

Legislative Report

FEBRUARY 6, 2023

Overview

Committee will consider four legislative issues raised at the January 3 Strategy Session

- Homestead Tax Exemption Act
- Pretrial Services
- Commercial Truck Parking
- Heirs' Property

Committee will consider Mobility position statement

- Council did not come to agreement on Mobility
- Remaining positions discussed at Annual Strategy Session received "thumbs-up" and are in the Appendix
- Staff will utilize the January 23 Revised Position for those positions in the Appendix unless Committee wants to reconsider

Consideration of a motion to adopt committee-proposed legislative agendas

Basis of Staff Recommendations

Reflects adopted city strategic plans and policies

Focused on issues that can attract support from leadership, administrations, delegation members, and stakeholders

Seeking out areas of alignment with Mecklenburg County, Charlotte Regional Business Alliance, and other partners, as appropriate

Position statements are drafted to reflect the unique circumstances faced by the city at the US Congress or NC General Assembly

Four Additional Issues

Homestead Tax Exemption

Mecklenburg County staff proposed inclusion in the County's 2023 Legislative Agenda to "support increasing the Homestead Act threshold to support older adults aging in place"

If recommended by Committee, suggested position statement:

Affordable Housing: Build affordable housing and provide opportunities that align with creating thriving neighborhoods and mitigating the impacts of displacement and gentrification

- Support increasing the Homestead Act threshold to support older adults aging in place

Pretrial Services

Chief of Police has gained support across the State and from the NC Association of Chiefs of Police for this initiative

Initiative addresses:

- Persons accused of serious felonies must face Judge for pretrial release (list of serious crimes is on following page)
- Judge to set release conditions when defendants are arrested on new charges while already on pretrial release
- Extends the intervals between custody review hearing for juveniles charged with murder

Pretrial Services

Serious crimes:

- First or second-degree murder
- Attempted murder
- First degree burglary
- First degree arson
- Robbery with a dangerous weapon
- Assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill inflicting serious injury
- Discharging a firearm or barreled weapon into occupied property or conveyance in operation
- Human trafficking
- First or second-degree kidnapping
- First or second-degree rape
- First or second-degree sexual offense
- Statutory rape of or sexual offense with a child by an adult
- First degree statutory rape or statutory rape or sexual offense with a person who is 15 years or younger

If recommended by Committee, add bullet to Safe Charlotte:

- Support legislation to strengthen accountability and reliability in the pretrial release system

Commercial Truck Parking

NC Trucking Association is requesting that the State leverage federal funds to build new or expand existing rest area facilities for commercial trucks

Multi-departmental team led by CDOT Director is considering this and other quality of life issues

Recommend that the multi-departmental team be allowed to consider the impacts of these issues and make recommendations before the Committee acts

Heirs' Property

Property that is passed from a deceased landowner to their next of kin without the benefit of a will

- If there are multiple heirs, they become tenants in common
- Single co-tenant may partition and sell their share of the property, without the concurrence of the other co-tenants
- In situations like this, heirs' property could be forcibly sold below market price
- Situations disproportionately impact people of color and low-incomes

2021 legislation was strongly opposed by State Senate leadership

Recommend not adding to the state agenda

Mobility Position

Mobility

State Issue	January 3 Committee-Proposed Position	January 23 Revised Position (Prior to referral to BGIR)
Mobility	<p>Continue to work with regional stakeholders and General Assembly to secure mobility legislation that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enables the voters of Mecklenburg County to authorize the Mecklenburg County Commission to levy dedicated, stable, and permanent sources of revenues for regional and local roadway, bicycle, pedestrian, greenway, and public transportation systems Enables local governments to issue revenue bonds for roadway, bicycle, pedestrian, greenway, and public transportation systems projects that would be backed by new and existing local sources of revenue 	<p>Continue working with regional stakeholders and General Assembly to build support and advance regional solutions to mobility needs</p>

Suggested Committee Motion

Motion

Move that the following federal and state legislative positions be adopted as the committee-proposed 2023 agendas

Federal Agenda

- Destination CLT
 - *Airfield improvement projects*
- 2030 Transit Corridor Plan
 - *MTC long-range plans*
- Immigration
 - *Work programs*
 - *Pathways to citizenship*
 - *Resettlement*
- Sustainability & Resilience
 - *Strategic Energy Action Plan*
- Infrastructure
 - *Transportation network*
 - *Smart policies for transportation*
 - *Digital inclusion*
 - *Clean water and drinking water*

State Agenda

- Mobility
 - *Regional mobility funding*
- Safe Charlotte
 - *Civilian traffic accident investigators*
 - *Pretrial services (if desired)*
- Affordable Housing
 - *Homestead tax exemption (if desired)*
- Infrastructure & Sustainability
 - *Aviation*
 - *Surface transportation, including Powell Bill*
 - *Smart policies for transportation*
 - *Sustainability & Resilience*
 - *Digital inclusion*
 - *Clean water and drinking water*

Next Steps

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Date	Event
February 6	Council Committee Discussion
February 13	City Council Consideration of Legislative Agendas
February 22	NCLM Town & State Dinner (Raleigh)
February 22 – 24	CRBA Inter City Visit (Tampa, FL)
Late February to Early March	State Delegation Briefing
March 6	Budget, Governance, and Intergovernmental Relations Committee meets
March 15	Charlotte Regional Business Alliance Reception (Raleigh)
March 26 – 28	Congressional Briefings during National League of Cities Conference

Questions and Answers

Appendix

Destination CLT

Federal Issue	January 3 Committee-Proposed Position	January 23 Revised Position (Prior to referral to BGIR)
Destination CLT	<p>Continue working with Congress and Administration to secure federal resources for the build-out of the Destination CLT capital program at Charlotte Douglas International Airport</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure a Letter of Intent for the federal government to provide federal funding for construction of the fourth parallel runway and north and south end around taxiways Secure competitive grant funding through the federal Airport Terminal Program for Destination CLT projects 	<p>Continue working with Congress and Administration to secure federal resources for the build-out of the Destination CLT capital program at Charlotte Douglas International Airport</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure a Letter of Intent for the federal government to provide federal funding for construction of the fourth parallel runway and north and south end around taxiways Secure grant funding for other Destination CLT projects

2030 Transit System Plan

Federal Issue	January 3 Committee-Proposed Position	January 23 Revised Position (Prior to referral to BGIR)
2030 Transit Corridor System Plan	<p>Continue working with Congress and Administration to secure federal resources for the build-out of the 2030 Transit Corridor System Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue working with the Congressional Delegation to position the 2030 Transit Corridor System Plan projects for federal funding through the Capital Investment Grants program Secure competitive grant funding through public transportation and multi-modal opportunities for capital improvements 	<p>Continue working with Congress and Administration to secure federal resources for the build-out of the 2030 Transit Corridor System Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue positioning high-capacity transit projects for multi-year federal funding commitments Secure grant funding for bus system and center city improvements

Immigration

Federal Issue	January 3 Committee-Proposed Position	January 23 Revised Position (Prior to referral to BGIR)
Immigration	<p>Support federal immigration policies that strengthens our economy and workforce, immigrant families and communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue the H-1B Visa Program and make program changes to address issues related to spouses and dependent children Support merit-based solutions to allow participants in the asylum, parole, temporary protected status, and deferred action for childhood arrivals programs to earn and keep legal status that eventually leads to citizenship Support increased funding and support of resettlement organizations as they work with refugees in our community 	<p>Support federal immigration policies that strengthens our economy and workforce, immigrant families and communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen the H-1B Visa program to continue growing the talent pool for high-demand fields Support merit-based solutions that lead to legal status and eventually citizenship Support increased funding for resettlement organizations

Sustainability & Resilience

Federal Issue	January 3 Committee-Proposed Position	January 23 Revised Position (Prior to referral to BGIR)
Sustainability and Resilience	Support federal funding and policies that enable the City to reach its Strategic Energy Action Plan goals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fleet Electrification and Infrastructure • Energy Efficiency • Environmental Justice • Workforce Development 	Support federal funding and policies that enable the City to reach its Strategic Energy Action Plan goals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support policies and funding to transition fleets to no-emission vehicles and make buildings more energy efficient • Support policies that incorporate environmental justice and workforce development into sustainability and resilience programs


Infrastructure

Federal Issue	January 3 Committee-Proposed Position	January 23 Revised Position (Prior to referral to BGIR)
Infrastructure	Not in Committee-Proposed Agenda	Continue working with Congress and Administration to advance the city's plans related to surface transportation, digital inclusion, and environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support policies to improve the transportation network for all users • Support smart policies that advance next generation personal and commercial mobility systems • Support policies that advance digital inclusion • Support policies that advance clean water and drinking water initiatives

Safe Charlotte

State Issue	January 3 Committee-Proposed Position	January 23 Revised Position (Prior to referral to BGIR)
Safe Charlotte	<p>Support policies and increased resources that further initiatives to lower crime, increase public safety, and redeploy resources to areas of highest and best use</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Authorize police departments to convert low risk sworn duties to non-uniform units, such as investigations of non-lethal traffic accidents by trained civilians 	<p>Support policies and increased resources that further initiatives to lower crime, increase public safety, and redeploy resources to areas of highest and best use, and which serve to increase public confidence in the public safety and judicial systems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Authorize police departments to create non-sworn units to investigate non-lethal traffic accidents

State Transportation Funds / Infrastructure & Sustainability

State Issue	January 3 Committee-Proposed Position	January 23 Revised Position (Prior to referral to BGIR)
<p>State Transportation Funds</p>  <p>Infrastructure & Sustainability</p>	<p>Support data-driven approaches to the distribution of State transportation funding that are fair and consistently applied</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the Strategic Transportation Investments program for prioritization of State transportation construction funding Restore statutory funding levels for all municipalities receiving local street maintenance funding through the Powell Bill program 	<p>Continue working with General Assembly and Administration to advance the city's infrastructure and sustainability plans related to aviation, surface transportation, sustainability & resilience, digital inclusion, and environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the data-driven programs that distribute transportation funding for the NC Airport Improvement, Strategic Transportation Investments, Powell Bill, and State Maintenance Assistance Programs Support smart policies that advance next generation personal and commercial mobility systems Support policies and funding to transition fleets to no-emission vehicles and make buildings more energy efficient Support policies that advance digital inclusion Support policies that advance clean water and drinking water initiatives