

The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina convened for an Action Review on Monday, June 23, 2025, at 5:03 p.m. in Room 267 of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center with Mayor Vi Lyles presiding. Council members present were Danté Anderson, Ed Driggs, Malcolm Graham, Renee Johnson, Lawana Mayfield, and Victoria Watlington.

ABSENT: Councilmember James Mitchell

ABSENT UNTIL NOTED: Councilmembers Dimple Ajmera, Tiawana Brown, Marjorie Molina, and Edwin Peacock III

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Mayor Lyles said good afternoon, everyone. Welcome to the City of Charlotte, the first part of our Council Business Meeting. This is what we call our consent and action review where we try to put things in front of everyone, so they have an opportunity to [INAUDIBLE] in and make sure that we are moving forward. Before we begin that I'd like to have our introductions.

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ACTION REVIEW

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

Mayor Lyles said are there any questions or comments with that? Ms. Marie will be with us to address those items. So, do we have any questions?

Councilmember Mayfield said Marie did respond to the questions that I had sent out but I still do want to have Item No. 21 pulled for comment as well as 55.

Mayor Lyles said 21 is not consent.

Ms. Mayfield said my apologies; I'm pulling out 43 as well.

Mayor Lyles said 43. Anyone else?

Councilmember Johnson said I'm pulling out 42, 51, and 67 please

Mayor Lyles said 42, 51, and 67 as well.

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ITEM NO. 2: CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 35 THROUGH 67 MAY BE CONSIDERED IN ONE MOTION EXCEPT FOR THOSE ITEMS REMOVED BY A COUNCIL MEMBER. ITEMS ARE REMOVED BY NOTIFYING THE CITY CLERK.

Motion was made by Councilmember Driggs, seconded by Councilmember Johnson, and carried unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda as presented with the exception of Item No. 42, Item No. 43, Item No. 51, and Item No. 55, and Item No. 67 which were pulled for a separate vote, and Item No. 66 which was settled.
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The following items were approved:

Item No. 35: Security Equipment and Maintenance Services

(A) Approve a contract with Adm Security Systems, Inc. (SBE) to provide security equipment, maintenance, and support services for a term of four years, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contract for up to one, two-year term with

possible price adjustments and to amend the contract consistent with the purpose for which the contract was approved.

Item No. 36: Traffic Control Devices

(A) Approve a unit price contract with Econolite Control Products, Inc. for the purchase of traffic control devices for a term of one year, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contract for up to four, one-year terms with possible price adjustments and to amend the contract consistent with the purpose for which the contract was approved.

Item No. 37: Trip Hazard Removal Services

(A) Approve a contract with Precision Safe Sidewalks, LLC for trip hazard removal services for a term of three years, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contract for up to one, two-year term with possible price adjustments and to amend the contract consistent with the purpose for which the contract was approved.

Item No. 38: Utility Locating Services

(A) Authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute a contract with Surveying and Mapping, LLC for utility locating services for a term of three years, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contract for up to one, two-year term with possible price adjustments and to amend the contract consistent with the purpose for which the contract was approved.

Item No. 39: Animal Care and Control Adoption Facility Progressive Design-Build Project

Approve a contract in the amount of \$1,529,572 with Albion General Contractors, Inc. for design services for the Animal Care and Control Adoption Facility Progressive Design-Build project.

Item No. 40: Arborist Services for Street Tree Inventories

(A) Approve unit price contracts for arborist services for street tree inventories for a term of three years to the following: Arborpro, Inc. PlanIT Geo, 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.

Item No. 41: Innovation Barn Roof Replacement

Approve a contract in the amount of \$684,559 to the lowest responsive bidder Rike Roofing Services (WBE) for the Innovation Barn Roof Replacement project.

Summary of Bids

Rike Roofing Services (WBE)	\$684,559.00
Eskola LLC dba Eskola Roofing & Waterproofing	\$766,706.00
Tecta America	\$784,256.00
Davco Roofing and Sheet Metal, LLC	\$797,000.00
Interstate Roofing Co.	\$869,750.00
Johnsons Roofing Service, Inc.	\$893,000.00
Nations Roof	\$966,000.00

Item No. 44: General Contractor Services

(A) Approve contracts for general contractor services for a term of three years with the following: Batson-Cook Company, BW Services Solutions LLC (SBE), Nance Construction LLC (WBE, SBE), 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. 45: Laboratory Equipment and Supplies for Organics

(A) Approve the purchase of laboratory equipment and supplies by the sole source exemption, (B) Approve a contract with Biotage, LLC, for the purchase of laboratory equipment and supplies 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. 46: Stowe Regional Water Resource Recovery Facility Construction

Approve a guaranteed maximum price of \$16,295,749.64 to Crowder/Garney JV for Design-Build construction services for the Stowe Regional Water Resource Recovery Facility project.

Item No. 47: Wastewater Treatment Chemicals

(A) Approve a unit price contract with the lowest responsive bidder Premier Magnesia, LLC for the purchase of magnesium hydroxide for a term of one year, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contract for up to five, 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

Premier Magnesia, LLC	\$.222 per wet pound/\$ 2.82 per gallon
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The City issued an Invitation to Bid. Only one bid was received from Premier Magnesia, LLC.

Item No. 48: Water and Sanitary Sewer Infrastructure Repair

(A) Approve a unit price contract with the lowest responsive bidder Fuller & Co. Construction, LLC for water and sanitary sewer infrastructure repair for a term of one year, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contract for up to three, 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

Fuller & Co., Construction, LLC	\$6,844,132.04
D.E. Walker	\$7,583,602.69

Item No. 49: Beckwith-Meadow Storm Drainage Improvement Project

(A). Approve a contract in the amount of \$13,107,600 to the lowest responsive bidder Zoladz Construction Co., Inc. for the Beckwith-Meadow Storm Drainage Improvement Project, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to amend the contract consistent with the purpose for which the contract was approved.

Summary of Bids

Zoladz Construction Co., Inc.	\$13,107,600.00
United of Carolinas, Inc.	\$13,467,470.50
Sealand Contractors	\$14,545,000.00

Item No. 50: Storm Water Repair and Improvement Projects

(A). Approve a contract in the amount of \$4,540,405 to the lowest responsive bidder GreenWater Development, Inc. (SBE) for the Storm Water Repair and Improvement FY2026 A projects, 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.	\$4,540,405.00
United of Carolinas, Inc.	\$4,718,259.00
OnSite Development, LLC	\$4,859,036.97

Item No. 52: Airport Air Handling Unit Replacement

Approve a contract in the amount of \$4,733,202 to the lowest responsive bidder Edison Foard, LLC for the Air Handling Units 6 and 49 Replacement project.

Summary of Bids

Edison Foard, LLC	\$4,733,202.00
Keach Construction	\$6,723,630.00

Item No. 53: Airport Coffey Creek Environmental Mitigation

Approve a contract in the amount of \$746,430 to the lowest responsive bidder First Cut-SAEDACCO, A Joint Venture for the Coffey Creek Environmental Mitigation project.

Summary of Bids

First Cut-SAEDACCO, A Joint Venture	\$746,430.00
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The city issued an Invitation to Bid five times; only one responsive, responsible bid was received from First Cut-SAEDACCO, A Joint Venture.

Item No. 54: Airport Pre-Conditioned Air Unit Parts

(A). Approve the purchase of pre-conditioned air unit parts by the sole source exemption, (B) Approve a contract with Dabico Airport Solutions, Inc. for the purchase of pre-conditioned air unit parts for a term of three years, and (C) 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. 56: Refund of Property Taxes

Adopt a resolution authorizing the refund of property taxes assessed through clerical or assessment error in the amount of \$27,156.14.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 55, at Page(s) 690-693.

Item No. 57: Meeting Minutes

Approve the titles, motions, and votes reflected in the Clerk's record as the minutes of: May 5, 2025, FY 2026 Proposed Budget Presentation, May 12, 2025, Business Meeting, and May 15, 2025, Special Meeting.

Item No. 58: Set a Public Hearing on QTR Phase One Voluntary Annexation

Adopt a resolution setting a public hearing for August 11, 2025, for the QTR Phase One Area voluntary annexation petition.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 55, at Page(s) 694-695.

Item No. 59: Set a Public Hearing on Sunset Meadows Voluntary Annexation

Adopt a resolution setting a public hearing for August 11, 2025, for the Sunset Meadows Area voluntary annexation petition.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 55, at Page(s) 696-697.

Item No. 60: Set a Public Hearing on the Retreat at Tilley Manor Voluntary Annexation

Adopt a resolution setting a public hearing for August 11, 2025, for the Retreat at Tilley Manor Area voluntary annexation petition.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 55, at Page(s) 698-699.

PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

Item No. 61: Aviation Property Transactions – 7839 Douglas Drive

Acquisition of 34,368.84 square feet (0.789 acres) at 7839 Douglas Drive from Jeffrey Michael Konko and Amanda Smith Konko for \$336,000 for Aviation Master Plan.

Item No. 62: Property Transaction – Flintridge Drive, Parcel # 2

Resolution of Condemnation of 3,523 square feet (0.081 acres) Storm Drainage Easement and 1,343 square feet (0.031 acres) Temporary Construction Easement at 2816 Flintridge Drive from A L Cedeno Properties and Development, LLC for \$41,000 for Flintridge Drive, Parcel # 2.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 55, at Page(s) 700.

Item No. 63: Property Transactions – Flintridge Drive, Parcel # 5

Resolution of Condemnation of 3,618 square feet (0.083 acres) Storm Drainage Easement and 755 square feet (0.017 acres) Temporary Construction Easement at 2831 Flintridge Drive from Dai C. Cheng and Ruiying L. Cheng for \$36,050 for Flintridge Drive, Parcel # 5.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 55, at Page(s) 701.

Item No. 64: Property Transactions – W.T. Harris Sidewalk Utility Project (J.W. Clay Boulevard to North Tryon Street), Parcel # 3

Resolution of Condemnation of 831 square feet (0.020 acres) Temporary Construction Easement and 157 square feet (0.004 acres) Sidewalk Utility Easement at 8606 J M Keynes Drive from East and West of South, LLC for \$4,125 for W.T. Harris Sidewalk Utility Project (J.W. Clay Boulevard to North Tryon Street), Parcel # 3.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 55, at Page(s) 702.

Item No. 65: Property Transactions – W.T. Harris Sidewalk Utility Project (J.W. Clay Boulevard to North Tryon Street), Parcels # 4 & 5

Resolution of Condemnation of 4,594 square feet (0.105 acres) Temporary Construction and 7,581 square feet (0.174 acres) Sidewalk Utility Easement at 8700 J. M. Keynes Drive from Wells Fargo Bank, NA for \$82,975 for W.T. Harris Sidewalk Utility Project (J.W. Clay Boulevard to North Tryon Street), Parcels # 4 & 5.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 55, at Page(s) 703.

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ITEM NO. 55: AIRPORT TERMINAL LOBBY EXPANSION CONSTRUCTION CHANGE ORDER

Councilmember Mayfield said so for 55 what I wanted to highlight is my question regarding the actual total amount of this contract, as this is requesting change order number two, for \$6,376,333. The total program budget for the project was around \$608 million, because of the number of work, but I wanted to make sure, since this is change order number two, I asked for Marie to go back to pull the actual contract amount, since we had the proposal of the design, and then now we're actually implementing on here. I am concerned of the total cost of this. This is really for you, Mr. Manager, to see if we can, moving forward in our contracts, try to take into consideration totality of the work, outside of having a contingency for amendments to come in, because at some point, when you're on amendment number two and/or three or four, you now surpass maybe the next, or the next two or three, identified lowest responsive bidders. So, was that a bid that was submitted based on full expectation of the totality of the project? If so, are we really getting the greatest advantage in the contracts that we are identifying? Thank you.

Councilmember Peacock arrived at 5:08 p.m.

Motion was made by Councilmember Anderson, seconded by Councilmember Graham, and carried unanimously to Approve change order #2 for \$6,376,333 to the contract with Holder Edison Foard Leeper, A Joint Venture, for the Terminal Lobby Expansion project.

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ITEM NO. 43: CITY VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT

Motion was made by Councilmember Anderson, and seconded by Councilmember Driggs to (A) Approve the purchase of vehicles and equipment from cooperative contracts, (B) Approve unit price contracts with the following vendors for the purchase of vehicles and equipment for a term of one year under the North Carolina Sheriff's Association: Amick Equipment Co., Inc. (#26-10-0422), Aquip, LLC (#26-10-0422), Capital Chevrolet Inc (#25-11-0912), Capital Ford Inc. (#25-11-0912), Charlotte Truck Center dba Excel Truck Group - Charlotte (#26-10-0422), Deacon Jones Ford of Clinton (#25-11-0912), Equipment Specialists (#26-10-0422), Godwin Manufacturing Co., Inc. (#26-10-0422), Joe Johnson Equipment dba Public Works Equipment (#26-10-0422), Parks Chevrolet (#25-11-0912), Quality Truck Bodies & Repair Inc. (#26-10-0422), Tesla, Inc. (#25-11-0912), Vanguard Truck Centers (#26-10-0422), (C) Approve unit price contracts with the following vendors for the purchase of vehicles and equipment for a term of one year under Sourcewell: 72 Hour LLC, dba National Auto Fleet Group (#032824-NAF and #091521-NAF), Alamo Group (USA) Inc. (#062222-AGI-4), Altec Industries, Inc. (#110421-ALT), Autocar Truck, LLC/Autocar Industries LLC (#032824-ATC), Battle Motors, Inc. (#032824-CRN), Deere & Company (#082923-DAC), HD Hyundai Construction Equipment North America, Inc. (#053024-HCE), Kubota Tractor Corporation (#082923-KBA and #112624-KBA), Stertil-Koni USA, Inc. (#121223-SKI), Vermeer Manufacturing Company dba Vermeer Corporation (#010925-VRM), and (D) Authorize the City Manager to extend the contracts for additional terms as long as the cooperative contracts are in effect, at prices and terms that are the same or more favorable than those offered under the cooperative contracts.

Councilmember Mayfield said I'm interested in making an amendment to that motion for Item No. 43. This proposal is to approve the purchase of vehicles and equipment from our cooperative contracts. We have one particular item, #25-11-0912, that I would like for us to remove from consideration of purchase. We have a number of unit price contracts, since we actually purchased these vehicles and these vehicles are not leased, we have a number of opportunities. We already have a number of vehicles that are listed in here. For anyone that is watching or that's listening, and do not have a copy of the agenda that I am looking at, this is to remove the Tesla, Incorporated from our list of purchases of City tax dollars for vehicles.

Substitute motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, and seconded by Councilmember Graham to approve Item No. 43, (A), (B), (C), and (D), with the exception of Tesla, Inc. (#25-11-0912), from (B).

Councilmember Driggs said so, I think I understand why that's being suggested. I have a concern, though, that the reasons for removing Tesla do not have to do with the quality of the product, and this is part of a cooperative contract. I think we just set a dangerous precedent if we have reasons that aren't related to the cost and the performance of purchased items for excluding them. We already have Teslas in the fleet, and I don't know what the impact is of not allowing for the possibility of adding a Tesla. I do think also it'd be helpful, Mr. Manager, if you would explain a little bit what this is. We're not buying all of these things. So, our approval of this creates the possibility of transactions with each of these partners, but there aren't amounts assignable to each of them, is that right?

Marcus Jones, City Manager said correct.

Mr. Driggs said so, I mean, I doubt that Tesla is a big piece of this, but I just again have a concern about the precedent that we set if we start letting considerations, like the owner in this case and his activity, take precedence over our responsibility to the public for simply getting the best equipment we can at the best price that we can, and integrating that with the fleet that we have. So, I will not be supporting the motion, and I really encourage you that we not go down that road. Thank you.

Councilmember Watlington said well, my question was going to be for you, and I guess Mr. Graham. Given what Mr. Driggs just said, what is the basis that you feel is justifiable to be able to do this in the intent that you mean it without creating any of the concerns that he addressed?

Ms. Mayfield said so, one, it has been proven that this particular product has had multiple challenges with the quality of the design, as well as the health and safety, and there are multiple lawsuits that are around the nation regarding the quality of this vehicle, not to mention at the core, City Council has the ability to do one of three things, approve, deny, defer. So, what I am asking, in light of all of the multiple, between B and C, other businesses and opportunities that we have through our cooperative agreement, that I don't think that it would necessarily be advantageous for us to use tax dollars to purchase into a particular product, when we have seen multiple accounts of that product being an unsafe product. We do have some of those products within our fleet, which is fine, but also, many years ago, there was a very narrow field of selection when it comes to electric vehicles. Today, that is not the case. We have multiple other products and providers out there that also have different pricing that will probably be more comparable to what we're looking for as our City continues to grow. So, it is not about just the particular owner of this product. It is the fact that this product has been in multiple lawsuits, because of safety issues, and there are multiple concerns. If we're going to be continuously making investments that reflect our SEAP (Strategic Energy Action Plan) and our goals, we have at least 15 other opportunities in here to continue to grow our fleet, and work towards those SEAP goals.

Ms. Watlington said just as a follow up. My question would be to the interim attorney as it relates to Councilmember Mayfield's comments just now that we can approve, deny, defer, etc., etc. Can you help us understand the legal framework around, upon what justification we can build one of those decisions? Are there any limitations?

Anthony Fox, Interim City Attorney said yes. First of all, thank you for the question. What's before you is the ability, not the requirement, to be able to purchase off of a cooperative contract. The contract has already been negotiated by the Sheriff's Association with regard to the particular vendors listed here. It's not a mandate or a requirement that you use any of those companies listed here. It's an opportunity, and what this does, it establishes a base unit price for the purchase of equipment, supplies and materials identified in this contract. By being a part of a cooperative, the state law has indicated that they meet the bidding requirement. So, each of these companies satisfies your bidding requirements. Now, the other variable is for the City, with the list of vendors here, to decide, now that they satisfy the unit price opportunity for us, do we want or choose to have them as a part of our fleet, but that may be based upon the capabilities, the limitations of the particular unit that's being shown here. So, I would say that this is a preliminary stage. It doesn't mandate the purchase of any of these items. It just gives you the ability, should you choose to purchase them, and if they fit your needs to utilize this unit price agreement, but not required to do that.

Ms. Watlington said thank you.

Councilmember Brown arrived at 5:17 p.m.

Councilmember Johnson said thank you for the question, Dr. Watlington. I just want to piggyback off that question, Mr. Fox. Are we required, as far as a procurement, to accept the lowest bid, or is there anything that restricts us from this type of decision?

Mr. Fox said yes. What's reflected here under this cooperative agreement is a provision that has satisfied the low bid requirements for these units that are identified in this list. So, the Statute 143-128, says that if you have a cooperative agreement like this, and you participated in the cooperative program like this, then you have satisfied the bid requirement. So, they do satisfy the bid requirements by being on this list. The nuance is for the governing body or the entity that's participating in a program, to decide later down the road whether or not this vehicle adds value or meets a specific need or not for the organization, and that's something that will come later, not at this stage.

Councilmember Molina arrived at 5:28 p.m.

Ms. Johnson said so, I think this brings up a great point as far as our procurement policies. Even the last issue you had with Item No. 55 was also kind of a procurement question. So, I think that this just stresses the importance of us taking a look at our procurement policies if we want to implement some of our priorities in our purchases. Again Mayor, we've asked for the procurement policy to be moved forward to committee. I think this is one other opportunity where we could take a look at the procurement policy. So, I will be supporting Ms. Mayfield. Thank you.

Mr. Fox said let me just clarify it. What I was stating was not policy, it was actually the statute that governs the procurement in North Carolina governing bodies.

Ms. Johnson said right, but our policy can be based off the statute. So, just again, I think this is an opportunity for us. Thank you.

Ms. Mayfield said Attorney Fox, is there any part of the statute that precludes City Council in our decisionmaking for me to remove any one of these, since this is the first time that we are receiving this request, and it is on the evening of which we are approving it? We have multiple in here. Is there anything in the statute that precludes for me to ask my colleagues to support the removal of any of these, since they all fall under state contractual opportunity?

Mr. Fox said what the statute generally provides, if you're even looking at the lowest responsible bidder, there's qualifications in that provision. You take the lowest responsible bidder taking into consideration factors like performance and quality. So, the statute gives you some discretion when you point to a particular item and say, yes, they're the lowest responsible bidder, but prior history with this company is that they failed to meet our requirements on two or three occasions. You can take that into consideration, and that gives you an out to going past the lowest responsible bidder. What you're asking is not specifically spelled out in the statute for cooperative agreements, and that's what the issue that's before this Council is.

Ms. Mayfield said so, for clarification, the answer to that is no, there is nothing that states that we as a Council cannot make a decision to either make a proposal to include, if it is one that's under the North Carolina Sales Association or to remove.

Mr. Fox said well, it doesn't, but what I would say, in doing that exercise, you're generally going to look at, yes, this is a cooperative agreement. We're participating in this group program. These unit prices are a result and satisfy the lowest bid requirements. Now, let's look at the qualifications to determine whether any of them meet or do not meet or should not be considered, and that would look at, is there an issue about the performance? Is there any issue about the quality? Things that are appropriate for consideration under a low bid environment and may still be variables you want to consider here.

Ms. Mayfield said those aren't variables that are presented to us. What's presented to us is just the name of the company and the fact that it's part of an agreement. So, I don't think I'm getting an actual answer to the question that I asked. Yet, what I am asking my colleagues and what my amended version is, and what we received a second on, is to remove item 25-11-0912 out of our current list of potential opportunities to purchase, when we have so many other opportunities that are listed before us in B and C.

Mr. Driggs said so, this body did not choose any of the names on this list. We did not go down there. We did not review all of their safety records. We didn't look at the data. This was proposed by professionals who look at these things and identify suitable parties for a contract. Tesla has had some lawsuits. If you look at the history and the automotive industry of recalls and other lawsuits, you'd have to rule out GM, Ford, Toyota, just about every major manufacturer. So, let's be objective here. The reason this has been

isolated out of this long list is political. It has to do with the majority owner of the Tesla Company.

Ms. Mayfield said you're making an assumption on my [INAUDIBLE].

Mr. Driggs said I am responding to you.

Mayor Lyles said hold on.

Mr. Driggs said I am rebutting the specific suggestion that there are safety reasons why this body should decide not to include Tesla on the list. I think that's a fair response to what you said. Once again, we then put ourselves in a position where we would need to be able to say for Amick equipment, Capital Chevrolet, Deacon Jones, that they are safe and reputable, that they are the best people. We are not identifying the names on this list. You are singling out one name on this list for political reasons, and you don't have enough data about Tesla compared to other car companies to suggest that they shouldn't be here, and I just object again to trying to disguise this as anything other than a politically motivated desire not to have that name on this list.

Ms. Mayfield said I am going to respond to that, because first of all, he is not a mind reader, nor does he know the research that I have done on the other companies, which I tend to do quite a bit of my research before I bring something forward. Yet, even if it was political, of which I have never had a challenge to say what is, is. So, if it was mainly or predominately political for me, I would have clearly said that, because unlike some people, I don't have a problem calling that out, but what I do have a challenge with is that when we have the ability to purchase vehicles, and when we are spending hundreds of thousands of dollars and putting our employees out in these vehicles, and we are using tax dollars to do it, we also have the opportunity to think about the investments that we are making on behalf of our citizens.

Now, I have done quite a bit of research on some of these other companies. Yet, I'm not bringing all of that forward, but do not ever make the mistake to think that you can just assume what my motivation is, because I am very clear whenever I share anything what my motivation is. So, this is not just a motivation of the fact of what this individual is doing. It is the opportunity for us to be very cognizant of how we are investing tax dollars, and that is why I asked for an amendment, and that is why we are having this discussion. I do not make assumptions as to why you make the decisions that you make or the comments that you make, because I could say those are political. I don't really care at this point. What I am sharing is a concern that I have regarding this particular product being a part of our fleet in continued and ongoing conversations.

Mayor Lyles said everyone has had an opportunity to speak on this topic, unless there's someone.

Councilmember Brown said Councilmember Brown hasn't spoke on it, because I just arrived.

Mayor Lyles said do you want to be recognized Ms. Brown?

Ms. Brown said I want to know what's going on. What the amendment was. I know I walked in late, but if we could have just the amendment to what Councilmember Mayfield said, I think that's fair, and then I can speak.

Mayor Lyles said alright, so the clerk, if you would read what Ms. Mayfield said as a motion.

Billie Tynes, Deputy City Clerk said the motion was to approve Agenda Item No. 43, A, B, C and D, and remove Tesla Incorporated, #25-11-0912, from item B.

Ms. Brown said I second that, third it, fourth, or whatever number I'm in I agree.

Mayor Lyles said okay, so now everyone has had a chance to speak.

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

YEAS: Councilmembers Anderson, Brown, Graham, Johnson, Mayfield and Molina

NAYS: Councilmembers Ajmera, Driggs, and Peacock

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ITEM NO. 42: LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER 911 EXPANSION

Motion was made by Councilmember Johnson, and seconded by Councilmember Anderson to approve a contract in the amount of \$1,997,003 to the lowest responsive bidder Batson-Cook Company for the Law Enforcement Center 911 Expansion project.

Councilmember Johnson said I just wanted some more information about the Law Enforcement Center, the expansion center, and also an update on the hiring of the new 911 officers.

Marie Harris, Strategy and Budget said thank you, and as for the second part on the update. Since May 30, 2025, your last update, they have hired eight additional telecommunicators. Now, they're not on the floor taking calls yet, they're still going through training. They have 15 additional vacancies, 12 of which they have scheduled for hiring dates in July 2025 and August 2025, and then they have additional, I believe, it's at least 10, I think 11, candidates that are going through some type of the interview and testing processes. What they do, they keep a pool. So, when they fill these, which they're projected to fill in August 2025, they'll keep a pool available for any attrition rates, and as you pointed out for the 911 Center, when it's expanded, we'll be able to house more telecommunicators.

Ms. Johnson said okay, and the goal would be that the hold time or wait time when someone's calling 911 would be eliminated, right?

Ms. Harris said yes, ma'am.

Ms. Johnson said okay, and with staffing level, is that what we're anticipating, Mr. Manager?

Marcus Jones, City Manager said yes.

Ms. Johnson said okay.

Ms. Harris said thank you.

Ms. Johnson said thank you.

Councilmember Brown said this is a question for you. So, how many do we have currently, because there is a significant hold time now?

Ms. Harris said how many currently? I had that number. I don't have it in front of me, so I'll get that back to you, but I believe it's at least 70 to 100, I can't remember exactly, because it shifts, though. They're not all working at the same time, but I'll definitely follow up with that.

Ms. Brown said right, they're different shifts. We have three shifts, all the way around, 24 hours, correct?

Ms. Harris said yes, ma'am.

Ms. Brown said and so, how many are we open to have on the floor?

Ms. Harris said so, there's currently 15 vacancies, but there's eight that are still kind of vacant, because they're going through training, so they're not actually taking calls yet, but then there's 15 other vacancies, and there's 11 people currently getting tested.

Ms. Brown said alright, no problem. Thank you so much for your hard work.

Ms. Harris said thank you.

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

Summary of Bids

Batson-Cook Company	\$1,997,003.00
Elford Inc.	\$2,422,800.00
Miles-McClellan Construction Company	\$2,112,000.00

ITEM NO. 51: LEASE OF CITY-OWNED PROPERTY AT UNIVERSITY CITY BOULEVARD PARKING DECK

Motion was made by Councilmember Johnson, and seconded by Councilmember Mayfield to (A) Adopt a resolution to approve a lease agreement with Classy Scoops Ice Cream Lounge LLC dba Classy Scoops Ice Cream Lounge for a term of 63 months 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.

Councilmember Johnson said so I did make the original motion, but I know Ms. Mayfield, you are concerned about this as well. The City-owned parking deck, the businesses in the parking deck. I wanted to know something about the lease, and how many businesses have had this spot in the last five years. The reason that we're asking that, there's another parking deck in the University area, specifically, there may be others, but the small businesses struggle to thrive in that area. So, I don't know if it's because of the price of the lease, or if there's something more that we can do for those businesses. I know the rent is pretty significant, and we're limited on what we can do, because it is the Federal Transportation. It's a good location, but we know the businesses struggle. So, I wanted some information on the lease for this business, and maybe the termination clause or something, or if there's something that we can do as the City to support these businesses, and that's why we ask for the information on this particular spot, what has been the success rate at this location?

Marie Harris, Strategy and Budget said so, for this particular unit, this is the first retail entity to have this unit, and it's unit 214. There's five total units for lease in this particular parking deck. Two of them are by a gym, but one of the gyms has two of the units, and this would be the third tenant and the fourth spot, and there's additional spot that currently has interest in it, but it's not currently leased. So, there's five total spots available, but to your point, when there's market interest, you have to charge market rate for FTA (Federal Transit Administration), so the City is not able, based on the federal regulations, to provide lower leases than market rate.

Ms. Johnson said okay. So, we can talk offline about this, but Mr. Manager, I want to put on record, and I'm sure Ms. Mayfield will say something also, that we just want to really take a look at this, because the other location in J.W. Clay, we know that the small businesses struggle, and they've brought up issues that there's areas for the City to

support. We met with the one business owner, Ms. Mayfield, Councilmember Mitchell and I, really trying to help that business owner. So, we just know that there's challenges, I think, in those garages. So, I just want to put that on record. If that business owner wants to reach out to me as the Council member or any of us, we can talk through that, but we want to look at supporting small businesses, and this is an opportunity. Thank you.

Councilmember Mayfield said thank you, Councilmember Johnson. There is concern. Manager Jones, it would be helpful for us to get an update from the team, specifically on our spaces along the Light Rail, because as the community supports it, and we continue to grow our public transportation options, there's going to be more opportunities for possible businesses. The other location that was identified, on paper it's a great location, but there were a lot of challenges with signage that we did not help with. The security that was at the building wasn't the security that actually benefitted the actual business owners. At our Light Rail stations, there was challenges regarding our unhoused community, as well as solicitations that would happen. Also, if we go back to Item No. 16, which we did approve, that was an airport fuel farm lease. Their increase is at a five-year mark. Yet, when we lease these products along the rail station, we have that annual increase in there versus a bi-annual increase to support the small business. Even though he has retired years ago, actually in 2019, I actually had a conversation with the former director of CATS (Charlotte Area Transit System), and what he mentioned in that conversation is, once we submit our proposal to the Federal Transportation Administration, because what we're submitting our paperwork for is for that parking deck, but those ground lease units, we actually have more flexibility in that than I think Council fully is aware of. Yet, we contract out to a property management or real estate team, and they're the ones that's helping to decide based on the market. We have a little more flexibility in how we utilize that, which were exercised today by having this airport fuel farm lease being at a five-year mark versus an annual mark. So, I want us to make sure we're not the cause of a small business not being successful, because of course that sets the business back, but it also creates additional revenue challenges when they're having to move or they're having to close shop and move all their product, when it was something where Council could have worked differently to help support those small businesses. So, this contract is a contract that's signed. We don't necessarily have a process in place, even though I think it would be advantageous for us to use CBI (Charlotte Business INClusion), since we put so much support into helping our small businesses, look at things differently to help with some of these contract negotiations. This request tonight, we have in here the escalating rate of three percent for each year, thereafter. We say it's consistent with the market, yet again, Item No. 16, they're having a five-year. So, I just think we have an opportunity to be more consistent and an opportunity to be more supportive. Thank you.

Marcus Jones, City Manager said so, thank you, Councilmembers Mayfield and Johnson. When I saw this on the agenda, I spoke with Alyson Craig, for us to see what we can do, because two things are going on. In the Jobs and Economic Development Committee, there's been a presentation of how we're going to work with small businesses, but also, we're doing a little bit of a study on what ED (Economic Development) is going to look like in the future, and how we're going to be able to embrace small businesses. So, I believe this is right along that pathway in both places, how we can be more supportive of small businesses, especially with spaces. So, we're looking into both.

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

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 55, at Page(s) 688-689.

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ITEM NO. 67: PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS – W.T. HARRIS SIDEWALK UTILITY PROJECT (J.W. CLAY BOULEVARD TO NORTH TRYON STREET), PARCEL # 7

Motion was made by Councilmember Johnson, and seconded by Councilmember Anderson for a Resolution of Condemnation of 2,117 square feet (0.049 acres) Temporary Construction Easement at 72,015 square feet (1.653 acres) from Wells Fargo Bank, NA for \$10,850 for W.T. Harris Sidewalk Utility Project (J.W. Clay Boulevard to North Tryon Street), Parcel # 7.

Councilmember Johnson said just, I read the property owner's concern about the easement language in this one.

Marie Harris, Strategy and Budget said yes, ma'am. The property owner in this case is actually Wells Fargo Bank, and it's just more or so tied up, I believe, from what we followed up with it, it's just going through the process, but just to make sure it doesn't get slowed down. Then, this is a temporary easement, and it will not impact the usage of the rest of the parcel.

Ms. Johnson said okay, and specifically, what is this project?

Ms. Harris said so, great question. This is a good news project. It's going to make a 12-foot-wide shared use path. So, it's helping to incorporate pedestrian and bicycle traffic along with the vehicle traffic in that area, and it'll end up being approximately a third of a mile.

Ms. Johnson said and that's on J.W. Clay to North Tryon?

Ms. Harris said yes, ma'am.

Ms. Johnson said thank you. I always like an opportunity to share good news about District Four. So, that's all.

Mayor Lyles said well, I have to say, I think that I've seen a number of banks, and they are doing more sidewalks than I've seen. So, they also have eight-foot sidewalks, and I think that if we can keep that going, it's a great idea.

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

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 55, at Page(s) 704.

Mayor Lyles said that's the end of our Action Review program tonight. So, I'm going to turn it over to the Manager.

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ITEM NO. 3: ACTION REVIEW AGENDA OVERVIEW

Marcus Jones, City Manager said thank you, Mayor, members of Council. We have two items for Action Review, and I hope that we could get a closed session on an Economic Development opportunity. So, the two items we have are really follow-ups from recent discussions. One is on street vending, which Shawn Heath will tee up tonight, as well as Community Area Plans, which Alyson Craig will tee up tonight. I think the biggest thing is the street vending is actually on the Business agenda. The Community Area Plans is just a bit of a follow-up information from the last time we talked, and what are some of the things that may occur over the summer while you're on break. So, with that said, Mayor, unless there are any questions, I'd like Shawn to come up and I know the Chair of the Committee, in which this came out, Councilmember Watlington.

Mayor Lyles said Ms. Watlington, do you want to do an introduction for us?

Councilmember Watlington said I'd like to say thank you to the members of Committee who engaged in an enlightening discussion, and thank you to each and every citizen, business owner, NoDa resident, who came out to our Committee meeting.

We were able to hear from you, hear your concerns, and co-develop potential solutions. So, really, really appreciate it. That's what it's about as we develop policy. So, thank you for showing up for your neighborhood and for each other, and being a part of that process. We hope that what we've got here today reflects your intensions, and we'll continue to keep at it, but this is just the first bite at the apple. Thank you so much, ACM (Assistant City Manager) Heath and staff who's worked on this. We know we've got a fantastic Housing and Neighborhood Services Staff in conjunction with CMPD (Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department) and our other resources, who make sure that what we're putting together is something that we can be proud of. So, with no further ado, I will turn it over to Mr. Heath.

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ITEM NO. 4: ACTION REVIEW ITEMS

Shawn Heath, Assistant City Manager said thank you, Chair Watlington and City Manager Jones. We have a very short presentation. I'm just going to quickly recap where we've been on the policy referral. So, the Mayor released the policy referral related to street vending in late April 2025. We held an initial Committee conversation on this topic on May 5, 2025. We then held a public input session. There were a few dozen members of the public that participated here in this room on May 22, 2025. There were also a few speakers at your May 2025 public forum related to street vending. On June 2, 2025, staff presented two recommendations associated with the referral, one related to the increase of fines. Current state fines are anywhere between \$10 to \$50, and the second policy recommendation related to the establishment of a pilot program in NoDa, where NoDa for up to six months would be converted to a scenario where street vending can happen, but only with a permit. So, tonight, we have the Action Review discussion, which is a very brief presentation, followed by Item No. 11 on your policy agenda for a vote tonight on the two policy items. Charlie Jones is going to handle the presentation. What you're hearing tonight, really we're just continuing to breathe life in particular into the NoDa pilot program. So, there isn't anything that we've deviated from relative to our last conversation on June 9, 2025. We haven't taken a different position, but we wanted to provide you with additional information, because you had asked a number of questions on June 9, 2025, about what the pilot program would look like. So, Charlie's prepared to share that with you this evening.

Last thing I would mention. All of this work has very much been a collaborative effort. So, Julia Martin from the City Manager's Office was instrumental in getting us around this issue coming out of the gates. Charlie and Debbie from C-DOT have been instrumental. You have the City Attorney's Office represented here with Jessica Battle. Code Enforcement has been helpful as well with Jerry Greene. Sorry if I'm leaving anybody out, but this has definitely been a collaborative effort. So, with that, Charlie, I'm going to hand it over to you.

Charlie Jones, CDOT said good evening, Madam Mayor and members of Council. Thank you for entertaining me again this week. Pleasure to be here. So, tonight's requested policy actions that are on the agenda, is ordinance amendments to increase fines associated with street vending related violations, to a civil penalty not to exceed \$500. That ties in to not only the action around NoDa, but also the Tryon Street Mall vendors, where we currently have that vendor program. The other action is an ordinance amendment to add certain streets in NoDa to the Congested Business District, and to enable a City-administered permitted vendor pilot program in NoDa for a period not to exceed six months in duration. So, that would involve standing up that program and applying the fines to unpermitted vendors in that area. Jump to the map to kind of give an idea of the geographic limits of, what we're calling, the NoDa Street Market. If you notice, there had been some questions at the Committee meetings in the past and at the last agenda review about vendor sites. We've got four potential vendor sites, I want to make sure I'm clear on potential vendor sites. We're fairly confident that these sites can work. It would actually be more than four permitted vendors, there would probably be six to seven, maybe even more vendors. We've still got to have some

additional conversations, but the streets in red would be part of that Congested Business District where vending without a permit would be illegal.

So, implementation update. We've been very busy over the last couple of weeks. We're targeting end of July 2025 for the launch of the pilot program. Part of that program would be the allowable things that folks could sell in the NoDa Street Market, be clothing, jewelry, art, essentially things that people make and express their artistic talents, is what we're really looking for. The intent is not to have food produced on site, not to have mixed drink beverages sold on the street. It's really to keep with the character of NoDa as an arts community and give an outlet for people to sell art and things that they've produced. We're currently designing that application process. Part of that is, depending on the number of vendors that show interest, there may be an opportunity to have rotation of vendors throughout the sites. So, it may be a certain vendor can only be there two days a week, so we can open up the spot for a vendor to be there the other three. On-street education is going to occur before the activation of the pilot. So, we'll work internally with C-DOT, our friends in the neighborhood, our Code Enforcement to be on the street and provide information to the vendors that are currently out there and let them know how the application process will work and where they can go to apply for that. Hopefully, we'll be able to do focused enforcement during the early stages of the pilot. We feel that that'll be key to the success of the program, is to have all of our partners out there on the street helping educate, not only business owners, but the vendors themselves.

One thing we wanted to touch on is, we are going to be offering technical assistance and business counseling to vendors in the area that may be affected by the pilot. So, if somebody has a vending business that may not meet the requirements of this program, we do have resources in place that may help them find either another spot in the City or maybe be able to develop a product or something they can sell in the NoDa Street Market.

One other thing I know that we heard loud and clear was, what the cost might be. Permit cost will be less than \$100. We don't have a final number at this point, but we wanted to keep it very affordable, because this is a pilot. Also, the limited number of spaces, we wanted to make sure that there wasn't a high bar of entry and keep that, at least during this pilot, something that was achievable by most of the businesses out there.

One final thing. There's a lot of conversation on what a permit might look like. This wasn't vetted by C-DOT's graphic design team. So, hopefully I won't get in too much trouble for that, but we did throw together a rough concept of what something might look like. The intent is to have an 8½ x 11, or some type of sign, that a vendor can have laminated and put on their stall, their table, that would identify them as a permitted vendor, identify the location where they're permitted to be. We felt that was important, so that CMPD or other people could drive by and say, hey, that's vendor spot five, why is vendor two there? So, we're working through a lot of those details. I do have multiple colors. I know there's some question on the color. If anybody wants to put in a plug for a certain color tonight, feel free to do that, but that's a concept of what the permit might actually look like. With that, that is all we've got. It's a brief update, but I feel like we've made quite a bit of progress over the past month, through all the Committee's input and the rest of the Council's input. Any questions?

Councilmember Watlington said I just want to say absolutely, thank you for the work that you all have done. I did have one followup, and it's not for right now, but I'll just give it to you. As we think about how many slots are available, I didn't see on your permit like a time slot. I saw dates. So, that just would be one thing that we may want to consider is, if there are different events happening, the vendor may not be there all day, and that's another opportunity for another vendor.

Mr. Charlie Jones said very good feedback, thank you.

Councilmember Ajmera said I just wanted to echo Councilmember Watlington's comments about the work that the Committee had done. Over the last several days, we have received emails from street vendors. So, I just want to make sure that we send a clear message, this is not to drive any street vendors out of business, because that is not our intent, but it's to really create a structured environment, so that brick-and-mortar businesses, as well as street vendors, can co-exist and add value to the unique character of the NoDa neighborhood.

Also, I think this is a great balance that Committee has come up with, which really addresses public safety concerns, while really recognizing the value that street vendors contribute to our community, specifically to the NoDa neighborhood. Also, I want to highlight that we will be collaborating with the County, because I know many of our colleagues had mentioned, especially the Mayor, about public health concerns, especially vendors that are selling food and drinks. We want to make sure that this process is essential from health and safety standards that are being met when street vendors are selling food and drinks.

So, I really appreciate the work that's been done so far, and I look forward to supporting this that's on our agenda. I also want to recognize Charlie and his team. I think you all have done a great job in such a short time frame to address the concerns that a lot of our residents have brought up from the NoDa community that are here today. I appreciate the work that you all have done, and the advocacy to get us to this point. That's all I have. Thank you.

Councilmember Mayfield said the Committee did great work in a very short period of time. I have a couple of questions. I want to understand why we have the language of penalty not to exceed \$500, because I believe the last time we had a conversation regarding the vendors, there was a discussion of increasing the current fee that our vendors that were in Uptown were paying from \$160 to over \$300, and we asked, okay, what does that increase encompass? So, if we're looking at doing an increase now that we passed the budget, I really want to understand why we have, not to exceed \$500 on here.

Mr. Charlie Jones said so, the not to exceed \$500 on the fine, is common language in most of our ordinances. It allows some level of discretion for the responding officer, or say Code Enforcement, if that was the situation. So, I can't speak to CMPD in how they apply that every time, but a lot of our ordinances have that up to threshold in there.

Ms. Mayfield said and that's a different conversation, because the language of, up to versus not to exceed, are two different statements. Manager Jones, I'm not as comfortable with the idea of that much discretion being in, so that we have clear transparency, where if it's a repeat offender, and we say you get 30 days, and the same offense happens on the 35th day, is that looking at a trigger starting all over the way Code Enforcement currently works, because we have a lot of people that maneuver in that gray area, where it could be a code infraction, they received a notification, they wait out that 30, 35 days, the same infraction comes up, but it's starting all over again. So, I'm hoping during these couple of weeks, since you're looking at the end of July 2025, we can clarify what that means. As my Council colleague mentioned, we have received some emails. I think there's an opportunity, since one email in particular I'm reading, saying that some of the vendors there wasn't much outreach to them. I think we have an opportunity to clarify what is and what isn't. I know a number of my colleagues actually went out to North Davidson. I went out on late Saturday afternoon. You cannot maneuver through the sidewalk. You do have vendors selling a product directly in front of a store that is selling a product. That is a challenge. I want to ensure if we're going to step into the space of recommending locations where the permits can be used, that we're taking into consideration foot traffic in those areas, because NoDa, because of the restaurants, because of the stores, there's a different level of foot traffic. So, I can see the appeal, yet there has to be a better way. You can't be covering our bus stops and benches and other things with your product, or selling clothes directly in front of a clothing store, and other wares.

If we're going to step into that space of making a recommendation, I think we definitely have an opportunity to actually do a little bit more outreach with the actual vendors, to have some possible buy-in, and still give you an opportunity to have a fair space, so that people can come in and be able to patronize, that people will have access to either walk up and/or have parking nearby, so that it doesn't create a true burden. I do think we are moving in the right direction to make sure that we have parity. I had previously asked, and I think you're already looking into making sure that this doesn't negatively impact. Like when we have food truck Fridays, because a lot of that is working directly with the business to get their parking lot space, that we're not creating an undue burden and we're keeping the concern and the opportunity to do something a little different in the areas where we see the challenges. Eventually, it will be South End and other areas, as we continue to grow. So, having this conversation now at least sets us up to think about how to do it. Thank you.

Councilmember Johnson said thank you to your team for the policy. You did move very quickly. I think it's important also, for the individuals who didn't follow the Committee meeting and haven't followed the process, to know that we were also advocating for the street vendors when we talked about this policy. We were very concerned about displacement of the street vendors. We know in this state that \$7.25 is the minimum wage, and the lack of affordable housing in the City. We know that the developers are developing the hotels, motels, mobile home parks. So, we know that people need a side hustle in the City, or a second job. So, it's very, very important we advocate for a place for the street vendors, because it is a safety issue in NoDa. We also believe that small businesses, we want you to have a permit, if necessary, and learn how to do business. So, there's a balance, and we were really sensitive in striking that balance. So, we ask, if possible, if there was a place that, if the City had land somewhere over there, and there's not any in NoDa. I want the street vendors to know that we see you. We want to help you move to that next level in business, as far as learning how to permit. This process has to be easy. If it's an App, whatever that is, it has to be easy for individuals to get that permit. So, I saw it as a way of teaching them to get to that next level in business. We also want to continue to try to look for places. This is one of the only spots where you need a permit. They are able to go elsewhere right now, but if we move to needing a permit, it should be, I think, a graduated fee, depending on what you sell or however that will work out. I think having a permit is necessary and responsible for a business owner, but we have to make this accessible. So, I just really want the street vendors to know that it wasn't our goal to displace you, this Council, but there's a safety issue in NoDa, and there's blocking small businesses. So, we have to have order and balance, and this is our attempt at balance, but it needs to be very clear that we want to help that small business, that vendor also, get to the next level where they have a brick-and-mortar location. Let's focus on rotating and time limits and equity and being fair. As far as food and drink, like Councilmember Ajmera said, that falls under the County Health Department jurisdiction, so that's fair. It was really our goal to be fair here. Thank you.

Councilmember Molina said I'll be brief. I actually have a question. Are there any other Congested Business Districts in the City of Charlotte?

Mr. Charlie Jones said within Uptown along Tryon.

Ms. Molina said Uptown is one, right, and that's what I thought. I was actually looking at some historic detail to try to find out if we had anything that we were going off of. Do we know anything based on what we're doing in Uptown and how we're enforcing that?

Mr. Charlie Jones said so, one of the challenges with the current environment in Uptown is the low level of defiance, which is part of that first action item tonight, to increase the fines, because we've seen unpermitted vendors come and sit down right next to a permitted vendor and get a miniscule fine and they shrug it off. For all intents and purposes, the Tryon Street Vendor Program has worked very well over the years. We've had vendors build big brands. I don't want to plug a business, but Halal Street Cart started on the square, and they have, I think, two brick-and-mortar locations now. So,

it's been a good incubator on Tryon Street. So, that would be ideally how these programs would work.

Ms. Molina said so, Halal is actually who I had in mind. Believe it not, my daughter and I were chasing a little small plate from them, and the store closes at like 9:00 p.m., and the food truck is open until like 10:00 p.m. or 11:00 p.m., one night. So, again, as I'm thinking through possibility, and as we look at NoDa, I don't want to recall all that my colleagues here at the dais have said, I believe they made some really good points. I think now we have, in my opinion, two opportunities to say what will work and what won't. I think Councilwoman Mayfield brings up a good point, like what I think we're going to find, and I'm not in support of moving forward with NoDa at all, but what I think we're going to have to, in my opinion at some point mitigate is, the humans that leave NoDa and go Uptown, for an example. The fines are less. These things travel, and the humans that we have in our communities, they're surviving, and when you're surviving, you're moving on a dime. So, I think we'll find some additional challenges, in my opinion as we continue, and I think the beauty of it being a pilot in another controlled environment, I think we'll find kind of what will work throughout the City. I have my own assumptions based on the open-air market, for an example, in East Charlotte, because this was one of those things where we had people who own land, the Levine family stepped in, they gave us some property in District Six. We tried to recharge the open-air market over there, and it was kind of successful, but then what we had was people essentially splitting up and going to different places, and I assume that we'll have some of that with this particular undertaking as well. So, do we have, I guess what we would say, a scope? Like how long do we intend for this to be a pilot?

Mr. Charlie Jones said so, part of the action is a six-month pilot. So, that would be, I believe, in February 2026, would be I think the assumption, I'll look to Shawn. We would definitely come back with an update and additional information, at least at that time or before that time.

Ms. Molina said okay, and so I guess my next question, and we don't have to I don't believe have that tonight, but I think from a staff perspective is, I think we'll have to develop what will be the ask at that point. Like what do we intend to hand to the policymaking body to say, based on what we've seen over the last six months, this is what we would like for you to consider. We also have adjacent to that the Uptown Congested Business District, where we've learned X. So, from a policy challenge perspective, this is something that, of course I assume, we're going to take on Citywide at some point, but is this just for the scope of kind of collecting data, so that we can take on that challenge?

Mr. Charlie Jones said the intent is to address the challenges through the pilot. I'll leave the policy decision to ya'll as far as expansion or continuation, but what I can commit to is, our team will bring back the data, we'll bring back feedback from both the business owners and the vendors in both locations, and let you decide, is this one and done, is this expansion, is this continue business as usual.

Ms. Molina said so, that's what I hope to be able to decide, I guess, is what I'm implying. So, based on us taking this on as a pilot and agreeing to do it as a pilot, what I hope to take on at the end of this exercise, this Council or the next, is there being some type of policy implementation that we can look at from a Citywide scope. What are we learning from this? What are we learning from Uptown? Then, allow the deliberation of what would become a policy that we would adopt ultimately.

Mr. Charlie Jones said yes.

Ms. Molina said that's all I have. Thank you.

Councilmember Anderson said I just want to say thank you to the Committee for the work and their efforts leaning into this. I want to thank Mr. Heath and Mr. Jones for the work in the background. Mr. Heath has been running quarterback on this effort for many, many months. I know that the NoDa community is excited to see a pilot come out

that focuses on their neighborhood. They've been burdened with a variety of different things going on as it relates to the interaction between the business owners, the residents, and the street vendors. Overall, the community, I will say throughout this process, that has been well over a year, the NoDa community has had open arms to the vendors. They recognize that the vendors bring a level of fabric to the neighborhood. So, this was never about an attack on the street vendors, not at all. It was about ensuring that we have a safe environment in a historical part of our City that has infrastructure that is, I will say quaint and dated. So, these eight-foot, 10-foot sidewalks that we were talking about earlier, they don't exist in NoDa, not in this particular business area. So, very excited for the pilot, but also the findings. I also think, Mr. Jones, with the rotation of the vendors, that will create a dynamic, interesting environment. A sort of treasure hunt, if you will, instead of just having the same vendors in there every single day, you go to NoDa on Monday, you go to NoDa on Wednesday, you might see another different vendor, and so it might increase trips to the neighborhood, and peak some interest even further than what exists today.

I wanted to make a couple of comments about the overflow, if you will, because there will be, I'm sure, some overflow, and we've already seen activities in other neighborhoods. I won't name them, but there are few in District One that are beginning to see this type of activity and behavior occur. So, I just want to make sure as we're doing this pilot and we're learning, that we are also enforcing the Peddler's Ordinance as it exists, because even outside of Uptown and outside of NoDa, once we stand up this pilot, we want to make sure in other parts of the City that the street vendors have the right to vend, but they're doing it appropriately. We've seen photos of open flames and other food and beverage activity going on throughout South End and other places, especially late night. So, I want to make sure that with the existing Peddler's Ordinance, that we actually enforce that, and perhaps we can take that [INAUDIBLE] approach that we utilized in NoDa, Mr. Heath, in other neighborhoods of interest. So, I just want to make sure that we can do that.

The other part I want to say is, the Uptown program has really and truly been an incubator, especially connected with the 7th Street Market, and because of the activity at the 7th Street Market, they can leverage some of their resources and collateral to help some of the street vendors, like Halal, grow and expand. I think there should be a way that we create a resource library, if you will, virtual or digital, where just like you can access information from that QR code, Mr. Jones, that perhaps street vendors who feel like they're ready to take that jump, that they can instantly have access to all of the services that the City and the County provides for small business development incubation, our small business programs, and minority-owned programs as well, women-owned programs.

So, this is a long time coming, and I'm excited to see how this pilot will inform potential policy efforts after that six-month period, but it's time that we do it, being the 14th largest city in the United States. The secrets out, Charlotte is an amazing city, and so hundreds and hundreds of people are coming here on a weekly basis. So, this is the type of policy work that we need to do to ensure that we're able to embrace it. So, once again, thank you, Mr. Jones, and thank you, Mr. Heath, as well as the Committee, for all of the work that you all did on this effort. Thank you, Madam Mayor.

Mayor Lyles said thank you all. I hope all of you that came in today to listen to this walk away feeling very positive around it. So, thank you very much. Now, we are going to have two items for a closed session.

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ITEM NO. 5: CLOSED SESSION (AS NECESSARY)

Motion was made by Councilmember Graham, seconded by Councilmember Anderson, and carried unanimously to go into closed session relating to the location or expansion of industries and other businesses in the area served by the public body, including agreement on a tentative list of economic development incentives that may be offered by the public body in negotiations pursuant to North Carolina General Statute, Section 143-318.11(a)(4).

The meeting was recessed at 6:14 p.m. for a closed session in Room 267. The closed session recessed at 6:53 p.m. to move to the Meeting Chamber for the regularly scheduled Business Meeting.

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The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina convened for a Business Meeting on Monday, June 23, 2025, at 7:01 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, Tiawana Brown, Ed Driggs, Malcolm Graham, Renee Johnson, Lawana Mayfield, Marjorie Molina, Edwin Peacock III, and Victoria Watlington.

ABSENT: Councilmember James Mitchell

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Mayor Lyles said everyone, this is the Charlotte City Council Business Meeting for June 23, 2025, and I now call this meeting to order. We will begin to work through our agenda, but before we do this, we have an opportunity to talk with the leaders that are here today to say that, we really hope to have everyone have the opportunity to speak, but we also want them to have that opportunity to speak in a way that everyone can be heard. So, we ask you to be very conscience. We have a number of people that are coming down to speak with the Council members, but we will have the opportunity to have everyone participate. Before we begin, with all of the work that we're talking about doing, let's begin with introductions.

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INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by all.

Mayor Lyles said it is our practice to have a prayer or some type of opportunity to come together, but I wanted to take a special moment of privilege here, because I want to take a moment to recognize my colleague and friend, Councilmember Malcolm Graham. Ten years ago, Malcolm lost his sister, Cynthia, in the heartbreaking shooting at Mother Emanuel AME Zion Church in Charleston, South Carolina. As I thought about what I wanted to say tonight, it hasn't been lost on me that this tragedy happened at the Emanuel AME Zion Church. Emanuel means God with us, and it's hard not to think about that, how even in the face of such an unimaginable loss filled with pain, Malcolm has shown what it means to carry both opportunities to love and have faith and grace moving forward, no matter how difficult it was for him. Through pain, Malcolm, you've honored your sister's life by advocating for peace, by building bridges, and never letting Cynthia, or the value's that she lived, be forgotten. So, today, we remember Cynthia. I want to reflect on what was lost, and hold Malcolm and his family, including the grandkids, close, and recognize the strength it takes to turn grief into purpose, because that's what you've done, and what you continue to do. Thank you for the opportunity to sit at this dais with you, and to see how well you manage what is probably one of the most difficult things. So, thank you very much.

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AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Mayor Lyles said as we begin our meeting, we also have to recognize some very important days that we have, and I'm going to ask the Mayor Pro Tem to address the recognition of Americans with Disabilities.

ITEM NO. 6: AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT DISABILITY PRIDE DAY

Councilmember Anderson read the following proclamation:

WHEREAS, on July 26, 1990, President George H.W. Bush signed into law the Americans with Disabilities Act, otherwise known as ADA, a historic piece of civil rights legislation that prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities, and ensures equal opportunity for employment, government services, public accommodations, commercial facilities, and transportation; and

WHEREAS, July 26, 2025, marks the 35th anniversary of the signing of the ADA, a landmark law that continues to serve as a powerful affirmation of our nation's commitment to accessibility for all. Over the past 35 years, the ADA has expanded opportunities for people with disabilities by reducing barriers, improving access, transforming public spaces, creating civic engagement, and reshaping societal attitudes towards disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Charlotte celebrates and honors the significant contributions, resilience and achievements of individuals with disabilities while acknowledging the work that remains to achieve full ADA compliance and true equity, we affirm our commitment to advancing accessibility in our built environment, digital services, communication tools, programs, and public engagement efforts, and to uphold the right and the dignity for all people; and

WHEREAS, we recognize and commend the many individuals, organizations, businesses and community leaders who champion inclusion by removing physical and attitudinal barriers, and by creating environments where all people, regardless of ability, can thrive, we envision a community where every resident is seen, respected and empowered; and

WHEREAS, accessibility and opportunity are cornerstones of civic life, that those values are reflected in our policy, in our practice, and progress:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Vi Alexander Lyles, Mayor of Charlotte, do hereby proclaim July 26, 2025, as

“AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT PRIDE DAY”

in Charlotte, and commends its observance to all citizens.

This evening in attendance, we have Lezlie Briggs, the ADA Manager with the City's Community Relations Department. If you can come down, I would love to present you this proclamation.

Mayor Lyles said thank you, Lezlie.

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PUBLIC FORUM

Mayor Lyles said we're now going to begin the part of our meeting where we invite you to come down and speak to the entire City Council, but again, I'd just like to remind us that audience members should be courteous, as well as civil in the use of the language, and we really appreciate when you do this. In addition to that, on each side there's a

place that you can come down and we can have people, one here and then one here. Please do watch those steps, they're very steep.

Transportation

Lauren Patterson, 5501 Southhampton Road said hi everyone. I'm Lauren Patterson. I am here speaking on behalf of the Bike Advisory Committee, and for a lot of cyclists throughout here in Charlotte. We wanted to get in front of you about some biking needs throughout the City. I have been an avid cyclist, and my primary form of transportation has been bike for almost eight years, and it's actually recently switched to bus, but I still utilize both on a regular basis to get throughout the City of Charlotte.

Three really important things that we've been talking about on the Committee, and a lot of the members and just residents in the City who have come to talk to us about these different elements, are three important topics. One is Vision Zero. So, we just wanted to bring that in front of the Council to make sure we're really talking about the safety of people for all modes of transportation. Vision Zero is something just to ensure that all of our streets are safe for all modes of transportation, and making sure that there are no deaths, and that it is safe for everybody to be able to travel and reducing that is pretty simple with a lot of simple policy and regulation aspects.

Another big thing we've been talking about that we did want to just kind of bring forward to the Committee is the connections of projects. So, there's a lot of really awesome projects that are happening within the City, but those last little connections between some of these create that really big disconnect within the City of Charlotte, and it just does not enable for people to utilize, in particular, cycling as a form of transportation sometimes, to be able to connect to those last little elements. So, being able to go longer distances and making sure those projects are prioritized, and also that they're connected throughout the whole thing. Then, the other big thing that we've noticed too, and we've had quite a few complaints about, is the disconnect between.

Mayor Lyles said so, your time is up, but if you give us the written part of your remarks, we will be glad to include those, and if you would bring them over to the City Clerk right over there. Thank you.

Ms. Patterson said alright, thank you so much.

Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

Carson Cone, 920 Spindle Street said alright, thank you. Councilmember Graham, I'm sorry for your loss. Thank you for your service despite that tragedy.

Councilmember Graham said thank you.

Mr. Cone said I think we can all agree that the world is better off peaceful. No one deserves to be hurt or die simply because they're in the wrong place at the wrong time. Nuclear weapons directly go against that belief. The U.S. spent over \$56 billion last year related to nuclear weapons. The portion of that money that was, if using population percentages, a basis for calculation from the City of Charlotte, equals about \$146 million. With all the issues our City faces, one can imagine how helpful that money would be to have. At City Council meetings in recent months, I've spoken to the majority of you, requesting that the City of Charlotte pass a resolution urging the U.S. to essentially get rid of its nuclear weapons by signing the treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons. I have provided the Council, as you requested Mayor Lyles, a link to the treaty, and Charlotte would not be alone in supporting this treaty. Five U.S. states have done so, as well as hundreds of cities in the world, including New York, Los Angeles, Baltimore, Chapel Hill, Asheville, and Durham. I've handed out a resolution tonight, which the Council could pass or use as a draft. Tonight, I request your actual feedback, Council, how do you feel about the resolution?

Mayor Lyles said I think that we've all just gotten a copy of that, I believe, and so we will have someone work with you with the staff, so that we will have this copy, and then Council will make a decision on the next steps.

Mr. Cone said okay. I did email it to you after I spoke last.

Mayor Lyles said I appreciate that, thanks. I'll make sure that I pull it out.

Door to Door Solicitation

Captain John Hedin, 3717 Mountain Cove Drive said okay, thanks, Council. Captain John Hedin, Charlottean resident for 18 years, and hello to my fellow Charlotteans. I'm here to address a practice that's unsafe and it's getting worse and worse, our aggressive door-to-door salesman that our ordinance in Charlotte needs to catch up with the other municipalities. Currently under the current ordinance, a door-to-door salesman can come onto my property, even if it's posted no soliciting on my property and the entrance to our subdivision, they can legally do it, and they know they can, that the ordinance does make that a violation. So, they can come onto our property, also seven days a week from 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m., 9:00 p.m. daylight savings time, it's pitch dark. They also do not have to display their permit that they are supposed to receive from you. They also do not have to display it and show it if we request it of them. It is only by law enforcement are they required to show their permit. I ask you to address this, and we need to change the ordinance. The day we live in now, to get a knock at the door after dark, it's not like, yay, someone's here to visit, it's concern. Then, also with my job, sometimes I have to sleep during the morning, and having people knocking on my door at 8:00 a.m., is a nuance inconvenience. I ask of you, the Council, to consider these amendments for Article 8, Section 6, subdivision wide bans must be honored. Solicitation shall be prohibited within any subdivision that is posted with a clearly visible no soliciting sign at its entrance. Homeowner property rights must be respected. Solicitation shall be prohibited on any private property that is visibly marked no solicitation. Limits solicitation hours from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday, excluding holidays. We don't want to be bothered on holidays either, especially Sunday. Permit visibly required to be displayed and pushed for the amendment to be changed that they have to show it to us if we request it, and that it become a misdemeanor that's enforceable.

Mayor Lyles said thank you. We will put this in a place that we can do a little bit of work and get some information, and what the rules are, and how do we address it. Thank you very much.

Mr. Hedin said just curious, fellow Charlotteans, would you like to see this changed? Show of hands.

Safety Awareness Month

Maribel McBeath, 309 South Cloudman Street said hello. My name is Maribel McBeath. I am a cabin cleaner for ABM, a contracted employer for America Airlines at Charlotte International Airport. This isn't your first time hearing from airport workers like me. I was here at this very podium back in March 2025 telling you about the high turnover rate, low pay, and poor working conditions we airport workers have to suffer through every day. Other airport workers have also stood at this very podium in April 2025 and in May 2025 telling you we need your support and help in order to make Charlotte safe. It's now June 2025, and nothing has been done. The Governor proclaimed June Safety Awareness Month, so when are you all going to step up to keep us workers safe. We still sometimes only have four people on a team to clean these planes. We are still rushing to clean the planes and get the next one with barely any breaks to eat, use the restroom, drink water, or take medicine. We're still doing double the workload, because the pay and benefits aren't enough to keep people on the job. There are airport workers still living paycheck to paycheck, struggling to buy groceries, unable to afford medicine, living in hotels, or worse, homeless, living in their cars. Once again, we're here calling for CASE (Charlotte Acting for Safety and Efficiency) to be

submitted into Committee for a hearing in order to improve standards at the airport. We won't be silenced. We won't go away. We're going to keep coming back, and we're going to keep demanding that you step up, take action, and be the City Council the airport workers in Charlotte deserve to have. Thank you.

Chris Baumann, 820 Tyvola Road said good evening, Mayor and members of the City Council. My name is Chris Baumann and I'm the Director for Worker's United Southern Region. We're a union affiliated with the Service Employees International Union. We have two million members nationwide, but represent about 4,000 workers here in Charlotte. Nearly 30 years ago, I came to this City as a young community organizer, working to empower everyday Charlotte residents with the Help Organization. I've never forgotten what I learned then, that real change happens when working people raise their voices and when leaders have the courage to listen. That's why I'm here today, to support CASE, Charlotte Acting for Safety and Efficiency, at the Charlotte Airport. Let's be clear, this is about protecting the flying public and standing up for the low-wage workers who keep Charlotte's Airport running every single day, workers who are exhausted, underpaid, and overexploited. Yet, instead of honoring their voices, we've seen efforts to silence them. Madam Mayor, I must respectfully disagree with you for blocking a public hearing on this issue. Leadership means facing pressure, not avoiding it. It means standing with the people who use the Charlotte Airport, and who clean your terminals, push your wheelchairs, and load your bags. It means standing for safety and human dignity. The No Kings Rallies across the country are a sign of something bigger. People are tired of executives and elected officials who protect the powerful, instead of the people. You can either lead the way or be remembered as someone who stood in its way. Our coalition is not going away, and if necessary, we are prepared to make what the late John Lewis called, "Good trouble," because when the community and workers speak out for safety and justice, we listen, we organize, and we win. Thank you.

Moral Leadership

Glencie Rhedrick, 1100 Berry Tree Court said good evening, Council members. I am Reverend Glencie Rhedrick, the Co-Chair for Charlotte Clergy Coalition for Justice, and I come before you today on behalf of our essential airport workers, those who make it possible for us to travel safely and comfortably. Yet, behind the convenience we enjoy lies a deep injustice. Too many of our airport workers right here in Charlotte are paid poverty wages. Prospect agents who provide critical services, like assisting passengers in wheelchairs and escorting unaccompanied minors, earn as little as \$12.50 an hour. Our cabin cleaners, who sanitize American Airline planes and perform security sweeps for weapons and explosives, make as little as \$14 an hour. These are not livable wages. These are not dignified wages. These workers often receive little to no benefits, no affordable healthcare, no part-time, paid time off, and few protections, yet they labor in hazardous conditions, extreme temperatures, constant biohazard exposure, and high physical demands. The results, high turnover, unsafe staffing levels, unbearable working loads that threaten, not just worker safety, but passenger safety as well. We must not allow airlines, particularly those profiting here in our City, to continue treating human beings as disposable. I urge this Council to hold the airlines accountable, demand living wages, basic benefits, and the dignity every worker deserves, because when workers thrive our City will thrive also.

Ben Boswell, 345 Sharon Township Lane said good evening, Madam Mayor and members of the City Council. My name is Reverend Doctor Benjamin Boswell. I'm the Lead Pastor of Collective Liberation Church in South Park. I'm here as a member of the clergy to speak in solidarity and support of the Charlotte airport workers, and to ask you to join me in supporting them by introducing the Charlotte Acting for Safety and Efficiency Ordinance into a Committee hearing. As you know, the CASE Ordinance would significantly reduce the currently high turnover rates for Charlotte airport workers by raising wages, providing benefits, training, and paid time off, and promoting a stable and experienced workforce as well as enhanced passenger service and safety for all who travel through our airport. I know that many of you on this Council are people of great faith. Our sacred scriptures teach us that providing fair living wages and conditions for workers are a necessity of our faith. Leviticus 19 states, "You shall not

defraud your neighbor of their wages.” Deuteronomy 24 says, “You shall not withhold the wages of poor and needy labors, because their livelihood depends on them.” In Luke 10, Jesus stated, “The laborer deserves to be paid,” and when he taught us how to pray, Jesus said, “Give us today our daily bread,” by which he meant our daily wages. In Malachi 3 and James 5, the scriptures tell us that God hears the cries of defrauded workers, and that you and I will be judged by the way that we care for and compensate those who labor among us. In the last few months, you’ve heard the heart-wrenching testimonies and stories of workers, like terminal and cabin cleaners, Dorothy Griffin and Maribel McBeath, who spoke this evening, as well as passenger service agents, like Laura Kelly, explaining the extraordinary and inhumane conditions that they are working in for what amount to poverty wages. I believe their testimonies alone should be enough to move forward with introducing the CASE Ordinance to a Committee hearing, as it is clearly the most logical and practical way to stabilize a workforce and improve efficiency at our airport. I’m here tonight to remind you that it’s also the spiritual and morally right thing to do as well.

TreesCharlotte

Richard Pennebaker, 5912 Shumard Oak Lane said thank you, Mayor Lyles and City Council. My name is Rick Pennebaker. I’m here tonight with several of my hardworking friends from TreesCharlotte. We want to thank Mayor Lyles, Charlotte City Council, and the many businesses and organizations for your tremendous past, present, and future support of our wonderful tree canopy. Thank you so much. All of you acted at times to help our beautiful trees provide Charlotte with cleaner air, water, and soil, and to make Charlotte healthy for our citizens, visitors, and wildlife. Trees help make Charlotte a wonderful place to live. I can’t count how many times friends and visitors tell me that when they fly into Charlotte from the west and midwest, the first thing they notice are the gorgeous green colors of our trees before their planes even land. Yes, trees and greenways attracted me to Charlotte seven years ago after retiring from a 35-year career as a pediatrician. A tip of the hat to you for partnering with Mecklenburg County to complete the Little Sugar Creek Greenway with all tributary trails from NoDa to Pineville and beyond. Our greenways are enjoyed by people and pets from all walks of life. Thank you. My TreesCharlotte friends here and I are proud to be a small part of planting, maintaining, celebrating our beautiful shade-giving tree canopy. We ask for your thoughtful continued support of our trees now and for future generations. Also, many thanks to Heather Brent, Tim Porter, Laurie Reid. They’re arborers for TreesCharlotte, urban forestry, and land management. Thumbs up to my fellow tree masters, and Allison Rhodes, Executive Director, Heike Biller, Business Director. In closing, I have a special request for Mayor Lyles to sign the proclamation currently on her desk declaring October 2025 as Charlotte, North Carolina, Tree Month. Thank you.

Mayor Lyles said I will certainly be glad to do that. Thank you very much for that.

Mr. Pennebaker said thank you, and ya’ll each get a patch.

Housing

Apryl Lewis, 3104 High Glen Drive said good evening. My name is Apryl Lewis, and I’m here on behalf of over 300 displaced residents failed by two programs, one Heal Charlotte, which was funded by the City, and Cedric Dean’s supposed Help Program. Shannon and her baby son died during that transition from Heal Charlotte to Cedric Dean’s program. Two lives lost in a hotel room, because there was no plan, no support, and no protection. Let me be clear. This just wasn’t tragic oversight. It was the result of bad leadership, bad agreements, and funding people who build platforms off pain with no real infrastructure of care. Greg Jackson had no CASE management, no housing pipeline, no savings plan, just haircuts, backpacks and photo ops. He leased a building for a year and wasted money on a sign, while families were left in limbo. Then came Cedrick Dean, who placed families in homes he doesn’t own, asked for Medicaid info with no consent, then illegally evicted women, children, and elders with no legal notice, and a Council member in this room supports him. Do you support illegal evictions? Do you support programs that exploit the most vulnerable? If you don’t, then prove it. Fund

a community-led stabilization center with real services and real accountability. Partner with Mecklenburg County Public Health to reach scattered families and provide urgent support. Establish a community stabilization fund, legally governed, transparently managed, and resident-informed, and pass protective policy, so no resident in a city-funded program can be displaced without process or dignity. We're not just angry, we're organized. We're not asking for permission, we're demanding change. The people are watching. The families are ready. Charlotte, what side of this story do you want to be on? Thank you.

Mayor Lyles said Ms. Lewis, thank you. I want you to have an opportunity to provide additional information to Shawn Heath, who will work with you. We understand how difficult this has been, but we have to work together to get it done. So, Shawn, would you join her up, and make sure that we are addressing the questions and the comments that she has made to us tonight. Thank you so much, Ms. Lewis.

911 Resources

Krish Karri, 8122 Red Water Road said good evening, everyone. My name is Krish Karri, and I am a certified EMT, as well as a public health student at UNC (University of North Carolina) Charlotte. I'm here today to speak in favor of establishing a student-run rescue squad within the Department of Emergency Management on campus. Our campus has over 30,000 students, faculty and staff, which is about the size of a small town within a city, yet we have no internal EMS system. Every time there's a medical emergency on campus, such as dehydration, fainting, or mental health crises, they all go to Charlotte's Central 911 system, which pulls emergency services away from the community surrounding campus. One common objection that we have to campus EMS is that Atrium Health can be seen from campus. With respect, proximity does not equate to accessibility. In emergencies, students don't need a hospital that they can see, but they need trained responders who know the campus layout, as well as can be there within minutes. This is not just an issue of stabilizing a patient or being there. Campus EMS advances real public health goals, improving emergency outcomes, promoting care health education, enhancing preparedness, and building a culture of safety, all of which would be tailored to the unique needs and behaviors of college students. Student EMTs are not outsiders. We live in the dorms and apartments nearby, attend classes, and understand that the culture and challenges are peer based. That cultural competence makes it so that our interventions are faster, more trusted, and more effective. UNC Charlotte brands itself as a leader in civic engagement, but true civic engagement means protecting your community when it matters the most. Right now, that means supporting a campus EMS initiative that works with the university structure, saves lives, and supports both campus and surrounding neighborhoods. I ask you to support and advocate for this initiative this upcoming fall, to help us hold UNC Charlotte accountable for its values that it claims to champion. Thank you.

Nicholas Maynard, 7310 Sienna Heights Place said hello everyone. Thank you very much for taking the time to listen to us today. My name is Nick Maynard, and I'm a UNCC (University of North Carolina Charlotte) alumni, and I'm also an EMT. I've worked in the County for five years now, and I'm speaking to you to build support for the establishment of a student-run rescue squad this fall. In the world of first responders, there's a tenet called, "The duty to act." This duty to act states that when someone needs your specialized help, you're obligated to respond. The best first responders exemplify this principle. They go into fires, they do CPR, they save our loved ones. There are dozens of EMTs at UNC Charlotte. They're students who seek to give back to their community. Because the University has not yet given us the green light to start our program, students are unable to fulfill their duty to act. I urge you all to help our students fulfill this desire, to encourage the University to meet with us once more, so that we can develop a program that saves lives. I encourage you all to reach out to Chancellor Gaber, so that we may show her how this program will help the Charlotte community. I want to thank both Medic and Charlotte Fire Department for responding to calls on our campus. Medic specifically has offered us valuable insight into our project. It is because of the input that they have given us that our program will one day fulfill our EMTs duty to

act. Their support for our campus does not go unnoticed. Thank you very much for your time.

Northway Builders

Gary Alexander, 5812 Patton Street said my name is Gary Alexander. I'm a homeowner in West Sugar Creek off of Patton Street, two homeowners in Rockwell Park. The reason why I'm coming down here today is, on August 15, 2023, Wells Fargo Bank took \$30 some thousand dollars out of my bank account, but they got a leverage from the Sherrif's Department, typed it up, sent it to them, and took the money out of my account. Didn't let me know. My mother has a time deposit CD. She inherited some money. I was the Power of Attorney. They won't release the money out of there either. Also, the Sherrif's Department typed up the paper through the Smith and Adams in Raleigh, North Carolina, this attorney firm that is supposed to be a debt collector, they've been watching my accounts, been watching my assets for years. This stuff happened 20 some years ago. They took the money out of my account on August 15, 2023, and they were supposed to have been getting back with me about this stuff, and also they didn't do anything. The American Home Builders built my house in 2001. They had the Sherrif's Department to steal my vehicles out of my driveway, and they tried to take my mother's house before she died. They couldn't get the house, but they stole the cars. The Sheriff's Department stole them out of my driveway, and I've got all this paperwork to give you for you to look at this. We had another Mayor 20 years ago. He didn't even look at it. I typed up paper, everything. He wouldn't even look at it. Also, this final thing is, I want to know why did the City of Charlotte allow Northway Builders to build them houses in a flood zone.

Mayor Lyles said thank you very much. Let's hope that you have some success, as you're working through this difficult time.

EMS Program at UNC Charlotte

Rama Kayali, 7315 Brigmore Drive said my name is Rama Kayali. I am a certified EMT and a student at UNCC. I am here to speak in favor of establishing a student-run rescue squad within the Department of Emergency Management on campus. Thirty-one thousand and 91. This was the record-breaking total enrollment number of students in the fall 2024 school semester at UNC Charlotte. With Charlotte becoming a hub for academic development, this number is only expected to increase within the upcoming school years. More students come with the risk of increased medical emergencies on campus. What if there were student medical personnel just mere steps away from an emergency? This concept is not an unfamiliar one. Many North Carolina universities, such as Chapel Hill, Wake Forrest, East Carolina University, Appalachian State, and many others, have successfully developed their own student-run functioning campus EMS. At a university as big and successful, that UNCC is, such as its recent R-1 status, what sets us apart from being just as capable from developing our own? I am a pre-med student majoring in biology, with prospects of going to medical school in the future. Me and many other pre-med students at UNC Charlotte are required to have at least 100 to 150 hours of clinical experience to even be considered a competitive applicant. Many local EMS only offer full-time positions to student EMTs. Balancing being a full-time student, alongside a full-time job, is a very difficult task for many students. Having a part-time EMT job situated on campus will allow me and other pre-med students easier access to getting clinical hours and experience. Before I go, I want to give a special thanks to our community partners, specifically, Medic and local fire agencies, who have offered support for our cause, time, and counsel through this journey. Thank you very much.

Kaustubh Tiwari, 246 Russel Branch Lane said good evening. My name is Kaustubh Tiwari. I'm an EMT and a student at UNC Charlotte. I'm here to speak in favor of establishing a student-run rescue squad within the Department of Emergency Management on campus. A campus-based EMS program offers immense value. It's not just about immediate care, but the profound academic and career opportunities it creates, shaping future healthcare professionals right here in Mecklenburg County. With

the campus-based EMS program, EMS is already there, on campus when needed, providing immediate medical support. Our journey to establish this program has been driven by significant and consistent student effort. We officially launched our initial phase in fall of 2024, quickly generating overwhelming student interest, forming our organization and securing crucial medical support. Our petition garnered over 600 signatures, and more than 20 UNC Charlotte undergraduate EMTs expressed eagerness to serve. We gained public attention through local news coverage in April 2025, and engaged directly with Student Government Association and high-level university leadership, presenting our comprehensive plan on April 29, 2025. Despite these consistent and dedicated efforts, UNC Charlotte has regrettably remained largely inactive. This University inaction means the substantial benefits of immediate campus medical support, and invaluable student career development remain unrealized. Our dedicated student EMTs are prepared to serve, yet this crucial initiative, beneficial to both the university and County EMS, has been held back. Members of the City Council, supporting this student-led EMS initiative is an investment yielding exceptional returns. It significantly enhances our university's community safety and preparedness, and provides an unparalleled education and career foundation for our students, preparing them to be future healthcare heroes for Mecklenburg County. Thank you.

Mayor Lyles said thank you very much. So, for the UNC Charlotte students that are really looking towards how to make an EMS program at the University, I think Alyson Craig will be working with you. If you'll turn that way, you can see who she is, and have the opportunity to address this. I think she's a graduate from UNC Charlotte, so that makes a big difference. She knows more about it than we do, I think. So, we have one additional speaker.

Davida Ogbar, 13101 Black Chestnut Place said thank you so much. It's an honor to be the last speaker tonight. There's been so many great efforts made. My name is Davida Ogbar. I'm a student at UNC, I'm also an EMT, and I'm here to speak to support an EMS initiative being started on campus underneath the Department of Emergency Management. So, it's no surprise or no shock to anyone that we're at an unprecedented time now in medical communities. Following COVID, we have record burnout. We also have record staffing shortages, and this is especially prevalent when you think about those that are on the forefront of emergency medicine, and those are EMTs. So, in our county, we have seen that there's so much effort that's needed to support the community, and so for such a large effort, a lot of creative solutions are needed. So, what my partners and I are bringing forward to you is an effort that is designed to use all the talents that are on the campus. So, we have trained EMTs and paramedics, and they're looking for the opportunity to serve. They're volunteering their time. Programs are at Wake Forest, Chapel Hill, they're at Western, ECU (East Carolina University), Upstate, and they're not at UNC Charlotte. We've been meeting with them for almost a year, and the answer has still been no. It is preventing them from taking strain off the local community. University area is one of the busiest in the country, and any help that's needed, and they especially could benefit from this. UNC Charlotte does not pay taxes into a system that they benefit from. So, Medic and all fire, they serve the campus, but the campus does not do its part to help offset the load, and so a lot of campus programs do this, and so we're asking for you to help us in supporting that. I also want to thank Medic and Charlotte Fire, who've been huge partners. We've also had partners who have reached out to us and other universities, Chapel Hill and Wake Forest, who have stated they would help us in terms of mentorship and helping us to learn and best practices. So, it's super humbling, again, to be here. I want to thank you for your time, and we're hoping that we can come before you next time and say, hey, we're here. So, thank you.

Mayor Lyles said thank you very much. So, thank you all for those that came down to speak to us, to inform us, and to keep us engaged with you.

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PUBLIC HEARING

ITEM NO. 8: PUBLIC HEARING AND DECISION ON KENMORE AREA VOLUNTARY ANNEXATION

There being no speakers, either for or against, a motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Anderson and carried unanimously to close the public hearing.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 68, at Page(s) 710-713.

Motion was made by Councilmember Driggs, seconded by Councilmember Ajmera, and carried unanimously to adopt Annexation Ordinance 990-X with an effective date of June 23, 2025, to extend the corporate limits to include this property and assign it to the adjacent City Council District 3.

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ITEM NO. 9: PUBLIC HEARING AND DECISION ON SHOREWOOD AREA VOLUNTARY ANNEXATION

There being no speakers, either for or against, a motion was made by Councilmember Driggs, seconded by Councilmember Ajmera, and carried unanimously to (A) Close the public hearing, and (B) Adopt Annexation Ordinance 991-X with an effective date of June 23, 2025, to extend the corporate limits to include this property and assign it to the adjacent City Council District 4.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 68, at Page(s) 714-717.

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POLICY

ITEM NO. 10: CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Marcus Jones, City Manager said thank you, Mayor and members of Council. So, during the action briefing, we did not have a chance to do the Community Area Plan, so what we'd like to do is just give you, I guess, a status report of where we are. There's no action that Council would have, and Monica will come down and provide that. I do want to, as she's on her way down, just recognize and welcome our newest member to Team Charlotte, Sha Rhana, who is the new City of Charlotte Economic Development Director.

Mr. Jones said if Sha looks familiar to everybody, the community is very familiar with Sha, because he was formerly the Deputy Director of Economic Development for the County, and he has more than 20 years of experience in small business and entrepreneurial support, with commercial and neighborhood planning and redevelopment, supporting small and underutilized businesses, and helping with funding and capital coordination. I will say that it's great to have Sha on the team, because it seems like everything is starting to come together, as we talk about workforce development, as we talk about small business, as we talk about economic development and mobility. So, I look forward to Sha working with Alyson, Danielle, and the entire Team Charlotte, so welcome.

Mayor Lyles said welcome, thank you. We're looking forward to working with you.

Monica Holmes, Interim Planning Director said okay, well, Mayor and members of Council, thank you for having me here this evening. I'm going to give you just a brief update on where we are in the Community Area Planning process with our review and feedback and just talk through some of the next steps and what's happening. So, as you know, this is just an overview. It's for information only. You can see here we've been in front of both Council and committee over the last several months multiple times having this dialogue and conversation, getting your feedback, tweaking how we do things, including more engagement, new pieces to the process, and we're here today to give you an update on that. So, June 9, 2025, we shared with you that we had received over 800 comments. We've shared with you all a nice large package that has a summary of all those comments. We also shared a brief overview of the proposed changes in a one-page document. The real value of these area plans is, again just as a reminder, that it provides that 100 percent guidance of our City coverage versus the 27 percent that we had before. It gives us consistent criteria for change in neighborhoods and rezonings. It memorializes the strategic investment areas, which would be the first plan to do that for our future mobility and transportation goals. It also identifies needs for mobility, open space, placemaking projects, and guidance for where and how to reduce environmental impacts. So, we talked about the process and schedule, and that's what I'm getting ready to walk you through.

So, we've been busy the last couple of weeks since we were in front of you before. We've been attending multiple in-person community meetings, several of which were people we heard from during the hearing, and really doing follow-up, trying to understand what the issues are, and taking a deep dive into how we could resolve those issues. We've been hosting virtual office hours on Tuesday and Thursday for a couple hours, that can be a one-on-one conversation, that can be multiple people, a neighborhood group. Just last week, our Planning Committee of the Planning Commission unanimously referred for adoption the Community Area Plans, the revised Policy Map, and the program guide with recommended proposed changes. We will give you that chart with all the proposed changes that was part of that Planning Committee recommendation. That will be in your binders this coming Friday, and you'll get that this weekend, which will really outline for you exactly all of the specific details, which plan they're in, and how that'll roll out. Then, last week, we also worked with our inner departmental staff to identify the variety of specific plans and how we will prioritize those specific plans. So, whether that be transit station plans, campus plans, regional activity center plans, environmental justice and impact action plans, we're really clarifying exactly what those next steps look like.

So, going forward, we're going to be busy while we're on a little break from Council meetings. We're going to be continuing to have those office hours, and attending neighborhood meetings, as requested. We're going to offer another webinar. So, very similar to the 105 people that we had before, we're going to have a webinar on July 15, 2025. It'll be run the exact same way. The last one we had in the evening, we actually tend to see more people at our lunchtime hour for events, so this one's going to be lunchtime, July 15, 2025, 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. will be the west and north plans, 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. will be the east and south, and then we're going to close our public comment period that Friday. We will deliver out to you all, Friday, July 25, 2025, all of those received comments and staff responses that'll actually get put up on our website, so we will not give you another 50-page document, it'll be up on the website, but we will deliver to you if there are any additional proposed changes beyond what you see this coming week. Then, we will be in front of TPD, Transportation, Planning and Development Council Committee, on August 4, 2025, just to do a review of what those proposed changes are, and we'll move forward from there.

So, as a reminder, we've thoroughly discussed and started putting some plans into action around our road show. The rezoning staff analysis that will happen once the plans are adopted, what that will look like. Again, I just talked through, we have the preplanning underway for the specific plans, and we'll be doing our five-year plan assessment. So, with that, I am done with this presentation. If you have any questions or want any further details on our next steps, please feel free to let me know.

Councilmember Mayfield said so I want to make sure I heard correctly, because this is our last meeting until we come back in August 2025. So, you're going to be sending out something on what Friday?

Ms. Holmes said this coming Friday. I confirmed with Constituent Services that ya'll would still be receiving that. If you want to take a break and not read it, that's completely fine. We just want to make sure if you want to do the reading over break you have it.

Ms. Mayfield said yes, I'm not doing that, but I want to make sure that we were clear, because Manager, I did ask about us moving forward with all 14 area plans as one proposal versus us having the time to really break those out and give the additional attention that may be needed in some communities, because we have 900,000 people identified, almost a million, in the City. We have not even touched the surface on that, but we also have a number of communities that do not have internet access, that are not proficient in utilizing the internet. Their neighborhood meetings, some of them have had a little break, so they haven't been as active right now, and they might be down for the summer, just like we're looking at finally getting a rest in July 2025. We want to make sure that we really have community impact. There are some neighborhoods that are more engaged and have more residents that are able to participate. We have an opportunity to be reflective of the pace of our community. Some areas are more advanced, and they're probably good with the plan. Manager, I have a concern of the idea of having all 14 area plans, when we have now just recently approved the budget. So, now we have to try to share with the community, this is what the budget means to your neighborhood. So, not only for the District Representatives, who are out consistently talking to their residents, but still people want to know, how does this impact my neighborhood? We haven't necessarily done the job of explaining that. I'm not going to speak for my colleagues. They may be much more well versed on this plan. I am not comfortable talking to the residents that live off of Oakdale or that live off of Bellhaven or that live off of Toddville, and be able to explain to each of those individual areas how this plan will benefit you. I am not comfortable with being able to explain that. So, I think we need to have a real conversation of splitting this up, so that it reflects the neighborhoods to ensure that they have an opportunity to participate.

Mr. Jones said so, Councilmember Mayfield, one of the things we were trying to do tonight is just let you know that we'll continue to do the work. The first thing that's going to happen when you come back is, it's back in committee, and these types of discussions can continue in the committee, but we just wanted to let you know that we weren't stopping trying to communicate during the summer break.

Ms. Mayfield said and I appreciate that, Manager Jones, but this is the third time that we've received something, and this is the third time that I'm reiterating let's break it up, because the way it keeps coming, as if here is the plan for the whole area, and this is when we're doing to outreach, and that it is going into the ether the consideration of breaking it up.

Mr. Jones said so, I think the Planning Department would suggest that you don't break it up.

Ms. Mayfield said no question they would.

Mr. Jones said and so, as it gets back into the committee, the discussion of how we move forward will be very important.

Ms. Mayfield said thank you.

Councilmember Ajmera said Monica, thanks to your team, Kathy, Catherine, Dave, and Holly. I appreciate you being accessible. I appreciate you answering all the questions and you listening to the community and the Council in terms of providing more time and opportunity for us to review all 14 Community Area Plans. I know our homework is cut out for the summer. So, I really appreciate that additional time, because when we review all 14 Community Area Plans, there is certainly a learning

curve. Every Community Area Plan is unique, which requires us engaging with the community, listening to their feedback. So, I think this additional time will help us prepare for our August 2025 meeting. I have talked to Steeleberry community. I know various community members are here. They have expressed concerns about their Community Area Plan. I know that you're taking their feedback into consideration. I would appreciate if you could speak to them one-on-one and ensure that concerns are being addressed. I know that we have received over 600 comments, and I get it. We are not going to be able to incorporate every single comment in our Community Area Plan, but I think we hear loud and clear from one community where a lot of their concerns are not getting addressed. So, I think we have some work to do. So, if we can get those things done in about month that we have, that would be great. That's all I have, thank you.

Councilmember Johnson said thank you, Mr. Jones. We were scheduled to vote on these tonight and approve these. So, I just want to thank you for listening to Council, because we did advocate to hold off and wait, and do more community outreach. Thank you for that webinar. You know I've really been championing for that. The lunchtime webinar, I think that's nice for some people, but I also think we need another evening webinar. Most people work, and so we definitely need an evening webinar. The webinars were great, you're able to sign on, into your address, and actually get the detailed information for your specific area. So, I thought that that was very effective, it was well intended, and I just think that we want to be intentional about the outreach. So, lunchtime is great, but we really need another evening plan.

I also agree with Councilmember Mayfield, we've asked for this. It really shouldn't take six Council members to agree and have a vote before the vote, but I think that if we're asking for this to be considered to be dissected, and we look at different plans, then that's the issue that should be referred to committee. So, thank you. I look forward to more time, more engagement. There are opportunities for specific groups to reach out, and make sure you sign up for this webinar. It's going to be very effective, but again, I would ask for another evening session. Thank you.

Councilmember Brown said by the time you get over here, everything has already been said.

Mayor Lyles said well, not everything, I'm sure.

Ms. Brown said just about, the most important thing. Councilmember Mayfield, you led the charge on this, so thank you so much for that. To staff, thank you for everything that you've done in preparing for this, but more time, thank you, Mr. Jones. We're saying a lot of thank yous, we don't do that often. Thank you so much for that. The community members are really concerned about it, and so we have to be intentional about how we deliver it, and make sure that we're hearing their concerns. A lot of them want us to hold off, but we're holding off, we're going on break. I'm not reading anything on break, not a single thing, not anything related to City Council, but I will be intentional about hearing my community leaders. A lot of them are watching tonight, and they wanted to make sure that we put this on pause. So, hey, when ya'll say we don't answer our emails, we don't listen, we listened and we heard you. So, thank you for your appreciation.

Councilmember Driggs said I agree it's important that we give members of the public every opportunity. The difficulty I have working with the staff is trying to identify at what point have we accomplished what it is you're talking about? What does it take? What do you have to hear and from whom in order to say, okay, now it's okay to go ahead? What I've said before is, I don't think you're going to find out until we start to have specific events at locations, the way we do now, where we hear back from residents, and then they didn't pay attention. They may not have voted, but now they're experts, because it's nearby. So, I think it's just difficult to go out and get a ground level impression on a stack of documents this high, and try to tell everybody in each neighborhood, okay, this is what could happen near you. That's why I'd just like to be practical about this and just think about what exactly is it that the staff needs to produce, or that we need to accomplish, in order to meet the requirements that are being described here, and I'm

not sure what that is. I'm very open as the Committee Chair, but I think it's something we need to think about, it's just really hard. We offer these meetings, and so on. There are 935,000 people, and less than a hundredth of a percent actually respond to an open invitation to participate in this conversation, and that's because most people in the community are very busy with their lives, they're not watching what we do.

Ms. Brown said you think they're not watching. They're watching.

Mr. Driggs said I don't know what your experience is, but I have conversations with a lot of people away from this sort of environment that we are in, and saying, so, what do you think about the plan? And they, "What plan?" We need to be realistic. A lot of people are not walking with us as we try to do this, and they don't have the time or the background to get into the detail that we need to process. So, I would just ask, as you sort of put a burden on the staff to satisfy us, that we have done what is necessary, think about what that means. Give them something in particular that they should accomplish, so that your concerns have been addressed, because otherwise it's really not fair. We're hearing reports on all of the efforts that have been made, the webinar, and everything else. I do believe that since 73 percent of Charlotte does not have an area plan, that's less than 30 years old, there is some urgency around this. So, we'll take as much time as we need, but just understand that there's a cost associated with not moving ahead. I look forward to hearing back or share with the staff, but try to be kind of constructive in terms of explaining how they can do what it is we want. Thank you.

Councilmember Anderson said first, I want to thank Ms. Holmes and her team for the work that has been done, because I do remember receiving my Community Area Plans in my packet about this thick, and to your advice, go through one and figure out what the rubric is for going through them. So, thank you for that, and I did take the time to do that. What I want to also say is, I do believe your team has provided numerous touchpoints with the community, so that the community can be aware, and then also you've been available for the community to ask questions, double click. I know I have quite a few strong neighborhood leaders in District One that have spent a lot of time with you and your team. You guys have gone out to the Cherry community. You've had numerous conversations with Dr. Vital Patton, who is all over this. She could probably work in your staff. She's all over that for the history of the Cherry community, but I think, Mr. Driggs, you're right that there's a balance. So, you have some engaged community leaders that are leaning in and fighting to ensure that the integrity of their community stays intact, and then you have people who are just busy. They have busy lives, and they don't have the same time or the bandwidth to lean in, and quite frankly, I think that's where we as a Council need to augment what staff is doing. So, staff, you have a communication plan, you have touchpoints, you're having office hours, you're extending that, and thank you, Mr. Manager, for extending that over this next month. I think we as a Council have to evangelize what's going on in our individual districts and communities of interest, because I do agree that even with this expanded outreach, and we've seen it a variety of times, so there's nothing particularly unique about this process as it relates to community outreach. We've seen it time and time again where the community outreach does not yield the results, because our community members are busy. So, the yield, as it relates to a percentage of the population, is incredibly small, especially if this were a marketing campaign. It would be a tremendous failure, because we don't have that level of engagement from the community side. So, we have to do everything we can to evangelize that. I'm sure we're going to get calls over July 2025. I'm going to try and minimize as much as I can, but we do have to answer some of this.

I will also lastly say, I have some trepidation around breaking up 14 plans, breaking them up for the City. To Mr. Driggs' point, the pockets of the City that have had very dated stayed area plans, some even talk about their small area plans, as if that's the most recent one. So, as we're moving forward with our policy, I want to make sure that we move forward as an entire city. So, when we talk about things like the UDO (Unified Development Ordinance) and other things, there's no partial implementation of that. We should move forward with these area plans as an entire city, but ensuring that we're giving ample time for questions, that we are available, that we have the resources available, and that we as a Council are doing as much as we can for our particular

districts and community areas, to ensure that we've done everything to say, this information is available, we need your input, please help us. Please help us. Whatever date that we place on the agenda to vote for this particular effort, I hope that it is a date that will include all 14 area plans, otherwise I feel like we will be out of alignment as it relates to our policy and the implementation of our policy, and then you have inequity that we have brought into the system by doing so. So, I think that would be a danger. So, thank you, staff, for the work, and thank you, Mr. Manager, for listening to the Council to expand the time over our breaks for additional community outreach.

Councilmember Graham said I don't want to be redundant, but I do want to also acknowledge the work of staff. I think sometimes we're so close to this as a Council that we don't realize the progress that we've made over the last two years, going back to the 2040 Plan, then the UDO, and now the area plans, and the number of touchpoints in community engagement that we had throughout that whole process. So, we've really done a lot of good work, a lot of complicated work. I remember when I first got my package, I brought you to my office and said, "Talk to me like a third grader," because it is kind of complicated type of stuff, but that's what, in the absence of having 950,000 chairs around the dais, you've got 11 of us who represent the people. Input from my community leaders, my neighborhood leaders, liaisons, they entrusted in me and this Council to interpret that information for them, for those who can't make those meetings and make a wise decision, and then the voters will decide every two years whether or not that thinking is forward thinking or not, and they can choose to replace us. So, I don't want the Council to forget the major steps we've made along the way to get to this point. We're literally redefining and reimagining our planning process, and we've been doing it for the last three years, and I think there are number of milestones that we have achieved, and this is yet another one, when we have this vote in whole or in part. I think it probably should be in whole, but I'll defer it to the Committee chairman when we have that Committee discussion back in August 2025, but certainly I just hope the Council and the community know that, with their guidance and their support going back to 2040, we've been talking area plans and community planning and community engagement and how the City's going to look and how we're going to plan our growth for the last three years, and this is yet another step in that process. They have entrusted us to kind of be their eyes and ears, and have staff talk to us like we're third graders, and making sure that we're interpreting, not only the area that's specific for District Two, but also by voters for the entire City as a whole, District Two just being a part of the whole. So, I studied all of the plans, those that are outside of my District as well, and I think it would be kind of cumbersome to kind of break it up. I think we can do that, but I'm not sure that would be the right approach to take. So, thank you for the hard work, and I'll defer it to the Committee chairman when we get back in August 2025.

Ms. Mayfield said Madam Mayor, may I clarify something? I want to ensure that my colleagues are not hearing me say stop. I am saying that we move forward. I'm saying we move forward in steps, because some areas are ready. The UDO is a living document that we talk about. The UDO has been around, when was it approved, Monica?

Ms. Holmes said it was approved in 2022 and went into effect June 1, 2023.

Ms. Mayfield said so, we're in 2025. This past Saturday, you and I had the opportunity to see a development that actually was built with the intentions of the language of the UDO. It takes time. I am not a believer of the language of unintended consequences, because if we slow down and do it right, then that changes. Manager, thankfully, I've been around long enough where we used to go out into community and have roundtables directly in the neighborhood. We used to have CMPD police outreach directly in the neighborhoods. There are a lot of things that we used to do that we don't do today. What I am asking everyone to consider is, not come to a complete halt, but let's look at these area plans as they should be intention based on the area, because some areas have seen tremendous growth. What does that growth look like? A lot of apartments and rentals, but the single-family homeowners that live there, because now they're outside of the 300 feet, because this infill has happened, they might not have received this notice. We have people that unfortunately good, bad, or indifferent, renters

are not as engaged with neighborhood impact. Good, bad, and indifferent, we have a lot more rental units in residential neighborhoods, where community members didn't feel like they had an ability to share their concerns before this came.

So, I don't want us to stop the process, but I want us to be respectful of the process and know that some areas are able to move forward a little quicker than some of the other areas. Have we posted it on every Next Door page? I seriously doubt it, because do we even know all the neighborhoods that's registered on Next Door. We might have it on our Facebook page or our Instagram page, but how are we getting that out to the community? How many churches have we gone to to have this conversation on a Saturday, or to reach out to the pastor or the church leadership? We have the whole program of Faith In Housing that's doing amazing work. Have we reached out even though Rebecca and Warren are already doing 2,500 different things, and they've only got a team of five people, and I need some more people over there, but have we reached out to them to say, hey, when ya'll send out your announcements, can you send this out to all of our faith leaders that we have within? I don't know if we have or if we haven't. What I want us to do is make sure that we are taking appropriate steps, and I hear our chair, and I agree. I am not trying to stop the process. Yet, I want us to be respectful that some areas need a little bit more assistance, because of our policy language, and the changes and development that's already happened in their neighborhood that we allowed, where now they might not receive the information or they feel a little disconnected, and here's our way to reconnect them back in.

Councilmember Watlington said it definitely helped me, because I think what's paramount is, not so much whether we vote in one swoop or not, but if we do the work that honors what Councilmember Mayfield was just talking about. I do think that we see a low level of participation. I think there are a bunch of different factors for that. I do that for those who have been participating, there is a level of disillusion. There's an awful lot of folks, let me say, please understand that I acknowledge that you guys have done a tremendous amount of work, so I'm not taking away from that at all. I know that you guys bring a level of passion and sincerity to the work, so thank you for that. I do think that given some of what a lot of people feel like is resistance to particular comments, because they may not necessarily align with some of the overall things that staff may feel like is important, people tend to not come out as much, and I think that's unfortunate. So, I think if there's a way for us to highlight what the changes have been that are impactful, that may help to tell that story.

Then, I just wanted to offer up, because I know that you have limited resources, and maybe I'll ask the question, because you perhaps have already done this. When you think about potential partners that can help amplify, or like why people may not be coming, maybe they're at work or whatever, or they're tired when they get home, so they're not coming to these meetings, how do we meet them where they are? Have we engaged with like CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) representatives at some of major employers?

Ms. Holmes said I can look into that. I mean, because this has been a five-phase engagement, there have been multiple levels of like Next Door and notifications. I can check on the CSR. Kathy's here, and we can circle up on that and get back to you, specifically, if we've gone to that route.

Ms. Watlington said because I think about some of our major employers here. Certainly, a lunch and learn at their facility might be something that might be easier for people to get to, and given that it may be localized to hey, here's our immediate area. Sure, everybody may not live there, but this matters to me, because this is where I work, and it's easy, I can show up, and then we're able to convert even some of the CSR partners to potential trainers, if you will, to carry that message. When I think about business owners, in particular, I know we may not be able to go to every single business owner, but to the extent that we're able to meet with merchant associations in their regularly scheduled meetings, I'd love to understand what we've been able to do in regard to that. If we haven't, certainly would like to see that. Same thing for HOA (Homeowner Association) meetings. I know that you all have done a lot of pop-ups, like at Greater Mt.

Sinai. I know Councilmember Brown and I were in attendance at one of the last ones, but when you think about, how do we get the people who are already engaged and like to stay up on these things? We know Steele Creek Residents Association, their Zoning Committee is on top of things. How do we make it easy for folks who are going to be leading the charge in their areas, in their neighborhoods anyway, to have this information and maybe they can go out and get that as a part of their regular meetings? Councilmember Mayfield mentioned pastors, that makes a ton of sense to me. Then, finally, I'm just curious as to how we're leveraging the Planning Commission? I know some have taken it upon themselves to kind of go out and have those kinds of meetings.

Ms. Holmes said yes. So, specifically, what the Planning Committee on the Planning Commission, they broke up the plan, so each one of them had two assigned to them, and then they went out and met with neighborhood leaders and had discussions around those plans. I know several of them hosted multiple coffees and so forth, and then our staff came to supplement and answer questions, provide background in each of those stakeholder groups. So, that process came to a conclusion. They referred and voted to move it out of Planning Committee, so that process, they're still obviously listening to community members, but they kind of reached the conclusion of them getting feedback within Planning Committee on the 14 plans. So, you listed a few groups, and our staff has been actively going, they've gone to probably 40 to 50 meetings over the past three to four months. So, if you have any meetings that are occurring or things you know about that you would like for our staff to attend, they are more than happy to go and be a resource, answer questions. We have a slide presentation. We can mix and match it based on what the audience is, to answer questions. So, anyways, I just want to make sure that Council knows, please connect us, and we're happy to go and attend those over this time.

Ms. Watlington said sure, thank you.

Councilmember Johnson said okay, thank you. I was just scrolling. I wasn't on Facebook for no reason. I posted about the Community Area Plans, and when I posted it, I posted like three different links. This link is, find where your Community Area Plan is based on your address. The second one is, look at the executive summary. The third link was, here's how to submit feedback. So, it's not simple, and we've talked about that. Even planning a webinar at lunchtime without having one in the evening also. We have people at our dais today talking about they're making \$12.50 an hour. They're not going to leave work to listen to the plan, so we have to be cognizant of that. There are people who are on the Planning Commission and part of these committees, they're engaged, that's not the ones that we're trying to reach. So, let's be intentional about that. So, again, the webinar in the evenings. I love Dr. Watlington's idea about working with the employers for lunch and learn. You know District Four, we have a lot of jobs in District Four. We just opened Vanguard, there's lots of employees there. So, working with these large employers, I think, is a great idea to meet people where they are. Again, just looking at the Community Area Plan, it's complicated, and if we really want to reach people, then we just have to be intentional about it. I talked to the Manager about a Plain Language Group, and we just need to do that kind of outreach. So, it shouldn't take three links to get to the Community Area Plan. Even the feedback that's been given, has that been implemented?

So, we've got a lot of technology. We could have QR codes throughout the City. I've talked about that for rezoning, the signs, there should be a QR code. It's really obvious to me, but we could have those kinds of QR codes throughout the City in just very simple language. If we want to hear from the people, we need to be intentional, and I've said before, outreach is not engagement. So, just because we're doing all this work, same thing with the 2040 Plan, we had puzzles, we had card games, we had all this great marketing material, and still people are coming to the meetings now like, I'm just understanding this. So, I understand what Mr. Driggs was saying, but we have to be intentional and just work overtime to make sure that people are understanding. I think having a webinar at 11:00 a.m. in the day is a perfect example of us kind of missing the mark, and also, three different websites to get to the plan, it has to be simple. So, I

know you all are subject matter experts, and you're talking to other subject matter experts, but it's important to meet people where they are if we want to hear from folks. Mr. Graham said, "Talk to me like I'm a third grader." He's got 20 years or more in policymaking. So, if he thinks it's complicated, imagine what the lay person thinks. This is complicated information. So, we just have to really remember that when we're doing this work. Thank you.

Ms. Brown said Councilmember Johnson, great job on what you said, but also, our community leaders, it's always Mr. Driggs is business as usual. I took down some notes when you were speaking. You said, "What should they accomplish?" Well, the planning team, they've done a great job at what they're supposed to do and what they're supposed submit to us, but then when we get this information, we have to take it back to our community leaders, and we have to listen to them, for the ones that can't be at the lunch and check-in session. You guys take it, you make it better, bring it back to the Committee, but when our constituents, our community leaders reach out to us, it's business as usual, and everything is rushed. We don't have enough time to do anything. So, this is a good look for us to put this on pause, and we move forward through our break, and let our constituents, our community leaders, but we're on break, so how is that fair? We've still got to work, because if they ask us something, even though I made a joke, and said, I'm not going to respond. I am going to respond. So, we really don't get a break, but everything is rushed. We don't have enough time to do anything. This is a two-year term. Right now, we file next month, get one year, then in the middle we file. We've still got to answer our constituents. We've got to worry about who's going to vote for us. Are we going to get put back in the chair, everything is rushed. So, at the end of the day when it's all said and done, what should we accomplish? We should accomplish whatever it takes for the individuals that put us in this seat. So, we have to pause it, put it on hold, chop it, break it up, do whatever we need to do, that's what we need to do, that's what we need to do. Everything is just a speed race here. We don't have time to do anything, we don't. Mr. Driggs, I was speaking to you, but I understand your attention was elsewhere, but my constituents hear me. The people that need to hear me, hear me. It's very important that we put pause on it, not stop what the experts have done, but we've also got to take it back. They've done a great job, I told them that, but I also got feedback from my constituents, lots of them, and I've got to answer to them, just like you've got to answer to yours.

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ITEM NO. 11: STREET VENDING ORDINANCE REVISION

Jodi Lynn McNeely, 1429 Pine Tree Drive said hi, my name is Jodi Lynn McNeely, and I rent space in a brick-and-mortar business in NoDa. It is important to me that you all know why I'm not here, I'm not here to be mean, and I'm not here to take anyone's livelihood, or squash a positive street vending experience. I am here because the sidewalks of NoDa are being blocked by street vendors, tables, clothes racks, and signage, making it almost impossible to walk safely in public spaces. I am here because the street vendors are selling food and drink in the public with no accountability to the health department. I am here because I've witnessed tents, racks, tarps, tables left in public spaces unattended. I am here because street vendors are leaving their trash, and sometimes unsold items, behind on the grassy areas and sidewalks. I am here because I've witnessed street vendors setting up shop in no parking zones. Their shoppers are unsafely standing in the streets. I am here because I witnessed a generator running in the back of a closed panel truck all day in the hot sun, parked in a park mobile lot, supplying electricity to the vendors. I am here because I've witnessed a street vendor taking up one parallel parking spot for his vehicle, one parallel parking spot for his food vending cart, and one parallel parking spot for his family to sit in chairs along with a baby stroller, and as you know the parallel parking spots in NoDa are very, very precious. I'm here because it would be a shame if we lose any more brick-and-mortar businesses that give up and move out of NoDa, as that translates into a loss of revenue for the City. We can't fix this ourselves ya'll. We need your help desperately. Please vote today to make NoDa a Congested Business District, and I ask that you also approve a quick implementation. Thank you for your time.

Irena Robinson, 730 Hawthorne Lane said good evening. My name is Irena Robinson, and I've been vending in Charlotte for over 10 years. I'm a single mom and an upcycle fashion designer and an artist and a vendor in Charlotte. I am part of a community of artists and entrepreneurs who rely on vending, not just as a hobby, but as a livelihood to support our family. I've seen firsthand how vending brings life to neighborhoods like NoDa and Plaza Midwood. We're not just setting up tables, we're creating energy, connection and culture. People come for the vibe, the music, the art, the fashion, the people. Removing the vendors would dim the sparkle that makes people want to come and stroll the streets and visit the businesses of NoDa. I understand the City's need for order and safety, but raising permit fees and expanding restricted zones, especially in places like North Davidson where foot traffic is vital, will only push more people into unsafe permitted spaces, not because they want to break rules, but because they have no other choice. I'm part of a group of organizing a community-led pilot program that includes a low-barrier permit, mentorships, education, accountability, and real community data. We ask that you pause this ordinance expansion and give us three to six months to present this model. We are not against the structure, we are asking for a seat at the table. Vendors are not the problem. We are the culture, we are the economy, and we are building real solutions. Thank you for your consideration and considering a path forward to include all of us, and as Franklin D. Roosevelt said, "It is the right of every businessman, large and small, to trade in the atmosphere of freedom from unfair competition and domination by monopolies at home or abroad." Thank you.

Michelle Castelloe, 2008 Commonwealth Avenue said I'm Michelle Castelloe. I am here representing Plaza Midwood Merchants. It's good to see you, Mayor Lyles, I almost called you just Danté, but Mayor Pro Tem Anderson. I am here representing Plaza Midwood Merchants Association, both as a small business owner and a 22-year member of the Neighborhood of Plaza Midwood. We cherish our neighborhood's unique and vibrant energy and diverse businesses. As an organization committed to supporting small businesses and fostering local economic vitality, we recognize and celebrate the entrepreneurial drive embodied by street vendors. Their creativity, cultural contributions, and ability to bring life to our public spaces reflect the same spirit of enterprise that fuels our business district. At the same time, we affirm that all business activities, whether brick-and-mortar or mobile, must operate within a framework that upholds fairness, safety, and shared responsibility. Permitting, code enforcement, and tax compliance are not bureaucratic barriers, they are foundations on the thriving civic ecosystem. They ensure that public spaces remain accessible, inclusive, unobstructed, and safe, and that all businesses, regardless of size or format, contribute to the infrastructure and community from which they benefit. With recent discussions surrounding NoDa, we've seen an increase in street vending in our Business District renting public spaces in Plaza Midwood. We would soon like to advocate that Plaza Midwood also become a designated Congested Business District. The current ordinances outside of the CBD (Congested Business District), are designated with difficulty to enforce. Street vendors frequently occupy spots for hours when a 30-minute restriction is in place outside of a CBD. We seek support, clarity, and solutions for Plaza Midwood and other communities valued by street vendors, and this isn't about disenfranchising entrepreneurship, it's about clear guidelines for responsible community space. We support pathways to help vendors formalize their businesses, access resources, and integrate into the local economy, while maintaining accountability to the same standards that protect consumers, workers, and fellow businesses alike. We'd like to work together to make Plaza Midwood in Charlotte a better place for all residents, brick-and-mortar businesses, and street vendors. A vibrant economy depends on both creativity and responsibility, and we will continue to advocate for policies that honor both. Thank you.

William Fulton, 4925 Prosperity Ridge Road said greetings. My name is William Fulton. I'm the owner of The Jugo Bar. I have the opportunity of having a business here in Charlotte, Winston Salem, and Greensboro, and seeing the effect of business owners, small businesses, and street vendors effect. This is an opportunity today to actually be a model for the state of North Carolina, for other cities as well. This is an opportunity as well for technical assistance for even the small entrepreneurs that are going into business, but we're looking at NoDa. NoDa is a congested area. It's congested with a lot of people, a lot of apartments, a lot of street vendors, a lot of

businesses. So, we need your support. I had the opportunity to come into the meeting today earlier and saw the plan, and I was emotionally in tears, because this is what I wanted to hear from our City elected officials to see that you did hear us. You heard both sides. You made a decision, and you're doing the work. So, I thank you today for actually doing that. We want to continue with the work that you guys are doing. I would like to open myself up as well, because a lot of the entrepreneurs, they do need technical assistance, even in my industry of beverage and food, a lack of access to shared kitchen spaces. I have a large one in Winston Salem that I've opened up to other entrepreneurs to get the things they need to actually set them up for success. So, I want to continue, or even offer myself up, to whatever committee you guys have, but we also need to look at the area itself. We need help over in the NoDa neighborhood. Let this be a model that's going to be good and be seen across the board for a lot of different people, so I thank you.

Jesse Titus, 1028 Charles Avenue said my name is Jesse Titus, a vendor and an artist in NoDa. Speaking on NoDa, I ask that you reject the proposed regulations on NoDa's street vendors. These rules stem from a false narrative pushed by the few property owners not supported by crime data, and exclude the voices of vendors and the broader community. Over 2,000 people have signed a petition supporting the vendors. NoDa is a diverse, creative hub built off everyone, not just the privileged few. We do not need rules or more policing. We need fairness. Let's protect public space, opportunity, and the unique spirit that makes NoDa a home for all, and let's furthermore not forget that NoDa is more than a neighborhood, it's a vibrant generational home built off creativity, community, and legacy. We have nurtured a space for our kids that could dream big, and families from all walks of life to walk together with. It's one of Charlotte's brightest cultured treasures, drawing visitors who feel the magic we live every day. Let's not risk losing that. Let's protect what makes NoDa unmistakably alive.

Michael Roessler, 501 East 37th Street said good evening, Mayor and Council. My name is Michael Roessler. I am a resident of NoDa. The facts are plain if we will only see them. A small group of property owners, fueled by fear and advancing a false narrative of dangerousness and violence, asks this Council to displace by regulation NoDa's street vendors, individuals who are comparatively propertyless, and overwhelmingly people of color. The policy you consider tonight is one of real time gentrification. To adopt it would be not only wrong, but unpopular. Those pushing this change submitted a petition signed by a mere 24 people. Two years ago, more than 1,600 people signed a petition supporting street vendors. A more recent petition has already garnered 645 signatures on behalf of vendors, but the numbers it seems don't matter, which is unsurprising. The prerogatives of class and caste privilege, which often march under the banner of law and order, are the well-worn grooves along which America has long operated. In a needless rush and in service to those who seek to pass off their privileged prejudices as community consensus, this Council seems prepared tonight to do its part, not to resist America's caste system, but to reinforce it by endorsing class and race-based fears of the other and the outsider. Tonight, we will take a step in the wrong direction, perpetuating those pernicious social structures we ought to be dismantling. 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.

Chloe DeOnna, Esq.

Mayor Lyles said alright, thank you very much for coming and expressing your desires and opinions.

Motion was made by Councilmember Peacock, and seconded by Councilmember Anderson to approve amendments to City Code of Ordinances Chapter 6, Article VIII - Peddlers and Article X - Tryon Street Mall Vendors.

Councilmember Watlington said so I know we spoke about it earlier, but I want to make sure that I say on record that my intent is not at all, as a woman of color and as a small business owner, to gentrify or to displace businesses. I don't think it is too much to ask that we regulate this, so that people who are selling food and beverages are abiding by basic health and safety standards. I don't think it's too much to ask that we expect that there is some sort of order to this, so that we have some reasonable expectation of how we're participating. Absolutely, in conjunction with this, we want to continue to do the work that Holly Eskridge and others within our Economic Development and our CBI departments are doing to undergird and support small businesses. This is not an either or, and so I want to make sure that our vendors understand, I love what you came up here and said, and absolutely, we want to hear those ideas. So, I would ask that Shawn, or, oh, there you are right there, I would ask that you guys get together and talk about, hey, what are some other things that we can do and enhance some of the things. This is the start, this is a pilot, but absolutely love that you're here, and would love to hear your ideas. Thank you.

Councilmember Mayfield said for those who are natives and those who have lived in Charlotte a long time, before it was NoDa and it was North Davidson, that was predominately working-class African Americans and people of color, who were displaced once new development and much more expensive development came in. It is challenging to now fast forward some years to hear people come down and speak to us as if we're the ones removing and displacing. That feels so disingenuous to me. I'm not going to speak for my colleagues.

The other thing I need us to take into consideration is, I think it's also unfair to try to categorize yourself as, oh, what I'm doing is this great thing. There is a business of which I have the pictures, because numerous of us have actually gone in the area. Once upon a time we used to be NoDa, North Davidson a lot, not as much now, yet there are quite a few businesses there. We could barely maneuver through the streets. So, the idea, the level of entitlement to say, yes, you have a business, but I am going to bring my wares, and I am going to set it up directly in front of your business. I very well may be selling some of the similar items that you're selling, or even the exact same items that you're selling, even though as a business, you not only applied and received a business permit, you're not only paying a brick-and-mortar for this space, oh my goodness, you're also paying taxes and you have a form that you have to fill out, because we're going to get our tax money.

So, to say that a decision that we may make is doing a displacement, is a very disingenuous conversation to even try to entertain, because that is the equivalent of the oldest story, which is one of the most horrible stories, and that is the story of Goldilocks, where she just thought it was a great idea to walk up in somebody else's house, and then determine what's going to happen in it. The decision that I believe that we are making right now, we have also put some concessions in there, where our staff is taking it a step further to help you identify other locations to potentially be, when you just set up shop in front of another business, and we have had a couple of those businesses have to close down. Now, as a general rule, I don't go into NoDa a whole lot, but we have family and friends that have events there, so we do attend, and it is difficult to maneuver. There is very little parking. You cannot access the beautiful benches that our tax dollars paid for for people to have something to sit on, because they're covered with wares.

So, as we have this conversation and move forward in this vote, I just need community to understand that there are multiple sides to this conversation, but it does not feel good to have individuals come down and present one side of it, to attempt to play victim for something, when we have an opportunity to create something better that respects the process, and understand that we need to actually have a process in place. Why? Because that sign that you see in any space that tells you not to do something is only created because somebody did it. If we had a different system where you weren't doing this, we wouldn't even have to have this conversation. Since it is happening, we are having this conversation now, and I hope we decide to move forward to try to get to a place where we can create space for everyone, but I cannot sit here and play this game

of, oh, big bad Council you're doing this horrible thing. Let me go get some stuff and buy it and then go show up in front of your business and just start selling it and see how that plays out. Let's just have a very transparent conversation. Thank you, Madam Mayor.

Councilmember Ajmera said Mr. Peacock, I know you don't want us to be here for long, but I think it's important for us to clarify. There is a wrong narrative out there, and I think we need to set the record straight here. We are not pushing street vendors out of business. We are not doing that. All we are doing is creating a structure that is safe for everyone, so that we can all live in harmony. We can coexist, where we can have brick-and-mortar businesses as well as street vendors. So, the Committee did a lot of work on this to try to create a balance where we have public safety while ensuring that the unique character of the NoDa neighborhood continues. Chairwoman Watlington talked about concerns, specifically around health and safety. There are food vendors out there, drink vendors out there. We've got to make sure that we collaborate with the County to ensure there are health and safety standards that are being met. This is about public health. We don't live too far from NoDa. We used to go to NoDa every so often, but because of the street blockage, especially sidewalks being blocked, trying to get through the sidewalks with two little kids in a stroller is very difficult. So, I see many people that are in the same situation, especially the folks in wheelchairs that cannot access our sidewalks. We just had a proclamation today about ADA, and we've got to make sure that we are not just talking, but we are actually taking an action, so that we have safe sidewalks for those in wheelchairs.

I feel that we have created a structured balance here, where we have an environment where it's going to be providing opportunities for our street vendors. Ms. Robinson talked about how the NoDa neighborhood is so unique, because of its arts, music, culture, and people and the vibe. We want to keep that. We want to embrace that, because that's what brings visitors to NoDa. I hope that we can continue to do that with the contributions that you bring to the table, as well as other artists and street vendors that spoke, and we are committed to providing a space that is safe for you all to operate and contribute to the vibrancy of this very unique NoDa neighborhood. Thank you.

Councilmember Johnson said we do support street vendors, and I want to make that very clear. The ladies that have spoken so far, we're on the Committee, and I hope that you all take the time to listen to the Committee, because we were very intentional and very concerned about the future for the street vendors. However, we also believe that there has to be some type of order and permitting, but we want to be very intentional that the permitting is affordable. I think this elevates those individual's businesses. So, we think the permitting is necessary for safety, especially food and drinks, and also to protect those businesses. So, we have to be fair, but we were very, very intentional in talking about looking for space for the street vendors. We know that minimum wage in the state is \$7.25, and housing is not affordable, and most people need a second job or a hustle. We have two jobs also, so we get that. We really, really want to protect that, but I think it's reasonable that you would need a permit in the entire City. This is a pilot, it needs to be affordable. It needs to be accessible. It needs to be easy, and we want to help train these small businesses, so that they too will have a brick-and-mortar space eventually. This is not about race. This Council, we are very conscientious, I mean, of taking equity and individuals into consideration. So, I just hope that you know that we don't want to paint a false narrative. We've asked for space. We talked about City space, looking for space for the street vendors. We were very, very intentional and concerned about the street vendors, but we also understand that the streets have to be accessible. The streets have to be safe. There has to be permits for food and drinks. We can't allow a clothing vendor to have a business right outside of their business that sells the same thing or takes away businesses. So, I hope you all understand. We made sure that it's affordable, we stressed that. We want to make sure it's easy. We talked about QR codes or accessibility, so you could know how to get these permits, and we really want to elevate these street vendors. So, if there's anyone that has concerns, street vendors, please reach out to us if there's anything we can do. We talked about working with our Workforce Development and Economic Development and helping these small businesses and entrepreneurs get to another level. So, we just want this to be painted fair. I mentioned the word fair earlier in today's dinner meeting, because you

just have to know how concerned we are with the street vendors, but we have to lead the entire City. So, thank you.

Councilmember Brown said yes, because I'm on the Committee as well. I love our Committee members, which we have Ajmera, Watlington, Mayfield, Johnson and myself, but I'm glad that I heard from a different crowd tonight. As we were going through this pilot program, I heard from everybody that was against it and didn't want vendors there. I love vendors. Philadelphia, I was talking about the heart and soul of the City, and I'm looking at you, Ms. Jodi, because you kicked it off, and I resonated with you with what you said.

This is a pilot program, and we're going to see how it works. We worked really hard on that. I advocated for you. I went to the Johnston Y and my daughters also went there. I've been in Charlotte my entire life, and to what Councilmember Mayfield said, it was once all of us over there. I grew up in the Y, full of wonderful people. So, we're not kicking you out, that's not happening. I'm not signing off on kicking you out or anything. It's not going to happen. There's no hierarchy in safety, though, and I did hear you loud and clear, Mr. Roessler, what you said, and I believe some of it. I'm just going to be perfectly honest with you. I do believe that there's a narrative out there, and we pushed the street vending through immediately. So, I just want you to know that I hear you very well, but I work with these ladies every month, and we work our bottoms off, just trying to do the right thing in our Committee. I'll be a sellout to them, because it came out unanimously out of the Committee, but I never heard from you guys before it was in the Committee, or the narrative might not be what it is tonight, but I do want you to know I hear you. Policing, forget about it. I'm not with any type of policing at all of people that are out on the streets trying to make a life for their families, their children, and make life better. So, I just want the people that were against it tonight, I heard the people that wanted us to come up with a pilot, and we conformed to them, but I want you to know tonight, Councilmember Brown hears you, as well, and that it is pilot, and we're going to see if it works, because we write the policy, and if it doesn't, then we'll be back out here, but this is in no formal way am I signing onto anything to discriminate against people, to police, to have unfair policies. I'm very, very, very, very concerned about what you all said tonight.

The numbers don't lie. You had a petition out there that people supported you in large numbers. So, we're going to give the opportunity for safety, for our businesses to continue to grow, and they've done the right thing. They went to get their permits to set up their businesses, but I don't support pushing you out at all. For me, vendors are the heart and soul of our City. I don't like everything shiny, bright and new, I just don't, and I've been living in Charlotte for 54 years. I was born in Memorial Hospital and now it's Carolinas, or whatever they call it, the name have changed so much, that tells you about the growth, but that's where I was born at. So, I just want you to know that I hear you loud and clear, and the Johnston Y is very near and dear to my heart. I'm going to have a swim in that YMCA. So, I just want you to know that your words have not fallen on deaf ears from me, and I'm a huge advocate for people that normally don't have that regular voice. I just wanted to speak out and let you know that I am your voice, I am your ears, my eyes are wide open, and I'm looking and I'm listening, that you be treated fairly in this case. I just wanted to share that with you. We heard the business owners, and we are creating a pilot, but it doesn't mean it's going to stay that way.

Councilmember Molina said thank you to everyone who came out to share the differing perspectives. I want to make sure that I don't repeat anything that anybody has already said tonight, because that's very important. I guess I'll just add what I would consider to be somewhat of an addendum, and I think it would add a little bit of perspective to what Councilmember Brown just said. A lot of what we do on this body is often lost in the politics of it all, but the goal of what we do is somewhat to produce outcomes so that a policy can be made as a result of what we collect as far as information is concerned. Something that would allow us to apply kind of a general rule across the City. So, with that being said, we have what she said is a pilot. This is not the only pilot. There's one in Uptown as well for what we consider to be a Congested Business District. What I was told today by staff is, based on what we learn from the

pilot in NoDa in about six-months' time, we'll have more information to what I hope would be a policy discussion, so that we can talk about what this means as far as vending across the City, because right now, we're just talking about it from a NoDa and an Uptown perspective. I feel like inevitably at some point, and I'll speak just from an East Charlotte and what we used to call the open air market perspective, we had something that wasn't similar to this, but we had all vendors in one space, and because of the Eastland Yards development, all of those vendors were displaced, and unsuccessfully. There were many attempts to try to reorganize that particular group of vendors and provide them the space. Since then, there's been great dispersion amongst the people who were once in that area. So, right now we don't have what would be like something that would be applied citywide. So, I'm in support of this ordinance for many of the reasons that some of my colleagues have said around the dais tonight, but I think what I would hope that you would hold us to is what we've been elected to do, which is to create some policy around what it means to be a vendor in the City of Charlotte citywide, and hopefully that's what we learn from this now second exercise of street vending in this particular neighborhood. Again, just like the Community Area Plans, this isn't something that's easy to do, because there's diversity across our now 935,000-person city, that's a large undertaking. Just for the purposes of tonight, I definitely will be supporting what we're doing with the understanding that we're going to learn from it and be able to apply it to what we were elected to do, which is to discuss it from a policy body making perspective. So, thank you so much.

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

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 68, at Page(s) 718-721.

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BUSINESS

ITEM NO. 12: RAILROAD CROSSING SIGNALS ON HUCKS ROAD NEAR OLD STATESVILLE ROAD

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, and seconded by Councilmember Peacock to Authorize the City Manager to (A) Execute an agreement with GS Eastfield, LP to accept \$499,042.80 for the construction of rail warning devices by Norfolk Southern Rail, (B) Authorize the City Manager to execute an agreement with Norfolk Southern Rail in the amount of \$499,042.80 for the construction of rail warning devices, (C) Authorize the City Manager to amend the agreements consistent with the purpose for which the agreements were approved, and (D). Adopt Budget Ordinance 993-X appropriating \$499,042.80 in private developer funds for rail crossing improvements to the General Capital Projects Fund.

Councilmember Johnson said I wanted to ask if someone could give an update regarding the traffic signal at this intersection?

Mayor Lyles said a traffic signal at the intersection?

Ms. Johnson said yes, there's a development near the intersection.

Mayor Lyles said Debbie's coming out of the other room.

Ms. Johnson said let me just say that when I ran in 2019, this is one of the things I asked about. People sit at this intersection for a long time. I know there's been a development. It was approved. It's going to help to mitigate that. So, could you just give us an update, please?

Debbie Smith, Director, C-DOT said absolutely. Good evening, Council, so nice to see you. My name is Debbie Smith. I'm the Director for the Department of Transportation.

Councilwoman Johnson, that is a fabulous question. As part of the developer and development, it was rezoning 2020-122, the developer was required to install a traffic signal at the intersection of Hucks and Old Statesville. As part of that, the developer has to also work with the railroad to improve the safety at that crossing intersection, so that it would talk to a future traffic signal. So, as part of this work and the development, a traffic signal will be installed. So, this agreement that you're approving tonight is part of that work that the developer would be doing.

Ms. Johnson said okay, thank you.

Ms. Smith said you're welcome.

Ms. Johnson said so, it was approved in probably 2021?

Ms. Smith said 2020-122?

Ms. Johnson said right. We can look at the dates, but it was probably approved in early 2021, I imagine, based on the date. So, this is just part of the process and us getting there, but do we have an estimated timeframe?

Ms. Smith said we would work with the developer to do that, it's on their schedule, but we'd be happy to provide you that.

Ms. Johnson said alright, thank you. That's all I have.

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

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 68, at Page(s) 722.

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ITEM NO. 13: DONATION OF VEHICLES TO JOHNSON C. SMITH UNIVERSITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Motion was made by Councilmember Graham, seconded by Councilmember Mayfield, and carried unanimously to adopt a resolution authorizing the donation of three vehicles to the Johnson C. Smith University Police Department.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 55, at Page(s) 667-668.

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ITEM NO. 14: DONATION OF UNCLAIMED ELECTRONICS

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Anderson, and carried unanimously to adopt a standing resolution approving the periodic donation of unclaimed cell phones and other electronics left on CATS property to The Charitable Recycling organization.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 55, at Page(s) 669-670.

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ITEM NO. 15: SUBLEASE FOR CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT'S LAKE WYLIE BOATHOUSE

Motion was made by Councilmember Graham, and seconded by Councilmember Peacock to authorize the City Manager, or his designee, to negotiate and execute a

sublease agreement with Mecklenburg County for use of approximately 0.26 acres off the Lake Wylie shoreline abutting the McDowell Nature Preserve for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department's Lake Wylie boathouse.

Councilmember Johnson said I have a question. It's a boathouse that we're leasing for \$1, is that right?

Unknown said yes, correct.

Ms. Johnson said okay, that's to Duke Energy?

Mayor Lyles said no, I believe it's for.

Councilmember Ajmera said County.

Ms. Johnson said okay, so we're leasing to the County for \$1. Okay, thank you.

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

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ITEM NO. 16: AIRPORT FUEL FARM EXPANSION LEASE

Motion was made by Councilmember Graham, seconded by Councilmember Anderson, and carried unanimously to (A) Approve a 30-year ground lease with Charlotte Fuel Facilities, LLC for the purpose of constructing a new fuel facility, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the lease for up to two, five-year terms with possible price adjustments and to amend the contract consistent with the purpose for which the contract was approved.

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ITEM NO. 17: MECKLENBURG SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT URBAN COST SHARE PROGRAM

Motion was made by Councilmember Driggs, seconded by Councilmember Mayfield, and carried unanimously to adopt a resolution ratifying an Urban Cost Share Program agreement with the Mecklenburg Soil and Water Conservation District.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 55, at Page(s) 671.

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ITEM NO. 18: NUTRIENT HARVESTING FERTILIZER SALE

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Anderson, and carried unanimously to (A) Approve a contract with Ostara, Inc. for the sale of fertilizer from the Nutrient Harvesting Facility at the McAlpine Creek Water Resource Recovery Facility project for a term of three years, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contract for additional three-year terms and to amend the contract consistent with the purpose for which the contract was approved.

Mayor Lyles said oh, okay, I am so sorry, Angela. I mean, you've been sitting here for a while. So, let me say this first. Angela Charles is here to answer any questions, as well as her Deputy, Ron Hargrove, who is retiring after 30-plus years of service. I don't know how some of you guys make it, but you got over 30 years, and so that's a good amount

of time, that is a long time. Angela's not allowed to do that, that's all I can say. So, thank you very much for your service and what you've done for us and this community, especially around the kind of improvements we've made constantly on our water system. It has been very, very, very positive. Okay, now.

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

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ITEM NO. 19: SYMPHONY PARK INFRASTRUCTURE REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT

Motion was made by Councilmember Peacock, seconded by Councilmember Driggs, and carried unanimously to (A) Authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute an Infrastructure Reimbursement Agreement with South Park Community Partners (SPCP) for the design and construction of transportation and park improvements in an amount not to exceed \$8,000,000, and (B) Adopt Budget Ordinance 994-X reappropriating \$770,229.08 from the Park South Drive Extension project to the Symphony Park Redevelopment project in the General Capital Projects Fund.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 68, at Page(s) 723.

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ITEM NO. 20: WATER SEWER REFUNDING REVENUE BONDS

Motion was made by Councilmember Driggs, seconded by Councilmember Anderson, and carried unanimously to (A) Adopt a bond order and resolutions authorizing and approving refunding of 2015 Water and Sewer Revenue Bonds not to exceed \$210,000,000 and calling for execution and delivery of various documents necessary to complete the sale, (B) Adopt Budget Ordinance 995-X appropriating \$210,000,000 to the Charlotte Water Debt Service Fund, and (C) Authorize City Officials to take necessary actions to complete the financing, including making the application to the Local Government Commission.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 68, at Page(s) 724.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 55, at Page(s) 672-680.

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ITEM NO. 21: DRAW PROGRAM FOR THE SPECTRUM ARENA UPGRADES AND REFUNDING OF OUTSTANDING CERTIFICATES OF PARTICIPATION

Motion was made by Councilmember Graham, and seconded by Councilmember Anderson to (A) Adopt resolutions authorizing and approving issuance of construction period financing for up to \$136,500,000, and refunding of outstanding arena certificates of participation, series 2023A up to \$130,000,000 and calling for the execution and delivery of various documents necessary to complete the financing, and (B) Adopt Budget Ordinance 996-X appropriating \$130,000,000 to Tourism Debt Service Fund.

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

YEAS: Councilmembers Ajmera, Anderson, Brown, Driggs, Graham, Mayfield, Molina, Peacock, and Watlington

NAYS: Councilmember Johnson

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 68, at Page(s) 725.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 55, at Page(s) 681-687.

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ITEM NO. 22: SECTION 108 LOAN GUARANTEE APPLICATION

Motion was made by Councilmember Anderson, seconded by Councilmember Peacock and carried unanimously to (A) Approve the City of Charlotte's application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Section 108 Loan Guarantee program, and (B) Authorize the City Manager or his designee to execute all necessary documents required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

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ITEM NO. 23: HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FISCAL YEARS 2026-2030 CONSOLIDATED PLAN AND FISCAL YEAR 2026 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

Motion was made by Councilmember Driggs, seconded by Councilmember Anderson, and carried unanimously to adopt the Fiscal Years 2026-2030 Five Year Consolidated Plan and Fiscal Year 2026 Annual Action Plan.

Councilmember Johnson said before we move to the nominations, I wanted to ask Mr. Jones. During the public hearing we had, Rebecca, before you leave, but we had some folks come to us and talk to us about the Baymont, and I wanted to know if we could give an update to the work that we have done as a city? I think that was an important issue. If we're able to kind of give an update. I know that Shawn and Rebecca have both worked with Community Partners. So, I think it's important to the public to know that the City has done some work on this.

Rebecca Hefner, HNS Director said good evening. Thank you for the question, Councilmember Johnson. I'm Rebecca Hefner, Director of Housing and Neighborhood Services. So, as you all know, the Heal Charlotte program that the City funded, the contract for that work ended last November 2024, and then earlier this spring, in May 2025, the Heal Charlotte program closed down at the Baymont. There were a number of families that the Heal Charlotte program worked with to relocate from that location. In that process, residents were able to access displacement resources that are provided by the City through our partners. So, we're able to work with other partners for housing navigation and relocation, and financial support from Crisis Assistance Ministry. There are several families that you heard about and we heard from tonight, who continue to look for stable housing following that situation, and we've been working closely with Apryl Lewis and her team, as well as our partners on the ground, to identify who those folks are that need support, and are planning a community resource fair to help connect them to the resources that are available to folks, whether that's through Mecklenburg County Coordinated Entry, Crisis Assistance Ministry for emergency rent and utility assistance, a housing collaborative for housing navigation, legal aid for legal support. So, we're working with Apryl and her team to organize some resources to bring to folks all in one place, potentially as early as this weekend.

Ms. Johnson said thank you for that work.

Councilmember Mayfield said I think it will be helpful if we can get a referral to committee. So, what was mentioned tonight was the impact of a nonprofit leader that

had good intentions and was doing the beginnings of good work, but financially was not able to continue it. Then, you had another individual step in and take over the lease. We had nothing to do with that, but that created a lot of challenges. Now, unfortunately, members of the community need assistance yesterday, and they're looking to the City. I think we have an opportunity for us to be able to dig a little broader in committee and look at our support application process to get a better understanding of what is your long-term plan, so that we can try to reduce this type of situation happening again, because the investments that we made were not only just made in good faith, they were made towards a good process that was actually changing individuals lives.

Unfortunately, there were other funding sources that fell through, and my biggest challenge is, how did a transition of who we invested in, that contract getting to another organization, and we have very little say over what happened. Should we have a window, a six-month window, a three-month window, where if we know that an organization that we funded may be having challenges, to help us try to get ahead of it. Because on the back end, I received numerous calls from actual partners and staff of organizations that were placing individuals, where emails went out from their corporate headquarters saying, do not place any more of our residents at this facility under this current leadership that is there. So, that creates a number of challenges.

I think if we can look at our application process when we're looking to support and identifying that what if, even though [INAUDIBLE] no such thing as unintended consequences, that scenario, to make sure that we are able to help as many people as possible, but also recognizing that this is a great opportunity for us to partner with our counterpart in Mecklenburg County, because the City cannot do everything. We are hard services, police, fire, sanitation, economic development. We have stepped into this role for many years, but this really is not our role, and we just don't have X number of units, we're working on it, where we're working with partners to set aside five percent, two percent of the units for when we have a situation like this, but I think we just have an opportunity if we can get it to committee to really dig in and have some different conversation.

Mayor Lyles said I think that we ought to actually dig in more than just what happened. I think we've got a lot more information that we need to have. The community, I know, all of us, probably got lots of emails and context, and I didn't understand it. So, I know that we're going to be in another situation where we're talking about taking some time off, but I think it's actually a good idea from Ms. Mayfield, that if there's an opportunity to have a discussion around this, and actually have some fact finding, I think it would be really a good thing, because we can't go to the next thing without knowing. It's like you have to learn from your mistakes, and figure out what we can do better, and that's what we're trying to do. We're working really hard on this. I mean, the initiatives that you've done have been tremendous, but we have to look at this as more of a business, and make it a little bit more determination, and I think that this would be a good idea. I also want us to have an understanding that we've been working a lot, so I don't know when we could do it.

Ms. Mayfield said I'm thinking August 2025, because I'm not volunteering Dr. Watlington or Councilmember Driggs, for us to do that. We did that last summer.

Mayor Lyles said I think you ought to really dive into it and make it work. We really need to understand what happened.

Ms. Mayfield said yes, ma'am. Thank you, Mayor.

Mayor Lyles said alright, so we will do that.

Councilmember Brown said I know that we had SEIU (Service Employees International Union) in here, and I have a formal request. I think I want to ask the Council to move to take a vote tonight. We've been going back and forth with SEIU and trying to work with them on CASE. Do we have an update on what we can do for them?

Motion was made by Councilmember Brown and seconded by Councilmember Johnson to take a vote to authorize the Budget Committee to investigate the safety and efficiency of airport operations. This includes, but not limited to researching the City of Charlotte's authority to implement policy to improve airport safety and efficiency and examining measures to improve the recruitment intention of workers employed at the airport.

Ms. Brown said it's important that we take a vote to let the public know that we clearly understand and hear them as a Council. They come meeting after meeting after meeting after meeting. I am one of the people that champion them and stand with them and believe in what they're trying to do. Now, if the attorney or someone wants to give a detailed explanation of why we can't support them, I'm open to hear that.

Mayor Lyles said well, I understand. Now, we still have a closed session to go into, so.

Ms. Brown said yes, ma'am. I'm just asking.

Mayor Lyles said I understand, the attorney.

Anthony Fox, Interim City Attorney said well, there are couple things. One, I've given the explanation of this before, but the issue is, that issue arose under your citizens forum, and you're not allowed to take action. You can have a discussion, but you can't take action here tonight on items that were brought to you that do become a part of your agenda, but under your own rules, it doesn't allow for you to take action. So, when you requested for this Council to take action to refer an item, that's an action item, and that's what is not appropriate under your rules right now. So, it may be that you want to bring it up.

Mayor Lyles said it can come as a future item.

Ms. Brown said but hold on. So, the attorney has told me that it's not appropriate under our rules. So, then I would need to see that, please. Can you send that to me, Mr. Fox?

Mr. Fox said it's right here.

Mayor Lyles said but I do think it says that it can be done at a future time.

Ms. Brown said I just want to know. If we have a group of individuals that come here every month, after month, after month, after month, and I'm sure that a lot of people on this Council, other than myself, support them, so I'm just asking.

Mayor Lyles said your asking is appropriate.

Ms. Brown said I'm asking for my constituents, it's in my district, and yes, I'm very concerned about the safety, the efficiency, and what we do for the airport. So, I'm concerned.

Councilmember Johnson said so, if we can't put it on tonight's agenda, then can we ask that it be on a future agenda?

Mr. Fox said you can ask for it to be on a future agenda.

Ms. Brown said but Mr. Fox is showing me something, because I had a question, so thank you.

Mayor Lyles said I think a lot of folks are wanting to explain this later.

Mr. Fox said so, what I was explaining to the Council member, just for the full Council's education, is that your rule number four.

Ms. Brown said that's fine, if you can just send it to me, Mr. Fox. Number 4, where he's showing that to me. I'm not trying to make a big deal about it, but I wanted to know. You were giving me an explanation. As the attorney, okay, you're giving me the information. If you can just send me a copy of that, please. Thank you so much. I yield back to you, Madam Mayor.

Mayor Lyles said thank you. So, we've got it ironed out that we can have this at a future agenda.

Ms. Brown said yes, Mr. Fox has addressed me with what I need to be addressed with.

Mayor Lyles said and we can do that.

Ms. Johnson said so, point of clarification, because we've asked this. So, do you need six votes for it to be on a future agenda?

Mayor Lyles said no. Unless someone objects, we do not have to. I mean, you read it, is there an objection?

Mr. Fox said any member of the Council may request the City Manager to place an item on a future agenda by making such a request at a Council meeting. This is a Council meeting. Unless a Council member or City Manager objects, the request shall be included.

Ms. Johnson said okay, cool. So, we should ask is there an objection.

Mayor Lyles said is there an objection on a future agenda for discussion?

Ms. Brown said a future agenda being in August 2025?

Mayor Lyles said it would be in August 2025.

Councilmember Molina said so, just for a point of clarification, Madam Mayor. When we say put it on a future agenda, for what purpose? Are we asking to vote on it? Are we asking to discuss it?

Ms. Brown said we're asking to vote on it.

Ms. Molina said well, hold on. So, I want to make sure that we're clear.

Ms. Brown said no, I understand what you're saying, but I asked for a vote.

Ms. Molina said so, for the purposes of a vote on a future agenda?

Ms. Brown said yes, that's what I just requested.

Ms. Molina said okay.

Mr. Fox said if I can. I think the request might be that the Council member is requesting that it be placed on a future agenda for consideration of the Council to refer it to a committee, at which time I will still give you, or render my opinion, about the appropriateness of that, but I'm just giving you the procedure.

Ms. Brown said for tonight, you've answered my question on what I need to do and move forward, and you'll send that to me.

Councilmember Driggs said so you said without objection. I do object. I'm afraid that our contemplation of something that's so blatantly violates state law in the eyes of the legislature is a dangerous direction for us. I would remind people that our control of airport is tenuous. There is still an existing law in North Carolina that transfers control of the airport to a commission. The only thing holding that back was that a court ruled that

the FAA (Federal Aviation Agency) has to approve the transfer, and the FAA said, “We won’t do that unless all the parties are in agreement,” and that was at a time when the Secretary of Transportation was Anthony Fox. I’m afraid the outcome could be different, and I really think this is something we need to approach with the utmost of caution, given the sort of power structure in the country and in the state. So, I object.

Councilmember Watlington said thank you. I just want to make sure I’m super clear from a [INAUDIBLE] standpoint. Can you read what you said again. I was having a little bit of trouble hearing you?

Ms. Brown said for me?

Ms. Watlington said no, for the City Attorney. I know that if there is an objection for the same day, then you can’t put it on agenda. Did I also hear that if someone asks for something to be put on a future agenda, if any one member objects to that, then it can’t be placed?

Mr. Fox said for clarification, I’ll just read the exact language of your rule, and I’m reading from 4D of your Rules of Procedure. It says, “Any member of Council may request a City Manager to place an item on a future agenda by making such a request at a Council meeting. Unless a Council member or the City Manager objects, the requested item shall be included. If a Council member of City Manager has an objection, the item in question shall not be included on a future agenda unless a majority of the Council votes in favor of including the item.” That is the rule.

Ms. Watlington said thank you, so it would seem that that vote would happen at the same time as the request.

Mr. Fox said what you have tonight is you had the request, you had an objection stated, so now you’ve got to determine if you’ve got the votes to.

Councilmember Ajmera said right, so the majority or not.

Ms. Watlington said okay.

Ms. Ajmera said so, someone has to make a motion.

Councilmember Anderson said just a point of information. The motion is to put exactly what on a business agenda?

Ms. Brown said I just read it. Would you like me to read it again?

Ms. Anderson said no. Well, maybe it should come from the clerk, because she took it. Did you get the motion? I just want to be clear what we’re actually voting on.

Mr. Driggs said right now, we’re voting on whether or not to put it on the agenda. There as a proposal to put it on the agenda, which was properly made, and an objection.

Ms. Anderson said I understand that, but to put what on the agenda?

Ms. Brown said referral to committee to investigate the safety and efficiency. I read very well, and I speak very correct English. Other than people not listening, I’m going to say it again. Thank you, Mayor. I move that the City take a vote to authorize the Budget Committee to investigate the safety and efficiency of airport operations. This includes, but not limited to. So, Mr. Driggs, what I did for you was listen to you even though I didn’t want to, without interrupting. Researching the City of Charlotte’s authority to implement policy to improve airport safety and efficiency and examining measures to improve the recruitment intention of workers employed at the airport. Then I went on to ask Mr. Fox was it okay to do that. Then, Mr. Driggs gave us law legislation with his history of being on City Council, that it may be illegal, and it may be something that we cannot do legal wise. So, I will defer back to my attorney, who we’ve appointed to sit at

this Council, to direct us, not other Council members that hold the same weight as me. I'm asking the attorney to give me that information. I don't care how long you've been here or how short you've been here. I'm asking the attorney to give me that information, not other Council members, because you hold the same weight as I hold, one vote.

Mr. Fox said the motion that was made, according to your rule was inappropriate, because it was seeking action by this Council to refer an item to agenda that was raised in your citizens forum. The rules prohibit you from doing that. Then the question morphed into, well, from Ms. Johnson, how can it be placed on a future agenda? I shared with this Council your rule regarding placement of an item on a future agenda. A request had to be made during the Council meeting. I deemed that was a request. The request was to place on a future agenda the referral of the union issue to Committee, and that was where it was determined that there was an objection to that. The objection then requires that, in order for that to be referred to a future agenda, that it has to have the majority vote of this Council. That's where we are.

Ms. Brown said thank you.

Ms. Watlington said and the motion has been made and not yet seconded? Did I hear that?

Ms. Brown said it was made and Johnson second it, but it was objected.

Ms. Watlington said but there's a motion on the floor. So, now we're in discussion? Is that where we are?

Ms. Brown said yes.

Ms. Johnson said even if the motion is not appropriate, there is a request to put something on the future agenda, so that's where we are now. We need to take a vote, if we have the majority, to add this to the future agenda.

Ms. Molina said so, what I think is so confusing is there are multiple questions, and people are kind of lost. So, if you could please clarify?

Mr. Fox said the only request for this Council to decide is a request coming from Ms. Johnson of whether to place it on a future agenda, and the objection by Councilmember Driggs raises the requirement that you've got to have a vote of a majority of this Council, according to your rules, in order for that to be included on a future agenda.

Ms. Watlington said okay, are we in discussion?

Ms. Molina said we should be. Do we have discussion now?

Mr. Fox said that's what we've been doing.

Ms. Molina said okay, that's what I'm assuming.

Mayor Lyles said I'm sorry. Nobody has asked to speak, besides Ms. Johnson.

Ms. Watlington said in order to vote, we were voting on a motion. Somebody moved to do something.

Mr. Driggs said it's just to vote whether or not [INAUDIBLE].

Ms. Watlington said I know, but we can't vote on something that's not a motion.

Motion was made by Councilmember Johnson, and seconded by Councilmember Mayfield to consider this item on a future agenda.
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Ms. Watlington said so I think we just got there to where my question was going to be. I don't know that I would be ready to support the final action without having the discussion and understanding, because I know there's a little bit of question about why the Budget Committee. The reason it's the Budget Committee, as I remember, is because we were talking about our opportunity as a city to review our procurement policies that would tie to the outcomes. Whether or not we dictate how the businesses achieve those outcomes, I think, was the research that you had done with the Interim City Attorney. So, to the extent that those procurement items fall under governance, I think that's how it got to be in the Budget Governance Committee.

Ms. Johnson said okay.

Ms. Watlington said I just want to make sure that I'm understanding and remembering that correctly as I said.

Ms. Johnson said and in the Committee you could that take that deeper dive and decide how to.

Ms. Brown said and dig in it and dissect it and see what we can or cannot do.

Ms. Anderson said just as a point of clarification, I thought we had a motion on the floor prior to what Ms. Johnson just said. We had a motion from Ms. Brown and a second, and there wasn't an offering of a substitute motion or a withdraw of that motion or anything. We just all of a sudden had another motion.

Ms. Johnson said great question, yes, why [INAUDIBLE].

Ms. Anderson said I just want to make sure, because I want to make sure we're being honest. We had a motion and a second.

Mr. Fox said I heard the motion, but I did not hear a second.

Mr. Driggs said that motion was out of order.

Ms. Anderson said I didn't hear anyone say that.

Mr. Driggs said the attorney said it was out of order.

Mr. Fox said yes, when she made the motion, I mentioned that the rules did not provide for action to be taken out of an action that arose during your citizens forum, but I didn't hear a second to it.

Ms. Anderson said okay, thank you. Maybe it's because we've kind of like lost the movement here. Yes, but I'm trying to just follow it. I'm trying to listen attentively to Ms. Brown. So, I'm saying I'm missing some stuff, because we've got a lot of conversation going on. So, that's why I didn't hear that that was out of order, that's why I asked for the point of clarification. So, the first motion was out of order. So, now you have a new motion from Ms. Johnson, and it was seconded.

Ms. Watlington said correct.

Mr. Fox said that's where I thought we were.

Ms. Molina said and now, we're still in discussion.

Mayor Lyles said and then I think the last person we had, Ms. Johnson, but I also think that Ms. Molina was asked to be recognized.

Ms. Molina said so my concern at this moment is, the one thing that I am hesitant about when it comes to any type of policy consideration is not having a full consideration for what's at hand. I think, in a prior conversation, we've had the attorney speak to our

preemption to take action on this from a City perspective, because it is outside of our ability to do. So, oftentimes, the political part of this conversation is what rules. The things that are in front of us, and there's not full context. We have two vendors that employ essential workers at our airport, and those private employers have not paid what the workers consider to be a fair wage, and there are no benefits, and the workers that are doing these jobs are essential to the engine that we have, that is the Charlotte Douglas Airport. I don't think that point is lost on anybody, but the idea of saying that we as a Council, as a city government, where the institution of our charter is handed to us by the state, we are preempted. We're in a Dillon's Rule state, where our charter is an instrument of state government. I am concerned about even the implication, at the state legislature, where they see us making what would be considered something that we don't have the power to do, and we've seen this in the past with HB2. We've seen this in the past with other things, that from a Council perspective, we've attempted to do from this dais, and the state was swift in making a hard decision for us in choosing to do so. So, I, with caution to all of us, and even aligning with what Councilmember Driggs' said, we're in a completely different political environment at a national level, at a state level, and Charlotte, we are the largest city engine in the state of North Carolina, that is a huge responsibility.

So, it's one of those things where I know that we have to be careful, and I don't want it to be misstated that this is something that says that we are not being fair to the people who work subcontract at our airport, and that is not what this message is saying. I want to be clear, we just adopted the budget, the city budget, that the City of Charlotte adopted, where every single full-time employee that is an employee of the City of Charlotte makes \$24 an hour. If it was left up to us and it was within our powers, we have said with the voting and the passing of our budget, that we would pay every full-time employee, no matter what they do for the City of Charlotte, we have said with the approval of our budget that we would agree to pay them \$24 an hour, no matter what they've done for us. I think that's what we said when we approved the budget, and that is what this Council stands on, because that's what we voted on.

Now, again, we do have two private institutions. They do provide essential services for our airport. We realize with every single visit from the SEIU, that there are private institutions that employ subcontract workers at the airport and they pay them less than that wage, but to say that we can force them, through a vote of this Council, where that is not a City-owned business, first of all, I know we can't do that, but second of all, I'm afraid of what the implication would be if we attempted to try to take action in this way with that airport. So, I'm again cautioning my colleagues, almost begging you, to just pay attention to that part, please.

Councilmember Graham said so, I think my colleague from District Five gets it, that part of our responsibility as a member of this board is to do no harm to the people that we serve, do no harm to the institution that we represent. I think it's clear that in this community, far and wide, that affordability continues to be an issue, affordable rents, jobs, affordable leases for those who want to operate a business, all those things are true. I think leadership matters and experience matters, Councilmember Brown. I was the Chairman of the Mecklenburg Delegation when there was a bill to take away the authority of Charlotte Douglas International Airport from the City. A sitting Governor, who was then the Mayor of the City for 14 years, looked the other way and stayed quiet for almost four months, five months, and we fought like hell to keep the ownership of the airport that has been in the City's possession for decades, and many Mayors and Council and citizens through our vote and our bonds helped grow that airport. It is the economic engine that stirs the region, not just the City. It stirs the region for job creation and corporate relocation and corporate retention, corporate travelers, hospitality and tourism, that stirs the region. I think my colleague to my left is correct, that thing is still tenuous. It's going to be a big week for the City of Charlotte and Raleigh related to mobility. I think this is such a complicated issue, other than just sending it to a committee without really, really some contemplation before we act, and certainly go into the Budget Committee, that's simply the wrong committee to go to from the first place, so that's a problem in itself, but I'll put that in the parking lot, and play chess. We've got to find a way to help individuals in this community who need help, and I think the budget

that we approved weeks ago, moves us in that direction to help people, housing, workforce development, partnering with our County partners, providing youth services, doing a lot of things to help people help themselves, do no harm, think things through.

I've been doing this long enough that I'm not this corporate guy. I've been progressive before there was progressiveness. I'm marching in the streets too, but then you've got to think how to play chess versus just make a move. Yes, it's an election year, but the pledge that we took and the oath that we took was to do no harm. There's a way, if there's some safety issues, and I read the memos that the City Attorney sent us a number of times on this issue, and I'm not an attorney, and that's why we hire one to give us his best thinking, his best advice, and if we just discard that as though it's meaningless, then we hurt ourselves. If we want to address this issue, let's find ways to address it without shooting ourselves in the foot, and certainly not this week, if you can read between the lines.

Ms. Brown said I'm not into reading between the lines. I hear you and I respect you.

Mr. Graham said well, there's a mobility bill.

Ms. Brown said Malcolm.

Mr. Graham said I'm talking. I have the floor with all due respect. I didn't interrupt you. These are big issues. Affordability is a big issue. No one's discounting that at all, big issues. Let's not lose what we've got and what we fought to keep. We have support in Raleigh, but it's political support. In D.C, I'm telling you, that thing is gone. So, we've got to be very careful about what we do and the steps that we take. So, I just caution us to measure our steps, and just don't throw caution to the wind that somehow we're trying to help folks, and I want to help folks, without hurting all of us. So, I won't be supporting that, not because I don't want to help folks that look like me, particularly, or who are having a hard time. Let's find ways to help folks help themselves without shooting ourselves in the foot, and this discussion is all about self-destruction. I can't be any more plainer than that.

Ms. Watlington said so there's a couple of things here. I want to caution us to not be having the conversation before we even agree to have the conversation. Certainly, like I said, I think it's important that we have this discussion. What I'm saying is that the motion on the floor is about whether or not we want to put this on a future agenda. Everybody has thoughts and considerations about the particular item, and I think that's absolutely fine, I want to hear what ya'll have to say, but I think that that's a separate discussion from what we're talking about tonight. Tonight is, to me, whether or not we're even saying we want to have this discussion, and I think it's perfectly alright to have the discussion. What we've heard around the dais to this point is people have different vantage points based on their history, etc. etc. Those things are important to know, and we won't know it unless we have a discussion. So, I don't think that the appropriate response is to shut it down, because then we do lose the benefit of the experience, and all of these things that you have said. So, I think it's important that we are very clear about what it is that we are seeking to do. I said in the beginning of this discussion that I'm not to a place where I'm ready to vote on what the solution should be, but I am certainly open to having a conversation to understand all of these different dynamics at play. I don't think our role is to say, somebody said 20 years ago this bad thing happened, so we're not going to say anything. No, it is our job to understand what those things are, so that we can all move from a place of understanding and enlightenment about what was going on. So, that part I absolutely would have to disagree with some of my colleagues. While I respect your particular position about the issue, I do think it's a slightly different conversation, and I just think that we've got to decide to be the type of leaders that are willing to have a conversation, even if it's educating each other about what it is.

So, also, I've heard a few things around this conversation, which is why I think it's important to be able to have it in a space where we can actually unpack it and be able to go get information and come back, because I think it does a disservice to our staff

members who may have information to weigh in on this, and we don't even have the benefit of that at this point. From what I understood the last few times we've talked about this is that, Mr. Attorney, you had had a conversation with Councilmember Johnson about some things that were within our scope. I thought that's where the whole procurement conversation arose from. So, I was clear that your memo talked about particular things that we didn't have the ability to weigh in on, but what was said at this dais last time that we had this conversation, was that the two of ya'll had gotten together and that's where this idea around, we can certainly review our procurement processes and make sure that the outcomes meet our city's objectives, whether it's for people at the airport or people in the Transportation Union. If we were talking about our bus drivers, I think this conversation would be going a little bit differently. So, I would caution us not to make policy. We talk about citywide and representing the City. We've got to consider policy as a city, not just because it has one particular caveat or the other. If we're going to have a city policy conversation, then let's have a city policy conversation, and make the necessary adjustments for the specific instances. What I want to make sure that I'm clear about is, am I understanding correctly that you all were aligned, that within our scope, we could talk about our procurement practices? I'm asking specifically the attorney and Councilmember Johnson.

Mr. Fox said I've always been clear and consistent with regard to the CASE Ordinance and the problem that it presents that's unique, because it deals with your involvement in wage and hour considerations of someone that are not your employees. When we talk about what can be done, I will always brainstorm with any of you about what are the available options to talk about from a procurement perspective, or anything that may get you to your goal.

Ms. Watlington said so, that's something I want to understand is, was that the conversation and is there an opportunity? I was under the impression that you all had done that, and that what was brought back to us was something that was within the scope. Is that or is that not what occurred?

Ms. Johnson said so, there's a memo. I asked you the question, and I think there was an example today with item number 43 with the Teslas. So, we talked about the procurement policy, and you mentioned that we could consider performance and quality, and we also talked about, and I'm looking for the memo, that we don't have to take the lowest and most responsive bid. So, I think that referring this to Committee will allow us to take a look at those details. If our procurement policy, if we can add certain requirements, such as performance and quality, and you said, perhaps retention and different characteristics, in all of our procurements. I'd like to take a look at, are we hiring [INAUDIBLE] prison labor. So, yes, we had that conversation, yes.

Ms. Watlington said so, wait, I don't want to get too far away from my specific question.

Mr. Fox said but let me be clear.

Ms. Watlington said well, I'm sorry, Mr. Fox, with all due respect, my question is specific, and what I'm hearing is that there was some alignment, whether or not you all agreed on an ultimate outcome. Is that correct?

Ms. Johnson said there is opportunity to look at our procurement policy.

Mr. Fox said procurement and CASE are two different things.

Ms. Watlington said I understand. That's why I'm asking the question that I'm asking you. That's the piece that I'm trying to suss out here. We hear CASE, but I thought we were far past that, that we already said, if CASE is not something that we can do based on what you've said, is there is an opportunity to review our procurement? So, if that is the discussion that we're talking about moving forward, that's very different than what we're saying when you say, full stop, we don't have the authority to do CASE. I think everybody in here read the memo, so we're clear about that. It's not a matter of not

playing chess or just playing checkers. Now, it's a question of what is possible, and I'm hearing that there is something, and that's the discussion that I'm interested in having.

Ms. Anderson said people have had multiple moments to speak on this matter. I think Ms. Watlington is absolutely correct that we are having a much broader conversation now. I'd like to call the question, because everyone who has wanted to speak has had the opportunity to speak multiple times. Let's just move forward with the vote.

Ms. Brown said I haven't spoken multiple times.

Mr. Fox said to call the question takes precedent, though.

Ms. Watlington said yes, so we have to vote on that. It takes two-thirds of the Council. So, let's just vote.

Ms. Brown said ya'll do what ya'll want to do [INAUDIBLE].

Motion was made by Councilmember Anderson and seconded by Councilmember Driggs to call to question.

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

YEAS: Councilmembers Anderson, Driggs, Graham, Mayfield, Molina and Peacock

NAYS: Councilmembers Ajmera, Brown, Johnson and Watlington

Ms. Watlington said so, now it's time to vote.

Mayor Lyles said it's time to vote.

Ms. Anderson said clerk, do we have the appropriate votes?

Mr. Fox said yes, you had six there, six.

Ms. Anderson said I'd like for us to proceed to vote.

Mr. Fox said so now you vote on the motion.

Ms. Anderson said on the actual motion raised by Ms. Johnson.

Ms. Mayfield said which is to give it to committee for a discussion.

Mr. Fox said with the request being made to refer it to a future agenda, and objection to that is whether or not to approve that request.

Mayor Lyles said alright. So, okay.

Ms. Watlington said I'm sorry, one more time from the clerk. Can you just read what the motion is?

Stephanie Kelly, City Clerk said the motion is whether or not to put the action, mentioned by Ms. Johnson, to make a referral to have it on a future agenda.

Ms. Watlington said well, see, that's why I'm struggling, the action. I'd like to say, there's two different things. CASE is different than procurement, so that's why I'm trying to understand what are we talking [INAUDIBLE].

Mayor Lyles said it wasn't procurement. The procurement was not in the motion.

Ms. Watlington said so, what is it? Because to say what Johnson said, is not something I'm going to vote on, because I don't know what Johnson said.

Ms. Johnson said let me clarify. Let's say the procurement policy, take a look at the procurement.

Ms. Anderson said that wasn't the motion.

Ms. Watlington said so, are you making an amendment to the motion?

Ms. Johnson said fine. Okay, then the motion that she said. Read it again. Here's the thing. If we put it on the agenda, and it goes to committee, then can't we get to that point and be specific? So, there was the motion that she read, but if in committee, if it gets that far, then we could certainly say, well, that won't work after we hear from the staff, but we can look at the procurement process. So, here's the thing. When we have constituents bring certain items to us, it moves through Council and committee to the agenda, and we pass it in neck-breaking speed. This group has been asking us for years to do something. I'm trying to get this to committee so we can have a discussion.

Mayor Lyles said Ms. Johnson and I had a meeting earlier today, and we talked about this. The question was, since we were going to move forward is that, if we're doing this we should go ahead and figure out how we can have, really the process and the makings that you're trying to say. What are we trying to do? What are we trying to accomplish? So, we've made a discussion today, and it was that we would actually try to put out two different items, like what are we trying to do, and how can it be done? That was where we kind of stopped. If I say this incorrectly, Ms. Johnson, let me know, but the idea was that we're about to take break, and this is an open question for us, but it was not resolved, but in a way, it was like saying, let's take some time and figure out what we're trying to do. I think that that's more important. The foundation makes the difference in anything that we achieve or try to accomplish.

Mr. Fox said I think what's on the floor right now, if I can kind of summarize, is there was a motion that was to make a request to the Manager to place an item on the future agenda, the item related to Ms. Brown's request relating to the union's consideration of this Council for the CASE format, which would, as a result of contracting at the airport, require and allow this Council to regulate wages for anyone that is operating at the airport pursuant to a contract opportunity. That would be the item that would be placed on a future agenda. I don't know what committee you'll go to, but that's the item that will be placed on a future agenda.

Mayor Lyles said okay, so you've heard what the attorney said.

Ms. Watlington said and just the motion maker, can you affirm that that is what you mean?

Ms. Johnson said yes.

The vote was taken on the motion to place on a future agenda and recorded as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Ajmera, Brown, Johnson, Mayfield, and Watlington

NAYS: Councilmembers Anderson, Driggs, Graham, Molina, and Peacock

Mayor Lyles said the motion does not carry.

Ms. Brown said well, that's five and five, you have to vote.

Ms. Molina said we need six.

Mayor Lyles said I have to vote?

Mr. Fox said you would have to break the tie.

Mayor Lyles said okay. I'm going to take the position that this is not ready for us to actually have it on the agenda right now, and I think that we have to work a little bit harder on it. So, I vote with the majority over here.

NAYS: Mayor Lyles to break the tie.

Motion failed.

Ms. Brown said it's not majority, you break the tie.

Mayor Lyles said I break the tie on that. Thank you.

Ms. Brown said yes, ma'am. Let's have correct English up here tonight.

Mayor Lyles said okay, thank you. We do have another closed session.

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NOMINATIONS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

ITEM NO. 24: NOMINATIONS TO THE BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a three-year term beginning April 29, 2025, and ending April 28, 2028:

- Adam Bernstein, nominated by Councilmembers Driggs and Peacock
- Amar Nadkarni, nominated by Councilmember Anderson
- Rochelle Stewart, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Brown, Graham, Johnson, Mayfield, Molina and Watlington

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Ajmera, and carried unanimously to appoint Rochelle Stewart by acclamation.
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Ms. Stewart was appointed.

There were no nominations made for one appointment for a three-year term recommended by the Certified SBE-Hispanic Contractors Association beginning April 29, 2023, and ending April 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 Charlotte Regional Business Alliance beginning April 29, 2025, and ending April 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 Latin American Chamber of Commerce beginning upon appointment and ending April 28, 2025.

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 Minority Contractors Association beginning upon appointment and ending April 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 April 28, 2026.

Nominations will be kept open until the next Business meeting.

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ITEM NO. 25: NOMINATIONS TO THE CHARLOTTE INTERNATIONAL CABINET

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

- Michelle Coffino, nominated by Councilmember Brown
- Joshua Niday, nominated by Councilmember Peacock
- Danielle Repokis, nominated by Councilmember Johnson
- Namrata Yadav, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Anderson, Driggs, Graham, Mayfield, Molina and Watlington

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Ajmera, and carried unanimously to appoint Namrata Yadav by acclamation.

Ms. Yadav was appointed.

The following nomination was made for one appointment for an Airport Staff Member category representative for a partial term beginning upon appointment and ending June 30, 2027:

- Alaina Eyler, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Anderson, Brown, Driggs, Graham, Johnson, Mayfield, Molina, Peacock, and Watlington

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Ajmera, and carried unanimously to appoint Alaina Eyer by acclamation.

Ms. Eyler was appointed.

The following nomination was made for two appointments for a three-year term recommended by the Charlotte Regional Business Alliance beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2028:

- Hans Hilgenstock, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Anderson, Brown, Driggs, Graham, Johnson, Mayfield, Molina, Peacock, and Watlington

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Ajmera, and carried unanimously to appoint Hans Hilgenstock by acclamation.

Mr. Hilgenstock was reappointed.

The following nomination was made for one appointment for a three-year term recommended by the Charlotte Regional Visitors Authority beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2028:

- Eric Caratao, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Anderson, Brown, Driggs, Graham, Johnson, Mayfield, Molina, and Peacock

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Ajmera, and carried unanimously to appoint Eric Caratao by acclamation.

Mr. Caratao was appointed.

The following nomination was made for one appointment for an Education / Non-Profit category representative for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2028:

- Maggie Commins, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Anderson, Brown, Driggs, Graham, Johnson, Mayfield, Molina, Peacock, and Watlington

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Ajmera, and carried unanimously to appoint Maggie Commins by acclamation.

Ms. Commins was reappointed.

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ITEM NO. 26: NOMINATIONS TO THE CHARLOTTE MECKLENBURG PUBLIC ACCESS CORPORATION

The following nomination was made for one appointment for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2028:

- Logan Rollins, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Anderson, Brown, Driggs, Graham, Johnson, Mayfield, Molina, Peacock, and Watlington

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Ajmera, and carried unanimously to appoint Logan Rollins by acclamation.

Mr. Rollins was appointed.

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ITEM NO. 27: NOMINATIONS TO THE CHARLOTTE REGIONAL VISITORS AUTHORITY

The following nomination was made for one appointment for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2028:

- Larken M. Egleston, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Anderson, Brown, Driggs, Graham, Johnson, Mayfield, Molina, Peacock, and Watlington

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Ajmera, and carried unanimously to appoint Larken M. Egleston by acclamation.

Mr. Egleston was reappointed.

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

- Pascual Alvarez, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Anderson, Brown, Driggs, Graham, Johnson, Molina, and Watlington
- Ashley Collier, Nominated by Councilmembers Mayfield and Peacock

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Ajmera, and carried unanimously to appoint Pascual Alvarez by acclamation.

Mr. Alvarez was appointed.

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ITEM NO. 28: NOMINATIONS TO THE COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

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:

- Angel Morris, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Anderson, Driggs, Graham, Mayfield, Molina, Peacock, and Watlington
- Stephanie Tyson, nominated by Councilmember Peacock

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Ajmera, and carried unanimously to appoint Angel Morris by acclamation.

Angel Morris was appointed.

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

- Johnelle Causwell, nominated by Councilmember Johnson
- Charlene Forney, nominated by Councilmember Brown
- Charlene Henderson, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Anderson, Brown, Driggs, Graham, Johnson, Mayfield, Molina and Watlington

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Ajmera, and carried unanimously to appoint Charlene Henderson by acclamation.

Ms. Henderson was reappointed.

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ITEM NO. 29: NOMINATIONS TO THE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

The following nomination was 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:

- Ann Stanley, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Anderson, Brown, Driggs, Graham, Johnson, Mayfield, Molina, Peacock, and Watlington

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Ajmera, and carried unanimously to appoint Ann Stanley by acclamation.

Ms. Stanley was appointed.

There were no nominations made for one appointment for a Resident Owner of Plaza-Midwood for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2028.

Nominations will be kept open until the next Business meeting.

The following nomination was made for one appointment for a Resident Owner of Wesley Heights for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2028:

- Christopher Allred, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Anderson, Brown, Driggs, Graham, Johnson, Mayfield, Molina, Peacock, and Watlington

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Ajmera, and carried unanimously to appoint Christopher Allred by acclamation.

Mr. Allred was appointed.

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ITEM NO. 30: NOMINATIONS TO THE MINT MUSEUM BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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

- Chelsea Corey, nominated by Councilmember Peacock
- Cheryl Palmer, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Anderson, Brown, Driggs, Johnson, Mayfield, Molina, and Watlington

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Ajmera, and carried unanimously to appoint Cheryl Palmer by acclamation.

Ms. Palmer was appointed.

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ITEM NO. 31: NOMINATIONS TO THE PASSENGER VEHICLE FOR HIRE BOARD

There were no nominations made for one appointment for a Company Operating Certificate Licensee category representative for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2028.

Nominations will be kept open until the next Business meeting.

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. 32: NOMINATIONS TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION

The following nominations were made for two appointments for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2028:

- Adam Bernstein, nominated by Councilmember Peacock
- Michelle Coffino, nominated by Councilmember Brown
- Clayton Sealey, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Anderson, Driggs, Graham, Mayfield, Molina, and Watlington
- Erin Shaw, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Anderson, Driggs, Graham, Johnson, Mayfield, Molina, Peacock, and Watlington
- Drew Wofford, nominated by Councilmember Brown

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Ajmera, and carried unanimously to appoint Clayton Sealey and Erin Shaw by acclamation.

Mr. Sealey and Ms. Shaw were reappointed.

The following nomination was made for one appointment for a three-year term Recommended by the School Board beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2028:

- Rebekah Whilden, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Anderson, Brown, Driggs, Graham, Mayfield, Molina, and Watlington

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Ajmera, and carried unanimously to appoint Rebekah Whilden by acclamation.

Ms. Whilden was reappointed.

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ITEM NO. 33: NOMINATIONS TO THE PUBLIC ART COMMISSION

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

- Adam Bernstein, nominated by Councilmember Peacock
- David Gall, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Anderson, Brown, Driggs, Graham, Mayfield, Molina, and Watlington
- Levisha Johnson, nominated by Councilmember Johnson

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Ajmera, and carried unanimously to appoint David Gall by acclamation.

Mr. Gall was reappointed.

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ITEM NO. 34: NOMINATIONS TO THE STORM WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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

- Dave Canaan, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Anderson, Brown, Driggs, Graham, Johnson, Mayfield, Molina, and Watlington

- Montravias King, nominated by Councilmember Peacock

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Ajmera, and carried unanimously to appoint Dave Canaan by acclamation.
Dave Canaan was appointed.

ITEM NO. 5: CLOSED SESSION (AS NECESSARY)

Motion was made by Councilmember Anderson, and seconded by Councilmember Mayfield to go into closed session pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a)(6) to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee.

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

YEAS: Councilmembers Ajmera, Anderson, Driggs, Graham, Johnson, Mayfield, Molina, Peacock, and Watlington

NAYS: Councilmember Brown

The meeting was recessed at 10:21 p.m. to move to CH-14 for a closed session.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at the conclusion of the closed session.


Stephanie C. Kelly, City Clerk MME, NCCMC

Length of Meeting: 4 Hours, 31 Minutes
Minutes completed: August 18, 2025