility, for our NBA team, and it will be in District One. The Spectrum Center is in District One. I hear the concern about traveling out to Bojangles, I hear that, and wanting to have really a nucleus of activity in the Uptown area. I'm just wondering what role potentially the PEC could play, certainly, as it relates to relief from the Spectrum Center, just having advanced conversations around that to see what would make sense and be helpful, not only for us, but for the Hornet's organization as well.

Then, the last piece I just want to get some clarity on is the safety piece from CMPD. We love having a dynamic busy, busy city, but sometimes when I speak to the CMPD officers, they're like, wow, we have four or five programs going on, big programs going on simultaneously on a weekend. It puts stress on our police department. So, just thinking about what it's really going to take for the police department to be prepared and staffed up and ready to support this, in addition to any other major activities going on during that window of time. Thank you, Madam Mayor.

Councilmember Ajmera said so some of my questions have already been asked. Just want to thank Steve and Mike for all your work. I know with your CRVA team, as well as HTA, I'm sure we are going to put our best foot forward and bring CIAA back to our City.

When it comes to lodging package, I don't see why we wouldn't be able to put our best foot forward, because you've got Mohammed. He's got access to hundreds of hotels and motels. So, Mohammed, this is your homework, and that's all I have. Thank you.

Councilmember Mitchell said I've got to say kudos to follow up with Councilmember Graham, to Steve, Mike, and our secret weapon, Beth Butler over there, for allowing us to come into Baltimore and to help recruit. I like the new idea that you include Lorie Spratley and Keith Haywood, members from the CRVA Board, to join us as well. Thank you to Mohammed. Council, if you look at your inbox, Mohammed sent a nice letter telling how well he would like to support this, and we always know, one out of nine citizens in our community work in the hospitality industry. I presented to everyone a facility kind of timeline, because this is very important. One thing I will hope we present is a winning bid, and to me a winning bid meaning making sure we can get Spectrum Arena. This is nothing new. This is something, if you look at the timeline, we had Spectrum from 2007 all the way up to 2017. Reason why we left Spectrum, there was a little event called the NBA All Star Game, and so the CIAA was nice enough to say, we want to be a good partner, and so we'll go to Bojangles while the NBA All Star Game was taking place. They have been a tremendous partner for this community and for the City, and I will tell you, even the excitement this weekend around the BCIC was created all because of the CIAA Basketball Tournament. Steven, thank you for reaching out to Mark Poole. I think we ought to take advantage of that Mega Fund that the state has provided a way to be reimbursed of all the expenses at Spectrum. It's different for us that can give us some advantages in a proposal.

April 15, 2025, is a big date for us, and I'm sure you all will continue to roll up your sleeves and make sure we have a great winning proposal and hats off to you. This is hard work. Baltimore's going to be tough, but I like our chances, and I'm excited. To Councilmember Graham, the President of Johnson C. Smith is excited, she's ready to host. So, I think maybe the stars are lining up for us this time, that maybe this summer we'll get good news in July 2025 about 2028 through 2030 in the City of Charlotte. Thank you, Steve and Mike and Beth. Keep up the good work.

Councilmember Molina said I don't have much to say. Much of what could be said has been said. Mayor Brandon Scott is probably watching like, are they trying to take my CIAA away, and it's funny, when they were bidding, Councilmember Mitchell and I were really like hounding him and their team. So, to see the opportunity for them to actually come back to Charlotte, where it's been a staple for a very, very long time, the potential for it to come home is exciting. So, thank you guys for your work. Mohammed, as always, all that you do in the community. You're an amazing partner with us, but thank you guys for all your work, and I look forward to seeing the specifics around the bid and bringing it back home.

Mr. Bagwell said thank you.

Mayor Lyles said okay, so Steve and Mike and Beth and the whole team of CRVA, I want to say how much we appreciate what you're doing to make it possible for us to host this event, and that we look forward to, as things evolve, that we come back and kind of catch up. I think that one of the things that I had great concern is that, when we were in D.C. doing delegation stuff with our delegation, I was thinking we were talking about the CIAA, but the Council didn't really have a chance to talk about CIAA. What we do is try to share the information, so everybody's on the same page, and you have made that possible tonight, so thank you very much for what you've done, and we look forward to the next time we have the opportunity to speak with you about it.

Mr. Bagwell said thank you, Mayor. Thank you, Council. We'll look forward to it. Thank you.

Mayor Lyles said thank you, guys. Alright, our next item on our agenda is the public safety update, the renowned 45-day event.

Shawn Heath, Assistant City Manager said thank you, Mayor Lyles. Shawn Heath, City Manager's Office. Two quick things I wanted to mention before I get into the content here. First, just want to acknowledge, I do not have all the answers tonight, but I do hope this is a real demonstration of forward momentum. So, we did commit on February 10, 2025, to do a 45-day review. I believe today is day 42, so we're coming in just under the wire. The idea with the 42-day review was to take the six-part series, which concluded on February 10, 2025, with the discussion around violence as a public health crisis, and a closer look at some of the data, and translate those things into some specific actions, planned actions. So, that's where we're headed tonight.

Second thing I wanted to mention really quickly, just acknowledging that any discussion around public safety, words matter. I think we've done our best to try to be sensitive. Certain words have baggage. I would expect I might stumble once or twice tonight, so just as I asked for your grace last time. Councilmember Brown, you and I've had some good conversations about words. So, if I stumble, please know my hearts in the right place here.

Good news is there are only six slides tonight. The bad news is the last slide is very dense, so we'll get to that one as quick as humanly possible. Real quickly, this topic, of course, is directly aligned with your Council priority related to safe communities. In terms of the purpose tonight, as I mentioned, this is a follow-up discussion, but we're trying to quickly translate those previous discussions into a set of actions that we believe can further enhance public safety. In terms of a few key takeaways that will be underscored on the subsequent slides, first, we're building from a foundation of strength. So, we'll give some illustrative examples, and I know I'm preaching to the choir on this, but there's been a tremendous body of work advanced over the last five to seven years. Advanced by this Council. Focused on public safety and economic mobility. Second, having said that, there are opportunities to do more, and that's what we really want to focus our attention on this evening. Third, just to state the obvious, we cannot do this alone. Public safety is a bigger equation than just the City of Charlotte. We have other public agency partners, nonprofit community-based organizations, and the private sector, that all play a role as well.

Since we're nearing the end of the first quarter, we wanted to just quickly comment on the year-to-date crime data. So, this would be new information incremental to what was shared last time. This is comparing January 1, 2024, through March 17, 2024, to January 1, 2025, through March 17, 2025. So, you can see going from the top level, overall crime down 11 percent, compared to this time period last year. If you look at the two primary categories inside of overall crime, that's of course violent crime and property crime, violent crime is down 19 percent, property crime down 9 percent, so 19 and 9 respectively. Then, if you look at the standard subcategories that we report on in smaller font there, that build up to the violent crime and property crime statistics, you can see with very limited exceptions we've seen some positive momentum. So, as I'm leaving this slide, I would, of course, underscore that we always need to be careful when we're looking at quarterly results, that we shouldn't really make any assumptions, necessarily, in terms of how those trends will play out during the year, but all else equal, I think it's fair to say that this is a promising start.

So, as I mentioned before with the strong foundation that's in place, we could've come up with three to five slides to list all of the things that have been done over the last few years, but wanted to highlight just a few things focused on economic mobility, public safety, healthy neighborhoods, etc. Major investments in underserved communities. We've talked a lot recently about Corridors of Opportunity surpassing that \$200 million investment level when you combine public and private sector investments. Affordable housing. If you go back to 2018 through the 2024 bond, that's \$250 million of capacity for the Housing Trust Fund that's been approved by Council first and then endorsed by voters. If you look at just a few examples of collaborative investments in Human Services, The Umbrella Center, which will be focused on domestic violence and sexual assault survivors, we committed \$5 million, the County committed \$10 million. I believe construction will start in the May 2025 time period. Katie Blessing Center, which we talked about last year, transformational, first of a kind sort of a facility, in the state of

North Carolina, in East Charlotte, Juvenile Behavioral Health Facility. The City and County both programmed \$2.5 million in support of that facility, and I believe there's a groundbreaking scheduled over the next month or so. Street Outreach, we've talked about before. Once again, it's a City and County collaboration focused on the unhoused population. The funding that we're providing is really focused primarily on Center City and South End. So, I'll stop there. You can see the list, but once again, just attempting to illustrate, it's not a comprehensive list, but illustrate the full range of things that the City has invested in recognizing that public safety is more than just policing, and it's a lot of investments and policy choices that you've made over the last few years that are supporting positive outcomes.

Moving along, so when we took a look at the 2024 crime statistics, in terms of what was happening, where it's happening, and by whom, there were really three key themes that emerged, so I'll go through these one at a time. First, and this won't come as a surprise to anybody in this room, there's a real geographic concentration of crime in our community, not dissimilar from other large cities in the U.S. You've all seen the heat maps before that show where the hot spots are. Once again, this is not news breaking. This is not new information. In fact, all of this information related to violent crime at the neighborhood profile area, and calls for service at the neighborhood profile area, is available to the general public through our community violence data dashboard. Nuisance locations. These would be the persistent trouble spots that every Council member in the room probably has a few in your mind, and you might even have the specific address in your mind. They drive quality-of-life concerns. These are the types of things that many residents will contact Council members about with great concerns, and it could be a liquor store, a gas station, it could be a single-family residence, a hotel or an apartment complex, but once again, there's a real geographic concentration to those nuisance locations. So, that's the first theme on the geographic concentration.

Second, once again, this is not a new item, something we've talked about before. Repeat offenders have an outsized impact on our violent crime statistics, and there are a few noteworthy stats that are included here. So, 66 percent of violent crime arrests in 2024 were individuals with a prior arrest. Prior arrest could have been violent crime or nonviolent crime, so two out of three. Thirty-three percent of violent crime arrests are a person with a prior violent crime arrest. Then, when you start to look at some of the averages, if you take a distribution of all the individuals that had a violent crime arrest in calendar year 2024, you can see here that the average number of prior arrests was 5.6, and if in that distribution, if you were to look at the "top 10 percent," i.e., the 10 percent of individuals with the highest number of prior arrests, those had at least 17. If you look at the most extreme of the most extreme examples, you can see scenarios in the community where individuals have had an excess of 80 arrests over the last 20 years. So, once again, those are kind of the outlier scenarios, but they do exist.

Then, the third theme, kind of similar to repeat offenders, youth and young adults, and for purposes of this analysis, we're including the age 10 to 25 range. That age range accounts for approximately 20 percent of our CharMeck population, but they account for almost 50 percent of our violent crime arrests. So, very disproportionate impact. A couple of the sub-stats here, 62 percent of juvenile violent crime arrests, or someone with a prior arrest, and then you can see that 32 percent of violent crime arrests were someone with at least one prior arrest when under the age of 18. So, once again, when you peel back the data even more and look at some of the most extreme examples, you can see scenarios where individuals as juveniles have been arrested in excess of 30 or 40 times.

So, those were the three areas that emerged, but that obviously leads to obvious questions around, well, what does this mean? What do we do with this? So, that's where you can think of a set of reasonable assumptions, or hypotheses, for each one of these. So, really quickly, I'll go back through the three, and then I'll translate that to what's on the next slide, which is our last slide. So, as it relates to the geographic concentrations. I think it's a reasonable hypothesis to suggest that the types of investments, like Corridors of Opportunities, pay dividends, not just for those particular corridors, but for the community at-large, given all of the effort that's placed into building

stronger communities in those Corridors that have the highest need. I think it also demonstrates more emerging programs, like CMPD's Core 13, which was introduced last year and focuses on an enhanced CMPD presence in the most victimized communities, and not just in the Corridors. That's something that they're doing in each of the 13 divisions, but once again, it's a demonstration of devoting resources to those areas in the community that are most in need. Related to geographic concentrations, I think one other reasonable hypothesis would be, as a community we need new tools, in particular related to the nuisance hot spots. So, I'll come back to that on the next slide in terms of one of the planned actions.

With repeat offenders, I'll just cut to the chase, two things come to mind. Not earthshattering here, but greater accountability is necessary. If you think about scenarios where someone has been arrested, 5.6 times on average, or 17 times, or 80 plus times, what can be done, not just by the City of Charlotte, but across the ecosystem, in terms of greater accountability? Just as in last year's conversation around ordinance enforcement, I think there was a recognition that, in those instances where we're leaning further into enforcement, are there also opportunities for us to lean further and heavier into non-enforcement, kind of thinking about these things holistically? So, here, I would say one example could be, as a hypothesis, that as a community would we not be better off if we did more and more support related to, for example, the re-entry population and formerly incarcerated?

Last, on youth and young adults. The obvious assumption here would be continued investments in youth and young adults, not just by the City of Charlotte, but by our partners as well, can pay dividends in the short-term and the long-term, because these 15, 18 and 20-year-olds today are going to be 25, 30, 35-year-olds tomorrow, not literally, but in the future. So, what are the things that we can do now through additional prevention, through additional diversion, and in some instances, through additional enforcement?

So, with that in mind, I think Amanda has a handout in case anybody's having a hard time seeing this on screen. So, this is the last slide, and what we've identified here are nine specific plan strategies. Some are short-term. Some are long-term. Some are things that we've already started. Some are on the drawing board. Some are just ideas. Some are things that are within our own control in the City of Charlotte. Some are items that would require support or actions by others. Really tonight what we're asking for is your feedback. So, big picture, are we pointed in the right direction? Then, little picture, as you think of each of these nine, what would be very helpful is, are there certain ones on the list that you feel very strongly about, either strongly in favor or strongly opposed? Because that'll help us prioritize as we're thinking about each of these. Then, we placed them into three distinct categories. First is more inward focused, City of Charlotte investments and policy; second, evidence-based community programming; and third, state policy items. So, if I may go through these as quick as I can, and then I'll pause and then we can just open it up.

So, first where certainly the comment I made before, that public safety has much more to do than just policing, also, two things can be true. You can make the case that an adequate-sized police force is an important part of any community's commitment to public safety. So, you see the first one, you're planning for anticipated growth in CMPD sworn positions starting in Fiscal Year 2027. So, if you think back, CMPD has been on a recruitment and retention mission really since 2019. COVID was a challenge, not just for our police force, but everywhere across the country. Our vacancies in CMPD peaked in about 2023. Since that time, we've been chipping away, chipping away. So, we don't have a crystal ball, but if you look at the forecast of where we're headed, it's reasonable to assume that by the end of Fiscal Year 2026, is when we'd be in a position to start thinking about adding sworn positions to CMPD over a multi-year period. So, why would we do that? To sustain and enhance 911 response times, and to have the opportunity to expand CMPD violent crime focused units. In terms of next steps on this one. CMPD continued to move the ball forward in terms of closing vacancies down, leading into FY (Fiscal Year) 2027, Budget Workshop conversations about this topic presumably. So, that would be less than a year away.

I'm going to keep moving through these at about that pace, so we can turn things back over to you. Number two, we had a number of internal conversations over the last 45 days about this notion of a local enforcement option related to nuisance properties. So, there are opportunities for us, and we do from time to time rely on the U.S. Attorney's Office to support us related to nuisance properties. There is a North Carolina Statute, Chapter 19, Article 1, focused on nuisance abatement. That's proven to be more cumbersome and challenging for us to use. Outcomes can be somewhat unpredictable. As a bit of an analogy, in the conversations we've had about this the last few weeks, we point back to the work that was done in 2019 to amend the noise ordinance, where there was an identified community issue, and there was a multi-month process to think through what are some very specific things that we could do to enhance governance around noise issues? So, it got real specific in terms of what do we mean when we say unreasonably loud noise? What happens if someone is a repeat offender, and they're then labeled as a chronic noise producer? If that happens, then we have the opportunity to work with them, and they have the obligation to work with us, to develop a noise mitigation plan. Well, what happens if they don't abide by the noise mitigation plan? Well, there's an opportunity to pursue civil penalties or court action. So, these nuisance properties that we all have in mind, have nothing to do with noise. Drug activity, violent crime, etc., is what we're trying to address, but we felt like the noise ordinance was kind of a parallel path that we could go down. So, we don't have anything specific to share tonight in terms of what a new ordinance could look like, but those conversations have started, we've assembled a small working group, we're going to meet on Wednesday of this week to continue to breathe life into this concept, what are the boundaries of our local authority to develop something specific for this community that could better help us attack some of these issues with nuisance properties? Like I said, whether it be a liquor store, a gas station, a single-family residence, a vape shop, whatever the case may be, how can we develop a stronger tool in that regard?

Drones as first responder, which really would be an example of how CMPD could further leverage technology. There are other communities, like New York and Las Vegas and Miami, that have already rolled this out. Picture a scenario where you've got drones in tandem with CMPD personnel arriving on scene, and just the aerial intelligence that could be provided to CMPD personnel for greater situational awareness, and how beneficial that could be both to their safety as well as the safety of the general public. So, with this one, there's an RFP that's under development. There's work going on to finalize funding. There's some external partners that have stepped forward to make some commitments, and that will hopefully get off the ground soon.

Okay, moving quickly down, evidence-based community programming. On February 10, 2025, Atrium came in and provided a good presentation on project BOOST (Building Optimal Outcomes for Survivors of Trauma), and the results were very favorable. I think one thing that we liked about it is how targeted this work is. So, this is, of course, the hospital-based intervention program. Ninety percent of the individuals participating in that program have been injured by a firearm. Seventy-five percent of the participants are between the ages of 15 and 23. They conduct follow-ups with the participants at the 45 and 90-day mark, and in their most recent results, 85 percent of the individuals had no criminal justice involvement during that 90-day period. So, this is one where Julia Martin and I are in touch with Atrium and evaluating what the opportunities could be to help them extend their hours. Right now, they're really operating during normal business hours, and we'd like to see if there's a way for us to help them extend those hours to midnight, so that it is play.

Youth led social norms campaign. A year ago, I didn't know what that was. I didn't know what it meant. Robert Dawkins was in here earlier. He brought this concept to my attention. So, I'm going to just quickly read to you the definition of social norms from the CDC (Centers for Disease). Values, beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors shared by a group of young people, unspoken rules for how they are expected to behave. So, this was discussed a little bit during the juvenile crime policy referral last year. The basic concept is youth are, of course, very heavily influenced by messaging and imagery in their community and on social media. So, this initiative would attempt to change perceptions and acceptance of youth violence, promoting positive social norms, and the one feature

about this that I'm most excited about is, it would really be designed by young people for young people. We have plenty of youth forums that we can leverage and tap into to make sure we're getting the right kind of input from our youth. We will put out an RFP. Funding for this has already been provided through Council's FY2025 budget. So, we'll have a credible third party by our side, but one of the expectations of that third party would be that they engage the youth community on the design of this work.

Re-entry services and programming. Here, I was thinking back to this notion of a three-legged stool that we've talked about before, in terms of a good paying job and an affordable place to live, and a way to get between those two things. Folks that are formerly incarcerated, it's almost as if two legs of the stool are missing sometimes. Finding a job, finding a place to live can be incredibly challenging. So, the idea here would be, what are the things we could do through additional supports and programming to really get them on a pathway to stability? Because if you think about an individual having trouble finding a job and finding housing, that can quickly lead to economic desperation, that can quickly lead to a return to crime. We have great partners that we're already working with in this area. You think of Freedom Fighting Missionaries, and what Kenny Robinson is doing. What I love about his model is it's not just housing; it's not just jobs; it's not just healthcare. It's all of those things and more. We're working with City Startup Labs, and some things that Danielle Frazier is doing. They have a great partnership with Atrium around access to healthcare jobs for formerly incarcerated. So, here the idea would be, we've got a growing number of partners in this area, we have more policy focus on this area, for example, the Housing Funding Policy that Council endorsed in September 2024, identifies re-entry as a specific priority population. So, we're not asking for anything on this one. We're just saying to you that we intend to be more intentional, as intentional as possible, in terms of marrying up existing funding streams and programming focused on the re-entry population.

Last, real quick, on state policy items. North Carolina House Bill 50, which is Senate Bill 320, is something that already has momentum in Raleigh. Its emphasis is on retention of law enforcement officers that are with at least 30 years of service. It's a modification to the separation allowance formula. There are R's and D's within the Mecklenburg Delegation that are supporting this bill in both the House and the Senate. Representative Cotham is a primary sponsor for the House, Senator Sawyer is a primary sponsor in the Senate, and Senator Berger is also a sponsor for this.

Moving down to number eight. It just so happens that the District Attorney and a leader from the court system were at a Mecklenburg County Board of County Commissioners' meeting not that long ago discussing resource needs. Right now, District Attorney Merriweather has 84 prosecutors, and if you look at national benchmarks for a city our size, he could make a strong case that he needs dozens more. If you look at our court system here locally, once again, you look at national benchmarks, a case can be made that they need many more clerks. If you look at the public defenders here locally, a case could be made that we need more public defenders. Why does this matter? It kind of gets back to the greater accountability reference on the previous slide, and a timely justice, or swift justice, I believe, is in the best interest of the entire community, the victim, the accused, the community at-large. So, this is already in the state legislative strategy, but how can we breathe life into it, so it's not just words on paper, but be part of a coalition that's trying to advance that over what would likely be a longer period of time?

Then, finally, on the working with partners to advance options for a local juvenile detention center. As I've said before, we would always want detention of juveniles to be the option of last resort, unquestionably. Having said that, in those instances where a court deems that it's in the public's best interest to have a juvenile detained, in those scenarios, and the chief has been very outspoken about this, and for what it's worth I've been outspoken as well, for what it's worth, we believe it's truly in the communities best interest to have a local juvenile detention center, have them closer to family, their support network, legal resources, the court for hearings, and what community would be willing to invest more in supports in our juveniles than this community? So, there have been starts and stops in this conversation over the last year or so. I did reach out to

William Lassiter, who's the Deputy Secretary of Juvenile Justice in the North Carolina Department of Public Safety, just to indicate our desire to have a seat back at the table on that one. Okay, I did that as fast as I possibly could. I think I got through the nine, so I'll pause.

Mayor Lyles said thank you for that, Shawn. I don't know if you had one more day, if you could put any more on that slide.

Councilmember Brown said I don't have much to say. I wanted to say to you, Mr. Heath, thank you so much for all the hard work that you put in. The comment I made about, I believe you and you're a good person, that's intentional, because you spoke with me one-on-one about how to move forward and how to change your language, and not many people come for me [INAUDIBLE] point of clarification. That means a lot to me, and people that come from where I come from. I know your heart, your intentionality, because you showed it to me from day one, so let me clarify that. I don't have a whole lot to say. I've already spoke to having this [INAUDIBLE]. If you're going to change the trajectory of what we need to do for safety, the people that are involved need to be at the table. You're trying to do that. Policing simply does not work in a community that has cultural issues, and the drone idea I think is just completely outrageous, but that's just me. Thank you.

Ms. Mayfield said thank you for the presentation, Shawn. I do have a concern that it was mentioned about us putting an RFP out regarding drones, when we're just hearing about it. There needs to be a lot more conversation. We can go back to 2021 to 2023. There are challenges with facial recognition, there are challenges in multiple communities regarding technology. How technology can be used. How technology can be hacked. Where it's been deployed. There's a number of articles online regarding the fact that we just need to slow down, even though other communities are using drones, we're seeing a lot more challenges that hadn't been considered. This really goes back to the Manager, I'm not comfortable with hearing that staff is moving forward with something that Council has not had a long conversation about as a group, and that is utilizing drones, and if that's best for our community. When we're looking at number nine, working with the partners to advance options for a local juvenile center. The only way I would even consider being comfortable with that is if our language clearly states that this can never been a privatized facility, because a private facility is a money generator, and it is more an issue of having heads on those beds than actually creating opportunity. So, if there's ever a time that we are talking about the potential of having a private facility come into our community, especially when it comes to our youth, that is not something that I would ever support. So, I would like for us to have much more conversation of what it could look like if we were to partner with a juvenile detention center, and that would probably be through the Attorney's Office, to let us know if we can legally have language in place on the front end to ensure that that is a facility that cannot be privatized, because that would be detrimental to our community.

I also want to find out, while we're doing all of this work, have we had, or recently had, a community survey regarding law enforcement? Because we have a lot that was presented, and as mentioned, we've done a lot, but have we actually gone to the communities where we're seeing the impacts? Because I've had individuals reach out, even small business owners. So, we have private, let's say, towing companies. Our law enforcement are captured on video not doing their job. So, we have some challenges in community that creates some of these challenges that we're seeing, because a lot of this is based off of relationship. So, Manager, do you know of the last time that we actually had a survey directed, not only to residents, but also small business owners, regarding Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department and interaction?

Marcus Jones, City Manager said I think that during one of these presentations, CMPD was in the middle of an RFP process to bring in a group to do one of those community assessments, one of those surveys, yes.

Ms. Mayfield said so, what I would like for us to consider, we need to get that information before we put a whole lot of money, investment, and time into what we have

identified as to be some steps to move forward. The community needs to be lockstep with us, because a lot of these challenges that we have seen, unfortunately, especially with our youth, there's a responsibility, and we don't necessarily like to talk about it, because it's not the popular conversation, but you need to know where your 12, 13, 14, 15-year-old is. So, we need to have those real conversations, but also we need to know where does the community either direct impact, or perception, how do they look at CMPD? Because if I don't look at you as a partner, then all of this is just great on paper. So, I would like for, if it was started, go ahead and fast track that to get that survey, not only to our residents, to our communities, especially with a targeted outreach in communities where we have seen quite a bit of interaction, but also with our small businesses, because if our small businesses are having a negative impact with law enforcement, if we receive a video showing our officers not doing the job that they're supposed to do to protect and serve, that is a concern, because that's breaking down trust. We have to figure out that piece, in my opinion, well we've all got one. Before we can get this right, we need to start there. Thank you.

Councilmember Bokhari said while, of course, I would have liked to see more teeth in the initial takeaway here, I do want to step back and not let that overshadow the fact that I think is a major milestone for the City and for our conversation in this topic. It's historically been a hard conversation for us to have, for all the dynamics that Shawn kind of teed up in the beginning, but also because there's not a lot of appetite for us to dissect and open up the things that are indicative of problems and the reflection those problems bring. So, while it was kind of soft played, in my history and experience here, this is the first time we've actually taken a cut and said, here's some of the problems and the data points behind that that we can draw these hypotheses on and then bring forth ideas. So, I think that the punchline and takeaway of all of this is, let's make sure we don't make this a one-time exercise and then move on. This is a living thing that we get better at the data. We get better at figuring out what ideas to bring forth. We debate them from a policy and a budget perspective. Then, this group continues to look for them, and starts to track and report back to us, the things we implement, and we put in place, and I think that will be incredibly powerful. I mean, this is a great list, and I think everything on here, for the most part, should have some element of being in this, but I think there are some ways where we can operate within our partner group locally, and be a little more aggressive. I mean, if we know that there are data points, that 66 percent of people have prior arrest history that are committing the crimes, again, backing up our hypothesis that a smaller number of people are responsible for an outsized portion of the crime we face, yet they keep getting let out in a revolving door. We need programs that 100 percent work on re-acclimation and workforce development. We also need to say, okay, when this person hits a radar, whether it's the DA (District Attorney) or the jail or the court system, whatever it is, let's pay attention. If it's a lack of focus on that stuff, and too many other noise angles that are making it be overlooked, and a revolving door occurs, that's what we can get deep into.

I think the other thing I would love to see on there is the same kind of way, a deep dive focus, on property crimes, because right now when we talk about the most violent of crimes homicides, terrible, we don't want to see that go up. Obviously, we want to focus there, but that impacts hundreds of people in Charlotte. Property crimes every year impact tens and tens of thousands of people, and I bet you we will be surprised and will be informed by the data points that come out of themes that we can go after there. So, I really think property crimes need to be a focus. I think tactical, making sure people aren't falling between the cracks and we have enforcement there, paired with these programs to move forward, but all in all, I've been waiting for something like this, and I won't critique it, because it didn't go as far as I would've wanted. It's a great start for us to build upon, but we need to be focused and dedicated to it, and make sure that it's one of our top initiatives, because I know Mr. Graham and several others, we were like, okay, what are we going to do? What are we going to do? I can see a framework for how we get to what to do and how we track it and how it's evergreen, but we have to stay focused on it as our number one priority around here, otherwise, it will just be a great conversation that falls away over time.

Mr. Driggs said so in past meetings, I've expressed some skepticism about our efforts, based on the fact that the numbers looked persistent, and I think there was a public perception issue. So, I want to acknowledge these numbers are good, and I want to congratulate CMPD and everybody else that's involved in our safety efforts for what looks like a meaningful impact in this first quarter. I hope we can see that through for the whole year. I would just put two questions out there, not for discussion right now, but for one, do we know what's working? So, Shawn, can we somehow attribute some of the progress that we see to the things that we're doing in these areas? The second thing is, in the past, we had an explanation about how the response times to calls kind of implied a staffing level for CMPD. I haven't seen an update of that analysis. So, I would be curious to see an overview of our actual response times, and what kind of staffing levels it takes to achieve the results that we want. Are we achieving them now? Because I do believe that there is a need for us to staff up. I think a greater, visible presence of police has a calming effect. So, it's not about arresting a lot of people, it's just about the visible presence, which gives some people confidence, and discourages bad behavior. Thank you.

Mr. Graham said Shawn, thank you for the presentation, and thank you for allowing me to barge into your office and give you my two cents from time to time on this matter. I think it's really important. I would want our City to be the safest city in America. That should be our overarching goal. So, while the first quarter numbers are extremely encouraging, as Councilmember Driggs indicated, I hope we can continue that pattern over the next three quarters. I think CMPD and others, who are involved on a day-to-day basis, should be commended for a relatively good first quarter, but there's still crime. In the real world, like I said, I would love Charlotte to be the safest city in America, but here we are.

A couple of things. I really like the way you kind of outlined the presentation, because it demonstrates our commitment for investing in alternative programs, diversion programs, preventative programs, youth programs, domestic violence program, mental health and substance abuse programs, in conjunction with Mecklenburg County, and a wide variety of other programs committed to helping people help themselves. I looked at that list, and I voted for every single one of them, and I would raise my hand again and again and again if someone around the table has a smart idea about preventative grassroots programs that have community impact and drive the numbers down. I believe that's a part of the equation that we have to invest in, and I'm willing to make that investment for sure. So, I think that's a good way to kind of define that one leg of that three-legged stool.

The other leg is the public policy piece coming from the State of North Carolina, and we just have to have the stamina of a marathon runner in terms of some of these issues that we're dealing with, especially related to public funding, to the District Attorney's Office, and the Magistrate's Office, and despite the Chief's best efforts and the DA's best efforts, they've made meaningful progress, in terms of trying to push that ball up the hill. It's going to take all of us, corporations, leaders, City, County, nonprofit organizations, grassroots organizations, really making the case to Raleigh of additional funding that is needed to make sure that our judicial system here locally is effective and efficient, and that the type of public policy that they're supporting, like allowing people to have a gun without going through a permitting process makes no sense for a big urban community like Charlotte, because we've ended up having these guns stolen and then we wake up one morning, there's a shooting on Anywhere street in Charlotte, North Carolina, with a stolen gun. So, the proliferation of guns across Charlotte and our state continues to be a problem, and those are the type of support and help that we need from our legislators, and over many of sessions, to kind of get to where we need to go, and a session is two years, so we're talking six to eight years, that's really grinding it out, talking about the singular issue of funding for our judicial system from all parties involved. While we have it on our legislative agenda from time to time, it seems from my perspective just words on paper. There's not a proactive movement in terms of really trying to articulate the rationale, why these requests are needed. So, I'm hopeful, as a part of this working group, and through Dimple's committee, that we can really rethink that issue, and how we present it to the General Assembly, and how we kind of

coordinate our efforts with others, so that it's just not Charlotte going up there, Charlotte [inaudible] Mecklenburg County, our corporate communities, everyone saying the same thing, that we really, really need more support for our judicial system and smart legislation that doesn't impact urban communities like Charlotte, because we see the impact, and that's a tough sell from a blue city going to a red state, but I think it's an argument that our residents want us to make.

Then, lastly, and probably more importantly, is the first bucket, which is bucket number one. I do believe that that's extremely important. Like Bokhari said, I want a lot more specifics, but I can live with the start that we're having, and hopefully through the internal work group a lot more specifics will come out of that. I do think, as a community, that we really need to really think long-term about filling the police vacancies that we have currently today, and then think about how do we make sure that we increase the percentage of our police force commensurate to our growth. We're growing exponentially, but I'm not sure that our staffing, from a policing perspective, is keeping up with that growth. So, at some time, Mr. Manager, we really need to sit down and not talk about 2026, 2027, 2028, but really 2030, 2031, 2032 and 2033, in terms of how do we make sure that the number of officers we have on the street is commensurate to our population growth, and I think that's long-term planning. Obviously, it has budget implications, because the police department is a lion's share of our budget, but I'm not sure that they're keeping up with the growth in terms of having enough officers on the street.

Then, lastly, this internal work group, I hope that they will really, really get into the weeds of some of the issues that I think still are pressing us. One in particular, Mr. Manager, is I know we've made a significant investment on Corridors of Opportunities, and there's a lot of metrics that we evaluate what measures get done, but one that we don't measure is public safety on these Corridors, as a part of the Corridors of Opportunity metrics. I'll just give you an example. We had a meeting last month this time when a number of people were saying, get citizens involved and these are my most involved citizens, but we had that meeting on Monday, and then that same weekend, CVS on Beatties Ford Road closed, because of shoplifting at that store, so they've closed the store down. So, there's no pharmacy from I-77 all the way to Sunset. So, they're closed. That same weekend, both Chase Bank and TD Banks had their front windows busted out again, for about the third or fourth time, costing the individual property owner's, who's an African American gentleman, insurance to increase yet again. On that same weekend, there was a gentleman that was found dead behind Niki's off of Catherine Simmons from a drug overdose. That was four days after some of you guys told me to get people more involved. So, these are real incidents happening on our Corridors that this internal work group really needs to not be afraid to ask tough questions in reference to drug houses and trap houses, nuisance property, repeat offenders. Really, getting the City Attorney's Office involved on the front end, in terms of simply sending a letter to some of these nuisance properties. If it's going to take three or four years to kind of get to the end of the road, then that two or three or four years needs to start with the first step, which is identifying and letting people know that we are watching you, and there's going to be targeted enforcement. We're not trying to lock everybody up, but we are trying to do is really send a message in the community that we clearly understand, despite the progress that we're making, despite the numbers that are coming down significantly, despite the programs that we're investing in, that there's still work to be done in a very targeted way that is focusing on, not individuals, but business owners, and a number of these other institutions that are causing some of the issues that are impacting our community.

So, I like the steps that we're taking. I think it makes sense, in terms of the way it's strategized, but I'm like Mr. Bokhari, we simply cannot allow this to sit on a shelf or die in an internal work group, and that we don't continue to measure what we're doing along the way, and not be complacent until something else sparks in the community, and then we all come back to where we are today. We spent five months getting to where we are today, that's almost half a year of processing. So, I hope that now we can really begin to identify more programs that we can invest in to keep people out of crime, that we have a better relationship with the state and an ongoing relationship, in terms of really saying

that if funding is an issue, that it has to be our top priority. Then, thirdly, really, really focusing, in a narrowly tailored way, to addressing of the hot spots, where they occur. In some instances, we probably need to heat them up some more, because we kind of know, you said it yourself, every district representative gets these same calls about a particular address or a particular street or a particular individual, so that we use that intel, and really begin to try to be proactive and working in conjunction with CMPD and others to address the perception and the reality of crime in Charlotte. Thank you.

Councilmember Johnson said I think this is something that, if we can, we should send this to committee, because this is a very in-depth conversation. You see how each Council member wants to talk about this, and we have members of the public that are waiting. So, this is one of those presentations that we would like to have a lot more time. I will say that Councilmember Ajmera and Winston and I served on a EEE (Environment, Engagement and Equity) Committee, the Equity Committee, and what we talked about is that we wanted to develop a framework, where all of our policies were viewed through that lens. I would say the same thing about this. I think this is a great first start. I think it's a great comprehensive plan, but this is something that all of our policies should be looked at through this lens, and each committee, how can we improve policies to improve public safety? One example, I think of re-entry services. From a Housing Committee perspective, tax credit dollars, or incentives that we give to developers, or even economic development for employers, we should be requiring re-entry services or requiring to ban the box when we are supporting employers or landlords, so that kind of lens. We need to get serious. All hands-on deck. When we looked at the juvenile detention center the first time, we learned that I think, was it 99 or 90 percent, of the juvenile offenders had history of mental health issues. So, I'd like to see what kind of percentages we're looking at that will go towards social services versus incarceration. The Katie Blessing Center, we're excited about that. So, I'd like to lean more towards addressing the root cause. I'm going to do a proclamation tonight talking about brain injury. I know that up to 87 percent of individuals who are incarcerated have history of a head injury, or possibly. So, looking at the root cause, but in order to do that, is to really take this and how can we improve all of our policies to take a look? Councilmember Graham talked about this intersection with all of this crime. Do we have a camera there? I mean, so there's some very common-sense approaches, but I think it's a matter of really making this a priority and taking a look at all of our strategies from a public safety perspective. Thank you.

Ms. Molina said for the sake of time, I'll be brief. There's been a lot said already. So, thank you, Shawn, for your work. Again, when you walked away last time, I think you took what we said and you've made, what I feel like in the timeframe, a valiant attempt to implement some of what we've said. Again, I see this as a moving deliverable, so to speak. I think the policy itself and how we said it, not to belabor a point that's already been stated, but the policy itself would be standardized, what we can do from a city perspective, but I think how we monitor and control this will be ongoing. I think the young adults that we see today, we're planning this right now based on those young adults, and in five to 10 years, those will be adults in a completely different age bracket, and then we'll have new adults coming in with new technology access. From an understanding of crime and things like that, I mean I remember when I was a young girl, what I knew as drugs is totally antiquated now. I mean, there are things I hear of on a regular basis that I didn't even realize were possible. So, as time goes along, crime evolves, the potential for what can happen evolves, and as it moves, we move, like everything that we do. So, I, like my colleagues, would like to stay attentive to this. We're already working on a few items in East Charlotte. CMPD has the CHATS (Community Huddles Addressing Targeted Solutions) program that is coming online. I can't wait to get involved with that. That's where we, the district reps, can actually go to community meetings with CMPD, and we'll have a direct opportunity to engage with our residents from a public safety perspective. So, a lot of that's going to be rolling out really soon. So, these are ways that we, the representative, can engage with our community members, touch them, find out what they're looking for, in partnership with CMPD. Particularly, for us in the East area, there's an area that Danté and I share that's an area of emphasis, where the CHATS program is going to come online and the North Tryon Division and some of those other divisions, and I'm sure it's going to be across

our City with our particular divisions, where we can reach out, touch our, like I said, residents, and etc. So, I think it'll be ongoing. I think we're going to learn through this process as we engage with our residents, as we gather more information, as we partner with our state, because they have different ways that they can help our DA, and things like, with capacity issues. So, this is completely and totally a public and private and state, and maybe even federal partnership in order for us to achieve these objectives. So, thank you for the work, I'm looking forward for the continuation of the work, and I'll give this microphone to him, because we're sharing tonight.

Mr. Mitchell said tag team. So, Shawn, thank you for the presentation. I'm very excited about number one, number six and number eight. So, thank you, sir.

Ms. Ajmera said I agree with what my colleague, Councilmember Molina, said. Great job, Mr. Heath. You took all of our feedback, 12 different feedback, and you incorporated that into one slide in such a short timeframe. Thank you, great work. I appreciate how you incorporated state policy items, because we hear loud and clear from our law enforcement partners that they're arresting same individuals 30, 40 times, and we need support for our DA's Office, for our judicial system, for our juvenile detention center. So, it's great that we are working on the next steps. All I ask is that we get continuous updates, and we continue to monitor progress. So, if we can have some sort of progress tracker on some of these next steps, that would be very helpful. That's all I have, thank you, and thanks to CMPD for all the work that you all do to keep our City safe, it's not easy. Thank you.

Ms. Anderson said Shawn, can you go back to your intro slide where you had the metrics up? I think it was the intro, that slide there. So, what I want to do is just make sure that we're casting the right light on this discussion, because I typically have the CMPD report in my backpack, but I took it out, because I had to do something else, but when you guys released that report at the beginning of the year, the numbers were good. We have areas of opportunity, of course, but the numbers were pretty good. Now, Shawn, you're standing in front of us with these numbers, that you can just look optically at everything that's in green double-digit decreases, so clearly with only really two lines of red that have some issues that need to be addressed. So, I just want to make sure that we have the right tone on this conversation. Charlotte is not a particularly violent city. We're a growing city, and our crime is not growing at the same rate or the same clip of our population. That's good information, and we want to work, of course, to all of the strategies and programs that you've laid out, to ensure that we're doing so, but Charlotte is not an unsafe city. Now, I do want to preface that by saying, if crime is happening to me, then I feel that crime is happening to me. Crime is personal, of course, and that's always the case, but on a macro level, Charlotte is not an unsafe city. So, I just want to make sure that, even for citizens who might be listening to this or watching it, that we have the right messaging there.

So, in my opinion, based on what I've heard you present, I believe that the collaborative investment in Human Services, of course, Katie Blessing Center, all three of them, they all have a different level of emphasis, but that particular box, as well as the Crime Prevention and Intervention Programming. I think if we focus on those two areas and really lean into those two areas, we can see some noticeable decreases in the area that, the youth and youth adults. We're talking about citizens who are age 10 through 25, accounting for almost 50 percent of violent crime arrests. That's a burden on the system, but that's also a lack of accountability, because many of those individuals are juvenile, and there should be increased accountability with the parents. I'm sure there's a direct correlation with CMS (Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools) attendance, whether it's chronic absenteeism or advancing in performance academically. So, I really feel like this area is an area that we can lean into, in addition to doing the other things, but putting a stronger emphasis on this particular population will help increase our numbers visibly, and we'll be able to feel it, that crime is changing in the City.

The last time the Chief was here, he had a map of the convenience stores and gas stations, and crime happening proximate to those areas, and they were in specific areas. The second point I think we could focus on are these, as you said, nuisance

properties, where crime is taking place, there's congregations of individuals that eventually lead to crime, and it's chronic. So, tag teaming the youth and young adults and those nuisance areas with some targeted emphasis, I believe when we come back a year from now, those percentages for the crime rates would look very different. So, thank you for your work, Shawn. I know it's not easy, but thank you for this work. It's very insightful.

Mayor Lyles said so, thank you for CMPD officers that have stayed with us all the way through this conversation. We know how difficult your job is, and we appreciate you very much. We know that we have a lot of work to do. Someone once told me that there's no such thing as a justice system, because that would imply that there was organization and abilities to do things fast. Well, it isn't. It is about taking the time to do the things that we believe will have the most impact, and you've heard from the Council members. Now, I want to say that we are about to go downstairs for the City Council meeting, and there are one or two new changes. One new change, we have been doing proclamations and reading them, and I thought that they would be just read and that was it, but instead, Mr. Foxx has helped me.

Anthony Fox, Interim City Attorney said I may have to amend my conversation, because I've looked at your rules. There was a rule that was adopted by the Council some years ago, as it relates to proclamations and awards, and it specifically provides that, as to those types of events by the Council, there's not an opportunity for someone to speak on that. That's a part of your rules, and I need to get with Councilmember Johnson on that, just to clarify that. Also, if you look at rule five, it specifically provides that that rule does not apply to proclamations and awards as well.

Mayor Lyles said alright. So, thank you.

Ms. Mayfield said clarification on, since all of us don't know what this conversation was that ya'll had. Going back to what year? Because we have, over time, when proclamations have been read, people have been invited down to say a few words. So, what's the background on this conversation?

Mr. Foxx said so, you have agenda Item No. 15, file number 15-5247, and it's a policy item. It specifically was designed to address awards and proclamations, and it specifically provides that these are kind of ceremonial in nature, that the honoree doesn't even have the opportunity to speak. I assume the Council can waive this, but that's what the rule provides. It also does specifically provide that, it establishes certain parameters around awards and recognition at Council Business Meetings, and it provides that the Mayor reads it. Honorees will be recognized. No remarks or presentations will be made during the meeting. When you have your rule five, it allows individuals to identify an item on the agenda, put a request to be heard and to speak. That rule, though, has a section E, and it says the provision of this rule shall not apply to speakers addressing Council on awards and recognitions. So, that rule that allows people to come and speak to an agenda item, it specifically excludes awards and recognitions in your rules of procedure.

Mr. Driggs said can we vote to suspend the rule?

Mr. Foxx said you can do that.

Mr. Driggs said so, the issue is we have a proclamation related to people with brain damage, and there are people here who want to speak about that. So, I would move that we suspend our rule in order to allow those people to speak after the proclamation. They're on the waiting list, otherwise, to speak and may not even get a chance to say anything.

Mayor Lyles said okay, so that's about 14 additional people.

Ms. Mayfield said that's speaking specifically to brain damage.

Mayor Lyles said I know. I'm just saying, if you look at the number of people that have signed up.

Mr. Foxx said yes, but Mayor, you have the ability to use your discretion to impose a different time for large groups of people.

Mayor Lyles said so, we can do that, and we can do it for everyone, but I just want you to be aware that there are a number of people that are coming.

Ms. Anderson said point of clarification, Mayor. What are we voting, to completely suspend our rules for all speakers?

Mayor Lyles said no, just for tonight.

Mr. Driggs said I thought it was only a few from talking to Ms. Johnson, but maybe I'll amend it to say, we suspend our rules in order to allow three people to speak, after the resolution is read. Would that be okay?

Mayor Lyles said we'll have to do them all, Ed. We can't do three. I've got one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight.

Mr. Foxx said no, Mayor, there's a prerequisite for them of being able to speak. They have to have filed with the clerk a form to speak. So, if you waive it, you waive it as to those people who have timely filed the form to speak.

Mr. Driggs said that's what I thought, yes. So, we've got the people who have actually filed to speak.

Mayor Lyles said that's right, we're good.

Motion was made by Councilmember Driggs, seconded by Councilmember Mayfield and carried unanimously to allow the people, who have timely filed to speak, to talk after the resolution is read in suspension of our rules.

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ITEM NO. 5: CLOSED SESSION (AS NECESSARY)

No closed session occurred.

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The meeting was recessed at 7:11 p.m. to move to the Meeting Chamber for the regularly scheduled Business Meeting.

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BUSINESS MEETING

The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina reconvened for a Business Meeting on Monday, March 24, 2025, at 7:18 p.m. in the Meeting Chamber of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center with Mayor Vi Lyles presiding. Council members present were Dimple Ajmera, Danté Anderson, Tariq Bokhari, Tiawana Brown, Ed Driggs, Malcolm Graham, Renee Johnson, Lawana Mayfield, James Mitchell, and Marjorie Molina.

ABSENT: Councilmember Victoria Watlington

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Mayor Lyles said welcome to the Charlotte City Council, March 24, 2025, Council meeting. Thank you, we have a full house tonight, and so I'm going to dive right in. We'll begin with introductions. So, thank you all. We often have people come down and we want everyone to feel safe and respected in what they want to do and achieve by speaking with this Council. So, we begin our meeting. I want to recognize Ms. Molina, who will lead us in prayer, and if you choose to be a part of it that is fine. We understand that not everyone participates in the same way with their faith, or if they have faith. Then, after the prayer, we have Pledge of Allegiance of our Flag. That again too, is optional, but I bet the Boy Scouts wouldn't mind coming down here and doing it. Alright, so which one of you is going to come down and help us with the pledge today? Mr. Bokhari, pick somebody.

Councilmember Bokhari said the Mayor has chosen this course of business on the fly. You, young man, you come down, but wait until after the prayer.

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INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Councilmember Molina gave the Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Boy Scout Troop.

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AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

ITEM NO. 6: BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS MONTH

Councilmember Johnson said first of all, I want to thank Madam Mayor Vi Lyles, for your support and your leadership over the past five years, as we've recognized March as Brain Injury Awareness Month, so thank you for that. I'd also like to thank County Commissioner George Dunlap, and also County Commissioner Chair Mark Jerrell, for their co-sponsoring of the proclamation. I want to thank Charlotte City Partners. When you leave tonight, if it's dark, the buildings are lit in blue and green in honor of brain injury survivors. So, I'd like to thank Charlotte City Partners for the coordination of that. If you are here tonight, I want you to think, you don't have to stand up, but if you know anyone that has suffered a concussion, suffered a stroke, lack of oxygen, and has a brain injury, meningitis, a brain tumor. There's so many individuals that we live among that have suffered a brain injury. It affects one in three Americans. So, I really want you to think about that, and the needs and the chronic illness that it can become. It affects so many areas, memory, cognition, mood, depression. So, as I read this tonight, just think about your loved ones that might have suffered a brain injury, and may have challenges that we should all be aware of, and I just believe the more of us that are aware will make it easier for individuals to find services and recover back to a quality-of-life that they would like to.

Ms. Johnson read the following proclamation:

WHEREAS, recent studies show that an estimated 80 million Americans report having history of a brain injury. Approximately 31 percent of U.S. adults live with an acquired brain injury; and

WHEREAS, acquired brain injury is considered a chronic condition, and includes injuries sustained from medical conditions, such as stroke, meningitis, tumor, lack of oxygen, and also includes TBI, which is a traumatic brain injury suffered from a blunt force trauma or a concussion; and

WHEREAS, approximately 50 percent of individuals who survive a moderate-to-severe brain injury are unemployed five years after their injury; and

WHEREAS, research shows 90 percent of domestic violence survivors suffer physical injuries to their head; and

WHEREAS, research shows that up to 50 percent of homeless individuals, and up to 87 percent of incarcerated adults report a history of a brain injury; and

WHEREAS, public awareness and understanding of these injuries, prevalence, prevention, and treatment will improve the recovery process and the quality of life for these brave warriors:

NOW, THEREFORE, we, Vi Alexander Lyles, Mayor of Charlotte, and Mark Jerrell, Chair of Mecklenburg County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim March 2025 as

“BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS MONTH”

in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, and commend its observance to all citizens.

Mayor Lyles said Ms. Cindy Daniel, please come down and receive the proclamation.

Ms. Johnson said and I also have a couple others that I'd like to give. We actually had someone reach out to the office independently. His name is Tracey Suggs, and he wanted to get a copy of a proclamation for his organization. He has the organization Protect our Skulls, Incorporated. So, I'd like to give him, and also Jordan Slade, a proclamation. Thank you.

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PUBLIC FORUM

Mayor Lyles said alright, so we have a number of speakers that want to address the Brain Injury Awareness Proclamation, and I want you to know that because of our rules we have, we're going to give everybody two minutes to speak, and I'm going to ask everyone to abide by our rules. We do two minutes for speaking, because we have over, I think, 20 people to speak, but we will have the brain injury folks come down first.

Brain Injury Awareness

Jordan Slade, 179 Roasted Nut Lane said so, I appreciate the opportunity to be here and speak on behalf of the brain injury community. It means a lot to me. I'm a huge activist, state and nationwide. So, the more awareness that we can raise for brain injury, the better that the community can be. I don't know if anyone knows about brain injury, but a good portion of someone's life, when they sustain a brain injury, is taken from them, so they no longer have that community interaction. So, things, such as support groups, one-on-one conversations with people, all those really make a huge difference in a brain injury survivor's life, but I wanted to thank everyone for acknowledging this and making it official.

Cindy Daniel, 901 Country Club Circle said so, again, I thank the committee and Madam, Chairman, I thank you all for your support and for the proclamation. It means a lot to people with brain injuries and disabilities. There's about 200 million Americans that sustained a brain injury, and 208,000 that sustained them are in North Carolina. There's a lot more, because a lot of times we call brain injury a silent epidemic, because it's not one that you can really see. A lot of times people don't even know they've been concussed or have an injury, or even share because of the stigma of having that disability. So, it's really important to have these days and acknowledge that we are people, that we are someone. I'm a walking paraplegic and I also have a brain injury. So, I'm kind of, I don't want to say a two for, that's what they call on that, but I served under the President's [INAUDIBLE] with people disabilities, and we worked very hard to change the laws, to change the policies, to show that people are people. It doesn't matter what you look like, it doesn't matter how you move, or if you have a disability,

everyone belongs and everyone has a voice, a story, and needs to be heard. It doesn't matter what you have or what you look like, or again, what the disability is, we are citizens. We're citizens of the United States. We are citizens of North Carolina, and a lot that live here in Charlotte. So, we appreciate the time and your support to see that people with brain injuries and concussions are truly that, you citizens, your neighbors, your family members, your children, because disability doesn't stop. I mean anyone could get a concussion, could get a brain injury, can get anything. We can leave this building, and boom, fall down, get hit by a car, hopefully not, but still, there's so many things that can happen, and by awareness and by education, it makes these things happen. So, together we're unity, together we're together, and again, I thank you again for your support, for the proclamation, and what you do as committee.

Kimberely Wilson, 405 Alpha Street said good evening. My name is Kimberley Wilson. I'm a five-time stroke and seizure survivor. I had my first stroke in 2008 after my 33rd birthday. I had my second one in 2019 while working in Maryland as a caregiver to people with disabilities and going to the Gallaudet School in Washington, D.C. to learn ASL, American Sign Language. After being released from the hospital, I was staying in a nursing home. My sister, Judith Brown, brought me here to live with her and her family in December 2019. I am grateful for this, because there were many people in my situation who did not have access to stable housing while navigating all that having a life-changing disability entails. I was safe here with healthcare from the Novant Michael Jordan Clinic when the pandemic hit. I am grateful for my attorney, Ted Brown, for walking me through the process of obtaining my disability benefits. I am also grateful for my brother-in-law, Brandon Brown, a.k.a. Mr. Excitement, for introducing me to prominent individuals trying to make a difference in their community, community leaders, our lawmakers, and local agencies. I also want to thank the Young Stroke and Aneurysm Survivors Support Group and my mental health team during this part of my life. These programs are needed to help people like me, coming into my new normal world after leaving the nine to five working world. It can be a very mentally taxing experience. Today, I have my full disability benefits and healthcare with Medicaid. I volunteer in the community, travel independently, and just started a remote part-time job. I attend church weekly and enjoy all the diverse cultural events in Charlotte. I can say I am confident where I am now and enjoy life. I would like to thank City Councilwoman Renee Johnson for her consistent support for people with brain injuries. Thank you, Mayor Vi Lyles, for this proclamation, and thanks to all the City Council for recognizing National Brain Injury Awareness Month. Thank you.

Mayor Lyles said thank you very much. So, thank you, everyone that came to help us be better understanding of something that's very important for all of our community.

Animal Care and Control

Elena Sepulveda, 2508 Cranbrook Lane said my name is Elena Sepulveda. I've lived in Charlotte for six years. I'm retired and involved in the community in a number of ways, working at Second Harvest Food Bank, acting as a Guardian ad litem, and volunteering at CMPD Animal Care and Control. I'm often asked how I can work at the shelter and not have my heart broken every time I'm there. I say, if I don't do it, who will? I let them know like most volunteers, I have my own ways of coping, which sometimes involve telling myself the dogs I see one week and don't see the next, have been adopted or sent to a rescue, freeing them from the frightening confinement of the shelter. Staff and volunteers are stretched to the limit, both physically and mentally, due to lack of funding. While the majority of the public who visit are civil and respectful, the handful of citizens who aren't, make life difficult, especially for front desk staff who are constantly under pressure from all sides, and yet, with all they do they remain professional and courteous in situations where most of us might not be so polite. They truly deserve our respect and support. I'm here today, because we need more funding for a newer, larger shelter to keep up with the ever-increasing population of Charlotte, for more staff positions to allow for more efficient and effective shelter operation, for lifesaving programs that benefit the public and their pets. We must make CMPD Animal Care and Control its own department, reducing the bureaucracy and red tape, and allowing the staff easier and faster access to decision makers. Every month we make

the same plea, take action now to make sure our animals receive the respect and care they deserve. In the words of writers, far more articulate than I, please remember, we can judge the heart of a man by his treatment of animals. Let us make the changes needed, and find the funding required, so we as a city can be seen as caring and compassionate. Compassion for animals is intimately associated with goodness of character, and we know how important it is to be judged by the content of our character. Thank you.

Anna Radcliff, 5805 Swanston Drive said thank you. Madam Mayor and members of Council, my name is Anna Radcliff. I'm a dog mom to four rescue pups, one current foster, and a passionate Don't Shop, Adopt advocate. I'm here to discuss the current situation at Animal Care and Control, and in shelters and rescues all across the Carolinas. In 2024, North Carolina placed 34th for animal protection laws by the Animal Legal Defense Fund, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit fighting for animal rights since 1979. Between July 2022 and July 2023, Charlotte's population increased by 15,600 people, according to the Charlotte Regional Business Alliance, but staff, funding, resources, and space have not kept pace at Animal Care and Control. In January of 2025, 61 dogs were euthanized, many for no reason other than space. As of March 10, 2025, Animal Care and Control had 456 dogs in their care. On Saturday, March 15, 2025, shelter staff and volunteers arrived at the shelter to find nine cages on the sidewalk, each containing one dog to be surrendered. This was in addition to the 43 dogs that were taken in the day prior. Mother Teresa said, "The good you do today may be forgotten tomorrow. Do good anyway." So, the staff, volunteers, rescuers, and animal advocates across the City and State, continue to show up day in and day out. We cannot foster or adopt our way out of this crisis, but here's what we can do to promote change and better outcomes for the animals in our community. Pass local legislation banning retail pet sales and puppy mills. Demand mandatory registration and oversight of breeders. Require breeders to limit the number of litters that can be had per female per year, to vaccinate all animals in their care, and to vet potential adopters. Petition for legislation mandating spay/neuter to end the cycle of unwanted litters and puppies beginning and ending their lives on the shelter floor. Enforce harsher penalties for persons accused or convicted of animal cruelty, of organizing, participating in, or observing dog fighting, and pass a ban on tethering, prohibiting animals from being forced to live life outside or on a chain. Allocate additional funding for Animal Control Officers, veterinarians, vet techs, office staff, adequate facilities. Thank you so much.

Kristen Bousquet, 1512 Weststone Drive said good evening, Council members. My name is Kristen Zrakas, and I've been a proud District Three resident for five years. For the last three, I've been deeply involved in animal rescue, fostering, volunteering, and coordinating events with Charlotte-based Rescue Billie's Buddies. Being on the inside of both our municipal shelter and a local rescue, has shown me the harsh reality that Charlotte's shelter is critically overcrowded and underfunded. Everyday rescues like ours are faced with urgent pleas to save animals from euthanasia. No matter how many fosters we recruit, we simply don't have the capacity to save them all. Losing animals, not because they're sick or dangerous, but due to a lack of space, is heartbreaking and simply put, cruel. It's unfair to them, and it takes a profound toll on our volunteers and rescue workers who show up daily knowing that the problem is bigger than we are. We show up every day for the animals with a simple smile on our face, and there is an underlying sadness in all of us that the problem is bigger than the volunteers and people working in rescue can solve on our own. As someone who has fostered over 30 dogs, I know firsthand the sacrifices. When a box of puppies is dumped on our rescue, we take them in without hesitation. That means sleepless nights, time away from work, and less time and energy to contribute back into our local economy. We do this because we care, but we cannot fix this problem alone. Simply put, this is not a volunteer's problem to solve. We need bigger changes in the City. We need funding for a shelter that can handle intake demands and for Animal Care and Control to become its own department. Only then can we create real change for the animals and the people of Charlotte. Thank you.

The following persons submitted written comments regarding this item pursuant to S.L. 2020-3, SB 704. To review comments in their entirety, contact the City Clerk's Office.

Mollie Dragstrem, dmollied@aol.com

Elizabeth Bartis, elizabeth.bartis@hotmail.com

Safety Initiative for Entertainment Venues

Lashaunda Carter, 6526 Springfield Drive said good evening, City Council. My name is Lashaunda Carter. I am the Founder and CEO of XDefender. We are a technology and safety company that's committed to improving public safety through innovative technology and safety training. So, I stand before you today, because we have safety policies in place food handling, we enforce the fire codes, and we also regulate alcohol services, but what happens if someone has an overdose, or their drink is spiked in a nightclub? Who is trained at that moment? So, I stand before you today, because overdoses are happening everywhere, not just in the City of Charlotte, but worldwide. They are in our public spaces, our businesses, and our nightlife venues, yet most establishments have zero training on what to do at that moment in that situation. That's why I've created XDefenders Overdose Prevention and Public Safety Course. It is designed to equip each business with the skills and tools that they're needing in order to stand up and save as many victims as possible. So, it's not about if it happens, it's about when it happens. So, I stand before you today to see if I can partner, or the City of Charlotte would like to partner, with XDefender, coming together as a community, and mandate our overdose prevention training course for each business that serves alcohol.

Mayor Lyles said thank you for that. We just finished having a conversation about public safety, and if you would speak with Shawn over here to talk to him more about what you are recommending and suggesting for us. Thank you very much.

Ms. Carter said yes, ma'am, thank you.

Quality of Life

Laura Kelly, 2224 East Independence Boulevard said hi, my name is Laura Kelly. I'm an Unaccompanied Minor and Passenger Service Agent for Prospect at the airport. I take pride in being a protector of kids and providing services for American Airline passengers who are disabled and elderly. I treat every passenger as a member of my family, making sure they get something to eat, go to the bathroom, and are comfortable while in my care. I love my job, though, we are having a lot of issues at the airport. We are so understaffed. Sometimes I see multiple wheelchair passengers waiting for help. Rushing through the airport pushing a passenger plus their luggage is dangerous, and sometimes I'm being asked to push two passengers at the same time. Councilwoman Ajmera, we had a warm conversation where you told me your mom actually uses our services, and I hope we can still provide that service. This isn't safe for passengers or the actual workers at the airport. I injured my ribs a month ago while pushing two empty wheelchairs up the jet bridge after preboarding two passengers. The pain was unbearable. Experienced people like myself aren't sticking around, because it's impossible to survive off the low wage and the benefits we have, that's why the turnover rate is so high, and those of us who do stay are suffering. As the owners and operators of Charlotte Airport, you can stop this. We ask that you have a committee hearing on the ordinance that we submitted to raise standards at the airport and truly make CLT (Charlotte Douglas International Airport) fit for a queen.

Maribel McBeath, 309 South Cloudman Street said hi, my name is Maribel McBeath. For 12 years, I've been a cabin cleaner for ABM, a contracted employer for American Airlines at Charlotte Douglas International Airport. I clean the planes to keep people safe from germs and diseases while they travel. We also do security checks and sweeps to keep passengers safe from items or weapons that can cause harm. I'm honored knowing that I am the reason people can travel safely, but if we want to continue to support safe travel, we need more workers to help make the airport secure. We are understaffed and sometimes only have four people on a team to clean these planes. We are constantly rushing to clean the planes and get to the next one. That puts

us in danger every day. We're exposed to blood, human waste and used needles in the seat pockets. When you combine that with not having enough time or staff, that's a recipe for disaster or an injury, and with the low number of people, we barely have time to use the restroom, drink water, or even take a break, or either to take necessary medication, like I need to. People don't stay because the pay and benefits just aren't worth it. That means double the workload for the rest of us. We deserve a living wage and good benefits, so we can reduce turnover and keep experienced people like me on the job. Thank you, Mayor Pro Tem Anderson for hearing my concerns last week at your town hall. We need you to act now, raise standards for the thousands of people that keep the airport and passengers safe and secure. Thank you.

TreesCharlotte

Allison Rhodes, 4404 Stuart Andrew Boulevard said good evening, Mayor, City Manager, and Council members. I'm Allison Rhodes. I am the Executive Director of TreesCharlotte, and with me is Margaret Marshall, my board member, and we are here to thank you, the City of Charlotte, for your support of TreesCharlotte. TreesCharlotte is a nonprofit, and we are dedicated to growing, diversifying, and stewarding Charlotte's iconic urban forest, all while educating the residents of the community on the value of trees and how to care for them. Charlotte is losing thousands of trees annually, primarily on private property, which makes our work more critical than ever, but with the dedication of partners like the City of Charlotte, we are making a difference.

Margaret Marshall, 4426 St. Ives Place said so, I'm going to give you some numbers here. During the October 2024 through March 2025 planting season, TreesCharlotte held 31 tree plantings, planted 1,698 trees. TreesCharlotte has provided 3,450 trees to residents through our adoption program and cared for 2,152 previously planted trees. We've also expanded our Treesilience program to three neighborhoods, reaching 549 households, in the under canopy to underserved neighborhoods of Ramblewood, McCrorey Heights and Greenville. Hundreds of volunteers participate in these activities every year. At a recent planting, at beautiful West Charlotte High School, we had 58 trees planted on that campus by volunteers and alumni.

Ms. Rhodes said so, Charlotte's tree canopy is more than just a beautiful feature. It is an economic driver for our community. It's an environmental protector. Trees promote biodiversity. They help mitigate storm water runoff, and they help preserve our well-being and health. So, preserving and growing our tree canopy is a shared responsibility, and a collaboration is the only way forward. So, we are looking forward to expanding our reach, and ensuring a greener, healthier and more tree filled Charlotte for generations to come. Thank you.

Rescue Tiny Homes Recycling Division Public

Terica Moser, 7100 Old Plank Road said hi, my name is Ms. Moser, and I've been a resident here in Charlotte my whole life. About 13 years ago, I came here to City Council to let ya'll know that I'm one out of 88 families who was unlawfully evicted, who would be illegally thrown in jail, who's child would be taken away, and I lost everything, but I'm not even here to complain, because that was 13 years ago, when I came to City Council to tell what had happened to me. Since there was no response, I've opened up emergency moving services where I help evicted families save their items. I've been helping homeless individuals recycle with me. They've been able to get housing. They've been able to get off fentanyl. They've been able to put their guns down, and they're listening to me. So, I'm here to present the Rescue Tiny Homes Program, which I've already bought tiny homes. I don't have any land. I don't have any way to really help the homeless like I want to. So, I'm here to see if I can get support, a little bit of love. I've been locked out from everyone for 10 years, so I'm just now bouncing back, getting my money right. I do have a 501(c)(3), so I am looking for some support and some help here, because the homeless population is growing. It was 30,000 evictions when we were evicted 13 years ago. So, I know now that the evictions have tripled. I'm not here to complain. I'm not throwing any bad words or anything, but I was hurt 13 years ago when I stood up here in front of everyone. I had nowhere to go. I'm actually supposed to

be dead, but I am here to tell all of you that I love you. I hope everyone has a home. I hope the animals get a home. I hope everyone is treated fair. If you need moving services, I'm strong. I'm 48 years old, but I can move any and everything in here. Okay, my two minutes is up, but once again, I love ya'll, and everyone needs a home.

Mayor Lyles said thank you very much, I appreciate that. Ms. Moser, we're going to have Shawn Heath come over and speak with you, so that you will have a response this time.

Airport Workers

Braxton Winston, P.O. Box 32101 said Mayor, Council members, Mayor Pro Tem, and staff, you have heard from workers at Charlotte Douglas International Airport. These workers are essential to a major contributor to our state's GDP (Gross Domestic Product), yet many do not earn enough to live in Charlotte. From wheelchair agents to cabin cleaners to pilots, airport workers are not easily replaceable. Their specialized training and experience are crucial to airport operations. CLT's efficiency depends on retaining workers, which is directly tied to the airport producing good jobs with competitive wages and benefits. Many essential workers do not earn a living wage fueling high turnover rates, and putting airport operations at risk, especially as CLT continues to expand. It is unacceptable that those who keep our airport running, cannot afford to simply work there. We urge you to act. City policy provides a framework for action. In 2022, you adopted inequity and governance framework that acknowledges systemic inequities and commits to addressing them through an equity lens. Airport worker policies fit squarely within this mission. Beyond tackling workplace inequities, we must recognize that airports are potential targets for attack and other threats. Airport workers play a critical role on the front lines ensuring passenger safety and securing our air transportation system. Studies indicate that low wages and high turnover lead to a workforce less familiar with essential security protocols. It's time to put an end to this revolving door of workers. Other airports throughout the country have shown that higher wages and benefits improve worker stability, performance, and security. It's time for us to do the same.

The airport is a prime place to implement your cradle to career priorities. Airport Director, Haley Gentry's, career path from intern to CEO, was possible due to City employment protections. All airport workers, including contracted employees serving companies like American Airlines, deserve similar opportunities. You have successfully intervened before. In 2019, City Council delayed an American Airlines lease to help food service workers win better wages. In 2020, a Council subcommittee helped allocate Cares Act funding, aiding Charlotte's strong pandemic recovery. These actions show that both incentives and regulations can improve worker conditions. Please take action now. Thank you.

Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

Carson Cone, 2306 Millerton Avenue said good evening. A resolution in support of the ICAN (International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons) city's appeal for the UN (United Nations) treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons. Whereas the existence and threatened use of nuclear weapons [inaudible] humankind and the earth's environment; and whereas China, Russia, the United States, Britain, and France affirmed in 2022 that a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought; and whereas 700 million people were living in poverty in 2024, the money squandered and the fortunes made through the manufacture, upgrading, maintenance, and sale of nuclear weapons being immoral; and whereas, Charlotte tax payers paid an estimated \$93,280,000 tax dollars just for nuclear weapons and associated costs in 2023, and that money is needed here for the residents of Charlotte; and whereas the new generation of nuclear weapons that has been proposed will raise these costs significantly and burden us with weapons that are more destabilizing and riskier. Whereas the threat of accidental or deliberate explosion of nuclear weapons is real and increasing, and nuclear accidents include two bombs dropped near Eureka, North Carolina. Finally, whereas, cutting nuclear weapons is possible and bipartisan. Since the late 1960s, the

U.S. has reduced nuclear warheads from 31,255 to the 3,748 we are threatened by today. Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Charlotte City Council, I hope, would support the following statement, and notify the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons [inaudible] support this statement. Our City is deeply concerned about the grave threat that nuclear weapons pose to communities throughout the world. We firmly believe the residents of Charlotte have the right to live in a world free from this threat and any use of nuclear weapons, whether deliberate or accidental, would have catastrophic far-reaching and long-lasting consequences for people AND the environment. Therefore, we support the treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons and call on the federal government to sign or ratify it. Thank you.

Small Business Resources

Alecia Geter, 5208 Downing Creek Drive said good evening, Mayor Lyles, Council members and staff. My name is Alecia Geter, and I am the Founder of Gateway Learning, a talent development consulting firm that I founded in 2022. When I started this journey, I spent a significant amount of time researching the resources in the Charlotte metropolitan area, including those offered by the City and County. What I found was a city that is deeply committed to investing in its small business community by providing training, events, support, and certifications to the business owners of Charlotte. It does not go unnoticed. However, I would like to bring to the attention of the Council certain areas of improvement. The City spends a lot of money on supporting construction industry vendors, and it should, as we are a growing city. However, what I am requesting is our resources to support businesses that may be newer, or service and goods providers that are not in construction. The current programs offered are marketed and/or structured in ways that prevent businesses like mine and my peers from being able to participate in City-sponsored programs and initiatives. Even with upcoming launches, the language repels many businesses, because we don't know if we should even be in attendance. Additionally, while it is clear that as a city, there is effort to provide resources to smaller businesses, the resources are, to be frank, not always helpful. The information is not up to date, the training is not always city specific, and websites are convoluted and hard to navigate, and these are just a few examples. Due to time limitations, I do have a document where I list some examples, and I'm also requesting a meeting with a member of the City Manager's Office or the CBI team to further discuss my request. A lot of these improvements are easy fixes, fixes that can support the entirety of the small business community and further enhance Charlotte's commitment to small businesses. Thank you for your time.

Mayor Lyles said thank you very much. We'd like to ask you to work with Monica Allen, who is doing a lot of our workforce development work, and that might be something appropriate for you. So, thank you very much.

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PUBLIC HEARING

ITEM NO. 8: PUBLIC HEARING FOR DETRAPEL, INC. BUSINESS INVESTMENT GRANT

Mayor Lyles said do we have any speakers in the public hearing, Madam Clerk?

Stephanie Kelly, City Clerk said no, ma'am.

There being no speakers, either for or against, a motion was made by Councilmember Mitchell, seconded by Councilmember Johnson, and carried unanimously to close the public hearing.
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Motion was made by Councilmember Mitchell, seconded by Councilmember Graham, and carried unanimously to approve the City's Business Investment Grant to DetraPel, Inc. for a total amount not to exceed \$22,843 over three years.

The vote was taken on the motion and recorded as unanimous.

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ITEM NO. 9: PUBLIC HEARING FOR GRONINGER USA, LLC BUSINESS INVESTMENT GRANT

Motion was made by Councilmember Mitchell, and seconded by Councilmember Molina, to (A) Close the public hearing, and (B) Approve the City's Business Investment Grant to Groninger USA, LLC for a total amount not to exceed \$171,936 over five years.

Councilmember Driggs said I just want to say briefly, Groninger USA is a great company, and among other things, has an apprenticeship program on the German model that I think is something that I hope many other people with emulate. Just want to acknowledge them for that.

The vote was taken on the motion and recorded as unanimous.

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ITEM NO. 10: PUBLIC HEARING FOR RXO CORPORATE SOLUTIONS LLC BUSINESS INVESTMENT GRANT

Motion was made by Councilmember Mitchell, and seconded by Councilmember Molina, to (A) Close the public hearing, and (B) Approve the City's Business Investment Grant to RXO Corporate Solutions LLC for a total amount not to exceed \$166,874 over seven years.

Councilmember Mayfield said I would just like to say in partnership, RXO already has a relationship here. I had the chance over the weekend to attend the robotics championship, and they are to me one of the great examples of corporations that come in and immediately connect with sponsoring our youth, with teaching them robotics and other trainings. It was actually pretty exciting to watch the whole competition, but this is an example to me, of how businesses can come in and actually support the local community.

The vote was taken on the motion and recorded as unanimous.

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ITEM NO. 11: PUBLIC HEARING ON A RESOLUTION TO CLOSE A PORTION OF RIGHT-OF-WAY OFF PAWLEY DRIVE

There being no speakers either for or against, a motion was made by Councilmember Mitchell, seconded by Councilmember Driggs, and carried unanimously to (A) Close the public hearing, and (B) Adopt a resolution and close a Portion of Right-of-Way off Pawley Drive.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 55, at Page(s) 505-508.

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POLICY

ITEM NO. 12: CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Marcus Jones, City Manager said so, thank you, Mayor and members of Council. Just a few things, and maybe I'll state the obvious. A lot has occurred today, and a lot of it has come from the hard work of the committees. For instance, Financial Partners, having the Budget Governance and Intergovernmental Relations Committee, have a framework that's very important. As we start to think about public safety and the conversation that happened earlier, we had the Housing and Community Safety Committee playing a role in that. Then, later today, you will vote on a Workforce Development Strategic Plan, which came out of Jobs and Economic Development. So, a lot of great work from the committees, so that we can get things in play.

You do have in front of you my 30-Day Memo, which I think the big highlight will be, over the next 30 days, April 14, 2025, there'll be a discussion about the Housing Trust Fund, and the recently approved \$100 million bond, and clearly there's a lot of excitement around different organizations that have applied for that funding. While I don't see her, I want to just acknowledge that earlier this month, I named Sarah Hazel as the Chief of Staff, and she will head up Government Affairs. I think it's very important, because it's a teams' approach, where we're going to really change the way we have handled government relations, intergovernmental relations, and really think about, not just Raleigh and D.C., but what we do in this building, with the County, with the school system, with some of our partners, and the private sector and philanthropic community, as well as what we do internationally.

Then, lastly, I think there are going to be a couple of slides that pop up behind me. We were in New York and Boston last week really to talk to the rating agencies, as well as some of the folks who invest in our bonds. I think it's very important that we tell the Charlotte story, because we want to continue to have those investments. One of the things we talked about was infrastructure, and it's very important. It's been something we've talked about, this Council, for a while. I just want to talk a little bit about some of the things that are happening around infrastructure. So, FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) ranks Charlotte among the top communities nationwide for flood management. So, what do I mean by that? So, Charlotte ranks among the top 1 percent of more than 1,500 communities, that participate in FEMA's Emergency Management Community Rating System. So, as of April 1, 2025, FEMA will recognize Charlotte as a Class two recipient. That creates about a 40 percent discount flood insurance rate for the National Flood Insurance program. It also provides policies for buildings in regulated flood plains, and a 10 percent discount for all other policies within the City. What does that mean? That's about a million-dollar savings annually for Charlotte residents. Now, I think I see Mike Davis over there. So, Mike, we really appreciate what you've been doing, and I didn't have a chance to tell you, but there is this thing called a Backlog ABCs, that's been wiped out. We really appreciate everything that's happening around stormwater. So, kudos to Mike and his team.

Then, lastly, as we continue to talk about infrastructure. There was a ribbon cutting ceremony that recently occurred, and it's very interesting. We celebrated things like 300 feet of sidewalk, that was earlier at the retreat, but that's how important it is to actually implement. So, I just want to say the first mobility project in the Arrowood Strategic Investment Area recently occurred. We had the ribbon cutting there, and remember, there's a team of teams. Fifteen different departments are involved. I think what's interesting, from the moment it was planned until the moment that it was executed, six months. So, this is what we talked about, that \$55 million that's in the strategic investment areas, is just a drop in the bucket, but if we can prove to our residents that we can do infrastructure projects quicker when there's an opportunity for another revenue source that may come in around transportation, we will already have created a system where we can implement quickly. So, I think there's somebody around the dais that may be on that picture too. So, just wanted to celebrate some of the hard work that staff is doing. So, I appreciate you allowing me to have the opportunity to do that. Thank you.

Mayor Lyles said alright, thank you. That's a great Manager's Report. We want one like that all the time.

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ITEM NO. 13: WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIC PLAN

Councilmember Graham said I'm very excited tonight to finally bring before the Council for a vote, the Workforce Development Strategic Plan. The plan was first referred to the Committee for consideration back in February of 2024. The Workforce Development Strategic Plan establishes key focus areas, goals, and strategies to guide the City's efforts in addressing our current and future workforce needs. The plan is a vision to cultivate diverse and skilled workforce system that enables residents to obtain sustainable employment and business access to skilled talent. That's the formal presentation. The informal presentation is that this is a lot of good work on behalf of the Council as a whole. I will be remiss if I don't recognize Vice Chairman James Mitchell for his leadership right from the very start. I think Councilmember Mayfield as well played a significant role in terms of kind of jump starting how we introduce and refocus our Workforce Development efforts as a team. We brought in Ms. Frazier, who has done an outstanding job, and her team really kind of listening to the Council members and taking our feedback into consideration, and molding the report in such a way that I think if you read it you can hear each and every one of our voices in terms of things that were important to us. So, I want to thank her for being a good listener. Her team is certainly on the ground actually doing the work as we speak, and the plan basically just focused our attention and our efforts along the way. So, a lot of work has gone into it. I think it's good work. The Manager's Office has been really responsive to the challenge ahead. Obviously, Jobs and Economic Development is an important part of upward mobility and having the ability to have a comprehensive plan. Also, outreaching outside of the Government Center, working with other nonprofit organizations and other similar agencies, really moves us in the right direction.

Motion was made by Councilmember Graham and seconded by Councilmember Mitchell to approve the Jobs and Economic Development Council Committee's recommendations to adopt the proposed Workforce Development Strategic Plan.

Councilmember Mitchell said to the Chair, thank you for your leadership when it came to Committee, Chair, when you really pushed it through to make sure we can be here today. This just should be a proud moment for all of us. This journey began in January 2023, and we had our Strategy Retreat Session at UNC (University of North Carolina) Charlotte, and we as a Council said that Workforce Development needs to be a priority. Then, we challenged the City Manager to go out and get the best talent in the country, and that talent happened to be in Charlotte, North Carolina. After three attempts, she finally learned how to say yes, instead of no, but I want to say this publically to Danielle, to the City Manager, thank you for your leadership. Thank you, as Councilmember Graham said, for listening to us and putting together a document that [INAUDIBLE] separate us from other cities. The panel you had at the Strategy Session in Asheville was just awesome, from Austin, Texas to the other representatives. Then, the Mayor beat me to the punch, I was trying to take you nationally, but she beat me to the punch, and so now you are the Director of Workforce Development for the U.S. Conference of Mayors throughout the country. So, once again, we applaud you for your leadership. So, thank you, Danielle. Thank you, City Manager.

The vote was taken on the motion and recorded as unanimous.

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BUSINESS

ITEM NO. 14: LEASE OF CITY-OWNED PROPERTY AT ARCHDALE DRIVE

Motion was made by Councilmember Mitchell, seconded by Councilmember Driggs, and carried unanimously to (A) Adopt a resolution approving a five-year lease agreement with Mecklenburg County with the option to extend the lease agreement for a greenway trail on City-owned property (parcel identification numbers 173-065-38 and 173-065-39), and (B) Authorize the City Manager or his designee, to execute any necessary documents to complete this transaction and to amend the lease agreement consistent with the intent of the agreement.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 55, at Page(s) 509.

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ITEM NO. 15: INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR ASSIGNMENT OF STREET ADDRESSES

Motion was made by Councilmember Molina, seconded by Councilmember Ajmera and carried unanimously to adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to execute an Interlocal Agreement with Mecklenburg County, and the Towns of Cornelius, Davidson, Huntersville, Matthews, Mint Hill, and Pineville for the assignment of street addresses.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 55, at Page(s) 510-516.

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NOMINATIONS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Mayor Lyles explained the rules and procedures of the appointment process.

ITEM NO. 16: NOMINATIONS TO THE ARTS & SCIENCE COUNCIL GOVERNANCE BOARD

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a partial term beginning upon appointment and ending November 30, 2025:

- Allison Allen, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Anderson, Brown, Driggs, Johnson, Mitchell, and Molina.
- Elliott Royal, nominated by Councilmembers Brown, Driggs, Graham, Mayfield and Mitchell.

Motion was made by Councilmember Mitchell, seconded by Councilmember Mayfield, and carried unanimously to appoint Allison Allen by acclamation.

Ms. Allen was appointed.

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a partial term beginning upon appointment and ending November 30, 2026:

- Nalan Mulder, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Anderson, Bokhari, Driggs, Mayfield, and Mitchell.
- Namrata Yadav, nominated by Councilmembers Bokhari and Mayfield

Motion was made by Councilmember Mitchell, seconded by Councilmember Mayfield, and carried unanimously to appoint Nalan Mulder by acclamation.

Mr. Mulder was appointed.

The following nomination was made for one appointment for a partial term beginning upon appointment and ending November 30, 2027:

- Sam Spencer, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Anderson, Bokhari, Brown, Graham, Johnson, and Molina.

Motion was made by Councilmember Mitchell, seconded by Councilmember Mayfield, and carried unanimously to appoint Sam Spencer by acclamation.

Mr. Spencer was appointed.

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ITEM NO. 17: NOMINATIONS TO THE CHARLOTTE BUSINESS INCLUSION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

There were no nominations made for one appointment for a partial term recommended by the Carolinas Association of General Contractors beginning upon appointment and ending February 28, 2025, and a three-year term beginning March 1, 2025, and ending February 28, 2028.

Nominations will be kept open until the next Business Meeting.

There were no nominations made for one appointment for a partial term recommended by the Hispanic Contractors Association of the Carolinas beginning upon appointment and ending February 28, 2026.

Nominations will be kept open until the next Business Meeting.

There were no nominations made for one appointment for a partial term recommended by the Metrolina Native American Association beginning upon appointment and ending February 28, 2026.

Nominations will be kept open until the next Business Meeting.

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ITEM NO. 18: NOMINATIONS TO THE CHARLOTTE INTERNATIONAL CABINET

There were no nominations made for one appointment for an Airport Staff Member category representative for a partial term beginning upon appointment and ending June 30, 2027.

Nominations will be kept open until the next Business Meeting.

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ITEM NO. 19: NOMINATIONS TO THE CHARLOTTE MECKLENBURG PUBLIC ACCESS CORPORATION

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a partial term beginning upon appointment and ending June 30, 2025, and a three-year term beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2028:

- Dawn Gibson, nominated by Councilmember Johnson
- Na'shota Lytle, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Anderson, Bokhari, Brown, Driggs, Graham, Mayfield, Mitchell, and Molina.

Motion was made by Councilmember Mitchell, seconded by Councilmember Mayfield, and carried unanimously to appoint Na'shota Lytle by acclamation.

Ms. Lytle was appointed.

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ITEM NO. 20: NOMINATIONS TO THE CIVIL SERVICE BOARD

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a three-year term beginning May 16, 2025, and ending May 15, 2028:

- Imani Chaney, nominated by Councilmember Brown
- Crystal Screen, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Anderson, Bokhari, Driggs, Graham, Johnson, Mayfield, Mitchell, and Molina.

Motion was made by Councilmember Mitchell, seconded by Councilmember Mayfield, and carried unanimously to reappoint Crystal Screen by acclamation.

Ms. Screen was reappointed.

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ITEM NO. 21: NOMINATIONS TO THE COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The following nominations were made for two appointments for a partial term beginning upon appointment and ending June 30, 2025, and a three-year term beginning upon appointment and ending June 30, 2028:

- Edward Brathwaite, nominated by Councilmember Brown
- Patrick Brown, nominated by Councilmember Brown
- Johnelle Causwell, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera and Johnson
- Imani Chaney, nominated by Councilmember Brown
- Deborah Donnell, nominated by Councilmember Johnson
- Charlene Forney, nominated by Councilmember Brown
- Brantly Grier, nominated by Councilmember Graham
- Nixonette Wright, nominated by Councilmembers Anderson, Bokhari, Driggs, Graham, Mayfield, Mitchell, and Molina.
- Chris McFarland, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Anderson, Bokhari, Driggs, Mayfield, Mitchell, and Molina.

Motion was made by Councilmember Mitchell, seconded by Councilmember Mayfield, and carried unanimously to appoint Nixonette Wright and Chris McFarland by acclamation.

Ms. Wright and Mr. McFarland were appointed.

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a partial term beginning upon appointment and ending June 30, 2027:

- Komlan-Messan Ognodo, nominated by Councilmembers Anderson, Bokhari, Driggs, Graham, Mayfield, Mitchell, and Molina.
- Stephanie Tyson, nominated by Councilmember Ajmera

Motion was made by Councilmember Mitchell, seconded by Councilmember Mayfield, and carried unanimously to appoint Komlan-Messan Ognodo by acclamation.

Mr. Ognodo was appointed.

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a three-year term beginning March 10, 2025, and ending March 9, 2028:

- Willie Holley, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Anderson, Bokhari, Driggs, Graham, Johnson, Mayfield, Mitchell, and Molina.
- Mekre Mccray, nominated by Councilmember Johnson

Motion was made by Councilmember Mitchell, seconded by Councilmember Mayfield, and carried unanimously to reappoint Willie Holley by acclamation.

Mr. Holley was reappointed.

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ITEM NO. 22: NOMINATIONS TO THE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

There were no nominations made for one appointment for a Resident Owner of Hermitage Court for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2027.

Nominations will be kept open until the next Business Meeting.

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ITEM NO. 23: NOMINATIONS TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD MATCHING GRANTS FUND

The following nomination was made for one appointment for a Business Representative for a two-year term beginning April 16, 2025, and ending April 16, 2027:

- Kimberly Savage Dinkler, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Anderson, Bokhari, Brown, Driggs, Graham, Johnson, Mayfield, Mitchell, and Molina.

Motion was made by Councilmember Mitchell, seconded by Councilmember Mayfield, and carried unanimously to reappoint Kimberly Savage Dinkler by acclamation.

Ms. Dinkler was reappointed.

The following nomination was made for one appointment for a partial term Recommended by the City Manager beginning upon appointment and ending April 15, 2025, and a two-year term beginning April 16, 2025, and ending April 15, 2027:

- Maria (Ria) Naab, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Anderson, Bokhari, Brown, Driggs, Graham, Johnson, Mayfield, Mitchell, and Molina.

Motion was made by Councilmember Mitchell, seconded by Councilmember Mayfield, and carried unanimously to appoint Maria (Ria) Naab by acclamation.

Ms. Naab was appointed.

pti:pk

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ITEM NO. 24: NOMINATIONS TO THE PASSENGER VEHICLE FOR HIRE BOARD

There were no nominations made for one appointment for a Hospitality / Tourism Industry category representative for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2027.

Nominations will be kept open until the next Business Meeting.

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ITEM NO. 25: NOMINATIONS TO THE STORMWATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

There were no nominations made for one appointment for a Financial / Accounting / Legal Professional category representative for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2027.

Nominations will be kept open until the next Business Meeting.

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ITEM NO. 26: NOMINATIONS TO THE WASTE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY BOARD

The following nominations were made for one recommendation for a three-year term beginning April 1, 2025, and ending March 31, 2028:

- Michelle Coffino, nominated by Councilmember Brown
- Michael Jacome, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Anderson, Bokhari, Driggs, Graham, Johnson, Mayfield, Mitchell, and Molina.

Motion was made by Councilmember Mitchell, seconded by Councilmember Mayfield, and carried unanimously to reappoint Michael Jacome by acclamation.
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Mr. Jacome was reappointed.

Councilmember Mayfield said Manager Jones, I didn't get a chance to ask after you gave your report, I would like to know if it will fall under you, or if our City Clerk can let us know if there's any legal language why we cannot look into the presentation of a case, much like we adopted the NEST (Neighborhood Equity and Stabilization) recommendation for our Housing and Neighborhood Services and public safety. I do think we have an opportunity for our employees that came down and spoke regarding SEIU (Service Employees International Union), and our workforce and protections at the airport. There is a case recommendation that was emailed to all of us. They have presented it to individual Council members. I would like for us to actually look into what legal ability we may have. Because, as I just mentioned, if we were able to adopt the NEST recommendations, there should be some language where we can ensure that our employees have some basic protection. So, I would like to find out from either the Attorney's Office and/or your office, what, if any, legal language says that we cannot, and if so, how can we move forward with case being presented to Council?

Anthony Fox, Interim City Attorney said yes, I will just tell you this. We have been proactive. We met with Mr. Braxton and his representatives. We pointed out some issues that we had. We invited them to respond with their positions on our positions. We're awaiting that response. We also offered to sit down with them and talk and see if there's a path forward, but remember, what they're asking for, is for this Council to regulate employees that do not work for you. They are employees of other concerns. There are some questions around preemption, around wage and hour, and fair labor standards act, all which allows to regulate our employees, but does not allow us to

regulate others. I pointed this out to them. They're going to push back, and I'm waiting to hear their response.

Ms. Mayfeild said and just for clarification, as was mentioned, we've had this conversation a couple of different times over the years. We have some opportunities, because, ultimately, the City of Charlotte, we have employees within the airport. We are the ones who identify our contractual obligations. Council is who approves, say either yes, no, or defer, on any contract that comes through. So, if there is a challenge, and if the ultimate goal is to ensure that the residents of Charlotte can actually live in our beautiful city, of which you did contribute to the taxes, there should be a way for us to have a conversation, just like we move salary compensation for our Charlotte employees, we can have greater expectations of our partners who are funded through those same tax dollars. So, that consideration I would appreciate us researching, and getting information back to full Council.

Mr. Foxx said I hear you. To be continued.

Ms. Mayfield said thank you.

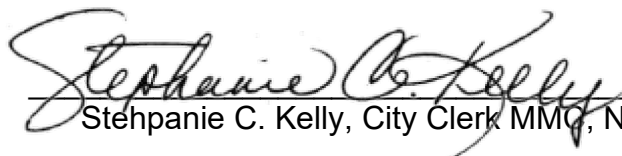
Councilmember Johnson said I'm sorry. One thing that I would add is, if you could take a look at our procurement rules, and if there's anything that we can do, because what I've been told when we leverage the contracts, is that we have to accept the lowest bid, and so sometimes these contractors can submit a lower bid, because their wages are so much lower. So, if we can take a look at our procurement rules, and see if there's any flexibility, and we can discuss that offline, I think that would be helpful. Thank you.

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ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Councilmember Mitchell, seconded by Councilmember Driggs, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.
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The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m.


Stephanie C. Kelly, City Clerk MMC, NCCMC

Length of Meeting: 3 Hours, 15 Minutes
Minutes completed: April 17, 2025