The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina convened for an Action Review on Monday, January 10, 2022 at 5:03 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, Matt Newton, Greg Phipps, and Braxton Winston II.

ABSENT UNTIL NOTED: Councilmember Victoria Watlington.

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Mayor Lyles welcomed everyone to the January 10, 2022 Action Review and said this meeting is being held as a virtual meeting in accordance with all of the laws that we have to follow, especially around an electronic meeting. The requirements also include notices and access that are being met electronically as well. You can view this on our Government Channel, the City's Facebook Page, or the City's YouTube Page.

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CONSENT AGENDA

ITEM NO. 1: MAYOR AND COUNCIL CONSENT QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Eiselt, and carried unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, with the exception of Item No. 23 which was deferred to January 24th, 2022 and Item No. 24 which was settled.

The following items were approved:

Item No. 10: Fire Physical Training Uniforms

(A) Approve a unit price contract for the purchase of physical training uniforms to the lowest responsive bidder Mainland Custom Shirts Inc., DBA Action Plus Ideas for an initial term of one year, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contract for up to four, one-year terms with possible price adjustments and to amend the contract consistent with the purpose for which the contract was approved.

Summary of Bids

* The complete Summary of Bids is available in the City Clerk's Office

Item No. 11: Construct Irwin Tributary Sanitary Sewer along Remount Road

Approve a guaranteed maximum price of \$30,266,966 to B.R.S., Inc. for Design-Build construction services for the Irwin Tributary Sanitary Sewer along Remount Road project.

Item No. 12: Construct Storm Water Repair and Improvements

(A) Approve a contract in the amount of \$3,913,468.26 to the lowest responsive bidder United of Carolinas, Inc. for the Storm Water Repair, and Improvement FY2022-E project,

Summary of Bids

United of Carolinas Inc.	\$3,913,468.26
Blythe Development company	\$4,297,340.00
OnSite Development, LLC.	\$4,513,541.00
Sealand Contractors Corp.	\$4,997,910.04

(B) Approve a contract in the amount of \$3,961,924.00 to the lowest responsive bidder OnSite Development, LLC. for the Storm Water Repair and Improvement FY 2022-F project,

Summary of Bids

OnSite Development, LLC.

\$3,961,924.00

United of Carolinas Inc. Blythe Development company Sealand Contractors Corp. \$4,272,070.80 \$4,295,371.25 \$4,997,910.04

(C) Approve a contract in the amount of \$4,271,453.75 to the lowest responsive bidder OnSite Development, LLC. for the Storm Water Repair and Improvement FY 2022-G project,

Summary of Bids

OnSite Development, LLC. United of Carolinas Inc. Blythe Development company Sealand Contractors Corp. \$4,124,464.00 \$4,253,394.80 \$4,263,453.75 \$4,982,764.97

and (D) Approve a contract in the amount of \$4,253,394.80 to the lowest responsive bidder United of Carolinas Inc. for the Storm Water Repair and Improvement FY 2022-H project.

Summary of Bids

United of Carolinas Inc	\$4,253,394.80
Blythe Development company	\$4,258,920.00
United Construction Company, Inc	\$4,786,512.89

Item No. 13: Resolution of Intent to Abandon Ormand Court off Sloan Street

(A) Adopt a Resolution of Intent to abandon Ormand Court off Sloan Street, and (B) Set a Public Hearing for February 14, 2022.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 52, at Page(s) 424-425.

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PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

Item No. 14: Charlotte Water Property Transactions - Upper Little Sugar Creek Trunk Sewer Atrium Segment, Parcel #7

Acquisition of 1,156 square feet (0.02 acres) in Permanent Easement at 1624 Lombardy Circle from Camille Smith Martin for \$24,150 for Upper Little Sugar Creek Trunk Sewer Atrium Segment, Parcel #7.

Item No. 15: Property Transactions - Central, Kilborne, Norland Pedestrian and Bike Improvements, Parcel #4, 5, 6

Acquisition of 5,405 square feet (0.124 acres) Utility Easement, 2,764 square feet (0.063 acres) Sidewalk Utility Easement, 1,520 square feet (0.035 acres) Temporary Construction Easement at 1715, 1721 and 1731, and 1739 Norland Road from S.M.S. Catering Services Inc. for \$43,000 for Central, Kilborne, Norland Pedestrian and Bike Improvements, #4, 5, 6.

Item No. 16: Property Transactions - Central, Kilborne, Norland Pedestrian and Bike Improvements, Parcel #11

Resolution of Condemnation of 1,494 square feet (0.034 acres) Sidewalk Utility Easement, 960 square feet (0.022 acres) Temporary Construction Easement at 4328 Central Avenue from Panagiotis I Haralambous, John P Elefandis and spouse if any for \$22,200 for Central, Kilborne, Norland Pedestrian and Bike Improvements, Parcel #11.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 52, at Page(s) 426.

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Item No. 17: Property Transactions - Central, Kilborne, Norland Pedestrian and Bike Improvements, Parcel #12

Resolution of Condemnation of 986 square feet (0.023 acres) Sidewalk Utility Easement, 1,150 square feet (0.026 acres) Temporary Construction Easement at 4391 Central Avenue from Samos Partnership, A North Carolina General Partnership for \$20,800 for Central, Kilborne, Norland Pedestrian and Bike Improvements, Parcel #12.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 52, at Page(s) 427.

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Item No. 18: Property Transactions - Central, Kilborne, Norland Pedestrian and Bike Improvements, Parcel #16, 17, 18, 19, 20

Acquisition of 614 square feet (0.014 acres) Utility Easement, 635 square feet (0.015 acres) Storm Drainage Easement, 4,424 square feet (0.102 acres) Sidewalk Utility Easement, 3,024 square feet (0.069 acres) Temporary Construction Easement at 0, 1700, 1710, 1718 and 1764 Norland Road from S.M.S. Catering Services Inc. for \$57,350 for Central, Kilborne, Norland Pedestrian and Bike Improvements, #16, 17, 18, 19, 20.

Item No. 19: Property Transactions - Central, Kilborne, Norland Pedestrian and Bike Improvements, Parcel #21

Resolution of Condemnation of 22 square feet (0.001 acres) Sidewalk Utility Easement, 120 square feet (0.003 acres) Temporary Construction Easement at 0 Norland Road from Starr Electric Company Incorporated for \$775 for Central, Kilborne, Norland Pedestrian and Bike Improvements, Parcel #21.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 52, at Page(s) 428.

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Item No. 20: Property Transactions - Central, Kilborne, Norland Pedestrian and Bike Improvements, Parcel #22

Resolution of Condemnation of 115 square feet (0.003 acres) Storm Drainage Easement, 16 square feet (0 acres) Sidewalk Utility Easement, 1,687 square feet (0.039 acres) Temporary Construction Easement at 1808 Norland Road from Starr Family Group LLC for \$9,500 for Central, Kilborne, Norland Pedestrian and Bike Improvements, Parcel #22.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 52, at Page(s) 429.

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Item No. 21: Property Transactions - Davidson-Jordan Place Intersection, Parcels #17 and 18

Resolution of Condemnation of 2,274 square feet (0.052 acres) Temporary Construction Easement at 2604 North Davidson Street and 613 Jordan Place from Neese Country Sausage Co. for \$30,475 for Davidson-Jordan Place Intersection, Parcels #17 and 18.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 52, at Page(s) 430.

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Item No. 22: Property Transactions - DeArmon Road Improvements, Parcel #25

Acquisition of square feet (0.089 acres) Utility Easement, 4,571 square feet (0.105 acres) Sidewalk Utility Easement, 988 square feet (0.023 acres) Temporary Construction Easement, plus 2,416 square feet (0.06 acres) Fee Simple at 9217 Benfield Road from Gloria H. Phillips for \$83,600 for DeArmon Road Improvements, Parcel #25.

Item No. 25: Property Transactions - DeArmon Road Improvements, Parcel #36

Resolution of Condemnation of 14 square feet (0 acres) Utility Easement, 3,688 square feet (0.085 acres) Sidewalk Utility Easement, 3,938 square feet (0.09 acres) Temporary

Construction Easement at 4301 Monroe Road from Michael E. Todd Revocable Trust Agreement Dated June 20, 2000, for \$110,300 for Monroe Road Streetscape, Parcel #15.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 52, at Page(s) 431.

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Item No. 26: Property Transactions - Monroe Road Streetscape, Parcel #55

Acquisition of 1,081 square feet (0.025 acres) Sidewalk Utility Easement, 1,168 square feet (0.027 acres) Temporary Construction Easement at 4938 Monroe Road from Eric Bohman and Dana Bohman for \$25,312 for Monroe Road Streetscape, Parcel #55.

Item No. 27: Property Transactions - Monroe Road Streetscape, Parcel #57

Acquisition of 1,249 square feet (0.029 acres) Sidewalk Utility Easement, 1,059 square feet (0.024 acres) Temporary Construction Easement at 5000 Monroe Road from Eric Bohman and Dana Bohman for \$21,688 for Monroe Road Streetscape, Parcel #57.

Item No. 28: Property Transactions - University Research Park Sidewalk, Parcel #2 Acquisition of 4,231 square feet (0.097 acres) Sidewalk Utility Easement, 2,379 square feet (0.055 acres) Temporary Construction Easement at 8316 Medical Plaza Drive from Mallard Professional Center Association Inc. for \$35,725 for University Research Park Sidewalk, Parcel #2.

Item No. 29: Property Transactions - XCLT Orr Road to Rocky River Road, Parcel #11

Acquisition of 4,837 square feet (0.111 acres) Greenway Easement, 4,131 square feet (0.095 acres) Temporary Construction Easement at 0 Orr Road from B and P Partners LLC for 17,350 for XCLT Orr Road to Rocky River Road, Parcel #11.

Item No. 30: Property Transactions - XCLT Orr Road to Rocky River Road, Parcel #12

Resolution of Condemnation of 14,446 square feet (0.332 acres) Greenway Easement, 12,287 square feet (0.282 acres) Temporary Construction Easement at 0 North Tryon Street from National Retail Properties LP of North Carolina and The Esten Jennings Mason Trust Agreement Dated July 28, 1989, for \$32,225 for XCLT Orr Road to Rocky River Road, Parcel #12.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 52, at Page(s) 432.

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ACTION REVIEW

ITEM NO. 2: ACTION REVIEW AGENDA OVERVIEW

<u>Marcus Jones, City Manager</u> said thank you for having the Consent Agenda early on. What we have for you for the remainder of the Action Review is really three items. One is the Charlotte Future 2040 Policy Map update. We also have a CMPD 2021-year end report and, lastly, the Unified Development Ordinance update. I will tell you up front we split the two. We wanted to make sure that Chief Jennings would be here and that he is on the way. So, with that said Mayor unless there are questions, I'd like to turn it over to Taiwo.

Taiwo Jaiyeoba, Assistant City Manager/Planning Director said thank you Manager Jones for the introduction. I also have to say this is very likely my last meeting officially presenting in front of you. I want to say thank you very much for embracing me over the last four years and supporting the work of our team. Prior to the transition, it is likely that I won't be able to be here next week when you have the rezoning meeting. Alyson Craig is very capable as the Interim Director and she will be leading that at that point and time.

But in the last four years [inaudible] worked with you. There are two major initiatives that you actually helped us to support. One before my time was the Unified Development Ordinance. Which Deputy Director Craig will be presenting later tonight. And the other one is the Charlotte Future 2040 Comprehensive Plan. You adopted that again back in June of this year. And we have been working on the 2040 Policy Map. We released the first draft of that last year and we kind of have gone over different meetings and community conversations with the public. We have done a number of virtual and in-person sessions during that time. So, we are looking forward to releasing the second draft of that policy map on January 18th. Tonight, is an opportunity to really be able to share with you how we have been responding to some of the key concerns and comments that we have been receiving from both yourselves and members of the public and how we have been responding to those.

Alyssa will share with you that we receive almost 1,000 comments and how we have responded, and we are responding to those. Also, over the next several days we will be meeting with each one of you. As well as concurrently meeting with our staff internally as well to make sure that we are addressing some of your concerns whether they are your concerns as councilmembers, but also, concerns that you might have heard from the community. We'll be meeting with you over the next several days to make sure we're reflecting on those. In the draft that will be released on the 18th, we'll have another three-week window of community input so that people still have an opportunity to review that and provide comments to us as well.

But tonight, we just want to focus on what the engagement has looked like, what the proposed revisions to the map look like, and what the next steps will be on the Charlotte Future 2040 Policy Map. At this point, I'll turn it to Our Project Manager and Division Manager Alyssa Osborne to kind of share with you. We will be here to take questions that you may have. After that, we'll come back later on after the next item to share with you on the UDO. Thank you.

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ITEM NO. 3: ACTION REVIEW ITEMS

Charlotte Future 2040 Policy Map Update

<u>Alyssa Osborne, Comprehensive Plan Project</u> said As Taiwo mentioned, today we want to really focus on just kind of talking about the second phase of engagement, give you a quick overview of what we have heard from the community, some of the key takeaways, and then what types of revisions that we are having or going to make for the second release of the map. Then we'll talk about the next steps.

So again, this is the slide I'm sure you have all seen. It really just summarizes the type of engagement that we've had since the beginning of the policy-map process. We have had over 30 community conversations around the community providing makeup sessions for those who couldn't come to those and also some in-person opportunities for folks to come in and talk to staff. We had about 40 hours of those in-person hours. We also received about a thousand plus comments either on the map or in writing via email, phone calls, and all different types of ways we have been listening to the community in terms of what they feel about the first draft of the map.

What I want to point out just really quickly about how we're responding to the maps. All of the comments that we have received are online. Each comment has the type of a summary of the larger comment, a general theme about what the comment is about, and then a response from staff. Those responses are individual responses and if there will be a revision to the map, it's indicated on the map that it will be considered for a revision. It doesn't say what that revision would be because there's some technical analysis that has to be done before that decision is made. But each comment has an individual response that says what the following action will be in those policy-map revisions and will occur in the second draft of the map.

Key takeaways, In the next couple of slides I'll talk about key takeaways from the engagement. This slide summarizes a survey question that we had proposed to our participants in regard to three different types of place types. Particularly commercial; how do we want those to look over time, and what's our priority in seeing those transition over time.

Neighborhood 2, how do we be more intentional about providing more Neighborhood 2 or housing diversity along our major corridors, and a question around manufacturing and logistics. What is the community's preference for preserving where our manufacturing logistics the typical industrial is today? And also, about how do we start to re-envision some of those sites that have been industrial in the past and may want to incorporate other uses like residential and retail moving forward.

Here are the key takeaways from the engagements. All of the engagement that we've had. Some conversations with you all, as well as with the community. Preservation of historic districts, parks, greenways, and existing neighborhoods and large campuses. Those are the key issues that we've heard. Focus density is based on the existing infrastructure along our major highways and thoroughfares. Reduce the size of centers. There were some concerns about maybe in some areas the centers were too big. How do we provide an adequate or appropriate buffer from the neighborhoods transitioning to those centers? Increase the frequency of commercial areas that show them transitioning to more neighborhood centers in the feature. We had a lot of comments around the amount of commercial that we were recommending So, we looked for opportunities to show how those might transition to neighborhood centers over time. And then being real intentional about where we placed the manufacturing logistics place types and the innovation mixed-use type as well.

So, the mapping revisions kind of fall into two big buckets. Technical revisions are the result of us noticing inconsistencies with zoning and just working with our internal partners and some data connections that we learn and produce on the map. We know this is not a perfect process so we know there's iterations and we need to review some things from the technical standpoint.

Then there are some things that we have heard from the community. They are the people that live in these neighborhoods; live work and play in the neighborhoods and the areas and invest in these areas. So, just in conversations with them, we learned that we needed to make some revisions as well. And I'll walk through those examples over the next couple of slides. So, for some of the technical changes, we're just really trying to make sure that our zoning crosswalk was as accurate as it can be in identifying what the future place type would be. Then also, making sure that recent rezonings were incorporated into the future place types map as well.

Another technical change is that utilities were identified as manufacturing logistics. On the map, it kind of appeared in splotchy areas. What we did was made a revision for those types of utilities to be absorbed by the place type that is surrounding it. So, our cell phone tower wouldn't be a utility. It would just be a part of the neighborhood because that's the more appropriate place type for the future.

Another technical change is we had some real strong comments about prioritizing the preservation of existing neighborhoods; Neighborhood 1 particularly. Also balancing where the more intense Neighborhood 2 could go as well. So, that's something we had to tweak and continue to iterate. Also, we heard a lot about the preservation of the community and regional parks as parks and preserves. We have been working with the Mecklenburg Park and Recreation to make sure that we have the types of parks that they're planning in their playbook with the types of parks that the thresholds that we are anticipating within the place type mapping.

So, some of the community-driven challenges and the way these slides are organized what you see in the bubbles are what we have heard directly from the neighbors or the residents or people that have an interest or stakeholders within the community. Again, I mentioned the concern about the preservation of historic districts. What we have done is

been real intentional about overlaying the historic districts in our neighborhoods and across the city to make sure that we are preserving and respecting those boundaries. So, we work with our historic districts and preservation team to really do a fine and take a pin to the paper and actually just draw those lines to make sure that what we're proposing in the future respect those boundaries and designations moving forward. I mentioned this before about the preservation of parks and open space. What we have wanted to do is make sure that we identified those connections between parks and open spaces like our greenways, making sure that we coded those adequately so people can see how those uses integrate into the larger community and particularly in our neighborhoods as well.

We have received comments about uptown and how it did make didn't make a whole lot of sense to have Neighborhood 1 in uptown. There are some neighborhoods that we want to preserve but also understanding that over time our uptown is one of our ultimate regional activity centers. So, it will intensify over time, but we wanted to make sure that we provide a kind of a gradation of intensity as uptown develops over time.

I mentioned this before about increasing the availability of Neighborhood 2 along our transit corridors. We wanted to make sure that we really took a fine look at our Silver Line alignment, our Gold Line alignment, all the 2030 system plans alignments, and our Envision My Ride where they're identifying the mobility hubs for all of our major transportation projects to make sure that we're reflecting those transit-oriented development opportunities as well as the increasing intensity in appropriate locations.

So, we did hear some comments, particularly in the Dilworth area about campus and how we're showing those as it relates to their neighborhood. So, we wanted to be sure that where we have campus or schools or hospitals we really paid attention to how that transitions back into the neighborhoods. As well as calling out those larger campuses as their own place type. You can have a school in a Neighborhood 1 or any other place type but if there are campus type uses of a certain size we wanted to make sure that we call those out. So, we went back and made that revision in the methodologies as well. Again, I mentioned the commercial in our community. We do have a lot of auto-oriented uses and some of these uses are very essential to the community, but over time with new development and new design standards, we wanted to make sure that we were really thinking on being proactive about thinking about how can these uses transition to more neighborhoods serving land use centers? So, we took a look at some of our proposed transit lines and other major corridors; actually, 27 corridors to be exact and looked at commercials along the corridors to see how and where the opportunities to transition to the neighborhood center lie.

There were a lot of comments about right-sizing our activity centers making sure that we were understanding what the entitlements were for those areas and making sure that we weren't overestimating what could actually happen from the market perspective and a future land use perspective. So, we looked at the centers and made some adjustments to the thresholds. Then also wanted to make sure that we were being mindful of the transition from those major activity centers like in SouthPark. How do we provide an appropriate transition from that intense regional activity center back to the neighborhoods?

This one is around the manufacturing logistics and innovative mix used district. Again, the innovation mix used district place type is a new idea around how do we repurpose some of our older industrial buildings into more mixed-use centers?. An example would be Savona Mill and Historic West End, where they're taking the old mill and thinking about how to introduce a mixture of uses along with that site in the middle of a neighborhood. So, we were proactive in looking at how might we introduce that in various places throughout the community.

So, this one was around the airport property. Just really making sure that we align where they're proposing to expand with our future place types. Looking at the noise contours and making sure we weren't proposing residential although it's probably zoned for residential in those locations where the airport plans to expand. So, just cleaning up the recommendation around the airport.

So, I'll talk briefly about the next steps and then we'll jump into questions. This is the engagement window for the release of the second draft of the map on the 18th. We will begin some listening sessions with the community. These have proven to be a really good engagement opportunity for residents where they can sign up for a one-on-one call with staff and really talk about their comments, questions, or concerns in a one-on-one basis or even in a group setting. We also want to have those larger community conversations that we have been having over the past two years about the policy maps. This allows for residents to listen to each other and learn from each other and see some commonalities in the things the comments and the conversations that we're having. Then we'll also be proposing a public comment session before this body where residents can talk about their comments or support for the policy map. This is the proposed adoption schedule for January and February. We will have conversations with our planning committee continue with our council committee and then request for adoption in late February, February 28th.

<u>Councilmember Eiselt</u> said, first of all, thank you for clarifying that you are making technical corrections to the map because I think that's probably what's on everybody's mind. When people submitted comments about specific parcels will those be responded to in this phase? At what point will we be able to look at it and say okay I wondered about question number 634 and what the results was of it? Is that just the visual of the map when the next map comes out?

Ms. Osborne said the way we're going to design the new map is there will be a tool that helps us to understand what the revisions were between the first and second drafts. And then it will be a way to highlight those parcels or areas of change. You can click on it and then in the details of that, there would be a table that pops up that says what it used to be what it is and why. Similar to what we did with the comp plan where we laid out the revisions. This will be just on the spatial map. That's the difficulty of it. It's an actual map. So, we'll do both. You can be able to read those comments, and how they were addressed and see them on the actual map as well. So, it could be both.

Ms. Eiselt said that's great. I think that would be helpful for people. The other question I have is what is the right point to have the conversation about mapping when in this version right now for instance we can see yellow is N1, but there's a lot of different N1s, right. And N1 a through f. And I have concerns where N1 backs up to the regional activity center and it goes from the least dense category to one of our most if not most dense categories and I'm very concerned about that, the impact that will have on existing homes in there now. I don't know if they're going to be N1-a or N1-b.

Ms. Osborne said so, I don't have the answer to that Mayor Pro Tem. That's a part of the unified development ordinance mapping methodology. I think Alyson may be able to speak to that later on. What the place type map will do is essentially provide the frame, kind of the shell and the Udo comes in and provide the details and how the specifics districts are applied. So, the place type map will just map N1 and then the details of each individual zoning district will happen as a part of the Unified Development Ordinance.

Ms. Eiselt said Okay, that's where it gets a little bit foggy between the mapping and the UDO because when I look at it and I think of understanding how you're determining how many structures, not units but structures go on an N1 parcel it's very different between N1-a and N1-e. So, I do think even though we keep moving further along we have to really understand better how that's going to be mapped within just N1 alone.

And I'm happy to wait for Alyson until you speak on the UDO portion to address that.

<u>Alyson Craig, Deputy Director Planning, Zoning & Development Department</u> said it might be better to do it now. So, I think where I would start is table 3-1 in the UDO and we'll show you what the translation is. So, you can see what the zoning district is today and that table will tell you what the zoning district of tomorrow is. And then when we start to go through a future alignment rezoning when after the UDO is adopted then we MAY see does that fit with what the spirit and the vision of the comprehensive plan is and see if there need to be changes made to that. But the direct translation is in the table in the UDO right now.

Ms. Eiselt said okay, thank you and I did see that and I wasn't sure if that was an indication or actually how one could interpret that. I think that's it for me for mapping but again we will have opportunities on more technical sort of large-scale issues that do not parcel specific correct?

Ms. Craig said absolutely.

Ms. Eiselt said thank you very much.

Councilmember Ajmera said I had a similar question in terms of the feedback that we have received and I know I had given specific examples where a neighborhood had an apartment then all of a sudden we were seeing single families. I wasn't sure if there was a transition that we were looking into. And I know I had given specific examples in our one-on-one session. So, I look forward to reviewing all the feedback that we had received so far and what technical changes were made as a result of that.

Ms. Craig said okay, thank you.

Ms. Ajmera said could you send us that link?

Ms. Craig said?

Mayor Lyles said which link is it Ms. Ajmera?

Ms. Ajmera said the link that the staff had alluded to earlier where there will be maps and it will show where the technical revisions were made as a result of the feedback that was received.

Mayor Lyles said I think that will come out to all of the Council as well as the community. So, that will be available.

Ms. Osborne said Yes, on January 18th.

Ms. Ajmera said ok, great. Thank you.

<u>Councilmember Egleston</u> said can we go back to the slide outlining all of the engagements taking place. There were a couple of pie charts.

I'm just curious on this and I assume there's more like this, that's been captured from the engagement taking place. Are we doing anything as we engage people and get their reactions to these sorts of things to prep them to better understand the question or the implications of going one direction or the other or educating them on whatever that topic is before we ask the question or are we just allowing whatever they bring to the table to shape the way they look at it? Because I think it's simple to say is it important to preserve single-family lots or should we provide more housing options along the major corridors? Anybody who's engaged enough to a car about answering these questions is going to understand what that means but if you haven't been somewhat briefed on what a neighborhood activity center is. People can conjure up different images of what that looks like. Or if you ask a man or the woman or the street whether they want manufacturing and logistics in their community they might say no, I don't. But they might not understand the impacts that could have on our economy or job opportunities or whatever. So, I'm just curious whether we're doing anything to help folks have a better-contextualized understanding of the question or if we're just posing it to them and taking whatever, we can get back.

Ms. Osborne said a good question. So, these questions were presented to participants in two ways in a live meeting. So, we had those 40 community conversations and in each meeting, we asked these questions and provided context talking about all of the place types explaining what they are and what they might look like, and then telling people why we were even asking this question. And then having dialogue around each one. So, that was a part of the community conversation. The other part of it is we had a video that

explained what all of the place types were, some examples, and so there was a number of ways you can get the context for understanding what these questions were trying to ask you and then any follow-up that residents wanted to have, we have one session with them as well as in-person office hours.

Mr. Egleston said so, before somebody answers the manufacturing question they had been given some context as to why manufacturing is important.

Ms. Osborne said Right, about jobs. Yeah, that was the context of the discussion.

Mr. Egleston said thank you.

Ms. Osborne said thank you for your question.

Taiwo Jaiyeoba, Assistant City Manager/Planning Director said maybe I can add quickly to that also. In addition to that we also partnered with our colleagues at Economic Development to do an industrial study and then we were able to have in this room I think almost 200 different developers who came here and they were able to ask different questions and then across the hallway we had Alyssa and our team and able to explain to people how you define this within the context of the place types. It was really that extensive.

<u>Councilmember Driggs</u> said I think Mr. Egleston raises a very interesting point. We're in a position where we're reaching out to people trying to understand the mood of the public but in order to do so we have to the give them kind of a crash course on planning and get them up to speed on a lot of the intricacies of what we're dealing with. So, I just think we need to be careful about how we interpret the information we get because it's a lot to ask from a person in the street to kind of listen to an explanation for [inaudible] and then participate in a sample like this. And the question I had was these percentages that we have on this slide that's up now, those are percentages of what? What is the total number of responses that are broken down this way?

Ms. Osborne said the total percentage of participants in this survey I can get you. So, we had about 1,000 people participate or 1,000 comments. But I can get you exact numbers in your briefing book that you'll receive later on this week with those exact engagement numbers.

Mr. Driggs said that's fine Alyssa. I don't need more details. I was wondering about the rough magnitude. The other question I had was people as they try to interpret what we're doing are obviously very eager to get to the point where they understand what this means for me. You're going to have general responses to questions about industry or policy and things but it gets a lot more lively when you get down to the neighborhood level.

In that context one thing I'm wondering, in particular, is when we talk about historic neighborhoods, how old does the neighborhood have to be considered historic?

Ms. Osborne said when I talk about historic neighborhoods it's those neighborhoods that have the historic district overlay. Those are the ones that I'm referring to when I say historic neighborhoods.

Mr. Driggs said Yeah because I think there's a category of neighborhoods that probably don't have a historic significance in terms of defining Charlotte, but they have been around for a long time like 50 years. And they are very conscious of having a certain character and identity and hoping to preserve it. So, I'm hoping that something like the neighborhood character overlay can be used in places but we're not considering yet where the neighborhood character overlay might apply. Are we?

Ms. Osborne said not in this phase. Not in the policy-map but I think that's a key component in the Unified Development Ordinance.

Mr. Driggs said so that would be more of what Alyson would talk about?

Ms. Osborne said yes.

Councilmember Phipps said the slide that you had up talked about the hospitals, schools, and churches. I know heretofore there wasn't a specific category for institutional-type activities or whatever. So, is this an attempt to allocate a zoning district for institutional use or are we still embedding that wherever it exists right now?

Ms. Osborne said it's a little bit of both Mr. Phipps for the place types. So, it's a little bit of both. I think what we used to have in terms of our land use classification is an institution land-use type. What we're saying now is how can we differentiate from those larger institutional uses like UNCC and the Atrium campus. How do we create a place type that speaks directly to those for just a school of a certain size? Like a small neighborhood school like Hornet's Nest Elementary, could be considered to be part of the neighborhood. So that would be in the N1 place types. So, it's just making that distinction between smaller institutional uses and larger institutional uses.

Ms. Eiselt said I so have one more Alyssa. How do you find the balance between what is there right now and what is aspirational?

Ms. Osborne said let me go back over my 20 years of planning to answer that one.

Ms. Eiselt said I think one of the comments that came up and I can reference it was 594, stated that N2 isn't appropriate in historic district because it's going to encourage demolition which you can demolition that's just the comment I heard. But it did make me think about preservation and how do you decide really when the existing uses are more important to preserve than what is aspirational?

Ms. Osborne said so, it's a couple of things that help us to get to that point. One is what is the existent zoning, are the development rights, the age of the building, the size of the building, and how many units are in that multifamily building that's in that neighborhood? Are we thinking to preserve the character? If there is redevelopment how does that new development be consistent with the character of that area? Is that a possibility? Where is it located? Is it along a major thoroughfare, is it next to the Silver Line or The Gold Line? So, there's a lot of things to help us make that decision around what's there today and what's aspirational, and then the one probably more important component is talking to the neighborhood and finding out what their vision is. For example, a really good discussion with the Elizabeth neighborhood back and forth about what 7th Street should be. We know that the Elizabeth Plan talks about 7th Street being a pedestrian overlay but they never really implemented that. So, we talked about well what is it that we can think about from the aspirational standpoint that is really thinking about the evolution of that corridor, and then what is the adequate transition from the more intense part of 7th Street back to the neighborhood? So, just having those conversations along with all the other factors helps us to kind of make that decision. And if you don't get it right in the future we'll do area planning to help us refine those details.

Ms. Eiselt said okay. And this is I guess where I'm coming from too might be more UDOfocused. Alyson, you don't have to come back in. When that comment came up I thought about it. And it isn't just the character of that building on that lot because in the historic district it's 100 years old and then in that case that's why they want to preserve it but more importantly when you're going from those single-family bungalows or whatever and we have a rezoning like this right now coming up next week, it's not just about what it looks like. It's about what it does to the neighborhood. That also alters the character. So, now if you're changing it to N2 or neighborhood center or regional activity center and it's increasing density, it's also increasing cars. And that's going to change the character of a neighborhood. So, maybe that is more UDO focused but that's really what concerns me and then that makes me question do we really care about preservation because preservation is the character of the neighborhood it's not just the structure of the building. So, I'll bring that more up in the UDO. But thank you.

Mayor Lyles said

Councilmember Winston said I think to Mayor Pro Tem's point and some of the things I'm hearing from the colleague tonight and the community at large over this, this is something that I talked to Mr. Jaiyeoba about and I will have a similar comment or question as it relates to the UDO and really every part of the 2040 implementation. Obviously, this is this policy-map will be a living document. We won't get everything right the first time. Things change so what we so the frame that we build for today and whether it be in certain parts of town or all over the place might need to be adjusted as the years go by. I think it's going to be important for us to know how we as citizens and as the City Council interact with this policy map to make those kinds of nimble adjustments. Do you know what is that process going to look like? Is that going to be a yearly kind of thing, two-year thing, five-year thing? Have you guys kind of thought about how you will present that living look back kind of aspect of this policy-map?

Ms. Osborne said yes. So, within the Comprehensive Plan, I think it's in the implementation strategy talks about our planning approach moving forward. So, I would say there's kind of three buckets in which we're looking at moving forward. First is providing an annual report for the comp plan and within that, it looks at our implementation strategies and says here's how we're doing how do we make tweaks, and those types of things. That will be an open report and a whole dashboard and everything where the community can interact and we'll socialize it and make sure that we engage the community around it.

The second part is once the map is adopted we know that our community is rapidly changing. How do we make sure that our policy evolves with the trends and what our residents expect of us as we grow and develop over time? So, the way to really keep a pulse on the community is through the area planning process. So, the Comprehensive Plan lays out how we plan to move forward with our community planning in the future. So, it will look similar to what we used to do but in a more efficient way where we're having granular conversations with our neighborhoods about needs and opportunities moving forward.

So, over the next couple of months after the policy map is adopted, we'll start to work on that community area planning process and socialize it internally and with the community about how we plan to do that process in the future. The other bucket of that is the Community Planning Academy. That's our tool for making sure that we are in the face of with the community on an ongoing basis and that we're not just talking to them when we have a policy initiative or something that we are trying to get adopted that we're talking to them about the planning and the zoning. So, our residents are getting equipped with the tools and skills to have those conversations around what we need to do better with the policy or the comp plan, or the UDO moving forward. So, that's kind of the three-bucket of approach that we plan to implement in the future.

Mr. Winston said thank you. That's very good. I would just suggest that the staff really consider how to make the 12 Council and Mayor experts in those three buckets. Whether it be this Council or future councils because I think that's really kind of the rub, right. How do we interact? How do we communicate with the public? How do we understand the approaches that you, the staff are taking to be that kind of go-between in the middle?

Ms. Osborne said yeah. Absolutely

Marcus Jones, City Manager said at this time, I'll ask Chief Jennings to come forward. What we're attempting to do is as early as possible at the end of the calendar year give the Council and the community an update about where we are in terms of CMPD (Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department). One thing I would like to mention before I turn it over to the chief. There's a lot of good work that occurred back in 2020 and you're starting to see some of the outcomes as it relates to not only the chief's core for strategic priorities but what's happening in terms of Safe Charlotte. As you may recall that came through the Safe Communities Committee. A number of citizens were engaged in the process and this is an opportunity for the chief to tell you a bit about what happened during the calendar year in 2020.

CMPD 2021 End of Year Report

<u>Chief Johnny Jennings, Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department</u> said I'll just start out by saying that I know my time is limited but start out by saying that I have been with the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department for 30 years now. And I can't tell you how much I have never been more proud to be part of the organization just because not just of the accomplishments and what we have been able to do in 2021 but just the adversity the challenges, the changes we have done all the way since 2020 and our men and women within our police department have answered a call to step forward continue to keep our community and our city safe and I think they have done just a phenomenal job. So, I get to stand before you and show you some of the results that we have been able to accomplish but the real work is coming from our men and women that have been on the front lines every single day throughout everything that we have had to face.

So, I will start out with an overview of what we're going to cover today. And real quickly I know you have a lot of that in front of you so I'm going to be quick. And be able to answer some questions but we'll look at the core four strategic priorities that I have outlined in the past and the results from 2021. Some of the major initiatives that we have been able to accomplish over the course of the past 18 months or so. And then I'll give you a Safe Charlotte recommendations update. And kind of tell you where we have been with that. So, we're going to look into the core four strategic priorities real quickly. With that, if you would look at the board here that the community collaboration, crime management, professional accountability, and employee wellness are from the beginning stages of my administration as the Police Chief has been the pillars that I have laid my hat on to say, if we can accomplish and be successful in these four areas then we'll be successful as a police department. I feel really strongly about that. One of the things that we did last year in 2021 is we looked at our mission statement and our vision and our values within the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police department. And surprisingly that the mission statement and our vision statement as not changed in decades within the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department.

So, we wanted to mirror that with the direction that we're going in reference to the core four. So, you see our new mission statements. CMPD implements solutions and expands collaborative relationships within our organization and the community to enhance trust fairness and respect to increase public safety. So, we thought that was more appropriate than what our former mission statement was and that's the one that we want to move forward with.

And I want to look at the 2021 results. This is the slide I'm going to spend probably more time on just to give you an update on where we are with an overall crime. And if you look overall crime in Charlotte-Mecklenburg Jurisdiction is down 5% for 2021. More particularly we want to look at one of the focuses that I have always had as one of my pillars from 2021 to focus on violent crime. As you have seen across the country the trend in violent crime, particularly in homicides has drastically gone up and continues to go up. But in our jurisdiction in Charlotte-Mecklenburg, we are actually down in violent crime by 7%. We are also down 18%, let's see if that's on that; 18% in homicides. I was mentioning this morning at another press conference that we have looked at across the cities, 40 of the largest cities in the country there's been a great amount, and 40 of the largest cities have seen increases in homicides this year. Ten of those cities have actually had a record number of homicides. So, as you see that trend across the country, in Charlotte we have actually gone down quite a significant amount in homicides this year.

Also, look at the other stats. I'm not going to read them all to you but particularly robbery offenses are down 22% as well. And if you also look at our interactions with police interactions we are trending back up to where we used to be pre covid. We had 534 citizen interactions last year. We usually average around 550 or so and last year we were actually down quite a bit or closer to the 500,000 mark. So, we're looking at the interactions that have been increasing and it's just also a testament that we have been asking more of our officers with less as far as staffing and manpower is concerned. So, our total arrests were down 4%. Our violent crime arrest is down 3% and our gun seizures are up 33%. That to me is phenomenal. One of our focuses is making sure that we get illegal guns off the

street. So, all of these guns translate to about 3,000 guns. Three thousand guns were in possession of someone illegally and either used to commit a crime or in the process of committing a crime. So, I think that is a great accomplishment for men and women in blue who have been able to have a hand in that.

As we talk about guns this is not something that just happens. We have recreated a focus within our police department to make sure that when I said I'm committed to addressing violent crime that means the staffing and resources will go into that as well. So, with our gun-related crimes, we have created a crime gun suppression team. And with that crime gun suppression team, I have men and women who are detectives who are experts at collecting intelligence, doing investigative work, and looking into cases to be able to not only solve those cases but apprehend those suspects. And with that, I wanted to put that group together to specifically go after and target individuals who have committed crimes involving guns within our jurisdiction. Whether that's shootings or robberies and they're specific and intentional about going after those individuals that we know are known to possess and use firearms in the commission of a crime. So, with that our crime gun suppression team has been very involved in being able to go out and make those arrests. They have made 162 arrests. They have seized 155 firearms. And they have also seized 23 of those 155 firearms that have been stolen. And not to overlook our Violent Crime Apprehension Team or what we call V Cat, they have involved in 288 apprehensions last year. Now, our V Cat goes after the worse of the worse when we look at people that we're trying to arrest for murder, rapes, assault with a deadly weapon, kidnappings, and shooting in occupied dwellings. So, they are out there constantly and just the work that they are doing is just phenomenal to me. When we have a homicide suspect it doesn't matter what time of day or at night, they're doing their due diligence to try to get that person off the streets and they have been very successful in being able to do that.

So, this is a credit to our Council and our city leaders to be able to make sure that Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department is at the forefront of training technology and equipment this goes a very long way, and for us to be able to accomplish the goals we have been able to accomplish. Whether it's the motorcycles that are traffic enforcement officers ride, the body-worn camera we wear, and helicopters; we have been able to open state-of-the-art facilities. Last year we opened South Division and University City Division. And also, one of our pride and joys is the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department De-Escalation Training Facility which is a regional training facility that we will share with our federal and state, and local partners as well. So, this training facility thanks to the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Foundation and the help from the Federal Bureau Of Investigation along with members of the Council that approved this, allows us to take this to another level and that allows us to put the officers in situations to where they can practice communication skills, de-escalation tactics, and not only that but to be able to change scenarios within that facility as well as to the audio and video portion of that to be able to critique themselves and also to watch and view others as they can critique each other and give better ideas on how to better handle situations.

Councilmember Newton left the meeting at 5:56 p.m.

So, one of the things that I'm probably most proud of to be able to do is and took a lot of work is our work when we talked to looking at our interactions from a customer service perspective. So, with that we came up with the CMPD Serves Training Program. And this work is to help us have better interactions with individuals that we come in contact with to be intentional when we get out and we speak with someone that we are intentional to make sure that we leave a positive impression on that individual. This is not something that we feel takes a whole lot of effort during those interactions but we do know if we can be intentional about it and have that thought process whenever we are interacting not just with the public but with each other as well that's going to go a long way. So, I'm proud to be able to say that we looked across the country when we started this initiative, that there was no other agency in the country that looked at it from the customer service perspective and looked at ways to have better outcomes with the individuals they come in contact with based on that. So, far we have been able to train 2,000 of our employees. We still have some to go that we should be finished with for the beginning of this first quarter of 2022. We're not done. We still have another phase of this that we're looking to launch as

we continue on and some of that is going to be the application of the work that's already been done as well as looking at employee wellness with our next phase of this CMPD service training.

So, again employee wellness I do want to introduce and let you all see that our new Behavioral Psychologist is Dr. Nicky [inaudible], who joined our department late in 2021 and as you probably are aware we have kept her quite busy in the few months she has been here. She's going to be at the forefront of some of our employee wellness initiatives and I'm very excited to have her onboard to be able to take the lead and take charge of some of this. Because we need to make sure we can take care of our employees so that we can take care of our citizens and keep for the public safety issues that we're dealing with in Charlotte-Mecklenburg.

So, the Public Safety And Occupational Health Clinic which is phenomenal that had opened up and that is in full force right now. That allows our employees to be able to have access to all types of plans and programs when it comes not just to mental health but medical exams, health coaching, and nutritional guidance. There's all kinds of initiatives that are available to our employees. I think that's real important as well. So, we look at our leadership, I'm not going to read through all of that. But in the corner, we're seeing the things to develop our employees as well with our command college and our sergeant development course as well. And then we had 33 promotions that we are promoting internally within CMPD in 2021.

So, just a quick update on where we are with the Safe Charlotte recommendations. And so, if you'll look we made a commitment to increase our community-policing Crisis Response Team to double that in size from 6 to 12. I'm here before you to say we were able to reach that goal so we now have all of those positions filled. And we have also looked at several roles within our department that we have been able to civilianize and take away from sworn officers. We looked at an evaluation of what our sworn officers are doing that could have been done by a nonsworn. And we have created several positions that we took sworn from and put nonsworn and hired those as well. We continue to do that. One of the things that we're also looking at is our traffic control officers for nonsworn that we're going to have launched here in the early stages of 2022 hopefully by the first guarter we will have that ready to launch as well. Also launching a new recruitment and marketing campaign that should be out the first guarter as well. Integrating systems and onboarding a new vendor for the early intervention system which will be compliant with not just state but federal guidelines as it comes to monitoring officers for early intervention purposes. Then we're finalizing the RFP (Request For Proposal) to hire a vendor now for the Alternative Response Program which will involve a clinician and an EMT (Emergency Medical Technician) for a pilot program to respond to mental health calls for services as far as the low priority mental health call for services.

Coming soon in 2022 as we wrap it up here we're going to continue to work with Safe Charlotte's recommendations and objectives. And we're having a campus crime stoppers relaunch to assist with the school district and we launched that a few weeks to go. Where we have a maximum now of up to \$500 for tips that lead to the confiscation of a firearm on school property. And we're going to have gun safety campaigns as we continue that this year as well as providing gun locks and educational campaigns for families and individuals in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Jurisdiction. And our CMPD serves training again, we continue that. And public feedback campaign which is going to allow us to get a baseline for how we're doing with the people that we serve. And also, internal culture strategic direction and launch which is going to help us internally in how we supervise our employees and making sure we're staying consistent and effective when it comes to our supervision. That's all I have and reference to the information. I'll be glad to answer any questions.

<u>Mayor Lyles</u> said we think we have a couple of questions but Chief before we get to that I would really like to recognize that every member of this Council as well as myself recognize that you have built a culture in this department since your tenure has begun that we are all very proud of and we know that as a Council when we have the opportunity

to step up and provide funding for the things that are needed in the department or to provide officers support or even particularly to provide support to the family of officers that have fallen especially Mia Goodwin, I just want you to know that this Council recognizes when we have something that's working and I know this because I'm a regular chain of communication with mayors across this country. And I feel that Charlotte represents the very best of what's going on. I don't know that another city has had a reduction in crime this year. And the opportunity that they take to share with me how many homicides the gun cases and it's just remarkable. So, I want to say thank you to you and every officer that participates. Leadership does matter and I know everyone knows that but it also matters that people believe in the leadership and that's very important.

<u>Councilmember Egleston</u> said at the risk of inflating the Chief's head mine was going to be more of a compliment than a question as well. But having had the opportunity to chair the Safe Communities Community with you it definitely feels more like a partnership than us working against each other and I greatly value that and appreciate that. Thank you for all of the progress that's been made both in trying to reduce crime in our community and making sure we're improving the interactions between officers and citizens. I think we have made good progress on both. I know you know that we still have a long way to go on both but we're moving forward and I appreciate all you have done to help instill that culture in our department and in our cities. So, thank you.

Chief Jennings said thank you.

<u>Councilmember Graham</u> said Happy new year everyone. Chief Jennings, you answered my question on your last slide when you talked about what you were doing in reference to cooperating with Charlotte-Mecklenburg School systems with the Campus Crime Stoppers. I think that's a really good idea to help with the proliferation of guns in our schools. So, I applaud you for that initiative as well as the gun safety campaign that you're embarking on as well. So, again kudos for a great year. Certainly, speaking as a district rep we kind of feel the impact of what you're doing in District 2 as well as the Beattie Ford Road corridor. So, I want to thank you for your leadership and for the leadership of the men and women in the department. Thank you.

Chief Jennings said thank you.

Councilmember Winston said There was a lot of great information in this presentation. Chief, I would be interested to see how we can kind of track or keep tabs on those wellness initiatives and how or if or whether they do or don't affect retention rates. Retention rates of new and existing officers. I'm a big fan of the idea of the civilian traffic unit. I think it's really a huge opportunity to professionalize traffic control here in charlotte. Mr. Manager, I think this could be a real opportunity to again think about how do we horizontally integrate you know our different departments. You know I would ask us; you know, how would this unit interact with C-DOT or Planning or Housing and Neighborhood Services to gather useful quantitative and qualitative data and input to manage the interactions between pedestrian and vehicular traffic. You know definitely keeping in mind our visions for managing traffic in future growth within the city and in different parts of the city. It could be a real, real opportunity there. I will say as the Mayor said and has said it's great to see those crime statistics, especially the violent crime statistics decrease, but there was something alarming on that percentage page if you can go back to it. There was a disturbing increase to me in rapes of 19%. Hopefully, we're starting from a very small number but you know where that marginal increase not that much of an actual number but a 20% year-over-year increase of rapes in our community concerns me. So, I would love for us to drill into that number. I know a lot of times we look at the amounts of homicides but there are other crimes that exist in our community that really do tear at the fabric of our communities and groups of folks and I'm going to go and have the implicit bias of saying that I would imagine that most of the perpetrators in these crimes are men and the victims are women. So, I would love to know more about the demographics of folks. Are we able to solve these crimes? Is this an area we really need to pay attention to because a 20% rise is concerning?

Chief Jennings said yes sir I can go into that just a little bit and we can probably even get more information later. But part of the discussion that involves rapes one, very few of those are stranger rapes where the person does not know their perpetrator. And a lot of what we can attribute as well is what we saw in 2021 is a lot of the students going back to school and when students are more likely to confide with a teacher or a school resource officer. So, we did see a lot of uptick in people talking about rapes that might have occurred sometime about. So, with that, we do have to do the report and it goes down for these numbers even if someone says it occurred five years ago. We will do a report for that and visit appropriately. But I think the single most factor and we can do a deeper analysis into what because I'm going to off the top of my head guess the single most factor in that increase is due to students being back in school because we do get a lot of reports that come in from students who are telling the teacher or counselor or an SRO (School Resource Officer) of sexual assault they might have been a victim to.

Mr. Winston said I think you just pulled back another layer of it from maybe it's just me talking, but if that's a concern to me if we're seeing the only reason that these are getting reported is because they're going to school and rapes are not being reported or being effectively dealt with in our community outside of the school setting. I think that's one of the many reasons.

Chief Jennings said yes.

Mr. Winston said that's a concern I would hope that we wouldn't kind of shy away perhaps we have identified because of the pandemic like you said, a sort of structural relevance of a population that we need to serve that isn't being served.

Chief Jennings said yeah. Absolutely. That's not an anomaly. That's something historically that we have seen that students tend to be more comfortable telling a counselor or someone in school rather than a parent or calling the police. But we can look at that more in-depth. I'm speaking anecdotally as far as what I have seen but I don't have the exact numbers for that.

Mr. Winston said of course. Of course. Thank you.

Councilmember Eiselt said thank you Chief for the presentation. I think you know when we all read the paper and we read these national articles about things like crime and they mentioned large cities and we hold our breath to see if charlotte is mentioned and generally our violent crime trends over the years do follow national trends, but the fact that it doesn't in a year where homicides are up like this just speaks to the remarkable work your folks have done and the community partnerships. I think that can't be understated. The relationships that have been built amongst community members and with you all really speak to these numbers that we have seen. So, thank you for all of that, and thank you to your folks.

I also just wanted to Mr. Winston touched on it. Can you elaborate on the citizen response for traffic enforcement? You know that's been something that I have emailed you along with other Councilmembers quite a bit on or other officers and we know that your focus has got to be on the most egregious and risky crimes out there.

Chief Jennings said yes.

Councilmember Watlington joined the meeting at 6:16 p.m.

Ms. Eiselt said can you speak a little bit to that pivot in terms of traffic enforcement and possibly the use of technology and how you feel about that.

Chief Jennings said okay. So, the traffic-control officers and this is to me the first step because when we first looked at this I did find a caveat that allows me to appoint trafficcontrol officers to be able to direct traffic, and a lot of this deals with special events where we're making sure that we don't pull officers from their divisions to come and fulfill assignments. So, we have about I think it's over around 150 nonsworn CMPD personnel

who are really ready to step up and take the initiative for filling in some of those gaps. What I have to do is make sure that they are trained and equipped to be able to become traffic-control officers and fulfill some of the roles. I have from the beginning also stated that traffic accidents are something that I think needs to be looked at statewide. That a necessity need to have a sworn police officer that is taking a report for a traffic accident? It might be a minor fender bender with no injuries or no laws broken. So, I think this is just the step that we need to continue to advance in. I'm big on technology. So, whatever we can do to relieve the responsibilities on the technology end of law enforcement particularly when it comes to traffic control I'm in favor of that. I don't always believe that it should fall within the realm of the police department but I think there's a responsibility that we can have out there for traffic control in other areas other than law enforcement.

Councilmember Watlington left the meeting at 6:17 p.m.

Ms. Eiselt said okay thank you Chief.

Councilmember Ajmera said Chief, thank you so much for the work that you have done and you continue to do. I so thoroughly enjoyed working with you as a former Vice-Chair and a committee member for the Safety Committee and I know when there were [inaudible] hate crimes on the rise I constantly emailed and called you about the anxiety and fear in our communities. I just want to share the feedback that I have received from many business community leaders when there was anxiety and fear and Officer Ramsey had continued to engage some with some of the business leaders and community members from the immigrants and refugee community and have addressed some of that fear and they continue to keep the community engaged. And we are talking about the communities that oftentimes have fear of law enforcement. So, I'm so appreciative of the work that your department has done to build trust. Build trust with our immigrant community. And that leads to trust and respect. So, I'm very grateful.

I have questions around CMS (Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools). I know we have seen guns in school and that there has been an increase and I know there was a program that you just briefly touched on which is a reward of \$500. What kind of results have you seen? It might be too early but I'm interested in seeing what additional collaboration steps we can take to address that?

Chief Jennings said yes. Thank you for that question. It is too early. This initiative started at the end of the term last year. And as you know they just returned back to school last week so I don't have any data as far as we haven't done any payouts or anything like that. But what I can tell you is that I work closely with Superintendent Winston. We have met on several occasions, we talked on several occasions and we both have the same goal in mind to create a safe environment for our kids to be able to go to school without having to worry about gunfire erupting gun or fights erupting in the school. And to be able to do that is not depending on simply us as a Police Department or him as a school district, but also a society issue a community issue that we have to all work together and work with the families because it's concerning to me that a child would think that they have to bring a gun to school. And it's even more concerning that they have access to those guns. So, those are things that we have to continue to work on but I think we have to be careful on who we lay that burden on specifically because it's not a burden that should be carried by one entity or one person but I think it's for our entire community within Charlotte.

Ms. Ajmera said I think you're exactly right. It is a community issue that the community needs to address. I'm interested as we get more data on this program and I'm interested in seeing if there is anything else that we can do to keep our children safe in our schools. Also, I know the Mayor touched on this. Our Council and our Mayor were heartbroken when we heard about Officer Goodwin. Has there been any safety measures that have been taken or any changes that have been made to address the safety of our officers?

Chief Jennings said yes ma'am. What I will say is there were changes made prior to this accident. With the support of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Foundation, we were able to supply every police vehicle with traffic cones and those cones were designed to one give drivers a warning prior to coming up to a police car that was doing an investigation

on the side of the road and also if those cones were hit it would also give the officer warning that a vehicle was veering over into the lane that that officer was in. What I will say is that was a tragic event. I know there were things in place because of the accident that was being investigated out there at the time. I don't know, I have gone through my head what could have been done to prevent that, and other than those trucks slowing down I think that there were measures in place to avoid that. So, you know we have had several officers last year I think there were about eight or nine of our vehicles that were hit from behind as they were doing investigations. Hence the reason that we came up with the traffic cone idea. You're not going to be able to stop every incident from occurring but all we can do is look at it and see that we have done our best to make sure that we keep our officers safe. We will continue to look at other things. I know we have looked at other things already such as lights on the cones themselves for nighttime. But you know again we'll do whatever we can to keep our officers safe out there.

Mayor Lyles said chief I think that I have just read from the Observer that the grand jury has indicted the truck driver in the crash that killed Officer Cunningham. So, I'm sure you're aware of that.

Chief Jennings said yes.

Mayor Lyles said so, there's at least some consequences as a result of this.

Chief Jennings said yes, that is correct.

Ms. Ajmera said I know the Mayor Pro Tem had brought this up. Traffic enforcement and I know Chief you already have a lot on your plate and if you can use technology to address some of this issues we can relieve officers from this kind of responsibility. But I think we have all seen the data where the traffic fatalities and speeding on our streets have taken many lives and have injured many lives. And that needs to be one of our priorities where we use technology, but in the meantime, we do need to implement a short-term solution until we find the technology to do that. I know that the committee was going to get an update on it in terms of traffic enforcement corridors where we are seeing major fatalities from speeding. I'm looking forward to getting an update on that. Again, thank you very much Chief, for your leadership and we are very grateful.

<u>Councilmember Driggs</u> said Chief I want to join my colleagues in thanking you and congratulating you and all of your colleagues on the great results for this year. I particularly like to shout out to Captain Dozer and to everybody in CMPD South. Our issues don't here aren't necessarily ones that grab all the headlines but your officers do a great job in responding to the needs of the District 7 community and we appreciate it.

My question has to do with the conversation we have had for years about the courts and the ability of your officers to deliver somebody, to arrest somebody, and not have them released immediately. The capacity of the courts particularly in Covid. It can seem at times as if there were minor offenses that the officers didn't act on or didn't make an arrest because they knew perfectly well that the perpetrator would be back out in a matter of hours and that probably the calendar for the court was such there might not be any further action. So, has there been any movement on that or can you comment on the relationship between CMPD and our court system?

Chief Jennings said yes. So, I can tell you the relationship with me and the district attorney is strong. We speak regularly. We're on the task force together. We do have those tough conversations that basically frustrate our officers when they are trying to make a difference and take someone off the streets but there are challenges in the court system. They need more resources. They are backlogged and Covid has drastically impacted that as well. But what my message one, I have never instructed or told our officers not to make a arrests or not to take enforcement action. The district attorney has never asked me to do that as well. However, what our officers should do is also look at what is the goal, what is the end game? Is making this arrest what's best for the community also we're looking at doing some things that are alternatives to arrest. You see where our violent crime arrests were down. However violent crime is down as well. So, when we look at alternatives to

say that you know can I do something to divert this individual? Pretty soon this year you're going to see an adult diversion program that we're going to have a corporate sponsorship with that that we'll put out there as well. So, we will continue to make those arrests. We will continue to do what we have to do to keep our streets safe. But officers will also continue to have that discretion to be able to say that is this arrest the most effective way to handle this situation, this criminal situation and if they can do that appropriately and safely then I support that fully. But again, we'll never give or take away the officer's discretion to do that.

Mr. Driggs said so, I want to emphasize the district attorney and I went to the same school. I'm very enthusiastic about the work that he is doing. It's a resource-constrained problem, it's a Covid problem. I don't mean to point the finger at anybody, just a question of what we are able to do and I guess I would tell you that in my opinion, it's incumbent on us as Council to engage wherever we can in order to address bottlenecks or lobby for more funding if you tell us what is needed. And we'll try and remove any obstacles to the officers in terms of doing their job.

Chief Jennings said yes sir, the backlog is great. We cannot arrest anyone for years and he would still have a docket over there to push forward. So, it's a very difficult situation.

Mr. Driggs said thank you Chief.

Councilmember Watlington joined the meeting at 6:23 p.m.

Councilmember Johnson said thank you Chief for the presentation and the great work.

Chief Jennings said thank you.

Councilmember Newton joined the meeting at 6:31 p.m.

Ms. Johnson said I'm really excited about the focus on the behavioral health for the focus for the residents but also for the officers. So, I just have a couple of questions. I know that CMPD has crisis intervention trained officers and also the community policing response team. There's another program that CMPD has where residents can advise you all if that's a person in the house with special needs such as mental health or brain injury or hearing impairment. What's the name of the program? Do you have that?

Chief Jennings said Yes, thank you for that good plug for that. Safe Outcomes, which allows for family members who have special needs individuals or people who might be suffering from behavioral health issues that can go into this program and put all of the information that would be helpful for officers responding. For example, if this person does not like loud noises that would be something that would be helpful for an officer to know before arriving or if this person has a propensity for fighting or violence that would be something that an officer that would be responding should know. So, our Safe Outcomes Program is something that is a fantastic tool. When we get a call for service either on that individual or that residence or that individual may live it alerts those officers on how to best approach that and the people who know best on how to approach those individuals are the family members and the people that are around them every day.

Ms. Johnson said thank you. That's a fantastic major program that can really save lives. So, thank you.

Chief Jennings said thank you.

Ms. Johnson said my next question is about the officers. I know that there's an initiative or a plan to really you know you brought on the psychiatrists and a plan to really assess the officers in seeking mental or treatment for behavioral health. I want to know if the policies and the human resources policies align with the officers seeking help. For example, an officer who might be suffering from addiction or be in the middle of a mental health crisis sometimes I'm just wondering if the policies can appear punitive to the officers if they're seeking assistance. So, I just want to know if the human resources

policies are supportive for officers in seeking behavioral health. I remember an officer being terminated because they were drinking on the job. Chief Jennings said yes.

Ms. Johnson said I remember thinking that to me that sounded like a disease of addiction. I mean yes there's consequences but I don't think anyone would risk their career unless there was a real problem. So, I just want to know if the policies are supportive in officers seeking assistance or if that's an area that you might take a look at? Thank you.

Chief Jennings said yes. It absolutely, and what I can tell you is there are measures in place to make sure, one the anonymity or privacy of the officer that is seeking assistance they have abilities to go outside of our agency for assistance. We have assistance internally that they can do as well that unless they're a danger to themselves or others that will not be disclosed to our human resources and there are also some things that we are looking at that is totally separate from CMPD or the City Of Charlotte that will be privately funded to allow for officers to seek behavioral assistance outside of anything within the City that it would be covered and paid for externally. So, we're going to continue to look at all of those avenues but you know there are certain things we have to get to the point to where it can't be tolerated, unfortunately. In the situation that you're mentioning if we have someone who's intoxicated that's actually working that's a true danger to their job and their duties here as a police officer.

Ms. Johnson said that's an extreme case. I'm just giving you that as an example. Just that if there's an opportunity to look at policies where you know if an officer is dealing with a crisis that the penalty might not be or just consider the behavioral health and the mental wellness in the outcome. So, maybe some grace in the policies if an officer is seeking treatment. I don't know if that's the policy but I want to make sure that we're encouraging officers to get help when they need it.

Chief Jennings said let me assure you that we have and we'll continue to do that. Where we can save an employee not just their job but also their well-being and their health we're going to continue to do that. So, there are probably quite a few things not just with officers but nonsworn staff as well that we have been able to provide assistance and help with those individuals and get them back on the right track. So, the issue for us or not the issue but what we have been pushing over the last 18 to 24 months is to let's get rid of that stigma to say that you need to get help and we have seen more and more employees come to the forefront and tell their stories and I think as you continue to do that we're going to continue to make strides and for people to say that it's okay if I need to get assistance and it's okay if I need to get help in dealing with certain situations. So, we'll continue to do that.

Ms. Johnson said thank you for the work that you do.

<u>Councilmember Phipps</u> said thank you Chief for this presentation. I had a question of clarification on the gun seizures. You said it was about 3,000-gun seizures for the year. Which 155 was from the Crime Gun Suppression Team. Are they embedded in that?

Chief Jennings said yes. Their task is to look at individuals who are committing crimes by use of a firearm. Whether that's robberies that's shooting at occupied dwellings. That's any type of assault. Even if it involves the sale and distribution of firearms. They are looking at all of those aspects that deal with gun crimes and so everything they do is intentional to make sure that we not only target that individual but target the firearms that they might be in possession of. They have been very successful in their first full year of being able to do that.

Mr. Phipps said okay. So, apart from that then the other 2,800 guns were just what officers doing routine duties seizing guns?

Chief Jennings said well, it could be yes. It could be not just necessarily routine but we have other units that you know could be traffic officers. We have dedicated traffic officers dealing only with traffic that could be on the traffic stop and have located a gun that's

been concealed or could be our Violent Criminal Apprehension Team when they go out. Our crime reduction units who are doing search warrants might come in contact with several guns in a residence. Vice and narcotics. It's the gamete it's the focus that we have but the Crime Gun Suppression Team is the only unit that is specifically looking at gun crimes and targeting those

Mr. Phipps said okay. With respect to the guns found in CMS campuses and such in the course of your investigations of those incidents was there ever any consideration given to referrals for prosecution for those who have who were negligent in the storage of their guns making them accessible to kids or children in school?

Chief Jennings said yes. We have had charges where people have not secured the firearms and made them accessible for the minor to get them. We actually had a meeting before the close of last year to be even more intentional about that when we have someone in the schools with a firearm. I will tell you that a lot of the firearms that we see in schools are not necessarily coming from the juvenile's residence. It's scary to me like I mentioned earlier that a young 13, 14, and 15-year-old could have access and make a few phone calls and have access to a firearm. So, as we go through the educational process that we're going to be looking at this year and what part of the education is to let family members and parents know that if your child gets a firearm from your residence and brings it to school and you failed to secure that firearm and given them access to it then yes, we will be looking at charges for that parent or guardian.

Mr. Phipps said okay. My final question is I know in the past that there has been some talk even during the time when Mr. Putney was here about the possibility of realigning some of our service divisions like large ones like University City, the South Division in terms of reducing the service area and coverage. So, response times can be enhanced. Will that be the focus of this year? Can we expect some movement on that this year?

Chief Jennings said I wish I could say yes. I'm ready to do that tomorrow. I just don't have the staffing. When you are looking at anywhere from 150 to 200 vacancies at any given time I can't create another division until I can fill those positions. So, as we look at the heavy attrition rates that we're going to be seeing over the next two to three years we have to be able to keep up with that. Which is one of the reasons why we're so strongly on our digital recruiting campaign that we have to start bringing people in because over the next few years we're going to see a higher rate of people retiring because in the early '90s we had an increase of officers of about 125. Back then there was not an issue to hire good candidates. Right now, it's more of a challenge to hire those good candidates. So, we need to make sure we get them lined up out the door so that they want to be a part of CMPD. So, if I had the staffing, if I was at full staffing now there's two things I would be doing creating those two divisions that you're talking about because they're ready to go. The other thing I would be doing is coming to Council for another 100 officers.

Councilmember Bokhari said just one point and I appreciate the way you framed this for the community is we have gotten to know the homicide numbers year over year it's really important we don't try to extrapolate trends that we see as we've learned. A bullet one inch, one way versus another is the difference between a homicide count and just a shooting. Understanding that and I appreciate the way you framed that. Secondly, I really appreciate the employee wellness approach. I know as you know there's a lot of challenge going on right now and morale and employee kind of mentality is something that I think this bodes well for and I would encourage as you come back to us not only in the budget for the head count we also see an aggressive approach for compensation and for raises for the environment that they have been working in as well as you know where we want to see ultimately a job of choice right? That we have always said. So, I would hope that would be a call to action, especially after the last very challenging two years that we see in this year's budget process.

Mayor Lyles said all right Chief again, thank you. You have heard it from every Councilmember that has spoken about this and I want to say thank you to your team who had to listen to you receive all these accolades. Guys, we know who does the real work and I want you to know accolades to you. I think that again, hands down we really

appreciate the work. The leadership and every member of the department. Keep watch over Mia's family. Chief Jennings said yes.

Mayor Lyles said I talked to [inaudible] a couple of times and he's so grateful for the support. He just said that it's been more than prayers. It has been a real effort since you guys supported him. So, thank you.

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ITEM NO. 4: CLOSED SESSION

No closed session occurred.

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BUSINESS MEETING

The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina convened for a Business Meeting on Monday, January 10, 2022 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, Matt Newton, Victoria Watlington, and Braxton Winston II.

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PUBLIC HEARING

ITEM NO. 6: PUBLIC HEARING AND DECISION ON THE KENNINGTON AREA VOLUNTARY ANNEXATION

Mayor Lyles declared the hearing open.

There being no speakers either for or against a motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Newton, and carried unanimously to (A) close the public hearing, and (B) Adopt an annexation Ordinance No. 219-X with an effective date of January 10, 2022, to extend the corporate limits to include this property and assign it to the adjacent City Council District 5.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 64, at Page(s) 538-541.

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ITEM NO. 7: PUBLIC HEARING ON AND DECISION ON THE CREEKSIDE GROVE SUBDIVISION AREA VOLUNTARY ANNEXATION

<u>Mayor Lyles</u> declared the hearing open.

There being no speakers either for or against, a motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Bokhari, and carried unanimously to (A) close the public hearing, and (B) Adopt an annexation ordinance No. 220-X with an effective date of January 10, 2022, to extend the corporate limits to include this property and assign it to the adjacent City Council District 5.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 64, at Page(s) 542-545.

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ITEM NO. 8: PUBLIC HEARING ON RESOLUTION TO CLOSE AN UNOPENED RIGHT-OF-WAY OFF ROCKY RIVER ROAD PARALLEL TO ROCKLAND DRIVE

<u>Mayor Lyles</u> declared the hearing open.

There being no speakers either for or against, a motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Eiselt, and carried unanimously to (A) close the public hearing, and (B) Adopt a resolution and close an unopened right-of-way off Rocky River Road parallel to Rockland Drive.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 52, at Page(s) 419-423.

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POLICY

ITEM NO. 9: CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

<u>Marcus Jones, City Manager</u> said yes. So, Mayor and Council I just provided you with the 30-day memo and if there are no questions about the memo we have the UDO

<u>Mayor Lyles</u> said If you look we're covering the January 10th, the 18th is a zoning meeting and that will be virtual and I will not be in attendance. Mayor Pro Tem will preside over that meeting virtually. January 24th.

Councilmember Egleston said the meeting itself will be virtual?

Mayor Lyles said if you want to come and be present. You can certainly come and be present in the space you'd like to. In the building, you'd like to. I will be sending out a memo on the council committee reports. I have had some conversations with several Councilmembers with the idea that committees should get together and work on a work plan and have some real discussion about timelines and such. So, I'll be sending something out this week on the process for that. But I know that several committees have already scheduled meetings. We'll keep going, no stopping.

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ACTION REVIEW (CONTINUED)

ITEM NO. 3: ACTION REVIEW ITEMS

Unified Development Ordinance Update (UDO)

<u>Alyson Craig, Deputy Director Planning, Zoning & Development Department</u> said I'm here to give you a brief UDO update. I've got have Laura Harman who is the Project Manager for this online as well to answer questions. So, you have seen the schedule a number of times in the policy-map presentations, as well as C-DOTs and UDO and looking closely at the UDO specifically right now the schedule, proposes comments being due on January 14th. And issuance of a second draft of the UDO in March.

So, I wanted to talk a little bit about what we have been hearing. So, in the beginning, it was really just feedback about the process, questions that were unrelated to the UDO. We started to get some comments about clarifications and trying to understand what was in the document and some misinterpretations even. It's really only recently that we have really started to understand what are the true issues that we need to talk with the community about. So, some of these items that have come up have been related to short-term rentals the transportation standards that are being brought forward by C-DOT the industrial block links, and adaptive reuse. The UDO is a highly technical document it's regulatory, and it takes time to really understand the contents. So, this isn't surprising. But we would really are just now starting to have really important conversations.

So, what we are proposing to do at this time is to extend the comment window for the UDO through March to allow the community this important time for these conversations,

for this dialogue to occur. So, we leave this open for another really two months and then issue the second draft instead of in March we would issue that in May. This still proposes the same schedule for adoption by Council in July that we had before.

So, what this will allow us to do is have more community conversations. I think a number of you have brought forward some ideas for engagement to us and in prior presentations. So, we have been working with corporate communications on how we might be able to expand our reach and reach more people about the contents of the UDO. It will allow us time to have more time virtual conversations which I'm going to talk about more in the next slide. We have been having conversations with various stakeholders, but these really have been recent and very early. So, this is when the development community with Sustaining Charlotte have been meeting with the Community Benefits Coalition. So, a lot of different folks are interested in understanding what the UDO is about and to be able to shape what the contents are.

We'd like to have some topic-specific Council engagement sessions. I have talked with several of you related to short-term rentals. That is really starting to emerge. A little surprising, we knew that we would hear about that but it's really starting to become the hottest topic in the comments that we have received thus far. Certainly, have had conversations about heritage trees and the proposal to protect trees that are 30 inches and higher and then about parking. So, that's been something that we have had a conversation here in this room about this in the past. Then importantly we have the economic impact work that's ongoing right now. So, we have had a kickoff meeting, a meeting in November, and that work is going to continue in January. And that's really where the important conversations are going to occur. We'll start to look at prototype sites. We're going to start a preliminary review of the financial analysis. We want to be able to consider the changes and then start to talk with you all and with the community about what changes we might propose in the second draft of the UDO.

The virtual conversations that we have had thus far have been much more successful than the open houses that we have had. We had a number of open houses earlier in the process at different YMCAs throughout the community. I'm not sure if it's just fatigue or if it's the concern about being in person but really had good participation in the virtual conversations so these have been topic-based. We have them at noon and at 6:00 when we have that particular topic. And we have had about an equal number of people either participating or that are going back and watching the videos that are on our YouTube channel just to get an overview about topics of interest. And so, it also is tending to align with the areas where we're seeing some activity and comments. As an example, in the neighborhood zoning district, we had a lot of participation as well as a lot of views for the video online. And so, what we'd like to do is revisit those topics that had a lot of participation and where the conversation is still ongoing. So, the neighborhood zoning districts being an example. Trees being another. And then start to have conversations on those topics that are emerging as ones that are warranting additional dialogue. So, one of the ones that I think we'll be scheduling within the next couple of weeks will be on shortterm rentals to have that conversation.

The economic impact analysis as I mentioned is ongoing. January 20th through the 21st is where we start to see work products from the two consultants. So, as a reminder, we have two different consultants that are working on this. One is Matt Proser who you have seen a number of times as it relates to the fiscal impact analysis and the economic impact analysis. So, he's doing the financial pieces of this. So, really working with the development community and looking at costs and revenues and how this may change as a result of the proposed regulations in the UDO. But then we have a site designer that's working with Matt Proser. And he will be helpful to create these 3d visualizations of what could be built under the proposed regulations and really do that fit test. So, when we have heard concerns about well you know you're making the footprint smaller because of the additional sidewalks and the trees he can really test those theories to see what those sites will look like on the ground as part of the UDO regulations. So, the focus groups are there over on the right. Neighborhood 1 is really that low-density residential focus group. We've got centers in Neighborhood 2 that's your more high-rise, high-density parts of our community. The commercial is that sort of more suburban type of commercial

development. Manufacturing and logistics are mixed with innovative mixed-use and then the last two are a little bit different than the others. So, they will have some flavor of financial analysis. But the affordable housing certainly will be a component of any residential discussion. But we're asking that particular group to look through the UDO to see are this opportunity where we might be able to provide flexibility or waivers on certain design elements that may help those certain kinds of projects as well as inform how we might incentivize and better position ourself to have more affordable housing in the community. And the adaptive reuse came as a suggestion from the November kickoff meeting. The UDO was potentially limiting the reuse of buildings. I think that's a bit of a misinterpretation because the regulations that are proposed [inaudible] new buildings are not necessarily the buildings that are there today, but certainly, we want to make sure that we're not creating any barriers to protect and preserve some of our existing buildings. So, that's a separate workgroup.

So, published today are the comments that we have received thus far on the UDO. If you go to charlotteudo.org there's a button at the top that says public comments. So, you can start to see what people are saying. So, we have received somewhere I think north of 500 comments thus far. Each comment often has a multitude of pieces to it. So, we'll start to post those weekly and then we'll begin in the next couple of weeks to provide both responses and acknowledgments to what we're seeing about every two weeks. So, sometimes those are situations where someone is asking where is this use allowed? And we'll be able to answer that question specifically. Or if they ask something that might warrant a follow-up, then we reach out to them and post something on that response at a later time. But they are going to be areas where there's an acknowledgment that we need to have further discussions. So, all of the comments that we have gotten on short-term rentals, we clearly don't have the answer to what would that look like in subsequent drafts of the UDO because we need to talk to you all and the community on that subject. So, we will acknowledge how we'll be addressing that, and how we will be having that dialogue with the community and talking with them and mentioning the virtual conversations as well as the videos that will be posted after these conversations occur.

So, just to wrap up just an overview of the key scheduled dates. So, we released the draft in October. And so now we will accept comments through March 18th on that first draft. And during that time period between now and when the next draft comes out in May, we will start providing those responses as I mentioned online for people to review to have an advanced understanding of how we've addressed those. As we get closer to the draft we will also begin having virtual conversations where this is appropriate saying this is how this particular topic will be addressed in the future draft that will come out in May. So, our virtual conversations May evolve over time to be more informative and provide a preview of what will ultimately be in the May draft. So, the May draft will be the second one. We are anticipating right now having a public hearing in June. The Planning Committee recommendation. Also, that month providing an adoption draft in July and looking to Council for UDO adoption in July. And with that, that is the end of the presentation. I'm happy to answer any questions.

Mayor Lyles said I'm sure that we will continue to have a robust discussion.

Councilmember Eiselt said thank you, Alyson. On this schedule time frame here, well let me just say this differently. What's the best way to elevate concerns that are more philosophical or you know sort of not necessarily, well I'll give you an example I'm sorry. If I have concerns about how you measured density and for example structures versus units in N1. When is the right time to really have that conversation and in a way that other colleagues or Councilmembers can hear it because I think that there are particular issues and short-term rentals, trees that we don't want to get all the way to July and have them come up and potentially sink our timeline on getting the UDO approved? So, what's the sweet spot of being able to have those conversations and still have an opportunity to potentially make changes to the UDO that would reflect maybe what the Council is going to want to do ultimately in July?

Ms. Craig said Sure, I would say right now, I mean we want to have those conversations now. And so that we can understand where we might need to have additional dialogue or

conversations with you all. So, please bring forward those topics now so that we can have the time to work through potential solutions rather than as you're saying like find out about those as we get closer to adoption.

Ms. Eiselt said I know that you're setting up individual appointments with Councilmembers and I get that that's probably easier but my concern about that is that I think that somehow there's got to be a way to share all of those comments with all Councilmembers because again we don't want it to hit people's radars in June or July. But once I'm going to be very concerned about is that density measure because it could be appropriate on one parcel or area that's zoned N1 that's on a road or in a corridor where we know we're going to get improvements to public transportation or we're very hopeful but it could also be in a corridor-like Providence Road, where there's no help coming at all. And so, I have concerns right now through the rezoning process we're able to make those decisions based on where the location is. But that's going to be taken away from us. So, that's where my focus is and I hope we have a way that we can do this as a council so that we can get into the meat of it right now. And not later in the summer.

Ms. Craig said sure, and the density question has come up before and I think that's something that we need to talk about on the UDO team a little bit but there's also a component of that that is part of the policy map. And so, the policy map is really talking about you know the different types of places and where they occur. So, it will really be in both places. That's even more so why I say now is because you have both an opportunity to really connect with those initiatives.

Ms. Eiselt said definitely and that's why I get a little bit of a jump between mapping and UDO because it is so critical. They are tied together. And when you look at the map those questions do come up because of where our transit corridors are.

Ms. Craig said sure, so I think you know probably starting with the map, then I think there are specific density questions that have come up as it relates to the UDO.

Ms. Eiselt said thank Alyson. I'll circle back with you.

<u>Mayor Lyles</u> said I wanted to check-in. Mayor Pro Tem were you actually saying what is the process for communicating the one-on-one meetings, highlights, or issues that are raised in those individual meetings.

Ms. Eiselt said well yes because I had sent a response saying I would have preferred to have the meetings with other Councilmembers because I think then I hear what other people have concerns about and they hear what I'm concerned about. If we're not going to do it that way that's fine but somehow those all have to be aggregated so that we all, the 11 or 12 of us can see what each other has concerns with. This is the first time that I'm hearing that people are talking about the short-term rental issue. It just hasn't been my primary focus, but I want to know as much as possible about that now and not wait until June or July, and not oh gosh we should have done something about that. With regards to everybody's issues, we have to have a way to a platform we can see all of that together.

<u>Marcus Jones, City Manager</u> said Yes, Mayor Pro Tem we'll make sure we do that. You know one of the things that we've learned recently in some of these I don't know if you call them four fours but group meetings is that not everybody is comfortable. So, we figured that it's best to give everybody a concierge service and what you've added is to make sure that we're able to share that amongst you and we can do that right now

Councilmember Driggs said Alyson, I'm really encouraged by what you've told us in terms of allowing some more time and I also see that certain issues are being acknowledged they really need to be addressed so I appreciate that as well. On this density issue that the Mayor Pro Tem mentioned, what we've seen in some of our rezonings already is proposals for density that exceed our existing framework and with the [inaudible] the 2040 plan. You know we're going to need to define what density the 2040 plan has in mind so we don't end up issuing this cart [inaudible] for high-density

development without reference to the surroundings and I think you know and I'm wrestling with a tough rezoning petition right now that proposes density of about 25 units per acre. In the middle of the single-family environment in connection with schools. So, I think it does help if we're clear about what our density goals mean in terms of the policy map and the various place types. The question I have for you Alyson was when the UDO is adopted we're not done at that point. Right? And I think that you had mentioned to me there's sort of another round or more work that then gets into a different level of detail. I guess that is a way to put it? So, and that's important. Because people shouldn't think that once this thing is passed we are in a mode where all we're doing is making repairs. There's actually more work that will be done if I understand it correctly to fully implement and get the area plans sorted out and more specific decisions made about locations. Am I right about that?

Ms. Craig said So, Alyssia mentioned that earlier this evening. There's a community area planning process that that team will begin once the policy map is adopted. And so, it will get more specific in terms of responding to individual community needs and so that is the next phase of the comprehensive plan after the policy map.

Mr. Driggs said right. Because my concern is it's really hard to write a set of rules that work everywhere. And the conditional rezoning process that we had gave us a means of a kind of reacting to very specific circumstances and different locations. So, I hope we'll have a process recognizing those as we go forward.

Councilmember Ajmera said So, I have shared some concerns that I have on tree ordinance and as I reviewed our UDO I have additional questions on short-term rentals and I'm sure I'll be reviewing those with you, Alyson, during our one-on-one. But I'm particularly concerned about how a certain number of units will be allowed on a specific street. And how that will be managed. But I just wanted to give you a heads up that that's the question that I'll be raising during our one-on-one session. So far all of the feedback that you have received, do you see feedback from all various sources, or do you see more from short-term rental management companies, and developers? I'm just trying to understand are we getting a diversity of feedback towards our UDO? But also acknowledging the fact that UDO is a very complex document.

Ms. Craig said sure. We've gotten feedback from whether it's residents having concerns about them or those that have air bnb's or others and they are concerned about the spacing requirements. So, the responses have been really from all sides of it. And it's very clear that we need to have some additional conversations on the topic.

Ms. Ajmera said Great, I look forward to reviewing those in-depth with you and I just want to also give a shout-out to our team [inaudible], our city arborist. I've had multiple conversations with him to understand the tree ordinance and I certainly appreciate his patience in walking me through the tree ordinance. So, I appreciate the planning staff's patience as we get up to speed on this.

Ms. Craig said absolutely. Yeah, Tim is a great asset for our city.

Councilmember Winston said

Councilmembers Johnson and Watlington joined the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

Mr. Winston said I mentioned this during the policy-map section of our meeting. But I think it's going to be very important that the planning staff as well as Mr. Jones I think with this UDO and I will again I hear this from my colleagues right now you're going to have to make us experts not just on this document but again how the public is going to interact with this document on a year-to-year basis. Us being existing but also future of councils and managers again in the 2040 plan document it suggested that the entire plan and the UDO would probably be looked at on a four-to-five-year basis. So, really kind of spelling out you know kind of how we look at for instance our bond schedule for example. I think that the City Council should be experts on understanding how we will interact year to year with this document. So, as many of my colleagues have suggested if we don't necessarily get this right if something pops up at the end we are not considering delaying something

because we don't have the understanding of how we will continue to work with this living document.

I think that is so important. And I think that is as a part and parcel of this UDO process, I think it's just as important as the substance of this document. If Alyson or Mr. Jones have any response to that? I welcome it. But you can also just take it as a comment.

But this short-term rentals topic that you brought up I think is a good example of why we need to know how to interact with this. I would like to know more about how you're dealing with this topic. Because while it's certainly an issue I can't remember any data in the past five years that's been presented that shows that this has an overwhelming gravity on managing the overall growth and development of the city ill like to know how much bandwidth is currently or how much bandwidth that it seems like planning is going to have to commit to this topic. As well as do you think this is crowding out any other topic that does have greater immediate significance to dealing with the growth and development of this city? Those are my two questions or comments thank you.

Councilmember Watlington rejoined the meeting at 7:13 p.m.

Mayor Lyles said Alyson, I think that if preparing to answer Mr. Winston's question on the magnitude of your work in the short-term rental and is it pushing out anything that it's considered important. I would say to you Mr. Winston, that the state has a lot to do with short-term rentals and my understanding is that they have asked Newbern and Wilmington to work with someone in the legislature to determine some type of legislative authority or what should be granted and legislative authority to communities whether or not the state or the local level they are doing a lot of work around this and I think that there will be some oversight by the state. No matter what.

Mr. Winston said that's a great point Madam Mayor because if that is where those discussions and that work needs to lie, you know, maybe that's something for the Intergovernmental Committee versus the Planning Department who has to put together a UDO. I don't want staff kind of chasing their tails because there's an organized effort.

Mayor Lyles said they are already having to chase their tails because a lot of these things are coming through the zoning board of adjustments so this is taking place. There is a real issue and workload for it. It's just depending on where it lands right now but it is definitely an issue in a number of neighborhoods. So, I don't know the answer. Maybe this is something that you wait for Alyson to give us more information on as we are going through this.

Ms. Craig said sure.

Councilmember Bokhari said [inaudible] on something that Mayor Pro Tem said. I think that it would be highly productive of us to figure out the meetings and everything I think are important but more importantly than that structuring early and upfront maybe three tiers of topics for each Councilmember. Where there's nice to haves, there's things that are really important, and then there are show stoppers, right. And if we get that out now, and clearly that can evolve a little as we all learn more. Like for me right now there's three items that could be show-stoppers but if those get solved then everything else is you know fixable or acceptable enough where I could be a yes vote on it. And those three are really simple if the economic analysis impact analysis still is at the same level of flawed assumptions where it assumes certain construction prices all around town something that we identified months ago and if that doesn't get an iteration or several others so that we truly understand the affordability component of having duplexes and triplexes that's a problem for me.

The implementation of community benefits agreements and three how we approach density not in the individual single-family lots like we have spent 95% of our time but in the large commercial tall and wide and dense projects that are in this document and under this ordinance. So, for me at this point, my understanding is those are the three areas that are the show stoppers for me unless they're addressed in specific ways. I think if we

all do that and then we all get on that same page it doesn't necessarily matter that we all meet together all the time. It just matters that the staff understands that's on our list. And at the end of the day if one of mine that's a show stopper for me can't be solved that's okay at least we know. And where we're tracking. And it isn't some kind of a surprise at the end. So, that would be my suggestion.

Mayor Lyles said I think that's a great suggestion. The no surprises is what I think is absolutely essential for us to take all of this time and the work and effort and energy that's being put into this there has got to be a candid willingness on this Council to state what is as Mr. Bokhari said all the way from the nice to have there's no way in heck you're going to get more to vote for this thing. Just whatever the metric is it's fine. But it has to be acknowledged. Now it would be very very difficult to come back after all of this community input and all of these people that are spending their hours and hours neighborhood associations, community groups, individuals, developers all of these interest groups out there and for us not to be very clear about what will work for us to be able to support or not support this effort.

Mr. Bokhari said and furthermore, to be honest, I have so limited expectations and I see such limited value out of the community input just because it's all so either specific in industry insiders who are responding or general members of the community where they've never gone to school for planning and it's just this huge thing. I would have much more value out of 12 people and their list of show stoppers and the community's opinion on this. Rather than because at that point you're talking about binary options right. Do you think x or y will happen from your perspective and what do you care? To me, that's where we're still negotiating and discussing. To have that defined amongst all of us I think is a must-have. Because we can skip a lot of the things that we went through last year just because it will start them early and we'll put them on a piece of paper and we'll keep the goal post-where it is. But if we can figure out a way to get the community feedback on those items that we May very well have different issues with here on this body, I think that will be immensely important compared to some generic stats of how many people we ultimately touched and talked to.

Mayor Lyles said so, you hear that Alyson?

Ms. Craig said yes.

Mayor Lyles said okay. Does anyone else have a format or a way that they would see this process going to inform the staff about getting out your ideas and your opinions of what is important to you? Is there another idea out there in this group? If you don't think of it now please either get it to Alyson or Mr. Jones.

Mr. Winston said to that point I pretty much agree with what Mr. Bokhari said. I think that you know if we kind of look towards you know what you're doing with literature? Like can you come back with us on different touch points with themes you know maybe on a biweekly basis? I don't want to lay it out right now but what are the themes brought up? For instance, this short-term rental thing. It was insightful not just from me but I can tell from my colleagues for us to understand that this is one of the most important things that you're getting feedback from right now. Now that allows us to ask our own questions to put it into our kind of as Mr. Bokhari said how important is this to us? What do I know? What don't I know and how do I communicate that? So, even if it's not that detailed very specific drilled in quantitative data what, are the qualitative themes that we're seeing week to week or meeting to meeting. I think that can be really effective in this.

Mayor Lyles said I would agree however you see it sketched out please communicate it to Alyson. I think that's the most important part and things can be along with some of these definitions, how we do this, and what they mean because I want to make sure that people have a thorough understanding. The only other thing that I wanted to mention is that effort is that both of these documents are in the Transportation And Planning Committee and there will be a recommendation coming out of transportation and planning as a result of all of this discussion and I know that you're meeting what every two hours?

Ms. Eiselt said Yeah.

Mayor Lyles said two hours every week or every other week?

Ms. Eiselt said every month. Right now. Two to three hours.

Mayor Lyles said two to three hours in meeting and so, I think this is a great place for our information to land. So, the recommendation that comes out is something that everyone has had a chance to hear because it will be a recommendation coming out of that committee for the council on the agenda at some point or according to the dates that we have.

Councilmember Phipps said I was surprised too that the short-term rental thing came up as a topic of real interest by the community. But one thing I wanted to know about short-term rental is that considered a commercial activity?

Ms. Craig said that's a great question and I probably have to defer to Laura because there's different ways in which they're addressed in the UDO and where they're landing so if she is on I May ask her to answer that?

Laura Harmon, Planning Division Manager said Yes, it would be considered a commercial use within this [inaudible].

Mr. Phipps said with that being said then because in those instances where you have homeowners associations with restrictive covenants usually there is a covenant in there that properties are only to be used for residential purposes. So, if you have a situation where you have these short-term rentals and then you have guests what the state or somebody looking into further regulating how there could be used it could be a possibility then that the state could enact some laws that would supersede covenants and restrictions with respect to these short-term rentals? Is that the is that a possibility?

Ms. Harmon said I guess anything is a possibility if it was written in the state law. We know that it's likely the legislature is going to be in this again this year so we'll wait and see. But our zoning regs short of something done by the state would not override the restrictions of neighborhoods.

Mr. Phipps said thank you. Now with respect to heritage trees I guess over the holidays you know I listened to the radio and reading the paper was a lot of I guess there was a lot of [inaudible] that came about as a result of a permit that's needed and the fact that it cost a thousand dollars, is that something that is that true? I mean a \$1,000 fee just to apply for someone to look at your heritage tree and give you some advice on it? Already it seems like they're using that as an example of things that could be in the UDO that could pop up as surprises and maybe undermine what we're trying to do overall. So, is that something that we're taking a look at to dispel, or is that something that's on the table for revision? Or whatever? Or what?

Ms. Craig said so, there's a couple of things and an opportunity for clarification because how those fees are assessed depends on really if there this is a commercial activity or if this is a homeowner. I will say that the protection of large trees is something that a lot of our peer cities currently do. This came about as a topic with the Tree Canopy Action Plan. And a recommendation to focus on the preservation of large trees. So, some of the mitigation fees and some of our peer cities are a lot higher than that particular number. And so, we are lower than Atlanta and Nashville, and D.C. in that particular area. But that heritage trees is a topic that has come up certainly one that we are analyzing as part of the economic impact analysis but wanting to clarify too that the heritage tree protection is for North Carolina native trees and their 30 inches or greater which is a really large tree. Atlanta regulates them it's either 4 inches or 6 inches, so, it's a lot. We're really trying to focus on that long-standing natural large trees that we have in our community but again that's a topic that we heard a lot about and certainly one that we'll have more discussion about.

Mr. Phipps said I was surprised to learn that 65% I guess of our tree canopy loss is due to like private property owners or whatever?

Ms. Craig said 65% of the canopy loss occurred in our backyards.

Mr. Phipps said right. And I thought it was for all of this development we're doing. But I can recall in my subdivision at least each homeowner got two trees for their yards and it's been quite a few that have been taken down by homeowners for various reasons like interrupting with sidewalks or whatever. So, I mean has there consideration been made that when new subdivisions are built that there are criteria for how trees are planted and how close they can be to houses and foundations and such as that? So, as they mature and grow that they won't become a problem?

Ms. Harmon said those standards would be in our land development manual and the tree guideline will be updated once the UDO is adopted but the very specifics on the exact dimensions and how the trees are planted I would have to follow back with you and get that info from Tim Porter.

Mr. Phipps said okay, thank you.

Mayor Lyles said I think there's been a good discussion and good ideas to help not just the content and context but the process as well.

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ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

<u>Bittle Types</u> Billie Tynes, Deputy City Clerk

Length of Meeting: 2 Hours, 27 Minutes Minutes Completed: June 06, 2022