

2025 Legislative Agendas

OCTOBER 7, 2024



Overview

- Today's presentation is for presentation only (no votes)
- Agenda development
- Upcoming legislative sessions
- Staff-proposed legislative requests
- Next steps
- Committee feedback

Agenda Development

- Annual legislative agendas communicate the Mayor and City Council's 2025 federal and state legislative requests
- Requests based upon City Council strategic priorities:
 - Achievable in the current political climate
 - Achievable in the current economic climate
 - Actionable through legislation, budgets, grant requests
 - Strengthen relationships with legislators

Agenda Development



2025 US Congress

□ Post-Election:

- Enact FY 2025 federal budget
- Supplemental funding for Federal Emergency Management Agency
- Defense policy
- Farm bill reauthorization

□ Convenes January 3:

- Debt Ceiling
- Extension of 2017 Tax Cut and Jobs Act
- Surface Transportation Act Reauthorization
- FY 2026 Federal Budget

Federal Requests

□ Mobility: Support reauthorization of the surface transportation program

- In 2024:
 - *City competing for competitive federal grants for surface transportation projects; i.e., RAISE, Expert Services, Bridge Investment, Safe Streets for All, Active Transportation Infrastructure, Rail Crossing Elimination*
 - *City competing for earmark funding: i.e., bus stop improvements, ADA improvements*
- In 2025:
 - *Continue competing for federal funding*
 - *Congress initiates reauthorization of the surface transportation programs that provide federal matches for local dollars for road and highway, public transportation, passenger rail, bicycle, pedestrian, and safety projects*

Federal Requests

□ Aviation: Secure funding for the fourth parallel runway and other airport infrastructure projects

- In 2024:
 - *Federal Aviation Administration approved a \$290 million Letter of Intent for the fourth parallel runway and associated projects*
 - *Recipient of a \$27 million Airport Terminal Program competitive grant for replacement of boarding bridges*
 - *Received \$43 million in Airport Infrastructure Grants formula funds*
- In 2025:
 - *Continue competing for federal funding*
 - *Secure first tranche of funding for the fourth parallel runway projects through the federal appropriations process*

Federal Requests

□ Talent & Workforce Development: Support initiatives to boost workforce participation, and energize economic mobility in areas such as the Corridors of Opportunity

- In 2024:
 - *Advocating for immigration policy changes and funding for digital inclusion (i.e., Affordable Connectivity Program)*
 - *Competing for federal funding for digital inclusion (i.e., Digital Equity Program) and Corridors of Opportunities projects (i.e., RAISE, Reconnecting Communities, Community Change, etc.)*
- In 2025:
 - *Continue all the above*
 - *Support reauthorization of Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act that directs funding to local areas to support talent and business needs*
 - *Support funding for child-care resources*

Federal Requests

□ Public Safety: Support initiatives to reduce community violence, improve disaster preparedness, and administer justice fairly and quickly

- In 2024:
 - *City awarded earmark funding for the CARES Team*
 - *Competing for earmark funding; i.e., implementing consolidated computer aided dispatch system*
- In 2025:
 - *Continue competing for federal funding*
 - *Advocate for appropriate levels of funding for airport security services provided by Transportation Security Administration and border security provided by Customs and Border Patrol, including at US international airports*

Federal Requests

□ Environment: Support funding to build sustainable infrastructure and address impacts of forever chemicals and lead-service pipes

- In 2024:
 - *Advocating for financial assistance for mandated improvements related to forever chemicals and lead-service pipes*
 - *Competing for competitive federal grants related to sustainability; i.e., for Charging and Fueling Infrastructure, Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities, etc.*
- In 2025:
 - *Continue all the above*
 - *Advocate for legislation to extend to local governments protection from liability claims related to forever chemicals*

Federal Requests

□ Housing: Support creation of more low-income and workforce housing opportunities that meet community needs

- In 2024:
 - *Received federal funding for housing, i.e., CDBG, HOME, etc.*
 - *Advocated for reforms to federal housing voucher programs, which were released in May*
 - *Competing for earmark funding; i.e., Faith-Based Development Initiative, Brightwalk Affordable Homeownership*
 - *Competing for Corridors of Opportunity projects; i.e., PRO Housing*
- In 2025:
 - *Continue all the above*
 - *Compete for Corridors of Opportunity projects; i.e., Choice Neighborhoods*
 - *Support greater financial resources for the Federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program*

2025 NC General Assembly

□ Remainder of 2024:

- Hurricane Helene

□ 2025 organizational session on January 8

- Session reconvenes on January 29

□ Statewide issues to be addressed:

- 2025-2027 General Fund State Budget
- 2025-2027 Transportation Budget
- Gaming
- Medical cannabis
- Regulatory reform

State Requests

□ **Mobility: Support the region's efforts to improve its competitiveness and grow the economy through investments to the transportation network**

- In 2024:
 - *City secured access to the O-Line in Mecklenburg County by purchasing that portion of the corridor from Norfolk-Southern*
 - *Seven out of eight local governing bodies in Mecklenburg County passed resolutions supporting a referendum for the voters to consider increasing the sales tax by 1% for roadways and public transportation*
- In 2025 (and remainder of 2024):
 - *Continue working in conjunction with legislators and stakeholders, including county, towns, business community, environmental groups, etc., to advance the draft legislation to enactment*
 - *Continue working on securing access to the portion of the O-Line from Mecklenburg/Iredell County line to downtown Mooresville*

State Requests

□ **Aviation: Support the North Carolina Airport Improvement Program and other initiatives to make investments at Charlotte Douglas International Airport**

- In 2024:
 - *NC Airport Improvement Program directed ~\$33 million to CLT for capital improvements, which partially funded the new Phase II Expansion of Concourse A*
 - *Capital improvements at Charlotte Douglas International Airport enable more flights to be flown from CLT to other NC commercial service airports*
- In 2025:
 - *Continue all the above*

State Requests

□ **Public Safety: Support initiatives to reduce community violence, improve disaster preparedness, and administer justice fairly and quickly**

- In 2024:
 - *General Assembly passed juvenile justice legislation to address backlogs in the juvenile justice system*
 - *Implementing legislation secured in 2023 for civilian traffic investigators*
- In 2025:
 - *Monitor discussions occurring at the NC General Assembly*

State Requests

□ **Environment: Support Charlotte Water's initiative to modify its 2002 inter-basin transfer certificate**

- In 2024:
 - *Charlotte Water initiated regulatory process to increase amount of water it transfers daily from the Catawba River basin to the Rocky River basin*
 - **2002 inter-basin transfer (IBT) certificate allows 33 mgd transfer**
 - **Projections show that growth in the Rocky River basin will require increase in the certificate starting in 2029**
 - **Multi-year process not expected to be decided by DEQ until 2027**
- In 2025:
 - *General Assembly may address reforms to IBT processes*

Next Steps

Date	Event
November 4	BGIR Committee considers staff-proposed legislative agendas
November 4	Committee Chair Report Out
November 25	Staff presents committee-proposed legislative agendas to Mayor and City Council at Action Review
December 2	BGIR Committee meets to consider City Council input received at Action Review
December 9	City Council consideration of legislative agendas
January 3	US Congress convenes
January 8	NC General Assembly Organizational Session
Bet. January 13 – 29	NCGA Delegation Briefing
January 29	NC General Assembly convenes long session
March 10 – 12	Congressional Briefings

Questions and Answers