

The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina convened for a Strategy Session on November 2, 2020, at 4:05 p.m. in Room 267 of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center with Mayor Vi Lyles presiding. Councilmembers present were Dimple Ajmera, Tariq Bokhari, Ed Driggs, Larken Egleston, Julie Eiselt, Malcolm Graham, Renee Johnson, and Matt Newton.

ABSENT: Councilmember James Mitchell

ABSENT UNTIL NOTED: Councilmembers Victoria Watlington and Braxton Winston, II.

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CLOSED SESSION

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Driggs, and carried unanimously to closed session pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(6) to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character of an individual public officers or employee.

The Council meeting was recessed at 4:07 p.m. for a closed session. The closed session recessed at 5:04 p.m. for the regularly scheduled Strategy Session.

Mayor Lyles said this is an electronic meeting that is being held in accordance with all the electronic laws and regulations. This is the Charlotte City Council November 2, 2020 Strategy Session. This is a time when we actually have a discussion and conversation about the issues and items coming before the City Council in the next several months.

Councilmember Watlington arrived at 4:40 p.m.

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ITEM NO. 1: CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON GOVERNANCE UPDATE

Mayor Lyles said I would like to introduce Amy Peacock, who is the Co-Chair of the Citizen Advisory Committee on Governance. Two years ago, the Charlotte City Council started talking about how our government was structured and what do we need to do to be effective in the upcoming future near and far. We put off after a vote of the Council that we weren't able to move forward on and said let's get a team of people that would have really deep discussions and bring to us some recommendations. I want to thank Amy Peacock for her leadership there. I also want to recognize that her Co-Leader, Cyndee Patterson, unfortunately, due to the illness and loss of her husband was not able to finish out the task. Cyndee, we are thinking about you and know that you made the right choice in the way that you chose to spend your time. I don't think Amy needs much introduction to all of us I would like to invite Amy Peacock to the podium to give the report of the Citizen Advisory Committee on Governance.

Amy Peacock, Co-Chair of Citizen Advisory Committee on Governance said we have been working together for six-months; we had a great committee and a great charge from our Mayor. We were called the Citizen Advisory Council on Governance, the CACG. It is an honor to be here to represent our staller Committee and we want to thank each of them if they are WebEx. This was a huge team effort and we couldn't have done it without each other. We are grateful to Mayor Lyles and Mayor Pro Tem Eiselt for the opportunity to take part in this initiative. And, of course, we are so thankful for Patrick Baker and Lauren Livingston and the Strategy and Budget Department, the Department of Health and Human Resources, and the Department of Planning, Design, and Development for all their support. You would not believe how much data we asked for.

The charge that we had from Mayor Lyles was for us to consider and make recommendations on the following: (1) Mayor and City Council terms or office, including the length of terms as well as a method of implementation. (2) Mayor and City Council full

or part-time positions and related compensation and (3) updated policy guidelines and principles for City Council redistricting resulting from the upcoming results of the 2020 Census. You can see our great committee; I'm assuming that some of you know them. We had a team of people that were from all the Districts, all age groups, very diverse and we couldn't have gotten along better, Democrat, Republican or Unaffiliated. At the direction of Mayor and Councilmember Eiselt, we reviewed the current structure of the Charlotte City Council, we examined Charlotte's growth trends and current government structure, analyzed the government structure of peer cities, and developed recommendations to provide City Council on the elected official structure of government that would best meet the current and future needs of Charlotte residents. Specifically, we evaluated the length of City Council terms of office and what term lengths would enable elected officials to best serve the City and its residents. We looked at compensation for elected officials and what level of compensation would be adequate to encourage interest in members of the public to run for office. Which election method, either partisan or non-partisan would best benefit the community, and what criteria for City Council Districts would ensure adequate representation of Charlotte's residents.

Methodology; our Committee started meeting in March, but because of COVID (mild to severe respiratory infection caused by the coronavirus) it was kind of a bumpy road, so we officially got started on June 25, 2020, and requested an incredible amount of information concerning methods of election, compensation, and length of terms for cities comparable to Charlotte and for Charlotte, North Carolina jurisdiction. The main source of our data included surveys of Charlotte's 20 peer cities, surveys of U. S. top 10 Council-Management governments, data from the Institute of Government on all cities in North Carolina, looking at jurisdictions with populations of over 50,000, and data from Mecklenburg County's Board of Elections on City of Charlotte historical records.

Public Feedback; we did our best to get public feedback, virtual public participation in light of these virtual meetings we have had to do due to COVID-19. Many broadcasts their meetings on the City's YouTube Channel and the City's Government Channel and had an e-mail for the public to submit questions and comments to the Committee. Then, we did a survey. From September 21 to October 2nd, the Committee distributed a survey to solicit public feedback and encouraged public participation in this conversation. The survey was distributed to the City Board and Commission members, to neighborhood organization listers, to staff, and publicized on the City's social media platform as well as the City's website homepage and I know several Committee members shared it. Some Council people shared it, so the good news is that we got 681 survey responses and 179 individual comments. So, that should be interesting reading for you all.

The Committee recommends that as you analyze this that you encourage public input as much as you can. I don't know how long the COVID is going to last, but we still need to engage the public's input.

Recommendations; as a Committee, the overall chain result we want to have is more representation for Charlotte and to help Charlotte's Mayor and City Council to manage their elected officials and engage with citizens most efficiently while they are serving. Additionally, we

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Due to technical difficulties, there was no audio of this [for this portion of the] meeting.

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once it is weighed the best invited the learning for elected office and representing our community. Our discussion around Charge One, which is Terms of Office can be found on Pages 6-9 of the Committee's final report and our recommendations can be found on Page 13.

In Charlotte elected officials currently serve two-year, non-staggered terms with no term limits. Charlotte and Mecklenburg County also have partisan elections. We are recommending with a vote of 8-3 for a four-year term. With a vote of 10-1, we are recommending staggered terms with term limits with a vote of 10-1. No jurisdiction in North Carolina has term limits; this would require certain legislation with the General Assembly in Raleigh. The majority of the Committee said this longer-term would allow the Charlotte City Council to work more collaboratively and establish a body with longer-term decision making in mind. Offer more time for Council to understand the job and avoid election-year politics. We are recommending these changes be voted on through citizens' referendum, as overall the Committee felt the voters should have the say. The minority noted that the community had voted on similar referendums in the past and they had previously failed.

Compensation; after looking at data on elected official's compensation for 20 national peer cities we noted that the Charlotte Mayor ranks pretty low at 18 out of 20 in pay, and the Charlotte City Council ranks 14 out of 20 in pay. The Committee recommended unanimously to increase the Mayor and Charlotte City Council pay, noting also that increased pay would encourage more qualified candidates to consider running for office. Our discussion around this charge can be found on Pages 9-11 on the Committee's final report which you have copies of, and our recommendations and more detail can be found on Page 14.

Currently, Charlotte's Mayor's total compensation is \$43,536 which includes expenses, auto, and technology allowances. The Committee unanimously recommended to raise the Charlotte Mayor compensation to that of the County Board of County Commission Chair. The total compensation for the Board of County Commission Chair is \$56,431, including allowances. Currently, the Charlotte City Council's total compensation is \$33,915 which includes allowances. The Committee unanimously recommended to raise the Charlotte City Council compensation to that of the County's Board of County Commission. The total compensation for the Board of County Commission is \$48,563 which also allowances.

Districts; with the Census coming up and Charlotte growing so quickly, the Committee recommends unanimously, to increase representation at the District level by increasing to eight District Representatives by removing one At-large seat so it would from 7/4 to 8/3. In light of the year, 2020 Census results the City will draw new Council Districts and after looking at 2000 and 2010 criteria for drawing districts, the Committee is recommending the following factors be considered in redistricting and this is in the highest first order. Districts must have substantially equal population; districts should be reasonably compact; district boundaries may follow neighborhood boundaries or areas containing residents sharing a similar interest. This is important for the second order. When possible, districts should have relatively even partisan balance, district boundaries may be drawn to create, maintain a balance between major political parties, district boundaries may follow precinct boundaries, district boundaries may be drawn considering the race of district residents as long as race is not the predominant motivating factor. Districts most likely to be impacted by future annexation may be made smaller to minimize the impact of future annexations on future redistricting, and district boundaries may be drawn to avoid contest between incumbents. Our discussion around Charge 3 can be found on page 11 of the Committee's final report and our recommendations can be found on Page 14 and 15.

When looking at elected officials' representation of the Charlotte community, the Committee considered recommending to add an additional Councilmember to the Charlotte City Council, the maximum allowed by state law, so that would 12 plus the Mayor which would be 13. This would add an eighth District seat without removing an At-large seat, however, it would significantly change the relationship between the Mayor and the Councilmembers as there would be an even number of Councilmembers. The Committee recommended 7-4 to keep City Council as a 12-member body, 11 members plus the Mayor. Currently, according to a district web page, Charlotte City Council Districts have an average population of approximately 112,000 residents.

So, lots of potential changes. So how do you modify the government structure? According to State Law, Mayor and Council terms may be either two or four-years and Mayor and Council terms are not required to be the same. So, the Mayor could have a four-year and Councilmembers two and vice versa. Four-year Council terms may be concurrent or staggered and Council may also consider a partisan or non-partisan election method. Term limits again would require special legislation by the NC General Assembly in Raleigh.

So, how can government structure be changed? There are three avenues, the first one the General Assembly may amend the Charter by the local act; two, the Council may amend by ordinance subject to approval by the voters at a referendum and that is what the Committee recommends. Three, the Council may amend by ordinance without a referendum, however, someone could go out and get 5,000 signatures on a petition filed within 30-days and it forces a referendum. These procedures of modification can be found in the appendix.

Thank you, Mayor Lyles and Mayor Pro Tem Eiselt, and Councilmembers who did provide feedback or any context surrounding this as I've already said, we could not have done this without staff, they were just amazing. We have a few Committee members on WebEx, and we have all the answers you need, and we have Patrick here with procedural issues or legal issues on questions you may have. I hope that wasn't too quick. Are there any questions you have about what we found?

Mayor Lyles said I also wanted to recognize, while we have the Co-Chair, Amy Peacock, Kristen Conner, with Keller William, Mimi Davis, Retired Teacher, Christy Long with Wells Fargo, Brandon Pierce with Coca-Cola Consolidated, Cecy Ramirez, who we can see on the Webb screen right now, Hispanic Community Leader, Janice Robinson, with Cabarrus College, Rev. Eleanor Norman Shell, Presbytery of Charlotte, Sam Smith, Jr. with United Way, Peter Smolowitz with Mower and Liz Winer, with the Winer Family Foundation. I'm grateful for everyone and the time and attention and the effort and I do believe, looking at the materials that you have, the staff really did help out and I'm glad that they were able to address the questions that will be raised because you represent the community view and perspective and this is really a good report.

Councilmember Egleston said thank you Ms. Peacock for your leadership on this, this is a very thorough presentation you have put together for us. You mentioned a majority of the Committee recommended that this go to a voter referendum, but you also acknowledged historically voters in Charlotte and more specifically and recently Mecklenburg County have not been favorable to these sort of ballot initiatives. Was there a discussion around that you have some optimism that with a certain amount of education voters will come around to the idea or was it simply that you felt like this was the only appropriate method to implement this sort of a change regardless of whether voters would ultimately support it or not?

Ms. Peacock said well, we thought maybe it would go up to Raleigh. We felt pretty strongly about from an eight to three vote that this was an important change and somehow you all could work to make it happen if you took action on it. Does that answer your question?

Mr. Egleston said yeah, I think so. I have some pessimism around, in fact until I got in the role, I'm in now, I actually voted against four-year terms when the County Commission put it forward maybe seven-years ago, something like 2013 I believe and I don't think that I appreciated the benefits that it would have for the exact reasons that you said, being able to have more long-term thinking, not having people being in election mode during so much of a percentage during their term. But, from the outside looking in, even as a fairly educated observer of local politics at the time, I kind of just looked at it at surface level and through well of course politicians would want longer terms, but why would I want to give them to them. I think that is probably the right way to go about it, but I also think we need to be prepared to have a pretty robust education campaign a la what you've done for the bonds and other things like that, that do pass for people to understand what the benefit to the community is and that it is not just a benefit to the people in the elected positions. I think for a lot of folks, that is what at a quick glance they will think.

Ms. Peacock said I think communication with the community is going to be important and when you get out and start talking to people about this, especially, if they are currently working and thinking about where they give their time, you would be surprised what you hear now. I think maybe the mood is changing a little bit, I'm not sure, but I think the community dialogue is key.

Councilmember Watlington said plus one to that Mr. Egleston just said; I think it is going to be key for us to understand, I think back to 2013 when I too voted against a four-year term, so I think the question is going to be what benefit does it provided to the community? I did want to make sure I understand a few things in the recommendations. The first one is, I see the recommendation for a four-year term, a citizen's referendum, but I don't see that the rest. Was that intentional or was your recommendation that we went to referendum for all of the recommendations?

Mayor Lyles said Ms. Watlington, could you repeat the question?

Ms. Watlington said I see here that the citizen's referendum is recommended as the method of implementation for a four-year term, but I don't see a method of implementation recommended for the rest of the changes. Is that intentional?

Ms. Peacock said correct, we specifically did a straw vote on that, so if there were going to be four-year terms, we wanted it to go to referendum.

Ms. Watlington said for the rest of it then, did you all do a straw vote on those?

Ms. Peacock said we straw voted on every one of these yeah. The four-term term was 8-3.

Ms. Watlington said no, no; what I'm asking you is, I see here citizen's referendum, you guys sound like you felt strongly that that needed to go to a voter referendum. What about non-partisan elections, an increase of population, and make-up of the board, did you all vote on how those changes should be made or no?

Ms. Peacock said my understanding and Patrick, maybe you can chime in here. I believe it is the Council or the Board of Elections that makes this change?

Patrick Baker, City Attorney said as it relates to the election method, there is a mechanism whereby the Council can do that with I think it is two public meetings over a certain period of time or that could potentially go out to a referendum. I don't recall that we actually discussed that in terms of the referendum. The big issue was the two-years to four-years because I think we had just had that conversation that Council had just two-years ago in terms of whether or not to do anything and if so whether to try to do it as a Council or to put it out there to a referendum. I think the go-to referendum on the two-year/four-year term was already on everyone's mind, which is why it was the first thing to put out there. In terms of elected official's compensation, that is something that you all decide, that is not a voter referendum issue. That is really a part of your budget and then the representation of districts, that is also something that you all do. That is not something that goes out to voter referendum.

Ms. Watlington said on the non-partisan election, I see in the table the vote was reflected as 8-3, but in the recommendations, I think I saw 6-5. I just want to make sure I know which one is correct.

Ms. Peacock said I'm sorry, that is an error, it was 6-5.

Ms. Watlington said down here where you all talked about the compensation of the Council and you specifically said one District Rep additional and remove one At-Large Rep. Is that subject to change pending the population change in the Census or was that based on what you thought the projected population was going to be?

Ms. Peacock said when we looked at the data about the growth in Charlotte in different districts and how it is in outliers, we looked at that and we analyzed where the calls coming for support, what is generating the most business and that is really how we made the decision. We know probably those places are still going to grow, even more, so we weren't thinking what it is going to be in the census necessarily, it was really what is going on now in addition to what is happening in the future.

Ms. Watlington said so is it possible then based on the practice that you followed that the Districts will still be significantly larger?

Ms. Peacock said what we are actually looking for is smaller Districts, so however you all decide to work that out, we think it would be better for the citizens, and maybe for the Representatives too, to have smaller Districts if possible.

Ms. Watlington said if we add an additional District Rep and remove one At-Large Rep is there a number that you all had in mind as the target population in the District?

Ms. Peacock said the average right now is 112,000.

Ms. Watlington said I'm just trying to understand if we get numbers back for the 2020 Census, are we going to have to revisit it or is it already considered?

Ms. Peacock said I think my understanding and I don't know if it was at your Strategy Session, but I heard you all might be creating another Committee to really dive into the District issue around how you are going to draw it and that sort of thing. So, nothing is in stone yet.

Mayor Lyles said if you remember, I think Mr. Graham raised this as an issue several meetings ago that we usually appoint a committee of the Council, Democrats, Republicans Districts, all of that and then the political part begins to activate where the Governance Committee has recommended the strategy of like keeping precincts together, making racial balance. There is also the aspect of political balance between parties, unaffiliated, and all of that.

Ms. Watlington said I'm just asking is there a possibility that we don't come back a year from now and say you know what we should have added two district seats to get to a manageable level versus just one.

Mayor Lyles said I think that the two district seats, I think Ms. Peacock said we would have to go to the State to get that, and anything that we began to take our destiny and put in the hands of the Legislature is more of a problematic situation. We could do that if we made a decision about doing it, but I think that they are recommending that the current 12 is the size that would be appropriate.

Ms. Watlington said that is what I'm asking.

Mayor Lyles said we could do that, anything that is in the configuration of 12.

Councilmember Eiselt said 12 is the statute, we can only have 12 and we could do it however we wanted within.

Mayor Lyles said I think the community talked about this in the '70s and that is another one.

Councilmember Driggs said a Commission headed by I think Mayors Vinroot and Gantt found years ago that they did not recommend going to four-year terms because they didn't see any public call for it. Did your group consider that and the position they took then and the question of whether or not there is actually public demand for this move?

Ms. Peacock said we did consider what Mayors Gantt and Vinroot talked about, and I actually talked to Mayor Vinroot and very clearly heard what he thought even today, but I

think as a Committee very reflective of Charlotte, and with an 8-3 vote they are thinking along those lines, maybe more so than they were before.

Mr. Driggs said so they were thinking along?

Ms. Peacock said with an 8-3 vote in the Committee, eight for four-year terms and three not if we are representative of Charlotte maybe there is an advantage in changing thinking. I'm not sure on that, but I can tell you in our Committee it was pretty strong feelings about it.

Mr. Driggs said the group did take on board that earlier event?

Ms. Peacock said oh, yeah, we looked at that also.

Mr. Driggs said the salary recommendation, you suggest that we go to the Board of County Commissioner's compensation level, so that was a decision they made, was there any particular reason that you concluded that City Council should receive that particular level of compensation other than the sort of convenience that it was the same as those guys got? What were the thoughts of it being higher or lower than that for example?

Ms. Peacock said if you look at the data of our peer cities, the Mayors make a considerable more amount of money and so does City Council and so we are trying to find some benchmark we can use so we turned to locally and we got advised that that may not be a bad place to look, is to at least create a balance between the two organizations as a place to start rather than coming in and saying we want the Mayor to make \$150,000 and Council to make \$80,000. We thought well, let's just start here because it is an increase, and see how that works.

Mr. Driggs said in reference to an earlier question, the referendum issue comes up because the state law says that you either have a referendum on changes in the length of terms or if you don't that is a 5,000-petition signature that can trigger the requirement that you have one. There are no provisions like that related to your other recommendations which suggest that we have more latitude to act autonomously if it comes to changing compensation as did the Board of County Commissioners. I don't think the idea of trying to proceed without a referendum would make good sense, both because the public would probably want a voice in that because you would probably get the petition filed anyway. I can't imagine that 5,000 people wouldn't come together. I have 2,500 people sign a petition objecting to one rezoning petition so, I think we are in a bit of a box on that one frankly, based on the outcome of the earlier vote. But anyway, we know it is a recommendation and then I would just comment that the redistricting thing as we know from abundant precedent at other levels of government is a very messy process, usually ends up in court. There are all kinds of packing and other considerations that then start to begin to come into play when it is discussed and I remember when I ran for office in 2012, the Board of County Commissioners were redistricting the County then and, in the end, the Legislature just reached in and drew the map and set aside the outcome of the local process. So, we shouldn't underestimate all the issues that will come up as we approach that, and I think having a commission work on it is a good idea.

Mayor Lyles said I have to say, Mr. Driggs, in the entire time that I've been in Charlotte we've never had a challenge working through with the bi-partisan redistricting that has been acceptable to everyone. I hope that we will not get to that situation that we stop something that is a pretty good run.

Councilmember Graham said thank you Ms. Peacock and Committee members for the excellent work on these recommendations and again, they are just recommendations so the Council has an obligation to review them and to accept what they want and reject others that may not be plausible to them, just while reviewing them, there are some that I'm really excited about and there are others that I probably got to go home and sleep on. I'm pretty sure that at the appropriate time this Council will have a robust conversation in reference to all of them in terms of what fits and what doesn't. One thing I don't think I need to remind my colleagues and the public is that we are known as the 15th largest city

in the country and I think our governance structure certainly has not kept up with our growth. I think this is a timely exercise and that whenever we made a decision, I guess I will ask the question to the Mayor in terms of where do we go from here, so she can be prepared to help me answer that question. Once we do have this conversation, I hope that we really take the seriousness of it because I think we need more than just a tune-up, I think we really need to take a look at ourselves and make some major structural change in terms of how we operate. I know this was not your charge, but I'm just curious in terms of as the Committee went through all of these conversations relating to governance and structure, was there any conversation in reference to consolidation or how the conversation or the governance structure of the City and the County kind of overlap and what does that mean for our community. No, it is not your charge, but I can't believe you guys had this conversation for five months and that conversation never came up.

Ms. Peacock said I know we talked about it a little bit, but we didn't feel it was much of an issue in our conversations. We talked about it a little bit, but then we moved on, it wasn't something we got bogged down on and thought we could make a decision about right now.

Mr. Graham said simply because it was not your charge?

Ms. Peacock said it wasn't our charge but it also it wasn't, people weren't really focused on that because this alone was enough to work on. We talked about how it had been brought up before. When you look at the data from past conversations with this, it has really been always the topic of conversation, but we didn't dive into it beyond just a little chatter.

Mr. Graham said thank you for the work.

Ms. Eiselt said Amy, thank you and the Committee for all your work. I was as kind of the support Councilmember on this, I listed into a number of the meetings and the data was incredible, all of the data that you all digested and all of the data that Lauren and Patrick's team provided to you so, this is more of a comment. You have the website up on there and I don't know if people can see it very well, but if the public wants to go to charlottenc.gov, in the search bar put Citizens Advisory Committee on Governance, you will go to the page. Patrick, do we have all of the backup data on that site right now?

Mr. Baker said I believe so, but if it is not, we will make sure it is up there.

Ms. Eiselt said I think that is really important as this group discussion evolved and some people would frequently say, well what is the need for that. An example would be the issue of Districts, and Amy, maybe you can speak to this better, but the average District size of 112,000 constituents, I think you were finding a lot of our peer cities, their average size is like 50,000 constituents. Our District size was way outlined with our peer cities, and other cities as well. I think Nashville's was like 40,000 or something, but they have 42 Councilmembers, and they don't even know each other. I think the point is if you look at the data it really speaks to why there is a need to look at, as Mr. Graham said, some potential math of restructuring because it is different than at the time Mayor Gantt and Mayor Vinroot looked at this Council. I think we've grown 20% as a City by then to the 15th largest city and when we are looking at economic development, when we are looking at things like the Comprehensive Vision Plan, we are doing this on a scale of major cities across the country. We are competing for businesses, recruitment with cities like San Francisco, Chicago, New York and so we've got to really be able prepared as Councilmembers to be able to operate in a fashion to be able to really absorb that kind of information and do long-term planning. I say that as we look at the Silver Line Planning, transit planning for the next couple of decades, or even rezonings when you jump into this job and are supposed to spend a seven-hour night making rezoning decisions. That speaks to maybe the need for the bandwidth for Councilmembers. I encourage everybody to look at the website.

Mr. Egleston said one additional question that came to mind as I was looking through it, and this might be for Mr. Baker as opposed to Ms. Peacock. The recommendation was for the potential voter referendum to be held in 2021, so if there were a referendum for four-year terms in 2021 is there any sort of prescription to whether that would be held in the primary or the general, and if approved would some pre-prescribed set of people, either the At-Large or the District Representatives be getting elected in the general election to a four-year term subject to the approval of that referendum?

Mr. Baker said yeah, that is set up in the referendum in terms of how you are going to break that up and that is something that we would discuss as we go along.

Mr. Egleston said so you would know whether it would be, and I would think we would want to align with the School Board the way that theirs are staggered, which I guess would mean that the District Reps in 2021 for the School Board, so voters would know that if this passes then whoever you are electing for the District positions would then be serving a four-year term and the At-Large positions would be serving a two-year term?

Mr. Baker said if that is the way you went, yes, that is how it would out. The voters would know exactly how it is going to break down as they are voting, that is correct.

Councilmember Johnson said I just wanted to thank the Committee for the work that they did. I wanted to know if you could go back to the slide where we were talking about partisanship or non-partisanship. My question is what would be the data that supported that or the justification regarding the non-partisanship. I also thought I heard you say looking at redrawing the lines so that it is equal among partisanship. It is my understanding that Mecklenburg County is only about 18% or 20% Republican, so I just wanted to know the justification of looking at that or recommending that.

Ms. Peacock said non-partisan versus partisan, that was your first question, correct?

Ms. Johnson said just so more information about that.

Ms. Peacock said we looked at some data from; we've got a discussion and decision outline that we worked with and we looked at data from Government Channels and research that has been done and we talked about that and came to a vote, pretty close, 6 to 5 moving from partisan to non-partisan. This is on Page 8 of the report, but 93% of NC jurisdictions are non-partisan and according to the League of Cities, more than 75% of all municipalities and nationwide hold non-partisan elections, including 22 of the country's 30 largest cities and 18 out of 20 peer cities hold non-partisan elections. I think that kind of conversation made people think a little bit more considering moving to non-partisan, based on that data.

Ms. Johnson said also did I hear you say that it might be recommended that we look at redrawing the lines of the City's Districts are even among party?

Ms. Peacock said I think what we are looking for or recommending to the Council is when they make the decision to do any changes to the Districts that the Districts are as balanced as possible and it would be nice if they could be balanced along partisan lines, but I don't know if that is always going to happen. These are goals that we gave, and it is in the report, and I mentioned it tonight about what we hope you guys would look at when you are going to redistrict. We are not actually redrawing the districts, we are just hoping they will get a little smaller.

Mr. Baker said if I could just add on that, we talked about it being relative, so it wasn't like if there were eight districts, we were looking for four Democrats and four Republicans or what have you. It was relative to the population.

Ms. Johnson said on that website or in your report, are the sizes of the Districts included as the number of residents in each District? I know you said the average is about 112,000, but I know here in District 4 I believe we have about 130,000 and mine is not one of the largest. Is that data factored on the website?

Mr. Baker said not yet because we don't have the results from the Census, but we do anticipate –

Mayor Lyles said I think she meant the current District population.

Ms. Peacock said we did look at, I'm not sure what page it is on right now.

Mayor Lyles said did I ask that correctly, you were asking the existing District population, not what the Census would reveal.

Ms. Johnson said yeah, I would like to see the size of the Districts.

Mayor Lyles said I think we can get that, if it is not in the appendix, we can always add it.

Ms. Peacock said we definitely have it, I'm just not sure right this minute where it is.

Councilmember Ajmera said I also would like to thank the Committee members, I appreciate the work that you all have done to gather this. My question is to follow-up on Mr. Driggs' question earlier. When it comes to Council make-up, and it has always been a non-partisan election, is that something that let's say there is a petition where there are 5,000 signatures, would we have to put that in the referendum?

Mr. Baker said you can do that on your own or you could send it out to referendum. I have not looked to see if that is also subject to the 5,000 it took to force a referendum, but I can find that information for you.

Mr. Ajmera said I'm interested in understanding better 5,000 signatures would trigger us putting that also in the referendum, along with the two-year, four-year term question. Amy, you had mentioned earlier that partisan/non-partisan election was a 6 to 5 vote, is that correct?

Ms. Peacock said yes. I think it was not accurate in the chart, but it was 6 to 5, six for moving to non-partisan and five for staying at partisan.

Ms. Ajmera said the slides just need to be updated.

Ms. Peacock said it was a little typo on that slide.

Ms. Ajmera said what was the Committee make-up, how many members were there and how many Democrats and how many Republicans and how many unaffiliated?

Ms. Peacock said we had three Republicans, 3 Democrats and 3 unaffiliated, it was all ages and backgrounds and all districts.

Mayor Lyles said the Committee members were recommended by the City Council members.

Ms. Ajmera said so there are a total of nine Committee members, three Democrats, three Republicans, and three unaffiliated, is that correct? You don't have to provide that information now, we are going to get that information along with the other information.

Mayor Lyles said I think that is everything; I do want to say thank you publicly to Councilmember Eiselt. When we started after our Retreat, we started talking about what we were going to do with these two Committees. Charlotte Moves started a little bit sooner than governance started and both of these groups have stood up for meeting their charge and I want to say particularly, the support of Ms. Eiselt and the Governance Committee made a big difference because we were so busy with everything COVID at the time, it is hard to look back and think about March so I want to say thank you personally, and professionally Julie for that work. Amy, we can't say enough for your Committee and the work that you've done. We are not going to let you go. Mr. Graham asked what is next. I would like to have a public hearing on this report on December 14th at our Council meeting

so that we can get it posted on the website, but also would like for everyone to get an opportunity to think about how do we get this out and Amy, if your group would be willing to, for example, there is this NPR Radio Show that Mike Collins has that might sometimes to talk about well why did you do something in the City's purview. This might be one of those that we could do, but anywhere before citizens and faith-based groups or some of our major advocacy groups, if your Committee would still work with us because you've done the work and you can explain it best, that would help us to build out the ability for people to comment on it in December. If you would be willing, we would certainly appreciate it. To all of the members of the Committee watching and those are not, we are really grateful, thank you very much for what you've done.

Councilmember Newton said I don't need to steal any of your thunder Madam Mayor, sorry about that, but I did have a couple of just late-round questions here. The first one that just occurred to me as the conversation was unfolding, if we are talking about non-partisan elections, how is that going to work? This might be best suited for the City Attorney, are we saying that the primaries would be eliminated and that there would only be general elections at that point?

Mayor Lyles said I think Mr. Egleston asked that question and Mr. Baker answered it so I think he can summarize it again.

Mr. Baker said it is slightly different as it heard it because there are a couple of options. I think what the committee came back with was to move to a non-partisan election, but there are a couple of non-partisan elections, there is a non-partisan primary and then there is a non-partisan election and run-off. Those I think are the two non-partisan, so there are a couple of choices that you will have to make, but what the Committee dealt with was whether to continue with the partisan elections, and I think there is only one brand of partisan election versus moving to non-partisan and that is what their vote was of six to five.

Councilmember Winston arrived at 5:15 p.m.

Mr. Graham said that is a recommendation.

Mr. Newton said I would be interested in the know a little bit more about those different options. I wanted to ask too, I know how involved the Board of Elections are in their job selection. Have they been consulted with at all or have we reached out to them for input on this particular item pertaining to non-partisan elections?

Ms. Peacock said we did not specifically reach out to the Mecklenburg Board of Elections, but we did get data from them. I'm not sure which Department in the City worked on that, but we did have historical data from them.

Mr. Newton said I would be interested to know what their opinions are as well. Thank you so much every, thank Amy, thank you to the Committee for all the hard work on this, and thank you Madam Mayor for giving me the opportunity on the tail-end of this to ask questions, even if they have already been asked.

Councilmember Winston said I'm sorry for running late; I just wanted to speak to the constituents who may be watching. In my first Business Meeting when I was elected for my first term three-years ago, was one of the most glaring things that I saw that needed to be worked on, was the work that was done in City Hall needed to be updated. We operate in ways that really inhibit us from being as effective as we can, whether it be the length of terms and how our governance structure is set up or how we govern. While I would definitely not like us to take three-plus years to address, I'm grateful that we are here right now, and I hope the constituents really dig into this and dive into this. This is not just politicians, one team more power, this is really about the processes and the methods that are available to do the work. Right now, working off of basically an effective year-long cycle of doing that work is not effective. As I have said before, Mayberry might have been set in North Carolina, but we ain't Mayberry. We need to update this, and I hope the citizens will dive in across the City and weigh in on this.

Ms. Watlington said as we wrap this up, I just want to reiterate, we've got to make sure that we are clear about problems we are trying to solve. I don't necessarily disagree with much of what is in the recommendations, but I think when it comes to our constituents and the community, we are talking about the effectiveness and efficiency of government. Ultimately, that is measured by how we are delivering to the community and so for me, if we are going out into the community and spreading this message, I don't feel comfortable that I can tell somebody in the constituency what this does to benefit them. This may be a question for Marie to come back with but help me understand just outside of matching and mapping with peer cities, help me connect the dots to how this delivers better government versus just looking like somebody else. I hope we can get some more information in regard to that so as we are thinking and contemplating these things, we actually know what it is supposed to deliver.

Ms. Peacock said we created a report to synthesize the data that we worked on and worked through and we also had a discussion and decision outline that we used where we put up the charged questions, we debated about what was important to the Committee, and then in our report, we also show the reasoning a little more about the reasoning why we made these decisions. It is only I think 19 pages, pretty easy read, but that may be helpful.

Ms. Watlington said I appreciate that, what I was asking for really is more outside of the in-process stuff, but the output metric, but that might be measured by satisfaction for instance in the constituency in other cities. I'm sure our data folks can figure out how that looks, but as we are building a message or even thinking about what we are going to get out of this at the output metric, I think there is some work to be done there for me. I appreciate what you said about having the data, about what you thought was important. I'm looking for something a little more externally focused.

Ms. Peacock said I think as a whole, I think the Committee members felt like they wanted more interaction with their Councilmembers, and what we are hearing from Council is that they need more time. So, we are trying to figure out how to make it more efficient for both parties, so it is a win/win, so the community feels like they are getting supported and the Council people feel like they are getting what they need to serve.

Ms. Watlington said I want to connect the dots a little bit more hardlines.

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ITEM NO. 2: LEGACY COMMISSION UPDATE

Mayor Lyles said this commission was formed as a result of a request by Councilmembers that we look at some of the issues that are national, following in the footsteps of our Library Board, our School System to look at where we have a history in our City that does not reflect the lens of equity and inclusion. I'm going to ask Tiffany Blackwell to introduce the Legacy Commission. She has been the staff working on this Commission and we are going to hear from the Chair.

Tiffany Blackwell, Strategy & Budget said I am the staff resource for the Legacy Commission. Tonight, you are going to hear from Emily Zimmern who is the Chair of the Commission, and she is going to provide an update of the work that we've done so far and after her presentation, we will be happy to entertain your questions.

Emily Zimmern, Chair of the Legacy Commission said it is my great pleasure to give you an interim report on the work of the Legacy Commission. As you see on this slide, we were given a three-fold charge to undertake a comprehensive study of street names and monuments that honor a legacy of Confederate soldiers, slave owners, and segregationists and that all of our decisions were to be informed by the community engagement process and all the final recommendations would help the City begin to write a new more inclusive history. Here are the names of the Legacy Commission members; there were five appointed by the Mayor and 10 by Councilmembers and I want to give a major shout-out to all the Legacy Commission members and the two Consulting

Historians, Dr. Willie Griffin, Levine Museum of the New South and Dr. Karen Cox of UNCC (the University of North Carolina at Charlotte). All have been incredibly focused and committed, contributing significant time and very thoughtful discussion on these issues. Despite having to have all seven of our meetings virtually, since we were organized at the end of July, the Commission has really moved through deliberations very effectively, thanks in large measure to the terrific logistically administrative support given by Tiffany, so I also want to thank you, Tiffany, publicly.

Now I want to give you Councilmembers and Mayor a brief overview of the Legacy Commission Review Process that we have undertaken. The historical context was deemed to be essential to the work of the Commission. Presentations by the Consulting Historians provided critical and foundational information about the historical background that gave rise to the current landscape of monuments and street names that we have here in Charlotte. Dr. Cox, in her presentation, understanding the Lost Cause and Charlotte's Role in perpetuating its myths provided valuable national context. We learned that most Confederate monuments were not erected immediately after the Civil War to memorialize the war dead, but in later years long after the war had ended. The Lost Cause methodology portrayed slavery as a benevolent institution and denied that the Civil War was fought to protect the institution of slavery. The Lost Cause celebrated the Confederacy as a just and noble cause, not a treasonous war against the United States.

The widespread placement of Confederate monuments across the South was part of a concerted campaign to inculcate African Americans politically and to institute laws excluding them from the mainstream of public life. It was noted that nearly all of the monuments honoring the Confederacy and its leaders were erected without any kind of democratic process. At no point were African Americans involved in decision making about monuments or the naming of schools or streets. Dr. Cox gave specific examples of Charlotte's participation in Lost Cause activities. Dr. Griffin, in his presentation, Slavery, the Civil War and the Rise of White Supremacy in Charlotte provided valuable local context. In 1860 on the eve of the Civil War, the inflamed population made up 40% of Mecklenburg's population or roughly 6,800 residents. Charlotte's New South image obscures its connection to the large slave plantation economy of the Old South. In the Charlotte region, enslaved labor in wheat, corn, and cotton. Dr. Griffin also noted a little-known chapter of Charlotte's history. I was at Levine Museum of the New South for 20-years, and I had never heard this before and in fact, I believe he discovered it for the first time. In the 1820s and the 1830s, there were an estimated 5,000 enslaved people, forced to labor in the massive gold-mining operations of Mecklenburg County.

In terms of the Civil War Charlotte has not sighted any major Civil War Battles, but it did make significant contributions to the Confederate cause. It supported the war effort by hosting the North Carolina Military Institute which trained Confederate soldiers, a branch of the Confederate map which printed money, and the relocated Confederate Navy Yard which produced ornaments. From the late 1880s to the turn of the 20th Century, Charlotte's policymakers and media-fueled the rise of white supremacy across the state. Throughout this period the Charlotte Observer regularly produced articles and political cartoons that spoke about racial division. African Americans were often portrayed as violent criminals who were unworthy of the rights of citizenship. The paper also featured the activities of a number of white supremacy clubs, another piece of Charlotte's history that I have never heard about, and these white supremacy clubs ran notices in the newspaper and the white supremacy clubs were made up of Charlotte's leading political civic and business figures.

Dr. Cox also reviewed the approaches taken by four other cities to evaluate their Confederate monuments and street names. She described recent initiatives in Atlanta, Dallas, Louisville, and Richmond. Dr. Griffin provided a description of Confederate monuments and markers in Elmwood Cemetery as well as a list of current City street names associated with slave owners, confederate leaders, and white supremacists.

In reviewing monuments, it was determined that there are no Confederate monuments currently in public spaces controlled by the City of Charlotte beyond those that are located in Elmwood Cemetery. We also learned that commissions in other cities and scholars

who have written about the topic have largely agreed that cemeteries, along with battlefields, are appropriate locations for Confederate monuments. In reviewing current street names, the Commission believes the continued commemoration of slave owners, Confederate leaders, and white supremacists does not reflect the values that Charlotte upholds today and is a direct affront to descendants of the enslaved and oppressed African Americans who labored to build this City.

The Commission established its highest priorities for change for certain streets and very much looks forward to receiving public input and feedback. The Commission agrees that community engagement is critical and necessary before any street name changes. In looking to the future, the Commission discussed ways that the City can reimagine its commemorative landscape to align with the values and diversity of today's Charlotte. One way that we have discussed in depth is how we change criteria establishing new criteria for naming streets in the future. Because street name changes had figured so prominently in our discussions, we received a briefing from C-DOT (Charlotte Department of Transportation) about current City policy for street name changes and you see on the screen what is currently called for. That citizens may request name changes and that a petition of 75% of property owners on the street would be required for non-agency departmental requests. Property owners are responsible for the costs associated with the street-name changes.

The Next Steps; as I said this is an interim report. The Commission's proposals are now being prepared for public comment. The City's Community Relations Committee and Communications Department are developing a survey and plans for virtual feedback sessions. The Commission will reconvene on December 2nd to review the results of the community engagement process and the Commission looks forward to making its recommendation to Council fully informed by resident feedback at your meeting on December 14th. On behalf of Commission members, I want to extend our thanks to you for allowing us the opportunity to engage in this important work to reimagine Charlotte's symbolic landscape and to help you achieve the City's vision to be an inclusive city where all residents are valued and respected. Thank is the update and I welcome any questions.

Mayor Lyles said Emily, please let us again, thank you and every member of the Commission, Donnie Simmons, Frank Coley, Levester Flowers, Debra Smith, Michael Sullivan, Fannie Flono, Alan Kronovet, Len Norman, Mary Newsom, Tom Hanchett, Mildred McCullough, Kristen Wile, and Beatrice Thompson. If any of you are watching this tonight, know that you have continued gratefulness for the work that you are doing and that you will continue to do over the next several weeks. Thank you for having the deadline in December because I think once again, we will have some Council deliberation before we move forward on any recommendations. So, let's talk a little bit about the interim report and recommendations that will be coming on December 14th.

Councilmember Egleston said that you Ms. Zimmern, just two questions asking you foretell a little bit what we will hear in December, but based on your presentation tonight, are the only things that the Commission has identified that they think the City needs to consider changing street-names as of now?

Ms. Zimmern said yes, street names are the only things that we have determined that we would be recommended for change. We do have some additional recommendations about providing context to certain items and we have some general recommendations about what we would envision in the future.

Mr. Egleston said which kind of leads to the second part of that question which is, you sort of answered it there. I appreciate the portion about cemeteries being an appropriate place for some of this history, but that might be part of your recommendations as well, that there be contextualizing of things, even in Elmwood, to better help folks understand the history?

Ms. Zimmern said contextualization is certainly a strategy that we are going to be recommending. As I said we really want to secure community feedback that will inform

our recommendations, but contextualization of the monuments that do exist, we think is important.

Mr. Egleston said I agree. I guess the only other question would be doing you anticipate making recommendations solely about, and the two that obviously come to mind like a Stonewall on a hill. Street name wise I am sure there are others out there that maybe people aren't as familiar with, do you anticipate just identifying the ones that need to be changed, or have you all discussed maybe bringing forward recommendations of folks you think might be worthy of that recognition that we might change it to?

Ms. Zimmern said Commission has had some discussion about the kinds; we had an extensive conversation about criteria, what criteria should be used to select individuals in the future. We have brainstormed some names, but we really feel strongly that we want to hear from the community and the community should be very much involved, unlike in the past, in suggesting names that then can be weighed against the set of new criteria.

Mr. Egleston said yeah, I think it would be very valuable to have a community poll of sorts that folks could nominate people they believe might be worthy of that nomination. I would caution us that we shouldn't make binding, or I could see John Oliver or somebody turning that into a prank where we have to name a street after him, as he recently did with the Waste Water Plant. I do think the community would have some great ideas of people who had more deserving in that recognition as we change those names. I look forward to seeing this in December.

Ms. Zimmern said one recommendation that I believe will make the cut is that we learned just coincidentally about two-weeks ago that the Melon Foundation, which is the largest Foundation in the country supporting the humanities has announced a new monuments topic and over the next five years is going to fund \$250 million for communities to reimagine their commemorative landscape and will support contextualization, will support moving monuments, renaming monuments, etc. So, oftentimes that are recommendations and no funding sources, but I think that whatever the Council decides in this area that going for one of the grants from that monument's project would be something that we would heartily recommend.

Mr. Egleston said that is a good idea.

Councilmember Graham said I just want to thank the Chairperson and the Committee members for the excellent work that they have done in terms of really taking their time so that we could make an informed decision versus a hasty one. That being said, I do look forward to the December 14th report, the community input, and really how we will begin to really make the type of change necessary to reflect where we are in our community, as it relates to these tougher issues.

Councilmember Newton said thank you Ms. Zimmern for the presentation and thank you to the Commission for the great work here. The [inaudible] presentation was the portion pertaining to property owners and property owners being required to shoulder the cost associated with the street name change and I was wondering what are those costs and I would be concerned whether the cost would be prohibitive if property owners were to achieve that 75% of signatures, could there be this situation where those costs could be prohibitive for the change. What exactly are those costs and was there any thought given to maybe exceptions to that rule requiring property owners to shoulder those costs?

Ms. Zimmern said that is not really a Commission decision, that would be a City Council decision. We have a C-DOT; Tiffany do you want to comment?

Ms. Blackwell said that is a great question; that current policy if a property holder on the street makes up the petition currently, so that is the current process. Obviously, throughout this Legacy Commission work, the Council has an opportunity to change that process based off of the recommendations from the Legacy Commission. They are not exactly the same if that helps Mr. Newton.

Ms. Zimmern said the costs of things if you change the street everybody has to change their address on all their materials, advertising, commercials. The business is significant and in residential areas actually, the C-DOT staff member who presented said it can be very hard for residents to go through the mechanics of changing. Those are considerations for Council I believe to think about and how to ameliorate those hardships.

Mr. Newton said it is not like we are not talking about let's say taking down the sign and putting up a new sign or anything like that. That would be something that would be covered by the City and I completely get those other collateral concurrent costs that you are mentioning Ms. Zimmern, but some of those more simplistic costs. When I first heard this, I was drawing similarities between the Vision Zero Program or the option of Vision Zero where we are putting in speed humps in communities, but otherwise would be able to afford them and I'm wondering what costs are more within our scope and would be covered. Is that what I'm hearing?

Ms. Zimmern said yes, that is correct.

Mayor Lyles said I was over in Druid Hills the other day and there is a Jefferson Davis Street and the sign has already been changed. It is now J. Davis Street. People can take it on their own and make some adjustments sometimes.

Councilmember Ajmera said I just wanted to thank the Commission and Emily for all your hard work. I learned a lot today, it was really a history lesson for me so I can only appreciate the Commission's work and I do look forward to hearing the community feedback on December 14th. I am appreciative of your work.

Councilmember Johnson said I wanted to thank the Commission also and thank them for the work they are doing, give a shout-out to Mr. Flowers in District 4. I have two questions, the first one, on the process of changing the street name. If that is the current process if 75% of the residents have requested and that they are willing to cover the costs. Is that correct?

Ms. Blackwell said currently if there is a petition to change a street name yes, if 75% of the property owners agree to that petition, yes. We do not charge the property owners to change the name of the actual street signs, the street signs are \$250 but there are other costs potentially associated for that business or that property owner to absorb.

Ms. Johnson said so what are we trying to do right now is look at equity and remove Confederate soldier's names and really try to be culturally and racially sensitive. If there were a group that said well, I want to change our street name to some Confederate soldier and now they know the process, is there screening, is that a Council decision, is this something that we as Council need to consider, and does the City need to approve the street name before that is done?

Ms. Blackwell said yes, there is a current process in place in partnership with Mecklenburg County about how street names are approved. Obviously, there is a review process within both the City and the County in conjunction to make sure that there are no repetitive street names. I don't know what the current criteria are, but that is something we can get you after this meeting.

Ms. Johnson said okay. Secondly, I know we are looking at street names and possibly monuments in the future, what about other public art of something else that could be culturally insensitive or racists. Does the public have a way to report that to this Commission or another Commission?

Ms. Blackwell said that falls outside of my purview; I will try to look into that. I don't know of a current process for that.

Councilmember Driggs said for one if we decide to change any street names pursuant to these recommendations, we would have to introduce a policy that that was a Council action. It shouldn't be up to the people who live on a street to decide if it is still called that

or not because this is a general public interest issue that I think is a policy question that goes beyond the people who live on the street. I will also say that as much as I agree with the idea of not celebrating people who are a party to a lot of the unpleasantness of the past, this is the history of North Carolina and I'm just afraid that we are trying to kind of rewrite that history in order to absolve ourselves or to disown or disallow. This was not something that a small group of people did; if you take this out of the history books there isn't much in there because that is what was going on in North Carolina. I agree that we shouldn't have monuments that appear to celebrate some of these people, I just worry that there is an attitude here that we can somehow distance ourselves from our own history and I don't know that that is necessarily the most respectful thing to do either, rather than own it.

Mayor Lyles said Mr. Driggs, I'm just going to have to say a couple of things because this is really close to me. When my mother was growing up in Columbia, South Carolina every cross street was named after all the Confederate Generals and they had to memorize that in the eighth grade. They had to memorize that because that was something that they wanted to be embedded in the children of color memory because that was so much a part of what they said was a concession war, not about color. They always claimed it was just about state's rights, but I have to say to you that when we have these kinds of initiatives that are so much a part of what was neglected in my history book in South Carolina growing up, there was never a mention of slavery in the war. A good friend of mine, Alex [inaudible] whose mother's great-grandmother wrote the book, and he has a copy of it and in that book, the south won the war. That is just how deep this goes, it wasn't just a part of the idea of recreating history because if you take out this, what you've got is a blank slate that no-one else contributed to. I just have to say sometimes we really have to question ourselves and the motivation. If you've seen some of the pictures of the editorials in the Charlotte Observer where they created black men that looked like animals when they were walking past white women, it is just not a history that we can say well, it was a part of history. I was a part of a concerted effort to demean people of color and it doesn't matter what shade of color you were, it was just a very difficult thing to do. I understand I hear that a lot, and I understand that it is a part of history, but it is a history that left out any mention of people that really made a difference in the south. I hope we will keep this in mind as we move forward.

Ms. Zimmermann said the Commission has talked a great deal about the history and I think at one point it is certainly to echo what the Mayor has said that the history that is portrayed is only one heel of history and one part of history. It is not the full history; there is not a history of women's contributions, there is not a history of African American contributions, there is not a history of Native American contributions. It is one particular view and the interesting thing is that it was a very concerted effort, it wasn't accidental, it was done very intentionally, so one question it is not about the race of history, but another point that even beyond your view or anyone's view of history and what is appropriate to be included or excluded is that we have been guided by what is commemoration and commemoration is different from history and I will point historians view. History is about what happened in the past while commemoration is about the present. We put up statutes and celebrate holidays to honor figures from the past who embody some qualities we admire. As society changes the qualities we care about the shift and so what we hold up and honor just as the CMS (Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools) changing the names of schools is what it is we are holding up and honoring and I think that is where we want to get community input about what is it we honor today that we want to celebrate. I think those views do change over time.

Mayor Lyles said it is a tough subject.

Councilmember Eiselt said what I was going to say was actually touched by Emily a little bit. I moved here 22-years ago and Charlotte to me just didn't have an identity, to be honest and I think we hear this a lot. When I think about this city that is always trying to brand itself or come up with something new every few years as to who we are, what we are, I think what is missing is honoring those who were such a part of the history of our City, the commemoration of Civil War Confederates from what I've seen most of them really didn't have anything to do with Charlotte. They were just being elevated as heroes

in the Confederacy and that is just not our City. Maybe they had something to do with [inaudible] but if we really talk about who are the forefathers of this City who had so much to do with the history of this city and you look at a Julius Chambers or James Ferguson, it includes white people too, and there is nothing wrong with that. That is our legacy, but really just giving that honor to Confederate soldiers who weren't really a part of Charlotte has always kind of bothered me. It is not the identity of Charlotte, it doesn't speak to the history of Charlotte. I love the work you are doing, I love hearing more about the history of Charlotte that I hadn't heard about in my 22-years here. I think every citizen has a responsibility to know about the history of their community and their city and what role it played in the bigger picture of the time, the good, the bad, the whole bag. I am really grateful for the work the Commission has done and I look forward to seeing what the recommendations are.

Councilmember Winston said I just want to comment on what Mr. Driggs said and this is not particularly to Mr. Driggs necessarily, but now it is the idea that fully contextualizing history today is somehow distancing ourselves or hiding what actually happened is just incorrect. What we have today is a telling of history as Ms. Zimmern said, that is one-sided and it really stealing of valor in certain situations. It is the responsibility of us as leaders, not just on City Council, but leaders of cities, cities of communities of states and of nations to accurately contextualize where we come from. For instance, a lot of people look at the 20-yard line at Bank of America Stadium as the red zone. Think of it as the place where racial terror lynching, where Good Smartian Hospital, which was the former all-black hospital here in Charlotte, but you would never know that because that is something that we hide, and we don't fully contextualize it. The more light we are able to shine on where we come from, then we will be more able to get to the full reality of the beloved community that we all deserve.

Mayor Lyles said we look forward to the December report. Again, when we get this report with the resident's feedback, we will have to schedule a time for it to be on the agenda after we get some more explanation from it. Hopefully, this will be an early January item.

These are the two Committees that we have reported; are we going to hear anything about Charlotte Moves tonight Mr. Jones?

Marcus Jones, City Manager said a little bit.

Councilmember Johnson said I also wanted to comment on what Mr. Driggs said. He said it is an attempt to kind of denounce history and for me, yes, it is, and I think we need to be clear that black lives matter is more than a mural on Tryon Street. If this is a move with any other race, if there were certain so traumatic and blatant [inaudible] of it such as with the Holocaust or for any other race. I can think of just any other race so there wouldn't be an argument. We wouldn't say well that is history or when it is a black race and it is slavery. We are just told to get over it and it is part of history so I look forward to this Commission reviewing the street names and hopefully, we can get as many of these street names changed because that are times that we really thought accepting [inaudible] has been placed on blacks for so long in the equity. So, anything we can do as this Council to denounce the Confederate Soldiers I look forward to supporting it.

Mayor Lyles said thank you so much Emily and for what you bring to the table. Now I'm going to turn it over to the Manager.

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ITEM NO. 3: TRANSPORTATION UPDATES

Marcus Jones, City Manager said normally what I do is I provide you with a 30-day memo and wanted to make sure that I accounted for a change that we were going to do tonight that we've moved to next week. We've moved one item up so with the last 30-day memo we were going to do I-85 and Sugar Creek Road Update, but we believe that that is more connected with next week's agenda where we will discuss Cure Violence and some other things that are happening in the Corridors of Opportunity. We moved up the

Transportation Update, so Taiwo, who has had a very busy week or two, we are bringing him back out, but he has been doing such a great job we are hoping that he can tackle some tough subjects tonight in the same what that he has done that in the past.

I do want to say a couple of things as it relates to the Task Force, the Commissions and the Committees and it will shock her a little bit, but I just want to give my thanks to Denada Jackson for all that she has been doing with all of these. Jason Schneider and his team, I think it is about six different people that are handling all these Task Force Commissions and Committees and, in our conversation, today I kind of figured out that maybe with all the stuff we are doing and racing so fast sometimes we don't take the time to thank people, so I wanted to make sure that we did that. The other thing Taiwo, I just want to talk a little bit about where Taiwo is going with some of the CATS (Charlotte Area Transit System) initiatives and I just wanted to highlight two. Again, Taiwo, thanks for last week and everything you did with the Comp Plan and Charlotte Moves. I think you are one of the few people that I know that can have an event on Halloween to talk about where we are going to be 20-years from now.

Mayor Lyles said it was great, I have to say the whole team, the activities on the screen where people in the cars got to play games. I was just exceptional so thank you. Everything was exceptional, the music especially.

Mr. Jones said two things that keeping with the theme of the annual Strategy Meeting this past January and being able to handle big items; as Taiwo starts off tonight many of these are big items and maybe nothing bigger than the first two and that has a bit to do with the CATS and the electric buses and also, I wanted to make sure I give a shout-out to the Airport because they really started down this pathway with the electric buses. A year ago, we applied for a grant and we just didn't get it, but then we tried again with much more success, and I do want to make sure that I mention Sarah Hazel who has been leading our sustainability efforts. It is unbelievable what she has been able to do over the course of the last year, the 18-months and also Katherine Cumin, who is with the climate challenge advisor in this area and I do want to say all the great work that this Council has done, I believe you put \$4 million towards the sustainable efforts during this current budget cycle and because of that and other things that you have done, going all the way back to the SEAP (Strategic Energy Action Plan), the Bloomberg has continued for additional six-months our climate challenge so that is great news for the City. We have some moon shots that we are still trying to work on and one of them is dealing with the electric buses for CATS. I will tell you, I think the Mayor and the Mayor Pro Tem have probably pushed me more than anybody else in this area and I will tell you that a year ago we struggled with this. One of the things that we've always talked about is the technology changing and having public/private partnerships and we have a great one that is in the works right now and the key is that it is in the works. We have not finished the contract, but we put an RFP (Request For Proposal) out and Duke has won, and this would give us an opportunity with Duke being able to make the initial investment with electric buses for CATS as well as the infrastructure. We would come up with what are those goals and objectives that we would have to meet, and we would then be able, if those goals and objectives have been met, to be able to electrify the fleet. I think that is a lot of credit to Sarah and the whole team to keep pushing and again, our goal, we believe we are unique in the country with this and until some other city comes and proves us otherwise, we believe we are taking the leadership with a great partner. So work is still left to be done there, but I wanted to make sure that you understood that we are very enthusiastic about this opportunity. With that said Taiwo, I will turn it over to you.

Taiwo Jaiyeoba, Assistant City Manager/Planning Director said I appreciate the opportunity to be here. All of these things are actually connected when you think about it because the CATS factory electric buses, about six of them that we are going to roll out really would help to meet the goal that we actually adopted as part of the Strategic Energy Action Plan. But, not only that, as we've been talking about Charlotte Moves, we said one of those buckets is to manage roadway congestion and part of that is also installing electric vehicle charging stations along major corridors and talking about autonomous vehicles and so innovation and technology in transportation is so important, but at the end of the day it is also about making sure that we have clean air. You have all of that in

the Strategic Energy Action Plan that was adopted a while back. The Manager has already called out a lot of guns in this forced topic of my update tonight. The key thing is we are going to be back to you in December with an RCA (Request for Council Action) to formally accept the grant from the Federal [inaudible] Administration for \$3.7 million, which CATS is also matching. I think that is a major, major deal and there are a few other things in this presentation that are tough so I thought starting with the good news is a good way to begin.

I won't go over this again because the Manager has gone over that, but we are still working through some contract negotiations right now with Duke, and then we will be in front of you over time as we go forward. There are about five items I want to update you on tonight. Each one of them can actually stand on their own and be separate presentations and each one of them also has the respective project managers who are here to answer specific questions that you may have.

The first one is factor electric buses, the second one is on the Tryon Street Pilot Plaza. I don't think you have a report in front of you, but if you recall it has actually been about five months now since the short segment, okay, so you have the report in front of you. Since the short segment of Tryon Street was closed vehicle traffic as a result of the black lives matter mural installation, that time period has allowed us to really see what happens when you create a space for people to safely gather in public spaces. It has also provided us an opportunity to engage our local artists in the process of place-making and City building. When we temporarily closed the street, I just wanted to share some of the key dates that could come back to the November 9 date. When we originally closed the street, we wanted to achieve setting key goals for us because we've seen other cities, not just because of the Corona Virus, but even a part of City making that created plazas and activating them, places to get people out that forced interactions that actually held people to be able to connect and businesses do thrive in this environment.

So, we had a short time to be able to test certain things, but the overall goal was we wanted to create a safe environment, a positive and welcoming experience, but address quite a number of things in that process. We had a survey that took place between August 8th and 30th and the survey was taken by about 2,500 participants granted all throughout the City, but mostly in the Center City area. Almost 7,000 comments were received, but one of the things that we have said during an extended period, we thought it was quite interesting that we found that if the plaza had 48 pedestrians every five-minutes. That was quite interesting and that is even before the pandemic, that is not something we could really say that we saw. That really tells us that testing that really gives us an opportunity that in the future how can we really do more or do better of this type of thing? It tells us that the mural installation was a success, but it also tells us perhaps even important that there is a desire to put people over the automobile in public places and that is really something that we want to try as we go into our future.

Over the next couple of updates, we are going to reopen Tryon Street to vehicle traffic on November 9th and the mural will stay on. We know it is going to weather over time, but we are also going to preserve it and memorialize it and I'm sure that in the next few days you all will be receiving some prints of that. We are going to memorialize it with hard engagement with Center City Partners, I'm going to be having a conversation with colleagues at Foundation for the Carolinas on Center City this week. We've also had really good conversations with the artists who believe that is a way we can really memorialize this in our City. Over the next, as the early days come in close, we really want to make sure that our businesses continue to thrive. One of the ways that we want to do that is by reopening of the street, preserving the hard work itself, and leaving the artwork on the street, but also preserving it in different ways. Going forward, we do want to have kind of restarting the reimagination of Tryon Street itself. What exactly does it look like, but we don't want to do that, and possibly what is its best to do that once you have the Center City 2040 Vision Plan rolled out because one of the recommendations has to do with Tryon Street itself? How can we work together with the businesses, with the residents, with City partners to make sure that whatever, however, we choose to reimagine Tryon Street in the future, it is about people, it is about businesses, but it is less about vehicles and it really more about creating opportunities for people to have a

pedestrian active environment 365 days a year. So that conversation is ongoing; we definitely will come back to you to share more with you before we launch into that type of a study.

Councilmember Driggs said Taiwo, you may be aware that residents on Tryon Street have complained about a lot of the activity there which is not consistent with the vision you had. It has more to do with crowds, bicycles, motorbikes, and things traveling through. People, who live there are not feeling very safe so I was under the impression that we were going to kind of find another location for a memorial like the mural and now you are saying we are leaving it there, and we are opening it up to traffic with the idea that we may close it again?

Mr. Jaiyeoba said no, that is not the idea. We are going to reopen the street, the concerns that we've had have really dealt more with the closure rather than the mural. So, the mural stays because there is no plan right now in the immediate future to repave the street, but C-DOT does have a plan, maybe in another year to repave that street. But once the street is reopened, we are going to embark on another phase of what does Tryon Street really look like going forward, but not necessarily closing the block again. This block, once it is opened on November 2nd the mural itself will weather.

Mr. Driggs said but you are aware of some of the local complaints about conditions there. So, we need to do something that provides for order and does not let this become a place that Charlotte can't be proud of because it is dominated by elements that really don't make other citizens feel safe. It is a matter of policing or it is a matter of; I don't know what it takes exactly, but I just know from what I've heard that we aren't getting the desired results in terms of a pedestrian zone so I welcome the idea of reopening it to traffic, but I hope you will be sensitive to the needs of the people who live there and not let this become a place where people who don't live there congregate to the detriment of the residents.

Mr. Jaiyeoba said I have met with them a number of times and we've also in the report that you have in front of you, it really documents all of those things and comparing them to pre-mural installation and during the installation as well. We've had complaints, but we've also had a lot of compliments and kind of a very balanced way of looking at it, but one of the things that we are definitely going forward is to make sure that no matter what you do the future of Tryon Street, we engage everyone in that conversation.

Councilmember Winston said I have a question that was kind of germane to what Mr. Driggs brought up. I just have to step back and say, I don't want to be personal here, but Mr. Driggs I find what you are saying right now highly disrespectful that we would choose who wants to gather on our public streets that we would have an undesirable type of person to be there that any person regardless of how close he lived to a sidewalk or a street would have some type of ownership. These are the microaggressions, what you just used is the language of oppression which has fueled the fire of this nation for centuries. I hope you will take the opportunities since this is on a live stream to go back and listen to what you just said and contextualize [inaudible] how offensive and hurtful and dangerous the type of words that you just used as a sitting Councilmember and a policymaker in this City are. My question for Mr. Jaiyeoba is about North Tryon Street and the closing or reopening. You just said all of these statistics of kind of even breaking pre-pandemic numbers. Why are you going to open Tryon Street? With COVID and winter coming we actually need more open-air places for people to socially gather as we see people are still socially gathering and those outdoor spaces are going to naturally shrink because of winter and why would we take something that is very successful away, given the current events?

Mr. Jaiyeoba said as you see on the next bullet point on this slide, why this street will be opened on November 9th, there will continue to be an opportunity for us to launch our street eats program. This past weekend there were activities actually on Tryon Street and the same thing with the weekend before. With the reopening, we believe that it gives us an opportunity again to see how the businesses respond to that, how pedestrians respond to that in terms of patronizing some of these businesses [inaudible]. This business obviously, more capacity as well so it does allow us because if you keep it this way right

now, the way we look at it is this, it does create a sense of success, but it is a success that will actually be more if we activated that plaza itself by putting different things in there. How can we reimagine the future of that space by also activating with other things?

Mr. Winston said I agree so why wouldn't we just keep it closed since people are coming and activate the space so we can double down and make it more useful? Why would we take away something that is working and not just builds upon it?

Mr. Jaiyeoba said I defer to the Council discussion on that.

Councilmember Watlington said first off thank you so much for this report and I'm trying to digest it. It is clear that you all did a lot of work to really understand what the pros are, what the cons are, what some opportunities are so I appreciate taking time to understand the complexities of this and stratify the results, and part of that I want to understand here, I see the comments from the residents. As I am looking on Page 12 at this table about responses, I just want to make sure that I'm interpreting this correctly. Only 18% of the residents within that immediate area responded to the survey?

Mr. Jaiyeoba said there is one residential development right there on that block so that is probably where that is, but in terms of other residents who responded to that, that is within that uptown areas, so it is not just on Tryon itself, but even a couple blocks off of Tryon Street.

Ms. Watlington said that is important to me.

Mr. Jaiyeoba said if you look at an artist statistic there in terms of survey you find that the zip code that actually got the most response was uptown zip code, so not just limited to the residents of 230 Tryon Street.

Ms. Watlington said that is what is important to me because I did see the comments in here, however, I take 18% to mean that either these were the most passionate 18% and the others were satisfied, so I'm hesitant to assume that all of the residents feel the way I see some of these comments are going. It doesn't mean that that input is not important, and we don't need to do something about it, but I just want to make sure that we are not extrapolating all of this information out to 100% of the population because it looks like a very small amount.

Mr. Jaiyeoba said I've had three different engagements with the residents of that particular block, and it is not overwhelming that there is a complaint. It is a balance, it is a wash, it is almost like 50/50. There are some who really like it and would like to keep it that way, there are others who really do not want it to be there. In terms of businesses, [inaudible] why some businesses say we want it to go and some other businesses are saying keep it here because we've really done so well in the last five months. We think we can do better and that is kind of where I see that every other successful Plaza that you see created whether it is in Miami or in Atlanta, it is in Santa Monica, or it is in Denver, they are activated. There are things that bring people there outside of the mural and I think we've had success with this one, but can we multiply that success while at the same time kind of drive up the kind of support you have from businesses and residents in the future?

Ms. Watlington said absolutely, I think this is a great start and I look forward to the iteration.

Councilmember Eiselt said Taiwo, you already really touched on it, the activation because as you know I probably call you about this about once a week because it feels a little bit like it was such a great organic idea that cropped up but when you look at the successful pedestrian plaza, and I live in Miami, near Lincoln Mall which was fabulous, but it did take time to develop and I think this situation because it wasn't activated, to your point, that just causes problems. The other comment I want to make is that right now with empty streets, and I live close to uptown, and every single night I hear these motorcycles and the cars that are speeding and doing donuts or whatever on the road. I just look at

this briefly, but some of the comments in here by the residents were that when the people go away you've got that kind of activity that comes in here and that is something we are going to have to deal with and talk to CMPD and deal with in our urban core. I hear it every single night and for me, it is probably two or three blocks away, four or five blocks away, so it is right under your window I'm sure people would have a hard time with that. That is kind of a COVID thing, and we have to talk about how to address that.

Overall, I just feel like this is kind of half-baked still, but if we really want to have a successful pedestrian plaza, we really have to build this out whether it is here or as you know I'm a really big fan of Camden because the retail that is on that street is more conducive to street activation. I'm not sure, I always kind of wondered the Third and Fourth Street Corridor right there how many of those businesses really were that interested in street activation, and if they are not, I just don't know how popular that is going to be there. I think it is one thing to think about but if we don't things we are never going to get anywhere. You try it, you learn from it and you improve it or you move on or you do it somewhere else so I hope that we can be open to trying these things, reading through this and figuring out what people are saying and helping to address those issues and really try to make our streets more accessible for all people because this is public right-of-way.

Mayor Lyles said I think the Manager wanted to make a comment.

Mr. Jones said but Ms. Eiselt stole it, and so what I do want to also put into the room is that Taiwo has been doing an excellent job reaching out to multiple members of the community so as we learn from this, as you look at this placemaking program in uptown it is not that it is being abandoned, it is if there is a better place than we could do all the things that Mr. Winston said and all the things Mr. Eiselt said, so I think we are in a great place and space right now.

Mayor Lyles said I want to say that we have the motorcycles too. I don't know is it a CMPD (Charlotte Mecklenburg Police) issue or is it a DMV (Department of Motor Vehicles) issue where they have taken off the mufflers and added all this accessory equipment and we have to report. I don't know how that works, but I was actually on Park Road, and the same difference. We've had some complaints from District 4 particular out off the highway. Something is going on and it is like let's just make as many noise vehicles as possible.

Councilmember Egleston said the dirt bikes have been a problem for several years; that is not new at all and it is not isolated to any part of town. There are sorts of problems with trying to address that because CMPD doesn't want to chase them, so we get out the helicopter and follow them and they can scatter quickly. That is not really so pertinent to this, but I think the responses, I'll second what Mr. Winston said, I am the Representative for half of this mural, and I assume my colleague Mr. Graham who represents the other half of the mural would agree, I am all in for encouraging people who don't live in uptown to congregate in uptown. I think that is a large part of the purpose of uptown, but the problems that have come from this closure I think are things that we can work on. One, and I work with a lot of the restaurants downtown, one of the complaints has been that it has confused a lot of their patrons around even things as simple as just where they can pull up to valet their car. Some of the things like that I think we can work with the restaurants to figure out anecdotal observations, but they have said they have had people who had a reservation, tried to come uptown, were accustomed to being able to pull right in front of the restaurant and then when they couldn't, got confused and just ended up going somewhere else. Way-finding and things like that I think can help with that.

Another complaint that we've heard that I think we can easily address is we have this beautiful mural and yet we have really crappy looking orange plastic barricades. So, in terms of how we block off the street, I think something that is more permanent or stone planters or whatever, beautifying a space could certainly help. As far as people riding bikes on it or whatever, if we get more people on bicycles out on our streets, I think that is fine if they are not causing some other problem. So, the data in this report does indicate that some people had some concerns with it, but it also indicated that nearly an equal

amount of people felt like they liked it and I think Ms. Watlington made the point that if you don't feel strongly about one way or the other, you probably didn't take the survey anyway and there is probably a lot of people who think that is a cool piece of public art, but I'm not so affected by it that I'm motivated to take a survey about it. I imagine there is a lot more satisfaction than the survey might indicate but I do think there are some places where we could pretty easily improve some of the things that the businesses have voiced as concerns. But, my more overarching feeling is like Ms. Eiselt said, I think we should be doing things like this, we should be experimenting, taking that information and letting it lead to either broader implementation or identifying things and saying well that didn't work the way we hoped it would and we can try something different the next time.

I think we should have maybe a larger discussion around identifying the specific concerns and how those could be addressed without necessarily saying we are just going to open it back up to traffic. I think it quickly ceases to be public art piece if there are cars parked along that block, if there are cars driving over that block, the wear and tears on the mural will undoubtedly be much, much faster as cars are driving over it. I would like to see us try to improve what we've got there as opposed to sort of undoing it before we made a decision to open the street back up.

Mr. Jaiyeoba said we have a plan in place. Prior to making a determination of November 9th, we wanted to make sure we engaged the artists, but one thing we had clearly heard from the was this, it will be hard to recreate the same image and passion that went into it provides at the time it was installed. So how about we take each letter or the mural and have them in different locations of the City. We are working with them right now to make sure that we preserve this, but like I say, you will also be receiving immediately framed prints of this. Part of our conversation with the Foundation will also be that later this week. So, we do have a plan in place.

Mayor Lyles said I think we ought to sell those prints and donate it to a Roof Above. It is just something to think about. Maybe we will allow them to have it as a project.

Mr. Driggs said just wanted to say my comment was about disorderly conduct and about people who live here not feeling safe. Mr. Manager, do you have reports of disorderly conduct in that area?

Mr. Jones said I don't know exactly what the Police reports are, what do you have?

Mr. Jaiyeoba said we've not.

Mr. Driggs said I know of people who filed reports of disorderly conduct in that area and I think what Mr. Eiselt just said suggests that there is noise, it is not a question of what race or anything else, it is a question of whether a place is happy and safe or whether people feel uncomfortable there. Maybe this is a matter of better Policing or something, but I think the innuendos to the effect that I have some sort of racial bias because I feel that people ought to be allowed to live on that street and not feel for their safety or feel compromised in their enjoyment of their surroundings is not the ridiculous suggestion. If necessary, I will produce some of the videos that I've seen of the kind of things that go on there. This is not what we want happening uptown and the Policing is absolutely derelict on this. Nobody is intervening to stop noisy convoys of vehicles from running through the streets.

Mr. Jaiyeoba said as a matter of fact the last time I met with the residents, Captain Koch was there with me and there were great compliments by the residents and businesses about him.

Mr. Driggs said they expected that the monument would be moved to a better location and they could look forward to a resumption of life as they had known it.

Mr. Jaiyeoba said they all knew when I met with them that the street would be opened no later than December 31 when I met with them weeks ago, so we are actually doing it earlier than we thought that we would and that wasn't because of any pressure. Yes, I sent you some video that you probably saw, but you will see in your report that as we

looked at it, we looked at pre-closure of the street and there wasn't really any significant difference in terms of reporting and all of that prior to and during and that is kind of how you measure that but having said that every single incident is important and the Police actually responded to them. There were also concerns about fire vehicles being able to access the block. As a matter of fact, the last time I met with them there was an incident that involved the Fire Department coming, but everything well as could be expected, but again, without belaboring that I would ask you to [inaudible] and feel free to share your concerns and ask questions. But as we go forward from this path, we definitely make sure that we engage as many people as possible. I haven't stopped meeting with the residents and will continue to do that.

Councilmember Ajmera said is there a decision that you need Council to take today? I agree with the next steps here and I appreciate the work Taiwo, that your team has done. I certainly appreciate the outreach so is there an action that we need to take today?

Mr. Jaiyeoba said no, I'm not asking for action, I just wanted to update you on this and what the next steps are, which is where we go. What I would do is once we have a conversation going with regards to imagining the future of Tryon Street, we definitely will come back to you at that time to let you know what that broader vision looks like. That will probably not be until January or February.

Mr. Winston said I never got a good answer from Mr. Jaiyeoba about why we should open it on November 9th and not keep it closed for longer was part of the Council discussion and I haven't heard any rationale for opening it, especially given that we need more outdoor spaces for COVID and winter, why would we take one away. Do I need to make a motion to keep the stretch of Tryon Street where the black lives mural is closed until the December 31st date?

Mr. Jaiyeoba said that will left to Council, but our goal has always been that this is a pilot and we will continue to use to gather some data to help us know how we can better treat the plazas for that pedestrian activities. We feel that we've gathered enough data, we feel that our goals like stated here are not accomplished frankly speaking with regard to what we wanted to do. The reason we have said December 31st was because we did not want to come up with a date that we would not be sure about so when we said December 31st, we said no later than, but in the meantime, we started to work with our artists, we started to put this report together found out that we could actually open it back up sooner rather than later. That is why we are where we are today, but as regards what Council does, I think I will leave that to you.

Motion was made by Councilmember Winston, seconded by Councilmember Egleston, to keep Tryon Street between Third Street and Fourth Street closed to vehicular traffic until December 31, 2020.
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No vote was taken on the motion as the motion was deemed "out of order" by the Mayor and City Attorney.

Councilmember Bokhari said I just want to be clear because I didn't realize we were going to have to make a decision. It is the staff's recommendation, your recommendation not to do that, right?

Mr. Jaiyeoba said right now I'm just providing an update to all of you.

Mr. Bokhari said well if we didn't vote out of being surprised that we weren't planning on it, you would have moved forward on your own path to do that.

Mr. Jaiyeoba said we would have opened it back up on November 9th, and I will tell you the reason again why we were doing that. It was not just to gather data, but I also understand that we are entering the holiday season for those same restaurants especially in that block and I would be mindful of that. In my conversation with the businesses last week they said that this is really the high season for them and so be mindful of that I felt

that November 9th would be a good time to reopen the street. If the Council decides to extend that further, we will have to have another conversation with those businesses.

Mr. Bokhari said we have not an optimal track record on Council sometimes of just making decisions based on our emotion and I think sometimes we ignore what staff is telling us. I'm not at all trying to wade into any of the softer parts of this discussion, which are very valid on both fronts, and in fact, I love the placemaking and goal of this and how you are learning and how we are going to try to go forward, but the bottom line is if you look at your survey residents have almost a double non-favorable versus the favorable view of this. They have businesses, the one I'm most concerned about is a significant amount more people said their revenue has decreased three times the amount, revenue has decreased than it has increased or stayed flat during the timeframe of all this stuff.

I like Mr. Egleston's points of there are ways we can tweak this and do it better, but that is part of the pilot process. I would prefer that we continue forth with your recommendation and learn from this and move to the next steps in a planned way rather than get a gut reaction of like, well let's keep it because we want to keep it and I don't think that is fair to you guys you are doing all this work.

Mayor Lyles said I'm sorry, I really skipped a step. The City Attorney and I have had a number of conversations since our meeting we had on virtual meetings about presiding at these meetings and the ability to take action and what is expected so the first question that I should have asked is there anyone that objects to having this voted on tonight or should it move to the next agenda because that is where the issue is. Mr. Baker and I are trying to make sure that I follow the rules appropriately because it was not on the agenda. Strategy Sessions are specifically around discussion items and no votes being anticipated. So, I just want to make sure –

Mr. Winston interrupted to say so we have to have something on the agenda just to tell our staff what to do?

Mayor Lyles said as a Council to direct them to this it would take a majority vote of the Council since the staff did not do this and so what we have is a motion that we had not planned on having and if anyone objects that they are unready to address this motion, it just means it is a week from now. It is just a week away.

Mr. Winston said it will be open by then and staff can't put us in a corner where we can't do our job.

Mayor Lyles said Mr. Winston, I think the Manager will pause this, he is not going to take action if there is a vote on it in the next week. All I'm saying is that I have to follow the procedures so that we don't have the nuances of confusion about something that people were not prepared to vote on tonight. So, I'm going to ask the question; this is not on our agenda for a vote, is there anyone that objects to the motion being made tonight? We have two objections so following our rules the Manager will not close the street, it will be on our agenda.

Mr. Winston said I have a question about procedure; Transportation Updates is on our agenda and this is part of the Transportation Update that is on our agenda so, since it is on our agenda, why can't we vote on something regarding [inaudible]?

Mayor Lyles said because you have two people that are ready to take to vote it is one of the things, no surprises. You don't want those surprises to happen to you, I don't want them to happen to any Councilmember that thought that they had –

Mr. Winston interrupted to say it is not a surprise, it is on our agenda.

Mayor Lyles said it is not an action item and our Strategy Sessions are specifically around this idea. If we had a unanimous report Mr. Winston; I would be glad to have the vote, but we do not have it. The Manager will not close it, it will be on our next agenda. I saw Mr. Baker waving his hands over there so I'm not going to go through that kind of effort without

having the Council. What information do you need in addition to the information that you have tonight to be ready to consider this item?

Ms. Watlington said two things, the first one is definitely want to sit down with you and understand a little bit more about that because I want to make sure that I'm clear about the rules of procedure in regard to what [inaudible] because I thought I was clear, but it sounds like I'm not. The second thing is what I would need to know is are there anything that is a barrier or a threat in regard to leaving it open that needs to be addressed right now. We talked about some CMPD things, what can we put in place that would assuage some of the information in here that residents have in terms of their fears, their complaints about noise, their complaints about loitering, those kinds of things. I would need to be confident that those things are addressed or at least understand what the plan is so I can make a decision when we got to that. The other piece is many of the things that Mr. Egleston said earlier about businesses, if we could put a plan together that would address the major issues, or I'll say the urgent issues in regard to keeping it open, that would be helpful to me to be able to make a decision.

Mayor Lyles said and that is open until December 31st.

Ms. Eiselt said I join Ms. Watlington and her comments, but I would like to know a little bit more about what it would take to keep it open of what are the ramifications of keeping it shut. That is why I struggle with these last-minute votes is because I usually need more information. In this case, we are going into the winter months, how many of the restaurants plan or would have planned on having tables outside, are they going to have space heaters? Would we be activating those spaces and activating those spaces means that the restaurants or the businesses there would have to be part of doing that, otherwise, who is activating it? Do we even have a budget to activate it? And I would like to tie this if open it, I would like to tie it to trying it somewhere else like Camden, so coming up with a plan and we've been talking about it, but we can get this off the ground in terms of looking at moving it somewhere else or trying it somewhere else. That is why I struggle with trying to make a decision tonight until we have more information.

Councilmember Newton said I just wanted to weigh in and say that I'm not comfortable with voting on this either. I think I've gotten a new kind of appreciation for our process and our procedures, making sure that we are fully informed when we do have an item on the agenda that we are aware of. In the past and I can go back to, a Strategy Session about five-weeks ago when we were talking about dedicated bus lanes on Central Avenue where much like tonight, we had an item that very generally broadly placed on our agenda, but we didn't have specifics. With this right here, I think what we have in our agenda was Transportation Update, we didn't get the attachments to see the specifics of this until literally right at the moment we started the meeting tonight. So, I'm inclined to keep the street closed to preserve the sanctity of the mural. Having said that we can still do that as we wait for the next meeting because from what I'm hearing you say Madam Mayor, the street is not going to be opened, the City Manager is going to assure that it will not be opened before that next meeting and we will take the vote. I just wanted to convey in with those comments and my opinion that angle on why I don't feel comfortable moving forward with this vote right now.

Councilmember Johnson said I just want to be clear on the process. I think it is fair that the Manager is not going to make any decision and allow us until November 9th to vote on it however, I want to understand from a voting perspective why we would not be able to vote on this tonight because it is on the agenda. If Mr. Baker can get us that rule.

Patrick Baker, City Attorney said I would love to, the issue is what is on the agenda and what is not on the agenda. What you have on the agenda as has been said is Transportation Updates, but there is nothing in the agenda that would give the public any reason to believe that you are going to vote on anything. I strongly encourage you to have an agenda that specifically says what it is that you are going to do that night. There are going to be situations where you may want to address something that you all agree needs to be addressed immediately and in that situation that is fine, otherwise, if someone has an objection; keep in mind you are always just a week away from having it on an agenda

if it doesn't pop up at this current time. I would just discourage you all unless everyone is in agreement for these agenda items that sort of spring out of another conversation that is not on the agenda because the main part of the agenda is not only to inform you all about what you are about to do but also to inform the public about what they can expect at the meeting as well and that gets lost by these sort of spontaneous motions.

Ms. Johnson said I'm still confused because it ties our hands. I've been on Council for a year and this is maybe the third time that this has happened. I would expect as Council we are always positions that we can make a decision.

Mr. Baker said you are positioned to make a decision, but you all agreed to make that decision tonight, otherwise, if there is something that you all want an individual wants on the agenda that can be added to a future agenda which is always essentially a week away.

Ms. Johnson said right, but this item is on the agenda.

Mayor Lyles said not for a vote. The agenda says Transportation Updates. It does not say recommend the adoption of an action. I think that is the difference. Again, it is to respect each other for no surprises that if someone is uncomfortable with making a vote immediately then we try to do it in a way that respects each other and I think aside from Mr. Baker, I try to look at it as if I have a colleague that says they need additional information before they can make a decision, I would try to do that. I think we all try to get information out and so that people can have it, but the agenda today says updates, it does not say take an action.

Mr. Winston said it is an action and that is what my motion did, it was to be updated to update and it was a Transportation Plan. It is a surprise to me that I'm unable to do that on the agenda item that says that we should be doing that. So, it is a surprise to me, so I guess one way or the other somebody is going to be surprised.

Mayor Lyles said I'm not going to try to replay the discussion about some votes and the actions and procedures. I think that we've learned that we are probably going to have some areas of disagreement here, but I'm trying to respect the process, the procedures, and the people that said I'm not prepared to do it right now and have asked for additional information.

Mr. Jones what we attempted to do tonight after a good deal of surveys and discussions with staff with different members of the community was to come back to Council with a plan that would open back up Tryon Street which if I'm not mistaken, we closed it without Council action and we also had the mural painted without Council action. We came back after a lot of staff research with the concept of opening it back up and then learning from that and potentially replacing it, potentially trying to do something that could be a win/win/win and for the agenda tonight we will pause on all of that because it appears that Council wants to take a vote on this so we will do nothing prior to that vote taking place.

Councilmember Graham said I will keep this short and simple and to my other partner, District 1 that owns half of the street as well. I thought the presentation was very, very good, I thought we were moving in the right direction. We all knew it was a pilot program, there is some language there about street eats which gives people an opportunity with either I would imagine, Ms. Eiselt, to still be able to socially distance outside. We gathered all the information that we need for this pilot program; December 31st is coming just like weeks away. I'm not sure there is a big difference between the 9th and the 31st, obviously, there are weeks, but not a big difference, and Taiwo is right. I have heard from residents along the area, my constituents for and against. I think it is probably 50/50, but I've heard a lot from the restaurant owners there for sure and they need a break so they can recoup some income during the holiday season. I just don't understand why we keep going down the rabbit hole.

Mr. Driggs said I think Mr. Winston has successfully objected to the suggestion that staff makes this decision and has put out there the idea that Council should make this decision.

I think he won on that, right. We are going to consider it next week. I just want to make the point that the issue about not taking decisions that are unannounced that were not announced is simply a member of the public who saw Update on the agenda would feel that they could just watch this meeting and then they would get everything out of it that they needed. An individual who sees a vote on the agenda is going to sign up to speak and we cannot deny them that right. In this situation, I don't see the harm in taking on board Mr. Winston's suggestion, moving it to next week, not taking any action on closing the street next week, and then having Council consider this in an orderly fashion including giving members of the public the opportunity speak before we make the decision. It doesn't seem that complicated to me, but that is the reason that we don't do things all at once because we need to announce the intention, take action on an issue and we need to give the public and members of Council time to prepare for the conversation at the time they are to speak when that decision is going to be made. I simply suggest that we just not take any action and vote next week ought to be acceptable to everybody.

Mr. Egleston said I largely agree with the sentiment of Mr. Winston's motion, but I also agree with Mr. Driggs that the reason, and there seems to be a lot of confusion around it, but that is the main reason. If people don't expect there is going to be a vote, (A) Councilmembers don't have the opportunity to ask all the question and get all the information they need to make that decision and (B) the public doesn't have the opportunity to speak to the decision that we are making because they didn't know we were going to be making a decision. I do agree with going through that process on something that is not so simple as to have unanimous agreement on the Council that we move on it on the same night that it is brought up that we should take action. As far as the information I would like before we make that decision, I hope that staff will, and I know you've done this to some extent so part of it might be compiling the information you already have, and I know some of it is in here, but I don't know that all of it is. Again, from the conversations I've heard, one of the big things has been the valet parking and another has been that it looked more permanent of substantive that just the orange barricades out there are kind of an eyesore. I hope that if we as a Council are taking action or we are voting on whether or not to extend the closure, that the extension of the closure would come along with that would come ideas around identify a solution for valet, identifying a solution for something more permanent and I guess aesthetically pleasing than orange barricades and orange paper signs that say no parking. I would not be in favor of extending the closure if we don't have some way, we think we can improve the things that we have heard are the problems. I think we can do that and then I would be in favor of extending it, but I hope those come as a package deal, because to just extend it and not address the concerns we've heard I think would be a bad path to take.

Mayor Lyles said I just wanted to say that I'm not quite sure if we have this information. We have a lot of survey information so before we do this vote, I think we need to make sure that we share it with the people who are impacted by it as widely and as broadly as we can. I think that is something that is important to do. The second thing is I really haven't done a lot of work on this, but listening I think we are getting two things; is this the only place that we want to see activation, or are there other options and priorities for that Mr. Jones? I don't know, I was down past the Blumenthal, the next block and they've got these wooden fences were [inaudible] is in that block. There are some other things that are going on in the Center City that may be actually more valuable to people.

I think it needs a little broader conversation than just a block where the black lives matter mural is. I also think it needs to have a broader conversation around where to do think is the gathering space? If you go to Romare Bearden Park almost any given day you see activation. It is not the same kind of thing where it is producing the restaurants and everything that we would probably have closer to Tryon Street, but I would like for us to really think about this as an issue of business, appropriate activation, and what part of the Center City and then finally the idea of the mural being in some ways allowing those artists to continue to grow and prosper by activating other areas across the City. I think it is one of those things that I would ask the artists. That is an important part, they are the folks that created this opportunity for us to have that moment in time where we could have people really come down and say look how this matters, but I think we ought to include the artists in the information as well.

Mr. Newton said I just had one more comment on this topic. I wanted to agree with my colleagues on giving this some more time so that we can vet this more thoroughly, get more information, speak with the community members, but I just can lose sight of the irony in the conversation because that time was not afforded weeks ago when we were discussing the Central Avenue bus pilot and I can tell you that the disruption and confusion within the community that has resulted without that vetting process is absolutely [inaudible] and I do think that moving forward we need to be more cognizant of these procedures and these policies so that we can operate in a way when we are going to inform the community engagement at the same time.

Mr. Jaiyeoba said if you recall in December of 2019, we came to you to talk about the \$50 million that we needed to be able to advance the work on the Silver Line, and at that point in time we had said we were going to come to you again in about 12-months later to give you an update. In June I provided updates on the Silver Line along with the CEO of CATS John Lewis and Liz Babson of C-DOT. The next couple items are the Silver Line Central as well as Gold Line Phase II. On this particular subject, if you will recall it is different from the Blue Line that we have today in that it is longer, it is a 26-mile program, but it is also multi-county. It is really from Union, Mecklenburg, all the way to Belmont in Gaston County passing by the Airport.

Because of the length and the scale of this work we've had to engage differently, so we actually broke this into about six different focus areas, and we had an engagement on each focus area because obviously, as you will note on this map, they are very different. So, in September CATS wrapped up the second round of public engagement with pretty much virtual online and we had open houses, one for each area on this map. Now, this slide is very impressive because some of you may familiar with the locally preferred alternative for what they call LPA for the entire corridor. The goal obviously, is where we are right now about refining all of them and what we've done, the purpose of the refining, first of all, is to ask different questions. On which side of the street will the light rail be on, what roads are going to be impacted in terms of configuration, where are the bridges on the corridor? How will people access the stations and how would the light rail itself operate? Using different types of evaluation which is subject in LPA to [inaudible] inside of 100 different potentially finance. This is a lot even for a segment of this corridor of Eastland and those refinements that we've been doing address the risk of the corridor different on certainties of maybe some missed opportunities in the original locally approved alternative that we did not really think about before. Right now, what we are doing is analyzing those potential refinements and then at the end of the day come up with one single alignment. Once that alignment is refined then we are going to also be getting public input, the Metropolitan Transit Commission approval and then we are going to begin to do more design and environmental work in the next year. So that you see on your 2021 piece of the calendar that we envision that we are going to complete about five percent of the design and the conceptual cost range early in 2021.

This is the schedule and you will see that the duration itself hasn't changed, but the timeline has shifted a little bit for a couple of reasons. One, it took us about three months to work out contractual negotiations and different documentation that we elected to do. It was during the mist of this COVID-19 hit us so we had to push forward to a degree and what you see in the red block is we had the RNC conflicts also that contributed to the delay in the second round of public meetings. While the duration is still the same the plan initially was to actually have the work done by October, but that work is not going to be done, again, if you look in the last slide, where I said we will complete five percent design and a conceptual cost range by March 2021. We are working on the third round of public meetings right now, we are planning that for January of 2021. At this point, considering where we are with regards to this spike in the Coronavirus is to again in a state virtual but the purpose of this is really to present what we call a refined LPA, locally preferred alternative to the public at that time and then go before the Metropolitan Transit Commission and yourselves by March of 2021. So, essentially by the time we come back to you in early 2021, we will have a conceptual cost range of what the Silver Line will cost, and we will also have an idea of what that alignment actually looks like.

Ms. Eiselt said help us understand how community input will be weighed with regard to the alternative to the LPA. For example, the segment that involves the more advocate, they are putting a lot of work into it and as you know they are a pretty involved group. They've really spent a lot of time on this. There are neighbors on the outside who would like to see the line run on their side of Independence Boulevard and of course, there is going to be neighbors on the other side so is it just going to come down to cost because I guess that to me is still vague. How do you take that input from residents, and say okay, you know what we are going to go with their preference?

Mr. Jaiyeoba said it is not just about the costs, it is also going to be where do you have opportunities for transit to enter development? Obviously, community conscience and input. I see Mr. Lewis is here so that is even better. It is really a variety and combination of factors that really with the timing of what that corridor looks like. We've also been doing our entire conversations as well as to how do you measure the costs benefit analysis of this entire corridor understanding that at the end of the day residents input in the process matters but also where do we have opportunities that we can take advantage of for transit-oriented development opportunities that weren't too hard to that.

Ms. Eiselt said to that particular segment worries me as well and I'm trying to understand if you are going to come back and say here is what we are going to recommend to MTC (Metropolitan Transit commission) because what I don't want is to have you guys come and say well, MTC approved it so we can't undo it, but for example, I think it would be a crime to run through McAlpine Parkway, to go through that park. That is a southeastern regional asset for running clubs and for high school tournaments. Major, major high school tournaments and it would be fantastic if it ran on Monroe Road there and dropped runners off at the beginning of the park, but if we talk about our Comprehensive Plan and how much we talk about evaluating green space, it would also just be a crime to intersect right through that park. I don't know where that comes into play and how much that weighs into the decision, and if we get to have a say in that.

John Lewis, Executive Director of Charlotte Area Transit System said some of the issues that you've identified are exact issues we've heard from the community and we are evaluating. We will take each one of those focus areas through a pretty detailed risk and opportunity matrix and in each one of those opportunities or risks we will evaluate. If this alignment has X number of risks, X number of benefits and those are also costs, operational abilities, our ability to operate effectively and cost-effectively, also run through the measurements of other city goals. It doesn't meet our transit-oriented development goals, it doesn't maximize our ability to invest in affordable housing, so each one of those areas within those focus areas and each one of those alignments will go through that filter and we will evaluate based upon that. Then we will bring recommendations to both the MTC and Council before they are enacted upon, but also, finally, in that it may be that we go through all of this and it may be in certain focus areas on certain communities or neighborhoods, we may decide to take more than one alignment to the next level of design because we may go through this and say we can't clearly identify what the risks and the benefits are until we go through another level of design in that regard. So, our goal is to minimize on the previous slide you saw the fat line going through the spaghetti bold of lines as we are. Our goal is to minimize the number of alternatives we want to take into the advanced design on this. But it may be that we can't get to that objective.

Ms. Eiselt said I appreciate that Council will have an opportunity to weigh in before it goes to a vote or it is proposed to MTC for approval.

Mr. Jaiyeoba the next subject is the Gold Line Phase II, and this is really again at a high level, but my colleagues Phil Reiger and Jennifer are available to answer specific questions that you may have on this one. Right now, we have pedestrians walking on both sides of Hawthorne Bridge so it will be open to traffic as we have said before, by the end of this year or at the end of this year will have it open to traffic. We expect that the Charlotte Area Transit System will begin the new service in early 2021 because construction will be substantially completed by that time. As you know the testing takes a minimum of 90-days to happen so we believe at the end of this year Hawthorne Bridge

will be open to traffic and then early in 2021 we will begin to have revenue service for the Gold Line Street Car itself.

Mr. Jones said I know that you have been getting a number of e-mails with frustrations about the project and I think we've all been frustrated with the project. I had a quick conversation with the City Attorney earlier today and we will be engaging with the community and just seeing what we can do as it relates to some of the issues that they have been going through. So, I just wanted to let you know that I have spoken with the Attorney and a group of us will interact with the community to see what can be done.

Mayor Lyles said I think Mr. Egleston probably has lived experience, is that what the name of that is about this project, but I think all of us are really very well informed from the neighbor's letter. I think Mr. Jones what we are really trying to do is stop saying anything that is not actually feasible to be done, but also to pay attention to the life circumstances that these folks have gone through with foundational issues settling that their buildings when they talk about landscaping, when they talk about repair their yards and their materials and I just really believe that that community conversation with the staff is more important and it can't wait until it is time to file a report with Risk Management or it is time to do this. This has just gone on so very long that these folks deserve TLC actually in every aspect of what we are doing with them.

Mr. Egleston said first I appreciate it; the Mayor did come out and welcome in some of the neighbors a month or two ago and look at some of the issues. They were very appreciative of your being there Mayor, so thank you for that. I do think one quick question Taiwo when you say open to traffic, by the end of the calendar year for vehicle traffic. Can neighborhood residents expect, or can anybody expect to see the testing starting almost nearly concurrent with the open to vehicle traffic?

Mr. Jaiyeoba said actually the Director of General Services is here, but my understanding is that you have to complete a project substantially before you can do the testing and so that may push that into early 2021, not the end of this year.

Mr. Egleston said so there is some amount of work between when we can open it to vehicle traffic and when we can put the streetcar on for testing?

Mr. Jaiyeoba said yes.

Mr. Egleston said so maybe that is three different times it would be helpful to identify; I do think when we put the streetcar out there and start testing them that will be a huge landmark in our timeline for people visually to see that really is light at the end of this and I think it will change the narrative because I'm convinced that at least half of City still thinks we are going to put the Rice A Roni trollies back out there and when they see the modern streetcar that looks more like our light rail cars, I think it will change people's perceptions of what we are bringing forward in this project in a way that is going to be very beneficial to the project.

To the Mayor's final point there around the issues that people have been having with damage to their homes, I do think and I don't have a great solution and I will preface this by saying Phil and team have been great in terms of responsiveness, engaging the community, not only from my vantage point but from some of the neighbors that I have talked to frequently advantage points. I don't have a great idea, but we do have to figure out something to calm the fears of the neighbors that the concerns they have around the damage that they believe this construction project has caused their homes is going to be addressed in a way that is sufficient because and frankly, I don't blame them for being skeptical. We as an organization and I include all of us in that, have not done as good of a job as we could have or should have in managing this project I don't think and I'm certain that the contractor has not done an acceptable job on this project. If I were a neighbor who felt like I was starting to see cracks in my house that I had never seen in the decade or two or three that I've lived there before and my house is shaking every day because of the construction of this project it is not a difficult line for them to draw for them between the construction and the damage and if I also knew that I was dealing with a contractor

who couldn't properly measure a bridge, I would be skeptical too that my claim was ever going to be settled in a satisfactory way. I don't know how we can address those fears, but I don't blame neighbors for having them because everything they've been told for how many years this has been going on has not played out the way that we said it would or the way that it should. I don't know why they would expect the claims process is going to play that it should or the way that we are saying it is going to. I think at this point what the community is going to be left with both in the public space, but also on their private property is probably the over-riding concern more so than anything else. I think that is the one that we've got to be most focused on in addition to obviously putting a bow on this one and having the construction over with.

Mr. Graham said just a quick technical question in reference to the testing. Will a delay on one side of the track impact testing on the other side, i.e. the Johnson C. Smith University side versus the Hawthorne Bridge? If there is a delay over there is that the way the whole testing of the whole line?

Mr. Jaiyeoba said Mr. Lewis is the expert on this, but my understanding is that when you installed the overhead wires you want to do them for the two sides of the alignment so you can run the testing at the same time rather than at different times. The overhead wires for this will be installed in early 2021 as well so I believe it is going to be at the same time unless I'm hearing otherwise.

Mr. Lewis said part of the testing that we have to do is not just the infrastructure, and even though the bridge may open earlier and all of the construction work, we are not just testing the power source, but also the systems and communications along the line. We ultimately have to certify the entire corridor depending on what we may see, there are areas where we may be able to begin testing on one side of the corridor while minor issues may be being dealt with on another side of the corridor, but ultimately, we have to run that test from one end to the other.

Mr. Graham said so the conversation we had last week that does this presentation change anything that we've talked about in terms of testing and start etc.?

Mr. Lewis said no, I believe, and we are taking forward that once they reach substantial completion under this schedule right now, we will begin testing along the entire corridor.

Mr. Jaiyeoba said Councilmember Newton referred to this earlier, the Central Avenue Bus Pilot Study. I want to take us back to 2017 when we had the Envision My Ride and bus priority conversations and I know a lot of things get lost over time, but at that time we started to talk about you are going to implement Envision My Ride which is really about making our bus system better and including some areas where we actually can have dedicated lanes to run buses. All the way through February of this year as we started to engage different people this was a subject that was discussed. Back in June, when the three of us updated Council about transportation and transit we had also discussed this which ultimately led to your decision on September 8th for the Central Avenue Bus Pilot Study, which really is a six-month pilot study that will allow us to gather more information with regard to how you cannot operate a future streetcar and dedicated lane on this corridor.

The question of course is why now. We started the first phase which is the Fourth Street Pilot back in December of 2019 and that has been very successful, and it continues to operate even today. Understanding that this second phase is challenging but there are certain reasons why we felt that this would be a good time to actually implement a dedicated bus lane on Central Avenue; number one the low traffic volumes which allowed us to be able to implement on the lower traffic, less congestion and perhaps safer conditions. The second thing is that it does allow us to gather some data just like we said about the Tryon Pilot, this also allows us to gather some data on how does it really work when you have a transit system operating and you get the right-of-way along a busy corridor or along a corridor that has residents and businesses, what does it look like even for a future streetcar system to be able to operate along this corridor? Gather data, talking to people or understanding how riders get on and off, the relationship between the transit

system, bicycles and people and vehicles who use the roadway, it is very important for us to be able to analyze what transit future looks like along Central Avenue.

So, right now we continue to gather data, we are looking at [inaudible] movements, we looking at what is happening to traffic along Central Avenue and any impact on neighborhood streets and [inaudible] streets, what is going on with regard to enforcement, bicycle, pedestrians counts. We are looking at traffic data by lane, we've had a lot of complaints from people that there are some drivers who are using the dedicated lane to really speed. We are getting a lot of that information and we know that is a concern and that is a complaint, it is part of the data gathering process for us so eventually, when we come to you, we will have a full gamut of information that we can share with you. It also allows us to know what a travel time would be compared to if this bus was stuck in traffic, what exactly would travel time be, what would the ridership look like? How fast is the bus able to operate within that dedicated lane and how can we continue to make sure that we have solved the interactions within the bus system and the lanes.

In December, we are going to have preliminary information on the data that we've been gathering to share with the Transportation, Planning, and Environmental Committee, but also to share with them some of the things that we've been hearing from the community. The goal is that at the end of the day we want to position this corridor for success when it comes to future installation of the streetcar system if we have succeeded in getting funding for that and this helps us to be able to achieve that. I will stop here and if there are any questions, I will be glad to entertain them. I also have my colleague here, CEO of CATS Mr. John Lewis and also Director of C-DOT Ms. Babson who can answer specific questions.

Mr. Newton said as I mentioned before this dedicated bus pilot has created an awful lot of disruption and confusion in the community, just fear within the community when we talked about enforcement. The area here from Eastway down to Albemarle Road is our immigrant corridor and so I know that there has been a lot of abuse of the lane and there is talk now of enforcement measures in our immigrant community and I speak with many representatives of the community on a weekly, if not more frequent basis, and they are explaining to me that these folks don't feel comfortable speaking up, but there are certainly concerns here that are associated with these lanes. Now, having said all of that, I understand, and the devil is the details here. It is always on how the terminology is used, things are explained to us. Seeing something like the subject was discussed, certainly the height of things, but the idea that this was something directed to any of our attention two-months ago in a Strategy Session, inasmuch as this specific location is concerned, no that wasn't the case and I need to point that out. I'm actually very offended that that is the assertion being made.

I wanted to ask a question about Phase 3 because it is my understanding that this is simply a pilot where we are gathering some information and I had the opportunity to speak with staff members last week to get a little bit more clarity on the intentions and the goals of this, particularly as it pertains to future projects and maybe the use of that information, but can you tell me a little bit more about Phase 3 here that I'm seeing on the slide in front of us right now, and if that is a Phase we are saying is going to be part of this pilot within the six-month period?

Mr. Lewis said I want to make sure I understand your question; we are talking about Phase 3 of the Central Avenue Pilot or are we talking about Phase 3 of the Gold Line?

Mr. Newton said Central Avenue Pilot. I wasn't aware of these phases. There is more and more information that comes to my attention, there is more that is shared with me really every week about this that I was not aware of. I don't even know what this means so it is my understanding, I guess we are in the Central Avenue Pilot which is Phase 2. What is Phase 3 and is that a part of the Central Avenue Pilot itself for six-months that I guess has now presented to me over the past month and a half?

Mr. Lewis said to answer your question, the Central Avenue Corridor, the entire Corridor itself is one of the corridors that we have been taking a look at over the last year or so for

higher priority bus operations, along with other corridors like Providence Road, West Boulevard, Wilkinson Boulevard, etc. You may remember just a couple of meetings ago Council authorized a bus priority study that will go into more detail for all of these corridors and so when we took a look at Central, we started with the 4th Street Corridor, which quite frankly was the easiest corridor for us to pilot a bus-only lane since there weren't any residents along that corridor. As we reported back to Council in December after several months of a pilot that we were able to quantify the increase in bus speed, quantify the minimal impact to traffic. Now that corridor at 4th Street has a different cross-section than Central Avenue and we wanted to continue working out from uptown. The middle phase which goes through Plaza/Midwood has some very significant challenges from a capital and operational standpoint. It is much more narrow in that corridor and there is the significant obstacle of the freight railroad crossing and so that needed some in-depth study and that is what our consultant study is looking at, are there ways that we could in the future implement this type of high priority bus lane if we can solve those problems?

The third Phase which is the Phase that we are in the implementation of now was just quite frankly an easy met two goals. Number one we were able to pretty easily pilot the transit-only lane with minimal impact to traffic because of the median space that you see there and then the second issue was one that Mr. Jaiyeoba mentioned was the need to gather the necessary data to help position Phase 3 of the Gold Line project which is our intention and in order to be successful and going after Federal funding we really need to maximize trip speed through the corridor and a streetcar that is over 10-miles long operating in street traffic, we will get minimal trip savings in terms of time along that corridor. This enabled us to answer two questions; the bus priority study lane that we could use that data to inform other corridors but also the preliminary investigation of the transit-only lane for Gold Line Phase 3.

Mr. Newton said a number of points here, one is this isn't apples to apples. I think that is something that is very important to know; the 4th Street Pilot as you had mentioned four lanes, while you take one lane away people can still pass, and it makes a whole lot of sense. Right here on this corridor between Eastway Drive and Albemarle Road, only two-lanes, people can pass. It is very difficult if someone needs to turn left the traffic backs up. That is why people are using the bus lanes to pass. I think that is a very important decision to make that this is not an apple to apple comparison and they are not working out. In this instance, we are looking at the last mile. You were talking about that first/last mile, looking at the last mile with all of this territory in between, but my question was about Phase 3 because when I read this, the slide, it says we will look at implementing a priority treatment along the entire Central Avenue Corridor, which I am assume is from downtown all the way to Albemarle Road and I'm kind of wondering to myself are we talking about an extension of the pilot and that is why I'm asking, within the six-months are you talking about this happening after six-months which is something else that is completely foreign to me and I haven't heard at all?

Mr. Lewis said this will come back as Phase 3 which is the portion from 4th Street out through Plaza/Midwood will be a part of the report out that we will get from our consulting team in concert with all the other corridors that they are evaluating as a part of the bus priority study. It will not be a follow-up to this six-month pilot.

Mr. Newton said that is what I thought we were to do last week when all of us met and talking about this particular pilot and it fit the six-month pilot to gather the information to better position ourselves at a later date for the Gold Line. That makes a lot of sense because at this point in time we don't know what Eastland is going to bring, but one thing we do know is it is certainly going to heighten traffic. That is why I kind of questioned Winston and us moving forward on this right now because you could really question whether or not the data is going to be reflective of the situation on the corridor in the next two, three to four years. [inaudible] on another question, are you guys working with the redevelopment folks yet? I know before the impression I got was that you have been speaking with them and you had reached out to [inaudible] but that wasn't the case and I'm wondering where are we with that?

Mr. Lewis said when you are talking about the development folks can you be a little more specific on who you are referring to?

Mr. Newton said I know before you hadn't spoken with the folks in the economic Development Department, I want to know have you connected with them and certainly the Eastland Development Team to make sure that this is something that is conducive to their needs. We are making a tremendous investment on that site, have you worked with them to discuss the entirety of your plans with them?

Mr. Lewis said I'm going to answer that in two portions, number one, in terms of Gold Line Phase 3, absolutely we are working with the development staff and I have actually met with the development team on the Eastland site for a variety of issues, so that is ongoing. In regard to this transit-only lane; we have not talked with the developer of the site because this is a pilot that we are looking for that will go away after six-months and have very different goals. But again, in regard to the long-term plan for the corridor in relation to Gold Line Phase 3, absolutely.

Mr. Jaiyeoba said I would like to use this portion to just say thank you. I specifically wanted to express my appreciation [inaudible] when you all came, especially Mayor Lyles, Councilmember Eiselt, Councilmember Johnson, Councilmember Newton, and Councilmember Egleston, thank you for being with us on Saturday. We had about 500 people come to listen to the Comprehensive Plan and that is no exaggeration. We actually were counting them and as of today, we've been receiving different comments, so people are actually reading them and that is an encouragement. But I would like you to please send them out to your network to different folks, we want to hear from everyone. I wanted to end on a positive note.

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ITEM NO. 4: COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORT OUTS

Mayor Lyles said I think that one of the things that I try to emphasize on the Committee Reports, we got the documents and these are really pretty much full-page minutes of every meeting that you have and I think that the idea for Committee Reports was always to bring up those areas where you had uncertainty or where you had decisions that were divided and you wanted feedback from the Council prior to coming to the meeting with your recommendations. I think if everyone has read this, we are okay. I would love an example of a great presentation so we will start with our Safe Communities Committee.

Councilmember Egleston said I'm not going to be great but I will lead with brevity, which is we spent an extensive amount of time talking as a whole Council about the Safe Charlotte Plan just last week and passed it unanimously, so I will just encourage people to look at the notes that they have been sent, but we have talked about this at length, you should know what is going on and our next meeting would have been tomorrow, but we are obviously not going to have one on Election Day, so it is Tuesday, November 10th, a week from tomorrow and I will draw your attention to the fact that those meetings are moving back to their original timeslot of a noon going forward.

Mayor Lyles said could I ask you a question about this? I think the question is how is the data dashboard, are you going to be getting reports regularly on the updates of those actional that are preceding as a result of the approval of the document?

Mr. Egleston said yes, I expect that we will, and if not, then we will not have a [inaudible]

Councilmember Driggs said, in brief, I will highlight a couple of things we talked about. The members of the Committee are myself as Chair and Councilmembers Eiselt, Ajmera, Graham, and Johnson. We talked about our Code of Ethics, initially about the process for a conflict of interest and disclosure of conflict of interest. The Committee is talking about changing the language in our policy so that it says Councilmembers who have a concern about a possible perception of conflict should speak to the City Attorney and if so, advised by the City Attorney should notify the members of Council about the issue for information.

We also talked about the Ethics Policy and have not yet taken any action on or considering a change there which might involve a referral back to Council instead of an outside investigator or outside Counsel and so that recommendation is still in process and we expect to bring something back to full Council about that.

The other thing I would mention is we did actually vote on and a recommendation to the full Council concerning the Charlotte Firefighter's Retirement System and in very brief terms the issue there is that the funding for the retirement plan, which is a separate plan for the Fire Fighters away from the State's managed plans is only at about 77% of the liability. So, funding in hand is about \$580 million and the liability is about \$758 million so what is indicated here is that the City take action to increase its contributions to the plan so as not to allow that deficit to get greater and in fact to start reducing the unfunded liability. That, in turn, would require legislative action and therefore the key component of the vote that we took was to recommend to the full Council that we step up the contributions to the plan to try to get us more on track with getting it funded properly and that we include in our Legislative Agenda the request that legislation be passed indicating that we much step up the contribution. Thank you will be brought to full Council Mr. Manager.

Marcus Jones, City Manager said Dana Fenton would in the Action Briefing next week bring the Legislative Agenda and with a nod tonight that would be part of the Legislative Agenda.

Mr. Driggs said the Committee voted unanimously, that we should adopt this course of action in terms of increasing our funding through the plan and that we should have on our Legislative Agenda the request that local legislation be passed so I just encourage you to kind of look at that and if you have questions about it inform yourselves because it will be coming before us for action.

Councilmember Graham said you have the information in front of you; I will just kind of highlight three items. One, on our October 21st meeting we dealt with the issue of short-term rentals in terms of issues we were receiving from the community, and the write-up is in your package for you to review as well. We did take on the topic of the source of income discrimination and staff has gone away to do some due diligence on that for us. One is to propose a draft ordinance and to score it with strength, weakness, opportunity threats and alternatives to provide the Council a list of cities that have passed laws that prohibit discrimination based on the source of income, recommendations for incentives or educational opportunities through Community Relations, help mitigate landlords' concerns, etc. You can read that for yourself; staff will be coming back to the Committee in December with these tasks to report to the Committee and then lastly, the Committee took up the issue of naturally occurring affordable housing rentals subsidy program. The Committee discussed a proposed NOAH (Naturally Occurring Affordable Housing) rental subsidy program for a household earning 30% or less than the area median income who do not currently have a voucher or other forms of rental subsidy. We specifically talked about Lake Mist Apartments which is 144 units, no other development located in Council District 3. This will be coming before the Council for action on November 9th.

Councilmember Bokhari said we are going to keep our Intergovernmental Relations Committee update very short, but one of the main items as we keep tracking forward is just procedurally where your Committee is with the three items because I think they are still with you perhaps, and how is that going to procedurally flow over a couple of weeks?

Mr. Graham said there is a Committee meeting, and I think you are talking specifically about the source of income. We have a Committee meeting I think this week as well as in December and then we will be making recommendations out of the Committee to the Council and so Council will have the last word in terms of how we move forward.

Mayor Lyles said a couple of things, I just want to make sure; it seems to me that I've been hearing like a Committee is saying well, this needs to happen for us to do this, it needs to go to the Legislative Committee. I think that has to be a part of the Committee report and recommendation to the full Council because it is really the action that is most

important that the Council agree upon. If you are talking about how it is implemented that requires state action. I guess my question is, is the sinking of the times not working for us?

Mr. Bokhari said from the Intergovernmental Committee perspective, I think we don't have a perspective either way at this point. The thing that we don't want to do, and I think the big problem has been for a lot of these topics we've been waiting to see what happens in the election because clearly, that can have different ramifications for different topics. Putting that aside, what we don't want to do is have them spend a bunch of time in their Committee and say yeah, we want that. It then gets referred over to the Intergovernmental Committee where we have our discussions spend time on it and then bring it forth to Council to then figure out there isn't broader support for it or there is. My line of questioning and I think that is the purpose of you having the Committee Updates in the Strategy Sessions are, it is not a status update as much as it is like we are not exactly sure what the will of the body is and if the will of the body on something like the source of income discrimination, for example, a half dozen other items that we have, isn't going to be there I would hate to waste a ton of staff time and a bunch hours in multiple committees kind of bringing it to that point. That is a problem statement I know, but that is the one we are trying to figure out.

Mayor Lyles said I think what I've been telling Mr. Graham; do you want to respond on the income source discrimination?

Mr. Graham said that specifically will be presented to the Committee in December. Staff is doing some due diligence at my requests, I want to make sure that all the Committee members, as well as Council as a whole, know what we are doing and why we are doing it and the consequences both good and bad, so we are really going to take out time and do the homework. That work is coming back to the Committee in December and then one way or another it will be forwarded out to the full Council for their consideration. I would imagine by the time we take a break for Christmas you should know that specifically and others that may or may not need some type of referral from the Council to the Intergovernmental Relations Committee for the action.

Mayor Lyles said the other thing I wanted to ask about, the short-term rentals, I thought that was in Planning, is it in both? What is going on with that?

Mr. Graham said it came back to us; Ms. Eiselt helps me out, she is on the Committee as well. We discussed it and felt that we should just continue to kind of do what we were currently doing which is kind of running in place.

Councilmember Eiselt said I think the reason it ended up in ours is because it will be part of the (UDO) Unified Development Ordinance so it will really be addressed as part of the UDO and the idea that some of the complaints that we've gotten recently related to short-term rentals have to do with properties that have been on the Air BNB platform and Air BNB has been a great partner and have been helping and that currently, we do have code enforcements. I think the message was that we really do have what is in place and what is in place right now is okay to deal with the problems that we have seen, and it will be addressed as part of the UDO.

Mr. Graham said we just kind of came to a conclusion that what we had in place as Ms. Eiselt has indicated, was working based on the number of complaints we were getting. We are getting complaints, but it is not like it is overwhelming based on what is happening in the City as a whole.

Mayor Lyles said I just want to make sure that you are not duplicating.

Mr. Graham said I think we are done with that.

Mayor Lyles said then on the rental subsidy program, you said that is up next time. Is this a pilot or something? This is our first one that we've actually had to address a rental

subsidy program, so I just wondered how that came up. Is it a part of our NOAH policy, how does this work?

Mr. Graham said if Ms. Wideman is here, she can kind of help me out if she is.

Mr. Jones said I believe it would be a part of an RCA for next week.

Mayor Lyles said I just wondered if it was a part of that RCA for NOAH.

Mr. Graham said we are good.

Councilmember Johnson said I have two questions for Mr. Graham; first of all the re-entry ordinance, I know the COVID Housing Task Force, we were presented with information about the source of income, discrimination and also the Re-entry Ordinance, I didn't see that in the outstanding issues for the Committee so I just wanted to know if you could give us an update on the Re-entry Ordinance?

Mr. Graham said it is on a future agenda for the Committee before the end of the year.

Ms. Johnson said okay, good. Secondly, maybe we can talk about this next week, but the NOAH, the pilot for Lake Smith, I did have an opportunity to speak with Mark and it is an exciting model and I am hoping we can mirror that for other projects in the future as an incentive for developers to like to develop 30% housing. I know that Pam will go into detail next week, but it is a really exciting pilot and solution.

Mr. Graham said I can't wait until next week, it is going to be an exciting presentation and I think there will be a number of good conversations around that particular topic. So, next week I think we will dive right into it and be a lot more specific in terms of the direction we are going and what this may mean for other projects throughout the City.

Mr. Bokhari said we don't really need to recap all the stuff can read for yourselves so Mr. Winston, do you have anything to add?

Councilmember Winston said all the referrals for the Legislative Agenda are in your packet. Mr. Fenton will be doing a deep dive into that next Monday. I think we had a couple of referrals in there; nothing has come out that I think needs necessary discussion tonight.

Ms. Eiselt said my report is only nine-pages long, I will read it quickly. We did have a very full meeting on September 28th, and my Committee members are Mr. Egleston, Mr. Winston, Mr. Driggs, and Mr. Newton. We started out with the Comprehensive Plan and Taiwo and Elisha gave us an update along with the consultant. The Big Ideas and the draft policies for the next steps for the Comprehensive Plan and as Taiwo mentioned they had a great kick-off on Saturday over at The Park Expo so thanks for everybody who did come. It was a really good turn out and it was a really creative way to do it in the middle of a pandemic so thanks to the staff who put that all together. The kick-off on Saturday really opens the six-month review period and as you know the council will be set to adopt this as a policy in April, although it is a moving document so there is always going to be room for improvements, the next six months is going to be really critical for Council to really understand what is in the document and to share it with people in the community.

We talked about the Tree Canopy Action Plan and Allison Craig and Tim Porter gave us a presentation on the recent engagement efforts and peer city analysis that have been done along with preliminary canopy policies. As we know our tree canopy has declined over the few years; it was at 49% coverage in 2012, it is not down to 45%. A lot of the loss has been in residential areas due in part to infill but also to storms. South Charlotte has seen the most loss and 65% of the tree canopy loss has occurred in single-family residential areas. The high-level takeaway from this whole analysis was that our tree canopy is aging, storms are making an impact on our canopy, and maintenance of our canopy is inadequate, inequitable, and basically needs a lot of work. From the peer city analysis, Tim said they took a look at Raleigh, Austin, Atlanta, and Washington, DC and

most of those cities have in comparison to Charlotte have higher mitigation in lieu fee charge for developers that would rather just pay the fee and they charge for impacts that Charlotte does not currently regulate. Some of the peer cities have programs that support assistance with maintenance and replanting and the recommendation is that we really need to increase support for our low-income neighborhoods with replanting and maintenance of their tree canopy.

With regard to our lower-income neighborhoods, they looked at our previously redlined communities and those neighborhoods received a grade of D whereas predominantly white neighborhoods received grades of A's for our tree canopy so this again also points to the inequity and it also brings up the point that there is a temperature difference between those neighborhoods whereas predominantly white neighborhoods are cooler in the summer than African American communities. Obviously, that is a point that kept coming up that we need to work on. We need funding for proactive public tree care as well as more stringent tree protection measures and the next steps are to refine the tree canopy policy and draft an ordinance concept for the UDO and expand the partnership with UNCC to model and project canopy goals and update our Urban Forest Master Plan.

We have a presentation from John Lewis and John Howard regarding the update on the Transit Oriented Development Study for the Silver Line Corridors and the purpose of that study was really to integrate land use and transportation planning early in the process. It was an opportunity to take the lessons learned from the Blue Line and incorporate those as missed opportunities in the Blue Line and make sure we don't miss those opportunities again with the Silver Line, particularly as it involves affordable housing, bike lanes, pedestrian crossings and how do we mitigate displacement of residents along that rail line.

Our next steps for the TOD Silver Line are that the MTC will look at adoption as we heard from John in March of 2021. The next meeting is marked as November 23rd, but we've just decided not to have a Council meeting that day so we will have to figure out when we are going to have our next meeting.

Councilmember Ajmera said thank you Ms. Eiselt for the report. Did the Committee look at the no net loss policy?

Ms. Eiselt said no, the focus was really on redistribution of the tree canopy and so that would provide opportunities to say where we would increase if it were a no net loss. They are reading it as 50 by 2050 as the goal and so the focus was really on how do we redistribute the tree canopy and increase it in areas that don't have a canopy and that would be in more of our lower-income neighborhoods.

Ms. Ajmera said I know at some point when we would review our tree ordinance as we go to the UDO process this no net loss policy would be viewed at a later point?

Ms. Eiselt said I think it can be discussed at any point. The goal would be not to lose anything more, but we are losing it at a faster rate than they can really control right now and part of that has got to be looking at more stringent regulations than we have on the books right now and so the focus in this meeting was really on reporting out the peer analysis. There was no recommendation at this point, they are still working on that.

Ms. Ajmera said I look forward to the recommendation. I just wanted us to look at that whenever that comes up. The challenge we are having is that we are not able to keep up or whatever, for example, we are getting in our preservation fund, we are not able to protect the same acreage somewhere else and that is why we are continuing to lose more ground every single day. Peer cities have implemented that and I hope that at some point the Committee will look at that but I do appreciate the work in terms of equity because we have neighborhoods where some neighborhoods especially in communities of color where we have who gets to enjoy tree canopy and who gets to enjoy the shade, it shouldn't be based on their income, but I certainly appreciate the work there.

Mr. Bokhari said Workforce Development.

Mayor Lyles said I'm sorry, Mr. Mitchell isn't able to join us tonight so Mr. Bokhari will give the Workforce Development report.

Mr. Bokhari said there is a lot of stuff you can read there. Pay special attention to the updates on Open for Business Initiative and where we stand there. I think the two things for everyone to consider as we are kind of at a point where we are switching gears for the future is one, as we've been working closely with the County with these joint meetings of the ED (Economic Development) groups, what do we all want that to achieve because I think the Committees working together are starting to bear some fruit and now, we need to decide what some topics are that we might want to broach. So, I just plant that seed in everyone's mind as well it is time for us to start seriously planning what 2021 looks like in the post COVID kind of economic recovery model. I think as you see all these stats and Open for Business and what that has accomplished with Survive and Thrive in the kind of mid-pandemic time as we are going to a post-pandemic new normal, I think we need to consider what that next phase of reviving initiative looks like. I don't know that we've really given that a ton of thought yet because we've been so focused on the granular nature of this year. Again, just wanted to plant those two seeds.

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ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Councilmember Bokhari, seconded by Councilmember Egleston, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m.



Stephanie C. Kelly, City Clerk, MMC, NCCMC

Length of Meeting: 3 Hours, 51 Minutes
Minutes Completed: November 30, 2020