



CHARLOTTE

City Council Committees

Chair Updates

February 1, 2021

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In addition to the Committee report outs, meeting materials and summaries can be viewed on the City website at:
<https://charlottenc.gov/citycouncil/committees/Pages/default.aspx>

Committee Members: Ed Driggs (Chair), Julie Eiselt (Vice Chair), Dimple Ajmera, Malcolm Graham, and Renee Johnson

Committee Purpose Statement: The committee reviews and recommends policies to ensure the city has a strong and sustainable financial plan and maintains operational efficiency and effectiveness.

Committee Chair Update: The committee met on January 6 and 26 and discussed the following:

January 6

- **FY 2020 Financial Audit Report**

External Auditor, Daniel Gougherty shared the results of the FY2020 Audit which was performed in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. The auditors issued a clean, unmodified opinion, which is the highest opinion that can be issued under their standards. The Federal programs audited this year included the Community Development Block Grant, The Corona Virus Relief Fund, The Republican National Convention Grant, and The Federal Transit Cluster. The two State programs that were tested were The Powell Bill and the State Maintenance Assistance Program.

- **Review of Ethics Policy Updates**

Proposed updates include strengthening requirements within the policy to ensure that a Council member with any ethics concerns must discuss those concerns with the City Attorney and is bound to act in accordance with the recommendation of the City Attorney. The complaint process was changed as well so that the City Attorney can make a prima facie determination to determine the complaint's validity to avoid unsubstantial complaints.

Part A, Section 3.b. of the Ethics Policy was reviewed that includes the language previously recommended by the Committee regarding Council members' obligation to seek the City Attorney's advice if there is a perceived conflict. Additional clarifications were reviewed at the meeting to make it clear that the obligation to seek this advice falls on the Council member, not on a contractor, subcontractor, or city staff. Clarifications were also added to Part D, Section 1. with language that addresses possible types of prima facie allegations including (but not limited to) misappropriation of city resources, fraudulent or criminal activity, or any activity constituting harassment or sexual harassment which covers the scope of a member of the public. The existing Council harassment policy only covers Council members and city employees not complaints received from the public.

Vote: There was a motion to recommend to full Council the proposed clarifications in addition to the proposed policy revisions that were voted on at the Dec 15, 2020 committee meeting. The motion was approved by a majority vote. Eiselt, Graham, and Driggs voted yes; Council members Johnson and Ajmera voted no.

- **Review of the Citizen Advisory Committee on Governance Recommendations**

The Committee reviewed the proposed recommendations made by the CAGC for consideration for approval by Council. Recommendations were divided into actions that Council could do versus recommendations that require action by the NC General Assembly. Instituting a limit on the number of terms would need to go to NC General Assembly for a referendum to amend the NC Constitution.

Input was discussed as to how the Committee would like to present the information for discussion by full Council at the Annual Strategy Session.

Vote: Motion was made and passed unanimously to remove the topic of term limits from the recommendations moving forward for full Council to consider.

Vote: A motion to remove non-partisanship elections and the additional district from the recommendations to full Council was made but failed with Graham, Eiselt, and Driggs voting no; and Ajmera and Johnson voting yes.

January 26, 2021

- **Review of the Citizen Advisory Committee on Governance (CACG) Recommendations**

The Committee reviewed the CACG recommendations in consideration of the feedback received from the public at the January 4 Council meeting and from full City Council at the Annual Strategy Session. It was noted that the discussions at the Strategy Session on recommendations to move forward primarily focused on four-year terms by way of referendum, with staggered elections; with at least one Council Member mentioning consideration of Mayor and Council terms being voted on separately, and if the proposed changes should be considered by referendum or by vote of City Council.

Vote: The committee voted unanimously to recommend for full Council consideration to discuss moving forward with changing to four-year terms and staggered elections.

- **Council Virtual Meeting Provisions**

The committee received a review of the current laws regarding electronic, remote and telephonic meetings. "Remote meeting" is a new term defined in the emergency declarations statutes. The remote meeting law provides notice and access to the public to participate and for Council to participate in a meeting remotely as long as a state-wide emergency declaration is in place. This does not apply to local declarations. It was explained that even if Rule 28 is changed it still leaves the question of a quorum or physical presence and voting. After a statewide emergency has ended the rules would return to the default procedures.

Discussions included the issue of if Council's right to meet remotely when not under a state of emergency is subject to any conditions and what accommodations can be made, such as the possibility of meeting virtually twice per quarter.

Vote: The committee voted 3:2 to refer to full Council the recommendation to impose a time limit to the action taken by full Council in October 2020 and to limit it to the duration of the state of emergency with further discussions on the topic to address what will occur after the state of emergency has concluded. (Driggs, Graham and Eiselt voted yes; Ajmera and Johnson voted no.)

- **February Budget Workshop Agenda**

The committee received information on the first of three Budget Workshops that is scheduled for Wednesday February 3rd at 1:30 pm. An overview of the proposed agenda was shared for Committee input that included:

1. General Fund Revenue Update
2. Advanced Planning Program
3. Summary of Bond Programs
4. Five-year Capital Investment Plan Scenarios
5. Budget Engagement Strategy

The Budget Director highlighted the five-year Capital Investment Plan (CIP) Scenario stating there is a lot of freedom for Council to populate the next couple of bonds. The first part of the CIP discussion will include the

Advanced Planning Program. Cost estimates will be provided for road and intersection projects and segments of the Cross Charlotte Trail. City Council will also receive an overview of existing CIP Bond Programs such as Sidewalks, Bikes, and Affordable Housing and have an opportunity to provide feedback on initial prioritization for the upcoming five-year CIP.

The Committee gave positive feedback on moving forward with the proposed agenda.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for February 16.

Current Referrals:

Topic	Policy Question
Virtual Meeting Options	Are any updates recommended for full Council's consideration around the provisions for virtual meetings?
Citizen Advisory Committee on Governance recommendations	What recommendations from the Citizen Advisory Committee on Governance should be adopted by Council?

Committee Members: Malcolm Graham (Chair), Braxton Winston (Vice Chair), Tariq Bokhari, Julie Eiselt, and Victoria Watlington

Committee Purpose Statement: The committee reviews and recommends policy related to comprehensive initiatives designed to create affordable housing and provide opportunities that align with creating great neighborhoods.

Committee Chair Update: The committee met on January 20, 2021 (all committee members were in attendance) and discussed the following:

Legacy Commission

The Committee received an overview of the Legacy Commission recommendations and proposed next steps for the internal work team. Council member Bokhari asked that consideration be given to creating a policy wherein streets are no longer named for people, to avoid similar issues in the future.

MOTION AND VOTE: motion to accept staff's report, to include the addition of a pilot case to develop a process for changing a street name and to move the report forward to full Council for consideration was passed. The vote was 4:1 in favor of the motion (Council member Winston was not present for the presentation and voted no as a result).

Source of Income Discrimination (SOID)

The Committee received an overview of staff recommendations first shared with the Committee at the December 16, 2020 meeting. The Committee also received an overview of the work that would be undertaken by the proposed ad hoc Advisory Group, and the timeline for that work. If approved by City Council, the advisory group would be appointed by City Council and convened in the February/March 2021 timeframe. The advisory group would then begin metric setting, research, and developing proposed enhancements to the Housing Choice Voucher program (HCV), and finalize the metrics and enhancements by May 2021. Following this, the success of the enhancements and metrics would be monitored over an 18-24 month timeframe, with a final report and recommendations based on the outcome of the implemented enhancements and established metrics at the end of this period.

MOTION AND VOTE: Motion to accept staff's report and move it forward to full Council for consideration was passed by unanimous vote in favor of the motion.

2020 Year in Review

Pamela Wideman reviewed the 2020 Great Neighborhoods Committee briefings and activities, as well as the affordable housing, community engagement and CharMeck 311 accomplishments. She also shared various items that the Committee will be reviewing in 2021.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for February 17, 2021.

Current Referrals:

Topic	Policy Question
Affordable Housing strategy	What should be updated within our Council adopted framework for affordable housing to include options around leveraging resources in collaboration with our public sector partners and other key stakeholders to advance progress in addressing our Housing Crisis?
Nuisance abatement and residential impact policy	What should the city's policy for addressing opportunities, challenges, and consequences in conducting nuisance abatement for residents be with consideration of mitigating any resultant housing displacement?



Intergovernmental Relations Committee Update

FEBRUARY 1, 2021

Committee Members: Tariq Bokhari (Co-Chair), Braxton Winston (Co-Chair), Larken Egleston, and Matt Newton

Committee Purpose Statement: The committee reviews and recommends intergovernmental relations policies and relationship-building activities in the state and federal legislative and executive branches.

Committee Chair Update: Since the last Strategy Session the committee met on January 19 (Bokhari, Egleston and Newton – Winston was absent) and discussed the following:

The committee received a staff presentation on the participation of the City in the North Carolina Utilities Commission deliberation of Duke Energy's Integrated Resource Plan that will support the City's Strategic Energy Action Plan and Climate Challenge goals. The City will be commenting on issues that advance and align with the Council adopted Strategic Energy Action Plan including the use of more renewables, reduction of energy burden, increased programs for electric vehicles, coal retirement, and increased efficiency. The City's Chief Sustainability and Resiliency Officer will be working with the City Attorney's Office to prepare the comments, which are due by February 26.

Current Referrals: none outstanding

Next Meeting: The next committee meeting is scheduled on Monday, February 15, 2021.

Committee Members: Larken Egleston (Chair), James Mitchell (Vice Chair), Dimple Ajmera, Renee Johnson and Victoria Watlington

Committee Purpose Statement: The committee reviews and recommends policies to make neighborhoods safe, healthy and inclusive; including policing, fire protection, and the environment.

Committee Chair Update: Committee highlights were provided at the January 11 Annual Strategy Meeting.

Next Meeting: The next committee meeting is February 2, 2021 at noon to be hosted virtually.

Current referrals:

Topic	Policy Question
Violence Prevention Strategy	What is an advanced and holistic violence prevention strategy for Charlotte?

Committee Members: Julie Eiselt (Chair), Larken Egleston (Vice Chair), Ed Driggs, Matt Newton and Braxton Winston

Committee Purpose Statement: The committee reviews and recommends policies to implement a comprehensive mobility network and advances strategies to create a livable and connected city that embodies our environmental sustainability and resiliency goals.

Committee Chair Update: Since the last Strategy Session, the committee met on January 6 and January 25, 2021 and discussed the following:

January 6, 2021

Charlotte Moves

The Charlotte Moves Task Force submitted its official report to the City Council on December 14, 2020. Public hearing on the report was conducted at the January 4, 2021 Council meeting.

The Charlotte Moves Task Force recommends

- Invest in mobility to meet our changing needs
 - o Endorse the mobility investment program, actively pursuing Federal & State funding partnerships in addition to funding the local portion (\$4 - \$6 Billion) with new sources through local and regional partnerships
 - o Adopt a strategic Mobility Plan (SMP) in 2021
 - o Develop a community dashboard supporting the goals of the 2040 Comprehensive Plan
- Align our mobility investment with related initiatives
 - o Identify a mode-share target to measure progress and prioritize mobility investments
 - o Develop a program to include funding and policy designed to protect against displacement promoting housing affordability along transit corridors
 - o Explore a transit fare reduction program
- Commit Resources to achieve the vision
 - o Implement a one cent sales tax for mobility projects, excluding groceries and medications to fund the local portion of the mobility investment program with State Legislative authorization and Mecklenburg County voter approval (One Cent for Mobility Referendum Fall 2021) and (if needed) dedicate a significant one-time Capital Investment Program(CIP) bond for mobility supported through property tax increase and City voter bond approval

Committee Recommendation to City Manager:

The Committee voted (4:1 with CM Driggs opposed) to Direct the City Manager to proceed with a strategy for a legislative process to refine a funding strategy and develop a financing plan as defined by the Charlotte Moves Task Force with the participation of legislators, government entities, and other potential stakeholders.

January 25, 2021

CATS Trax

The committee received an overview of CATS Trax, designed to capture performance measurements that drive outcomes rather than outputs. The effort strives to quantify what makes a difference from an operational standpoint, to determine items that are important to customers, and how we measure those items from a performance metrics standpoint. CATS Trax is based on four management principles:

- outstanding customer service,
- strong financial stewardship,
- focus on employee engagement, and
- the impact to the community.

An important part of keeping connected with customers is utilizing the net promoter score business metric which allows comparisons of services across industries. The net promoter score is derived by the number of people who are highly satisfied with service, subtracted by the number of people who are highly dissatisfied with your service.

Allowing customers to pick and prioritize what is most important to them, CATS can target improvements to best meet rider priorities. Buses arriving on time is by far the most important element of service to fixed route customers, followed by fare price, hours of operation, and travel time. Fares in Charlotte have not been raised in over seven years.

LYNX Silver Line

The project is at the beginning of pre-project development, the phase before entering in the formal federal pipeline which is called project development. Once the alignment and stations are identified, then additional area planning will begin with the secondary benefits of light rail and housing opportunities.

There is continued focus on public and agency engagement throughout this process.

Benefits being targeted include competitive and reliable travel times, being as competitive as possible with an automobile, and promoting equitable transit-oriented development. The goal includes to improve access to destinations and local connectivity; ensuring people can get from their house to work, school, or play via light rail.

The preliminary staff recommendations for the Silver Line go from Belmont along Wilkinson Boulevard past the Airport, around Center City to the Gateway Stations and the Blue Line, out Independence Boulevard to the Village Lake area transitioning to the Monroe Road corridor to the town of Matthews and into Union County.

The Silver Line is 26-miles long and will be broken up into focus areas. Focus areas 2, 3, 4, and 5 are in the Charlotte City Limits. Focus areas 1 and 6 are outside City Limits. The committee received an overview of the current considerations for each area.

Emerging themes from the community engagement were over all support of the purpose and need for the Silver Line. Additional public engagement strategies will include Newsletters, Rider Alerts on all CATS vehicles, yard signs at key locations along the corridor, public meeting videos will run the day after a public meeting on the Government Channel at 2 p.m. There will be media coverage, advertising in the Charlotte Observer, Charlotte Post, La Noticia, HolaNews, Que Pasa and press releases and media kits. Social media targets ads targeted to corridor, minorities and Spanish speaking populations through Twitter, Facebook and NextDoor. E-blast will be sent to stakeholders, businesses, neighborhoods, chambers and other parties along the corridor. The next public meeting dates are:

- February 16 Focus area 1 public meeting; Wilkinson Blvd. the city of Belmont to I-485.
- February 17 Focus area 2 public meeting; I-85 to West Morehead Street.
- February 18 Focus area 3 public meeting; West Morehead to Charlottetown Ave.
- February 23 Focus area 4 public meeting; Independence Blvd, Charlottetown to Idlewild Rd.
- February 25 Focus area 5 public meeting; Independence Blvd, Idlewild to south of I-485 at CPCC Levine
- March 2 Focus area 6; Union County Extension

All meetings occur at 5:30 p.m. and will be aired on the Charlotte City Government Channel the following day at 2 p.m.

Next steps:

Public review of recommendations; January – March focusing on community meetings, live virtual meetings, social media and on-line engagement as well as preliminary outreach to elected officials

Elected Official Outreach, January – April; LPA recommendation reviews by City of Charlotte, City of Belmont, Town of Matthews, Town of Stallings and Town of Indian Trail elected officials and continued focused community meetings.

Election of LPA refinement recommendations; March – April; MTC information 3/24/21 and MTC action 4/28/21

Station Area Planning, April – December; begin 15% design, station area planning, affordable housing strategies, outline capital investments and complete Silver Line TOD Plan

Charlotte 2040 Comprehensive Plan

The Committee received an overview of the community engagement (feedback and education) initiatives. From now until April, the focus is in two main areas, continuing community engagement to neighborhoods and business owners and the development community about what the plan will do and how it will connect to their everyday work in terms of growth and development.

The community can provide comments on the plan via online access at www.cltfuture2040plan.com, they can request a comment form via email at cltfuture2040@charlottenc.gov or Mail a request for a comment form to, Charlotte Future 2040, 600 E. 4th Street 8th floor, Charlotte, NC 28202; comments can be e-mailed to cltfuture2040@charlottenc.gov and a comment can be phoned in calling Charlotte Mecklenburg 311 and leaving a message with your comment. Release of the draft document has allowed the city to receive very good comments about the plan.

Staff is currently working on an online dashboard of all the comments where anyone can view what is being said about the plan and how it is being addressed.

Comprehensive plan adoption process: In March a recommendation will be requested for approval based on recommended changes to the document and in April request for action of approval of the document and Council adoption of the Comprehensive Plan.

On February 9 and March 9 from 11:30 until 1:00 there will be community conversations with guest speakers from around the country to share their learning and what we can implement in Charlotte around the Comprehensive Plan where participants can listen, share, and ask questions to the speakers.

On February 9 at 5:30, a virtual open house will be launched. It will be an interactive virtual experience where participants can view and comment on the plan content and will be available in over 100 languages and accessible to the public 24/7.

The City Building card game will continue, on its virtual plan. The public is encouraged to stay connected by either joining the email list; cltfuture2040@charlottenc.gov or visiting the website at cltfuture2040.com or by following on twitter or Instagram @cltplanning.

Current Referrals:

Topic	Policy Question
2040 Comprehensive Plan	What planning and development components are critical as we shape the future of Charlotte?
Unified Development	What is the holistic approach for development and related considerations and criteria?
Short-term Rentals	What are the options if the city is to regulate short-term rentals?
Mobility Committee Recommendations	What recommendations from the Mobility Committee should be implemented?
Rezoning Process Improvements	What changes are recommended to further enhance our rezoning process to meet the need to increase community engagement? What are the options for zoning decisions to address traffic congestion?

Next Meeting: Monday, February 22, 2021 at 10:30.

Committee Members: James Mitchell (Chair), Tariq Bokhari (Vice Chair), Dimple Ajmera, Malcolm Graham, and Renee Johnson

Committee Purpose Statement: The committee reviews and recommends policies to create a thriving economic climate where businesses are connected to highly skilled talent and technologies.

Committee Chair Update: Since the last Strategy Session, the committee met on January 4th and discussed the following:

2021 Meeting Schedule

The Committee voted unanimously to approve their 2021 meeting schedule for the 1st Mondays at Noon. The July and September meetings conflicting with City holidays were moved to Tuesdays at 2:00pm.

Tax Increment Grant Policy

The Committee received an update on the purpose of the Tax Increment Grant (TIG) program, which is used to encourage public/private partnerships. TIGs are one mechanism in which the city can partner with the private sector to deliver a development that is financially feasible and provide opportunities for enhancing the program to meet the current community goals and objectives. Staff is also looking at ways to customize redevelopment in our Corridors of Opportunity and other new development projects.

Staff does not recommend any changes to the TIG policy at this time. However, they will continue to engage the committee annually to provide a summary of activities for the year and ensure negotiations align with Council's priorities (e.g. housing affordability, MWSBE participation, transportation and multimodal connectivity and how to possibly incorporate talent development into agreements).

Workforce Policy Update

A review was provided of the work to date on the workforce policy referrals that will continue to guide the City's investment on workforce initiatives throughout 2021.

The Committee received an update on the workforce policy referrals and the City's goal to create a job strategy to address reducing unemployment, diversion programs, Corridors of Opportunity strategy and a policy to guide City investment. Though the city cannot mandate hiring practices with our workforce development partners, staff is recommending reducing unemployment through creating opportunities for residents to gain successful employment in the construction industry, facilitated through city-led construction projects, required through the inclusion of a city value statement, workforce hiring and wage reporting and recognition of apprenticeship programs. The committee reviewed the timelines for phases one and two for city construction projects and discussed the need to assemble a diverse city team to develop an implementation strategy.

Current efforts underway include:

- Conducting a study with EY around unemployment strategies in our corridors, including strategic outreach to unemployed residents to connect them with partners
- Partnering with Charlotte Works and Workforce Providers Council to enhance the Talent Source Network – connecting residents to employers and employers to jobs
- Connecting businesses to workforce partners who will screen and source candidates for employment.
- Tech Talent Study- understanding how we best position our residents for careers in technology
- Launching our Strategic Employment Plan

Next steps include bringing a Pilot policy language before the committee for approval by Council and to continue to gather data from our workforce partners to refine our efforts.

Charlotte Tech Talent Study

The committee received information as to how the tech talent study was done in partnership with the Charlotte Regional Business Alliance and will be tied to the city's job strategy. An overview on the Charlotte Tech Talent Study was provided stating that the goal is to develop the Charlotte region into a top destination for diverse technology talent. The city and the Charlotte Regional Business Alliance engaged Shalom to conduct research with educational institutions, staffing agencies, and large talent employers in the region, including four Fortune 500 companies. Charlotte's tech talent market continues to be ranked among top locations in the country. During 2018-2019, close to 4,000 new tech talent jobs were announced. Insights and recommendations from the study were discussed to establish and maintain our region as a top destination for technology talent across the country.

Disparity Study Selection Update

An update on Charlotte Business INCLUSION's (CBI) Disparity Study selection process was provided. The city has conducted these studies since 2002 and the last study was done in 2017 to analyze contracting practices/utilization of firms to address disparities. An overview of the history of CBI's programs was provided and how the disparity study to will be used to advance CBI's "best in class" model. During the RFP process, six proposals were received. The RFP Evaluation Committee selected Collette Holt and Associates to conduct the 2022 Study. The consultant will start work in March 2021 and staff anticipates their work will be complete and a new policy adopted by Council in December of 2022.

RENEW Update

The committee was provided with an update on the RENEW (Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Workforce Training Program), an enhanced program of Project P.I.E.C.E. The program provides participants with paid skilled training to prepare them for careers in HVAC and electrical occupations. The first cohort graduated on December 17th and three individuals from that cohort are working fulltime. Applicants are currently under review for the January 18th cohort. Staff plans to feature success stories on the city's Open for Business website.

Thirty-nine participants are currently enrolled in training classes with the Urban League and Goodwill. The city also has strong corporate partnership from other industries including Trane Technologies and MMS Solutions. It was noted that the city's financial commitment was important to the success of this program. RENEW received statewide recognition by the Research Triangle Cleantech Cluster at the 2020 Cleantech Innovation Award as the "Diversity Program of the Year".

Tracy Dodson and the Workforce & Business Development committee members recognized Emily Cantrell for her work with the RENEW Program as well as our workforce partners for their commitment.

Next Meeting: The committee will meet again on March 1, 2021 at Noon.

Current Referrals:

Topic	Policy Question
Opportunity Zones and Corridors Policy alignment	Integrate workforce and business development policies within the Opportunity Areas
Workforce Development Plan to reduce high unemployment <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Workforce development policy (criteria required for when city funding is included)• Strengthening workforce development within Diversion program• Youth Employment Policy	Identify policy options for the city to reduce unemployment <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop processes to promote workforce development opportunities through city funded programs• Develop options to advance Workforce development in diversion programs (This could apply to all programs from transit to housing).• Recommend a holistic approach from training to job placement for our youth