## City Council Meeting – December 2021 Follow-Up Items

## **December 6 Strategy Session**

Mayor and Council Questions		Response		
ARPA What is the turnaround time for individuals to receive rental relief (ie from	When the applicant meets all eligibility requirements and has submitted all of the required supporting documentation, rental assistance payments are made on approved applications as shown in the below table.			
application to funds received)?(Ajmera)	Applicant Pri	ority	Timing of Payment once application is approved	
	Priority #1: Applicants that have been served an 1-15 days eviction notice <u>and</u> have a court date within 90 days			
	Priority #2: Applicants at 30% AMI or below <u>and</u> have been unemployed for 90 days or more			
	Priority #3: Applicants at 50% AMI or below <u>and</u> have 31-45 days been unemployed for 90 days or more			
	Priority #4: Applicants at 50% AMI or below <u>or</u> have 46-60 days been unemployed for 90 days or more			
individuals in hotels? (Johnson)	<ul> <li>Most of these represent individuals; however, some couples-households are also being assisted. 44 of these households have received housing support (see details below). The remaining 14 households received supportive services but exited the program without rehousing due to a variety of factors including client death, relocation out of Charlotte, exit for violent behavior, or voluntary exit.</li> <li>Additionally, United Way has begun:         <ul> <li>Paying off client's rental and utility arrears in an attempt to remove barriers to housing.</li> <li>Connecting residents to other wrap-around services such as dental care, mental health services, substance abuse services, employment and education training, life-skills training, etc.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Mecklenburg County is continuing to pay to house individuals in hotels through March 31, 2022.</li> </ul>			
	Housing Assistance provided to households includes:			
	# of Housing Status			
	21	Have moved into housing		
	1			
	14	Have identified a housing unit and are app	, ,	
	8	Are engaged in the housing search (many barriers)	have significant housing	
	44	Total Households Assisted with Housing		

Mayor and Council	Response
Questions  What can we do to support individuals who have a felony record? (Johnson)	The Community Relations Department (CRC) continues to collaborate with the Reentry Housing Alliance (RHA) to help ensure people with criminal records are aware of their rights under the Fair Housing Act. Additionally, the Reentry Housing Alliance is currently in the process of developing a comprehensive list of transitional housing options for people with criminal records in our area.
	The CRC and the Reentry Housing Alliance are working together to educate our community about the impact of housing discrimination on individuals with criminal background records and their families.
	<ul> <li>Examples of the CRC/RHA Collaborative Include:</li> <li>Housing Rights &amp; Responsibility Workshops with the MCSO for jail residents pending release</li> <li>Landlord seminars to share the impact of providing second chances for our neighbors with records</li> <li>Connecting rental applicants with landlords to establish relationships that lead to housing stability</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>RHA was founded in May 2018</li> <li>An association of reentry service organizations, non-profits, the faith community and citizens, RHA is focused on informing property owners on reentry obstacles. RHA also helps connect justice-involved citizens with housing. Additionally, RHA advocates for housing policy change benefiting people with records.</li> <li>RHA's vision: A state-wide community where fair and equitable access to housing is guaranteed for all</li> </ul>
	CRC and RHA are also working together to determine if there is a business case to amend the Charlotte Fair Housing Ordinance to include criminal background as a protected class. To that end, CRC is tracking all calls where an individual(s) allege that they were denied housing because of a criminal record. CRC will also receive and investigate any such complaints based on the guidance below from HUD:  • HUD has found that people of color are disproportionately affected by the use of criminal background checks in housing.  • As a result, in 2016 HUD issued guidance stating that blanket bans on renting to people with criminal records are in violation of the Fair Housing Act.  • Landlords must distinguish between arrests and convictions; arrests CANNOT be used to ban applicants.  • If property owners do not approve an applicant due to a conviction, property owners must prove that the exclusion is justified, weighing factors such as the time (how long ago), nature, and severity of the crime.  • Landlords CANNOT deny housing based on an arrest alone, as arrests without convictions do not justify the denial.  • Prevents the use of blanket restrictions related to certain types of convictions.  • Convictions should be considered on a case-by-case basis, considering mitigating factors, such as the person's age at the time a crime was committed, evidence of good behavior since the crime was committed, how long ago the conviction occurred, and the nature and severity of the crime committed.

Mayor and Council Questions	Response		
	<ul> <li>If property owners do not approve an applicant due to a conviction, property owners <u>must</u> prove that the exclusion is justified, weighing factors such as the time (how long ago), nature, and severity of the crime.</li> <li>The Fair Housing Act does not provide protections for individuals convicted of Trafficking and/or Manufacturing of Illegal Substances so a blanket ban on this is OKAY</li> <li>Sex Offenders - Not the responsibility of the housing provider, this is on the individual to know where he/she can and cannot live. Therefore, housing providers MAY NOT have blanket bans on renting to sex offenders.</li> </ul>		
State Transportation Improvement Projects update How many individuals are in the work group for NCDOT? (Ajmera)	Below is the list of representatives that comprise NCDOT's Work Group that has been tasked with reviewing information and making recommendations to the NC Board of Transportation (NCBOT). This group was established by Session Law 2013-410 (HB 92) which recommended the use of a Work Group to develop improvements to the prioritization process. They will report out on their recommendations to the NBDOT early in 2022.		
	<ul> <li>Participants:         <ul> <li>Four representatives from MPOs throughout NC</li> <li>Four representatives from RPOs throughout NC</li> <li>NCDOT Division Engineers</li> <li>NCDOT Unit Heads (TPB, Pre-Con, Chief Engineer, Non-Highway, Strategic Planning, SPOT, Program Development, I.T.)</li> <li>Metro Mayors Coalition</li> <li>Association of County Commissioners</li> <li>Regional Council of Governments</li> </ul> </li> <li>Advisory:         <ul> <li>Legislative staff</li> <li>Department of Commerce</li> <li>Governor's Office</li> <li>Federal Highway Administration</li> <li>NC Ports Authority</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
Total amount of ED projects in bond cycles for public private partnerships? (Ajmera)	Estimated allocation of CIP dollars for public private partnerships, 2022 – 2028 are:  2022 \$11,000,000  2024 \$26,000,000  2026 \$13,000,000  2028 \$26,000,000  Total \$76,000,000		

## **December 13 Business Meeting**

Mayor and Council Questions	Response		
Unified Development Ordinance			
How does UDO differentiate between roads and streets? (Winston)	The UDO typically uses the term "streets" except when referencing Limited Ac Roads. However, when "roads" is used, the definition is the same as streets. Swill clarify this in the UDO.		
How far back does the UDO look to define neighborhood character? (Winston)	When the UDO references neighborhood character in the Neighborhood Character Overlay, the reference is to existing neighborhood character.		
Are there any changes to the tree preservation fund? (Ajmera)	The draft UDO has proposed language to clarify the intent and use of the tree preservation fund, which is the funding source for the tree canopy preservation program.		
How are we aligning Center City plan with UDO? (Ajmera)	Prior to adoption, the Center City Plan text was adjusted to align with the parking recommendations in the UDO.		
Section 12 – How did we get to unlimited height by right? (Winston)	For Uptown, the 2040 Comprehensive Plan does not recommend a height limitation and the UDO utilizes the Comprehensive Plan as the basis for standards such as height.		
Maximum height that can be achieved using a bonus is different than by right?	Yes, for districts with a height bonus allowance, there is a maximum height without the bonus and a maximum height with bonus provisions.		
For height bonus in table 16.1 as it relates to enhanced micromobility bonuses, are these transportation and micromobility as creative as we can get? Is there something more disruptive? No mention of charging stations	The UDO includes requirements for EV charging stations for selected uses. Staff will identify additional enhanced micromobility bonus options for consideration.		
Can we consider to provide stock plans for ADUs in UDO?	Stock plans for auxiliary dwelling units are something that can be considered. However, the staff recommendation is to have those plans outside of the UDO to provide increased flexibility to revise and add additional plans.		
Why are parking minimums/maximums necessary?	The tiered parking approach in the UDO is designed to ensure parking standards relate to the development context in which a site is located. For more urban, multimodal districts, there are typically no parking minimums. Parking maximums are included to limited excess parking that is not supportive of the multi-modal character of the district. For less intensely developed districts with fewer transportation options, there are parking minimums to ensure that parking is adequate to meet demands on-site without parking spilling onto other sites.		

Mayor and Council Questions	Response						
Can we require EV facilities for single-family homes (section 19.6)?	Staff will research requiring EV requirements for single-family housing and provide considerations to Council.						
Where in city policy does city council actually deal with CATS bus stop amenity/design standards?	Bus stop amenities are referenced in Policy 5.11 in the 2040 Comprehensive Plan. This policy specifically calls for improving neighborhood-serving mobility hubs by providing amenities. CATS maintains the design standards for bus stops.						
Would like to know more about stormwater and potential conflicts with general assembly legislation	The stormwater-related UDO articles are being crafted to comply with all current applicable legislation. Charlotte must comply with the Clean Water Act (CWA) by protecting surface waters from the harmful effects of land development through implementation of local ordinances. If the city does not meet the requirements, the CWA compels restorative actions that involve significant expense. Currently, the State-monitored surface waters in Charlotte do not meet CWA criteria and restorative actions are needed. Stormwater Control Measures (SCMs) that are built as a part of development projects limit the harmful effects of urban runoff. A December 2018 state legislative change prohibited municipalities from requiring SCMs on redeveloping property. Charlotte's long-term restoration strategy relied upon both private and public investment to restore surface waters. The rule change shifted some restoration costs from the properties creating the impacts to stormwater fee payers. The draft stormwater articles in the UDO seek to adapt our development regulations to this legislative change.						
How are we capturing future growth patterns and development into what future growth will look like? (Newton)	The UDO implements the Compregrowth pattern for Charlotte.	hensive P	lan which	ı is desig	ned to g	uide the	e future
CMPD recruitment What has the candidate pool for CMPD recruits looked like?	Hired Officer Demographics						
	Race/Gender	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	
Watlington	White Male	67	95	82	100	85	
	White Female	16	15	20	12	11	
	Black Male	15	21 8	23 5	18 8	20 5	
	Black Female Hispanic Male	13	5	14	8	12	
	Hispanic Female	5	5	3	1	3	
	Asian Male	2	3	7	5	4	
	Asian Female	0	1	1	0	1	
	Other	5	3	0	0	0	
	Other Male	0	0	0	5	4	
	Other Female	0	0	0	0	0	
	Total	127	156	155	157	145	
		1					1

Mayor and Council Questions	Response
In-Rem Can we look at how to use in- rem situations as an opportunity to buy property or build replacement housing? (Watlington)	The City does not seek to acquire property when in-rem demolitions occur. This allows the City to avoid creating a perception that the City is unduly using its authority to force owners to sell their property. While the current owner retains ownership, the City does place a lien on the property for the amount of the demolition.
Centene Street design What will comprise street design team for public infrastructure around	There is no required community engagement, but there is a community group that was formed during that the rezoning that can be utilized for future engagement if necessary.
Centene? (Winston)	The committee included members of the UCP board and UNCC Urban Institute.