

The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina convened for a Dinner Briefing on Monday, September 25, 2017 at 5:20 p.m. in Room 267 of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center with Mayor Jennifer Roberts presiding. Councilmembers present were Dimple Ajmera, Ed Driggs, Julie Eiselt, Claire Fallon, Carlenia Ivory, Patsy Kinsey, Vi Lyles, and Kenny Smith.

**Absent:** Councilmembers James Mitchell and Greg Phipps

**Absent Until Noted:** Councilmember LaWana Mayfield

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**ITEM NO. 1: CLOSED SESSION**

There was no Closed Session.

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**ITEM NO. 2: AGENDA OVERVIEW**

There was no Agenda Overview.

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**ITEM NO. 3: MAYOR AND COUNCIL CONSENT ITEM QUESTIONS**

**Councilmember Kinsey** said I apologize, and I really don't need it tonight; Item No. 28, Tasers and Related Products Contract, I can't quite understand the funding. There are a lot of things in there that I should know but I don't. I can support it, but I just want totally understand the funding. Item No. 33; Cross Charlotte Trail Planning Services, a contract for Kimley Horne for Orr Road to Rocky River Road, the map you show is not Orr Road or Rocky River Road; it is the Cross Charlotte Trail Seventh Street to Tenth Street. I just wanted to make sure we are not mixing apples and oranges there. We really are voting on Rocky River Road. This is in District 1, so I had to make sure we know where we are. Third one was Item No. 47, Transfer of City Owned Property at 829 Belmont Avenue. I guess I wanted a little bit of an explanation of why that property would not be appropriate to give to an affordable housing partner and perhaps build something there. It is a vacant lot and the backup material did mention [inaudible], but if you look at it developers have dealt with more than just type of topography, so I just worried about that.

**Debra Campbell, Assistant City Manager** said Ms. Kinsey, do you want that tonight before you vote?

Ms. Kinsey said I would feel more comfortable voting for it if I knew that tonight, because it is property that the City owns and we are getting ready to give it to the County. It is close to the greenway; but I don't want to give anything to the County that we can use.

**Mayor Roberts** said we will pull that for a separate vote and have an answer by the time we get to that.

Ms. Campbell said we sure will.

**Councilmember Smith** said either pull for a separate vote Item No. 27 or just give me a moment for recognition on that. It is for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Foundation Donation. There is a recognition I would like to make.

Ms. Campbell said I think that was one that Ms. Eiselt has pulled as well.

**Councilmember Ajmera** said I have a question on Item No. 28 I have a question, so if we can vote on that separately.

Ms. Campbell said that is one that Ms. Kinsey has pulled as well.

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#### ITEM NO. 4: 2017 FALL FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

**Randy Harrington, Chief Financial Officer** said it is my pleasure tonight to introduce our representatives from Holland & Knight. Holland & Knight are our Federal Legislative Lobbyist in Washington, D.C. They work on behalf of the City Council and in your Legislative Agenda, and tonight we would like to have them come forward and give you a fall update. They will talk a little bit about what is going on in Washington right now, and they will also talk a little bit about our Legislative Agenda and what they see on the horizon at the Federal Government level. We have four individuals from Holland & Knight: Rich Gold, Shawna Watley, Lisa Tofil, and Jeff Boothe, and we will start with Rich Gold.

**Rich Gold, Holland and Knight** said I appreciate the opportunity to be here tonight. I will kind of go through our agenda a little bit and let you know what we are going to cover and obviously we are here to answer any questions about goings on in Washington and what we are going to get done this year and all those sorts of things. I want to recap what has been to date in the current calendar year and where we are headed towards the end of the year as we normally do with the main things on the agenda being the President's discussed intent to take up tax reform and then try and finish up our budget bills by the end of the year as well as move on to an infrastructure bill, then update on the status of all things important to Charlotte including the FAA and transit update and status of our federal funding and federal grants.

Obviously, in the last couple of week, we've really focused on getting a temporary funding measure in place which will fund the government through December 8, 2017 now, a continuing resolution, and that came about in what is a pattern of surprising ways going on in Washington with an agreement between the President and Ms. Pelosi and Senator Shumar bypassing the Senior Republicans to get a continuing resolution at current fiscal year 2017 levels through early December. That bodes well for trying to get an end of your budget agreement that can be bipartisan and get all 12 appropriations bills done through the House and the Senate by the end of the which is the goal and in the meantime Congress is working on finalizing those appropriations, and we will be watching those closely for the City's priorities.

Key deadlines to lay out; September 30, 2017 obviously is always a big deadline day, and you see on the left here all the things that expire September 30, 2017 from flood insurance which takes on new [inaudible], in light of the storms, to Children's Health Insurance, which all of these will be renewed in short-term provisions before the end of the month but a lot of different and important programs that are expiring and need reauthorization to get done, which we expect will happen. Then we get into October and we will talk a little bit about Tax Reform and the Infrastructure Bill moving forward.

Obviously, this week we are going to spend a fair amount of time once again debating a different approach to Health Care Reform with the Graham/Cassidy Legislation. As we kind of step in front of the podium tonight, that Legislation is still short the votes needed to pass the Senate, and we will see what happens in the usual jockeying in the next 24 to 48 hours but prospects for it right now aren't looking terribly good which would leave us in a position of trying to get something done in the next few weeks to try and prop up the insurance exchanges, which Senator Alexander and Senator Murray were working on for the last few weeks before the Graham/Cassidy Legislation got brought up.

As we move into the fall, a lot of focus on tax reform both individual and corporate tax reform. The President has set out an outline of a tax plan that would have brought the rates down to 15%. It sounds like right now Republican leadership is coalescing around a 20% rate. This again will likely be mostly a partisan exercise among Republicans similar to Healthcare where they try and get a budget resolution through and are able to therefore pass a tax bill through the Senate with 51 votes, discussion center on things that matter to you all around things and credits that will be eliminated, so there has been talk about eliminating the credit for state and local tax deductions which is obviously a big deal. There has also been talk around trimming back the mortgage interest deduction and also deductibility of municipal bonds. We are watching all these things and I think on the municipal bond front we are going to be fine. On the state and local tax deduction, there is

a lot more pressure there because that raises close to a trillion dollars over the ten-year window, so that is a big potential offset. The idea of trying to get Tax Reform done in this short a period is highly unlikely, so we expect that this will roll into next year at a minimum and at the end of the day we may end up in a similar place to Healthcare where they need bipartisan outreach to really get something done at the end of the day, but we will keep you posted.

We are working very closely with a lot of other large cities to make sure that the things that matter and the tax bill in terms of taking care of the priorities of cities and their revenue bases are protected.

On the Infrastructure Package front and infrastructure can either travel separate from Tax Reform or it could be combined with Tax Reform. We expect the President to introduce a detailed set of principles in legislative language in the next four to six weeks. This is really an opportunity that the City and cities around the country will focus on in a big way and what the Administration is trying to accomplish in this package is different from President Obama was seeking to do in 2009 with the Recovery Act. This isn't so much about pumping money into the economy to produce jobs on a very quick basis, so we are not really focused just on shovel ready projects; we are focused on funding for transformational projects for local communities that are raising money in other alternative ways whether it is private sector input into infrastructure, whether it is tax financing districts, whether it is toll roads; all those sorts of new-fangled ideas that will bring new money and new funding into infrastructure moving forward. Infrastructure is very broadly defined under the bill and includes everything from all the modes of transportation obviously, including transit to pipelines. There has even been talk about funding here for Veterans Affairs Hospitals, water infrastructure, both clean water and drinking water as well as flood control and core of engineer's projects, So a very broad pallet to paint on. We spend a good part of the day talking with your staff about getting proposals together and starting to think through what that might look like and look forward to working with you on that moving forward. We expect the Infrastructure Bill, if it is going to move before the elections, will likely move in the first three to four months of next year. Again, it is possible it could be combined with Tax Reform depending on how things move down the path. We will keep you posted on that, but when you come up next spring as you did this past spring it will be a very critical time for probably both those pieces of legislation and as usual the case your presence in Washington is critical on making sure that the City's priorities are well represented.

Let me just pull it back to this slide and introduce my colleague, Lisa Tofil is going to talk a little bit more about our work with the Delegation on these issues, both in your meetings this spring and where we are moving forward this fall.

**Lisa Tofil, Holland and Knight** said it is great to be with you. A number of City Staff lead by the Mayor came up in May and made rounds with Delegation, and we are very blessed to have a Delegation that works together on a bipartisan basis on issues on behalf of the City. That has been a long standing experience and one that has been really helpful for the City over many, many years. When we were talking about the Infrastructure Package, the Delegation really encouraged the City to think outside of the box in terms of the types of projects and the types of regional and economic impact that could come from some various different projects. One staff person said to us, think Eisenhower Road across the country. It is a little bit bigger than we might be able to do just around here, but that is really, as we've been talking to your staff and working with your staff and thinking through various different options really outside the box, forward proactive thinking in terms of what is the vision that the City wants to have for where you want to be 10 years from now, 15 years from now, 20 years from now and beyond and that is really what the Delegation on a bipartisan basis was encouraging. I think they are very interested and respective in terms of the kinds of ideas that the City will bring back and we look forward to working with all of you and helping you to effectuate that vision. With that, I will turn it over to Shawna Watley.

**Councilmember Eiselt** said I have a quick question for one of you, for infrastructure projects, the risk of losing perhaps the municipal bond interest deduction, how is that going

to impact cities? It seems like the burden is again sort of getting shifted towards municipalities to pay for these things and it is fine to say the Federal Government wants to do these infrastructure projects, but it is sounding like it is going to be more expensive for municipalities to actually do their part.

Mr. Gold said I actually feel pretty good about the deductibility of municipal bond interest and where that stands in terms of likely offsets for Tax Reform Legislation. I'm more worried about the state and local tax deduction as something that could be in the headlights or more likely to be a top tier. Either way you are spot on, and that is sort of one of the points that we are raising that if the Administration wants to focus on public/private partnership these particular items are exactly the interface between the Federal Government and the local level that create that partnership, and I think that message is starting to get through and particularly your Delegation and members on the Finance Committee on the Hill sort of understand that and are trying to look for other funding options outside the scope of that.

**Councilmember Driggs** said you mention \$200 billion in there; during his campaign the President talked about a trillion dollars. Does he have some concept of the leverage that he expects to derive from the federal investments in terms of the total projects?

Mr. Gold said when I talk about the current state if the Infrastructure Package I'm talking about the Administration's proposal. There are a lot of people on the Hill that think at the end of the day that \$200 billion number will be higher than that, but right now they are talking about \$200 billion federal contribution to a one trillion dollar package, so what they are looking at from the leverage perspective obviously is local, state and private sector funding coming in on projects whether it be a Tax Increment Financing District for transit or whether it be toll roads in the transportation space or other types of fees for water infrastructure and things like that.

Mr. Driggs said but you could have an outcome where the total national tax bill is similar but it breaks down differently between the Federal Government and local governments depending on [inaudible], so it could come down to their control of a lot of these events rather than an actual change in the burden on the public.

Mr. Gold said I think what they are trying to do, if you sort of listen to what the White House says in meetings with officials, what they are trying to do is change the pricing around infrastructure to bring it up to market rate so that we are no longer subsidizing public infrastructure in the way the country traditionally has and we are charging sort of the going rate for use of that infrastructure, so they are trying to create pivot in the way we think about infrastructure that is different from the way we've thought about it in the past.

Mr. Driggs said so tolls and things.

Mr. Gold said tolls and water infrastructure obviously, water rates, tolls on roads, port fees and container fees at ports; all those types of things not being as subsidized as the Administration views them now to be. They are public goods but we are basically undercharging for those goods.

**Councilmember Ajmera** said in the transit update I have a question for the staff; I see the Blue Line Extension and I know the Silver Line is in the pipeline, have you not added that in this?

**Jeff Boothe, Boothe Transit Consulting** said as of right now the only projects the City has is the completion of the Gold Line Streetcar and the Blue Line Extension, which this will be the final year for the funding of the Blue Line Extension and at that point we don't have another project in the cue because work has to be done at CATS to develop those projects before they enter into the cue so we are not there yet.

I am Jeff Boothe with Boothe Transit Consulting; I used to be with Holland & Knight. The House provided \$1.753 billion, which was below the authorized level of \$2.133 billion; the Senate provided a little over \$2.1 billion, which is also below the \$2.3 billion authorized in



the fast act. The issue with both of those funding, but more so the House, is that that doesn't fully fund all the projects that are in the cue that have anticipated to get funding in this year's fiscal year, so at this point the other effect of this is in the absence of the Administration requesting funding for projects in the FY18 report to Congress, Congress cannot name those projects in the report. If you look at the Senate Bill, they took a rather indirect way of identifying the projects that they would like to be funded by the language they included in the report to identify those projects by their status and by their rating level to the FTA process. The important thing about that is that what we are trying to do in the Appropriations Bill and the Holland & Knight Team working with others in town, worked very hard to do two things, one was to put bill language directing FTA to follow the process to advance future projects, and two is to put report language in both the House and Senate reports that would be directed to the FTA to one, file an FY19 report with project funding for new projects to advance projects as they are at each stage of the development process, so they will continue to move forward. They wouldn't be sitting on projects refusing to advance them, so they should be continuing to advance those projects now. The other hat they wore is in material that Capital Investment Grants working group, and I have tracked every project in the United States as to project status and when they would expect to enter into each phase of the project development process, so we are keeping an eye to see if projects are working their way through the cue or if there is any delay that we need to be mindful of that would affect future projects. The important thing for the Silver Line for Charlotte is as we look at our next set of projects, this is very important to you, because it will insure that it will be regular order in the FTA approval of projects, so that is something we are keeping an eye on, because we want to preserve the program. We want to see projects continue to move forward, so when it is our time to bring our next set of projects into the cue that that program exists and the projects are still working their way through the process, so we know that there is an opportunity for us to secure federal funding for those projects.

The last thing I would say is, at this point, we haven't really seen any change in the funding ratio, so we are still looking at 50/50 for new start projects, and I think that would expect to be continued into the future as Congress has also made that clear as they are funding projects that they continue to support that ratio between federal and non-federal monies. Also, in the Formula Programs, which are the bulk of the transit and highway programs, those are all funded at the FAST Act authorized levels because those are funded out of the Highway Trust Fund of the Mass Transit Account, where the Capital Investment Grants Program is a general fund program, so if domestic spending cuts occur then general fund programs are potentially affected because of the amount of money available through the Appropriations Committee to allocate to the program. That is why you are seeing a little bit low, but I would say that part of the year end wrap up, maybe I'm being optimistic, is that when we come and look at the domestic spending levels we may see some bump up in those domestic spending levels once it has to get approval to the Senate. They may hopefully then result in a higher funding level for the Capital Investment Grants Program at the end of the day when we finally wrap up FY18.

Ms. Ajmera said these are the projects that are in the cue, how do you define in cue, because for the Silver Line the community engagement piece is already in the pipeline?

Mr. Boothe said I will do a 30 second tutorial of the Capital Investment Grants process. There are multiple phases in the process, and the first phase is project development, but until you have what is referred to as a locally preferred alternative, you don't enter the project development phase. Where you are right now is you are in the early stakeholder engagement to define the corridor, define the technology to then decide whether to formally request an entry in the project development. You don't enter cue until you make a formal request to enter into project development and the important thing for that given the costs of the project is related to the NEPA process, because most people complete the National Environmental Policy Act Process before going to project development because if the project is more than \$300 million you have two-years to complete project development before you go into engineering, and once you go into engineering you own the number, in terms of the capital cost of the project at that point, so if you go in too early and you have additional costs to the project, the locality bears that costs, so the City of Charlotte would bear that costs. It is important to spend time early on developing a good costs number

before you take it into engineering and formerly request entry into that phase, because at that point, whatever you decide as the project cost or whatever you define is the federal share of that cost you own that.

**Shawna Watley, Holland and Knight** said I'm going to provide you with a quick FAA update. Right now, we are in the process of FAA reauthorization; if you noticed, it was on the list of reauthorizations that needed to take place prior to September 30, 2017. As of today, we don't know what is going to happen there. Friday, the Republicans said they wanted to do a six-month extension; however, the Democrats Nancy Pelosi and Leadership has stated this afternoon that that is not sufficient for them. They didn't like the terms of the agreement, and so we will have to continue to watch that this week to see what they decide to do. They are going to have to do something; we just don't know what that is going to look like and when we do obviously we will be keeping the staff briefed on where things stand.

We would like to provide you a little bit on the grants that are coming out of the FAA. They are really looking at regulatory reductions in the grants program; also the unmanned aircraft integration issues and removal of air traffic control functions from the FAA. As it relates to infrastructure package, there is some thought that airport improvements may be included in any large package. We are on top on this as Rich stated, and we have been involved with discussions in the White House and how that moves forward, and we will make sure that the airport improvements are included in any package hopefully that comes out as it moves forward. We will also continue to keep you abreast of personnel changes at USDOT, FAA, DHS, TSA, and CDP as well as the airport perimeter security legislation. We will be watching and the AMT relief for private activity bonds. It is unlikely, but we are monitoring it. Our colleague David Whitestone who was normally here with us today could not be here today, but he follows the FAA issues very closely and works very closely with Brent. If any of these things change we will surely keep you up to speed.

The other thing that did occur in the House; the Transportation Bill which includes FAA funding was passed. The bill was passed in the House and we are watching what will take place in the Senate, and that will be included in the overall omnibus appropriations bill that is passed at the end of the year.

**Mayor Roberts** said the Air Traffic Control, the US Conference of Mayors sent a letter about this is a privatization of the FAA, is that correct that is being considered?

Ms. Watley said not a privatization of the FAA but a privatization of Air Traffic Control.

Mayor Roberts said the US Conference of Mayors is very concerned about that prospect, and they were getting a lot of Mayors to sign on to opposing it. Have we talked to our airport about the specific stance on that; I haven't had a chance?

Ms. Watley said Brent probably should speak to that.

**Brent Cagle, Aviation Director** said hopefully my answer satisfies your question; some groups are opposed to it and some groups are in favor of it. The airport and the Mayor's Office earlier this year sent a letter in support of Air Traffic Control Privatization out of Charlotte. Again, it just really depends on the perspective; some folks are very opposed to it and other are in support of it, but we were in support of it as a commercial service hub.

Mr. Driggs said could you explain what all this means in terms of our tower and the certainty of funding and the timing of funding?

Ms. Watley said sure, I neglected to mention that. The funding for the tower was included in the House Bill, and we are waiting on the Senate Bill to come out of the Senate Appropriations Committee. We don't foresee any problems with our funding; we have been able to make our requests, and we made sure there was plenty of funding in the House Bill. We couldn't designate the Charlotte Tower, but there is plenty of funding in that account so that we get the money that we need for our towers. We are in good shape; we don't foresee any problems. We work with the Delegation very closely to make sure

that what we needed was included. Congresswoman Adams put in a request for the Airport funding overall, not just Charlotte, to make sure there was plenty of funding available for our tower, so we are in really good shape.

We are going to go really quickly through some opportunities as it relates to federal grants. The TIGER Program which we've been very successful in securing federal funding for transportation projects in the Charlotte area and has come out. We are not going to be pursuing that this year, but that was an opportunity that has come out as it relates to large grants. The Bus and Bus Facility Infrastructure Investment Program, CATS did apply for that grant, and we are waiting now to see if we are going to secure any funding out of there for Bus and Bus Facilities. We've been working with the Delegation to make sure they weigh in and support our requests.

CBDG, just to give you a quick update as it relates to where that stands, it was funded at \$2.9 billion in the House Bill. It is \$100 million below fiscal year 2017 levels, and we will continue to monitor what comes out in the Senate. We don't know that as of yet. We know this is a big issue for the City of Charlotte, as it relates to housing funding, and so we are watching that very closely. Typically, the Senate will swing back the pendulum, so you won't see such a large cut when it comes out of conference.

The HOME Program was funded \$850 million in the House, \$100 million below fiscal year 2017 levels, and we are monitoring what happens in the Senate as well. We are watching that and we know affordable housing is important to you all, particularly at this point in time, so we will be keeping the staff up to date and having conversations with Pam as these things move forward and Dana.

The Continuum of Care Program, we know that you all have been very successful over the years with this. There typically hasn't been any issue with funding through this program every year and we are going to be working with the Delegation to make sure they weigh in with the Administration. We don't foresee any problems there and that deadline is September 28, 2017. I think your application is going in within the next 24 to 48 hours.

We just wanted to go over really quickly with you where we stand as it relates to our formalized Federal Agenda. The airport tower is in good shape; we don't foresee any issues. The 2030 Transit System Plan I just spoke of. The Blue Line is included in the Transportation Bill, and we will be receiving our last allotment for the Blue Line Extension. We've worked very closely with Senator Byrd, Alma Adams in making sure that those requests were made. The North End Smart District we will continue to monitor funding opportunities for the Smart District. We were very pleased to see that the Doppler Weather Radar Legislation was passed, and we worked closely with the Delegation, so we know that they will require that they conduct a study to figure out what is needed for the Charlotte region, so we see that as a big win. As Rich stated, we will continue to monitor the Tax Reform to make sure that there is nothing that comes out that is going to be hurtful to the City, particularly with the municipal bonds, but now that we know that the deductibility issue is coming up related to the sales tax and property tax we will keep you all abreast.

Ms. Tofil said I'm going to close very quickly in the interest of your lengthy agenda before you. I think the next critical steps in terms of infrastructure; it would be lovely if we had two-years or more to come up with a really great comprehensive plan. Unfortunately, we have something more like two-months or less so working very diligently with Marcus, and the team and all of you for the purpose of trying to come up with some ideas that we think the Delegation will be receptive to so that they can utilize those as the legislation is starting to develop around key priorities whether that be transit, whether that be airport or whatever it is that you all decide to move forward with. It is really best to be an iterative process with the Delegation, rather than coming up handing them our happy laundry list and then discovering that the Bill has moved in a different direction. The more iterative the process, as we are going through it over the next couple of months, I think the better position the City will be. With that I just want to thank you for the opportunity to be here tonight. It has been our great pleasure to represent the City for 15 years, so appreciate the opportunity to

say thank you for that and if you have any questions, we are available to answer them before you throw us out of here.

Mr. Driggs said our Gateway Station Project, we've got some federal funding for it already. Do you know what the outlook is for any further funding as it develops?

Mr. Boothe said that was funded through two successive TIGER Grants, so the question is and my understanding at least for this phase it is fully funded and the issue is what is the next phase, and I think we need to identify what that project looks like and what the connection is to the Gateway Project.

Mr. Driggs said so, there are funding sources for which that might qualify?

Mr. Boothe said the answer is yes.

Mayor Roberts said we appreciate our team at Holland & Knight and appreciate you keeping us up to date on all the things that are impacting us here in Charlotte. Thank you very much.

**Councilmember Mayfield arrived at 5:56 p.m.**

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#### **ITEM NO. 5: TREE CANOPY UPDATE**

**Erin Oliverio, Engineering and Property Management** said I would like to introduce Chuck Cole who is the new Executive Director for TreesCharlotte, and he will be jumping in in a little bit to talk about TreesCharlotte successes for this year. Tonight, we will be going over the 50% canopy goal, a brief overview of the Master Plan; Chuck will give the TreesCharlotte Update and then we will talk about next steps, and we will be asking you to approve the Plan tonight at your meeting.

The 50 by 50 goal was passed and meant to rally the community around our trees and promote the importance of our tree canopy. Since then, we've had a lot of positive things going on; we have the wonderful partnership with TreesCharlotte. We have done lots and lots of tree planting with them as the City and have created the Tree Canopy Preservation Program where we have preserved over 190 acres of land and multiple other things that are really positive for our tree canopy. Unfortunately, we also have had since the goal was passed in in 2011, development is back up on the increase which is good for Charlotte but sometimes cannot be good for trees. Then we have an older population of trees as I'm sure you are all aware of and since 2011 you can see on the slide that the number of trees coming down has been increasing each year. We realized that we really needed a comprehensive plan to make sure that everyone is involved in our tree canopy, and it will serve as a guide to the best way to maintain enhance and protect our tree canopy. You have the Executive Summary in front of you, and the actual plan is housed on the website on the screen. It is a deep dive if you want to get in there and look at it.

We did engage the community throughout the process; in 2016 the whole year was spent getting input from stakeholders as well as citizens. We had over 2,800 survey responses from an online survey and held multiple community and stakeholder meetings. Probably the thing that I would like to highlight the most that the Master Plan, one of the major findings, is that we are not currently on the path to meet the 50% canopy by the year 2050 goal, and we have a lot of work ahead of us, exciting new opportunity work, but we have a lot of work ahead of us to meet that goal.

The Environment Committee did receive multiple presentations throughout the planning process while this plan was being developed, and on June 5, 2017 they did vote to approve to move forward to full Council and recommend the adoption of the Master Plan. This is more of what the plan is recommending and where we see ourselves moving in the next years toward 2050. In trying to simplifying it for everyone to break it down to where a canopy actually falls in Charlotte so, you can see the bulk of our canopy is on private land approximately 75% is on private land and then the City and County have about 10% and



CMS houses about 5%. Some of the opportunities or new programs that we see across the board that we can do across all of those, one of the ones that I'm excited about is building on that love of trees that Charlotte citizens have to creating identity campaign and an awareness campaign and really getting lots of messages out about trees and trying to include our whole community in Charlotte.

On our public land and our City especially, one thing that we really see as an opportunity is increasing our right-of-way planting so looking at not only the planting strip between the sidewalk and the street, but also the other side of the street even people do not have sidewalks. If they would like trees there, we are more than willing to plant them and we see our planting numbers being able to increase through that. On County land and CMS land, we see a really exciting opportunity to use open source mapping to be able to map all of the trees in Charlotte so putting all of our data about our City trees on line that people can access and see basic information about what type of tree might be in front of their house or if it is going to have work done on it and then also being able to include all the trees that we are planting on CMS campuses, getting information from County Park and Recreation Department and having information about all the trees that they have on their properties and then also allowing citizens if they are interested to put their own trees on their private property and create a really big great map of all of Charlotte's trees.

As we talked about a couple times before, we do have most of our canopy on private land, and we have a really unique situation in Charlotte; our consultant found this when they've done plans across the country and Charlotte has a relatively equal tree canopy. We have lots of large trees across all of all income levels and that encourage us to look for ways to help citizens with their private property trees. One of the really exciting things we are working on is looking at a way that we can provide professional assistance to citizens that have large trees on their property. Not everyone has the income to be able to do tree work on those trees, and they can become hazardous, so we are looking at ways to provide professional arborists assistance that would be free to citizens in the community and then also possibly being able to provide grant money to help fund either taking trees down, to make sure that the citizens are safe or doing pruning on them so that they can last even longer.

On commercial property we are encouraging developers to go above and beyond, and TreesCharlotte is actually working on this project to encourage them to go and plant more, to save more and to get a green developer certification.

With 75% of our canopy on private land, it is really important to have the citizens involved in this plan and we've already begun to do that. We've developed a Canopy Team; we had a kick-off meeting in June with over 40 citizens, staff and people who are interested in trees or work with trees come to this meeting and they actually formed four working groups, Neighborhood Engagement, Development Study, Creative Funding and Corporate Engagement, and they are actively working on new programs and ideas that they had through meeting in those groups.

I've said it many times, but I really excited that the community needs to be involved in this plan and it is one of the things that I love to, go out and talk to people about trees but one of the best ways that we have to do that is through TreesCharlotte, and I'll let Chuck take over now and talk about his program.

**Chuck Cole, TreesCharlotte** said the City has been a partner with TreesCharlotte since its inception in 2012. Most of you know the story, but for new comers, TreesCharlotte is a non-profit partner with the City devoted to growing and diversifying our beautiful urban canopy. We work together to plant 500,000 trees by the year 2050, elevate stewardship in all communities, and educate everyone about proper planting and preservation and the benefits of trees of course. Going into its sixth season the TreesCharlotte and City duo has engaged 11,700 volunteers to plant 22,700 containerized trees in Charlotte. I started looking at these numbers, and I thought it is really interesting that it is like half, but that is our ratio. We usually have one volunteer plant two trees, and that is the way we do it. The green dots that you see here consist of 105 schools, parks, faith communities, neighborhood, and housing projects. The larger dots are more concentration of trees and

community interactions. We focus on underserved areas both financially and by canopy coverage. The lighter areas on the map are less canopy while the darker areas have more. Obviously, we've got a little ways to go. Of course this is the fun part, I want to be able to share a ; we've put together about two or three minutes' worth of our season from last year that will show you exactly what it is all about.

A short video was played.

With five-years of collaboration under our belt, we are in an excellent position to help roll out the Master Plan effectively; however, several areas of focus are critical, and we will need to address quickly. Growing our bandwidth to host multiple events daily, develop community wide tree care education, and expand our tree stewardship programs to include volunteer care of younger street trees also. We are very excited about the opportunity and the direction of the Master Plan and are very happy that it is there to give us guidance going through this.

Ms. Oliverio said TreesCharlotte is one of my favorite parts of my job; I love getting out working with everyone, meeting people, giving trees to people; they always put smiles on people's faces. I've never seen someone unhappy about a tree. Tonight, you will be asked to adopt the Master Plan. Still will continue to work to implement the ideas and the new programs in the new Master Plan, and we will be bringing a five-year resource request to you during this budget cycle.

**Councilmember Lyles** said I just want to say often we talk about the best time to plant a tree was 20-years ago, and the second best is now, so I just want us to be as bold as we possibly can. Years ago, we actually had a tree planting budget and then it was incorporated kind of into everything that we do would have a tree plan with, but I really have a concern that our canopy, even with our 2050 goal we need to move as quickly as possible, because it is now, and I just want to say thank you for the work that TreesCharlotte does and thank you for the work that the staff has done, and I look forward to September 25, 2017 and working to find the plan in a way that gets us moving in the tree world.

**Councilmember Driggs** said just a quick question, the canopy today is just under 50%. Is that right?

Ms. Oliverio said the data is from 2012 and it was between 46% and 47% and that is something we are currently working on. We are almost ready with new numbers with a new analysis, so we will have the new canopy personage before December probably.

Mr. Driggs said I have been to a couple plantings, and I really appreciate what you are doing; it is a feel good event, so thank you for your efforts.

**Councilmember Ivory** said my question is on the Charlotte Urban Forest Master Plan under community involvement; the numbers community meetings three and you only had 25 participants?

Ms. Oliverio said we did have 25 participants; we advertised them through social media and through the places where we were holding them. We held all three of them in church facilities around the, and they were not that well attended, but the people that did come it was wonderful to see them. Some of them came in angry about losing trees to development, and they left knowing that there is a group of staff working on these issues and that we are aware of what is going on and there are people out there who care.

**Councilmember Kinsey** said I've got to make the same comment I made last week. Sometimes we are our own worst enemy, and we have a rezoning, and I guess this is the one for tonight, where a stub street has to be put in; there is no matching street on the other side but there is a big tree so the developer has said they have to cut down that big tree just because it is a stub street. That doesn't make sense to me; you can cut down that tree when the street goes in. There may be something else there, but that is exactly the way it was explained to me, and I think we have to start thinking of things like that and start thinking about our trees with everything we do, not just planting them. The other thing

that I'm concerned about and I've talked about is, and I think you touched on it a little bit, is protecting our tree canopy that we have now. I don't mean the new trees going up, obviously we want to do that, but I mean the mature trees to keep them from falling down or protect them as long as we can. I think those are some challenges that we have.

Ms. Oliverio said they are very difficult challenges; it is a balancing act but something that staff is aware of, and we are working on new ideas with both of those issues.

**Mayor Roberts** said as far as we know the goal of 50% by 2050 we are still on track.

Ms. Oliverio said it will be very challenging to get there but yes, we all have hope that that is where we will be going with this plan and the guidance and the new programs that we are developing.

**Councilmember Mayfield** said that was an aspirational goal when it was first created, but are we accounting for the loss that we are seeing? I'm trying to figure out how are you able to truly track to insure that we maintain as much tree canopy as possible, especially with thinking about Ms. Kinsey's comments in our language, the way you are able to clear-cut? The way most clear-cut happens is they clear everything on the front of the property and you might have a few trees on the back. That is not contributing to our canopy because no-one is utilizing that. How are you able to really keep track to determine whether or not we are getting close to the goal unless you have been able to, and if you have I didn't hear it, to track how much canopy we are losing through development and maturity.

Ms. Oliverio said with the new canopy analysis that is how we track. We try to get a new canopy analysis done every five to seven years, and we will have that new number by the end of this calendar year and then we will be hiring a consultant to do a change analysis, so we can determine exactly where trees were lost and why and that will help us guide policy into the next couple of years.

Ms. Mayfield said what recommendations prior to you coming on as Executive Director do you know of that have come to previous Councils from the Committee? Having a change analysis is great, but what is that lag time between a recommendation that actually comes to Council that may or may not affect policy versus this is what we figured out of which we can drive around and get a pretty idea if you've lived here more than 10 years to see that there has been an impact.

Mr. Cole said so, what you are asking is how do we know that we have enough time to plant enough trees to reach that number.

Ms. Mayfield said and how are you going to be directing any future Council between getting your report and making a recommendation to Council which would then make that recommendation to the City Manager's Office; what is that lag time?

Ms. Oliverio said it could be significant; I was not involved in the last Tree Ordinance, but I know that having data to back up what you are trying to change is really important with all the stakeholders that need to be on that group that you just can't have significant changes without the data behind it to back it up. We are trying to get that report and that number done as quickly as possible. We have the contracting process started on that already.

Ms. Mayfield said the final piece is for you Mr. Manager; I hope you hear my question that this for me, our expectation that as quickly as we can identify the recommendation that information is passed on to staff, particularly in our Planning Department, since we are the ones that are signing off on how clear-cutting or any type of development is allocated in our City.

**Marcus Jones, City Manager** said I think you hit the key word, aspirational, so starting back in 2011 50 by 2050 was an aspirational goal. By the end of this year, we should have data that would better inform us of how aspirational the 50 by 2050 is and how achievable it may be. I think it is fine to say that if we slip from that 46% or 47% that was as of 2012, it is really because we have more data that can help us get a pathway to that goal. Is that a

fair way of saying it for the process? We need the data and once we get the data it will come to this body as quickly as humanly possible.

Mr. Driggs said it looks like we are voting on the Master Plan tonight, but you mentioned that we would talk about resources during the budget process. Do you anticipate that it is going to take a big increase in resources from the current budget in order to achieve this?

Ms. Oliverio said we are working on those numbers right now, and I will say it will probably be a very bold request and it will be spaced out over five-years, so it will not be one giant request for this upcoming budget cycle, but it will be spaced out over the five-years.

Mr. Driggs said but you do need the approval of this before we know what those numbers are. Is that right?

Ms. Oliverio said yes.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### **ITEM NO. 6: AIRPORT CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT STATUS UPDATE**

**Brent Cagle, Aviation Director** said I personally am very excited, and I know my staff and the other folks who have joined us are really excited. This is an information only presentation. I hope that you find it as exciting as we do. What we are really doing, and I can recite these fast facts. I think I do in my sleep, and my wife says okay, knock it off. I won't bore you with that, and I will get right into it. I do want to say first of all, make a couple introductions and say thank you to a few people for being here tonight. First Marcus Mitchell and Carla Hansal, they are both with the ASC, and you will see tonight we are working very closely with the ASC to utilize the percent for art funds to enhance customer experience in the Terminal, and you will see a couple of exciting things coming forward in the future. The other thing I will do is recognize Mike Hill, the airport CFO. His hard work over the last three years including the credit rating upgrade that we just received has been really laid the financial plan in place to really bring us to where we are to start moving towards construction. With that Haley Gentry, our Chief Business and Innovation Officer and Jack Christine, our Chief Operating Officer will both talk to you tonight about some of the improvements that are going in the ground now over the next five-years to really build a Terminal of the future to take that 30-year old Terminal and make it meet the future needs of our City and to continue to be the crown jewel that it has been and should continue to be.

**Haley Gentry, Assistant Aviation Director** said as the slide says, we are building an Airport fit for a Queen. If you have been to the Airport lately it may not feel that way and that is because you are in the midst of progress and we are going to share with you some details of that this evening and we hope you will find it educational as well as informational.

We are going to start by talking about two of our most important business partners, HMS Host and Paradies. They are master concessionaires for our food, beverage, and retail offerings in our terminal building. You are familiar with those probably because you recently in the past year and a half approved extensions to their contract. Those extensions are going to allow quite a bit of expansion, as well as some conversion of concepts in the terminal. There are some stats here about how important this is to our revenue model as well as our local business participation. Those contracts that you recently approved represent a \$50 million impact in terms of investment in our Terminal Building. What you are going to see is an extensive replacing or re-conception of current brands that are located in the Terminal, and this is a sampling of them before you. Most of these are not new; you are familiar with them, they are street brands that you would experience in other areas of our community, but we are excited to have them because many of them are new to our terminal building. These are selected based on of course revenue projections as well as customer feedback and looking at the entire portfolio trying to decide for what category or service we may be missing.

We are looking at the total experience, as Brent commented earlier, we have the Arts and Science Council here with us this evening, and we have two major pieces that we are



working on right now that will be installed soon in our Terminal Building. The first one is by Christian Moeller; Christian is an artist that specializes particularly in architectural and physical art. This piece that you are seeing, you can see a side schematic view up top; that is the piece, the red squiggles that you see. It weighs approximately 4,500 pounds and will be suspended in a new food court that Jack will speak to you about a little bit later. The inspiration for this design was taken from airplane contrails, and that is the picture you see at the bottom. You may not know that is what they are called but anytime you look up in the sky in our community you can probably find some. I will give you an example of what it is going to look like; it is suspended in an area that has four windows on the sides, and you will see in just a moment some reflection that will give you a feel for what it is like in the space. The color is still potentially up for debate.

The second piece is by Refik Anadol, and I will tell you that both of these pieces went through an international search, and I believe Councilmember Mayfield participated in that process. Refik is located in, and he is a world renowned digital artist. His specialty is digital art or data sculptures, and we are going to have when he completes this piece in Charlotte, we are going to be known as one of the world's largest data sculptures. It consist of three different portions, and what you are seeing there is a visual representation that is portrayed from airport databases, so what you are looking right there is actually the Airport Flight Information System, so when you are in the Terminal Building checking on the fid that data is what is populating this art. As I mentioned, there are three pieces to this; one is the connector going to the expanded Concourse A; that is what you see in the middle and then there will be two display boards in the Concourse area of the new Concourse A, scheduled to open in May of 2018. It is going to be very impactful. The colors you are seeing may vary; it may not always be this same color as well as the design and imagery that are being projected. They are projected on LED screens versus a projector which will give us an enhanced color and more vibrancy. This is looking from the outside on the roadway as you will be passing by you will be able to get glimpse of it. There is a moving walkway directly across from it as well as an open walkway area. This is another way that the data can be displayed.

We are continuing to look at the holistic customer experience. You recently approved a Wayfinding contract with a consultant for us, and they have gone through our terminal building trying to identify how and where we communicate with our passengers as they are making their way through the terminal. The first thing you will see as a product of that contract will be new signage that will be in the expanded Concourse A. If you see the picture in the lower left you will notice the blue signage. Right now, we have black signage with white lettering that is backlit. We've worked with GSP, Gretchen Smith and Partners to identify this color, and it not only is visually very grabbing but it also compliments our new design that you will be seeing. This is a glimpse of what you will see and Jack is going to tell more about that. At top is an information center; right now if you utilize some of the services in the terminal building you will notice that you have a directory in one location and you have flight information boards in another and then there may be an advertisement projecting where you can have lunch on yet another display, so we are looking at putting all of that information in a central place and putting them strategically in locations where customers naturally flow. This is just a concept so that could change a little bit in design.

We are also looking at parking. Although we've expanded our offerings in terms of numbers the basic operations pretty much remain the same. We are looking at how can we modernize that parking operation. how can we provide new offerings; how can we connect with passengers all while maximizing our revenues? We think there is a lot of opportunity here to provide some things we haven't done in the past, maybe things like online payment, maybe reserving your parking space before you arrive at the Airport. Trying to engage the customer a little bit more; defuse that angst for when you are on our doorstep and actually help them prepare properly for their trip.

Expansion of the Digital Ecosystem; most of you have a phone or a tablet. Many of you have two or three of these electronic devices in your possession right now. That is how communication and information is flowing, and we need to be connecting with our passengers in that venue. We are working toward implement an airport app; we are looking at expanding our Wi-Fi services in the terminal building. Right now you watch an

advertisement before you get onto Wi-Fi, and we are looking at how can we make that seamless. There is an expectation to have that seamless where you go into your coffee shop, and you are right online right away; we want that same experience for our customers.

Amenities; children's play area, the DE Food Court next to Christian Moeller's art work is going to have a great children's play area. It sounds like a small thing, but it is the first one we are going to be able to have in our environment and it is a luxury of capacity quite frankly. We just haven't had room to do that in the past. Probably one of the most popular things we are doing right now is going to be our new seating. Our largest complaint is lack of available charging, so we are going to be implementing seating throughout the entire terminal building that has plugs under the seats so everyone can plug up their devices. The first place you will see that will be the expanded Concourse A in May of 2018. Also looking at Mother's Room; we have one Mother's Room in the Terminal building; however, it is not adequate for as large as the building is and pet relief areas. I'm going to turn this over to Jack, and he is going to walk you through some of the physical changes.

**Jack Christine, Deputy Aviation Director** said with all of the things we are looking at from an amenities perspective, we also have to keep in mind that the terminal building that we are in we actually opened in 1982, which doesn't sound like a long time, but that was 35 years ago. We are in a position now where we really need to both invest in and expand the facilities for the terminal as well as looking at the existing facilities and making sure that we are adjusting those to meet the customer's demands and expectations, because they are changing as well. The Terminal Modernization Program that we are undertaking and are underway on right now is about a \$700 million capital investment in both expanded facilities and renovations to the existing Terminal. The focus is enhancing the customer experience from their front door to the door of the airplane. Where the Terminal Lobby expansion and some of the other things we are going to talk about come into play is how the customers interact with the Airport once they get here, but keep in mind that what we are really doing is focus on expanding and building a facility that we can now use for the next 30 years.

A number of projects are in the program; the first one is Concourse A Expansion Phase I, which Haley alluded to a little earlier. This project is underway; if you've been out to the airport recently you've seen a lot of the construction going on as you approach the front door of the terminal. That building you see off to the right is what you see here in this rendering. That is a nine gate expansion that will be used for other carriers serving Charlotte. Those gates will not be used by American Airlines. The up side for American Airlines, our hub carrier, is that as some of the carriers move onto this new concourse, it will free up some space on the existing A Concourse for them, so everybody gets to win here, but especially the customer. This facility is a domestic terminal, but is very different from the concourses that you've seen when you are the airport today. That is in large part, because we are now designing domestic terminal facilities and concourse facilities to be larger because the aircraft are larger, the expectations of the customer are different, they want more room to move around, and this is the first time that we are going to get the opportunity to do that. There are future phases of this program that we will look at in the future, but this is the first prototype that we now have for domestic concourse on the airport. There will be a number of opportunities like the seating that we charge all 18 of your devices that you bring to the airport before you get on the airplane. There will also be expanded concession opportunities that we haven't been able to do in other parts of the building. For instance, there will be a bar at the very end of the concourse which means you will be able to saddle up to the bar and yourself something to drink while you are waiting for your airplane, and you will still be able to see it while you are sitting there so that is a big plus for this type of design that we just haven't been able to implement before. The project is on schedule; we anticipate that we will complete it in May of 2018, which is only a few months from now. The project is on schedule and is going very well, so we are really excited about bringing it on line.

Concourse E: there are a number of different projects that are going on in Concourse E right now; we are going to hit some of the major ones. We are expanding the hold rooms

on the north and east side of the building. That will get us from 42 to 45 gates and allow us to add jet bridges to all of those gates. Keep in mind that 42 to 45 gates is a huge complex; that is bigger than most airports in the country just by itself. So, one of the bigger challenges that we have is getting people from the main terminal out to the concourse, so as part of that overall development program, in addition to the gate expansions we are also going to be here as we build the food court that Haley talked about where Christian Moeller's art is going to be, we are also going to be taking part of that time to expand the vertical circulation from the main terminal down to the E Concourse. When we opened the concourse in 2002 we had one escalator up, one escalator down, a set of stairs and an elevator. That is still what we have today. When we opened the concourse, we only had 25 gates, and now we have 42 and will have 45. It is woefully inadequate for what we do, so part of that project of the East Terminal expansion is going to increase the size of that vertical circulation, give us four escalators, two sets of stairs and two elevators that will allow us to easily move folks from the main terminal out to the E Concourse and back and enhance the customer experience. All of these projects on E Concourse are really about increasing the customer's experience on that particular concourse. It is a single level concourse; for years we've had folks walk out from the building out to the airplane in the weather; that is not the best way you want to treat your customers, but we've not been able to do what we are doing now, because we've been in continuous growth on the E Concourse. We've always parked more airplanes than we have spaces available, so the only way to do that is not put jet bridges on the building. We are a point now where we are going to finalize the layout of the facility and add those jet bridges, so we are very excited to have that underway. The challenges as with a lot of things we are doing now is we are building it while we are still using it, so it is going to take us about three years to get that project done simply, because the contractor is going to have to work every night, take all the stuff out and let the people use it during the day and then come in and start all over again. We have a very defined schedule, working very closely with the contractor. So far things are going well and we intend to keep it that way.

The other project that Haley also mentioned is Concourse Renovations. The original Concourses A, B, C, and most of D were all built in the '80's and '90's, and it is time to renovate those concourses. You've already actually approved the first contract which is for Concourse B to start those renovations and that is mostly finishing work; new ceiling, walls, floors, redoing the restrooms on the concourses. What you see here is a rendering of what we think that ultimately will look like. The big key here is the middle circulation for the concourses; the carpet is coming out and is being replaced with a hard traza flooring which works a lot better for the customers who are pulling their roller boards behind them trying to get from one gate to the other in a mad dash. We are trying to help them make that a little bit easier, but we are also trying to do different things like the signage and coloring the walls where the restrooms are to help people get a more visual cue as to where certain things are in the building so it is easier for them to find their way to get to what they need.

As you all have helped us with so far we have the Terminal curved front and the roadway in front as the building as well as the Terminal Lobby Expansion. This project started about a year ago in planning, and we wanted to talk with you a little bit about what that looks like, because you will be seeing next month, we will be asking you to approve contracts with the design firm and with the Construction Manager at Risk Firm to move us toward schematic design, so that we can actually start construction in the winter of 2019, which is only a year and a half away or less than a year and a half away. This is the image that we took; this is not photo shopped. This is a real image from Good Friday this past year. You can replicate this picture pretty much once a week every summer as we go through the additional folks that are coming to the airport. One of the things we have enjoyed is good steady growth and that growth has always exceeded national averages, so we are working from behind on this one trying to get more adequate facilities for the folks who use our airport, and it is for the local customers that use our airport. This isn't for the connecting passengers; this project in particular is for our local passengers.

Tonight, we want to show you what we think that is going to look like and give you a flavor for where we are. This represents about a year's worth of work so far with our Planning Teams and Design Teams to put together a Terminal Lobby Expansion Program; that is



going to work for all of us and again the challenge is building this in a way that allows us to continue to meet our customer's expectations while we built it. What you see here in the white is the new expansion and next to it is a canopy system that runs from the parking deck all the way over to the new lobby expansion to cover all the lanes of traffic, so that the customers who are dropping off their loved ones underneath the canopy are dry. It also helps us with inclement weather and things like that to keep the snow off of the road way and right in front of the building. You also see that we have included two sky bridges that will come from the fifth floor of the parking deck into a new Messene level in the new part of the Lobby that will allow customers to cross over the curb front roadway without having to mess with the cars, which is one of the key safety things that we want to focus on as well as operationally. It is a lot of easier for the vehicles to move, and they are dealing with passengers crossing as well. This is from the sky bridge coming from the fifth floor of the deck into the lobby. You will see it is a much higher space than what we have today; it provides a very open view, so as you come into the building customers will be able to see immediately where they need to go. From this point, you can see the ticket lobby itself, the ticket counters will be rearranged to meet the new design standards that the airlines are using for technology related items at the ticket counter. You will see that the Queen has moved inside the building, and from this side you see that we've consolidated our security checkpoints. We now have four in the main terminal and will combine those to two. It makes that a much more efficient operation for TSA as well as it makes it easier for the customer to find where they need to go and get them to any of the gates in the terminal.

When you are coming back from your flight this will be the new exist that you will come into to get down into the baggage claim. A, adding escalators and things and separating those things from the existing security checkpoints so that it makes it much easier for the customer to get in and out of the building. Also, it makes it much easier for us from a security perspective to manage the flow in and out. Customers will come down into the middle of the bag claim lobby, providing us the ability to capture them and their opportunity to get restaurant items or news items. Those are things that we can't offer today in the Lobby because it is too small, so we will have the ability to do a full service restaurant, specialty shops, get the news and things of that nature. Folks will be able to come in, get a vision of the Queen as they come into the bag claim and then if they need to wait for their loved one they can wait in the new Queen's Courtyard. The Queen will move inside and we are working with the artist Raymond Kaskey, who did the original design to help us with her placement and with the pedestal that she will be on inside the building. Finally, we will be wrapping up the baggage claim lobby itself, replacing the flat plate devices that we currently have with all slope plate devices providing much more space for the customer to be able to get their bags and find out where they have to go next, which ultimately is outside and home to their family and loved ones. We are extremely excited about what we've been able to put together here; this is something that we really have worked very hard on, and we want to make sure that what we've done is something that the community and you all as the City Council are happy with and something that you will enjoy for a long, long time. We want it to look more like something like this rather than what we have today.

**Councilmember Fallon** said what about those little carts that move people around?

Mr. Cagle said right now for passengers who need ADA assistance that is provided through wheelchairs rather the golf carts like they used to be and we will continue that into the future because of the amount of volume of traffic.

Ms. Fallon said it doesn't work; you have to wait for them; they can't get past people. People complain about having to push them. You shouldn't have taken away the carts.

Mr. Cagle said I think there are pros and cons to both.

Ms. Fallon said every international airport in the world has them; they don't have them wide anymore; they have them narrow.

Mr. Cagle said the carts were if not the most behind power, one of the biggest complaints. It is a safety issue, especially when those carts are trying to go two wide if you will in



NASCAR country or sometimes three wide across the Concourse with passengers in them. It is not a perfect solution, but we do believe that it has been a better solution, and at some point the B and C Concourses will widened; they will be extended and also widened, and we may be able to consider alternatives at that point.

**Councilmember Kinsey** said my question was basically the same concern, because there is a lot of walking in the airport. We need a better way of moving people who maybe can't walk quite as fast or walk that much. There is a lot of walking. I'm a little concerned about that too.

**Councilmember Eiselt** said this is sort of off topic, and I apologize, but first of all, I think it is real exciting all of the changes, and we are becoming an absolutely premiere airport. One question I have, when we talk about the airport we never talk about the Intermodal Facility and that is part of the airport, but at some point could we have a presentation on the Intermodal Facility and what our potential is; what is happening out there. That is also something that we have the potential to be a major inland freight port and I would love to get an update at some point as to what is going on out there.

**Councilmember Mayfield** said on the same line as my colleagues we are thinking about my most immediate travel this weekend out of Miami airport; I do think we need to really put some more consideration in how we are going to move not only our senior population through the airport as well as when we think of our international travel. The carts are widely used and having someone to potentially be pushing an individual through in a wheelchair and/or if their flight is running late or if there has been any changes on the flights with deplaning, as well as boarding, I would like for you all to put more energy, because it will be interesting to know the results if a survey was done to actually speak to those that utilize the carts. You don't have to answer that right now; it is a continuation of a conversation. We need to put more energy into thought process opposed to saying the carts are inefficient. The carts are used especially by our seniors and yes, we are an International airport but, Charlotte is also simultaneously millennials and our seniors are the fastest growing population. Even if you are not a senior, I was in the airport on a crutch, and it made a big difference getting to and from the flight in a cart versus waiting for someone to come push me in a wheelchair. There is a big difference in that. I also had a conversation; Jack when we are looking at expansion and once you deplane and you pick up your luggage, for those that are here and say they park in our valet parking, how do they get their luggage back up? Right now, it is the escalators or if you have more than one or two bags you are having to find the elevator that is in the corner and you are going all the way to the opposite end in order to get the valet. Any changes on that, because I didn't see it in this?

Mr. Christine said in the Lobby Expansion, what you see here, these blue portals here, that is not only the doors in and out of the building that is also additional vertical circulation including escalators and elevators that we don't have today that will move folks up and down the floors as they need to. We will have a number of escalators and elevators that will be front facing; you will be able to see them as you are coming into the building, so that will be able to help folks understand where they need to be and how they need to get up and down those floors a lot simpler than it is today.

Ms. Mayfield said so, there is a lot more signage to help direct people when they are exiting the airport as well?

Mr. Cagle said this will more than double the elevator capacity. The other thing is it will put the elevators where you can find them. We have more than one elevator, although it doesn't seem like it, you have to do the hunt to try to find them. This will increase capacity and also put them where you would expect them to be, which is right there in front of you at the doorway so you can move up and down in the elevator or choose the escalators.

**Mayor Roberts** said we are going be a half hour late for the Public Forum, and we have people waiting to speak who have been waiting for us. I have four more Councilmembers who have questions; is there a way we can e-mail those questions? Who should we e-mail

those questions to and get a response and can you reply to all of the Council to get responses?

Mr. Cagle said e-mail them to me, and we are happy to provide those answers.

Mayor Roberts said those that didn't get a chance to ask you question you can e-mail them, and they will reply to the whole Council, so we can get that information and that will be great.

The Dinner Briefing was recessed at 6:54 p.m. to move to the Meeting Chamber for the Public Forum and Business Meeting.

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## **PUBLIC FORUM**

The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina reconvened for a Public Forum and Business Meeting on Monday, September 25, 2017 at 7:06 p.m. in Meeting Chamber of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center with Mayor Jennifer Roberts presiding. Councilmembers present were Dimple Ajmera, Ed Driggs, Julie Eiselt, Claire Fallon, Carlenia Ivory, Patsy Kinsey, Vi Lyles, LaWana Mayfield, and Kenny Smith.

**ABSENT:** Councilmembers James Mitchell and Greg Phipps

\* \* \* \* \*

**Mayor Roberts** explained the rules and procedures of the Public Forum.

Mayor Roberts said there are a number of folks signed up to speak on A Preferred Women's Health Center, but that is not on our agenda this evening. We will be talking about that in a Committee, and it may end up on our agenda in October, so you can watch your information in the government website for more information on when we will actually be considering that, but it is not on our agenda this evening.

## **Issues with the CMPD**

**Brenda King, 6607 Touchwood Drive** said I opened up a business in Eastland Mall in 2006. In 2007, someone told the Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department (CMPD) that I was a drug dealer, so CMPD has been running behind me tearing up my business telling people that I am a drug dealer. I wrote letters to a couple of you guys in 2014, and I see that there are a lot of new members, so if the old ones or maybe Ann Wall may remember the letter and tell you about the letter. Rodney Monroe was the Chief of Police back then. I cannot tell you since this has been going on since 2007 what I've been going through. They come down to my job; they tell my co-workers that I'm working with that I am a drug dealer. They tell them they are going to run off my business to prove this. I have pictures on my phone that I just stop and take pictures of them. I can't get to work on time; it is actually a 15-minute drive from my house to work, and I get there in 30 to 40 minutes. I can't get to a doctor appointment on time; I've missed a couple of doctor appointments, because they are trying to stop my car or trying to see. They are following me. I don't mind them following me; I just need for them to let me do my business. I'm thinking since 2007 and you can't find anything; don't you realize someone told you a lie, but I realize you don't care. You are just trying to push the point, and the point is that you are the police and can do whatever you want to do to black people. That is how I feel. I hate to say that, but that is how I feel. I wrote to some of you guys. Mr. Phipps, I wrote him, and he told me to get in touch with Ann Wall. I've been down to the police department, and I've talked to them in person, but I can't get any help. All I am asking for is some help. I am not a drug dealer; yes, I was born in a low income neighborhood, Cherry Community, but I am not a drug dealer. This has been going on since 2007, and I have a list of things that I can tell you what they have done to me, and I think now they are just trying to cover up the things, because they don't want anyone else to know what they have done. They have followed me to church; I stopped going to church, so they told the Pastor I was a drug dealer. I feel

like if you think I'm in church selling drugs, I don't need to be in this church so I just started listening to it on the radio. It is just too much; I've had enough. Basically, that is it.

### **Gentrification in NoDa**

**Justin Moore, 1724 Wickford Place** said I have lived in Charlotte on and off for the past seven to eight years, and I've had opportunity to build a couple of innovative businesses and services here. I have a consultant company that helps people build their dreams, and it is my life. I love what I do and a particular neighborhood helped me in times that I needed creative freedom, and that neighborhood was NoDa. I love NoDa; I actually lived there for a year. I know the energy, and it helped me develop my business model now. I used to go the bars and restaurants there, and it was welcoming to all, especially to the creators and artists there, hence why it is called the Arts District. Unfortunately, development plans have gentrified the neighborhood and it has caused headlines in the local newspapers such as Twin Oaks Residents in NoDa Neighbors Organized Against Displacement. Another headline, Dub and Swap, the Most Recent Arts Business Pushed out of NoDa. I believe this type of development in this neighborhood is a by-product of what happened to me at Jack Beagles Bar and Grill. To make a long story short, it is in your packet, I was at the Jack Beagles Bar and Grill 15 or 20 minutes, only face of color listening to loud music to clear my mind. After I bought my second drink, I was asked to leave, because someone said I put something in someone's drink. I was appalled and I went next door to tell a friend that was bar tending at Cabo Fish Taco. It so happened to be an ex-Baltimore cop there while I was telling the story and he suggested to me to call the cops and I did. I called the police on Jack Beagles; the cops came, and I told them the situation and even though the police were gentlemen, they didn't understand why I called them. I said I wanted the incident documented. They told me there were cameras in the establishment, so I went back to the Manager at Jack Beagles and the manager went on to tell me there were not even going to look at the cameras. I was angry and confused. Not only did this establishment not want to prove my innocence, they wouldn't call the cops that this incident was true? They didn't want to send a message to the patrons that there is a safe environment? The only conclusion I came up with is this is based on what I look like. Since the incident, I have had major anxiety issues going to any type of bar. Tonight is one of the steps to my closure. I'm about solutions to this problem and there is an issue in this neighborhood. All I ask is that hopefully when I do reach out to you all that you have an open mind and listen. Once again, I'm about solutions and you need a place for the creators and people like myself. Thank you for listening.

### **Local Issues Impacting Minority Communities**

**Shawn Greeson, 400 North Tryon Street** said most of you know me except maybe the newest Councilmember, so I'm not going to waste my little three minutes going over some introductions. About a year and half ago, we approached you about changing Columbus Day to Indigenous People's Day, and from that we've gotten pretty much crickets except for one Councilmember supports it; one of you supports it. Ten of you are Democrats, so we are a little confused about why this is such a problem. I've personally spoken to nine of you, so I know that eight of you are genuinely good human beings who care about other people. Columbus was an Italian slaver who got lost; that is all he was. He founded the Transatlantic Slave Trade, and he claimed to discover a land already inhabited by human beings. The only reason you consider those inhabitants human beings, so when you celebrate and observe that holiday you are reinforcing that belief system that he created some great accomplishment. It would be like me going to Barnes and Noble getting a copy of War and Peace, scratching out Tolstoy and putting Greece in at the back of it and saying hey friends come celebrate my accomplishments. People will say, oh no, you plagiarized that. No, no I didn't I discovered it like Columbus. It is the same thing and over 50 small locally owned businesses that signed the petition and support the change, not corporation, locally owned small business owners. The only reason I can think of being 10 of you are Democrats that don't support this all your campaign funds. A lot of that stuff comes from developers, rich white folks down in Ballantyne, organizations like REBIC, so maybe that is why. Maybe they wouldn't like it? Some of you even call those folks shelter providers; that was the word for developers, shelter providers. I call them super gentrifiers but that is a different term. We are not even looking for this change this year; it is coming



up soon, October 7th, 8th, and 9th. We are not even looking for this change this year; for 2018, we can wait another year. We've waited a long time, and we can wait another year. Let them have one big last magnificent colonized bash; that is fine. The second issue is another issue that impacts our minority communities. An unhealthy environment impacts those at the bottom of the social economic ladder disproportionately. So, when you go into these communities, and you say you are about these people but vote the other way.

### **Growing Sink Hole on Property**

**Keith Jefferson, 6228 Eagle Peak Drive** said I will just give you a brief overview, because this is the third time addressing this body about the sink hole on our property. The question I have today, since you have the handout, is simply in addition to fixing the sink hole, which is now scheduled for December of 2017, will Char-Meck Storm Water Services also repair the damages to our home? You also have a sequence of events, page 3 through 6 to give you photos of the damages to our home, and the last page provides the results of the home inspection we just had. My neighbor's property is also affected by the sink hole. My neighbor, just like I did, spent in excess of \$15,000. I used Ramjack to keep the house propped up; he used Drive Pro, and we are both experiencing the same problems. The sink hole has grown since 2008. So, the question I have before this body again is, if I pay for through my water bill; I pay for Storm Water Services I don't understand why it takes six years to handle this. In my opinion, that shows either that the resources you have are not enough, and when I say resources I'm talking about money, time and personnel. Otherwise, I don't understand why there is a backlog. Since I've presented before the folks at Storm Water Services have been very polite; however, this is our home and we see cracks. We have foundation issues on both sides and it is not just us, because the pipe goes all the way back on the street behind us. We live on Eagle Peak Drive, so it affects Mr. Caser, myself, the neighbors across the street and the people on the other street behind us. If you had a broken storm water pipe then water is just going somewhere; I'm not an expert on that, but I do know my foundation is messed up, and I respectfully like to have an answer to our question.

### **Charlotte-Mecklenburg Youth Council**

**Righteous Keitt, 4421 Stuart Andrew Boulevard** said I am the current Vice President of Phillip O. Berry and the Charlotte Mecklenburg Youth Council. The Youth Council is the official advisory council for the City of Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools, and the community at large and is a program of Generation Nation. We want to say thank you to the City Council for supporting the innovative partnership that we've had for about five years now. With your help, we have been able to make a difference and have been recognized throughout the state and the country, which is amazing just to be such a small Council at the moment. We are a diverse group of student leaders representing schools and neighborhoods across the City. We advise community leaders and are active in helping solve civic issues. Together, we are dedicated to making Charlotte a Winning City. Last year, we spent many hours working with CMPD, city officials, and youth on ways to move the City forward through last September's events, with the Keith Lamont Scott shooting. We are dialogues towards the City hosted a Youth Summit about the Community Letter, engaged peers in the City's Take Ten Project. This year we launched specialized your advisory teams for the CMPD, Community Relations Committee, Opportunity Task Force, the City, CMS, and others also. We are also looking forward to helping Charlotte Officials help Charlotte host officials and youth for around the US in November at the National Leadership Conference. As a civil leader, I especially like getting to know students from schools and around the City. We collaborate to bring ideas and highlight issues to make our schools, neighborhoods, and communities better. We invite all interested high school students, those in here who want to spread their voice and share their message; we want you guys to come to the youth council. That is why we are here. I'm speaking to you guys; people in Charlotte that are in high school, this is for you. Join us so we can our message and get our message out to the people that matter, the people who are doing change in our City. If you are interested you can go on Instagram, Facebook, YouTube, look up Generation Nation or you can go to our website generationnation.org. I want to thank you again for allowing me come speak; it was an amazing opportunity. One last thing, we can change. We can change our schools. We can



change our cities, and we can do it all for the better, but we can only do it if we work together.

### **Various Concerns with City Government**

**Dan Wu, 3935 Sky Drive** said I'm sorry Mayor; it may be more than three minutes because of too many questions. I have been living in Charlotte for more than five years. I have too many questions. Even more than five minutes, is that okay? There are too many problems. [Inaudible] The first thing, Fire department and police department, two things, the City Council decided a pay check. The pay check is less than working in the financial building, less than the bachelor degree or master degree, fifty-percent salary. It is far more less than that. Something is wrong with the fire department and police department. They risk their life. They could die instantly. My ex-husband is a detective, and he was injured a couple of times. They do not pay them enough. It is a heartless job. They do not even have enough money to pay for their children to go to college or pay the children's apartments outside of college. I request [inaudible] to pay the police man and fire fighter's salary. It is not a City Council decision. City Council is too low. You do not have money. Second problem, the garbage collection fees in the city is wrong either. They people like my dad's age have to grab the tree branches, out there the whole day 10 hours, and you put those trees in the heavy duty garbage bags, and then another high-learning car grabs it, putting the car automatic. [Inaudible] Can you have the garbage collectors life get better? Also, the other people at 70 and 80-years old, they own their own house and social security benefits [inaudible] even not enough to pay the property tax and their food here. Can you figure something to give the people who do not need to work anymore? Give them social security to take care of them for free. If they could not fix it, ask Donald Trump, the new president, let him fix it. You fear to repair the roads. Do you have a rule? No, you do not allow to answer the person. I have been driving around in Charlotte for five years. Some certain roads have holes there that they do not fill. They put new pavement [inaudible]. In Colony boundary, that road can be really good. You rip it up [inaudible] and repaved the road. It cost money. I do not understand.

### **Tiny Houses**

**Robert Wilson, 281 Enwood Drive** said we have been neighbors of Coulwood Hills and the surrounding area; I'm before the full Council tonight to voice our continued opposition to the Tiny House Development that has popped up in our neighborhood. A meeting held at the Coulwood Club House on this issue several weeks ago drew an estimate of 170 people against this development. Senator Ford, Representative Earl, Mayor Pro Tem Lyles, Councilmembers Fallon, Ivory, Mitchell, Ajmera, Phipps, and Assistant Planning Director Ed McKinney attended. Coulwood Hills is a 60 plus year old neighborhood annexed into the City between 1981 and 1985. At that time, the City rezoned properties in the area to R-3 rezoning. If Coulwood had been allowed to stay as it was and not rezoned, we probably would not be having this discussion or at the least fighting a possible rezoning attempt. This was the beginning of unforeseen consequences. Did the City foresee Tiny Homes in 1985, probably not but fast forward to 2015 when the City did foresee Tiny Homes? WFAE ran an article on March 2, 2015 called Big Challenges for Tiny Homes in North Carolina. The reporter interviewed a man who owns a tiny house and has it sitting illegally on 23-acres of land in eastern Mecklenburg County. The reporter writes, he asked that the location of his house not be any more specific because technically it is not a legal dwelling. Many tiny houses like his are on wheels, and he says zoning laws do not make allowance for them. The reporter spoke with a person in the Charlotte Zoning Office about tiny houses, and this person said, and I quote "if tiny house movement is here to stay, the best thing for both homeowners and the City is to make some changes. If this is something that is becoming more popular, we probably need to address it and work with folks on a Text Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance that will define them and will indicate what zoning districts they would be allowed in." So again, the City did receive this as an issue almost three years ago. Charlotte has specific zoning requirements for mobile homes and other type structures as to where they can be placed. We believe that since there are two types of tiny houses and both are marketed as being different from traditional houses, they must be regulated with their own set of rules. According to Forbes Magazine, the tiny house movement is a fad, buyers few, less marketable, too small, and it is not less

expensive. It is an extremely niche market and the resale of tiny houses is difficult. These type houses do not belong in Coulwood Hills. A real estate company in Coulwood, that has been in our area for almost three decades, said these houses can negatively affect our property values by as much as 30%. We formerly request that the City halt his expansion into our neighborhood. This is not your father's R-3 by right development. It is an extremely niche product being put in the wrong place at the wrong time without any vetting. Thank you for allowing us to present our opposition of this development before the full Council.

#### **Patient Experience at A Preferred Women's Health Center**

**Leila Forbes, 3726 Providence Road** said I recognize a lot of you, so you probably already know what I'm going to talk about. I'm here to speak about the protests outside of a Preferred Women's Health Center. I want to acknowledge that you guys are in a tough position; you are presented with two different narratives. On one side the prochoice activist are say hey, this is hurting patients; this is hurting women. It is intimidating; it is harassing. On the other side, the anti-choice protesters are saying we are providing a necessary service; we are there to help women, and so you have two competing opinions. I have opinions just like everybody else, but I'm also a social science researcher, so I try to make my opinions based on research and based on facts. I'm here to talk to you about two different studies; one is a really large-scale study called the Turn Away Study. It came out of the University of California in San Francisco, and it compares women who are seeking abortion who were able to have the procedure that they wanted and women who were turned away for various reasons. That study concluded that the women who were turned away had more difficulty in mental health arenas, more difficulty social economically, or more likely to be stuck in an abusive relationship, so you can see that being denied an abortion that you seek does have negative implications. Now the other study is a very small scale study at this time, and it includes participants from a Preferred Women's Health Center. A colleague at UNCC and I designed an anonymous survey that was given out to patients, and there are a few statistics that I would like to share with you from that study. One is that 68% of the respondents said that their cars were stopped by protestors; 23% said that the protestors banged on their windows; 91% said that they were given confusing directives; 91% said this caused fear and anxiety in them; 41% said that they considered confronting the protestors, and 5% said they actually did confront the protestors, and I'm sure I don't have to explain how that can be a very volatile situation. The vast majority indicated that they were very or extremely upset by the protestors. Statistically, these patients are already mothers; they are typically from an underprivileged background. They face challenges that many people in this room and certainly many people on the sidewalk don't fully appreciate. They all have stories that we know nothing about, stories that this survey didn't attempt to capture, but what it can tell us is that 55% considered driving by and not attending their appointment because of how emotional and intimidated they were. I will send you the results of that study.

#### **Public Safety on Latrobe Drive**

**Calla Hales, 3228 Latrobe Drive** said I am the Administrator for A Preferred Women's Health Center located at 3220 Latrobe Drive. I would like to thank each and every one of you for taking the time to revisit this issue. As Ms. Forbes said, I know this is not an easy position for you to be in and to have all these different opinions. I'm here this evening to emphasize the importance of a "no parking" zone on Latrobe Drive. There have long been protests outside of our clinic facility, dating back to when our Charlotte area clinic opened in 2000. Within the past year however those protests have exponentially grown in numbers, in hostility, and in intensity. On any given day, two RV buses will park along the curbs of Latrobe Drive as it is a circular lay out, this severely cuts down on visibility for incoming drivers and adds to confusion to traffic flow, to fully understand the chaos, adding the factors of multiple protestors walking into the street to flag down vehicles, the use amplification several days a week, and on weekends the additional presence of hundreds of people and organized marchers onto the clinic. Within the past year, there have been four large scale events bringing over 1,000 protestors onto Latrobe Drive in each instance. Two of these events have had parade permits granted by the City which allowed for half of Latrobe Drive to be rendered unusable by motorists. At best, this situation is a circus and

honestly it is a [inaudible] for harassment and intimidation. Please know that I am not here to ask you to make a public statement or opinion about reproductive choice. Reproductive choice is a personal decision, and I respect each and every one of your privacy and right to make that decision on your own. I'm here to ask that you help me maintain public safety by minimizing the impact of protest on traffic on Latrobe Drive. I'm here to insure the safety of myself, my staff, the neighboring business, the protestors on the street, and all of the clientele who seek services on the businesses on Latrobe Drive weekly. I really believe that "no parking" zones will minimize traffic effect on Latrobe Drive and will cut down on the confusion of patients and clients of neighboring businesses. I believe this is a good first step in insuring that Charlotte citizens may act on their constitutionally protected rights to safely access legal health care, and I really forward to collaborating with each and every one of you as we move forward in this discussion.

### **Parking on Latrobe Drive**

**Heather Mobley, 308 Wednesbury Drive** said as I am the third speaker here from Prochoice Charlotte and A Preferred Women's Clinic and given that you are actually going to consider this matter in October, what I would ask each of you to do, if you have not, is come to Latrobe Drive, particularly on a Saturday and see what it is like. Drive down the street and imagine that you are trying to get to a doctor's appointment and the circus that you have to go through. I'm not asking you to infringe on anybody's free speech, but I'm asking you to make some decisions that impact the safety of the women in this City. I would just encourage, you if you have not been to the clinic, especially on a Saturday, please take the time before you consider this in October.

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## **BUSINESS MEETING**

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## **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE**

**Mayor Roberts** said at our last meeting there was confusion about what Council had decided about the Invocation and about what our Attorney had recommended, so we have had a Committee discuss the Invocation and will be hearing about that in a moment that clarified what our Attorney had suggested and what Council had decided. I will turn it over to our Attorney to briefly summarize that Committee, which is the Governance and Accountability Committee that met earlier today, Chaired by Councilmember Smith. He will give us a summary for what he is using for a guideline for the Invocation going forward.

**Bob Hagemann, City Attorney** said I do want to comment on your description of last week and clearly was some confusion, and I want to indicate that to the extent that my advice to Council led to that I apologize. What I did advise the Council last week and would again tonight is that not having an Invocation is 100% legally safe. If there is no Invocation, there is no legal argument that the Council is engaged in some unconstitutional practice. With that said, I think this provided us a really good opportunity to dig in deep; there was a very important decision out of the Fourth Circuit two months ago with Rowan County, and this gave us an opportunity with the Governance and Accountability Committee today, and I've shared with all of you about a five-page legal memo, as well as what I'm going to walk through tonight, which are recommended guidelines for Invocations going forward.

The case out of Rowan County did find that Rowan County's practice based on four factors that came together render that practice unconstitutional. Again, I think it gave a good opportunity for us to revisit and take a look at our practices. My conclusion is that our practices don't go as far as Rowan County's and are not therefore unconstitutional. It gave us an opportunity for me to provide you with the guidelines, some areas where cities across the country can and have gotten in trouble with certain kind of Invocation practices and a couple of recommendations. What I will touch on are two things, one content and two practices that might be found to be coercive, something that I advise you to stay away



from. Regarding the content, what our courts have said is the purpose of government Invocation is to lend gravity to the occasion and to reflect upon shared ideals and common ends. The Invocation should be ceremonial and civil in nature. Here is a key area to stay away from. If over time, Invocation practices are deemed to be proselytizing, attempting to convert, or denigrating other faiths or non-believers, that is a problem so we need to stay away from proselytizing and denigration of other faiths and non-believers. Finally, Invocations do not have to be prayers, and this body in fact has had Invocations that aren't prayers. A moment of silence is certainly acceptable as are readings of inspirational poetry or literature. So, that is what I have to say about content.

Regarding coercion, there are two things that the courts have pointed to that I'm advising you not to do. The prayer or the Invocation is for the body, and what we don't want to do is treat anybody in the audience in a way that they feel they are being coerced to participate in something they don't believe in. So, my ask of you is as you begin the Invocation it is better not to ask the audience to join you in prayer, and second and I think the Mayor will speak to this before the Invocation tonight, we should not be directing the audience to stand. When government gives a direction is sound like an order and directing folks to stand and participate is a problem area.

What I will say in summary, I think that the practices that you've had as long as I've been around have been inclusive and respectful. I cannot think of a single instance when anybody around this dais gave an Invocation that was denigrating to other faiths or to non-believers. I'm comfortable with your level of understanding and knowledge of what is appropriate to begin a governmental meeting with.

Mayor Roberts said thank you Mr. Hagemann for that clarification and the Committee for examining that earlier today. We are going to have an Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. We have a Cub Scout Troup who is going to help with the Pledge. The Invocation is a personnel expression by the member intended to solemnize our proceedings. It is not an endorsement of any particular religious belief, rather we note and celebrate the diversity of our community, including our religious diversity and including those who do not follow a religion. You are welcome to stand, but you are not required to stand; I would however ask everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance when we have our Cub Scout Troup come down and help us with that.

Councilmember Smith gave the Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Cub Scout Troup #11, Providence United Methodist Church.

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## CONSENT

Motion was made by Councilmember Driggs and seconded by Councilmember Ajmera, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented with the exception of Item No. 28, which was pulled for questions.
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**Councilmember Smith** said Item No. 27 is donation that the City is going to receive from the Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Foundation, and I would like to recognize the Board Chair Mr. Will Whitley, who is here tonight. This is a non-profit volunteer organization that has done wondrous work with our CMPD. They have filled the gap over the past handful of years in areas of technology and other areas in which we may have budget constraints. They were helpful in the Pilot Program for the Body Cameras a few years ago. Tonight, they are giving us \$374,000 that will help supply norcan to Officers, Pistol lights to make a safer outing at night, so you don't have to do the flashlight over the hand and then they are going to do some vehicle mitigation various, a total of \$374,000. This group receives their funding from a one-time luncheon held in the Convention Center that has grown every year. This year they had over 1,200 people in attendance. Police Chief Brown from Dallas spoke, and it is funny. He thought he would give us a speech on what happened in Dallas; he gave us a speech on how to be better people and get to know people that we are different from. Everybody in there was moved, but I just wanted to take a moment to



acknowledge the group and the good work that they do in our community and what resources they help provide CMPD. The \$374,000 donation to the City is a big deal; Mr. Whitley we appreciate you coming down on behalf of the Board and if you will extend our well wishes back at your next meeting.

**Councilmember Eiselt** said Mr. Smith covered it all; I'm a former Board Member, and I just want to point out that it is a Police Foundation that is here locally, no connection to the Washington, D. C. Police Foundation and donations come from corporations and citizens in the area, so thank you to this community and thank you for organizing it.

The vote was taken on the motion and was recorded as unanimous.

The following items were approved:

**Item No. 27: Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Foundation Donation**

(A) Authorize the City Manager to accept a donation from the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Foundation in the amount of \$374,594 for various Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department initiatives, and (B) Adopt Budget Ordinance No. 9178-X appropriating funds in the amount of \$374,594 from the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Foundation.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 61, at Page 72.

**Item No. 29: Fire Radiological Decontamination Apparatus**

(A) Approve the purchase of a fire radiological decontamination truck body from a cooperative purchasing contract as authorized by G.S. 143-129(e)(3), and (B) Approve a unit price contract, in an amount not to exceed \$400,000, with VT Hackney Inc. for the purchase of a fire radiological decontamination truck body under the National Joint Powers Alliance contract 090512-VTH.

**Item No. 30: 2016 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Acceptance**

(A) Authorize the City Manager to accept a grant in the amount of \$771,273.00 from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, and (B) Adopt Budget Ordinance No. 9180-X appropriating \$771,273.00 in Department of Homeland Security Grant funds.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 61, at Page 74.

**Item No. 31: Lakeview-Reames Intersection Improvements**

Approve a contract in the amount of \$655,000 with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. for design services for the Lakeview-Reames Intersection Project.

**Item No. 32: Private Developer Funds for Traffic Signal Improvements**

Adopt Budget Ordinance No. 9181-X appropriating \$12,500 in private developer funds for traffic signal improvements and related work.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 61, at Page 75.

**Item No. 33: Cross Charlotte Trail Planning Services**

Approve a contract in the amount of \$211,060 with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. for planning services for the Orr Road to Rocky River Road segment of the Cross Charlotte Trail Project.

**Item No. 34: Johnston Oehler Road Farm to Market Landscaping**

Award a contract in the amount of \$208,380.03 to the lowest responsive bidder Roundtree Companies, LLC for the Johnston Oehler Road Farm-to-Market Landscaping project.

**Summary of Bids**

Roundtree Companies, LLC	\$208,308.04
Carolina Wetland Services, Inc.	\$245,050.00
Champion Landscape, Inc.	\$309,063.70

**Item No. 35: Storm Water Repair and Improvements Fiscal Year 2018-A**

(A) Award a contract in the amount of \$2,528,321.86 to the lowest responsive bidder United of Carolinas, Inc. for the Storm Water Repair and Improvement Fiscal Year 2018-A, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to approve up to two renewals and to amend the contract consistent with the purpose for which the contract was approved.

**Summary of Bids**

United of Carolina, Inc.	\$2,528,321.86
Onsite Development, LLC	\$2,545,095.25
Blythe Development Company	\$2,572,272.25
R. H. Price, Inc.	\$2,978,049.45

**Item No. 36: Charlotte Water Rate Model Financial Consulting Services**

(A) Approve a contract with Raftelis Financial Consultants, Inc. for rate model financial consulting services for an initial term of three years, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contract for up to two, one-year terms with possible price adjustments and to amend the contract consistent with the purpose for which the contract was approved.

**Item No. 37: Charlotte Water Metering Equipment**

(A) Approve the purchase of water meters, registers, transmitters and replacement meter parts, as authorized by the sole source exemption of G.S. 143-129 (e)(6), (B) Approve unit price contracts with Badger Meter, Inc., Mueller Systems, LLC, Core & Main LP and Itron, Inc. for the purchase of water meters, registers, transmitters and replacement meter parts for the initial term of two years, (C) Approve a contract with Itron, Inc. for maintenance for as long as the City uses the equipment, and (D) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contracts with Badger Meter, Inc., Mueller Systems, LLC, Core & Main LP, and Itron, Inc. for up to three one-year terms with possible price adjustments and to amend the contract consistent with the purpose for which the contract was approved.

**Item No. 38: Franklin Water Treatment Plant Rehabilitation**

Award a contract in the amount of \$651,923 to the lowest responsive bidder, The Harper Corporation-General Contractors, for the Franklin Water Treatment Plant Rehabilitation project.

**Summary of Bids**

Harper Corporation	\$651,923.00
Superior Industrial Maintenance Company	\$787,165.00

**Item No. 39: UNC Charlotte Reclaimed Water Project Partnership Agreement and Design Services Contract**

(A) Authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute a contract between the City of Charlotte and University of North Carolina at Charlotte Related to Design and Construction of a Reclaimed Water Pipeline, and (B) Approve a contract in the amount of \$718,770 with Hazen & Sawyer for the design, permitting, and bidding of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte reclaimed water line.

**Item No. 40: Charlotte Water Digital Message Board System**

(A) Approve a contract with TechVentures, LLC, to provide and implement a digital message board system for as long as the City uses the system, (B) Authorize the City Manager to approve price adjustments and amend the contract consistent with the purpose for which the contract was awarded, (C) Authorize the City Manager to purchase maintenance and support for as long as the City uses the system, and (D) Authorize the City Manager to purchase such additional software licenses, services, and hardware as needed from time to time to optimize the City’s use of the system, and to approve other amendments consistent with the purpose for which the contract was approved, including price adjustments.

**Item No. 41: Airport Bus Contract Extension**

Authorize the City Manager to renew the contract for two additional, one-year terms and to amend the contract consistent with the purpose for which the contract was approved.

**Item No. 42: Airport Concourse Seating Replacement**

(A) Approve the purchase of Terminal Concourse Seating, as authorized by the sole source exemption of G.S. 143-129 (e)(6), (B) Approve a unit price contract with Arconas for the purchase of seating for the term of three years, and (C) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contract for up to two additional, one-year terms with possible price adjustments and to amend the contract consistent with the purpose for which the contract was approved.

**Item No. 43: Airport Terminal Traffic Control Services**

(A) Approve the purchase of Traffic Control Services from a cooperative purchasing contract as authorized by G.S. 143-129(e)(3), (B) Approve a unit price contract extension with G4S for the purchase of Traffic Control Services for a term of up to 90 days under the General Services Administration, Federal Supply Schedule 084, Special Item No. 246-54: Guard Services, Contract #:GS-07F-0382K, (C) Approve a contract with Allied Universal Security Services for Traffic Control Services for an initial term of three years, and (D) Authorize the City Manager to renew the Allied Universal Security contract for up to two, one-year terms with possible price adjustments and to amend the contract consistent with the purpose for which the contract was approved.

**Item No. 44: Airport Landside Operation Plan**

Approve a contract not to exceed \$335,979 with Ricondo & Associates, Inc. to provide a comprehensive 20-year Airport Landside Operation Plan.

**Item No. 45: Refund of Property Taxes**

Adopt a resolution authorizing the refund of property taxes assessed through clerical or assessment error in the amount of \$382.24.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 48, at Pages 474-475.

**Item No. 46: Meeting Minutes**

Approve the titles, motions, and votes reflected in the Clerk's record as the minutes of: August 28, 2017, Business Meeting.

**Item No. 47: Transfer of City-owned Property at 829 Belmont Avenue**

(A) Approve the transfer of 0.17 acres of vacant land at 829 Belmont Avenue (parcel identification number 081-099-05) to Mecklenburg County, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute all documents necessary to complete the transfer.

**Item No. 48: Sale of City-owned Property on South Mint Street**

(A) Adopt a resolution approving the private sale of two City-owned parcels in the 800 block of South Mint Street (parcel identification numbers 073-042-17 and 073-042-18) to GSLH Charlotte Realty Holdings, LLC for \$610,000, and (C) Adopt Budget Ordinance No. 9182-X appropriating the sale proceeds for Belk Greenway Connector reimbursement.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 48, at Pages 476-477.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 61, at Page 76.

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**ITEM NO. 28: TASERS AND RELATED PRODUCTS CONTRACT**

**Councilmember Ajmera** said this is approval of an additional amount for providing tasers and related products to CMPD, and I wanted to get an understanding on our Community Letter regarding some of the de-escalation tools that we are using to insure the trust in our community and in CMPD. How could this tool be used as a de-escalation tool?

**Debra Campbell, Assistant City Manager** said I was the staff support to respond to questions related to Consent Items. There are actually two questions around Item No. 28; one was from Ms. Kinsey about the funding, and we will provide something in the follow-up

report, not only to Ms. Kinsey, but to the rest of the Council. The second question Ms. Ajmera has asked I would like for the Chief to respond to that question.

**Chief Kerr Putney, Police** said to answer your question specifically, the goal with the taser is to keep from having escalate the level of force used, so when faced with active aggression, meaning there is a fight, someone is assaulting an officer, the officer can use a taser instead of punching, hitting with batons and other things that could cause a greater degree of harm. The goal of the taser is to keep from escalating higher that level of control that is exerted when the taser is deployed. That is the goal of the taser.

Motion was made by Councilmember Kinsey, seconded by Councilmember Driggs, and carried unanimously to (A) Approve additional expenditures under an existing City contract with Axon Enterprise, Inc. in the estimated amount of \$2,703,462.72 to provide tasers and related products for the Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department (CMPD), (B) Authorize the City Manager to approve price adjustments and further amend the contract consistent with the purpose for which the contract was awarded, and (C) adopt

Budget Ordinance No. 9179-X appropriating \$2,320,212.43 into the Capital Equipment Fund.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 61, at Page 73.

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**ITEM NO. 10: ORDINANCE NO. 9175-Z, PETITION NO. 2017-070 AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE TO REFLECT A CHANGE IN ZONING FOR APPROXIMATELY 2.22 ACRES LOCATED ON THE WEST SIDE OF PARK ROAD BETWEEN WYNDCROFTE PLACE AND HILLSIDE AVENUE FROM R-4 (SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) TO UR-2(CD) (URBAN RESIDENTIAL, CONDITIONAL).**

The Zoning Committee finds this petition to be consistent with the Park Woodlawn Area Plan recommendation, based on information from the staff analysis and the public hearing, and because the proposed multi-family residential density of 8.56 dwelling units per acre is significantly less than the 17 dwelling units proposed in the adopted area plan for the subject site and abutting properties. Therefore, this petition was found to be reasonable and in the public interest, based on information from the staff analysis and the public hearing, and because the subject parcel is a large single family lot of over two acres on a segment of Park Road, a major thoroughfare, which is developed with a mixture of institutional, multi-family and single family residential uses and although the zoning district requested is UR-2 (urban residential) and the immediate area has been developed under more suburban districts, the wide side yards and rear yards abutting single family residential are sensitive to and compatible with the existing residential context and the proposed 20-foot wide buffer will screen the development from the existing single family homes and the UR-2 zoning district is necessary to accommodate a new east/west public street as well as the proposed development on this narrow and deep, 2.2-acre lot and the new public street stubbing to the north and south of the property will provide an opportunity to expand the network of local streets in the area if the properties to the north or south redevelop in the future. The Zoning Committee voted 7-0 to recommend approval of this petition with the following modifications:

1. The proposed public street will be extended to the southern property line per the Subdivision Ordinance.
2. Elevations for the corner unit facing Park Road includes notes and detail that gives the appearance of a front façade along Park Road. The side wall facing public streets or private drives will also be enhanced with design features including shutters and functional doors.
3. Building elevations are annotated with building materials and architectural features.
4. A note has been added specifying dedication and fee simple conveyance of all rights-of-way to the City before the first building certificate of occupancy is issued;



5. A note has been added specifying all transportation improvements will be approved and constructed before the site's first certificate of occupancy is issued, or an alternative bond may be posted, if approved by C-DOT.
6. Garages will be set back at least 20 feet from the back of the sidewalk.
7. A six-foot sidewalk abutting the back of curb, followed by an eight-foot planting strip along the north side of the public street to accommodate longer 20-foot driveways from the back of the sidewalk, subject to Planning Director approval. If approval is not granted, than an eight-foot planting strip will abut the back of curb, with a six-foot sidewalk, and the driveway will be at least 20 feet from the closest edge of the sidewalk. This street cross-section would require the removal of the on-street parking.
8. The proposed 15' landscape area will meet the planting requirements for a Class C buffer.
9. The buffer area abutting the residential parcels to the south of the site's property line will be 15 feet, and meet the planting requirements for a Class C buffer.
10. The petitioner has removed the eight-foot planting strip along the north side of the public street in order to accommodate longer twenty-foot driveways on the south side of the public street.
11. The petitioner has committed to a low wall at the entrance to the site, with a maximum height of three and one-half feet and composed of painted brick.
12. The petitioner has corrected an error in the development standards showing twenty units. The Petitioner is requesting for nineteen units to be constructed on the site.

Motion was made by Councilmember Kinsey, seconded by Councilmember Driggs, and carried unanimously to approve Petition No. 2017-070 by Saussy Burbank, LLC, as modified.

Motion was made by Councilmember Fallon, seconded by Councilmember Driggs, and carried unanimously that this petition to be consistent with the Park Woodlawn Area Plan recommendation, based on information from the staff analysis and the public hearing, and because the proposed multi-family residential density of 8.56 dwelling units per acre is significantly less than the 17 dwelling units proposed in the adopted area plan for the subject site and abutting properties. Therefore, this petition was found to be reasonable and in the public interest, based on information from the staff analysis and the public hearing, and because the subject parcel is a large single family lot of over two acres on a segment of Park Road, a major thoroughfare, which is developed with a mixture of institutional, multi-family and single family residential uses and although the zoning district requested is UR-2 (urban residential) and the immediate area has been developed under more suburban districts, the wide side yards and rear yards abutting single family residential are sensitive to and compatible with the existing residential context and the proposed 20-foot wide buffer will screen the development from the existing single family homes and the UR-2 zoning district is necessary to accommodate a new east/west public street as well as the proposed development on this narrow and deep, 2.2-acre lot and the new public street stubbing to the north and south of the property will provide an opportunity to expand the network of local streets in the area if the properties to the north or south redevelop in the future.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 61, at Pages 68-69.

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## **PUBLIC HEARING**

### **ITEM NO.11: NN, INC. BUSINESS INVESTMENT GRANT**

**Mayor Roberts** declared the hearing open.

There being no speakers, either for or against, a motion was made by Councilmember Lyles, seconded by Councilmember Driggs, and carried unanimously to close the public hearing and approve the City's share of a Business Investment Grant to NN, Inc. in the amount of \$106,571 over five-years.

Mayor Roberts said to summarize, it says a \$10.5 million Capital Investment by the company with the creation of 200 jobs; 175 to be hired locally over the next five years.

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#### **ITEM NO. 12: CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

**Marcus Jones, City Manager** said I have no report tonight.

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#### **ITEM NO. 13: EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Councilmember Mayfield** said we have the opportunity to approve funding for three agencies, who are serving some of our City's most venerable residents earning 30% and below of the area median income. We do believe that approval of these funds will assist supportive housing communities, the Salvation Army Women's Shelter and the Men's Shelter by helping to rapidly rehouse individuals and families who may be living in the Men's and Women's Shelters and providing essential services to Shelter residents and improving the quality and operation of our shelters.

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield and seconded by Councilmember Driggs to approve the Housing and Neighborhood Development Committee's recommendation of Emergency Solutions Grant Fund allocations totaling \$690,768 to the following agencies: Supportive Housing Communities, \$118,594; Salvation Army, \$309,012, and Men's Shelter of Charlotte, \$263,162.

**Mayor Roberts** said these folks are serving our most vulnerable and I am really glad that we are able to provide the additional funding for all three of these very hard working agencies.

The vote was taken on the motion and was recorded as unanimous.

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#### **ITEM NO. 14: FY 2018 HOUSING FUNDING SUPPORT REQUESTS**

**Councilmember Mayfield** said it is an exciting night for Housing and Neighborhood Development Committee, but I also want to take a moment to thank our Committee members: my Vice Chair, Mr. Ed Driggs; Committee Members Councilmembers Kinsey, Ivory, and Ajmera, thank you for all of your work and doing something honestly transformational in the history of the Housing Trust Fund. When we look at our commitment, hopefully tonight we will have the opportunity to expand the supply of affordable and workforce housing as outlined in our October 2016 Community Letter by approving the Housing and Neighborhood Development Committee's Housing funding support recommendations. Two of these proposed developments, Vibrant Ashley Park and Movement on Freedom require our approval for a waiver of our housing locational policy. Both of these proposed developments are in neighborhoods that are rapidly changing where affordable housing is greatly needed. My colleague can definitely speak to Ashley Park, and I can speak to Movement on Freedom as we are seeing a lot of development happening along Freedom Drive that is both good and brings challenges. As a reminder, approval of Housing Trust Fund dollars in support of these tax credit requests provides local alignment with the state supported development through awards from the North Carolina Finance Agency and allows for leverage of our local Housing Trust Fund dollars. The state will announce these awards in early January of 2018. Each of these

developments is expected to receive a state award. On August 23rd of this year, staff presented these proposed housing funding support recommendations to the Housing and Neighborhood Development Committee. The Committee unanimously voted to approve housing funding support for each of these developments outlined in our requests for Council action and grant a waiver of the Housing Locational Policy for both the Vibrant Ashley Park and Movement on Freedom developments. For those who might not be watching or may be listening; what we are asking for is for Grier Heights Seniors, \$3,450,000; Movement on Freedom, \$4,500,000; Old Concord at the Blue Line \$5,100,000; Vibrant Ashley Park, \$2,160,000; and West Tyvola \$5,600,000. Approval of these requests will afford the community an opportunity to receive a total of 769 new affordable and workforce housing units in our community. I will challenge us moving forward to rethink the word affordable and really look at diverse price point housing, since affordable is subjective. I would like to thank my committee members for their continued work around this very important issue, and I do know there will be additional comments from one of my comments.

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield and seconded by Councilmember Fallon to (A) Approve a waiver of the Housing Locational Policy for two multifamily housing developments: Vibrant Ashley Park apartments located at the block of 2200 Ashley Road and Movement on Freedom located at 2615 Freedom Drive, and (B) Approve the Housing and Neighborhood Development Committee's recommendation of Housing Trust Fund allocations for the following multifamily development for a total of \$20,810,000 to: Grier Heights Senior, \$3,450,000; Movement on Freedom \$4,500,000; Old Concord at the Blue Line \$5,100,000, Vibrant Ashley Park \$2,160,000 and West Tyvola \$5,600,000.

**Mayor Roberts** said I also want to mention that the Homeless Services Network sent an email to all of Council with a request, and I want to refer this to the Housing Committee with some ideas that are interesting. Of course they supported our approval of the five developments, but they also asked the Council to work to find separate money to provide rent subsidies for the five developments so that 25% of the units will be able to serve those at 30% AMI or less. This will be about 15% ask from the City, and the estimate they have is about \$500,000 per year, and they are looking for a 10-year commitment. They also would like to have a Housing Trust Fund allocation for those getting that allocation the City is required to have developments to have at least 25% of the units affordable for those at 30% AMI and then of course increase the Housing Trust Fund, which we've also heard from numerous folks in the community to have more than the \$15 million which we have been allocating. I think with our allocation tonight, we are going almost use the last part of our Housing Trust Fund. I wanted to refer those three items to your Committee; they go with this approval tonight, and they are certainly worth exploring. I want to thank the Homeless Services Network for that e-mail and suggestion.

**Angie Forde, 418 Neill Ridge Road, Matthews** said thank you Mayor for that wonderful summary of my request to you tonight. I am an advocate for affordable housing with helping the homeless to housing, and we are a member of the Homeless Services Network. As you discuss this request, the allocation of Housing Trust Fund dollars to support these five developments, we think this is great news, and we really do applaud you for that, but the less than great news is that only 3% of those units will serve those who are most in need of housing, those who make 30% or less of the area median income. At last week's meeting of the Board of County Commissioners, the Assistant to the County Manager pointed out that while the national average for availability of housing for people at this extremely low-income level is 35 units for every 100 renters. In Mecklenburg County, we have fewer than 30 units for every 100 renters. I think it was awareness of this kind of shortfall and the accompanying grave inequities in our society that led to your Letter to the Community a year ago, so we continue to press for focused attention to the plight of this population. We think that we must consider the affordable part as well as the housing. With all of the building going on in Charlotte, there is plenty of housing; in fact the availability rate for people of 80% of AMI and higher is in the 90%, but too many of our hard working citizens are making only \$8.00 or \$9.00 per hour. These are the people who work at the Dollar Store, who serve your meals at your favorite lunch place, care for your infants and elderly parents. It is difficult, if not impossible, to build and rent units that would

be financially viable at the \$300 or \$400 per month these people can afford to pay. If they cannot be paid better, which would be my preference, then in order to afford the rent anywhere in Charlotte they need rent subsidies. So the Network is asking that Council support the allocation of Housing Trust Fund dollars for these five developments and the necessary waivers to the Locational Policy and is really asking you to find some separate money to provide rent subsidies for the poorest potential renters so that 25% of the units will be able to serve that population. We think the state's key program can account for 10% of the subsidy, and we are asking the City to find the 15% remaining which we estimate to cost about \$500,000.

**Councilmember Ajmera** said I am a strong advocate for affordable housing, having served on the Charlotte Housing Authority Board for over two years. The concern that I have with this proposal is that we are only looking at about 19 units that is going to serve less than 30% AMI and we have a critical need in that AMI, there are over 21,000 units that are needed to serve that population, and I think the proposal that we have doesn't necessarily address that need specifically. I would like staff to tell us some tell us some Housing and Neighborhood Development as to what are some of the steps that we are taking to aggressively address the needs of affordable housing that is below 30% AMI.

**Pam Wideman, Director of Housing and Neighborhood Services** said thank you for your continued support of affordable housing, and Ms. Ajmera thank you for your question. We take a number of steps to support the 30% and below; you just took a step when you voted for your Emergency Solutions Grant that you just funded for supportive housing for the Men's Shelter and for the Women's Shelter. During your 9% tax credit process, you also have units that are included in that mix. You do have a few here that are included. The short answer is you take a number of steps to fund the 30% and below population. I'll also remind you of the Away Home Endowment that is a partnership with the Foundation for the Carolinas and the philanthropic community and your dollars that go into that fund as well.

Ms. Ajmera said the Emergency funding approval that we just did, it is really a short-term solution. It is not a long-term solution like some of this development would provide. Is that correct?

Ms. Wideman said those are short-term, correct, up to year, the rapid rehousing.

Ms. Ajmera said in addition to some of the short-term what are some of the long-term solutions that we are considering to address the needs around 30% AMI, because when the consultant did the presentation about two ago they specifically said the greatest need was around 30% or below AMI.

Ms. Wideman said two questions I'm hearing, so what do we do to meet the long-term solution? I think the thing that meets the long-term solution and the best way and I think according to industry standards is when you can create the units, when the units are created. I also want to remind us that we do that best in partnership with the Housing Authority and with our developers who do that as well, so it is the actual creation of the unit is the probably the best strategy. The consultant report, he tried to pack into a lot of a few minutes, so what the report said is there is an existing gap for households earning 50% and below the area median income, but you can't just stop there. You have to look at the folks who are also cost burdened, so that is a larger number. When I say cost burdened, that is folks who are paying more than 30% of area median income for housing. You also can't just plan for the current gap, the gap that exists today. I think it would serve us all well to be planning for the future, so there is a need for folks earning 50% and below, and there is also a need for folks earning between that 50% to 80%.

Ms. Ajmera said I see that we have a continuous need, specifically around 50% to 80%, so there is path from 30% as folks move up the ladder and I understand that. I think that is a great commitment that as a City that we are working towards. What I'm very concerned about is that 3,000 students in CMS are homeless, and we don't necessarily have any recommendation to address that need other than the short-term solution which is through Emergency Grant. I think it is about time that we take some bold steps around how we



can address some of the needs, and I understand the resources are limited and how much money we have in Housing Trust dollars. Those are very limited resources but one of the proposals from the community that I had looked into is if we had considered some of the development approval that the higher housing trust dollars if that incorporates 30% or below AMI. I don't know if we have considered that. As I have talked with many developers, the biggest concern that we see is that financing, so means when we have a clear financing issue with 30% or below units that the developer is trying to include, they need more resources from the City to subsidize the costs. I'm not sure that is something we have aggressively pursued, but I get that feedback often from the developers' community as well as the folks. When I recently attended a Heal Charlotte event on Saturday, after the shooting last year, and there were a lot of folks that were actually living in temporary shelters, sort of like an emergency grant that we just approved in that situation. There is a real need for the folks that are within that bracket, which is zero to 30% AMI. When they send us an e-mail, there are no other resources for us to refer to, so I was just wondering if we have looked into some of these other tools necessary to address that gap and provide more subsidies for those developers that are willing to include 30% or below AMI units.

Ms. Wideman said I think the short answer is yes, and I think you guys have alluded to it around the dais tonight and in the community when you talk about the need for an increase bond allocation. Developers are willing to provide that; we have to look at it when we talk about increasing our housing bond.

**Councilmember Driggs** said getting back to the proposal tonight, I intend to support the bond offering that is talked about. I think it is work noting this money will access a 4% program instead of the 9% program. Our issue was that trying to use the 9% program for all of the Trust Fund dollars was resulting in an accumulation of idle money in the Trust Fund. Here is a great opportunity to put that money to work and that is why I do support this. It is not as highly leveraged; it is not as beneficial as if we were able to use the 9% program, but there is just a constraint on the availability of that money with the effect that we had \$20 million sitting there doing nothing while we were trying to achieve our goal. It does also have the effect of creating a lot of deed restricted housing, and in fact, having deed restricted housing means that if rents go up faster than incomes you are going to have housing that is not going up at the same rate. You are going to have housing that remains accessible to those income groups in the future. I do think we need to have a conversation about a stir that was created frankly by the data in the research report that we got highlighting what appeared to be a surplus at the 80% plus level and this dire shortage. I would just caution us that as you get down to 30%, it starts to get very expensive, and you are in fact talking about different social issues. The case in favor of a lot of what we've done was the teachers and the firefighters and all of these very deserving people who had good incomes and couldn't afford to live in Charlotte anymore, and we wanted to help them out. When you get down to 30% you are in the kind of poverty relief and the economics are different, so I'm sure we are going to have that conversation in Committee but for tonight, given that we can do this, using money that we have that is idle right now without any impact on our tax rates is should be emphasized, because this is actually within the scope of our existing contributions to the Housing Trust Fund from bond issuance every two years. I would recommend and vote for this proposal.

**Councilmember Fallon** said Pam, when I served on Housing Trust I was under the impression we could not subsidize rents with a direct subsidy.

Ms. Wideman said you are correct Ms. Fallon; the Housing Trust Fund dollars, which are your bond dollars, are used for construction for capital.

Ms. Fallon said if I recall, we did talk about that, but we could not give direct subsidies because it became a matter of who gets them and who doesn't? How do we define it?

Ms. Wideman said you cannot do that with your Housing Trust Fund dollars; you are correct.

**Councilmember Eiselt** said I guess that raises the question of the \$500,000 for 10-years that was mentioned. It has to come from a different pot.

Ms. Wideman said right, that would have to come from a rental subsidy. It could come from a federal source or it could come from a local source, just not your Housing Trust Fund dollars, which are used for capital.

Ms. Eiselt said so does that exist right now?

Ms. Wideman said we receive home dollars from the Federal Government. Home dollars can be used for tenant based rental subsidy and they are currently used in this community for tenant based rental subsidy. Some of the dollars that you just approved from the Emergency Solutions Grant are being used for tenant based rental subsidy and then you have your Away Home Endowment that is being endowed. That is your partnership with the Foundation for the Carolinas that can be used for rental subsidy when it is fully endowed.

Ms. Eiselt said when we have that discussion and we look at what is available for that subsidy, I think that is an opportunity to include in the discussion the phenomena that we are seeing right now and that is whole apartment complexes getting eviction letters with 30-days' notice, and now we are all scrambling to figure out what to do for these people, because these aren't the wealthy apartments that are getting evicted. These are not wealthy renters that are getting evicted; they are the bottom of the pile. I think that we are going to have to really look at what else we can do for individuals that through no fault of their own have been given 30-day eviction notices. I think we know three buildings right now that are going through that and perhaps we could have a broader conversation about those lowest rents. If we have a 4% vacancy rate throughout the City, and I think that is all apartments then certainly at \$675 per month it would be interesting to know what that number is. It is probably zero.

Ms. Wideman said it will be a challenge for us to find the housing units, and I would also encourage us, and we can have a deeper dive with this in Committee, to not just look at the housing. Housing is not the silver bullet; it is how we help people along the educational route and it is how we help people improve their opportunity for earnings.

**Councilmember Lyles** said I want to follow-up to Ms. Eiselt's comments about the issue that we are having with the displacement of people as a result of the investment and the growth in our community. First, I want to say thank you to the Committee for doing this work. You've worked really hard; I know it has been difficult. We've always looked at the 9%, and we've always tried to make every dollar bring back \$11 or \$12, and at some point you guys stepped up, and I want to say thank you for stepping up to say let's move forward, because we've got to do something about this issue. So, to the Committee, thank you very much. The second thing I want to say is, I would add to what the Mayor said about a referral to you just to give you another task. Let's talk to the Housing Authority about the impact of the Federal Policy changes on rents where we have vouchers that are probably not going to increase in number and that the local authority now has to repair and maintain the units that are on the ground and what does that mean for our organization for our City. The Housing Authority has basically been framing it as, if we have this program then we need to build market rate to solve our problem. I wonder if there are alternative solutions, so I would ask the Committee to actually look at that. More importantly right now, I do think there is a crisis where we are losing apartments to development and growth, and people are getting 30-days to move, and sometimes I think at the Woodsgate they have probably given them now 45, but when you are paying \$600 a month rent when there is no elasticity in the system then that is going to be very difficult. It reminds me of the model that we have with Crisis Assistance Ministry, which actually provides rents to keep people in their homes and what I think we have an opportunity to do is pull together the partnerships that work with us currently. I'm going to ask if it is okay for the Manager to come back with an idea around how to address that issue. We've got Crisis Assistance Ministry; we've got Charlotte Family Housing. We have got Community Link and in addition to that I can't ever remember what to call socialserve.com. What is it called now.

Ms. Widman said Housing Charlotte.

Ms. Lyles said all of these folks deal with this type of issue to keep people from being homeless. I know if you are paying \$600 and the rent goes up and we've all gotten a copy of a letter from a senior who said I'm on fixed income and my rent just went up \$100, and he is going to be homeless or \$100 subsidy. He is paying \$600, and he wants to pay that, but for \$100 he is going to be evicted, because he can no longer afford the rent. In the case of Brittney Woods, which we all saw on WBT; thanks to Molly Grantham for doing that story and as well the Woodsgate Apartments and what is going on. I would actually like to have a coordinated conversation with our non-profit partners facilitated by the City so that we can get a handle on what is going to be done in this area so that we prevent homelessness versus waiting until occurs.

**Councilmember Smith** said before I talk about this I want to congratulate our Boy Scouts; I think this is the longest a Scout Troop has stated since I have been on Council so if you are working for one merit badge maybe the Troop Leader might give you two. You all have seen great lessons in civics tonight, so thank you for sticking around.

I want to make two quick points, one is I think one way we can start to tackle the crisis we are talking about is the ability to free up our funds quicker, and what happens is the private sector, the head funds, whoever comes in to purchase these units that are aging they don't have the capital restraints we do, and they are able to move quicker. I think there will be opportunities for the Housing Trust to purchases some of these and then in turn come back with the deed restrictions but we need to figure out how to make it more nimble, so that might be worth adding on to everything that is going to the HAND Committee.

Ms. Lyles said may I ask Kenny, would a broker actually make that happen better for us and is that one way? I've heard that.

Mr. Smith said I don't think the broker would make it more helpful. I think it takes us longer to go through the process to distribute the funds whereas you are going to have an underwriter in New York or wherever hedge fund is, and they are going to sit down and say we can pay X. We can deliver Y and make it happen. If there is any way for that to get into the conversation on this, whether it is Manager or Mayor, that would be great. Two, I just want to take one second to add my strong preference would be that this were a one item vote tonight and that we relook at our Housing Locational Policy, and we pass it tonight, but that we are taking areas off the map that we could have included. Instead of having to take this in an A, B solution, let's look at the Locational Policy and this may be something for a future Council but look at the Locational Policy and have it more reflective of a lot of the product that is being brought to market today. I think when the policy was initially created it was for a different model of affordable housing and really you look at some of the product like we did on Hebron last year; it was 75% brick, and it looked better and was probably more quality construction than some aging units in SouthPark. This is a great historic night for Council; we are fulfilling a commitment we made to the community, and I'm proud to join my colleagues in this good stuff. Thank you for your hard work and thank you for your hard work LaWana.

Ms. Wideman said thank you Mr. Smith and I will take a quick moment to remind you that the two sides that you must mentioned; they are a part of the larger strategy, so a quicker rental acquisition program for purchasers and then also we will bringing back a revised Housing Locational Policy through that work, so thank you so much.

Ms. Mayfield said I am thankful to the committee, and I'm particularly thankful to Ms. Wideman in your roll from the beginning, when we were talking about the what if and can this be done. I do want to make sure that not only the fact that Council is on the same page but the community also truly understands that a lot of times if you are not on the committee, even though some members are on the committee, you don't get the chance to have this deeper conversation, so that is why you are hearing a lot of concerns and ideas being shared. When we think of the recommendation that I believe myself and my Vice Chair, we nodded to each other, that we completely respect and welcome to come to the committee. When we think about that 3% and we look at the idea of 25% understanding,



that is not saying 25% in each individual development. That is looking at an example. We have five developments here with 25% of that total, because one of the things that I have said repeatedly in community, in individual conversation a lot is lost to translation, so therefore other people take my no as I am anti. Well Ms. Forde and I have been working on housing and the affordability of housing long before I sat in this seat and had a vote, but I think we need to recognize that concentrated property is what put us in this place, and we have to look at how do we support truly diverse development, but yes, if we can push to get more I think we have more ability and more leeway. Tonight's movement forward with the allocation of these funds truly does lean into that desire from a Council but also recognizing community, you get a new Council every other year, so you risk the chance. What I'm proud of is this committee and this Council chose to make a very bold move with allocating funds.

I also on the same line my colleague mentioned two recent developments that are happening locally; I've already spoken to not only the Mayor and my Vice Chair but also Ms. Wideman about a recommendation to our committee. Just to give you an idea, because when we talk about this for a lot of people it is abstract, so let's just really look at what one of these letters look like. My colleague mentioned Brittney Woods, Brittney Woods management team transition. You sent out a letter on September 15, 2017 saying we are pleased to announce that we have assumed management of Brittney Woods effective September 15, 2017. So, the date it is dated is the date that they effectively assume responsibility. We are passionate about bringing people and places together and we will continue to make your experience at Brittney Woods an amazing one. Like with any change, there is a bit of information we need to share with you regarding what happens next. This individual will continue to be your onsite representative; they will be available if you have any questions. If you have not already made your September rent payment you may submit a check or money order to the management office. That sounds very reasonable; sounds like you shouldn't panic yet. Interesting enough, the very next letter is a very different one that basically says that okay that same manager person we told you to reach out to because we are not thinking about is the reality is that some of these people have been in these homes for many years, so I have an individual where now, September 18, 2017 they receive a notice, Request for Possession of Apartment, and this was delivered by US mail. Thank you for being a resident of Brittney Woods; we appreciate your residency and contribution to the community. We are preparing to make significant improvements to the property that requires a large amount of construction on the exterior and interior of each building. The nature of the construction is such is that it cannot be done safely with residents living on the property. Now how many times have we seen and heard, we are going to move you so that we can make something brand new. We've seen that, so when we think about this idea of well, we need to get more at this percentage, I agree that we need to diversify it but to the extent of what? Please accept this letter as formal notice to you by the owner of Oakhurst Apartments that your lease expired. Now mind you, this person has been in this unit, but their lease technically expired February 28, 2013. We have a lot of complexes that really you've lived there and you've had an agreement with your management, because this is actually the third individual that I've had a conversation like this. You paid your rent on time but you don't have a lease; just like with these and family members. Most of us in here are mostly minorities; Grandma left the house, and we didn't really get them to sign the paperwork over. It has just been in the family and now somebody comes along and they challenge your authority to be there. Well, your lease expired as of February 28, 2013 pursuant to paragraph two on your lease, this is 2017 mind you, this letter has been written and delivered to give you sufficient notice of our request for possession of your apartment on the 31st day of October, which is at least 30-days from the receipt of this letter. If you desire to vacate earlier we will pro rate your rent.

Again, we have these conversations but we don't have the actual language so we know what the reality of this looks like. With that, I'm asking my colleagues to allow me to add this additional conversation and Ms. Wideman it looks like we are going to have a meeting on the 27th, even though we thought we might not. Unless we think we can push everything that was suggested today for our October meeting, because there are some clear things that we need to address as a community. I don't know what our answer is, but as the Housing and Neighborhood Development Committee, as local government trying to



figure out how we are going to fund all of these requests and all of this support, how do we address when 85 to 150 people are told you need to move and now they are going to be asking us for assistance? I would like to have my colleagues support for us to add this to that little list that has been made for Housing and Neighborhood Development, and hopefully we will get to it before the end of 2017. I just threw out the 24th, because I just like that date of whenever we are supposed to have next meeting. If we can't make it by then, I'm thinking October, but we need to expand, and again if it is again with my colleagues if you will allow me to have privilege to add an additional item without us having to necessarily do a vote, unless Mayor that is your preference. I would really appreciate that.

Mayor Roberts said is this referred to your committee?

Ms. Mayfield said yes.

Ms. Fallon said Ms. Wideman, people who come here, and that is what troubles me because I don't know if we are ever going to be able to catch up. Is it true the statistic that of the people coming here some of what we need to do is 55% of those people need help in housing?

Ms. Wideman said Ms. Fallon, I don't have an exact percentage on the statistic of people moving here how many of them need affordable housing. What I can tell you is that we get about 44 new residents per day to Charlotte. We can perhaps do some digging to get you an answer on that. I don't want to make you a promise that I can't keep, but I think it is reasonable to say that some of those people do need affordable housing.

Ms. Fallon said we are not allowed to have a list of the people living here first so that they would take precedent.

Ms. Wideman said no, I don't think we can have people who have lived here take precedent. There are some questions that they have to fill out on their lease agreement; they have to show credit and those types of things, but I don't think we can do that.

Ms. Fallon said what troubles me is that we are never going to be able to keep up.

Ms. Wideman said I always say this; the City's governmental alone won't solve the problem, that is why we need partnerships from the market-rate community, we need partnerships from our colleagues at the County and CMS. I think that bold steps like you are taking tonight helps us move the needle further than we've moved it in the past. I will remind us that affordable housing is not just a crisis for Charlotte; this is happening in growing prosperous urbanizing cities across the country, and I will remind you that the City of Charlotte is doing some great things, and you all are doing some aggressive things that other cities are looking to, so you are a best practice City. That is not to say we need to rest on our laurels, but we are not the only one that is having this situation, and you have some very unique tools that you are using and that you can expand the use of.

The vote was taken on the motion and was recorded as unanimous.

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#### **ITEM NO. 15: URBAN FOREST MASTER PLAN**

**Councilmember Kinsey** said as you are well aware we did have a report at our Dinner Meeting this evening, and it was in 2011 when we adopted the 50% canopy plan by the year 2050. A plan was needed to guide staff and the community to find out the best way to maintain, not only our existing canopy, but to protect our trees that we plant. Over the last year, we have been developing the plan with involvement from the community. Over 1,800 online surveys were completed; three community meetings were held, and four stakeholder meetings were held. The plan will be a guide for the City, TreesCharlotte, the community and our partners to create new programs to enhance our canopy. I want to thank staff for working on this and also want to thank the committee: Ms. Ajmera, Ms.

Fallon, and Mr. Austin. Mr. Mitchell was also on it he was not there the day that we voted, but it was a unanimous vote.

Motion was made by Councilmember Kinsey and seconded by Councilmember Ajmera, to approve the Environment Committee recommendation to adopt the Urban Forest Master Plan.

**Mayor Roberts** said I appreciate the folks who gave us the update at the Dinner Meeting and said we are on track to hit the 50 by 50, but we've got to work really hard to do it. It is not a given without everybody participating.

Ms. Kinsey said they did mention that we would be getting more data that will help us plan going forward, so we look forward to having that.

A vote was taken on the motion and was recorded as unanimous.

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#### ITEM NO. 16: CAMP NORTH END INFRASTRUCTURE REIMBURSEMENT

**Councilmember Eiselt** said I am doing this in place of Councilmember Mitchell, who is Chair of the Committee and unfortunately is not feeling well tonight. This request is for an infrastructure reimbursement plan for CAMP North End, which is the Atco development in the Applied Innovation Corridor. It is a very exciting project that Council approved the rezoning for on September 18, 2017 of this year, and it will include up to 760,000 square feet of office space, 65,000 square feet of retail, and 600 residential units over the next ten years. Of those residential units, 42 will be reserved for housing earning less than 80% of the area median income. The total estimated private investment over ten years will equal approximately \$350 million and of that it will generate approximately \$1.7 million in annual City property tax revenue into an area that we are really excited about that will really welcome this reinvestment in Ms. Kinsey and Ms. Ivory's Districts.

On August 17, 2017 the Economic Development voted unanimously, and I'm sorry that I wasn't there; the date got changed, to recommend to the City Council approval of the infrastructure Reimbursement Agreement not to exceed \$15 million for public infrastructure projects. What that is, it means the developer will build the public improvements, streetscapes and extension of Sylvania Avenue, and they will be reimbursed upon completion of specific milestones through our Community Investment Plan. That work will include a minimum 10% MWSBE utilization for all the public infrastructure, and it will also be using our workforce development project, the Project PEACE which is a partnership for inclusive employment and career experience.

Motion was made by Councilmember Eiselt and seconded by Councilmember Ivory, to authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute an Infrastructure Reimbursement Agreement in the amount not to exceed \$15 million for public infrastructure improvements, consistent with the terms set for below, which will be reimbursed through the 2016 Community Investment Plan.

**Councilmember Lyles** said I had the opportunity to go to a session over at North End, and I just wanted to say that I had a chance to meet the Community Development Officer that has been employed and the work that is being done it is a phenomenal space, and it has so much to offer in the community. I think that if we can retain just the flavor in the sense of that it will make a huge difference in what we are developing. I was a little bit frightened, because whenever you have that kind of new development it often brings a lot of what I would call suburban feel to it. I just don't know if that is possible if we stay true to the plan that has been presented by Atco. I do want to see if we can continue, and Ms. Kinsey said this last time when we had this discussion. She said there are two issues here; the housing and the protection of the neighborhoods is a separate issue than the development, and I appreciate that. I listened well and I don't know what those overlay districts, which I know Ms. Kinsey also says don't ever do that, because it will screw things

up, but at some point I would like to ask the Planning Staff to tell us what do we do to protect those neighborhoods that surround this development to make sure that people that have lived there can enjoy that experience. That is the request I would make and look forward to seeing this happen and look forward to how it can make a difference and can this be the quality of development for everyone, not just that come in to grow it and to be new. I support that wholeheartedly.

**Mayor Roberts** said I just want to remind folks that as we are looking at bringing opportunity to every part of our City and working very hard to bridge gaps the eight fragile neighborhoods around CAMP North End and the North End Smart District have an unemployment rate of 28%. That is something that this targeted public investment is going to help change that narrative and hope some of the companies and things to come in the future will also be working to get summer youth interns. Junior Achievement is planning to go in there as well. It is going to be a very active part of our City, and I'm really pleased to see this investment happening.

The vote was taken on the motion and was recorded as unanimous.

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#### **ITEM NO. 17: RIVER DISTRICT INFRASTRUCTURE REIMBURSEMENT**

**Councilmember Eiselt** said the Economic Development Committee has been very busy; we've got a lot of very exciting projects, and this one is really big. The River District, which is a 1,380 acre development west of the airport that is part of the Dixie/Berryhill Plan and again utilizing the Community Investment Plan and part of Charlotte Douglas International's planning initiatives. So, the River District, which the Council approved the rezoning for in November 2016, will provide a unique master development opportunity for office, retail, hotel, and a variety of residential uses. Phase I of this project will include up to a million square feet of office, 75,000 square feet of retail, 150 hotel rooms, 850 residential units, 85 of which will be will earning 80% or below the area medium income. Also in the August Economic Development Committee Meeting, the Committee unanimously agreed to support the infrastructure reimbursement request, and that is what this particular motion will be about.

**Councilmember Lyles** said when we had this project presented to us, I really had a question around the idea of how we could create economic opportunity with a project that was so great; it is going to be one of those things that is going to create almost a new city. There will probably be a number of places that won't be as large as our River District, and yet at the same time I realize that when you have this kind of new development it is kind of what they call virgin development that you have the opportunity to talk about it in a different way, and we've done a number of things with that. We've done the zoning; we talked about this ability to put in public infrastructure and the phasing of the project, but I was concerned. I will say frankly I've been very concerned about the idea that when we have public money going into a project that makes it possible for overall private development to be successful, that we actually talk about it with the concept around economic opportunity. I've been pushing and say what can we do to create jobs; what can we do to create not only jobs but business participation by minority women and small business enterprises? I would just like to ask Brian Leary with Crescent to address a question around this, because we talked about it and the words were kind of we are going to facilitate, we are going to develop, and today I had an opportunity to speak with both Crescent and Lincoln Harris Representatives and would you please comment on what you have evolved in for the minority and small business action plan on the project.

**Brian Leary, Crescent Communities** said it is an honor to be here and first of all thank you for your passion and unwavering commitment to make Charlotte the best place for all Charlotteans from the River District to the North End, to particularly the west side which are happy to be trying to make the River District happen there.

First and foremost when we came to you about rezoning this large swath of property that will add a whole bunch of trees to the canopy by the way when it comes in and is annexed.

You were very clear that this had to be something very different and the way that you negotiated deliberate word on the rezoning you created a phasing plan that in some ways could represent the largest down zoning in the history of Charlotte, meaning we were counting on a true public partner in the City and in some cases the County to work with us to deliver infrastructure, primarily transportation infrastructure, over the next 30-years. If we don't have that partnership and that infrastructure doesn't happen, we stop at Phase I and Phase I is a very small part of what we are talking about. When we talk about Phase I, here we are tonight talking about the infrastructure that is so necessary, that transportation infrastructure and mobility infrastructure to build out this robust and inclusive place. We've made a commitment and that will be codified and will be accounted for at the reporting year in and year out on the public infrastructure that the private developers will build to have a 10% commitment of minority and small business inclusion. We've also heard loud and clear from Ms. Lyles and other Councilmembers as well, particularly District 3, leads us in the right direction that we need to hear something on the private infrastructure side as well, so we would like to have a 10% goal. These are floors; these are baseline. These are minimums for private infrastructure to be minority and small business included as well. We've already been working with third party consultants. We have not done this before in Charlotte, so we are working with [inaudible] and Associates; Stephanie Bowalk is here to keep us straight and to outline a full master plan for doing this. We've already had an August 2, 2017 contractor roundtable session first and foremost to engage, and it will be a yearlong and every year process, and at the end of every year we report back, and we are going to be held accountable first and foremost by you all and everyone behind us in the citizens because every year that we report and we reference how we are doing and how we are going to do better or different the next year. When we are done in Phase I, if we haven't lived up to our side, you have the ultimate ability to stop us from moving on to Phase II, Phase III, and Phase IV, so we appreciate the opportunity to lead on this to provide both commitments to the public infrastructure but also provide a 10% goal on the private infrastructure as well and come back to you and publish our progress every year.

Ms. Lyles said I want to say and I said this earlier, when you have two developers of the caliber and home grown, I like to say and you have the opportunity to really begin to build economic opportunity with business participation as well as employment that is going to make a big difference in the way that we move our City forward, and it sets an example for other organizations that come to us, and I want to say that I would like very much to say thank you for listening, but more importantly thank you for being the community partner that you are being to do this where we are addressing economic opportunity. I would also like to say that if we can incorporate the commitments into the negotiation of Item B that says authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute an Infrastructure Reimbursement Agreement to incorporate both the minority and women business participation goals for infrastructure for both the City, as well as the private sector and jobs, I'm looking forward to a great success and a long-term partnership.

**Councilmember Driggs** said I wanted to say for the benefit of people who look at these partnerships somewhat anxiously as to their terms, in my view in some instances, the terms of a partnership like this are greatly beneficial to us and there are other times when I come down saying that I don't think they are. In this case, half of the money that is being put in is from community investment dollars we had already committed to this area. It is part of funds that we had in our bond plan again within the scope of our existing tax structure and was going to be used there. What we've done essentially as to that portion is just harmonize an investment infrastructure we were going to make any way with this tremendous new development. The other portion is an incentive grant structure which essentially means that the private investor will fund public infrastructure and will get paid back if and only if new tax revenues are generated by this development that cover two times over the amount of that investment. I think the leverage is tremendous here in terms of the private investment that is being driven by these two facilities, and I really appreciate in fact the work the developers have done in order to give us a concept that is large scale and coordinated and not kind of piece meal sprawl going out in that direction and therefore I will be voting for this.



**Councilmember Ajmera** said I appreciate a developer's commitment to economic opportunity when it comes to minority women and small enterprises. I think that is the model we want to use moving forward as we talk about economic opportunities and economic mobility. This is the first time I believe that I have seen where we are using even 10% commitment to even the private investment, and I think that says a lot to a developer's commitment to the type of opportunities that they want to provide. I will also support this project.

**Councilmember Mayfield** said thank you all for supporting my project.

Ms. Lyles said we are all going to claim this; we are not going to have you have Asheville North, Asheville East, Asheville West.

Motion was made by Councilmember Eiselt, seconded by Councilmember Mayfield, and carried unanimously to (A) Authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute an Infrastructure Reimbursement Agreement in an amount not to exceed \$15 million for public infrastructure improvements, consistent with the terms set forth below, which will be reimbursed through 45% of incremental City property taxes from a designated area over 10 years, or until fully reimbursed, whichever occurs first, and (B) Authorize the City manager to negotiate and execute an infrastructure Reimbursement Agreement in an amount not to exceed \$16.2 million for public infrastructure improvements, consistent with the terms set forth below, which will be reimbursed through the 2016 Community Investment Plan, and (C) Authorize the City Manager to negotiate an Agreement for Water Line construction in an amount not to exceed \$1 million, which will be reimbursed through the Charlotte Water Community Investment Plan.

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**ITEM NO. 18: CHARLOTTE CONVENTION CENTER PHASE I IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

Motion was made by Councilmember Kinsey and seconded by Councilmember Fallon to (A) Adopt a resolution approving an interlocal agreement to reimburse the Charlotte Regional Visitors Authority for an amount up to \$8.5 million for Convention Center design/development phase costs, and (B) Approve an allocation of \$110 million of Convention Center Tax Refund debt capacity for the Charlotte Convention Center Expansion Project.

**Mayor Roberts** said having traveled to other cities that have great Convention Centers and complexes this is going to be tremendous for our ability to continue to attract conventions and to continue to grow that business. I want to thank the Regional Visitor's Authority for all the work they have put into this and all the folks on staff who have helped look into the future of what Charlotte can continue to do and to bring here in terms of conventions and events. We are making sure that we are competitive and that our Convention Center is up to date. One out of nine of our jobs are related to tourism so the tourism industry is very important.

The vote was taken on the motion and was recorded as unanimous.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 48, at Pages 466-473a.

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**ITEM NO. 19: NORTH TRYON STREET BUSINESS CORRIDOR PROJECT**

Motion was made by Councilmember Kinsey, seconded by Councilmember Fallon, and carried unanimously to (A) Award a contract in the amount of \$9,667,225.78 to the

lowest responsive bidder Sealand Contractors Corp. for the construction of North Tryon Street Business Corridor project and (B) Adopt Budget Ordinance No. 9176-X appropriating \$4,300,000 from existing appropriations in the General Community Investment Plan.

**Summary of Bids**

Sealand Contractors Corp.	\$ 9,667,225.78
United of Carolinas, Inc.	\$10,306,527.10
Blythe Construction, Inc.	\$10,778,488.05
Blythe Development Co.	\$12,126,350.26

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 61 at Page 70.

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**ITEM NO. 20: ARROWOOD ROAD AND NATIONS FORD ROAD INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS**

Motion was made by Councilmember Driggs, seconded by Councilmember Fallon, and carried unanimously to (A) Award a construction contract in the amount of \$1,752,209.14 to the lowest responsive bidder Sealand Contractors Corp. for the Arrowood Road and Nations Ford Road Intersection Improvements project, and (B) Adopt Budget Ordinance No. 9177-X appropriating \$1,000,000 from existing contingency reserve funds in the General Community Investment Plan.

**Councilmember Mayfield** said I want to thank staff; several neighborhoods, part of the Swan Southwest Neighborhood Association have been looking forward to these improvements for many years. The discussions have been happening, so I am glad that we are finally awarding the construction contract this evening and moving forward with these intersection improvements. We have a community meeting coming up in early October, where a number of staff will be in attendance, so if any of the residents would like any specifics regarding tonight’s decision they will be able to have those answered in an upcoming community meeting that is going to be talking about what is happening throughout the area and as far as I know now that will be Arbor Glen Recreational Center, and as we get closer I will announce the date and time.

**Summary of Bids**

Sealand Contractors Corp.	\$1,752,209.14
Zoladz Construction Co., Inc.	\$1,820,500.00
United of Carolinas, Inc.	\$1,998,115.90
Blythe Development Company	\$2,014,366.75

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 61, at Page 71.

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**ITEM NO. 21: APPOINTMENT TO THE CHARLOTTE COMMUNITY CAPITAL LOAN FUND**

The following nominees were considered for one appointment for a term beginning October 2, 2017, and ending September 30, 2020:

Corey Busker, nominated by Councilmembers Driggs, Eiselt, Ivory, Mayfield, and Smith  
Kimberly Edmonds, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera and Mitchell

Results of the first ballot were recorded as follows:

Corey Busker, 5 votes – Councilmembers Driggs, Fallon, Ivory, Kinsey, and Mayfield  
Kimberly Edmonds, 1 vote – Councilmember Ajmera.

A second ballot was taken and recorded as follows:

Corey Busker, 8 votes – Councilmembers Driggs, Eiselt, Fallon, Ivory, Kinsey, Lyles, Mayfield and Smith.

Ms. Busker was appointed.

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**ITEM NO. 22: APPOINTMENTS TO THE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ADVISORY BOARD**

The following nominees were considered for one appointment for a three-year term beginning September 23, 2017, and ending September 22, 2020 and one appointment for a partial term beginning immediately and ending September 21, 2018:

Gabrielle Alsop, nominated by Councilmembers Driggs, Eiselt and Fallon  
Rita Brown, nominated by Councilmembers Driggs, Eiselt and Fallon  
Linda Carr, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera and Mitchell  
Monique Cleckley, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera and Mitchell  
Pamela Johnson, nominated by Councilmembers Ivory and Mayfield  
Tiffani Newbold, nominated by Councilmembers Ivory and Mayfield

Results of the first ballot were recorded as follows:

Gabrielle Alsop, 2 votes – Councilmembers Driggs and Kinsey  
Rita Brown, 1 vote – Councilmember Driggs  
Linda Carr, 2 votes – Councilmembers Ajmera and Fallon  
Monique Cleckley, 1 vote – Councilmember Ajmera  
Pamela Johnson, 2 votes – Councilmembers Ivory and Mayfield  
Tiffani Newbold, 2 votes, Councilmembers Ivory and Kinsey

Since no nominee received at least six votes these appointments will be brought back to the next Business Meeting for reconsideration.

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**ITEM NO. 23: APPOINTMENT TO THE HOUSING APPEALS BOARD**

The following nominees were considered for one appointment in the At-Large category for a partial term beginning immediately and ending December 31, 2018:

Gregory Pizarro, Jr. nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Kinsey, and Mitchell  
Cherie Readus, nominated by Councilmembers Driggs and Smith  
Tyjuana Wilson, nominated by Councilmembers Ivory and Mayfield

Results of the first ballot were recorded as follows:

Gregory Pizarro, Jr. 2 votes – Councilmembers Ajmera and Kinsey  
Cherie Readus, 1 vote – Councilmember Driggs  
Tyjuana Wilson, 2 votes- Councilmembers Ivory and Mayfield

Since no nominee received at least six votes, this appointment will be brought back to the next Business Meeting for reconsideration

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**ITEM NO. 24: APPOINTMENTS TO KEEP CHARLOTTE BEAUTIFUL**

The following nominees were considered to one appointment for a partial term beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2018 and two appointments for a partial term beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2019:

Jeff Beaver, nominated by Councilmembers Driggs and Smith  
Jesse Boyd, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Fallon and Mitchell  
Tonya Clarkson, nominated by Councilmembers Kinsey and Lyles  
Sue DuChanois, nominated by Councilmember Ajmera, Eiselt, Lyles and Mitchell  
Myra Foster, nominated by Councilmembers Ivory and Mayfield  
Jordan McGee, nominated by Councilmembers Ivory and Mayfield  
Gita Patel, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera and Mitchell

Results of the first ballot were recorded as follows:

Jeff Beaver, 6 votes – Councilmembers Driggs, Eiselt, Fallon, Ivory, Kinsey, and Smith  
Jesse Boyd, 2 votes – Councilmembers Ivory and Lyles  
Tonya Clarkson, 2 votes – Councilmembers Fallon and Kinsey  
Sue DuChanois, 5 votes – Councilmembers Ajmera, Eiselt, Kinsey, Lyles, and Smith  
Myra Foster, 2 votes, Councilmember Ajmera and Mayfield  
Jordan McGee, 1 vote – Councilmember Fallon  
Gita Patel, 2 votes, Councilmember Ajmera and Lyles

A second ballot was taken and recorded as follows:

Sue DuChanois, 9 votes – Councilmembers Ajmera, Driggs, Eiselt, Fallon, Ivory, Kinsey, Lyles, Mayfield, and Smith.

Mr. Beaver and Ms. DuChanois were appointed.

The remaining appointment will be brought back to the next Business Meeting.

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#### **ITEM NO. 25: APPOINTMENTS TO THE ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT**

The following nominees were considered for one appointment for a partial term beginning immediately and ending January 31, 2019 and one appointment for a partial term beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2020:

Terry Brown, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera and Mitchell  
Scott Campagna, nominated by Councilmembers Driggs, Eiselt, Ivory, Mayfield, and Smith  
Thomas Rothrock, nominated by Councilmembers Fallon and Lyles  
Marshall Williamson, nominated by Councilmember Driggs, Eiselt, Lyles, and Smith

Results of the first ballot were recorded as follows:

Terry Brown, 5 votes – Councilmembers Ajmera, Ivory, Kinsey, Lyles, and Mayfield.  
Scott Campagna, 4 votes – Councilmembers Driggs, Eiselt, Kinsey, and Smith  
Thomas Rothrock, 3 votes – Councilmembers Ajmera, Fallon, and Lyles  
Marshall Williamson, 4 votes – Councilmembers Driggs, Eiselt, Fallon, and Smith

Since no nominee received at least six votes, this appointment will be brought back to the next Business Meeting for reconsideration.

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#### **ITEM NO. 26: MAYOR AND COUNCIL TOPICS**

**Mayor Roberts** said there were a number of events last week in recognition of our being one year from the events of September 2016, and I just want to thank the number of folks who put together healing and unity and positive events. I went to the Heal Charlotte event on Saturday; great mixing of police and community leaders, officials, kids and all kinds of activities, and I just want to appreciate the community. Heal Charlotte wasn't the only organization; there were a number of organizations that were working to continue to



recognize we have gaps and disparities, but we can all do something positive to help bridge those gaps and pull people together. I also want to appreciate our police officers, Chief Putney, and all that they have done in the past year in Community Policing and again for being in a lot of places over the last week; on panels and community meetings and groups, working very hard to bring our community together, and we have made tremendous progress. I just wanted to give a shout out to all the folks who helped to make that happen.

**Councilmember Smith** said I want to wish Ms. Mayfield a Happy Anniversary; she just got back from her cruise, and she didn't want to take me; Bridget and I will come if you want us to go, but apparently that is not how you want to celebrate your anniversary. Congratulations.

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#### ADJOURNMENT

**Mayor Roberts** declared the meeting adjourned at 9:16 p.m.



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Emily A. Kunze, Deputy City Clerk, NCCMC

Length of Meeting: 3 Hours, 35 Minutes  
Minutes Completed: October 4, 2017