

The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina convened for an Action Review on Monday, April 9, 2018 at 5:01 p.m. in Room 267 of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center with Mayor Vi Lyles presiding. Councilmembers present were Julie Eiselt, Larken Egleston, Matt Newton, and Greg Phipps .

ABSENT UNTIL NOTED: Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, and Winston.

Councilmembers Bokhari, Harlow, and Mayfield arrived at 5:03 p.m.

* * * * *

ITEM NO. 1: MAYOR AND COUNCIL CONSENT ITEM QUESTIONS

Mayor Lyles said we have at our places Consent questions that were called in so what I look for in this particular area are there comments on any of the Consent Items.

Councilmember Mayfield said Item No. 34.

Councilmember Phipps said I have a question on Item No. 31, which deals with the amendment to the contract for the sale of City property. I just want to know what happened to the proposal that proceeds from the sale of land to an affordable housing developer be invested in affordable housing versus PAYGO. What happened to that?

Mayor Lyles said I don't think we took any action on it; I think it was discussed but no action was taken.

Mr. Phipps said is there a plan to take any action?

Mayor Lyles said would you like to ask us to consider that?

Mr. Phipps said I would like to do that.

Mayor Lyles said we will get some information from the Manager and follow up to the question about the benefits of if there are any consequences to doing that.

Councilmember Mayfield said Mr. Manager I would like to recommend since Housing and Neighborhood Services will be having our first Housing Retreat coming up and I believe we confirmed the date that this is part of that conversation for the Committee to have dialogue around PAYGO.

Mayor Lyles said so the Manager will give you the consequences of doing an action like that and what that would mean.

Councilmember Ajmera arrived at 5:04 p.m.

Councilmember Driggs arrived at 5:05 p.m.

Councilmember Harlow said Item No. 46, I asked a very loaded question, and I think most of it got answered, but thanks for putting this table together and everything. I understand that these aren't retainers that we are paying so that makes sense to me now that we are paying per placement. I am still a little confused as to the way that it is written; the legislation text reads \$120,000 per contract, so we are expecting to have up to \$600,000 to pay out in these placements.

Mayor Lyles said no, I will let Mr. Pleasant explain this, because it is not to pay out; these are people we use if we need them, and they would be paid if we needed them based on what we needed them to do.

Danny Pleasant, Assistant City Manager said I think that is correct; if you think of it more as a pre-selection so that once we identify a need for one of these recruiting firms to help us;

we've gone through that process and we can very quickly select the firm that best matches the need for the particular recruitment that we are looking for.

Mr. Harlow said so there is no expenditure until the placement is made.

Mr. Pleasant said no, simply to let our budget folks know to hold some dollars in case we need those dollars for future recruitment.

Mr. Phipps said I have a question on Item No. 38; Sugar Creek 54 inch Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation. I want staff to affirmatively give me a vote of confidence that they are satisfied that this bidder could not meet the MWSBE goals and the good faith letter was the only thing they could come up with. Are we sure that we are comfortable with that?

Mr. Pleasant said I will make that inquiry and get back to you.

Mr. Phipps said the way I feel right now I don't feel I'm comfortable enough to be able to vote for it to night.

Ms. Mayfield said I'm going to be speaking to that one also.

Mayor Lyles said what we have said is if the staff can't answer the questions that you've asked by the end of the Action Review, it would go to the next agenda unless it was time sensitive. Ms. Mayfield did you tell Mr. Pleasant what question he needs to address by the end of this session?

Ms. Mayfield said I did not Mayor.

Mayor Lyles said without that we won't be able to know whether or not we can hold it over.

Marcus Jones, City Manager said it is not time sensitive if you need to hold it over.

Mayor Lyles said if it is a question that cannot be address between now and 6:30 we will pull it and put it on the next agenda so you can have time to talk to the staff about it. We will pull Item No. 38 and delay it until the next agenda.

Councilmember Mitchell arrived at 5:09

Emily Kunze, Deputy City Clerk said I was notified late in the afternoon that Item No. 53 was settled.

* * * * *

ITEM NO. 2: AGENDA OVERVIEW

Marcus Jones, City Manager said we can go right into the presentation.

* * * * *

ITEM NO. 3: REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY/SEWER CAPACITY UPDATE

Angela Lee, Director of Charlotte Water said I am here along with a few members of our team to give an update on future agenda items that are strategic to Charlotte Water accomplishing its mission for the community. This presentation will discuss two upcoming agenda items; one the Bio-Solids Management Contract Extension and contracts related to a future Wastewater Treatment Plant. Also, we will discuss sewer pipeline capacity and response to a question posed at a previous Council Strategy Session. We do realize that Council has a full agenda, so if you have anything that you would like for us to follow up on we will be happy to do that.

Just a quick review of Charlotte Water; we are a regional organization with the mission of providing water and wastewater services to the City of Charlotte, the county, and the small towns and beyond. We have three water treatment plants pumping about 107 million gallons of water a day; we have five wastewater treatment plants treating approximately 79 million

gallons of wastewater a day. We have over 8,600 miles of pipeline, and what I said to the Budget Committee is that that is enough pipeline to take you from here to Anchorage, Alaska and back. To manage and operate all of this infrastructure, we have 912 employees working in the background 24/7 to make sure that folks in our community can use and utilize water and wastewater services. Included would be about 50 Chemists, over 100 Engineers, 120 Plant Operators and over 350 staff, again working to make sure that everyone can drink, wash, brush and flush and that is the difference between Charlotte Water and Stormwater. If you drink, if you wash, if you brush, if you flush, then that is Charlotte Water. Also, I would like to add that we are the 17th largest municipal utility in the nation.

Councilmember Winston arrived at 5:10 p.m.

The first agenda item coming before you would be our Bio-Solids Agreement Contract Extension. So, to explain what that is David is going to help me. What we do in Charlotte Water is we turn dirty water, and we have here influent today from our Irwin Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant. Well, how does the water get there? When you take a shower in the morning the water goes down a series of pipes; think of it like a tree. A tree has limbs, branches, a trunk and then a root system. When you take a shower or wash your hands the wastewater or the used water travels down the limbs, then it travels down the branch then it travels down the trunk, and then it gets to the root system which would be our treatment plant. As a matter of fact, tonight on Council's agenda, you have an item for a trunk sewer line; that is a big sewer pipe that would then go to our wastewater treatment plant. Again, our mission is we take the dirty water and turn it into effluent; this is the clean water, so we going from what we call the dirty water. This is influent; this is wastewater that will be coming into one of our five plants. Our Treatment Plant folks turn it into what we call effluent, which is the clear water, goes out to the streams and into the environment. A bi-product or a residual is called a bio-solid, and that is what this is.

We wanted to give you a residual and we produce 90,000 wet tons of bio-solid material per year, and we land apply bio-solids; that is the main disposal method in Charlotte Water, and we have the largest land application program in the southeast. Charlotte Water started this strategy for bio-solids management about 30-years ago, and bio-solids planning is a long-term effort, because as long as we have humans in Mecklenburg County and beyond, we are going to generate wastewater which means we are going to generate bio-solids. There will be a future agenda item to approve the extension of our Bio-Solids Management Contract and Ms. Jackie Jarrell, Chief of Operations of our Wastewater Treatment Division is going to come up and discuss a little bit further.

Jackie Jarrell, Charlotte Water said I wanted to share a little bit more information about our program and about our contract that we have currently with Synagro. As Angela was talking about, we produce about 90,000 wet tons which equates to about 18 to 20 truckloads of bio-solids that go out to farms across North and South Carolina, and you can see in this drawing this shows the truck leaving and going out to the farms, and this is our liquid process here. So, there is the two processes that happen in the treatment plant. This gives you an idea of the different counties that we have farms permitted to perform the land application program. There are both North and South Carolina, almost about the same acreage in each area, and we have the largest land application program in the southeast. We've been doing this since 1988.

Bio-Solids are spread on a field at a rate that is appropriate for the nutrients that the soil and the crops need, depending on the farm that we are visiting. This equipment that you see over here is specialized equipment that the farmers don't generally have, that our contractor is able to provide and then they land apply and integrate these bio-solids that you saw in the jar into the field. When they do that, they come out with this nice green field here so you can see this is the field with the bio-solids, and this is the field without it, just to give you a comparison. The farmers really love it, because it helps prevent from having to use chemical fertilizers; this is a great beneficial reuse of a produce that is produced.

In 1999, Charlotte went through a competitive process and selected Synagro to manage the beneficial reuse and management of our bio-solids. The contract is a 10-year contract with two five-year extensions. We are currently in the last year of the second five-year extension, and the annual spending is anywhere between \$4 million to \$5 million, and that is dependent

on whether we can get those bio-solids out to the farms, which we generally do, but during wet weather if the farms are too wet or during the winter, we would have to store the solids until an appropriate time to be able to take the solids out to the field. We have seven landfills that we currently work with because of our program being so large. So, the contract will expire June 30, 2019. Some of the things that Synagro does for us are very unique; they provide several technical regulatory and management services for us that are vital to making sure that we stay in 100% compliance and that we continue to have strong relationships with our regulators and our farmers.

We are currently completing a Bio-solids Master Plan, and that Master Plan provides a road map for beneficial reuse for the next 30 to 40-years. Just as Angela was saying, for the last 30-years we had a plan in place to be able to manage our bio-solids, and now we are looking at the next 30 to 40-years and what we need to do. Now, there are more options; there is new technology, and there is just a higher level of treatment which gives us some diversification possibilities for our program. We expect to implement this plan in the next six to 10-years, so in order to do our due diligence and plan for the future, we need to extend the Synagro Contract for up to 10-years to provide continuity of services. There is a request for Council to approve a contract extension that you will see in the near future.

Councilmember Driggs said can I ask you a question about the bio-solids? I have actually been to the Wastewater Treatment Plant, and the stuff is not exactly what you would expect. It is just a big mountain of dark crumbly pretty odorless stuff, but my question is there has been controversy about these contracts in the past, so could you talk a little bit about the public relations aspects and some of the input you have gotten from the community?

Ms. Jarrell said yes, so different programs have different levels of treatment for their bio-solids, and there has been some controversy in the past related to different programs and maybe the way those programs might have been managed or different things that may have happened. One thing I can say for our program is that we've had a very, very robust consistent program, and that is one of the important parts of Synagro is that they have the expertise to be sure that we are able to be sure that we are doing the proper testing and doing the sampling and the tracking of our bio-solids, because basically, whatever we produce it is cradle to grave. There are perceptions that have been out in the public in the past related to bio-solids and perceptions that they could cause some type of harm, but it is actually the opposite. There are lots and lots of information and facts that show how bio-solids are a beneficial reuse, and it provides nutrients back into the earth. It is really one of the best forms of reuse that we can do; however, we have had people that have been educated with some facts that maybe were not real facts, and so there was a lot of questions, and we have responded to them in the past and been able to educate them on our program.

Mr. Driggs said so, you do have a public information program, and you are sensitive in your policy choices to feedback from the communities in question.

Ms. Jarrell said absolutely, we do, and some programs will have odor complaints and things like that; we do not receive those types of things. We have a very high quality program. Our program is ISO 14001, and we've never had a non-compliance or anything like that.

Mayor Lyles said I thought we were going to go all the way through, but on the bio-solids you said that with the changes you are anticipating, you would still have contract; are you extending the contract or are you rebidding the contract or is an extension with Synagro? Is it an extension of their contract for 10-years, and do you expect that 10-year with another two-year extension option? I don't understand the connection between change and the 10-years, so at some point if you could give us the information on what those changes are and how they overlap the 10-years.

Ms. Jarrell said one of the things that is changing is we are looking at new technology that we would like to be able to implement so that we can have a higher level of treatment of our solids so that we can do more things. For example, there are other programs around the country; I don't know if you have heard of Milorganite. It is sold at Lowes, and we would like to be able to have a product like that where it is more accessible, and people can use it in their gardens and do things like that.

Mayor Lyles said I guess the real question I have is if you are going to have this contract for 10-years with two five-year extensions, is it a contract that you hope to change based upon the improvements and do you have that kind ability to do, it or is this a contract that we will always have even with the technology improvements?

Ms. Jarrell said it is just a contract to get us to the point where we can implement the new. We are actually asking for one ten-year contract, which would be five-years and five years so not more than 10-years and that gives us the time. We think it is going to take us about six to 10 years to build the technology and implement the program itself.

Mayor Lyles said I thought you were looking at 20-years.

Ms. Jarrell said no; 10-years total.

Councilmember Ajmera said what is the alternative to this solution? I have heard about renewable energy source have we looked into that?

Ms. Jarrell said yes, as a matter of fact part of our new Master Plan that we are looking at that does include looking at utilizing those solids for different options such as energy; it could be used as a higher level of treatment product that can be used more easily in gardens and different area; it could also include other types of things. There are places that they have used bio-solids when they are dried; they can use it as a field source. They can use it in materials like construction materials. There are lots of different options that would really open the doors up for us to be able to a lot more with our product and still be able to provide to farmers as well, because our farmers really do like it.

Ms. Lee said the next topic is Wastewater System Planning and Capacity. Our folks are planning continuously in our organization, and again we are talking about wastewater which would be the influent here, the dirty water, how we process it. The fact is that we consider when planning; we look at projected population trends. We look at job growth in the area, and right now Charlotte Water is serving about 1.2 million people per day. We analyze our system to evaluate pipe capacity and flow projections, and we also evaluate the conditions of our pipes and treatment plant equipment, and at all times we are evaluating regulatory requirements and our ability to meet those requirements.

In 2007, a Wastewater Master Planning effort determined the need for a new wastewater treatment plant on the west side due to growth and increase in flows in the Charlotte Water service area, so that would be this part of the county. That was done back in 2007; the plant was then put into our ten-year capital investment plan at that time. Again, our wastewater treatment plants require significant capital investment and require a long planning window. Ron Hargrove, Deputy Director is in charge of this planning effort. He is going to briefly talk about a future wastewater treatment plan on the west side of the county and then David Czerr, Deputy Director will specifically discuss some of the capacity questions that we've had regarding the South End part of town.

Ron Hargrove, Charlotte Water said Angela did a good job of setting me up here, but we are here to talk about a future plant; we call it the Long Creek Plant just, because it is beside the current Long Creek and to give you a background some of this is going to be kind of an update and some of this is going to be new information for you, and we will be glad to come back and bring a more detailed report to you. Currently on the west side of the system, this is a map of our current sewer basins from North Lake Mall down; we are talking about this Long Creek area here. It drains just east of I-77 all the back to the Catawba River. That flow generated there has to travel 27 miles down to our McAlpine Treatment Plan, and before there was a lot of growth in that area the system could accommodate it; the pipes were adequately sized and the pump stations were adequately sized, but as that area has grown over time, those pipes are getting more and more full. So, right here is where I-485 and I-77 cross each other and we've got some very large pipes there that are going to be undersized in what our current planning suggests. In order to accommodate that, a study was conducted that suggested that rather than upsize miles of large main diameter pipe and do bores under major interstates at a huge significant cost, it may be better to consider a plant up in this area. A couple other factors, there are Lake Wylie which is this skinny blue blob here on the western border in 1995 received nutrient limits and that allocated poundage of nitrogen and

phosphorous that treatment plants could discharge into that water body, so in order to build the new plant that didn't have ultra-limits or limits of technology we need to work with some partners to gain some nutrient allocation, and fortunately there were three parties Industrial Plant Clariant the towns of Mount Holly and Belmont on the Gaston side that already have permits in the river with allocations. What we've been working on is an interlocal services agreement with the towns that in exchange for their nutrient limits and their decommissioning their wastewater treatment plants they would convey their wastewater to the new future plant and make it a regional facility that meets the technology limits and the poundage limits for the Lake Wylie nutrient reduction and would serve their communities, but also serve the future growth for the Mecklenburg side. We believe this facility will provide that regional approach; it is a good story, because we are going to take basically three pipes out of the river and put it in a brand new plant with one pipe into the river. It creates a partnership with the two neighboring towns and an industrial facility. Their plants on their side of the river are aging; some have very critical infrastructure needs, and so the timing is right for this agreement to come together, and both their political bodies are very interested and have given some approval to the staff to continue to negotiate with us. It assures the ability to serve the western part of Mecklenburg County, as well as it postpones the need to expand the largest plant. I neglected to say if we didn't build a new plant and all of this flow came, we would be forced at some point to expand the McAlpine Treatment Plant. That is the largest plant in the system; 64 million gallons per day. When you expand a plant you usually get more stringent nutrient limits of more stringent permit limits which could include nutrients. Our current process can't handle but so much of those lower limits and that expansion could be hugely expensive in comparison to building a new plant and intercepting that flow there plus the fact that you would have to upsize the piping to get it there. We think it is a smart decision to build the new plant, and we are working on the agreements with the towns, and that is something we hope to bring to you sometime over the summer as well as an engineering services agreement that would start more of the planning process.

Councilmember Bokhari said does this at all impact some of the pending challenges that we've heard about with wastewater piping and capacity in the SouthPark area, specifically in the Fairview and South End has been mentioned? I'm not sure just looking at that picture it looks like that is kind of a central part of that solution, so is it? If not how are you guys thinking about that as well, because development has been told in that area it could be up to three-years or more of a challenge.

Mr. Hargrove said David is going to speak to the piping concerns in the South End area, but the one thing I can tell you is if you don't plan for future wastewater treatment capacity then the piping capacity concerns are null and void, because you can't handle the flow once it gets to the plant. By building this plant, it actually off loads flows from this area here so that we have more capacity in that area that you are speaking of.

Mayor Lyles said so, we will come back to the pipe question in the next presentation; is that accurate?

Mr. Driggs said just to understand the terms of the deal you talked about; you are getting rights basically to use the river right? It is sort of like those carbon credits.

Mr. Hargrove said there will be a wastewater permit; they give up their permit, and we will receive a permit.

Mr. Driggs said and the whole new plant is paid for from the CIP within Charlotte Water and all the beneficiaries and users are participants in Charlotte Water and therefore contribute revenue to it, right?

Mr. Hargrove said that is correct.

Mr. Driggs said so, there is no financial arrangements needed as such; it is just a question of getting them to agree to have their wastewater processed at the new plant now?

Mr. Hargrove said it is a little more that; there are facilities that will have to be built on the Gaston side, so the agreement will arrange that each party is made whole in that

construction, and they would pay their share of those facilities and Charlotte would pay for that capacity in the plant.

Ms. Ajmera said so, this nutrient limit could it impact the quality of the water? I have had a very interesting conversation with someone who works in the industry, and they had mentioned to me that sometimes when we do access loading it could result in nutrient pollution. Could you talk about that a little bit?

Mr. Hargrove said sure, the reason Lake Wylie has nutrient limits on it is, because it violated the water quality standards and water quality standards are set so that the water can either be fishable, swimmable, or drinkable, so those are uses of the river or the lake and when one of those parameters are not achieved, because the water quality standard is exceeded then the state jumps in and issues a limit and in this case if was for nutrients. Because in 1995, the state went ahead and put limit nutrient limits in there they are basically deeming that the water body has so much assimilative capacity, so all the permits that have been issued so far have a certain number of pounds and if you stay under that amount it won't impact the quality of the water.

Ms. Ajmera said just so that I understand, so the access loading would not necessarily increase those limits?

Mr. Hargrove said we would not increase the concentrations going into the water thus we would stay below the maximum –

Ms. Ajmera interrupted to say stay within the limits.

David Czerr, Charlotte Water said I am going to talk about the sewer capacity planning a little bit more on the localized level. Ron talked about on a very large scale wastewater treatment plant planning and that covers a significant portion of the county, and I want to talk the pipe that convey that sewage to the treatment plants, and what this does is it brings it down fairly quickly to a more localized level and Charlotte Water does that through a program we call the Capacity Assurance Program. That analyzes any new development that occurs in Charlotte or the county, and we look at the wastewater flow from the flushing and the brushing as Angela said, and we look at that flow as it hits the pipes, and it travels from that development through the small pipes under the streets to the big pipes along the creeks usually and all the way down to the treatment plants. So, we are looking at every new connection and determining do we have adequate capacity in our pipe system to support that new development, and this program has been in place. It is federally mandated through the USEPA; we've had it in place since 2009, and each year we review about 500 new projects that we do this very detailed analysis that I just described. I think there is a good news story there; we have about 4,200 miles of sewer pipe, and you know how much development is occurring in the City, and this is a map that shows where we currently have capacity limitations, so all of the area that you see that is the light gray; we have projects that come in every day, hook up to our sewer somewhat to the point of no questions asked. We have plenty of sewer capacity available. The colored areas that you see, there are six of them that are small, and we call them basins because of the way the pipe network is laid out and those six areas as of today have capacity limitation. When we looked at some project that came in in that particular area our staff came back and said if we add that flow from the new development is going to exceed the capacity in the pipe and the result of that would be a sewer overflow and that would be what is in the jar spilling out onto the ground or into the creeks, and that is not something that is allowable, nor does anybody in the community want that. I think that is a bit of a good news story to share that, because of our proactive planning in some of the work Ron was talking about, we only have some very specific small areas where we have the capacity concerns. I will tell you what we do with those on the next slide.

It was brought up earlier this year in the winter time, there was a lot of discussion about sewer capacity in the South End area long the transit oriented development, and as you know this area is booming. There is a lot of existing land use that has been changed and our sewer infrastructure was put in place in this area I would say on average of 30, 40 or 50 years ago, and at that point in time they had no idea what the eventual land use would be, so as these projects come in and our staff reviews them we do that same analysis, and we say is there capacity in these pipes for the project? Along the transit oriented development, the

vast majority of those applicants' projects that have come in we have said yes, there is adequate sewer capacity. We have done a lot of work going back the last decade knowing the TOD was coming, and we've done work to rehabilitate pipes, replace ageing infrastructure and queue up some larger projects. There is a plant expansion much further downstream at our Sugar Creek Plant that we have done the preliminary design and permitting so that we can expedite that project as soon as it is needed. Occasionally, a project comes in that is a very intensive use that changes that existing land use and produces a large amount of wastewater and will require the pipe to be upsized, and on this map you can see that we have that in three places; these three green lines, and so when we see that, the next step we take is to figure how we can expedite the project to meet the schedule with the development, and we utilize some tools such as design build, which is a faster project delivery method, and we have program style funding in our community investment plan and those projects often come to you all for approval and those are the projects that will allow that development to continue.

Mr. Bokhari said that is helpful. Is there a lesson to be learned from the past proactivity? I think about Fairview and the situation that is in, and that feels like the slowest moving train ever to see coming and then when you think about South End and the fact that the Blue Line and all the TOD oriented development we knew that was all coming, and I'm wondering is there something to be learned today going forward from the fact that we didn't proactively budget and plan for these things?

Mr. Czerr said I think you bring up a good point; what I would say is that some of these areas where we have these localized problems; it almost depends on which side of the road the development occurs. The larger the area is the better we are more proactively plan for and build those, so with these a lot of times despite our best knowledge it is not until that plan set comes in, and we know exactly which parcel it is and then that pipe that is closest to that needs to be upsized. Aside from that, it is a matter of we really don't have the ability to upsize all the pipes. We are trying to be good stewards with physical responsibility.

Mr. Bokhari said do we have a plan and budgeted item and a timeline for when the Fairview/SouthPark area challenges are going to be solved at this point?

Mr. Czerr said we are plugged into those area and yes, as soon as we are aware that there could be the need for a project to upsize a pipe we will put that in our Community Investment Plan, or we have some programs that are continuous in the CIP that are there every year, and we can tap into those funds, so we don't have to wait a full fiscal cycle to it done.

Mr. Bokhari said with the map you showed with the colored area, you know that SouthPark has that challenges right now, so is that being addressed?

Mr. Czerr said yes work is being done in that area.

Councilmember Egleston said I will piggyback on Mr. Bokhari's point but more specifically to the North Tryon Street piece. I can appreciate which side of the road something is developed on might impact which way you are diverting the water or where you need to increase the size of the pipes, but we do know, particularly now, after having seen the Blue Line's original corridor that there is going to be development the entire length of it on both sides adjacent to it. Now that the Blue Line Extension has opened, I would presume that the North Tryon section, not only the part that is highlighted now, but going north to Old Concord and then veering up toward UNC-C we know that the adjacencies around that are going to be built out. Are we planning beyond the light blue area that you have identified for North Tryon?

Mr. Czerr said yes we are.

Councilmember Harlow said that was it, actually just about the plan for the Extension and what is in the pipeline if you will.

Councilmember Phipps said cooking oil and grease poured down the sink drain, is that still a problem within the system?

Ms. Lee said it is; the number one cause of overflows would be grease in our system.

* * * * *

ITEM NO. 4: MOBILITY – CONNECTIVITY IN CHARLOTTE

Liz Babson, Director of Charlotte Transportation said tonight I will real quickly go through a discussion on Transportation Mobility in Charlotte and the work that is being come to provide connectivity and transportation choices to our residents. This is just a quick outline of the items that we are going to go through during our next few minutes together. I will start by talking about and reminding you that you have a number of Council adopted plans that shape the way we build this City. The Planning Department, Centers, Corridors, and Wedges, along with CATS Transit System Plan, are all foundational in the transportation work that we do in C-DOT, and many of you may remember in the last year we just updated a number of transportation policies and plans with the Transportation Action Plan, Charlotte Bikes, and Charlotte Walks. Of course, our Community Investment Plan is an important tool in how we shape our community and implement a lot of the projects and policies and programs associated with these. The City Council serves a critical role in shaping our community, because in future meetings you will continue to have opportunities to vote on planning and design and construction contracts that builds streets in our City and those streets will provide for the transportation choices that are important in moving us into a 21st Century Community. I would be remiss if I didn't indicate that we can't do this work alone; we do this in partnership with NC-DOT and other agencies like the county and our private development community.

We will now talk a little bit about our emerging connecting network, and we will start with the bicycle network. In 2001, we had one mile of bike lanes that was constructed in the City of Charlotte. By 2006 we had 36 miles; 2015 we had 91 miles and in addition to those bike lane facilities we have a number of signed routes that adds to that count and we have off-street paths that create a bicycle network. In total, we have 190 miles today, so we've done a tremendous amount of work in a short time, but we have a number of thoroughfares that don't have bicycle facilities on them, so we still have some work to do to continue to build up that network and provide for those transportation choices for our residents.

Let's turn our focus a little bit to the pedestrian network or our sidewalks. In the last 10-years, we have built 100 miles of sidewalks through our pedestrian program, which is capital funded; we've increase the number of thoroughfares with sidewalks from 55% to 66%, just in that five-year period. What is shown on this map in blue are the completed construction projects. What is shown in yellow are projects, which we call active which means they are in some phase of planning, design or construction. Again, while we have done a lot of work there is still much work to do so this map shows you the sidewalks on thoroughfares where we have indicated there are either gaps in sidewalks, which means there are no sidewalks existing, and we have 360 miles of those in our system, or there is what we call back of curb sidewalk, which is what we refer to as sub-standard sidewalk, which means it doesn't meet the minimum requirements for the Americans with Disability Act, and it puts our pedestrians next to the travel lane with motorists.

We know that building a new system to accommodate and keep up with the growth that is coming is very important, but we can't forget the importance also of maintaining the assets that we already have in our system. For the next couple of slides, I'm going to share with you some numbers that reflect the maintenance needs that we have in the current system. As of today, we have over 350 sidewalk repair requests that we are working on right now and those requests come in from our residents. With that kind of a backlog we are looking at about six to nine months just to do that work if no other new complaints or requests for repairs come in. We also maintain 33,000 curb ramps across the entire City; that is what is existing. Curb ramps are important because again that is a requirement to meet the Americans with Disabilities Act. We also know that a lot of the requirements of ADA make for a better pedestrian environment, and about 70% of those don't meet those minimum standards. Streetlights are one I know many of you hear about, and we hear about it too. We have 120 miles of thoroughfares out there today that don't have streetlights on them. That is about 20% of our system that doesn't have streetlights.

Last but not least, it is the streets and the streets and maintaining those streets are very important. We have a pavement condition goal of a 90 and what that translates to is a 12 to 15-year resurfacing cycle. Currently, we are maintaining about a 22-year resurfacing cycle. With that I'm going to turn it over to Scott Curry and ask him to come up. As I mentioned earlier, you have a number of opportunities to really vote on things and shape the way the community is moving, and you will have that opportunity in a couple of weeks when we bring forward some recommendations that have come from the Charlotte Walks Plan, so Scott Curry will share with you the details of what you will be asked to consider in the next few weeks.

Scott Curry, Transportation said I want to start by reminding you that Charlotte Walks is your pedestrian plan; we held 30 different public input events in the development of that plan over 18 months and talked to over a thousand residents as a part of that. That plan was unanimously adopted by City Council in February 2017. Our goal in all of this is to create a safer and more walkable City. When we asked people what walkability means to them, they describe to us a lot of different things: sidewalks, active streetscape, planting strips with street trees. We also heard a lot about the obstacles that are preventing our residents from walking more, and the top two things that folks mentioned were back of curb sidewalks and sidewalk gaps. You are going to hear me talk a lot about back of curb sidewalks on thoroughfares. Back of curb sidewalks are sidewalks that are right up against moving traffic without any sort of planting strip as a buffer between pedestrians and cars. Thoroughfares are busier higher speed, higher volume streets like Albemarle Road, Beatties Ford Road, Fairview Road, and that kind of thing.

The picture on the left is from some walking tours that we led on West Boulevard with Councilmember Mayfield and some residents from her district, and you can imagine how uncomfortable and unsafe these children felt on these walking tours as fast moving traffic was flying by just feet from them. Our citizens have told us that if we want to be a more walkable City; sidewalks on busy thoroughfares need to be buffered from cars by a planting strip with trees and in fact that has been our standard since at least 2007. But unfortunately because of a gap in our City Code that standard is not followed in all instances, so that is what I'm here to talk to you about tonight. It is a big issue for our residents; it is not enough to just have sidewalks to truly be a walkable City. Those sidewalks have to be safe and comfortable and buffered from traffic.

Changes to City regulations we know are one of the most important ways that plans get implemented, so through Charlotte Walks City Council directed staff to work on ordinance changes to address those two key action items. On April 23, 2018 we will bring you these two action items for your consideration. We are almost to the finish line on this; in February I mentioned that Council unanimously adopted Charlotte Walks. In November City Council held a public hearing on those proposed amendments; eight speakers came out in support of these sidewalk amendments including folks from the American Heart Association, Metrolina Association for the Blind, Sustain Charlotte and a group of students from Queens University. We did hear a concern that was raised related to the potential impacts of affordable housing projects so Council at that time asked us to work on that concern. Since that time, we have been working with developers within the affordable housing community and we believe we have reached a resolution on that last outstanding issue.

In January, staff from C-DOT and Housing and Neighborhood Services met with a number of representatives from the affordable housing development community. We discussed issues of walkability, affordable housing, and making sure that families who live in affordable housing have safe and comfortable sidewalks. Ultimately, we don't think that these amendments will have an impact on a number of applications we get for affordable housing projects in Charlotte; however, at that meeting, with the affordable housing community we developed a new tool that will allow us to offset any additional costs that might be incurred by the affordable housing development community. That tool allows us to offer a reimbursement to affordable housing projects for the reconstruction of back of curb sidewalks along thoroughfares. That new reimbursement mechanism is supported by the affordable housing development community and it is already baked into the language that we are going to bring forward to you on April 23, 2018. It is a very simple process using the City's Pedestrian Program funds so again if there are any additional financial impacts on affordable housing due to these sidewalk amendments the City will now bear those additional costs. After our

conversation with the affordable housing developers, we know that now they are on board with these proposed sidewalk amendments, and I understand that they sent you all a letter of support for the sidewalk amendments.

With that issue addressed, I want to dive into the specific loopholes identified by the Charlotte Walks Plan; the first one is a 32-year old loophole, and it means that we had instances where even completed regraded sites with new sidewalk construction don't always require planting strips and street trees as a part of that construction. Here is what they looks like in practice; this is a site along Kings Drive that was cleared and redeveloped in 2011. The site is in Midtown in an area where we know we have a lot of people walking. You can see the existing back of curb sidewalk and the site that was completely redeveloped between 2011 and 2012. The site was completely cleared and rebuilt but because of that loophole I mentioned in our City Code the back of curb sidewalk wasn't improved to our current City standards. With the amount of grading and reconstruction that occurred at that time, it would have been relatively easy at the time of development to accomplish installing a planting strip. Here is the sidewalk now that we will likely have for decades; you can also see how this really isn't a matter of available space within the building setback; it would have been fairly easy at the time of development just to reorient the location of this sidewalk with the street trees to deliver the kind of pedestrian environment that our folks are telling us they want. The incremental costs for taxpayers to come back in and fix this now is much higher than it would have been to accomplish the installation of a planting strip at the time of development.

Here is another example: this is a Walmart development on Harris Boulevard; this is a site in 2013 that was redeveloped and you can see there is an existing back of curb sidewalk here and then in 2015 you actually that sidewalk is now gone as part of the reconstruction and grading for this site. They removed the existing back of curb sidewalk, but again because of that loophole in the City Code they put the sidewalk back right where it was at the back of the curb when they rebuilt it. You can imagine again how uncomfortable and how unsafe this might feel for folks taking transit on Harris Boulevard. We know the best time to get adequate sidewalks is really when that site is being regraded and redeveloped. We had our Engineering staff compare the costs for replacing back of curb sidewalk after the fact versus coming in after the development and we know that it typically costs more than five times as much to replace back of curb sidewalks after the fact at taxpayer expense.

The second issue that our amendment seeks to address is something called the 50% rule. It is a phasing exemption that leaves us with big gaps in our sidewalk network. I want to talk a little bit about what that looks like in practice. The loophole here has to do with how development can be phased in a way that results in no sidewalk or stormwater infrastructure construction. The 50% rule says when a proposed development occupies less than half of the property it sits on, no sidewalk or drainage facilities are required. That means that a series of incremental phases each less than 50% of the total area of the site can come in and result in a complete site build out without any sidewalk construction. This is a development in the Westinghouse Employment Center again where we know we have folks walking and using transit and the development was split into phases. There is the site; the first two phases are essentially complete and you can see where a third and a fourth phase might be built in the future, but because of that loophole in our City Code this is the thoroughfare frontage that we are left with, just a ditch and no sidewalk or stormwater infrastructure.

The other thing I want to mention to you all tonight is that we've had six meetings to date with the development community dating back to June of 2016. We didn't come to the development community with a fully baked solution, instead we went to talk about the problems we are seeing and ask for their input as we worked on draft code amendments. We believe that we have arrived at some good common sense triggers for upgrading sidewalks based on those conversations over the past 18-months. The first is that the back of curb sidewalk amendment applies only to thoroughfares, and it doesn't apply to single family residential. We were also asked to tailor the requirements to the degree of construction activity occurring on the site so that this doesn't apply to a Mom and Pop operation looking to complete a small expansion to their business. Finally, we were asked to beef up the flexibility in the ordinance and now our City Engineer and modify these requirements for lots of different reasons for example if you are on site with severe topography or you have an existing building that you are trying to preserve that sits too close to the street to install a planting strip so we have some Administrative relief now through the

ordinance so that we have some contact sensitivity. With those triggers in place we feel like we have some common sense thresholds for when and how these requirements are applied. Again, I would like to stress that we've met with the development community six times over the past 18-months to talk about this. We've been very intentional about giving our development community reps ample opportunity to chime in on these amendments and we've made significant revisions based on their input.

With that these are the requested actions that we will be bringing forward to you on April 23, 2018, and I would like to thank you for your time, and we will be happy to answer any questions that you might have.

Mayor Lyles said I know that sidewalks are something that we are always interested in and have broader questions around but this is on the agenda for the 23rd the changes that Scott just said we want to try to do. If we could keep our questions to those amendments and changes then we may be able to do the closed session.

Councilmember Phipps said I wanted to address the one about the affordable housing piece that dealt with sidewalks, and I want the record to reflect that I will be voting in favor of this amendment when it comes forth on the 23rd, but one thing I want us to think about is, what kind of message are we sending that we would not require affordable housing developers to construct decent and safe sidewalks as part of their projects that somehow doing that would be so cost prohibitive as to limit the ability to do the project? That is one of the things that really concern me that the City is already given money to affordable housing developers but now we have to kick in more money to build sidewalks. It seems to me that is something that should be done.

Councilmember Mayfield said staff came up with this recommendation with the housing.

Mayor Lyles said what is the question that you would like staff to address?

Mr. Phipps said I thought when someone builds a development that there is an expectation that we would require decent and safe sidewalks to be built. I was wondering why we would have to help fund that; that should be a part of the project.

Ms. Mayfield said why was this recommendation made?

Mayor Lyles said the Council requested information on doing it, and it us just a recommendation.

Mr. Curry said if I understand the question correctly we were responding to Council's request to look into this concern related to affordable housing, so we met with the affordable housing community, because you all had made a commitment to building affordable house, and we don't want to do anything to be in conflict with that commitment. We know that good sidewalks area a part of affordable living and that often times families who are in affordable housing are the families who depend the most on a good sidewalk environment, so we were responding to a concern that you all brought to us and we feel like we have gotten to a really good place with those folks.

Councilmember Harlow said my question is about the common sense triggers when you were talking with the development community and how you provided some relief especially for small businesses or small expansions. What are the parameters for small?

Mr. Curry said the main trigger is that the expansion has to be at least 2,500 square feet which would be like a small fast food type restaurant, and actually if you are a larger square footage building say a 100,000 square foot warehouse then it is tailored to that size so it is 25% of your total building footprint; 2,500 square feet or 25% of your existing building footprint, whichever of those two figures is greater.

Councilmember Winston said we definitely want to incentivize outside developers to help us build out our transportation infrastructure with sidewalks and bridging the gaps. I would also make sure that we are doing the same thing. I noticed on the way into town the other day as I got on the 25th Street Light Rail Station, up Brevard Street it is pretty apparent that

the sidewalk just ends at a creek crossing. About a quarter mile up the road there is new townhouse developing but there is this basically like a quarter mile gap adjacent to the Blue Line that could have been developed I think to really connect all the way from Parkwood all the way up to North Davidson Street going up Brevard Street. I'm wondering is that something we need to look at in terms of policy as to how we develop the land or would this be covered in an upgrade of the sidewalk policy that we are considering right now?

Mr. Curry said depending on the circumstances by which a new development may come in these amendments could potentially affect sidewalk construction along that stretch. We also have some City capital programs working in that area so our NECH programs, the Northeast Corridor Infrastructure Improvement Program as well as the pedestrian program. What we would like to do is make sure we have the right rules in the right place, so that private development is building sidewalks and that we are also following suit with our own capital infrastructure.

Mr. Winston said it is in a place where I don't see where private development would ever come into play because you have the street and then brush and then the light rail, and I don't know who else would be responsible other than us.

Mr. Curry said we may need to follow up with you then on the specific parcel to understand better what might happen there.

Councilmember Eiselt said Mr. Harlow asked my question about the threshold for small businesses, but to the same point to the conversation we had about affordable housing let's not miss the opportunity to make those connections. I'm okay with saying we will fill that gap with affordable housing because if it is not going to get built because of the sidewalk then we should use our Housing Trust Fund money for that, but by the same token, if we are saying the threshold is 2,500 square feet or 25% of the existing building then we should finish that otherwise we are just going to continue to have gaps. As you said, it is more expensive if we try to go back and do it later. That is my two cents.

Councilmember Mayfield said I appreciate the fact that staff is looking and hear our questions. I would encourage as we talk about the potential regarding diverse price point housing that we not commit; we get the information and bring the information back to Council, because I think what we hear is that not everyone was on the same page when we asked the question of what are some potential options that didn't necessarily mean that we want you to go out and commit and try to fix. Bring us back the information, so we can talk about what that could look like, but also that 50% rule, I think we need to see how quickly we can move those conversations along, and I want to do a special thank you to Mr. Curry, because we actually had a chance to ride along, not only Westinghouse Boulevard but Carowinds Boulevard, and we are talking about doing something that has never been done and that is a joint partnership between North Carolina and South Carolina since Carowinds runs along both, and you have employees for both us that are walking in very unsafe environments, so we are doing a higher level conversation to see if there is a way that we can partner on sidewalk infrastructure to protect those that are going to the businesses along Carowinds Boulevard and looking at the impact of Westinghouse Boulevard where we have people walking to get to and from work. I wanted to take a moment to say thank you for Mr. Curry and I having the opportunity to actually go out and drive to see the impact on the ground.

Councilmember Driggs said Mr. Curry, I appreciate the work you've done on this and the time you spent me talking through some of the updates and changes. I had a fundamental concern about the idea that we adopt a kind of visionary walks plan and then we go straight to language and that step is not just wordsmithing. There is a lot of substance that has gone into that that wasn't necessarily spelled out in our original plan so right now I'm wondering, for example, whether these latest revisions you've made have been made available to the developer community or the affordable housing developers and whether we know what their response is to those and in particular is there any reason why we can't let [inaudible] talk about this on the 25th and wait a week or two longer before taking our final action.

Mr. Curry said I think I mentioned to you all that we have met with the development community six times and given them ample opportunity to chime in. We have sent them the latest version of this ordinance which includes the affordable housing reimbursement

mechanism that I mentioned. We've gotten that letter of support from the affordable housing developers who raised the concern to begin with. We really feel these are ready to move forward based on the feedback that we've heard through the Charlotte Walks Plan and through our internal vetting and through City Council.

Mr. Driggs said is there any particular reason why it couldn't be brought in front of [inaudible] on the 25th; what is the time sensitivity here? Let the development community look at it on the 25th of April and see whether they have any response for us from that because some of these changes can have a pretty profound impact on some redevelopment proposals, and I'm just concerned that we balance our goals for sidewalks with our job creation and economic development priorities.

Mayor Lyles said I hear that and I know it is important but I remember that same time that we were talking about actually having sidewalks built under the subdivision ordinance. It was the same thing; I don't think we are cutting off any input because when we have it on the 23rd people can come down and speak to the issue: developer, resident, community groups or organizers, so I would hope that if after the meetings with the development community, putting it available on our website that we would actually be able to hear from the community overall at one time, so that would be an important part for me. I think that is up to the Council to decide if you want to delay it I understand, and we can do that. I don't know that this is an urgent item; it can come up if you decide not to host it, but I do think it is important not to seek out one interest group without having others be able to participate.

Ms. Eiselt said are we voting on the 23rd for the ordinance? That is my concern if we had a couple issues. Is it what it is right now, and we vote on the 23rd or can we have any input still to ask for things like that versus the process kind of done?

Mayor Lyles said the process isn't done until we vote on it, but I think if you want to have a public hearing on it you can do that and then made a decision. I think we've often had topics like this that you hear from the public and made a decision or not.

Ms. Eiselt said I felt like that is what we did last time, and we did get the feedback from the development community and that is why we incorporated the affordable housing piece into that. To me that is kind of ready to go and I do thank you all for taking that into account.

Mr. Driggs said I just want to say we did get feedback; that feedback was taken on board. We haven't heard the reaction to our responses to the feedback. I would just like to close the loop and make sure we've arrived at the place that everybody intends and I don't see why a week or two makes that much difference.

Mr. Phipps said this came before us many months ago and we had public comment, and as a result of that comment we went back tweaked it and now it is brought back to us. To many that has been many months, and I'm not in favor of delaying it any further than it has already been delayed. I thought we were on the cuff of voting for it even the last time until we opened it back up to this current process.

Councilmember Ajmera said I concur with Mr. Phipps; I think we've had plenty of time to hear from the developer's community. I'm also in favor of moving forward with this and thank you for all the work on this.

* * * * *

ITEM NO. 6: CLOSED SESSION

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Egleston, and carried unanimously to go into closed session pursuant to GS 143-318.11(a)(4) to discuss matters relating to the location of industries or businesses in the City of Charlotte, including potential economic development incentives that may be offered in negotiations.

The meeting was recessed at 6:18 p.m. to go into a closed session in Room 267. The closed session recessed at 6:28 p.m. to move to the Meeting Chamber for the regularly scheduled Business Meeting.

* * * * *

BUSINESS MEETING

The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina reconvened for a Business Meeting at 6:40 p.m. on Monday, April 9, 2018 in the Meeting Chamber of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center with Mayor Vi Lyles presiding. Councilmembers present were Dimple Ajmera, Tariq Bokhari, Ed Driggs, Larken Egleston, Julie Eiselt, Justin Harlow, LaWana Mayfield, James Mitchell, Matt Newton, Greg Phipps, and Braxton Winston, II.

* * * * *

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Councilmember Mitchell gave the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

* * * * *

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

ITEM NO. 7: NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK PROCLAMATION

Mayor Lyles said I want to say a few words about a number of people who are joining us tonight and these are the people that participate in the over 30 Boards and Commissions that we have in which we appoint and ask citizens to come in and we are doing this because we believe that this week serves as National Volunteer Week. Often times we ask people to send in an application for a particular Board or Commission and then we tell them to go off and do good work and very seldom do we sit down and say how much we appreciate you. We have chosen this week and this time to do that. I want everyone in this community to understand how important it is to have and participate in local government. This is where you actually see things happen. When you speak to us you are speaking to the line of people that want to serve you and serve this community and so when we have appointments to various Boards and Commissions all the way from the people that help us decide on how do we implement housing to people that serve to help us protect our tree canopy to people that actually go out and clean up our streets and pick up our litter, these are people that care and they are devoted to the efforts and most of them do this, because they want to make a difference in the community. I want to recognize tonight the many members of our Boards and Commissions that volunteer their time, their energy and their effort and particularly their wisdom to this community with a proclamation that says;

WHEREAS, volunteerism strengthens neighborhoods and enriches the lives of community members; and

WHEREAS, civic participation is a building block of good government, where volunteers shape policy on important issues such as economic development, housing, transportation and planning; and

WHEREAS, City Council has a long history of encouraging membership on advocacy boards, committees and commissions, including the City’s 30 advisory boards, served by more than 400 volunteer members; and

WHEREAS, our volunteers’ selflessness should be recognized, not only to celebrate their volunteerism, but also to encourage others to get involved;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Vi Alexander Lyles, Mayor of Charlotte, do hereby recognized April 15 – 21 as

“NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK”

In Charlotte and we commend all volunteers community-wide for their lasting impact on our City.

Mayor Lyles asked the members, Chairs and Vice Chairs of our Boards and Commissions to stand. As a token of our appreciation and in recognition of your service each member that is currently serving on an advisory board, committee or commission as of this meeting date will receive a commemorative coin and I would like to use this quote from former President George H. W. Bush, who is the founder of Points of Life. “Every problem that this country faces is being solved in some community by some group or some individual. The question is how to get connected so that the whole nation can solve problems. A volunteer is a person who can see what others cannot see, who can feel what most do not feel. Often such gifted persons do not think of themselves as volunteers but as citizens, citizens in the fullest sense partners in our civilization”. Thank you very much for your service.

* * * * *

ITEM NO. 8: FAIR HOUSING MONTH

Mayor Lyles said the next commemoration that we would like to make is a joint proclamation of the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County. We do this in recognition of Fair Housing Month and it seems particularly important and connected with the recent commemoration of Martin Luther King’s death. At this time, we as a community recognize the connections that are necessary for people to be able to have the ability to choose a house or a home and not be discriminated against. So, with this joint proclamation of the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County I would like to read:

WHEREAS, the Charlotte City Council is committed to building safe, livable neighborhoods where all community members can thrive; and

WHEREAS, everyone in the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County is entitled to freedom from discrimination in housing, which is an essential component of everyday health and wellbeing; and

WHEREAS, April 4, 2018, marks the 50th anniversary of the death of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., a champion for human rights and equality; and

WHEREAS, this year marks the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Fair Housing Act into law, which prohibits discrimination in the sale, rental and financing of dwellings based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin; and

WHEREAS, Charlotte is a vibrant, growing city, that values our diverse community;

NOW THEREFORE, we, Vi Alexander Lyles, Mayor of Charlotte and Ella B. Scarborough, Mecklenburg County Board Chair, do hereby proclaim April 2018 as

“FAIR HOUSING MONTH”

In Charlotte-Mecklenburg, and commend its observance to all citizens.

Mayor Lyles I want you to know that we have worked really hard in this community for a number of years and this is represented by our Community Relations Committee who takes in these issues and is responsible for working with people to insure fair housing rules are in compliance in our community.

I would like welcome to the podium representative of the Community Relations Committee: Patricia Albritton, Chair of the Community Relations Committee; Charmaine Ifill, realtor representing the Charlotte Regional Realtors Association and 2018 Chair of the Housing Opportunity Foundations Fair and Affordable Housing Advisory Group; Joe Padilla, Executive Director of the Real Estate and Building Industry Coalition; and Ken Szymanski, Executive Director of the Greater Charlotte Association for comments.

Patricia Albritton, Community Relations Committee said this year is historic as housing and urban development and America commemorates the 50th anniversary of the Fair Housing Act. The theme for the year-long celebration is The Fair Housing Act 50 Years of Opening Doors. The Fair Housing Act prohibits housing discrimination based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, family status, and disability. When President Lyndon Johnson

signed the Landmark Bill into law on April 11, 1968 just seven days after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. President Johnson said fair housing for all human beings who live in this country are now a part of the American way of life. The City of Charlotte has been enforcing the Fair Housing Law for 38-years; Mecklenburg County has been enforcing the law for 36-years. Instrumental to this work of protecting housing rights for all has been the Charlotte Regional Realtors Association and the Greater Charlotte Apartment Association; you will hear from both of them now.

Charmaine Ifill said I am representing the Charlotte Regional Realtors Association, a historical arm of the Housing Opportunity Foundation. We are delighted to partner with Charlotte Mecklenburg Community Relations to raise awareness for the 50th anniversary of the Fair Housing Act. As realtors, we adhere to a strict code of ethics to insure fair housing also we work year-round to support and advocate for fair and affordable housing for all. Thank you and we look forward to seeing each of you on April 20th for our 10th Annual Realtors Care project.

Ken Szymanski said I am representing the Greater Charlotte Apartment Association. We celebrate April as Fair Housing Month every year. During 2018, we observe, celebrate and refocus on the spirit and complex compliance aspects of the Act for its 50th anniversary. Today, Fair Housing Law and debates are much more complex than back in the 1960's as terms like disparate impact, emotional support animals, trans9ender rights, reasonable accommodation of disabilities and source of income and many others were pretty much unheard of 50-years ago. Over the years society has become more multifaceted but the bedrock principle of unfair treatment and being denied shelter for the wrong reasons resonates as strongly as every today.

Mayor Lyles presented the proclamation to Ms. Albritton and said thank you for the work that you do. Just like we talked about volunteerism and the difference that it makes in a community we so much appreciate the work that you are doing in conjunction with our community and our housing and development community. Thank you very much.

* * * * *

PUBLIC FORUM

Affordable Housing for Seniors

Richard Simmons, 10551 #532 Paces Avenue, Matthews said I am a Vietnam veteran, a 32-year resident of Charlotte Mecklenburg, and I became a resident of Paces Commons Apartments in Matthews about five-years ago. I know City Councilmembers wrestles with the numbers and statistics that constitute our City's affordable housing crisis for the elderly population or others living on a fixed income. Let me put a face on that reality as I am one of those struggling with affordability. When I moved into my apartment, I was paying around \$550 per month or about 40% of my social security. The development was bought about four years ago and then again in the last year. With each new owner there was an unusually large rent increases. The most recent owner did some minor cosmetic and mechanical update; they painted the Formica counter tops and cabinets and put in new kitchen appliances. My rent is now \$920 per month or about 70% of my social security. With this high rent, there is little left for food, utilities and car. My savings has disappeared quickly, so what do I do? I realize that there is an extreme shortage of housing affordable to people like me, but even if there were places to move, frankly it is unfair to ask me at 72 years of age to leave my neighborhood. In my opinion, subsidizing individual's rents rather than subsidizing landlords or developers would be a better use of our tax money. I respectfully request that you, the elected members of the City Council, put your heads together and continue to diligent work to help seniors like me who are veterans or former teachers or others who have worked hard all their lives and deserve to maintain a secure future in the Charlotte that we all call home. Dr. Owens with University of North Carolina School of Government has said that as a general rule legislative decisions regarding decisions to adopt, amend, or repeal a zoning ordinance is presumed to be valid and Judiciary largely defers to judgements of local elected officials on these sort of matters. That means that if you request all apartments being built must have a number of units for low or elderly living on social security it will be acceptable to the state. If only the ones, your friends, or big developers don't have to do that is not legal, and it wouldn't be supportable.

Mayor Lyles said I recognize that this is something that is an important issue. Everyone around this dais understands that. I think Mr. Simmons you have pointed out that isn't just a Charlotte issue; it is an issue in every town in Mecklenburg County, including the City of Charlotte.

Affordable Housing in Charlotte

Sharon Edwards, 1603 Taylor Avenue said I'm here for number 12 project; I'm just going to make it brief I don't have too much to say, because I'm kind of nervous. Mr. Winston was on my side in Twin Oaks and the struggle was real. The support team that I had in Twin Oaks we got through it. I'm just here to give my help to people that really need it, because there is a lot of us out here that is going through so much with this rental, getting kicked out of their places and things just happening and it is ridiculous so I'm here to support anybody that I can. After the meeting they can meet me, and I can do my best to show them the right way to go for the support that I got. It is not all the Council's fault; everybody needs to come together as one to get this done. I'm just here to give my speech and help folks.

Affordable Housing

John Divine, 5218 Holly Fern Circle said I'm speaking to you in support of those directly affected by the lack of affordable housing in Charlotte. I speak to you as a long time remodeler, who lived 25-years in Dilworth during its gentrification. I have a [inaudible] landlord of a Section 8 house. Affordable decent housing in Charlotte has been limited by the denial of legal rights and neglect of the housing needs of all citizens. In fact, we are all affected by good housing and if we have a lack it destroys our social fabric in many ways including denying children the critical stability of a safe neighborhood. These injustices contribute to social unrest, no justice, no peace. I live in a City where the Chamber of Commerce and City government act as though sports stadiums, fine restaurants and fancy buildings define being world class, even as we push out the poor, with no obligation to rehouse, operate no land trust, impose no property tax penalties for excess of gentrification. Whether it is urban renewal in Brooklyn with little affordable housing rebuilt or redevelopment of Grier Heights with no rehousing required natural affordable housing is disappearing, yet developers access City/County land with incentives not requiring affordable housing like Pearl Street and the Scaleybark Light Rail Project. Yet government also continues to sell its access land without negotiating affordable housing. Meanwhile, City leaders want charitable and religious groups to do more. The argument that we either fund affordable housing or attend to critical community needs is a false equivalency. Is housing for the poor and work place just a charity; where do we think the thousands of minimum wage earners that our economy depends on are going to live. First, they get pushed out of the wedge now they are pushed out of the crescent. It is our enlightened self-interest to get serious about this problem. So, if revenue is not available to reverse the net loss of NOAH then a budget line item should be created. Here are three things we can do: first implement the Opportunity Task Force recommendation of a 2018 \$50 million affordable housing bond that required 25% of the new or renovated projects to house the 30% AMI and under. Two, fund new vouchers that subsidize market rents in these units, and three, the City can lease surplus land from CMS at a nominal rate for a long enough periods that the City can turn around and provide it to developers for affordable housing at virtually no cost in order to reduce of production.

Supporting Undocumented and Transgender Communities

Christian Cano, 6511 Windyrush Road said I want to speak about how affordable housing and the lack of affordable housing and workplace housing has impacted our neighborhoods in south Charlotte. As a resident of Old Providence, I've seen my neighborhood become less diverse; I've seen my neighborhood become more privileged and elitist class. I have actually spoken with seniors in our neighborhood who are concerned that the character of our old neighborhood is now changing and now just becoming another Ballantyne. There are many people in south Charlotte who are just as concerned about affordable housing and workplace housing as there are in other areas. I know the NAACP released their minority report this year, and their issues were criminal justice, housing and education, and I hope everyone of you who are elected to public office have a copy of that and carry that around with you every

single day. I know last week I attended Congresswoman Adams' affordable housing summit; Council member Mitchel was there as well as Ms. Mayfield. So, it is important I think that all of our City Council and elected public servants understand that this is not just a west side or east side issue; this is a south Charlotte issue as well. There are parents that I have spoken to in my neighborhood that are concerned because their kids have to live with them until they are 30-years old, because they can't afford to live in south Charlotte. I also have family and friends of ours who live in our neighborhood that have actually had to sell their house and move out to Union County, to Waxhaw, to Stallings which is growing, because they can no longer afford to live in south Charlotte. We are losing talent, we are losing teachers and we are losing the quality of life that many of our seniors learn as we bought houses there. Once again, I hope and I know that we have leadership here now with our new Council to move this forward. I know that every one of you are committed to this issue; I know you ran on this platform and I know that we are going to hold you accountable to that, so please we need people to stand up, have the political courage to pass some laws and some good affordable housing and common sense issues that are passed. I want to piggyback; last week at the Affordable Housing Summit for Congresswoman Adams I said it would be a shame if our City Council or if our County Commission can come up with \$300 million or \$500 million to benefit a few very wealthy white privileged Charlotte Carolina Panther owners, and we cannot address this affordable housing issue.

Supporting Housing Communities

James Covington, 601 East 5th Street said three years ago I moved back to the Charlotte community, and I was faced with the task of trying to find affordable housing. At the time, my only income was \$2,300 per month in disability income. Although I searched high and low looking for a place, I couldn't find any safe, clean and secure place to live. Every place wanted your income to be at least three times the amount of your rent. The only places that I could find that I could afford to rent were in heavily drug infested crime ridden neighborhoods and for a person like myself that is in recovery; I had four-years clean and to be placed in that environment would have put my life in jeopardy. Today I work for a non-profit corporation and we provide wrap-a-round housing counseling services to our homeless brothers and sisters who are homeless and suffer from severe mental illness. To place a person that is suffering from severe mental illness in that type of atmosphere makes them very vulnerable. I don't feel that safe and affordable housing should be a privilege afforded to the few; I feel it should be a right to every citizen of this community. And it benefits for the City as well; when people have housing you don't use a lot of police resources on nuisance calls. People who don't have housing use the emergency room as their primary care physician and the question I would like to leave Council with tonight is we supposedly live in the largest Christian country in the world and the question I would like to leave you with are we truly my brother's keeper or are we just using because it sounds good?

The Worker Center

Isael Mejia, 4938 Central Avenue, #101 said I'm here in solidarity with our other partners who are here advocating for affordable housing, but it previously sent you an e-mail inviting you to our grand opening of the Worker Center, the Latin American Coalition, and I'm here today to tell you that on May 1, 2018 we will be opening the doors to Charlotte's first Worker Center. We believe in equality; we believe in equity most importantly, but as well we would like to support the day labors and labors in Charlotte in general who go out on a daily reoccurring schedule to find work to feed their families. We want to insure dignity, fair pay as well as safety. I think that is one issue that gets overseen a lot especially with the population with which we work. Unfortunately sometimes lack of knowledge by your rights, lack of knowledge about the laws that are there to support and advocate for workers; sometimes that lack of information exposes to danger, so I want to invite you and everybody in this room to come visit us at the Worker Center, 4305 Monroe Road. Thankfully in collaboration with Providence United Methodist Church, we will finally be able to open the doors and provide a safe place where these workers can wait for work, learn about their rights and have access to capacity building skill training that will make them marketable in the labor force. We've had the pleasure of having Councilmembers Mayfield and Ajmera at our building to talk more about this project, and I think it is a great opportunity for us to come together and as we grow make sure that the workers that are there building our houses, maintaining our properties and a lot of time exposing themselves to danger just so we can live in a beautiful City like

Charlotte. I want to invite you to come see us on May 1, 2018 8:00 to 11:00 a.m. and maybe you can find somebody there that can help you with a little bit of the work you need to do at home. I'm here with a large group of the Latin American Coalition members, supporters and my co-workers, and we are just so happy to finally be able to say we are opening the doors of a project that has been going on since 2010. We were first approached by the workers, because they were facing wage theft where they were doing the work but not getting paid, discrimination based on race, national origin, and also very dangerous situations in the workplace. A lot of these folks go out to work every day without the proper equipment or the training that really should be provided, but we are here to help support them and give them the right tools, hopefully and work together to insure their safety and most importantly the dignity is maintained in the workplace.

Affordable Housing

Martina Lowery, Brookhill Road said I am here to speak on affordable housing. For about six months, I was homeless staying at South Tryon Community Church; my pastor is Pastor Rashawn McKinnon. He was nice enough to let me and others stay there; we stayed there for about six months, and prior to that I lost my home and stayed in my car, which got totaled by a drunk driver. I ended up staying in a neighbor's car until it got real cold and then we ended up moving to South Tryon Community Church. In dealing with the Community Brookhill Village Apartments, there were so many people that stayed there at the shelter, not only can I speak for myself, I speak for the other ones also. Each day we go out and look around and you see all the apartments that are abandoned and no-one is able to go in and at least help rebuild and remodel. I live on a fixed income. Everything that I receive I have nothing now because I'm paying rent. I don't receive food stamps, nothing; I am considered totally disabled, and I'm trying to find a job just so I can make ends meet, just, so I won't have to go to Loaves and Fishes to support me and my children in order for us to eat. I had to let a lot go, which is okay, but my thing is now helping others out so they can have somewhere to stay, not having to open up your door to look at an apartment right across from you that is boarded up, when it could be put to use for those that are homeless and I speak on the homeless situation, because I was there myself. You have a lot of elderly people that were staying in Brookhill that are not there anymore, and you look at the children that go across the street to play; my children grew up in Brookhill ever since they were born. Now it is like what is happening to the community. For me myself I would be one that would not mind picking up a paintbrush or a hammer or a nail to help rebuild, restore and remodel.

Gun Laws

Jonathan Collazo, 4724 Sunburst Lane said I am 20; my birthday is Wednesday and I'll be turning 21. I'm really proud of myself for coming to speak today, because there are not a lot of young people my age that come out and speak to you in regards to any matter, and the subject that I'm speaking on behalf today is gun laws. I graduated almost three years ago from high school, and these recent shootings that are happening and everything that is going on with people but stricter gun laws I just don't believe that is the answer. I believe back in the day I speak to my grandmother and multiple people and it is about respect, and it is about what we are going to do as respect, because back in the day you used to be able to leave your doors open, leave your windows open. Now, you can't do that. I live in a \$300,000 housing development, and I still have DEA in my neighborhood, so I don't believe anywhere you go is going to be the answer, it is about respect and about how everybody is going to want to do. My question to you is for the law abiding citizens that come out here and have guns and do the right thing and use it for recreational use, use it for hunting, and use it not to go shoot up a school because they have some kind of disease, what are you going to do for me and what are you going to do for the men and women that are police officers and are you going to stand for them and be able to have the respect to stand up for them and speak on the majority of the law abiding citizens? If we have these guns laws in place, the guns are going to be taken away, and in reference to Greensboro City Council, I moved out of Charlotte about a year ago; I drove down here in an hour and a half today because I wanted to speak on have a voice. Just like the gentlemen who spoke to the Greensboro City Council said if we have these guns they are taken away. I'm the law abiding citizen, and I'll give my gun up but the thing is what happens with the gang members who are not going to give their guns up. What happens to the Police Officers that go in there; they are not going to want to give their guns up. That is going to be creating another problem, so what I will end with today

is what is the City Councilmembers going to do today, and what are you going to do in the future to answer in terms of gun laws? What is going to be done to protect the law abiding citizens in the City of Charlotte and across the United States of America?

Employees Offering Suggestions for Low Staffing on LYNX Blue Line

Kris Barrows, 3017 Sagebrush Bend said I am here on behalf of the LYNX Light Rail, and we would like to address some of the problems that are now coming to the surface now that we just expanded this Blue Line Extension. As everybody knows, the Extension went live a few weeks ago and the problem that is causing for us is a lack of staff. In the course of over 24-hours we had to go from putting 18 trains on the line to throwing 36 trains on the line just like that. That means we have to have 18 more operators for three separate shifts. The maintenance is done on mileage; they are now reaching their mileage twice as fast as they were. We are putting twice as many trains out there, so we are doing four times the amount of work. The problem is they did not increase our staffing levels whatsoever. Some of these operators are running from the minute they get there to the minute they leave with no breaks, sometimes they don't get lunch. You guys just built a multimillion dollar facility on the north end that is empty right now. If you walk in that building right now there is nobody working, because we don't have enough people to staff it. We put six people in that building for third shift only and that is it. According to the FTA guidelines, we are supposed to have approximately one technician for every train and currently we have 40 trains, but we only have 27 technicians. Our CEO John Lewis has referred to our technicians as the unicorns, because we are awfully hard to find. The skill set it takes to do our job just isn't everywhere. If you want to be a bus mechanic or a diesel mechanic, there is a school for that; if you want to work on airplanes there is a school for that. There is no such thing as a school for working on light rail trains. You have to pass electronics, computer skills and know what to do with a torque wrench in your hands. The average IT kid that has just graduated college now with electric engineering degree, he didn't go to school to go mess around with some filthy trains all day. Your average mechanic at your Ford Plant can't read schematics, so he is no good to us either so to be able to find people with both of those skill sets is awfully difficult. We have now been an entity for 10-years and we are still making only 85% of market rate. We are not allowed to recruit people from other facilities. We hold on to people; we are constantly being pouched by other cities so before my 45 seconds run out I'm going to ask for a 15% raise for all non-exempt employees. That is operators, dispatchers; we want to be a world class city well you've got to start paying us to keep the people. Duke Power poaches us. Norfolk-Southern pouches us; we cannot keep people and we cannot recruit people to do this job. We all love our jobs and we all take great pride in it, and we want to continue to provide a safe, reliable and dependable mode of transportation for the City of Charlotte, but without enough help to do it, it is just not possible.

Invitation to Opening of Worker's Center

Jose Hernandez-Paris, 4938 Central Avenue said I was here to speak on the Worker Center, but Israel did such a wonderful job that I just want to mention this workers collaborative. I've been touched by chance that we have all these workers and all these folks advocating for themselves for affordable living and for me to become an effort to become a City of dignity, a humane City that takes care of those who are looking for hourly labor to also those who are trying to take care of their family, so we hope that you continue to invest in our community. This center came about because you have been supporting us and helping us to make that happen. We hope you will continue to invest in the community and see the results when you invest in our community multiply that whatever you invest in us you will be multiplied many times fold, because a human resource that you invest in will give you back so much more than any other resource that you can invest in. I also want to acknowledge CMPD particular Officer Padgett, who is sitting behind me who has been an advocate for many, many years of the day labors and also some of the other officers who have been helping us with some of the issue we have been facing. We look forward to this collaboration, and we look forward to coming back to you next year and talking to you about how we are advancing with the Center and allowing people to receive employment in a dignified manner. We are all in this together,, and we hope that the City and County will invest in our community like I said because you will see the results.

Mayor Lyles said I want to say three things, and the first one is this is why we have this public forum to hear from you, and we really appreciate your voice. The second thing I would like to say is that we are continuing to work on our affordable housing strategy. There will be a Committee Meeting of the Housing and Neighborhood Development Committee (HAND) on April 20, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. Hopefully you will be able to hear more about that with the location and as the agenda is being prepared. The Committee has designated this as a time for a deeper thought conversation to come back with recommendations to the City Council and the budget. The final thing I want to say is that we've heard about housing, and we've heard about people's wages, and we hear you. We've also talked about these issues in our Budget Committee and how the City's policy isn't 85%, but is that the appropriate wage for the type of organization that we believe is important to build a City like this one? Thank you for coming and speaking to us.

Councilmember Mayfield said Mayor; may I just give clarification for the community? On the 20th we are actually hosting the first retreat specifically for Housing and Neighborhood Development Committee, because unfortunately we have not had an opportunity to really have a conversation around what is the expectation and the goals and as we move forward with coming to the community with a bond request we need to first find out what is the bond capacity, what is our goal and what is the expectation in our language because language got us to this point and language is what we are going to need to help create the true diversity in our community, so I want to make sure you know that April 18, 2018 Housing and Neighborhood Development Committee meeting will not be happening. We will be having a Housing and Neighborhood Development Retreat on the 20th and that information will be shared once everything is confirmed on the location.

* * * * *

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion was made by Councilmember Mitchell, seconded by Councilmember Newton, and carried unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda as presented with the exception of Item No. 38, which was pulled by staff at the request of Council and Item No. 53 which was pulled by staff because it was settled.

The following items were approved:

Item No. 24: 2017 Homeland Security Grant Program

(A) Authorize the Charlotte Homeland Security Director (Charlotte Fire Chief) to accept a grant for \$160,000 from the North Carolina Department of Public Safety, Office of the North Carolina Emergency Management received through the United States Department of Homeland Security 2017 Homeland Security Grant Program, and (B) Adopt Budget Ordinance No. 9301-X appropriating \$160,000 in Homeland Security Grant Program funds.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 61, at Page(s) 318.

Item No. 25: Solid Waste Services Refuse Vehicle Tire and Related Services Contract

(A) Award a unit price contract to the lowest responsive bidder Parrish Tire Company for the purchase of refuse collection vehicle tires and light-duty vehicle tires for 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.

Summary of Bids

Parrish Tire Company	\$ 774,075.41
McCarthy Tire	\$ 791,716.57
Snider Tire	\$1,039,938.56

Item No. 26: Solid Waste Services Automated Vehicle Locator Contract Amendment

Approve contract amendment #1 for \$390,000 to the Coretex Automated Vehicle Asset Location Products & Services contract for continued monitoring and reporting.

Item No. 27: Solid waste Services Video Monitoring Product and Services Contract

(A) Approve a contract with Advanced Digital Solutions, LLC for video monitoring products and services for an initial term of three years, (B) 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, (C) Authorize the City Manager to purchase maintenance and support for as long as Solid Waste Services uses the video monitoring systems, and (D) Authorize the City Manager to purchase additional software licenses, services, and hardware as needed from time to time to optimize the City's use of the products, and to approve other amendments consistent with the purpose for which the contracts were approved, including price adjustments.

Item No. 28: Purchase Traffic Signal Controllers

(A) Approve the purchase of traffic signal controllers, as authorized by the sole source exemption of G.S. 143-129(e)(6), and (B) Approve a sole source contract in the amount of \$220,600 with Econolite, Inc. for the purchase of traffic signal controllers.

Item No. 29: Private Developer Funds Appropriation

(A) Approve a Developer Agreement with SC Hondros for traffic signal installation and improvements, and (B) Adopt Budget Ordinance No. 9302-X appropriating \$6,500 in private developer funds for traffic signal installations and improvements.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 61, at Page(s) 319.

Item No. 30: Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning Supplies and Services Contract

(A) Approve the purchase of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning supplies and services from a federal contract as authorized by G. S. 143-129(e)(9a), (B) Approve a unit price contract with United Technologies Corporation, Climate, Controls Security dba Carrier Corporation for supplies and services for a term of two years under the U.S. General Services Administration September 1, 2015 through August 31, 2020 Contract number GS-07F-0634W, and (C) Authorize the City manager to extend the contract for an additional one-year terms as long as the federal contract is in effect, at prices and terms that are the same or more favorable than those offered under the cooperative contract.

Item 31: Amend Contract for the sale of City Property located on West Tyvola Road

Approve an amendment to the existing contract between the City of Charlotte and Laurel Street Residential, for the sale of 11.686 acres of property (tax parcel ID 143-133-01) located on West Tyvola Road.

Item No. 32: Brigmoor Drive Storm Drainage Improvement Project

Award a contract in the amount of \$592,333.95 to the lowest responsive bidder, Zoladz Construction Co., Inc. for the Brigmoor Drive Storm Drainage Improvement Project.

Summary of Bids

Zoladz Construction Co., Inc.	\$592,333.95
Onsite Development, LLC	\$696,089.25
Carolina Cajun Concrete, Inc.	\$697,319.75
United of Carolinas, Inc.	\$774,828.83
Blythe Development Company	\$852,584.41
United Construction Company, Inc.	\$946,841.00

Item No. 33: LaSalle Street Storm Drainage Improvement Project

Award a contract in the amount of \$628,888.43 to the lowest responsive bidder Zoladz Construction Co., Inc. for the LaSalle Street Storm Drainage Improvement Project.

Summary of Bids

Zoladz Construction Co., Inc.	\$628,888.43
DOT Construction, Inc.	\$746,975.60
United of Carolinas, Inc.	\$766,190.49
OnSite Development, LLC	\$785,445.40

Item No. 34: Royston Road Channel Stabilization Project

(A) Reject the low-bid submitted by Sunrise Repair and Construction, Inc. for the Royston Road Channel Stabilization Project, and (B) Award a contract in the amount of \$373,007.68 to the lowest responsive bidder River Works, Inc. for the Royston Road Channel Stabilization Project.

Summary of Bids

Sunrise Repair and Construction, Inc. *	\$297,711.00
River Works, Inc.	\$373,007.68
Eagle Wood, Inc.	\$398,812.32
Husky Construction Corp.	\$480,389.50
Onsite Development, LLC	\$487,485.00
United Construction Company, Inc.	\$603,002.50
United of Carolinas, Inc.	\$889,247.85

*Sunrise Repair and Construction, Inc. failed to meet the Charlotte Business INClusion Program established subcontracting goal.

Item No. 35: Marlwood-Waverly Water Quality Enhancement Project

Award a contract in the amount of \$2,660,281.20 to the lowest responsive bidder United Construction Company, Inc. for the Marlwood-Waverly Water Quality Enhancement Project.

Summary of Bids

United Construction Company, Inc.	\$2,660,281.20
Onsite Development, LLC	\$2,965,749.60
United of Carolinas, Inc.	
\$2,998,878.00	

Item No. 36: Wilmore Drive/Park Avenue and Little Sugar Creek Tributary Trunk Sewer to North Tryon Street Sanitary Sewer Design-Build Services Contract Amendment

Approve contract amendment #1 for \$19,498,569.90 with Sanders Utility Construction Co., Inc. establishing Guaranteed Maximum Price for Phase 2 design-build service for Sanitary Sewer Projects.

Item No. 37: Interlocal Agreement for Stevens Creek Sewer Phase I and Stream Restoration

Adopt a resolution to approve an interlocal agreement with Mecklenburg County pursuant to which the County will pay the City to construct a portion of Stevens Creek Sewer Phase I and Stevens Creek Stream Restoration Project.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 48, at Page(s) 671-681.

Item No. 39: Fiscal Year 2018 Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation

(A) Reject the low-bid submitted by AM-Liner East, Inc. for failing to meet the established MSBE goal and Good Faith Efforts requirement, (B) Award a Contract in the amount of \$3,799,850.25 to the lowest responsive bidder, IPR Southeast LLC for the Fiscal Year 2018 Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation project, and (C) Authorize the City Manager to approve up to three renewals in the amount above, with possible adjustments in unit prices and each renewal cap in an amount no greater than the percentage change in the Engineering News Record Construction Cost Index, and to amend the contract consistent with the purpose for which the contract was approved.

Summary of Bids

Am-Liner East, Inc.	\$3,728,588.61
IPR Southeast, LLC	\$3,799,850.25
Layne Inliner, LLC	\$4,488.673.46

Item No. 40: Airport Concourse A North Expansion Phase I Design Services Contract Amendment

(A) Approve contract amendment #1 in the amount of \$153,820 with Perkins+Will North Carolina, Inc. to provide design services for a replacement chiller and associated cooling tower as part of the Concourse A North Expansion Phase I project, and (B) Adopt Budget

Ordinance No. 9303-X appropriating \$153,820 from the Aviation Discretionary Fund to the Aviation Community Investment Plan Fund.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 61, at Page(s) 320.

Item No. 41: Federal Aviation Administration Reimbursable Agreement

(A) Approve a reimbursable agreement in the amount of \$475,063.77 with the Federal Aviation Administration to allocate one additional Federal Aviation Administration staff to support the Airport's Environmental Impact Statement, (B) Authorize the City Manager to amend the agreement consistent with the City's business for which the contract was approved, and (C) Adopt Budget Ordinance No. 9304-X in the amount of \$475,063.77 from the Aviation Discretionary Fund to the Aviation Community Investment Plan.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 61, at Page(s) 321.

Item No. 42: Airport Taxiway M Rehabilitation Design Services Contract

(A) Approve a professional services contract in the amount of \$888,000 with Delta Airport Consultants, Inc. to provide design services for the Taxiway M Rehabilitation project, and (B) Adopt Budget Ordinance No. 9305-X in the amount of \$888,000 from the Aviation Discretionary Fund to the Aviation Community Investment Plan Fund.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 61, at Page(s) 322.

Item No. 43: Aircraft Training Cabins Donation

Authorize the City Manager to accept a donation from American Airlines of two aircraft training cabins to be used for emergency training at the Airport.

Item No. 44: Airport North End Taxiway Environmental Assessment

(A) Approve a professional services contract in the amount of \$249,660 with Ricondo & Associates, Inc. to prepare an Environmental Assessment for the North End-Around Taxiway, and (B) Adopt Budget Ordinance No. 9306-X in the amount of \$249,660 from the Aviation Discretionary Fund to the Aviation Community Investment Plan Fund.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 61, at Page(s) 323.

Item No. 45: Citywide Voice Communications Services

(A) Approve an extension of up to five years to the contract with NCapital LLC, formerly NCloud Leasing LLC, for the continued provision and expansion of the citywide voice over IP (VoIP) telephone communications systems, (B) Approve an extension of up to two years to the contracts with AT & T North Carolina for the continued provision of the local voice telecommunications service to certain City facilities, and (C) Approve an extension of up to two years to the contract with Call Coverage, Inc. for continued provision of the CallXpress voice mail system and related services for certain City facilities.

Item No. 46: Executive Recruiting Services

(A) Approve contracts with the following companies for Executive Recruiting Services for an initial term of three years: Creative Management Staffing Services, LLC., Krauthamer & Associates, Inc., The Mercer Group, Inc., Ralph Anderson & Associates, Reffett Associates and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contracts for up to two additional one year terms with possible price adjustments and to amend the contracts consistent with the purpose for which the contracts were approved.

Item No. 47: iNovah Software Maintenance and Support Contract Amendments

(A) Approve a contract amendment with N. Harris Computer Corporation dba System Innovators, Inc. to renew the iNovah Software Support and Maintenance Services Contract for a term of one year, and authorize the City Manager to approve additional renewal terms 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, and (C) Authorize the City Manager to purchase additional software licenses, services, and hardware required to maintain the system for as long as the City uses the system.

Item No. 48: Citywide Safety Shoes Contract

(A) Approve the purchase of safety shoes from a cooperative purchasing contract as authorized by G.S. 143-129(e)(3), (B) Approve a unit price contract with Cintas Corporation for the purchase of safety shoes for a term of one year under U. S. Communities contract 12-JLH-011, and (C) Authorize the City Manager to extend the contract for additional one-year terms as long as the cooperative contract is in effect, at prices and terms that are the same or more favorable than those offered under the cooperative contract.

Item No. 49: Refund of Property and Business Privilege License Taxes

(A) Adopt a resolution authorizing the refund of property taxes assessed through clerical or assessment error in the amount of \$8,118.00 and (B) Adopt a resolution authorizing the refund of business privilege license payments in the amount of \$30.00.

The resolutions are recorded in full in Resolution Book 48, at Page(s) 663-664 and 665-666.

Item No. 50: Meeting Minutes

Approve the titles, motions, and votes reflected in the Clerk's record as the minutes of: February 26, 2018 Business Meeting and March 5, 2018 Strategy Session.

PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

Item No. 51: Property Transactions – 25th Street Connection, Parcel #6

Acquisition of 4,748 square feet (.109 acre) in Fee Simple plus 1,501 square feet (.034) acre in Temporary Construction Easement at 511 East 25th Street from Fountains Noda Holdings, LLC for \$164,905 for 25th Street Connection, Parcel #6.

Item No. 52: Property Transactions – 25th Street Connection, Parcel #8

Resolution of condemnation of 1,464 square feet (.034 acre) in Fee Simple plus 2,951 square feet (.068 acre) in Temporary Construction Easement, plus 439 square feet (.01 acre) in Utility Easement, plus 1,556 square feet (.036 acre) in Sidewalk/Utility/Gas Line Easement at 2201 North Davidson Street from Florida Carbonic Manufacturing Company for an amount to be determined, for 25th Street Connection, Parcel #8.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 48, at Page (s) 667.

Item No. 54: Property Transactions – Franklin to Vest Water Main, Parcel #1

Acquisition of 7,444 square feet (.171 acre) in Fee Simple at 2404 Sanders Avenue from Maria Diaz for \$92,000 for Franklin to Vest Water Main, Parcel #1.

Item No. 55: Property Transactions – Goose Creek Pump Station – Part 2, Parcel #35

Resolution of Condemnation of 6,638 square feet (.152 acre) in Sanitary Sewer Easement, plus 6,358 square feet (.146 acre) in Temporary Construction Easement at 14153 Maple Hollow Lane from Craig L. Souder and Nancy N. Souder for an amount to be determined for Goose Creek Pump Station – Part 2, Parcel #35.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 48, at Page(s) 668.

Item No. 56: Property Transactions – Lincoln Heights Drainage Improvements, Parcel #7

Acquisition of 2,991.86 square feet (.069 acre) in Storm Drainage Easement, plus 625.05 square feet (.014 acre) in Temporary Construction Easement at 1955 Garnette Place from Albert B. McMullen for \$10,225 for Lincoln Heights Drainage Improvements, Parcel #7.

Item No. 57: Property Transactions – Lincoln Heights Drainage Improvements, Parcel #12

Resolution of Condemnation of 183.86 square feet (.004 acre) in Storm Drainage Easement, plus 142.28 square feet (.003 acre) in Temporary Construction Easement at 2111 LaSalle Street from Gloria Helms Horton, Eli W. Horton, Thomas Ray Helms, Jr., Shirley E. Helms, Rachel Helms Cassada, and Galen Cassada for \$175 for Lincoln Heights Drainage Improvements, Parcel #12.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 48, at Page(s) 669.

Item No. 58: Property Transactions – Rocky River Road Improvement, Parcel #26
Resolution of Condemnation of 49 square feet (.001 acre) in Utility Easement at 7509 Rockland Drive from Alvin M. Washington and Tia M. Washington for \$125 for Rocky River Road Improvement, Parcel #26.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 48, at Page (s) 670.

Item No. 59: Aviation Property Transaction – 8215 Robbie Circle
Acquisition of .603 acres at 8315 Robbie Circle from Judith P. Smith for \$201,000 and all relocation benefits in compliance with federal, state and local regulations for Airport Environmental Impact Statement Mitigation Land.

Item No. 60: Aviation Property Transaction – 9200 Dorcas Lane
Acquisition of .886 acres at 9200 Dorcas Lane from Merlin & Sarah Wilson for \$219,700 and all relocation benefits in compliance with Federal, State or Local regulations for Airport Environmental Impact Statement Mitigation Land (South).

PUBLIC HEARING

ITEM NO. 11: PUBLIC HEARING ON THE FISCAL YEAR 2019 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Mayor Lyles declared the hearing open.

There being no speakers either for or against, a motion was made by Councilmember Eiselt, seconded by Councilmember Mayfield, and carried unanimously to open and close the public hearing.

ITEM NO. 12: PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE SOUTH END VISION PLAN AND PLAN AMENDMENTS

Taiwo Jaiyeoba, Planning Director said on March 26, 2018 Monica Holmes, Planning staff presented this to you, so there will be no presentation tonight, but Monica and I will be glad to answer any questions that you might have. Since we started this back in 2016, we’ve walked collaboratively with the Center City Partners, and Michael Smith, CEO Charlotte Center City Partners is here tonight and is the first on your speakers list and will address this. We are not asking for any Council action tonight, but we will come back in the near future to present this again for adoption, but before we do that it will go through our Planning Committee and also go to the Transportation and Planning Committee (TAP) as well. The purpose tonight is for you to take comments, and we will be here if we need to respond to anything.

Michael Smith, 200 South Tryon Street said it is a pleasure to introduce the South End Vision Plan that would serve as a blueprint for the future development of the South End. It has been a great process and we appreciate the incredible partnership we have enjoyed with your Planning Department and also with the Urban Design Team here at the City. We also would like to recognize Stantec; they were the Urban Design Consultants that worked with us, really an excellent experience on a couple projects with them recently. I don’t want to forget the 500 citizens that participated and provided their input throughout this process, really a great process. So, why now? Well, over the past decade the population of this District has grown from 2,500 to 9,500 residents, really unprecedented kind of growth. There are nearly 4,000 units of new housing that is either under construction or planned and we look forward to more office and retail oriented projects that are helping to balance the neighborhood across all uses. An example would be that there is 500,000 square feet of new office that is being created right now and there is another 500,000 that is planned behind that. Despite this recent momentum, there are still other great opportunities when you look at our

South End with its proximity to uptown and its location on the Blue Line. Also there are many underutilized parcels along South Boulevard, South Tryon Street, and Mint Street.

We've learned a lot of lessons over the last 10-years since the Blue Line opened. We realized the need to implement policies to help foster active streetscapes with shops and services to enhance the neighborhood character but also to preserve the treasured buildings of the neighborhoods, for neighborhoods to become even more vibrant places and to capitalize on real estate value yet to maximize its potential as Charlotte's most walkable transit oriented neighborhood. It is the time right now we think to create a new vision for the South End as to how we should grow and develop.

Some of the project goals for the South End Vision Plan are to articulate a community driven vision for the South End, also to serve as a benchmark for developers and designers when they are creating new projects and when planners and government officials and community members are reviewing those potential projects. Lastly, and this is something we've been working on for a while in the South End; we really want to raise the bar. We want to establish higher design standards across the entire neighborhood. We think the time is right, and this is a uniqueness because Washington, DC did not enjoy the design standards they have today. Over time as the community develops its citizens demand more and we think we are at one of those points.

From an implementation standpoint through meetings with the community and stakeholders, we think we have captured their vision for the future, what they want for their neighborhood and we are off to a great start. The Planning Department is already working on one of the key recommendations that came out of the neighborhood and that was to create a new design standard guideline by revising the TOD ordinance. The community's vision has greatly influenced those guidelines in the ordinance, and the idea of the South End Vision Plan we could hope could serve as even a model as we look to other great high growth neighborhoods like Central Avenue, Wilkinson Boulevard, West Trade Street, and Beatties Ford Road.

I'm inspired by three things that I wanted to share from the Plan and bring them specifically to your attention. Number one affordability, we want to make sure that the South End is affordable for the people that made it great. We need to build housing at diverse price points as well as have affordable space for businesses.

Terry Shook, 2151 Hawkins Street said many times I've been referred to as the grandfather of South End, and I take that in some way with pride in that I was one of the original people who came up with South End and have been there my entire profession career with my firm Shook Kelly. I'm going to pick up exactly where Mr. Smith left off. First off let me say I agree with everything Mr. Smith had said, and as the representative for Historic South End and Center City Partners I had a chance to help on the plan. One of the other parts that fulfill the vision for Historic South End is making full use of transit. South End is our first transit oriented neighborhood, so there is a plan within the Vision Plan a new transit stop. We think it is vital to build the pedestrian crossing which has already been approved and a new transit stop at Rampart Street. It needs to be safe, not only for pedestrians, but to catalyze development and get the value capture. It relates directly to property taxes. The other thing is the I-277 pedestrian bridge; many of us for a long time have lamented the fact that South End from a pedestrian standpoint was cut off from our uptown. One of the Vision's top 10 recommendations is to build this bridge along the rail trail linking it by building this pedestrian bridge that crosses I-277. Now, 10-years ago this critical connection was value engineered out of the Blue Line project, so this is not a new idea and we continually hear from the community just how badly this is needed. All you have to go down the rail trail on the weekend and understand the type of traffic that is on there so we have identified over \$7 million of matching funds to help pay for this bridge, and we hope the City will consider its support of this important plan recommendation.

Rick Shanley, 1507 Camden Road said I am a South End resident; I'm also on the Board of the South End Neighborhood Association, and I was a Committee member for the South End Vision Plan. My wife and I moved to Charlotte four-years ago, so we are one of the 9,500 people that Mr. Smith talked about who have been invading South End. When we moved here instantly were drawn to it, because we saw how cool it was and just the growth in the

last four-years have been amazing. The one thing that this Vision Plan focuses on and Mr. Shook just talked about it is the connectivity and connecting, not only South End within itself, but Dilworth, Wilmore and South Boulevard and Tryon Street are two major opportunities that we have through this Vision Plan to really calm the traffic to make it more accessible for people from the other neighborhoods to come into South End. We live right on South Boulevard, and we had a miniature pincher, and we would take her for a walk and once we would kind of round the corner and get on South Boulevard she would step it up and wouldn't want to go any further, because she knew the traffic was kind of crazy and it wasn't easy. I know that work is being done to connect both sides of the rail trail which will be helpful for that and overall the Plan certainly has many great tenants but just my personal perspective we think that the connectivity is a big one and we hope that you will support the Plan.

Justin Lane, 1541 Wilmore Drive said I with the Wilmore Neighborhood, and I have lived in Wilmore for 10-years; I've been on the Board for eight, and I'm serving my fifth year as President. Here in addition to being a Board Member I'm also representing as a community member, and I think something that has impressed me personally and others that I've heard in our community meetings is the sense of community that this Plan has developed and shown the partnership between South End and Wilmore. We have greatly appreciated the inclusion that Michael Smith, Megan Goode, and Clint for their coordination and inclusion of us. In addition to the sense of community that has developed in showing the connection that they are trying to develop, we have also appreciated how it will take care of the disconnects. Right now, even though South End and Wilmore are right beside each other we have noticed that you would still get in your car and drive to certain things, because at times in the past Wilmore just did not feel like it was a place that we would be going to and now that Plan shows that it is and we appreciate that. I know that myself as a parent of a two and a-half year old son who attends school across South Boulevard, this plan would make me feel more comfortable and less like Roger Ram Jack trying to get across Tryon Street and South Boulevard. Also, it would be a great thing to have in place for when we proceed with Wilmore Centennial Park at South End. I know that Ms. Mayfield and I were there for the ribbon cutting and, so when you think about this plan you think about a place like that so we appreciate your support.

Brad Picot, 1520 South Boulevard said I am the owner of South End Dentistry. I first moved to South End back in 2007, coming out of residency, and I bought my first condo in 2007 in South End and decided that this area had a lot of potential, so I decided to open up South End Dentistry and one of the visions I had at a young age was open up my own plaque to send my own business by the age of 28, and I was part of that young population that was able to become an entrepreneur at such a young age at that time. I do believe in South End; my business is known for philanthropy and giving back in the community, and because of the success we've had in such a location we have been able to give back thousands of dollars in and outside of the Charlotte community and even be recognized in the National bases, which draws more people to the Charlotte area. This Plan is important to me as a business owner, because as a young business owner we've been able to be successful, but I saw that South End had a great deal of potential and decided to stay there to open us a business, because I believe so much in it. The biggest thing about this Plan are accessible before small businesses is making sure that they have more street front signage which has been very important to us on accessibility and parking is very important for clients that we serve in my building as well as other clients in neighboring businesses. I think that there can be more stories for those who want to invest in the Charlotte area in South End with more accessibility similar to mine, more stories of people who want to give back to the community, not only financially, but in terms of their time and talents and various aspects of the Charlotte community. The actual pedestrian walkways are very important in South End. There have been a number of stories about how it is not as safe as it could be, and that is one of the biggest things about this Plan. There are patients of mine that live across the light rail tracks and cross those tracks to go shopping at Publix. One of the aspects of this Plan is to make sure that there is a light rail stop that safely enables people to not jump tracks to get groceries. It is very, very important, and so we've definitely got to make sure that things are safe for our residents. I do appreciate that time again; when you invest in an area such as South End that contributes to more of the entrepreneurial spirit and Charlotte is known as being an entrepreneurial incubator. There can be more stories amongst millennials and others to start to own businesses and have the confidence that they can do that in South End and draw more people to Charlotte when known as a transplant City. This is a big step

towards making sure that people don't leave the City and they continue to keep their talents here in this area.

Brooks Whiteside, 1300 South Mint Street said I was part of the South End Steering Committee, and I'm also on the Board for the Gold District of South End. Our office has been on South Mint Street for over 20-years, and we've been actively repurposing old warehouses among other things in South End for higher and better uses. I was excited to be a part of the South End Steering Committee that provided public input from South End Stakeholders to help form the South End Vision Plan. It was a great group of people representing property owners, tenants, architects and developers. The meetings were productive and collaborative, and I believe the South End Vision Plan reflects much of what was discussed throughout those meetings. My take home point to the Vision Plan are needed pedestrian connectivity to uptown, Dilworth, and the light rail line and expedited land use guidelines throughout the neighborhood. The focus of building the light rail line, in my opinion, was to relieve the dependence on cars and traffic; however, the streets and infrastructure don't reflect the City's desire for heavy pedestrian and bike traffic with the coveted half-mile radius of light rail stations. It is difficult to navigate South End as a pedestrian or on a bike with the lack of modern crosswalks and bike lanes. There should be pedestrian and bike arteries leading to the rail trail and station areas with crosswalks that feel safe and actually give the right-of-way to the pedestrians. My experience is that the City waits on each parcel to be developed and for that developer to provide wider sidewalks and streetscape improvements, but there are many gaps in these developments without a cohesive neighborhood plan, and I think the South End Vision Plan provides that cohesiveness. The Vision Plan suggests many streetscape improvements to help pedestrians and bikers navigate our beloved neighborhood, and I hope these suggestions are implemented as quickly as possible. Uptown and Dilworth feel segregated from South End, which is one of the things that came up many, many times in the South End Steering Committee meetings. For example, the I-277 bridge over South Mint Street by the Panther's Stadium should be a gateway of sorts to the Gold District and South End but instead it is dark and unwelcoming. I just came back from a South Carolina Gamecocks game at the Knight's Ballpark, and there were three lights in that bridge except they were all dark. There were some people hanging out under the bridge, and it was just not a very good environment for people walking back and forth from South End into the Ballpark area. I've also been involved in a handful of TOD rezonings and the Gold District Overlay, and when the South End Station Area Plan was implemented it suggested TOD zonings for parcels within a quarter mile and half-mile of light rail stops but most of the area is still zoned heavy industrial. Anytime we try to repurpose a warehouse or change the use of a building, we need to zone it out of industrial into a TOD zoning.

David Hanley, 1507 Camden Road said I am here as a resident, a worker, and a member of the South End Neighborhood Association. As a community South End has seen tremendous growth as you know over the past few years transitioning from an industrial corridor to a design district and now becoming more of an urban center. The growth has shown no signs of slowing down, which is why we need a common vision between our community and our community leaders as far as what we want this neighborhood to become. That is spelled out in the South End Vision Plan; the Plan itself focuses on things like affordability and transportation, and one thing I would like to focus on is the design guidelines and principles that are presented. As a neighborhood association, one of the things I'm excited about is how we can use this document. When we regularly meet with developers who want to build in South End, as community members, we are not necessarily design professionals and can't really articulate what we are looking for, but having this Vision Plan in place allows us to point to something and say this is what we expect and this is what we want in our community. With that I encourage, you to adopt the South End Vision Plan and more importantly to take steps that are necessary to achieve the vision. We need community leadership as far as infrastructure improvements that some of the folks talked about tonight as well as an update to the zoning policies and regulations. I'm excited about the future of South End, and I appreciate your support with making it a great place to live.

Councilmember Driggs said Mr. Smith, you apparently were signed up as a speaker and not as a presenter, and we have to impose that three minute limit out of fairness to other speakers, but we appreciate you being here tonight and the work you have done on the Plan.

Councilmember Mayfield said I do want to take a moment to thank staff for listening to the community. I want to take a moment to thank Charlotte Center City Partners because of the relationship you have in South End and just in the work that you have done in Wilmore in partnership with Center City Partners helped to create where we are today because government has a limited role. I get to be cheerleader and work with my colleagues, but you all on the ground in the community are a prime example, all of you of how when you come together and work in that public/private partnership you can help create what you want to see for the vision. Hindsight is 20/20; when the light rail was first approved we did not think about all of the potential growth, so the fact that we know now with Publix and all the new development we need to have an additional stop and we need people to safely access across, so this is a great step but I wanted to just thank all of you for collaborating and for the multiple meetings, because I was able to attend quite a few of them in the community. The engagement is something that I wish we could see throughout the entire City so for all that live in the South End area and/or do business thank you for being engaged in the conversation and hopefully as a Council we can continue to move the City and the South End area forward.

Councilmember Phipps said many times in meetings around this dais I've always put forth the University City Plan and the Prosperity/Hucks Plan, as a couple of plans that to me would be the level of citizen engagement that went into those and now we have the South End Vision Plan which to me this right here is sort of what I think is a pre-cursor to what we are trying to do as we develop and rewrite our ordinance and our so called Unified Development Ordinance. So, with the visioning that went on with this and the particulars to how architecturally you want things to look and how it is to feel, so I think as we move forward in this process we will begin to get more comfortable that we've been doing a lot of these things and subsequently leading up to this that it should not be in my mind any real difference other than the granularity and the specificity that goes into a lot of these plans and how we really want an area to be a sense of place, a destination point, some iconic just places. They have come and made a presentation to the TAP Committee a few weeks and they will be coming back with it and the Committee wanted to give the full Council the benefit of what we heard when they came and presented to us on March 26, 2018. We look forward to coming to vote on this and move it forward and I encourage everyone to read this pamphlet here and get busy and learn from it.

Councilmember Harlow said kudos to the staff and kudos to the community, Center City Partners and all the businesses and neighborhood leaders for the collaboration that has gone into this. This is definitely a blue print as we think about what can be done in the future as we go through this UDO process and some of these plans get overwritten. When we have something comprehensive like this that has all stakeholders at the table I think that is very important. As we think about other area plans moving forward, we know we've got good University City Plans and all of these things around our larger light rail transit corridor, I continue to encourage staff; we've got great community stakeholders on the east side and the west side as well and we need these same type of land use comprehensive plans to model after and as Dr. Picot shows you when you put good dentists in communities you get good communities. Thank you all for all the work you have put into this, and I look forward to watching this come to fruition.

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Ajmera, and carried unanimously to close the public hearing.

* * * * *

POLICY

ITEM NO. 13: CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

Marcus Jones, City Manager said before you have my 30-day memo, which begins with tonight and the Action Review Meeting earlier and it ends with May 7, 2018 with the Manager’s Budget Presentation. We have a lot of work to do between now and then. I would like to turn over the rest of my time to Debra Campbell, who will present tonight a great opportunity for the City.

Debra Campbell, Assistant City Manager said it is my pleasure to be here to represent a wonderful team of people who prepared an application for the City of Charlotte, to be among the finalists as part of the 2018 All American City Award. I know many of you probably have gone through communities, and you saw that All American City sign and kind of wondered why not Charlotte? Knowing the wonderful great City that we have, we know that we are an All American City but it would be wonderful if we could get this designation. This is a real prestigious designation; about 500 communities across the United States have received this designation. It is a very competitive process; it is a pretty arduous process because of the application as well as the competition that you have to go through with the other communities. There have been 20 communities that have been identified as finalists, and there will be 10 that will actually receive the award. We have though the City of Charlotte been a finalists in 1957, when I was born, and the other three years. We have won it twice in 1968 and 1990, so it has been a long time since we've competed for this opportunity.

We are in a pretty competitive group of communities; the communities range in size from about 19,000 as in Decatur, Georgia all the way to San Antonio, Texas which has a population of about 1.4 million. I believe we are the second largest community, and again you can see that all of these communities are well deserving but Charlotte, North Carolina will be one of the 10 communities that are named.

The application process focuses on a lot of community engagement; that is the organization really thinks that communities that have great civic engagement are communities that will reflect a sense of equity as well as be a thriving community so they place a lot of emphasis on engagement, and that is why we are so proud that we have been named a finalists, and I think that we will actually, as I said, be one of the 10 communities that receive the award. We focused our application around kind of tenets of the Community Letter which was literally an opportunity for us to rethink how we engage our community, how we have conversations with our community around social issues. We heard that earlier from the group related to speakers that talked about housing initiatives but these efforts were focused on Project P.I.E.C.E, around Workforce Development, LEVEL UP our Youth Program, and the North End Smart District and the North End Infrastructure. We have and we are very proud and the application process encourages you to have a broad spectrum of partners as it relates to the initiative that you are bringing forth for the award and the designation. Again, Project P.I.E.C.E, LEVEL UP, North End Smart District, all kinds of sectors that are identified and are participating as partners and they will go with us to Denver, Colorado to talk about our initiative. The partners range from the private sector, businesses to non-profits to neighborhood organizations, to the YMCA, to a number and again you can see the long list of partnerships as it relates to these initiatives. We also have a partnership, not only in terms of those initiatives, but again the Departments that helped us prepare the application, again a fairly arduous process, lots of different Departments that participated, and we very much appreciate their time and effort to make this application, at least to this phase, to be a finalist.

The next steps in the process we are working diligently on our presentation; I believe the City Manager when he was in Norfolk, participated in this process, and he gave us a warning. He said now Debra you have to bring your A game so we will do that. In mid-May we will finalize kind of what will be presented and the logistics. The Award competition is in June in Denver, Colorado and then June 24, 2018 the Award ceremony where as I said I believe that our City will be named one of the ten that will receive the Award. I just wanted to bring you all up to speed on where we are and what we are doing and we are very excited about the opportunity.

Mayor Lyles said we look forward to the competition and I know you will bring the very best of Charlotte out.

* * * * *

BUSINESS

NOMINATIONS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

ITEM NO.14: NOMINATIONS TO THE BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mayor Lyles said tonight Council will consider nomination to various Boards and Commissions; members have already submitted their nominations to the Clerk so the names will not be read at the dais and the Clerk will e-mail City Councilmembers the names of applicants that received at least two persons who nominated them, and these candidates will be considered for appointment at the next Business Meeting. If we are fortunate enough any applicant receiving six more nominations can be considered for appointment tonight upon a motion, seconded and a majority vote of Council. The name of all nominees will be recorded in the official Minutes of this meeting.

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a three-year term beginning April 29, 2018 and ending April 28, 2021:

Parker Cains, nominated by Councilmembers Bokhari and Driggs
Scott Campagna, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton, Phipps, and Winston

Motion was made by Councilmember Ajmera, seconded by Councilmember Winston, and carried unanimously to reappoint Scott Campaga.

Mr. Campagna was reappointed.

ITEM NO. 15: NOMINATION TO THE CHARLOTTE INTERNATIONAL CABINET

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a partial term of a member or a staff person from the Charlotte Regional Partnership beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2019:

Marvin Price, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton, Phipps and Winston
Akadius Berry, nominated by Councilmember Harlow

Motion was made by Councilmember Ajmera, seconded by Councilmember Winston, and carried unanimously to appoint Marvin Price.

Mr. Price was appointed.

ITEM NO. 16: NOMINATION TO THE CITIZENS REVIEW BOARD

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a partial term beginning immediately and ending July 31, 2018:

Faye Barnette-Shell, nominated by Councilmembers Mayfield and Winston
E. Thomas Bowers, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Newton, and Phipps
Paris Hopkins, nominated by Councilmember Mitchell

Motion was made by Councilmember Ajmera, seconded by Councilmember Winston, and carried unanimously to appoint E. Thomas Bowers.

Mr. Bowers was appointed.

ITEM NO. 17: NOMINATIONS TO THE CHARLOTTE TREE ADVISORY COMMISSION

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a partial term beginning immediately and ending December 13, 2018 and one appointment for a partial term beginning immediately and ending December 13, 2020:

Brian Geathers, nominated by Councilmembers Mayfield and Newton
Zachary Newton, nominated by Councilmember Mitchell
Wayne Robinson, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Phipps, and Winston
Olivia Scott, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera and Mitchell
Alea Tuttle, nominated by Councilmembers Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Newton, Phipps, and Winston

Motion was made by Councilmember Ajmera, seconded by Councilmember Winston, and carried unanimously to appoint Wayne Robinson and Alea Tuttle.

Mr. Robinson and Ms. Tuttle were appointed.

ITEM NO. 18: NOMINATIONS TO CIVIL SERVICE BOARD

The following nominations were made for three appointments for three-year terms beginning May 16, 2018 and ending May 15, 2021:

Parker Cains, nominated by Councilmember Bokhari, Driggs, and Harlow
Harold Carrillo, nominated by Councilmember Mitchell
Hannah Hasan, nominated by Councilmember Winston
Jessica Hunsinger, nominated by Councilmember Harlow
Brenda Johnson, nominated by Councilmember Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton, Phipps, and Winston
David McCleary, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, and Newton
Victoria G. Watlington, nominated by Councilmember Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton, Phipps, and Winston
Kenyatta Wheeler, nominated by Councilmember Phipps

Motion was made by Councilmember Ajmera, seconded by Councilmember Winston, and carried unanimously to reappoint Brenda Johnson and Victoria G. Watlington and appoint David McCleary.

Ms. Johnson and Ms. Watlington were reappointed and Mr. McCleary was appointed.

ITEM NO. 19: NOMINATIONS TO THE COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The following nominations were made for two appointments for partial terms beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2019 and one appointment for a partial term beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2018 and then continuing for a full three-year term beginning July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2021:

Jesse Boyd, nominated by Councilmember Ajmera, Harlow, Mitchell, and Phipps
Andrew Davis, nominated by Councilmember Driggs
Karen Gipson, nominated by Councilmember Egleston, Eiselt, Mayfield and Winston
Amy Harris, nominated by Councilmember Newton
Robert P. Mitchell, nominated by Councilmember Ajmera
Jo Ann Norris, nominated by Councilmember Phipps

Lena H. Patel, nominated by Councilmember Driggs
Rochelle Rivas, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Egleston, Eiselt, Mayfield, and Winston
Jasmine Sherman, nominated by Councilmember Driggs
Stephanie Sneed, nominated by Councilmember Phipps
Savannah S. Turner, nominated by Councilmembers Bokhari, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mitchell, Newton, and Winston
Paul VanGundy, nominated by Councilmember Harlow
Nicholas Wind-Mcjetters, nominated by Councilmembers Mitchell, and Newton

Motion was made by Councilmember Ajmera, seconded by Councilmember Winston, and carried unanimously to appoint Savannah S. Turner.

Ms. Turner was appointed.

The two remaining appointments will be brought back to the next Business Meeting for Council consideration.

ITEM NO. 20: NOMINATIONS TO KEEP CHARLOTTE BEAUTIFUL

The following nominations were made for two appointments for partial terms beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2018 and then continuing for full three-year terms beginning July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2021:

Tieria Cole, nominated by Councilmember Harlow
Sam Grundman, nominated by Councilmember Mitchell
Monique Horace, nominated by Councilmember Mitchell
Taelor Logan, nominated by Councilmembers Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, and Newton
Gita Patel, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera and Newton
Timothy Pavone, nominated by Councilmember Driggs
Qnubia Umazar, nominated by Councilmembers Bokhari, Egleston, Phipps, and Winston
Matt Wilson, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Phipps, and Winston

Motion was made by Councilmember Ajmera, seconded by Councilmember Winston, and carried unanimously to appoint Matt Wilson.

Mr. Wilson was appointed.

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

ITEM NO. 21: NOMINATIONS TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD MATCHING GRANTS FUND

The following nominations were made for two appointments for two-year terms in the Neighborhood Representative category beginning April 16, 2018 and ending April 15, 2020:

Colin Pinkney, nominated by Councilmember Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton, Phipps, and Winston
James White III, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton, Phipps, and Winston

Motion was made by Councilmember Ajmera, seconded by Councilmember Winston, and carried unanimously to reappoint Colin Pinkney and James White.

Mr. Pinkney and Mr. White were reappointed.

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a two-year term in the Business Representative category beginning April 16, 2018 and ending April 15, 2020:

Laura McLettie, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton, Phipps and Winston

Motion was made by Councilmember Ajmera, seconded by Councilmember Winston, and carried unanimously to reappoint Laura McLettie..

Ms. McLettie was reappointed.

The following nominations were made for a two-year term in the Neighborhood Organizational Leader category beginning April 16, 2018 and ending April 15, 2020:

William Hughes, nominated by Councilmember Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton, and Winston

Motion was made by Councilmember Ajmera, seconded by Councilmember Winston, and carried unanimously to reappoint William Hughes.

Mr. Hughes was reappointed.

The following nominations were made for two appointments for two-year terms in the Non-Profit Organization category beginning April 16, 2018 and ending April 15, 2020:

Ryan Deal, nominated by Councilmember Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Mayfield, Newton, Phipps, and Winston
Lucille Frierson, nominated by Councilmember Mitchell
Latoya Pearson, nominated by Councilmember Harlow
Yvette Townsend-Ingram, nominated by Councilmember Ajmera, Driggs, Egleston, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton, and Winston
Linda Webb, nominated by Councilmembers Eiselt and Phipps

Motion was made by Councilmember Ajmera, seconded by Councilmember Winston, and carried unanimously to appoint Ryan Deal and Yvette Townsend-Ingram.

Mr. Deal and Ms. Townsend-Ingram were appointed.

The following nominations were made for a two-year term recommended by the School Superintendent beginning April 16, 2018 and ending April 15, 2020:

Keva Womble, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton, Phipps, and Winston

Motion was made by Councilmember Ajmera, seconded by Councilmember Winston, and carried unanimously to reappoint Keva Womble.

Keva Womble was reappointed.

ITEM NO. 22: NOMINATION TO PASSENGER VEHICLE FOR HIRE

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a partial term in the Company Operating Certificate License category beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2019:

Adedamola Ekundayo, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton, Phipps, and Winston

Motion was made by Councilmember Ajmera, seconded by Councilmember Winston, and carried unanimously to appoint Adedamola Ekundayo by acclamation.

Mr. Ekundayo was appointed.

* * * * *

ITEM NO. 23: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL TOPICS

Councilmember Mitchell said we are having a Town Hall Meeting Thursday, April 12, 2018 from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. in Room 267. The topic is Empowering Business and Empowering the Community. We are doing something kind of unique this year; we are including two of our Committees the CBI Advisory Council as well as the Business Advisory Council so we will have two breakout sessions beginning at 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.; one will concentrate on building relationships between the general contractors and the sub-contractors and another breakout session will focus on professional services; how do we get contracts with the City, the County, and the Airport. Please call Alban Burney.

The second one is just a question for the City Manager; I think there has been a lot of discussion about the Street Car not being part of considered transit and therefore the TOD does not apply. When you think about District 1 and District 2, I think we are missing the golden opportunity, so is that my our definition local, state of federal? Can you just bring that back to Council, because I think there has been a lot of conversation about it, and we still have not put that to bed yet.

Councilmember Ajmera said just a reminder about my upcoming Town Hall on School Safety which is tomorrow evening at 6:00 p.m. at Government Center in Room CH-14. This Town Hall is designed to address the anxiety and fear among students, teachers, and parents on school safety and security. I will be joined by CMPD Chief Putney and CMS Chief Randy Hagler to address this real fear in the community and potentially arrive at solutions at the local level. You will also be able to watch this live via Facebook.

Councilmember Mayfield said Mr. Manager, one of the positives of some longevity is prior to you, we created our Strategic Operating Plan from 2014 to 2018. While we are going through our budget conversation, it would be really helpful so that we are all on the same page if we get an update of not only what was approved in our 2014 and 2016 to 2018 Capital Investment Plan and what projects have actually been completed as we are looking at potentially new projects that we are interested in supporting along with my colleague Mr. Driggs, I know he has shared more than once our future of ability for investment and I think it would be helpful to know where we are on that as well as an update; where are we on internal services review that we had started talking about looking at HR, Finance? We were looking at getting that information coming back so it would be helpful to have an update from staff on that. The last piece is again just reminding everyone that we will not be having our Housing and Neighborhood Development Committee meeting on April 18, 2018, in lieu of that we are working with staff and focusing on pulling together a strong Retreat for the Housing and Neighborhood Development Committee, but as a public meeting it will be open to the community. They are finalizing the location, but more importantly they are bringing the outline that we are going to need to be able to have a real conversation and come up with specific recommendations to bring to full Council as we move forward. During that Retreat, I'm hoping that staff will be able to respond with the specific what is our bond capacity. We heard this evening a lot of concern, and this concern didn't start today; we can trace it back to the early 1930's but when we think about that \$50 million do we even have the bond capacity, which is why I want to know where we are with our capital investment and if not what is that realistic number that we can have, because I honestly am not sure that \$50 is that number if we want to make sure that this City is sustainable going into 2024, 2026 and beyond.

Councilmember Phipps said I had a very successful Town Hall about two weeks ago dealing with digital inclusion, and it was entitled Digital Inclusion to get Connected, Stay Connected. I have a lot of people to thank, because really it was a one-stop resource type fair that night at the Oasis Shriners Temple over on J. W. Clay Boulevard, just a few steps away from the J. W. Clay Light Rail Station. I wanted to especially thank Mr. Bruce Clark, who is the Digital Inclusion Project Manager, for putting on this particular and bringing all the

parties together to participate in this Town Hall. As part of that Charlotte Digital Alliance, we had him being a key note speaker there and Pat Millen with E2D, which is an affordable technology access and digital literacy training program. We had Maya Norvell of the Urban League of Central Carolinas who talked about workforce development and digital inclusion. Also, we had a resource fair with computers set up like computer lab that when you went to different vendors to get various links to City services and other services you could test them out right there on the spot. We had a very good infrastructure team consisting of the Charlotte Department of Transportation and also service providers AT&T, Google Fiber, Charter Communications and Spectrum; we had a good digital literacy and technology access team consisting again of E2D, Charlotte Mecklenburg Library, CMS, Urban League, Goodwill Industries, an excellent community context and public services team consisting of Charlotte Digital Inclusion Alliance, Everyone on which is a digital literacy program, Girls who Code, and you might have gotten something in your packet; we are going to have the President and CEO of Girls who Code will be coming to the uptown campus on April 26, 2018. UNC-C was there their college of computing and emphatics, host of departments from the City, CATS, Charlotte Business INclusion, Small Business Program was there, the City Council was there, because I was hosting it, also we had C-DOT, Charlotte Water, CMPD, Animal Care and Control, Engineering and Neighborhood and Housing Services which consisted of 311, Code Enforcement, the Planning Department and Procurement. Procurement actually raffled off a scanner, one of those big scanners right at the Town Hall; it was great. We also had quality of life explorer there, so we had a one-stop shop; it was phenomenal. The space was excellent, and I also want to give a good shout out to Charlotte Works was there also but Claude Freeman of the Oasis Shriners Temple did a great job of helping to set up the place for us; there are just so many people to thank, Robin Lo Furno took her time to come, and she was manning the table. Kim Oliver, it was a dynamic forceful team, nothing but rave reviews about it. It was just great, and I just wish you all could have come there and taken advantage of it. I just thank everybody for their participation in helping to make this a very good Town Hall Meeting.

Councilmember Bokhari said tomorrow, April 10, 2018 is a big day in the SouthPark C-NIP multiple month long project and process that has been going on so any of the community members can drop into Morrison Library anytime they would like between 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. and be able to really see the results of three other community workshops that have occurred and a lot of heads down work by staff, by SouthPark Association of Neighborhoods, by the Coalition, by a number of different parties to bring out and unveil essentially a project list that has everyone's feedback and fingerprints on for what the new future and vision of SouthPark is going to look like. At 12:00 noon, lunchtime and 5:00 p.m., there are two identical presentations that you can come and actually see as a group and be walked through all of this great work that has happened and it is not just kind of a celebration to see what we've come up with that we are going to invest in the infrastructure of our community, but it is also an opportunity to unveil a new way of doing business related to infrastructure investment and C-NIP where we don't have just a list of finite here is the number of projects that we are going to do, it is a three dimensional play book where we are also calling into action in the business community folks to come out and actually call plays and these plays might be everything from cultural loops to backlot trails to technology related corridors for business growth; things they can come and Town Square with Symphony Park, a lot of exciting projects that again we brought together a vision, and now we need the community to all rally behind it and help us to start calling plays that can bring SouthPark and District 6 into the next generation. So, join us tomorrow.

Councilmember Newton said I was so honored to be a part of the Inaugural Carnival of the Day event at the Open Air Market at Eastland Mall yesterday. I was joined by our esteemed Mayor who delivered a Proclamation making it the Official Carnival of the Day at Eastland I wanted to thank the organizers of that event, particularly Coach Brenda Slade, Maxine Eaves, LaShay Bowen. All proceeds from the event yesterday which was well attended will go to Briarwood Academy's PTSA, and it was really a fantastic event. I can't wait until next year. I wanted to bring up the Military Kid's Ball being held by the Blue Star Mothers of Charlotte; that is the NC Chapter 15. Blue Star Mothers are the mothers of service members overseas. The Gold Star Mothers will also be a part of this Military Kid's Ball Event; those are the mothers of service members who have died overseas defending our freedoms. That event is going to be Saturday, April 14, 2018 starting at 6:00 p.m. at the Hilton Charlotte University. Fostoria Pierson is the head of Blue Star Mothers, and I want to thank her for all

her hard work in putting that together. There is a fantastic organization Promise Youth nearby where I live. That organization is a mentoring program that helps young folks around the Albemarle Road Rec Center. It is organized by Tisha Boyd and Tanisha Patterson-Powell, two wonderful ladies who mean the world to our community, and they will be holding a fundraiser event at Aldersgate starting at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, April 20, 2018. Please come on out; support Promise Youth. It is a fantastic organization insuring that we have social capital and upward mobility on the Albemarle Road corridor. Finally Smart Start, I'm a Board Member of the organization that provides free literature for young folks between birth age out to five-years old. They will be holding an event Opportunity for Influence breakfast on Wednesday, April 11, 2018 between 8:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. at Quail Hollow Country Club. I hope to see you there.

Councilmember Egleston said I will second Mr. Newton's praise of the Briarwood Community Festival yesterday. I stopped by there later in the afternoon, and they had a great event going on. I want to thank the Young Democrats of North Carolina for choosing Charlotte to host their State Annual Convention this past weekend. I congratulate all the new officers that were elected at that Convention, specifically the new President Angela Lista; I know she will do great work and they will so thank you for choosing Charlotte for your Convention. Since we are talking Town Halls, I won't name every single person that is going to be there, but we are ironing out the details of my first Town Hall which will be on Saturday, May 19, 2018 from noon until 2:00 p.m. at the Midwood International Cultural Center. We will be exploring Charlotte's history and how we can do a better job of historic preservation in this community. More details to come; hope to see you there.

Councilmember Harlow said I want to give a few shout outs of a week-end filled full of events this past weekend; first was the West End Nature Day, and I want to thank our Environment Committee Chair Ms. Ajmera for coming out to the west side and supporting the Community Alliance for Wild Life in addition to some other community advocacy environmental groups, a special shout out to Ron Ross and [inaudible] in the Oakland Park Community and William Hughes and Ms. Mattie Marshall in Westin Heights for putting that event on this past week-end. Even though it rained we still had a great turnout and had a lot good exhibits and exhibitions there making bird feeders and doing a lot of different things as we promote some environmental things in the West End. Congratulations to Johnson C. Smith; they had a big weekend celebrating their 151st anniversary. I had the pleasure of taking part in a lot of their events, including their Arch and Triumph gala. Thank you to Councilmembers Mayfield, Ajmera, and Egleston for being present and helping us represent the City to support a great institution on Charlotte's west side. Congratulations to our Mayor for being honored for one of their Arch and Triumph awards in the national category, and she spoke about how while Charlotte celebrates 250 years part of that impact has certainly been seen with Johnson C. Smith's 151 years. I had the opportunity to speak at the Urban League's Spring 2018 graduation last week and celebrate their 60 graduates receiving certificates in various programs like HVAC, Microsoft Office, HR, Highway Construction, great program that they have going over there. We have a lot of people in our community who are looking for new training and new development. The Urban League puts on a great program, so kudos to Teddy McDaniel and John Ham and the whole Urban League team. I have spoken with the Manager and our Deputy Manager, and we heard a lot about housing today, and as we continue to discuss our own priorities around displacement our own priorities around what are we going to do. These are our priorities, so I always believe that if you look where people spend their money that is where their priorities are, and so as we get closer and closer to having these budget dialogues; we will continue to have the trust fund conversation I'm sure; that deals a lot with our renters, and I don't want us to forget about our senior citizens and our homeowners as well and what that displacement looks like. You all know I've been discussing some ideas around displacement assistance, especially for senior citizens who want to age in place so if we can find some space in this budget for some aging in place and getting creative with some housing solutions we look forward to that, and I would hope this Council can support that in addition to our Trust Fund commitments and other things around NOAH.

Councilmember Driggs said on Saturday morning Councilmember Egleston and I attended a ceremony at the 145th Airlift Wing of the North Carolina Air National Guard to for one celebrate the arrival of two new aircraft there; the first two of eight C17 Cargo Planes that have been deployed there, making that unit one of only five in the country to have such

aircraft. We had an opportunity to tour the plane. It was magnificent, [inaudible] inside, we both took a turn at the controls, but we didn't get clearance for takeoff that was unfortunate. I would like to congratulate the 145th Airlift Wing on their 70th Anniversary and receipt of these planes and to thank them for their participation in our national defense and also for their great partnership with our Charlotte Douglas International Airport.

The second thing I wanted to say is, I was honored to be invited to actually read some proclamations at the Bows and Bowties Event referred to by Councilmember Newton. I look forward to being there on Saturday night and the third thing quickly is the Ballantyne Breakfast Club will have an event this coming Saturday at 9:00 a.m. at the Ballantyne Hotel to talk about planning and development. Our Planning Director Taiwo Jaiyeoba will be there and also Bo Memory who heads the North Carolina Turnpike Authority and will be talking about the I-485 expansion that is taking place in my District.

Councilmember Winston said if anybody is watching out there just a reminder that we are in election season. We do have a primary coming up for state legislators, County Commission, Sheriff, District Attorney, US Congress and in order to participate in this primary election you have to be registered to vote by Friday, April 13, 2018. It is very important that everybody participate in our civic processes most simply and basic the voting process, so make sure you are registered to vote.

Secondly, just something I wanted to bring up, I've been doing a lot of thinking about this lately with things that have been going on around the country surrounding police shootings of people and it reminds me of where we've come from. We've had conversation amongst each other and amongst our colleagues about the work that we still need to do internally in terms of dealing with crisis situation like we faced in September 2016 after we experienced our own police involved shooting. I'm very concerned just because what happened in 2016, it didn't happen in a vacuum. It happened amongst a national climate where you could feel the pressure rising, and maybe I've been thinking about it a lot and maybe it is, because I'm biased to my personal experiences, but I feel like the pressure is building around the nation right now, and I'm concerned that here in Charlotte we have not done enough to deal with the skeletons that are in our closet from the past. We've talked amongst each other about what we would do in a crisis situation, but really it gets down to how do you deal with even before that. There are very legitimate questions and concerns that people have with police policy with the need to exact lethal force under certain threats. We know that most if not all of these shootings are going to be justified; they are going to be protected by law, but we know and I don't think any of us around this dais will disagree that these shootings are not good for our community. We haven't dealt with any serious policy work as it comes to the use of deadly force and those are the concerns that our community brought up to this dais very loudly and very clearly, I being one of those people. I would implore us to continue to have conversations and would ask the Manager what can we do to kind of change the paradigm that we continue to exist in? How do we be responsive to the voices of our community while still making good policy that makes sense for our police officers to do their job? I had the privilege of attending the graduation ceremony of the 178th Police Academy Class last Friday, and there was a lot of celebrating. We have a lot of good men and women who want to do the work to serve this community, but as the Chief said, their job will not always be easy; they will face a lot of criticism and like he said some rightfully so. We cannot continue to pump officers out on the streets without reckoning with the way we do the things that we do. I don't think we've done enough to change the culture of policing here in Charlotte, North Carolina or the United States in general, and I want to continue to try to be a City that pushes forward and sets the example to recruit, retain, and train the best police force in the world and to do that we are going to have to change some of our policies.

Councilmember Eiselt said I think a lot of people who follow Council business know that this City Council has really stepped up this year to commit to solving the crisis of domestic violence in our community. We know that it represents a disproportionate amount of crimes and homicides that occur here. First, I want to mention that on Friday during the Police Academy Graduation unfortunately, Mr. Phipps and I were up at the Camino Center with members of CMPD to talk about how they can better partner with the Hispanic community to raise awareness and outreach about domestic violence and intimate partner violence. With that and because this is such an emphasis for us, I just want to mention and highlight some real heroes in CMPD and some great work that they did. Two weeks ago, there was a young

woman who her family reported missing, and immediately CMPD dispatched Sergeant Steve Winterholter, Detective Shana Isenhour, Detective Chris Lion, Detective Brian Overman, Detective Brandon Senate, Detective Luke Peden, and Detective Rich Jones who are all part of the Homicide unit as part of the Violent Crimes Division. They took this very seriously; they acted fast and very proactively. Fortunately, the family was able to get into this woman's Facebook account or social medial account, and they were able to – all they knew is that she was with a man that she had dated that went by the name of J, the initial J, but they were able to piece it together who they thought this individual would be that they would want to question. They went out to his house; they found where he lived, He answered the door, and they called out this woman's name and they heard her moaning in the backroom. They burst in immediately and they rescued a woman who was moments from death. This was an unbelievable and act of heroism on the part of our CMPD Officers, and I just think it really is worth highlighting because we do hear a lot about the state of policing in American, so it is important also to talk about when they do things well. That is a family who didn't have to suffer another tragedy of domestic violence death, so I wanted to mention their great work.

I have two announcements also along the lines of community safety. Many people have heard about Cops and Barbers, which is a local initiative that has partnered barbers in the community with CMPD officers. They get to know each other; they build relationships which therefore builds trust so that when officers graduate from Cadet School and barbers graduate from Barber School they have a relationship in the community that they can each depend on. Sean Corbett is one the founder of Cops and Barbers, and you may know him. He was along with Chief Putney 2015 Charlottean of the Year, and on May 2, 2018 Sean and the Cops and Barbers organization will be hosting the Inaugural Game Changer Awards from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Bachler Museum of Modern Art; they will be honoring none other than our Mayor, Vi Lyles; our Police Chief Putney and our former Police Chief Rodney Monroe. If you are interested in attending, it is a fundraiser to raise money to send young people to Barber School, but you don't have to attend as a fundraiser. You can attend because you would love to get to know more about Cops and Barbers. You can RSVP or get more information on gamechangerawardscb.eventbrite.com. I hope you will check that out.

Lastly, I want to mention I sit on the Board of the Relatives which is the primary organization in town, not the only, but the primary that houses and assist young people who are run aways who are at risk who are homeless and for whatever reason needs shelter or assistance. They are one of the beneficiaries of this year's Charlotte Wine and Food Festival. The dates for that are April 18th through the 21st, with restaurant dinners on April 18th and a grand tasting on the 19th and a gala at the Mint Museum on Saturday, April 20th. This is really a fun event every year, but it also amongst other organizations will benefit the Relatives this year and if you would like to go please go to charlottewine&food.org.

Mayor Lyles said I would like to add a few things to the conversation before we conclude this meeting tonight. I want to say thanks to UNC-Charlotte, the Women and Girls Research Alliance that allowed me to go out and recognize young women and many of the successes that they have been doing all the way from fundraising to dealing with issues around safety for girls and they were just extraordinary young women. I also want to say thanks to Eva Crawford as a member of Art Charlotte and Movement Day. That had lunch with me and explained their willingness to work with us on our policies and our priorities, and they had an original piece of art done by Eva Crawford and I'm glad to share that with anyone that may want to see it. I do want to say thank you to Clay and Denise [inaudible] who have joined our community. Clay is President of Johnson C. Smith University, and I really appreciate the recognition that they gave me on Saturday night.

I would also like to do one operational item; in the past we've had Councilmembers working with various members of the staff to submit ideas for the budget, and we've done that on an individual basis like, I want this program or what about this idea? I'm going to ask the Manager to put that all in one document so that every Councilmember will be able to see what individually we are thinking about so we will be able to share that information, and I think it will be helpful to our overall budget process. The final thing on Thursday at 7:00 a.m. please join me at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church for a conversation with former Secretary of Transportation Anthony Foxx, our former Mayor, to talk about the work that is being done in his perspective on affordable housing and this is to benefit the Shelter, My Sister's Place at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church.

My final thing is a congratulations. I received a letter in the mail, and I'm going to read this. "It is my pleasure to announce that Dimple Tangent Ajmera, an at-large representative for the City of Charlotte, was selected as the 2018 Alumni of the Year Honoree from her Alma Mata Chatty College. Alumni are recognized for their service to the community for being an outstanding citizen and for serving as an excellent representative of the quality of education provided." I wanted to say congratulations. I know that you will be traveling to this ceremony; I wish we could go to Ontario, California. I bet it is beautiful this time of year, but take with you all of our congratulations and best wishes for that recognition.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Councilmember Driggs, seconded by Councilmember Mayfield, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:39 p.m.



Emily A. Kunze, Deputy City Clerk, NCCMC

Length of Meeting: 3 Hours, 38 Minutes
Minutes Completed: April 25, 2018