

State Legislative Update

OCTOBER 2, 2023

Overview

- ▶ **NC General Assembly Update**
- ▶ **2024 Legislative Sessions**
- ▶ **Calendar**

NC General Assembly Update

- ▶ **General Assembly passed the 2023-2025 State Budget**
 - Casino gaming is not part of the budget
 - \$20 million is appropriated for Project Breakpoint
 - Fuel sales tax exemption for commercial air carriers is extended for another five years
- ▶ **Governor has stated he will allow budget bill to become law without his signature**
- ▶ **Since Medicaid Expansion was tied to enactment of the budget, Governor announced that it will launch in North Carolina on December 1**

NC General Assembly Update

► Transportation Funding

- Continues full funding for the NC Airport Improvement Program and State Maintenance Assistance Funding for transit
- Continues reduced funding for the city's Powell Bill allocation at 2/3 of the FY 2020 allocation

► Bond Referendum Language

- Requires additional language in the ballot question that provides:
 - *Estimated cumulative cost of issuing debt, i.e. both principal and interest*
 - *Statement that additional property taxes may be levied to pay the principal and interest*
- Effective for bond referendums conducted on or after December 31, 2023

NC General Assembly Update

▶ **Mecklenburg Meals Tax Extension**

- Rep. Bradford has been working diligently to advance the Mecklenburg meals tax extension
- Extension was added by House along with numerous other occupancy tax measures to Senate legislation (SB 154 – Hise), which was rejected by the Senate
- Extension is also in a conference report (HB 5 – Pare’) that is awaiting House and Senate action

▶ **Regulatory Reform Act of 2023 (HB 600 – Riddell)**

- Sen. Salvador secured amendments to ensure the Stormwater Fund would not face a significant unfunded mandate of \$17 million per year
- HB 600 has passed House and Senate and sent to the Governor for consideration

NC General Assembly Update

▶ House and Senate are pivoting to redistricting

- House maps adopted by the NC Supreme Court were only valid for the 2022 general elections
- Anticipating that changes will be made to NC Senate and Congressional districts
- Filing for House and Senate seats begins in early December

▶ Senator Berger anticipates votes on new maps could take place as early as the week of October 9

2023 Issues Still on the Table

▶ Landlord – Tenant and HOA Changes (HB 551 – Bradford):

- Secured amendment to ensure city's Source of Income Discrimination policy in city supported housing can continue

▶ Land Use Clarifications and Changes (SB 675 – Lee):

- Secured amendments to ensure that the city's extraterritorial jurisdiction powers would not be repealed

▶ Revise Pharmacy Benefit Manager Provisions (HB 246 – Sasser):

- Received commitment from bill sponsor that city requested amendment will be added to exempt local government self-funded benefit plans
- Prevents \$4 million cost increases to employee benefits programs

2023 Issues Still on the Table

- ▶ **Backflow Preventers / Local Authority (SB 166 – Krawiec):**
 - Convened stakeholder's group, with the blessing of the House floor manager, to develop consensus amendments
- ▶ **Regulation of Accessory Dwelling Units (HB 409 – Winslow):**
 - Seeking amendments to HB 409 to ensure city's policies remain in place
- ▶ **Legislation purports to lower the cost of development:**
 - Surveyors Right of Entry / Expedite Commercial Building Inspections (SB 677– Jarvis)
 - Private Commercial Building Inspections (HB 893 – Brody)

2024 Legislative Sessions

▶ 2024 is Presidential election year

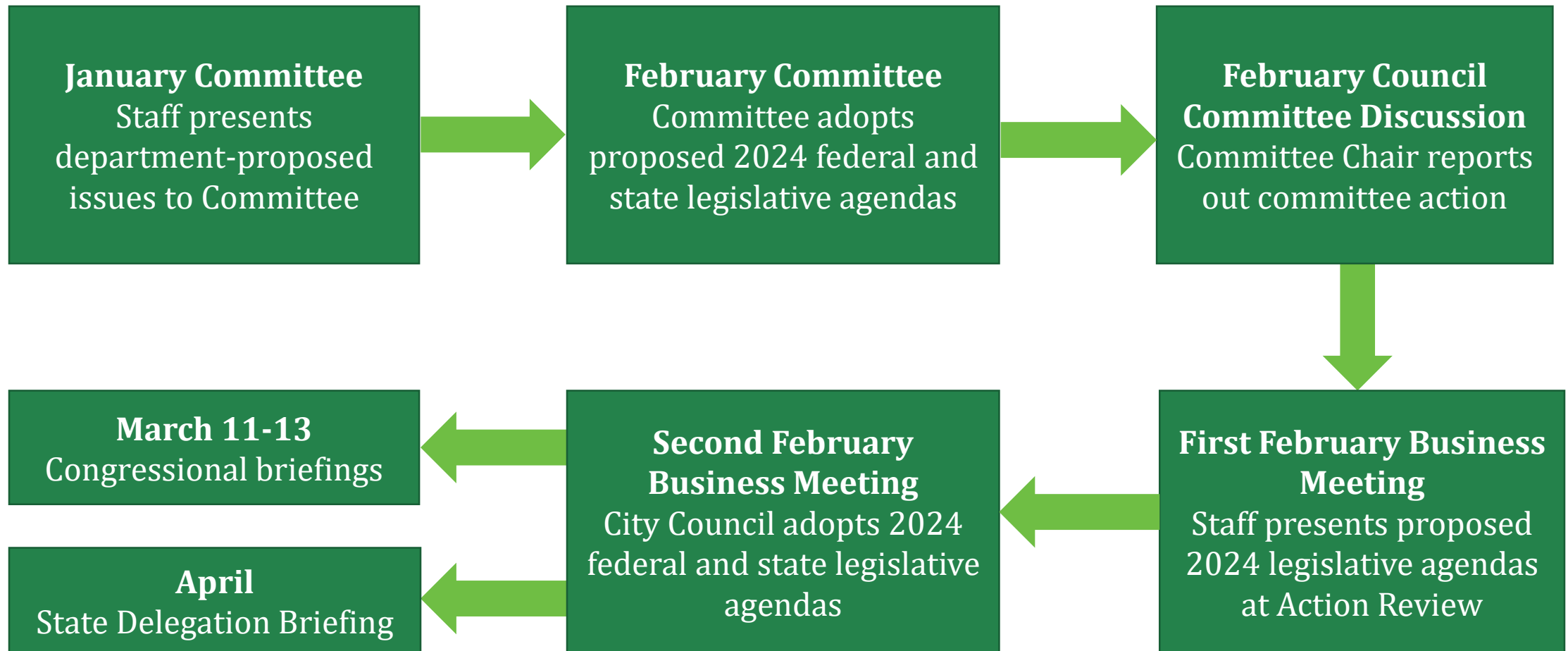
- One-third of US Senate
- US House of Representatives
- Governor and Council of State offices
- NC General Assembly
- County Commissions

▶ 2024 legislative schedules

- NC General Assembly – Mid-May convening to late-June adjournment
- US Congress – More frequent and longer in-state and district work periods

▶ Focus of 2024 is on finishing up work leftover from 2023

2024 Legislative Agenda Process



Calendar

Date	Event
December 4	2023-2025 City Council takes office
January Committee	Present staff-proposed 2024 state and federal legislative issues to Committee
January 3	2024 Congressional session convenes
February Committee	Committee recommends 2024 state and federal legislative priorities to City Council
February Council Committee Discussion	Committee Chair reports out committee recommendations to Mayor and Council
First February Business Meeting	Action Review presentation of Committee recommendations
Second February Business Meeting	Charlotte City Council adopts 2024 state and federal legislative priorities
March 11 – 13	Brief Congressional Delegation on 2024 federal legislative priorities while at the National League of Cities Conference in Washington, DC
April	Brief State Delegation on 2024 state legislative priorities
Mid – May	2024 NCGA short session starts

Questions and Answers