



Proposed 2021 State & Federal Legislative Agendas

City Council Action Review
November 9, 2020

City of Charlotte | Intergovernmental Relations Committee




OVERVIEW

- September 21 and October 14: Committee was briefed on 26 state and federal legislative requests
- October 19: Committee proposed state and federal legislative agendas
- November 2:
 - Committee – proposed agendas were previewed at the City Council Strategy Session
 - Charlotte Firefighters' Retirement System request was added to the proposed state agenda on the recommendation of the Budget & Effectiveness Committee
- November 3: General Election




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GENERAL ELECTION

New Mecklenburg Delegation Members

DeAndrea Salvador Senate District #39	
Terry Brown House District #92	
John Bradford House District #98	

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LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

- Specifies the City Council's 2021 legislative goals for:
 - US Congress
 - NC General Assembly
- Goals are based upon City Council strategic priorities
- Core strategies to develop legislative wins:
 - Actionable, specific goals
 - Achievable in the current economic climate
 - Be ready to work with others
 - Be ready to work with the party in control on areas of agreement

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2021 STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

- Mobility

- Work with key stakeholders to support legislation that provides dedicated, stable and permanent sources of revenues for State, regional and local public transportation, roadway, bicycle, pedestrian, passenger rail, trail and safety capital improvement projects

- Digital Divide

- Work with key stakeholders to support legislation that aids low-income households in paying for internet service costs



2021 STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

- NC Airport Improvement Program


- Work with key stakeholders to support the North Carolina Airport Improvement Program that provides sustainable, recurring funding to North Carolina's commercial service airports for capital improvements and debt service

- Charlotte Firefighters' Retirement System

- Adjust the employer contribution rate to strengthen the System's funded status

- Subpoena Power for Citizen Review Boards

- Work with key stakeholders to secure subpoena power for citizen review boards

 ASSESSMENT OF STATE REQUESTS		
Legislative Request	Key Influencers	Leadership
Mobility	Mix of support and opposition Tax rate increases and light rail are problematic	Strong issue Tax rate increases problematic Light rail is problematic
Digital Divide	Particular idea needs to be tested	Strong issue Particular idea needs to be tested State General Fund budget issues
NC Airport Improvement Program	Supportive	Strong issue NCDOT budget issues Supportive
Charlotte Firefighters' Retirement System	Supportive	Strong issue Supportive
Subpoena Power for the Citizens Review Board	Strongly opposed	Strongly opposed
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 2021 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Transportation & Infrastructure</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Transit: Continue working with Congress and the Administration to secure federal resources for the build-out of the 2030 Transit Corridor System Plan ➤ Airports, Highways and Passenger / Freight Rail: Support increased federal funding for infrastructure that serves to connect the region with other regions and rural areas, including funding for critical aviation infrastructure and connecting highways and rail lines 	
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2021 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

- Transportation & Infrastructure (cont.)
 - **Modernized and Sustainable Infrastructure:** Support increased federal funding for research and infrastructure that accelerates our transformation to a sustainable economy and supports the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, including: walking and biking infrastructure, electric vehicles and electric vehicle charging stations, alternative fuel vehicle refueling stations, energy efficient buildings, and renewable energy and renewable energy infrastructure. Support equitable workforce development opportunities in the clean energy sector.
 - **Digital Divide:** Support increased federal resources to promote competition for broadband internet infrastructure to unserved and underserved rural, suburban, and urban communities, prioritizing communities in persistent poverty



2021 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

- Comprehensive Immigration Reform
 - **H-1B Visas:** Support the continuation of the program and make changes that streamline processing times and allow spouses of Visa holders to work and volunteer
 - **Asylum Seekers:** Support a path to residency and citizenship for asylum seekers
 - **Temporary Protected Status:** Support a path to citizenship for those in Temporary Protected Status
 - **Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals:** Support continuation of the program and path to citizenship
- COVID-19 Guidelines for Airports
 - Work with the Federal Aviation Administration and commercial service airports to develop standards for all airports in addressing COVID-19

 ASSESSMENT OF FEDERAL REQUESTS		
Legislative Request	Key Influencers	Leadership
Transportation & Infrastructure	Supportive	Strong issue Supportive Deficit concerns
Comprehensive Immigration Reform	Mix of support and opposition	Mix of support and opposition
COVID-19 Guidelines	Supportive	Supportive
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 NEXT STEPS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>November 16</u>: Intergovernmental Relations Committee meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ State and Federal Lobbyists will be briefing Committee on 2020 Election Results • <u>December 14</u>: Council adoption of the proposed agendas • <u>December 21</u>: Committee meeting • <u>January 19 – 29</u>: Brief Mecklenburg State Delegation • <u>March 7 – 10</u>: Brief Congressional Delegation 	
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