

The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina convened for a Dinner Briefing on Monday, March 23, 2015 at 5:12 p.m. in Room 267 of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center with Mayor Dan Clodfelter presiding. Councilmembers present were Al Austin, John Autry, Michael Barnes, Ed Driggs, Claire Fallon, Patsy Kinsey, Vi Lyles, LaWana Mayfield, Greg Phipps and Kenny Smith.

ABSENT UNTIL NOTED: Councilmember David Howard

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ITEM NO. 1: MAYOR AND COUNCIL CONSENT ITEM QUESTIONS

Mayor Clodfelter said before we hear the main presentation at the Dinner Briefing we will see if we have questions that need to get answered over the course of the dinner about the Consent Agenda Items. I have that Item No. 32 is going to be pulled from the agenda and we have a speaker on Item No., 46-D. Madam Clerk do you any other items that you are aware of?

City Clerk Stephanie Kelly said I Item No. 27 for Councilmember Fallon.

Councilmember Fallon said how much are those baggage carts?

Mayor Clodfelter said we will get that for you over the course of dinner.

Councilmember Driggs said I have a question about Item No. 21. We indicate that we are recommending a \$343,000 contract as opposed to the \$312,000 contract because of the INCLUSION Policy. I'm wondering if that was the only difference between the two contracts and if the 10% difference in price is representative of the extra cost that we incur as a result of adhering to our INCLUSION Policy. We don't have any sort of matrix about what the cost is of that policy or how much we invest in that and it would be nice to have the same accountability when it comes to that extra expenditure that we try to attain elsewhere in our City budget.

Councilmember Smith said I have sort of a sub-set of Item No. 21 and Mr. Yi and talked off line about that, but just trying to capture what the cost matrix is on a series of projects. This is the first one where I recall in a while that we've had the non-compliance being the only reason and he is going to dig in a little deeper on that.

Mr. Driggs said this is just a general question about Consent; most of them tonight are in the enterprise funds and therefore pretty automatic, but I'm wondering if we are already looking now at measures that we might be able to take in order to address the budget problem we know is taking shape. As these things show up in our Consent if we have any latitude are we looking to postpone or otherwise to improve our budget position?

City Manager Ron Carlee said yes we are; that is why we pulled Item No. 12 tonight.

Mayor Clodfelter said Item No. 12 is on the main agenda but on the Consent Agenda that is also why you pulled Item No. 32 isn't it?

Mr. Carlee said everything is being put through that filter.

Mayor Clodfelter said we will get answers to those at the conclusion of the Dinner Meeting.

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ITEM NO. 2: IMMIGRANT INTEGRATION TASK FORCE

Mayor Clodfelter said this will be a presentation and a recommendation from the Immigrant Integration Task Force. We have a number of Task Force members here and I'm going to call on the Co-Chairs Emily Zimmern and Stefan Latorre and ask you guys to tell us how we are going to receive the presentation. I would ask you to at least introduce your Task Force Members or acknowledge them in some way so we will all know and can give them thanks for all the hard
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work they have been doing over the last 18 months. We really appreciate it. Several folks have suggested to me that we ought to hear the presentation through and then open it up for questions and that will also let you have more time to chew your food so I'm going to let these folks talk on an uninterrupted basis for a little while and then we will come back to questions.

Just a reminder this is not on your agenda tonight for any action steps; we've had some discussions and I know several of you have had with the Manager and I also about there are a lot of different recommendations in here that will get processed in different ways. Some are probably appropriate for staff work-up and some are appropriate for referral to other partners or to other agencies such as the County or other community groups. Some would be more appropriate for a Council Committee work-up so we are not really at the stage tonight where there are specific recommendations on that. I think the Manager's thought was that after the presentation tonight and questions that you will want to ask that we let the staff sort of develop a second stage for who would be best responsible for dealing with which recommendations and how to proceed from that going forward. If that is okay as a ground rule this is just general conversation tonight.

Stefan Latorre, Immigrant Integration Task Force said I'm the Chair of the Charlotte Immigrant Integration Task Force; Emily Zimmern is the Vice Chair and she will speak to you in a minute. I would like for all the members of the Task Force that we have here; there are 29 members in all, and if you could stand and raise your hand so we can see you. Thank you all for your hard work all year.

We welcome the opportunity to share with you what we have learned through this year long process and present to you our 27 recommended strategies that will maximize immigrant's economic and civic contributions to Charlotte and increase connection and interaction between new comers and long-time residents. Emily Zimmern will provide a brief overview of the composition of the immigrant population and its economic and civic value to our community and then I will discuss the work in process of the task force and the feedback we received from our community in developing our 27 recommended strategies and then we can answer your questions regarding those strategies. We need immigrant integration for future success to make Charlotte more prosperous, safer, more inclusive, stronger and improve the quality of life for all residents of Charlotte.

Emily Zimmern, Immigrant Integration Task Force said I thank the Mayor and the Council for this opportunity to share our learning over the past year. In the past several decades Charlotte has almost doubled in population as we have attracted new comers from across the county and around the globe and now we are a real mix of long-time residents and new comers. We are Panthers' fans, we are Steelers' fans and all kinds of others fans; we are men, we are women, we are visionary business leaders, we are award winners and we are new Americans. This is a Naturalization Ceremony that was held in Council Chambers just last year and it is always one of the most moving ceremonies you will ever attend to see people becoming American citizens. Charlotte now is not only a new south City we are a new immigrant gateway City that much of our growth has been driven by the arrival of new comers from around the globe. In 1980 less than 1% of Charlotte's population was foreign born. For most of the 20th Century like the rest of the US South our story was told in a narrative of black and white. By 1990 we had about 3% foreign born population; 2000 12% and today 15%, one in seven Charlotteans is an immigrant born outside the US. We have an incredibly diverse immigrant population with 52% coming from Latin America, 27% from Asia, 10% from Europe and almost 9% from Africa; almost 114,000 Charlotteans are immigrants. As you can see the biggest single group is from Mexico and the second biggest group is from India.

Why did immigrant Charlotteans come to Charlotte? Just like many of the rest of us new comers the economy; we have a growing service based economy, there was a need for workers across the occupational spectrum. This is a landscape of opportunity; Charlotte has been rated by numerous business magazines as one of the most entrepreneurial cities in the country and immigrants are natural born risk takers. Also Charlotte has a reputation for being relatively welcoming unlike some of our southern neighbors that have passed anti-immigration laws, we haven't done that and we have benefited as a result. In fact many scholars say that Charlotte might become the case study for this latest wave of immigration because we represent a new

settlement model unlike the old immigrant gateways in New York or Chicago or Los Angeles and why is that. We are incredibly rapidly growing while our absolute numbers are not as high as some of the big gateways, our rate of growth is in the hundred and sometimes even a thousand percent depending on what years you are looking at. We are also new economies, interior locations and we have little or no immigrant traditions. 100 years ago during the great waves of European immigration people didn't come here because there was no economic opportunity. The rapid growth and immigrant population we've seen has been in the last 25 or 30 years. The other big difference from the former immigrant gateways is suburban development. Our immigrants are spread across the community; they are not concentrated in homogenous groups in a center city. We don't have China Towns, we don't have Barrios and it is a highly, highly defused population pattern. In fact these are the Charlotte City Council Districts and immigrants live across the City in all Districts. They are absolutely integral to our growing community. The different colored dots represent the different continents or origin. Our immigrant neighbors you can see in a different way; these are the population clusters and while there are some slight concentrations they are not totally clustered in the center city again spread across Mecklenburg County.

So who are these immigrants? They are workers; 10% of Charlotte's workforce is made up of immigrants. They are taxpayers; they pay hundreds of millions of dollars in state and local taxes. They are business owners; in North Carolina in the five years between 2006 and 2011 there were 33,000 new immigrant owned businesses and they of course are customers. Again an integral part of the economy and as we dig down and look at the immigrants and business owners here in Charlotte we can see that they represent all kinds of businesses and all kinds of national backgrounds from Indian inventors to Nobarto Sanchez who is a Spanish Language media owner and who moved his media company from Atlanta to Charlotte because he thought Charlotte was a friendlier place for immigrants, to florists and gift basket entrepreneur to car dealer and NASCAR owner Phelix Sabatas to Phillip Moong who has a national sushi distribution center who is from Bermer or Burmise background. Phil Degurdian another media owner from Venezuela, Mr. Coshel, Showmars, a Greek entrepreneur and then bakery owners from Columbia.

Immigrants again as business owners in the Charlotte region are disproportionately represented. In the Charlotte Metropolitan statistical area, which is Mecklenburg County and nine surrounding counties, immigrants own 16% of all businesses, but if you look at main street businesses, that are the neighborhood services and shops, things like dry cleaners, barber shops, restaurants. In the Metropolitan area immigrants own an amazing 33% of all main street businesses. So immigrants contribute tremendously to the economic vitality of our region. Those are some of the baseline facts that we have learned about who Charlotte's immigrants are and what they are contributing and now Stephan is going to share with you the process that we have used the last year and how we arrived at our recommended strategies.

Mr. Latorre said the idea to create the Charlotte Immigration Task Force was sparked by national attention that we received for our rapid population growth and growing diversity. On May 30, 2013 the American Society and Council of Americas, an International Business and Policy Organization chose Charlotte in their work in new immigrant gateway cities by hosting an event here. They invited leaders from other new immigrant gateway cities to a roundtable here maximizing immigrant's contributions to our economy and enriching civic life. Later in the year Mayor Kinsey and Councilmember Howard introduced a resolution to City Council creating the Task Force and on November 25, 2013 the Charlotte City Council created the 29-member Inter-Agency Task Force. Aiming to foster cooperation into a sure participation from a wide range of stakeholders the resolution called for 23 Task Force members to be selected from government organizations, immigrant organizations and organizations that serve the immigrant population. Another six members were nominated to fill at large seats to give a broader perspective of the community. As a result the members of the Task Force include representatives from a broad section of public and private organizations such as the Charlotte Mecklenburg Police, CPCC, United Way, International House and the Latin American Coalition.

The Task Force had its first meeting on February 25, 2014 and the purpose of the Task Force set by the City Council is to maximize immigrant's economic contributions and civic contributions to the City of Charlotte. The City Resolution set out the following charges for the Task Force:

To review the recommendations by the Mayor's Immigration Study commissioned or published in 2007; to research and recommend best practices from other new immigrant gateway cities; to prepare a report with recommendations to the Charlotte City Council; to seek opportunities to help Charlotte embrace immigrant communities.

The vision we adopted was to build a welcoming immigrant friendly community where all residents have the opportunity to contribute their full potential to make Charlotte a thriving, vibrant 21st Century City where the City and other branches of government support and facilitate immigrants' participation in the economic, civil and cultural life of our community where new comers and long-time residents know one another and work together to build a strong community and vibrant economy. Before our first meeting in 2014 Emily and I created a process to insure we engaged the entire community in the work of the Task Force. In the Spring we started our learning and listening phase; in the summer we would conduct our community surveys; in the fall we would divide into working groups and formulate strategies and in the winter we would refine those strategies and present to City Council. We started our work by creating a level field of knowledge for all our members. This began with a statistical and special overview of the immigrant population presented by Drs. Owen J. Furuseth and Heather Smith of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte which was followed by a presentation on immigrant entrepreneurship and economic development by Paul McDaniel of the American Immigration Council. We also heard from Tom Negri, the founding Chair of Nashville for All of Us, an integration initiative. He discussed what our peer cities are doing to maximize the economic and civic contribution of immigrants. Rachel Peric, the Deputy Director of Welcoming America came to Charlotte to share why different cities across the nation are joining the welcoming movement and Heidi Pruses, updated us on the progress of Mecklenburg Livable Communities Plan.

Several Task Force members and City staff also participated in conferences held by leaders in the field of Immigration Integration. They offered the opportunities to share experiences and promising practices in communities across the state and nation. We attended conferences that ranged from the Immigrant Integration in North Carolina to The American Society Council of America Roundtable in peer cities such as Nashville and Atlanta and the National Immigration Integration Conference. We believe that it was important to obtain direct input from immigrants in their own voices so we used three methods to allow direct immigrant input. The first was hosting Community Listening Sessions; the second was producing community surveys and the third was hosting a community feedback session. We held 16 community listening sessions throughout the City in order to increase the opportunities for participation. In the listening sessions we created a common format for each session. We decided three questions must be answered at each session. What is the one thing that is being done well in Charlotte to help immigrants; what is the one thing that could be improved upon in Charlotte to help immigrants and what is one critical need that is urgent and should be addressed in Charlotte for immigrants?

To increase opportunities for diverse community involvement we committed to hosting three sessions in areas that have a large concentration of immigrants; Central Avenue, North Tryon and South Boulevard. We also partnered with a total of 16 organizations to have 16 Community Listening Sessions and on the screen you can see the partners that we had for our Listening Sessions. Here are the top 10 concerns mentioned during Listening Sessions: First is equal access to information on; better infrastructure such as roads, transportation; better access to training, education, schools and parental engagement; better treatment, less discrimination and more cultural understanding are a few of the top items of concern mentioned during the Listening Sessions. I note that during the course of most Listening Sessions many participants expressed the appreciation that the City had formed the Task Force. Many mentioned they were very pleased we were listening to the community instead of only talking to experts.

Councilmember Howard arrived at 5:35 p.m.

In addition to the Community Listening Sessions the Task Force created a survey to reach out to community members that could not attend in person. The survey was released in 10 different languages including Spanish, German, French, Russian, Arabic, Vietnamese and Chinese among others. The surveys were available on line and for those with limited internet access we had them in print; we partnered with several organizations, local newspapers to distribute them. We

also used social media, links were shared on tweeter and face book and linked in and a quick response code was made available for mobile users. In total we received 1,634 responses from foreign born Charlotteans representing 104 nations that took the survey. The need for a photo identification card was the most mentioned concern of this survey as well as advocating for comprehensive immigration reform and help finding better jobs and better treatment, less discrimination and more cultural understanding among others.

In order to have more scientifically sound data we contracted with the University of North Carolina Charlotte Urban Institute to conduct an independent control sample by way of a telephone survey. The survey included a random sample by telephone of 250 foreign born adults who live in Mecklenburg County. The survey had a 95% confidence interval. The top response to this survey was help finding more and better jobs and you can see some of the same responses from the other surveys such as better treatment, less discrimination and more cultural understanding. The responses are slightly different to reflect the different groups of each survey. In this survey many expressed they are happy in Charlotte. As the public feedback came in general topics began to emerge around how to promote integration in the community and to help focus our efforts the Task Force divided into six working groups. We created a set of guidelines to align the work being done by each working group and insure we consider the best interest of all residents of Charlotte during the creation of our integration strategies. The principles were broken into five elements; promote economic growth through business and workforce development, skills training, access to financial services and regeneration of declining areas, leverage technology and position Charlotte as a global City. Ensure equitable access to economic, civic, cultural and educational opportunities and services for all residents. Encourage inclusion, embrace diversity as a strength, create a sense of belonging, safety and community for all residents, and promote community connections among diverse groups and promote the well-being of all by supporting policies and practices that benefit the entire community.

The six working groups met separately from August until December. These groups are required to analyze the feedback from the surveys and Listening Sessions and further research on their topics of concentration and craft recommended strategies for immigrant integration. The six working group topics were Economic Development, Public Safety, Transportation and Housing, Education, Health Care and Social Services, and Civil Engagement and Receiving Communities. In November of last year each working group presented their draft strategies to the Task Force. We then refined these strategies and presented them to the public on January 15, 2015. We held a public feedback session at Central Piedmont Community College and over 200 Charlotte residents attended and participated in the feedback session. We then took the feedback from this meeting and incorporated it into best practices we learned before finalizing our strategies.

The 27 recommended strategies are divided into seven sections. The strategies support immigrant entrepreneurship and small businesses and promote economic development. They insure and enhance access to services of local government. They promote citizenship. They promote public safety. They promote health. They promote education. They promote inclusion. The strategies provide a comprehensive framework for maximizing immigrant's economic and civic contributions to Charlotte and improving the quality of life for all residents of Charlotte. The strategies are not listed in any order of priority because many of them build on each other. There are two representations of the research findings and feedback that we received from the community. They are not actionable items; they require further work by City staff to determine how to best implement them. Some of the strategies suggest expansion to current City programs in order to make the programs more inclusive and they require no additional funding. Others introduce new programs that can be implemented by the City, the County, and the State. Many are partnering with existing partners.

We have a unique opportunity in Charlotte to capitalize on Charlotte's growing diversity. We do not have the overwhelming anti-immigrant sentiment that other cities have. We have an opportunity to build on the good things we are doing here, the things that have made us a global City. Bob Morgan, President of the Charlotte Chamber believes that Charlotte's growing diversity is a competitive advantage. He says our growing diversity will continue in the near future and from an economic development perspective it is our competitive advantage that our population is large, skilled, increasing young and diverse. Richard Florida, Author of the Rise of

the Creative Class believes that members of the Creative Class want diversity and individuality and look for this when they relocate.

We need immigrant integration for future success to make Charlotte more prosperous, safer, more inclusive, stronger, improve the quality of life of all residents in Charlotte. We must keep our momentum. Over the past year the Task Force has engaged extensively the entire community, not just the immigrant community, during this time we've worked very hard as volunteers to complete the charges of the Council and during this process the community has created expectations of action. If we do nothing now it will be worse than if we had never created the Task Force. If we do not capitalize on the opportunities that we have our peer cities will. They are moving forward with plans to engage immigrants. We the Task Force Group respectfully request this Council to adopt our recommended strategies in a plan to move forward toward the implementations of the strategies, to empower the City Manager and City Staff to evaluate and determine a work plan and a timeline so we can implement our strategies to champion our recommendations with other partners such as the County and CMS, so we can bring them back to Council for adoption of our recommendations. As you know the Council resolution which created the Task Force included a provision which enabled the retention of the Task Force for an additional year. We remain committed to serving to help implement our strategies in order to create the best environment for Charlotte's continued growth and prosperity. Please let us know how you would like us to help you.

Mayor Clodfelter said Stefan and Emily and all members of the Task Force this is tremendously valuable and important work and we can't thank you enough for the countless hours that you and everyone in the community have put into this effort and truly it is as your principles say it should be an inclusive effort and we really commend you for the outreach you did in bringing all of this together. That adds to the power of your work in a very tangible way, so thank you for that. We will open it up for discussion and again this is not for action tonight and the Manager is going to be looking at this further to see what sort of action steps or action processes he might bring some options back to Council for. I'm going to suggest before we start the Council discussion that this is really valuable and I think we need to help you arrange and we are committed to helping you arrange for presentations like this to be made to the Board of County Commissioners and the School Board. I think it is really critical that they see your recommendations and hear your report since they are going to be important partners in anything that gets done. We'd like to help you with that and we will talk about how to get you an audience with the Board of County Commissioners and the School Board as well.

Councilmember Mayfield said thank you to the entire Task Force for coming together and starting these conversations that we've needed to have in the community for a while. When looking at the listening sessions and the partners, just wondering if maybe I'm just not seeing it on here, did you reach out and partner to the Charlotte Apartment Association since we have a lot of our members of our immigrant community that live in apartments? I know specifically in District 3 I have sections throughout the District where there are a lot of members of the apartments and one of the biggest concerns that I hear on the ground is that disconnect of the apartment community that may be close to residential, how those relationships are being built. Do we have any information from where you reached out to the Charlotte Apartment Association or is there any consideration moving forward for reaching out to the Apartment Association?

Mr. Latorre said I don't know if we reached out to that particular association, but we certainly reached out to many in the community about the needs for apartments and we do have a recommendation in our strategies to address the needs of immigrants with fair housing, etc. We did hear from many of the immigrants in our community the problems they are having with fair housing and renting and we have a recommendation to address that, but whether we reached out to that I will have to check and get back to you.

Mayor Clodfelter said I think the suggestion may be here too is that we need to think Mr. Manager about how we can more broadly disseminate this report. I mentioned the County and the School Board, those are obvious candidates for taking up and partnering on a lot of these recommendations, but I think Ms. Mayfield's question also suggest that there are a number of other organizations in the community that we need to be sure full distribution of your findings and your recommendations because we are going to be interested in input we can get from all

across. It is going to take involvement of apartment owners to help us implement some of these recommendations as well. Mr. Manager part of the strategy I think needs to be a plan for dissemination more broadly of the report so that it doesn't stay limited to just the Council and the government bodies.

Ms. Mayfield said I did have a second question and a follow-up to that. The question I asked was really looking at those in the community that are already living in apartments not as much the challenges of finding housing, trying to figure out what possible challenges or concerns they are and how do we get you more engaged in community, but as part of our considerations from the 27 recommended strategies, in the seven sections we have a lot of ensure and enhance and promote. Do you have specific ideas on how, so an example, how would you like us to promote citizenship, even though it is going to be disseminated through the multiple groups, City, County and School Board; have you had any discussions as far as your specific ask for the City Council, for County for Schools so that we all take a chunk in order to build this more rounded?

Ms. Zimmern said we were tasked with creating strategies that we thought would be effective. The action plans are left to staff. Having said that the working groups and in the appendices that are posted in the International Office have many specific recommendations that underpin some of these strategies that what are specific things that might be considered or what are specific partners that might be interested in effecting and advancing specific ones. There are suggested partners but the actually how to implement we were all citizen volunteers and that is a function of City staff and other governmental staff to figure out the actual how and what properly belongs with government and what is better assigned to private partners.

Councilmember Smith said thank you for your hard work and dedication towards this effort. Seeing the oath of Citizenship at the Carolinas Freedom Foundation Breakfast, it is a very moving experience. With that said I noticed there is no differentiation in your report from those that are here legally and those that are not here legally. Is that something that the Task Force plans to take a look at?

Ms. Zimmern said we were tasked with looking at immigration reform; we were tasked with looking at all immigrants who live in our community and how can we help all immigrant residents of Charlotte. All immigrant Charlotteans contribute to our City and immigration reform is not a local issue as you well know and we really were making recommendations on things that could be done in Charlotte/Mecklenburg to make this a more welcoming immigrant friendly community.

Mr. Smith said I noticed that you said Atlanta was less immigrant friendly and I'm curious as to how so.

Ms. Zimmern said the how so is the Georgia Anti-Immigration Laws; that has really impacted Georgia negatively.

Mr. Smith said would that be enforcement of immigration policies?

Mr. Latorre said yes, that is one way that Georgia has become less immigrant friendly by imposing the Arizona type law and it has hurt their businesses clearly.

Mr. Smith said I noticed that in the control survey you didn't mention the ID Card and I wonder if there is a correlation between those that were tracked in that survey and their status as citizens versus the other two groups. Did you all find any sort of correlation there?

Mr. Latorre said different surveys did have because of the nature of the survey they are going to have different people, but the community ID or the need for a photo identification card was one of the most widely mentioned concerns of the overall immigrant population. It might not have been as high in one of the other surveys but overall it was a need that was really mentioned by the community in general.

Mr. Smith said have you identified any funding sources as we enter into some pretty significant budget strains to pay for the ID and the office of new Charlotteans and some of those things?

Mr. Latorre said like Emily said the job of the Task Force was not to say how to or identify how you are going to pay for this. We are recommending strategies and now we think it is the job of the City Manager and the City staff to identify how to and what is the best way of doing these things. Some of the recommendations that we have require no funding or very little funding and others require some funding like creation of the Office of New Charlotteans and we hope that the City will determine maybe reallocate some funding. The ID since you are asking about that is very interesting because that could be done in a way that could pay for itself if you have the partners like we recommend. There are some ideas that can get us there without hurting the City so much and some require more planning.

Ms. Zimmern said we recognize the revenue shortfall but the planning and the thinking about it can start because this is not a one-time recommendation. This is an orientation for our City going forward. We believe this is critically important for Charlotte for the 21st Century.

Mr. Smith said I think the most controversial part of this will be the IDs; I think there is some other meat in there that does some good stuff.

Councilmember Driggs said I just want to pick up on the point about the national debate on immigration; we can't take action like this in a vacuum. You cannot just disregard the fact that we do have nationally right now in Washington and nationwide a discussion and it came about as you know because we have laws against entering the country without going through the due process and at the same time we have something like 11 million people who are here. It is a real problem but I can tell you that reading this document if you kind of look at it through the lens of documented immigrants and then you look at it through the lens of undocumented immigrants it takes on a great different connotation. I think it is important for each of the recommendations that we develop that we are clear about what distinctions we are making. It doesn't necessarily mean that undocumented immigrants are excluded; I wouldn't want to see a landlord for example be able to take advantage of anybody regardless of their status, but I think to try to minimize the significance of the difference between those two groups is wrong and it is for a couple of reasons. For one my wife, for example, is an immigrant; she was a British subject and it took her five years to get a green card and then to get nationalized and she is now a proud American. I think the people who are waiting in their home countries patiently to go through that process legally kind of deserve the sort of protection to justify the fact that they are going to that trouble. Although I recognize that we have a bad situation with a law that is not being enforced properly and people who are able to come here anyway I wouldn't want Charlotte to become an inviting haven for people who have circumvented the law. I wouldn't want us to become a party to a circumvention of federal laws so I'm generally in favor; there are a lot of provisions in here that I could agree to readily, but I just want to say as a general comment as we enter this process that each of the points should be considered with an understanding about the distinction we are making between documented and undocumented immigrants and where that distinction is important that we need to be thoughtful about what applies to whom.

Councilmember Howard said the first thing I want to do is thank the past Council and a lot of you guys are still sitting around the table to have this conversation. I think the motivation on my part had everything to do with the economic development drive as much as the social drivers. Economically the immigrant population has a significant amount to do with entrepreneurial world; it has a lot to do with bringing back revitalization of inner city communities and other communities. It has a lot of benefits and I'm not sure we were fully embracing it and that was the whole point. It was as much economic development as it was anything else. There are some right things that we need to do and moral things we need to do, but we will work through all of that. I just want to remind my colleagues of the economic benefits of this conversation.

One of the other things that is important is one of the secret sauces to Charlotte's success in my eyes has been our embracing of diversity. Some years ago it was a different type of diversity and today it is yet again a different type of diversity and we continue to have that conversation. I wanted to make sure we understood the motives and what started the conversation. I know there are some controversial pieces to it. The ID one to me, I will be honest with you, was controversial and it is still somewhat controversial. I want to work through the policy implications, I want to work through the budget implications but it was really telling to me this week-end I got an e-mail sharing with me that the Police Chief and the Sheriff are embracing this

and I hadn't thought about it from their standpoint so thank you for that information. We have to make sure that we take all policy conversations, it is not just the ones you are talking about Mr. Driggs, but when the Sheriff and the Police Chief are embracing it as well, it would do somewhere in this process to have them come and talk to us about their considerations and why this is important to them as well. I would hope that we don't just kind of get off on one bend of this conversation and think about the true benefits to the full community including the criminal justice components of the community. I will have more to say downstairs but just wanted to add that to the conversation.

Councilmember Autry said Stefan and Emily, what a piece of work and to members of the Task Force thank you for your diligence and your perseverance and your commitment to the community. There are a lot of other people in here tonight who were not on the Task Force and I think it is significant and important to recognize them for coming forward and showing their support for this kind of exercise in the community. I understand that there is a lot of concern in the community about a municipal ID and what the ramifications of that would be, but I also gained an appreciation from it from spending some time last year with Deputy Chief Kerr Putney and we were on a trip and talked a lot about how significant a municipal ID would help the Police Department in not only being able to identify people, who those people are and where they live, but also help the Police Department by encouraging the community with that ID to report when they are victims of crimes. That just makes the whole community a better place so I commend the Task Force for its work; I hope the City Manager will really scrutinize all these recommendations. There are going to be pieces that we will probably going to want to come back and refer to different committees; there are going to be pieces that can be brought to Council for an up or down vote right off the bat, but we also have to have some engagement with some outside partners, especially in the entrepreneur areas. I would also be interested in a cost value benefit analysis on some of these measurers also so that we can have the best understanding if it is going to require the Council to make an investment in the effort, what is the benefit that is going to be coming back to the City at large.

Councilmember Phipps said I applaud the Task Force for its work. I was fortunate enough to be able to participate in one of the listening sessions in my District, but I had a question as to the small towns in Mecklenburg County. How were the small towns in the County included in the overall Task Force activities?

Mr. Latorre said the listening sessions were conducted in the Charlotte area; we are not outside of Charlotte.

Mr. Phipps said so we didn't include any small towns?

Mr. Latorre said outside of Charlotte no.

Mayor Clodfelter said you probably had some attendees and some survey folks may not be easy to reconstruct that but I suspect you may have had survey respondents and on-line questionnaire responses from all over.

Mr. Latorre said the telephone survey included Mecklenburg County residents.

Mayor Clodfelter said Mecklenburg Country residents, not just the City of Charlotte.

Mr. Latorre said not just the City of Charlotte.

Mayor Clodfelter said did that help get at what you are trying to get at?

Councilmember Fallon said as Chair of the Public Safety I think it is very important that we know where people are. If they come out of the darkness and report if they are preyed upon, which they are; they are afraid to go to banks so people know they have cash and they go after them. This way if they are registered they are not afraid to go to the Police and maybe that will be less of a problem. They are very practical; when I go around I get the pushback on it. My answer is I don't know what to call it ... Americans; we are not having children and if you want social security to last you going to welcome these people who pay it and we will pay out as time
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goes on. I want to tell you it changes minds because I have a lot of older people, especially old conservative gentlemen who gives me this pushback and I say you are collecting social security, it won't be there if they are not there to pay for it.

Mayor Clodfelter said that is another part of that economic equation.

Ms. Fallon said no, that is me being practical.

Ms. Zimmern said that is very much true, the demographic reality is the grain of America; us Baby Boomers are retiring and my understanding from demographers is that almost the entire growth in our workforce going forward in the next half century is going to come from immigrants and their children.

Ms. Fallon said absolutely because Americans just are not having children.

Councilmember Austin said I want to say congratulations on your hard work; I know this was a long and arduous task and I also would like to say to Council I'm a believer in diversity, race, gender, sexual orientation, gender expression as well as documented and undocumented people here in Charlotte, it adds to our great melting pot that we call Charlotte. The community ID, who else would be able to utilize it? This is not just for immigrants; there is a broader perspective in use of this that could be applied to all Charlotteans. Can you share a little bit about that?

Mr. Latorre said yes, the community ID can help most of the vulnerable people in our community; the homeless, the elderly, some students, you mentioned the transgender those are all groups of people who have difficulty obtaining a photo identification card and this community ID could help them all. The idea that we are proposing is an idea that would benefit everybody in the community because it would have multiple uses. We would want it to partner with City agencies, for example with CATS and be able to use it for transportation, maybe for parking, to use it as a library card. We met with the public library and they have an interest; they already issue a card and they need more involvement in the public libraries. Other communities have used the public libraries for similar functions so this would be a natural event there. We could also partner with many organizations; we could partner with businesses such as restaurants, they could offer a discount and that way it would be valuable for everybody, not just immigrants, not just the elderly, but you and I would also want that ID. We could talk to museums and different venues to see if they would do a discount. In other words to add value to this card so now you can use this card for transportation, for parking, to enter a restaurant and get a discount. That ID would benefit everybody and that is consistent with the vision of the Task Force which is to do things that improve and help everybody in the community.

Mr. Austin said so in those communities where they have implemented the municipal ID what has been the reaction of those communities? I believe it was New York and a couple other places. Tell me about that kind of impact.

Mr. Latorre said it has been very positive in terms of the desire to get the ID and to use the ID. New York is the latest example and of course they are a much larger city than we are but they were overwhelmed by the demand of that ID. Many people immediately wanted to get the ID so there is going to be a demand and I think you will see a lot of support here in Charlotte; you will see a lot of support tonight for people that want to have that ID. It is a great need; everybody focuses on the immigrant population and it is true they would benefit and they would benefit because a lot of them because they don't have an ID they might not have a bank account and they carry a large amount of cash and criminals know this and they target them for crimes. Because they don't have an ID they are less able to report crimes and they call the Police less so we all have an interest in their reporting those crimes. Yes, they would benefit from this ID, with this ID they could open bank accounts, put their money in the bank account that would benefit the banks, that would allow them to open businesses easier to enter leases, to enter contracts so it could be good for our community but we could all benefit from the ID we are talking about. It will build community values, we could all have some value in this ID and it could help other members of the community who are also vulnerable.

Mr. Austin said in those other cities some have a third party, some have non-profit and then some have the city actually executing and delivering that product?

Mr. Latorre said that is correct.

Mayor Clodfelter said there are a lot of details about the different programs and that would be part of what would be the next phase of this work. I think we are going to take you up on your offer to stay in existence and continue to work with us on this because I think as the staff continues to develop a process point for how we move forward from this we are going to need to come back to you and use you as a sounding board so you are not done after tonight.

Mr. Smith said I would just like to ask the Manager; as we look at trying to have a conversation on the economic development benefits I think we should also take a look at some of the negative consequences of possibly becoming a safe haven City and I know we have some issues in CMS and healthcare. There are some costs that go along with this as well; it is not all upside so I would like to have a comprehensive conversation if we are going to have that. Then lastly, we are sort of in the weeds, but we keep talking in this abstract term like there is no way to get an ID and there is; you go down to the DMV if you come here and go through the due process. That is it; I'm done until this comes back before Council, but thanks again for your hard work.

Mr. Driggs said first I would like to point out to my colleague that the Social Security Fund is not going to last longer based on undocumented immigrants because they are not contributing to it. The thing I want to mention is we have immigration laws for a reason and the laws we have right now are obviously not good laws and they are not being enforced properly but there is a reason to have some laws and it has to do in part with Homeland Security and it has to do with whatever policy goals we may have for managing the mix of our population. I personally am kind of a free markets guy so I would love to get the benefits of allowing labor to move freely and become productive therefore the positions I take are not based on a desire to kind of limit the intake of immigrants, but I do have one question on the IDs. My colleague Mr. Smith just referred to the fact that it is possible to get an ID now for \$10 at the DMV which means it looks like the main beneficiaries of any action we take on IDs would be people who are not documented and I guess I have two questions; for one what sort of information and proof do they have to provide in order to get the ID and the second one is do we know how many of them are going to be willing to step forward and be captured in some data base. I think the anxiety about a lot of the people who are undocumented is their information will somehow maybe even at a later date, find its way into the hands of ICE or whatever, and if we are giving them assurances that they won't happen, that once again puts us in my mind in a position where we are really actively aiding and abetting the circumvention of immigration laws. Again how many people are likely to apply for these IDs given the apprehension about how the data could be spread around I guess is my main question. Do we really expect that a lot of people will want them which they could get for \$10 an ID from the DMV?

Mr. Latorre said there are a lot of things you asked about but let me just say it is not that easy for everybody to get an ID at the DMV. Yes, you have to show proof of legal residence but some of the homeless don't have that either and transgender have difficulty. There are students that don't have IDs so there is a segment of the population outside of undocumented immigrants that have difficulty getting an ID. Nevertheless you do have undocumented immigrants here that don't have an ID and you have the problems that I addressed that would address this problem. Some of the questions you are asking really require the City staff to investigate, but I can answer what other cities are doing in terms of proof. It is not like somebody would show up and say my name is Jose, give me an ID. This person would have to show you certain documents; the problem is he has ID from his country and they won't be understood here. It could be a passport from Mexico, it could be a ... from Mexico that the Police Officer doesn't understand and won't recognize and he could have some other identification so in other cities they listed the different forms of identification they've had to come forward with and depending on how good they are they may have to bring more than one. In addition you have to bring something showing your proof of residency in the City or the County so it is not like you are going to give an ID to somebody who has no ID, you are just going to give them an ID that is more recognized here so the next time he is stopped by a CMPD Officer the CMPD Officer will have some understanding who this person is and he won't have to arrest him merely because he doesn't have an ID which

is very expensive for us also and it is very disruptive for the immigrant to be taken down for almost no reason just because he doesn't have an ID. We think there is going to be enormous demand of people who are going to want to have this ID just from seeing what has happened in the other communities. We don't know how many there will be but we certainly expect there to be a very large number of the community that will come forward. Again these are things that the City staff now has to determine how to best implement this. What is the cost going to be, how are we going to partner with some other organizations like I mentioned so there will be minimal cost to the City.

In New York they came out and they are paying for it all; they are making the IDs free of charge for everybody. There are a lot of questions that need to be answered by the City but I do want to finish one thing; you mentioned that you would like to benefit from immigrants here, let me tell you, you have been benefiting from immigrants. They have been working here for the last 20 years and nobody has asked whether they are documented or not documented. When the immigrants building the house or cooking your dinner or working at the hotel; they are just immigrants, they are just working hard and they have helped us expand our economy here and yes we have a national immigration issue. I know a little bit about immigration laws because that is what I practice and do you know that it takes some people more than 20-years to stand in line in order to become a legal resident here? It is a broken system meanwhile for years we have been inviting them here with great jobs and being welcoming so it is pretty hard not to say go back home and I don't think anybody believes that is really going to happen. What happens we've got two political parties that can't quite get together on the benefits. The one party likes them because they think they are going to be future voters and the other party likes them because of economic benefit. They will someday get together and we will have immigration reform and this issue will be gone maybe for now at least but right now we have an opportunity here in Charlotte. We can't change the immigration laws; what are going to do here in Charlotte? That is what the Task Force was brought to do, to come up with strategies to integrate the immigrants we have here to help them improve economically and civically so we can all benefit and this is the opportunity we have right now and we should take it because other cities are lining up to do this.

Mayor Clodfelter responded after applause for Mr. Latorre and said we generally don't allow that for any speaker regardless of what their position is so I like to try to keep an equal set of rules for everybody so we generally don't take audience participation if that is okay with you. I know how you feel but that sort of helps to run the meeting.

Mr. Driggs said just a quick response; I don't think anything I'm saying comes as a surprise to you tonight. I doubt there would be this many people in the room if the issues I'm talking about weren't there so to a certain extent I'm just signaling to the staff and to the Task Force some of the conversations we are going to need to have in order to be able in fairness to people who are not immigrants for example, who are also struggling to establish businesses and get ahead. They might look at some of the things we talked about here and say hey, what about me and there are just a lot of conversations we need to have and there are issues related to the status of federal laws. Our constitutional responsibility to uphold those or not to act in direct violation of those so this is a conversation that we will continue. I just want to let you know I think immigration as such legally is a very powerful economic force and I'm all in favor of it.

Mr. Howard said I have a question of the two Co-Chairs who came up to me when I was talking to someone earlier and that is whether or not; it sounds like we talked to kind of the recognized immigrant community but there are people here from other countries whether it be Europe or otherwise. Was there an effort to reach out to the complete immigrant community or maybe we want to recognize from places like Latin America and Asia?

Ms. Zimmern said there was a concerted effort on the Task Force to reach out to all the Chambers of Commerce and they provided information on questionnaires that was very broad. The UNC Study was weighted to census demographics so again that reflected the entire range of the immigrant community. We really worked hard, the representatives on the Task Force, who represented certain immigrant communities to reach out and ask and there were certain people on the Task Force who work with communities that we didn't necessarily hear from but that through their work with them were able to give certain perspectives. It was really our intention to reach a

broad cross section from service workers to very successful entrepreneurs. It was our task to look at all immigrants, not one particular segment.

Mr. Howard said I just wanted to make sure you were on the record with that because that has come up a couple of times. The only thing I will say to my colleagues tonight is that whether we disagree with this or not, documented or undocumented, there are people here that are driving on our streets that have accidents just like we do; they get tickets just like we do, their children are in our schools because they have to put their children in schools, that is what our rules say. So whatever the national policy and how it comes down on this, you are right Ed we will abide by that. Until that time what we have is a City that we have to run that have people that live here, documented or undocumented, and we know we have to manage those systems that we are in charge of. If this helps us to do that in a better way we have to be serious about considering them, we just have to. And whether they are documented or undocumented I think understanding the way our City works, understanding programs and opportunities are hard for documented people let alone undocumented. This is about making Charlotte as welcoming as we can so let's not throw the baby out with the bathwater trying to deal with something we have a personal agenda when we need to be a more welcoming City period. That is what this is about. You do use our services, you do drive on our streets whether you agree with how they got here or not. What we have to do is be able to handle the hand we are dealt and this is what we are doing. I would hope as we go forward that we not get caught into the national conversation, let the national conversation take care of itself. If they come down with something we have no choice but to implement it, right now we have a lot of flux and we need to deal with the hand we have and that is why I thought this was all about and I'm going to vote for Stefan now, that was a pretty good speech. I just wanted to make sure we understood it is the hand we are dealt; that is what we've got to deal with.

Mayor Clodfelter said I'm going to call time because we need to wrap up the Consent Agenda questions. This is a beginning of the conversations Mr. Smith; you will have plenty of opportunity to be sure. Again the most important words spoken and all the Council have said and that is a deep thank you to all of you. This is really important work and to our friends in the media, just a reminder that there are 27 recommendations in this report, not just one, notwithstanding the discussion you've heard this evening, there are 27 recommendations and we hope that each of them gets attention we know they all deserve. Thank you again to all the Task Force you guys have done some really great work and we really appreciate you.

Mr. Latorre said thank you so much. I can't sit down without thanking Alexis Gordon and Crystal King; without those two we would not have been able to put anything like this together.

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ITEM NO. 3: ANSWERS TO MAYOR AND COUNCIL CONSENT ITEM QUESTIONS

Assistant City Manager Hyong Yi said I do have the questions and if it is alright with you I will take them in reverse order starting with Item No. 27 to Item No. 21.

We pulled Councilmember Fallon out in the hall to get further clarification on the question and so we refined the question to be not about the actual cost of the carts but if it is possible to provide the smart carts as a free service in the Airport to make a better first impression on visitors to the City rather than it being a \$4 charge. Jack did not know the answer to that question but he said he would research it so Councilmember Fallon agreed that she would wait for an answer to come forth in the future.

Mayor Clodfelter said so you are okay with the item going forward tonight?

Mr. Yi said the second question on Item No. 21 was about the cost differential and the policy and what impacts it has for the City in terms of costs. If I can speak specifically about this particular agenda item first, the apparent low bidder was not responsive according to how we've defined or how we select responsive bidders. They thought they were being responsive, but they actually were not. They selected a state certified disadvantaged business entity as their sub, not a City certified small business enterprise and so they acknowledged they made a mistake in how they

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put their bid together so they fully understand why they were not selected for this particular contract or why they were declared non-responsive.

Councilmember Driggs said if I can follow-up on that; the question was were the bids otherwise, except for this, equivalent? So it is fair to infer that we paid \$30,000 more to get a compliant bid, other things being equal as opposed to the one that didn't comply?

Mr. Yi said I was leading to that which is as far as the bidder was concerned that was his lot bid and he thought he was putting together a bid with a SBE so yes, the differential between the apparent low bidder and the actual responsive bidder was \$30,000 in this instance. In talking this over with the staff over the course of a year we probably have less than three bids that we reject on basis like this. They are doing some research to get to Councilmember Smith's question about exactly what is the impact overall big picture wise because they had never actually looked at it that way.

Mr. Driggs said my point is that we should have that information and we are investing in a social priority objective and we should have some concept for what we are paying for it. This one case is just a glimpse but we see a 10% surcharge to get within those requirements and if that extended to all of our contracting that would add to a really big number.

Mayor Clodfelter said do you want to have the item voted on separately?

Mr. Driggs said no, I didn't pull it.

Mayor Clodfelter said it was just pulled for questioning?

Mr. Driggs said yes.

The Dinner Briefing was recessed at 6:22 p.m. to move to the Council Chambers for the regularly scheduled Business Meeting.

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The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina reconvened for the Citizens' Forum and Business Meeting on Monday, March 23, 2015 at 6:38 p.m. in the Meeting Chamber of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center with Mayor Dan Clodfelter presiding. Councilmembers present were Al Austin, John Autry, Michael Barnes, Ed Driggs, Claire Fallon, David Howard, Patsy Kinsey, Vi Lyles, LaWana Mayfield, Greg Phipps and Kenny Smith.

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INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Mayor Clodfelter said our Pledge of Allegiance is going to be led by Troop 17 from Christ Church and Troop 35 from Hickory Grove United Methodist Church led by Troop Scout Master Ken Daniels.

Councilmember Smith gave the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Mayor Clodfelter said I've had a suggestion and I'm going to take the suggestion I think unless there is strong objection from the Council, but we have after our Citizens' Hearing a series of recognitions that we want to do and one of our honorees tonight is here with us and we want to make sure he is able to be here and go through the recognition and doesn't have to sit and wait for an extended period of time. I'm going to take with your permission Council, I'm going to take one of our recognitions out of order and that is special recognition of Larry Harmon who is

with us. Councilmember Lyles is going to make the presentation to Mr. Harmon on behalf of the City.

Councilmember Lyles said Mr. Harmon don't feel like you have to move; you are quite welcome to sit wherever is most comfortable for you during this time. This is about you so we want to make sure that you feel very comfortable.

Ms. Lyles said it is an honor to bring forward a recognition for Mr. Larry Harmon, a Board Member of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Public Access Corporation which is the entity responsible for the day to day operation of the Cable Television Public Access Channel and Studio Facilities in our community. He came to this honor through like most men, his wife Jane, who enlisted him to work on her show Alive Again. After doing that work Mr. Harmon became an all-around volunteer; he was a creative director, he did editing, producing, he trained others and he was Director of many of our Public Access Shows. He was also a strong advocate for access for our community; he lobbied for funding at the State level, he lobbied especially to have people come in and have the opportunity to actually speak to the public in our City. He supported many programming ideas and made public access program a quality program for all of us. He is now retiring after 25-years of service to our community. No, is it longer?

Larry Harmon said I'm not retiring!

Ms. Lyles said I should have known that. We often forget about the many, many people that just give an hour or two to our City and they do it in a way because they care and we can't honor everyone but Mr. Harmon you deserve our honor tonight and I'd like to present to you your recognition as a Citizen of Charlotte Mecklenburg for the work that you've done, a Certificate of Appreciation for your work and your commitment to us. Thank you.

Betty Marlin said Larry the Producers at Film Pack would like to present you with this plaque honoring Larry Harmon Public Access Volunteer 1990 to 2015. Then our TH Green especially wanted to give you this book; it is Larry Harmon The Clown. Bozo The Clown had the same name that you do, did you know that? He is not a Bozo; he is a great cook.

Mayor Clodfelter said thank you for that and Mr. Harmon thank you for all of your years of service. If you are not retiring do you think we could talk you into staying on in your present duties for a while maybe?

Mr. Harmon said you bet. I still do three hours of TV each week.

Mayor Clodfelter said not retiring, not even close.

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CITIZENS' FORUM

Immigrant Integration Task Force

Emily Zimmern, 3601 Knapdale Lane said it has been my great privilege to serve as Vice Chair of the Immigrant Integration Task Force. Charlotte has emerged as one of our nation's leading new immigrant destinations; almost one of seven of Charlotte residents is an immigrant. That 15% of our total population is a higher proportion than in many traditional immigrant gateways like Philadelphia and Portland, Oregon. Charlotte's immigrants are incredibly diverse with 52% coming from Latin America; 27% from Asia; 10% from Europe and 9% from Africa. Students from 158 counties speaking 175 languages attend Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools. How does our community understand and adapt to the opportunities and challenges of a rapidly increasing multi-cultural population? The Charlotte Immigrant Integration Task Force has worked to answer that question for the past year. What did we learn? Like newcomers from across the US our immigrant neighbors were attracted to Charlotte by its growing economy, the promise of opportunity and overall quality of life. Immigrants are integral to our economy and live in all Council Districts. They are workers, customers, entrepreneurs, business owners and taxpayers. Immigrant Charlotteans are eager to engage in the community; they seek language
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skills, job training and education for themselves and their children. They relish opportunities to celebrate and share their cultural traditions. They want help in removing barriers to their full participation; they want to create homes and plant roots for their families. Competition to attract talented immigrants has become intense. Peer cities like Atlanta, Nashville and Denver have created ambitious plans to encourage and sustain immigrant settlement and receptivity. They recognize the vital role immigrants play in economic innovation and business growth. Immigrants bring new energy, new ideas and global connections that create a competitive advantage. Tonight the Immigrant Integration Task Force urges City Council to adopt the recommended strategies, to maximize immigrant's economic and civic contributions to Charlotte and increase connection and interaction between new comers and long-time residents. Implementation of the strategies will contribute to Charlotte becoming a more prosperous, safer and cohesive community for all residents, a thriving 21st Century global City where all residents have the opportunity to contribute their full potential.

Lacey Williams, 700 Madras Lane said I'm the Advocacy Director of the Latin American Coalition. This year the Coalition is celebrating 25-years of working with some of the most vulnerable, most targeted and most resilient members of our Charlotte Immigrant community. Helping newcomers respond to crisis, equipment them to be leaders for their families and communities and ultimately to be architects in their own destiny. I was very privileged to be a part of the Charlotte Immigrant Integration Task Force for the last 12-months. City Council asked us to provide recommendations, based on our knowledge and experiences and needs of the community and best practices across the country. We believe for the good of all in our community Council should move as quickly as possible to implement the strategies recommended by the Task Force. In addition we of the Latin American Coalition believe that establishment of a Charlotte Community ID is fundamental to real immigrant integration and community safety. A Charlotte Community ID has been official to all in our community. It offers an opportunity to streamline services on to one card; it creates an opportunity for having public/private partnerships to establish City resident discounts at local attractions, events and cultural institutions. It establishes that identification card for populations who have typically little to no access to an ID if they don't drive, such as homeless, elderly, young people, recently incarcerated, transgender people and yes, undocumented immigrants. The Police are already on board; we had Police members on the Task Force and CMPD Officers want to be able to establish better trust in the immigrant community, but can't do so because of the deep fear and mistrust stemming from the connection of local law enforcement and immigrant enforcement programs in the jail. The human resource costs of taking an officer off the street for several hours because he had to arrest an undocumented immigrant because the officer couldn't establish the immigrant's identity makes no sense and puts the general public in danger. Having a population that is so fearful of Police that they will not report or testify against crimes that happen to them or their neighbors is a threat to public safety. The human cost of separating a family because a parent lacks appropriate identification is one that we should be unwilling to pay. It doesn't have to cost a lot; there are other cities that are partnering with third party vendors to make the cost negligible to the City and it creates a "we" instead of an "us" and "them". Fifty-five percent of Mecklenburg County residents are from somewhere else; migration seems to be what makes us all Charlotteans. A Charlotte Community ID card can help establish city belonging and city identity. We believe that we need to move our City forward to be a national example for immigrant inclusion and we need to not allow politics to be the enemy of good public policy or allow controversy to stop us from doing what is right for public safety. Immigration policy is a national issue, but immigrants are a local issue. Please do us right.

Sam Wazan, 804 East 35th Street said as an immigrant and on behalf of the Mecklenburg Ministries, Charlotte Cooperation Circle and many immigrants, refugees and an ageing layer in Charlotte of senior immigrants I would like to express to you my deepest gratitude for the work that you have done today in allowing us as members on the Immigration Task Force to incorporate many of our thoughts in what you are considering. I divided by thoughts into two categories, the first one is directed towards you respectfully; I'd like to impress upon you to understand that the economic triggers for immigrant integration are superficial. They are starters and they are important and we need them but please understand that there is more work to be done. From my journey coming from a war torn country where I fled tribulation and living was accidental I know that we might fall to the rhetoric we hear from national politicians and what I hear a lot when I go out and people tell me well why don't you give them prosperity and jobs and

then we will have peace over there. No, it won't work because once prosperity is gone and economic hardships return people revert to the ways and means of their living before economic prosperity. I would like to ask you to carry on and even if we implement everything that we recommended to find ways to determine the humane connections that immigrants and everyone in this town needs to have with one another. To the immigrants I turn and say I sat at the Immigration Integration Task Force during half of the meetings, minimum and I always wondered to myself; here is Charlotte doing everything it can to integrated us, what are we going to do to integrated ourselves with Charlotte? It is incumbent on us as immigrants as well to step out of our comfort zone and meet our neighbors as well. I turn to my peers, immigrants to understand that we also have to re-energize ourselves and reignite that burning desire to be part of America. When I came in 1989 I wanted everything to do with the land of the free and nothing to do with the home of the brave. I paid my dues but now with the nationally divisive politics with the venturous rhetoric by political parties with the bias narrative and virtue and geo political contacts that is hardening the religious views of many; we need to practice brave. A brave here means to go out and magnetize ourselves with all those who don't look like us or act like us. I will end by telling everybody here if you will to seek uniqueness, value uniqueness, catalyze harmony and subscribe to the American Spirit; may peace prevail in Charlotte, may peace prevail in the world.

Stefan Latorre, 2629 Central Avenue said for those that wasn't at the presentation earlier, I'm the Chair of the Charlotte Immigration Integration Task Force and I'm an immigrant. I was born in Columbia, South America and I moved to Miami when I was four-years old with my parents. I went to school in a public school there; I went to Florida International University and I studied finance and then I went to Florida State Law School and I got my law degree with honors. I did one more year crazy, I went to the University of Florida and got a LL.M in taxation and I practiced in Miami a couple years. I moved in Charlotte in October 1994 to work for a law firm and I knew nothing about Charlotte; it was just a great opportunity for me to do things that I wasn't doing at the firm I was in Miami. After working there a couple years I opened my firm here because I found Charlotte to be extremely welcoming. The people here were very friendly and that made me stay. In 1996 I opened my own firm here and today I have arguably the largest immigration law firm in the state. We have seven offices; we have offices here Monroe, Greensboro, Hickory and Columbia, South Carolina and in Greenville, South Carolina and in Jacksonville, Florida. We have 11 lawyers and 40 staff. During this time I also developed several buildings downtown; I opened four restaurants and at one time I had the largest night club in Charlotte and had a three level slide. It was the hot spot here in Charlotte. We had over 100 people in our company working there. Charlotte had been very welcoming, very friendly to me and I mentioned as an example of an immigrant; I would not have stayed here this entire time if Charlotte had not been welcoming. This is an example of what immigrant integration can be in Charlotte. We get confused with who immigrants are but they are all kinds of people. Nobody asked me whether I was documented or undocumented so I was very receptive. Things are changing a little bit now and what I mentioned earlier was opportunities that we have now to continue to grow and prosper for everybody. We urge you the City Council to adopt our recommendations to insure that we maximize the economic and civic contributions of all immigrants.

Nicole Gutierrez, 1621 Village Brook Drive, said I am a local law student and a member of the Charlotte Chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union of North Carolina. The ACLU is a non-partisan, non-profit membership based organization dedicated to preserving and defending the guarantees of individual liberty found in the North Carolina Constitution and the US Constitution. The ACLU supports the recommendations of the Charlotte Immigrant Integration Task Force for the establishment of a Charlotte Municipal ID. We believe that making a Charlotte Municipal ID available for all residents of the City regardless of their immigration or social economic status will result in a safer and more inclusive and productive community. There are many Charlotteans who do not have access to a photo ID that can be accepted as proof of their identify. This makes them less willing to report crime or cooperate with law enforcement and more likely to be seen as targets for criminals. Not having a photo ID means that you are left out of many aspects of civic society like participating in your children's school events or having access to a bank account. Law enforcement officers also waste valuable resources trying to confirm the identities of people they interact with who do not have a photo ID. All of these problems can be ameliorated by the adoption and implementation of a Charlotte

Municipal ID program. The ACLU of North Carolina and its Charlotte Chapter urges the Charlotte City Council to establish a Municipal ID program by taking into account the following considerations: First the Municipal ID must be made available to all residents in Charlotte. Two, the Municipal ID must not have any markers that would indicate the holder's immigration status and lastly number three, the privacy of all applicants must be protected by implementing policies addressing the retention and destruction of applicant documents and confidentiality of the application process.

Mo Idlibby, Esq., 5500 Executive Center Drive said I come to you tonight not only as a member of the Mayor's Immigrant Integration Task Force, not only as an immigration attorney, deportation defense attorney, criminal defense attorney who practices in Federal Immigration Court and State Court practically every single day, not only as a resident member of our beautiful Queen City, but for purposes of tonight, also very importantly, I come to you as a dear friend of Deah Barakat, Razan Abu-Salha and Yusor Abu-Salha. These of course were the three young vibrant, bright, vivacious and intelligent community service oriented American Muslims who were tragically and brutally murdered in cold blooded execution style, premeditated murder in Chapel Hill recently on February 10th of this year. Each of them was murdered with a bullet in the back of their head by their neighbor; who by all accounts is an individual who was motivated by hate and that is what the issue is here tonight that we are discussing. I want to tell you that hate is hate irrespective of whether the hate is motivated by race, religion, national origin, color, immigration status or any other trait or characteristic. We must stand up against it and now you have an opportunity to do that. As a Davidson College Alum I felt obliged to reach out to the NBA's number one all-star vote getter, Steph Curry of the Golden State Warriors and a former Davidson Wildcat himself and Steph Curry was gracious enough to honor my dear friend Dean, as he was as for me, Deah's favorite basketball player and during arguably the biggest week-end of Steph's life, during All-Star weekend, which was shortly after these brutal murders, Stef honored my friend Deah by writing and describing on his shoes R.I.P. Deah, Curry for Deah and also Romans 8:28. For those who aren't familiar, Romans 8:28 reads "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose".

Members of Council I want to address some of the comments and questions from some of the members that were stated earlier. Please, please do us all a favor and do not misconstrue the community municipal ID as an immigration law issue because it is not. I'm an immigration attorney; I study this law every single day and I practice it every single day. First a municipal ID is not proof of, nor does it or would it afford any type of immigration status. Second, nothing precludes the Department of Homeland Security, DHS, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, ICE, or immigration court judges from deporting or ordering deporting these folks with said Community IDs. It is not an immigration issue; it is not an immigration law issue. You can still be deported and the laws being enforced against you even if you do have that. If I could close with Romans 13:10 and Mark 12:31; I just reflected on these on my birthday as an American Muslim and believer in the Lord.

Neilda Leon, 301 West 10th Street said thank you for the opportunity to also speak about the importance of some measures that have been presented to you tonight in the previous meeting that address how people are treated, how immigrants are integrated into our community. I am the daughter of a Cuban Immigrant; I and my mother are probably the fourth generation from Scottish Immigrants. We are all immigrants; some of us came here with various forms of identification and papers and some of us did not but now we have a community of people who are diverse who bring so much of the culture and the business climate and the things that make Charlotte such a wonderful place to live. Charlotte became a welcoming City officially I think a couple of years ago and with that comes some responsibilities to continue to challenge ourselves and I thank you for appointing a Task Force to do just that; challenging ourselves to think about how we can better integrate and make our community safer. I tried to think of an example that we could relate to because I think most of us probably were born in this country, had the privileges that come with that and perhaps did not have to go even through an immigration process. The closest I can say is when I was at my daughter's wedding out of town, I lost my wallet and I had no ID and I think you remember that at the airports you have to have some kind of ID to get home and it was quite an awesome thing, just to say how do I prove who I am.

Tonight I want to talk about that ID as probably the one area that is going to bring the most conversation. As someone has spoken earlier an ID is simply a way of saying I am who I claim I am. It does not confer legal status; it does not give me the right to do wrong, however it can be a great aid to the safety and security of our community aside from any other just or integrating kinds of qualities. My background is in criminal justice; I've worked in jails and with sheriffs all over this country and in North Carolina and here locally. I know that the law enforcement struggle when they stop someone and don't know who they are; they could be anyone. The first thing that officer wants to do is try to confirm the identity. If someone is pulling out papers that they don't recognize the language or the documents, they have no way of really knowing if this person is who they say they are and have a language barrier. That officer is going to spend many hours looking for that person's identity.

2015 March of Dimes – March for Babies Walk – April 25, 2015

Karen Gibson, 10304 Billsdale Court, Huntersville, NC said I am the Executive Director with the March of Dimes Foundation here in Charlotte. Did you know if you were born in the US in the last 75 years you are a March of Dimes Baby? If your mother took folic acid during pregnancy then you are a March of Dimes Baby. If you were born healthy at 39 weeks then you are a March of Dimes Baby. If you were born after 1952 and were given ... screening then you too are a March of Dimes Baby. The March of Dimes Foundation works to help moms have full term pregnancies and supports research into the problems that threaten the health of babies. The March of Dimes Foundation here in Charlotte will host its annual March for Babies Walk on April 25th with more than 8,000 Charlotte citizens. We ask that you join the March of Dimes staff as well as volunteer leadership in uptown Charlotte. This is one of the nation's most premier walking events and it is held in over 700 communities across the US. Today we ask that you stand with the March of Dimes. We invite you to make a commitment to help us raise funds to improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects, premature birth and infant mortality. We have packaged for each of you today; there is a commitment from inside of each of those and we ask that you make a personal gift of significance as well as asking others to join you in the fight for healthy babies.

Mayor Clodfelter said thank you and thank you for the reminder about the event.

Councilmember Austin said I just wanted to recognize Karen Gibson as she is the new Executive Director for the March of Dimes and she is doing a phenomenal job and I just wish her well.

Homelessness in Charlotte

Terica Moser, 3501 Meredith Avenue said I'm here to briefly share a story. I was unlawfully evicted and I was illegally thrown in jail here in Charlotte, North Carolina. I was slandered by the Magistrate; then in the eviction process I had everything in my house thrown away from my beds to my shoes to my clothing and then there was a false judgment put on my credit to keep me from being able to get housing. I've lived in Charlotte all my life and have never lived anywhere else. I am a proud biker; I ride for hospitals, I use my heart, my time and my mind and I show love to a lot of people in this community for over 37 years. I went homeless during that eviction and losing everything I did dial 911, was able to get a report done. It took two weeks so at that time I took the report to the Magistrate two weeks after the eviction and she told me that I was just a poor black girl trying to beat the system and Obama could not help me. I assured she would see me again and she told me if I said another word it would be 30-days. I didn't have any clothing, I didn't have any food, I didn't have anywhere to go and I didn't even want to reach out to anyone because I had a great image then that I totally lost after the humiliation on an eviction and being thrown in jail. I started to feel sorry for myself but I snapped out of it and said you know what I'm going to get out and recycle and I started recycling. During the process I found out that recycling saves lives. I own a company now called Sue's Recycling Center; the apartment owners settled out of court and \$24,000 with me giving my lawyer \$9,000. I used what little money I had left to get a vehicle, to pay everybody that I owed and to move forward. I'm struggling with my recycling center. I recycle with the community so I take men from the Men's Shelter and I bring them over and if I have enough I will let them work. I assure you recycling does more than environmental good use; it actually saves lives and it saved my life. I

reunited with my children; I have a little small house and we are still struggling and I'm still struggling with my company just asking for donated items, pallets and any kind of recyclables; we break them down, TVs and such. During my falling I started a petition to bring Obama to Charlotte because I didn't think no-one cared about me. I called 30 churches, I called my family, I called the bike community but when you have everything in your house thrown away what can someone actually do for you? I'm here to let you know two things; I have a petition to bring Obama to Charlotte.

Mayor Clodfelter said do you have your petition with you tonight?

Ms. Moser said surprisingly I don't.

Mayor Clodfelter said unfortunately your time is up tonight but if you can us your petition we would really like to have that and thank you for sharing your story with us. It is a store of real grit and we really appreciate it. Is this your business address so if folks want to look at Sue's Recycling Center, is it 3501 Meredith Avenue?

Ms. Moser said can you visit www.suerecycling.com? On there are two important videos; one is a video where Charlotte has over 6,000 homeless.

Mayor Clodfelter said I can't give you extra time but we've got the website.

Unfair Hiring Practices

Rayfield Taylor, 3311 Rillet Court said my topic tonight is the New Face of Discrimination and what I mean by that if we go back to the Jim Crow era when segregation was in effect we know that the Federal Government made mandates that alleviated this type of discrimination but the local governments found ways to preserve it such as saying you had to be able to read a certain paragraph or you had to have a certain parcel of land or whatever the case may be. Now in the new ere, what we have going on today is thousands of people on the local level and national level are being disenfranchised because they are being deemed ineligible for employment. They can't get jobs. If you have a criminal record you might as well say it is almost like living a life sentence. These people because of this they are thrown back into that same cycle of crime and despair because they can't become actively employed. I've witnessed this myself. I'm a former felon and drug user that has turned his life around but the re-entry process is almost obsolete. The things that they put up to kind of say that they are helping people like me such as the bonding system, how to write a resume or how to wear a tie or how to shake hands; these things are totally ineffective, they are futile so when we look at the crime rates here in Charlotte, which I'm surprised no one has one a correlation of this, but when you look at the crime rates and we are trying to figure out how to stop crime it is real easy; allow employment for everybody. Get everybody back in the system then we don't have be the statistics on social welfare. I don't have to be a statistic if I'm an able bodied person and I'm physically able to work then I should be allowed to work. Some people might say it is a business owner's right to choose who he wants to hire, but in the past I think everybody has taken a passive approach to it and nobody has seen any kind of progress. The Civil Rights Group; they won't touch it; the local politicians won't touch it. It is like the elephant in the room. It is the cause of so much trouble. When I look at the news today and see people convicted of certain crimes or whatever the case may be, yeah it is bad but there is a story behind it. We don't know how many applications – 20 applications per day that they diligently applied for and got turned down. Why? Because they have a criminal record. Now if this is not discrimination I don't know what it is. It is a new face of discrimination. When I spoke here during the McCrory Administration I called it Back Door Discrimination. What can we do? I decided to start an organization which I've got a few members so far and what we are going to do is first of all bring attention to it, then we are going to find these businesses that choose not to incorporate and we are going to boycott and we are just going to see if anybody wants to stand up for getting some things changed.

Mayor Clodfelter said your time is up so I'm going to need to get from you the name of your organization and how do we find your organization?

Mr. Taylor said The Greenlight Organization and we are building our website right now.

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Mayor Clodfelter said The Greenlight Organization and we can contact you at the address you gave the Clerk? There are several other organizations working on the issue too and we want to make sure we get you connected.

Mr. Taylor said thank you very much.

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AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS CONTINUED

ITEM NO. 5: CHRIS BROWN RECOGNITION

Mayor Clodfelter said we didn't see Mr. Brown earlier; has he come in? If not I'm going to ask Randy Harrington to accept on Mr. Brown's behalf; he has served the City very faithfully for three years as Chairman of the Privatization and Competition Advisory Committee and we have a special presentation in recognition for his leadership as Chairman of the Privatization and Competition Advisory Committee.

Chief Financial Officer Randy Harrington said I am the City Manager's Officer Staff Liaison to the Privatization and Competition Advisory Committee; Mr. Brown couldn't be here this evening but again want to recognize his years of service in terms of the PCAC insuring that citizens receive best value for the services that they receive from the City.

Mayor Clodfelter said 22 years ago this Committee was created so it continues to do good work.

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ITEM NO. 6: AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH PROCLAMATION

Mayor Clodfelter said we have with us in the audience Angela Broome who is the Regional Chief Executive Officer of American Red Cross of the Western North Carolina Region and if you will come to the podium, Councilmember Kinsey is going to read a Proclamation and then we will hear a few words from Ms. Broome.

Councilmember Kinsey read the following Proclamation:

City of Charlotte, North Carolina Proclamation

WHEREAS, March is American Red Cross Month – a special time to recognize and thank our everyday heroes – those who volunteer, donate blood, take life-saving courses or provide financial donations to support an organization whose mission is to help those in need; and

WHEREAS, we would like to remember our heroes here in Charlotte who give their time to help friends, family members and neighbors who are in need right here at home; and

WHEREAS, across the country, the American Red Cross responds to nearly 70,000 disasters a year; it provides some 400,000 services to military members, veterans and civilians, collects and distributes about 40 percent of the nation's blood supply and trains more than seven million people in first aid, water safety and other life-saving skills every year; and

WHEREAS, American Red Cross, Charlotte Metro Chapter is comprised of 721 volunteers and 16 paid staff who save countless lives through disaster assistance, health and safety training, supporting the Armed Forces and their families, providing medical transportation services, and affording blood and blood products in medical emergencies; and

WHEREAS, our community depends on the American Red Cross, which relies on donations of time, money and blood to fulfill its humanitarian mission; despite these challenging economic times, the American Red Cross continues to offer help and comfort to those in need:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Daniel G. Clodfelter, Mayor of Charlotte, do hereby proclaim March 2015 as

“AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH”

in Charlotte and commend its observance to all citizens.

Angela Broome said I am here representing those volunteers that you spoke of, over 700 strong. Here in Charlotte alone the mission of the American Red Cross, all that you just described, is delivered by those volunteers and we are so thankful. Many of them are in the room tonight and we are grateful for them and what they do. We could not do it without their service, their acts of kindness each and every day. This month is a perfect time for the citizens of Charlotte to volunteer either at the Red Cross or at any organization that their heart desires so that they can service this community and give back to the community that we all love. Thank you for honoring the Red Cross today.

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ITEM NO. 7: CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH PROCLAMATION

Mayor Clodfelter said next we have in the audience with us tonight LuAnn Ritsema from The Council for Children's Rights. If you will come down we want to recognize you and have you make a brief presentation after Councilmember Autry reads the Proclamation for Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Councilmember Autry said I consider it a privilege to share with the community this Proclamation this evening. This is work that I've been very interested in for a very long time and have had the opportunity over the years in Charlotte to offer some means of support one way or the other through professional skills or financial contributions and as the parent of a daughter who is a foster parent. I have a special appreciation to what it means to take under your wing someone who has suffered some abuse in some form or another and sometimes the mental abuse and the scares that those leave are a lot worse than any physical abuse.

Proclamation for the City of Charlotte-Mecklenburg County

WHEREAS, children are vital to our state's future success, prosperity, and quality of life as well as being our most vulnerable assets; and

WHEREAS, all children deserve to have safe, stable, nurturing, and healthy homes and communities that foster their well-being; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect is a public responsibility affecting both the current and future quality of life of a state; and

WHEREAS, parents need support and resources to cope with stress and nurture their children to grow to their full potential; and

WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention strategies succeed because of partnerships created among citizens, human service agencies, schools, faith communities, health care providers, civic organizations, law enforcement agencies, and the business community:

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, Daniel G. Clodfelter, Mayor of Charlotte, and Trevor M. Fuller, Chairman of the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim, April as

“CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH”

in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County and commend its observance to all citizens.

LuAnn Ritsema Council for Children's Rights said the Council for Children's Rights is proud to be a member of the Mecklenburg Child Abuse Prevention Team working with over a dozen other child serving agencies to build awareness in our community about child abuse prevention. Preventing child abuse and neglect and making sure that children grow up in safe stable, nurturing homes and communities is one of the best things that we all can do to positively impact
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the future of our county and our state. The Mecklenburg Child Abuse Prevention Team thanks you for proclaiming April as Child Abuse Prevention Month and we encourage you to participate in the events planned for April starting with a press conference on Thursday, April 2nd right here in the Government Center Plaza. At the conclusion of the press conference we will plant Pin Wheels for Prevention in flower gardens surrounding the flag poles. Pin Wheels for Prevention is a national campaign to create awareness of the role all adults play in the healthy development and growth of our nation's children. The pin wheel stands for the happy, healthy full lives that all children deserve. On April 2nd there will be more than 35 Pin Wheel Gardens planted across Mecklenburg County and as County officials we encourage you to lead the way in spreading the message of prevention throughout out county, and we thank you so much.

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ITEM NO. 8: MAYOR'S DAY OF RECOGNITION FOR NATIONAL COMMUNITY SERVICE

Mayor Clodfelter said I will ask Bert Greene with Habitat for Humanity to come down to the podium for our next Proclamation of National Service Recognition Day. I would have to think a long time to think of a better representative for this Proclamation than Bert Greene so thanks for coming. Mayor Clodfelter read the following Proclamation:

WHEREAS, service to others is a hallmark of the American character, and central to how we meet our challenges; and

WHEREAS, the nation's mayors are increasingly turning to national service and volunteerism as a cost-effective strategy to meet city needs; and

WHEREAS, AmeriCorps and Senior Corps address the most pressing challenges facing our cities and nation, from educating students for the jobs of the 21st century and supporting veterans and military families to preserving the environment, and helping communities recover from natural disasters; and

WHEREAS, national service expands economic opportunity by creating more sustainable, resilient communities, providing education, career skills, and leadership abilities for those who serve; and

WHEREAS, national service participants serve in more than 70,000 locations across the country, bolstering the civic, neighborhood, and faith-based organizations that are so vital to our economic and social well-being; and

WHEREAS, national service participants increase the impact of the organizations they serve with, both through their direct service, and by recruiting and managing millions of additional volunteers; and

WHEREAS, national service represents a unique public-private partnership that invests in community solutions, and leverages non-federal resources to strengthen community impact and increase the return on taxpayers dollars; and

WHEREAS, AmeriCorps members and Senior Corps volunteers demonstrate commitment, dedication, and patriotism by making an intensive commitment to service that remains with them in their future endeavors; and

WHEREAS, the Corporation for National and Community Service shares a priority with mayors nationwide to engage citizens, improve lives, and strengthen communities; and is joining with mayors across the country to support the Mayor's Day of Recognition for National Service on April 7, 2015:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Daniel G. Clodfelter, Mayor of Charlotte, do hereby proclaim
April 7, 2015 as

“NATIONAL SERVICE RECOGNITION DAY”

in Charlotte and commend its observance to all citizens.

Bert Greene said I'm joined today by Sarah Hatter of Teach Charlotte, Tiffany Capers of Teach for America and Sarah Katherine Parrelle of Citizens Schools, Marcel Solomon of Hands on Charlotte, Ken Shore of Legal Services, Southern Piedmont and Barbara Thomas of Urban Ministry Center. We are glad to return this year to sing the praises of the Corporation for
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National Community Service. This is the 21st anniversary of CNCS; we are thankful for the Proclamation just read honoring contributions made by these outstanding organizations and their service members among us. These organizations use approximately 265 AmeriCore and Vista Members to coordinate volunteers, teach and council our children, market, train, recruit, build, repair, empower and encourage as part of their core service delivery. They manage and oversee almost 26,000 volunteers and clients for their combined organizations every year. Our organizations need the talent the energy, the enthusiasm and the oversight provided by CNCS members here in Charlotte. We are leaving with each of you tonight a summary of the work done by the agencies represented here and encourage you to review it at your convenience. We urge you to contact our Congressional representatives and Senators in Washington to let them know what a tremendous contribution the Corporation for National Community Service makes here in Charlotte. Thanks for this Proclamation, thanks for your time, we invite you to join us at our joint press conference on Tuesday, April 7th at noon to formally recognize the Mayor's Day of Recognition for National Service. Our Mayor will be speaking and we will also hear some special announcements from several of our hosts CNCS sites of activities to come.

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CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Clodfelter said we will now move to the Consent Agenda and we've had the following item pulled; Item No. 32 will not be voted on, Item No. 46-D will be pulled because we have two speakers on that item.

Motion was made by Councilmember Barnes, seconded by Councilmember Howard, and carried unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda as presented with the exception of Items No. 32 and 46-D.

The following items were approved:

Item No. 17. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Housing Partnership Board Appointment

Appoint City Council member Patsy Kinsey to serve on the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Housing Partnership Board.

Item No. 18: Voluntary Annexation Public Hearing Date

Adopt a resolution setting a public hearing for April 27, 2015 for a voluntary annexation petition. The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 46, at Page 562-564.

Item No. 19: Remount Road Sidewalk Project

Award the low-bid contract of \$419,704 to DOT Construction, Inc. for the Remount Road Sidewalk Project.

Summary of Bids

DOT Construction, Inc.	\$419,704.00
United Construction, Inc.	\$429,410.00
Red Clay Industries, Inc.	\$504,750.00
Carolina Cajun Concrete	\$522,813.00
The Huffman Group, Inc.	\$546,454.13
D. E. Walker Construction	\$617,523.23

Item No. 20: Oakhurst Bus Parking Lot

(A) Award the low-bid contract of \$301,485.80 to Carolina Cajun Concrete, Inc. for the Oakhurst Bus Parking Lot Projects, and (B) Adopt Budget Ordinance No. 5900-X appropriating \$301,485.80 in General Community Investment Plan Funds to the Oakhurst Bus Parking Lot Project.

Summary of Bids

Carolina Cajun Concrete, Inc.	\$301,485.80
Red Clay Industries, Inc.	\$304,950.82
Sealand Contractors Corp.	\$346,821.42

United Construction, Inc.	\$364,441.77
Blythe Development Company	\$373,277.96
D. E. Walker Construction Company	\$378,952.09
Showalter Construction Company	\$386,656.05
DOT Construction, Inc.	\$387,359.50
Ferebee Construction	\$406,097.02
Blythe Construction, Inc.	\$428,127.70

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 59, at Page 302.

Item No. 21: Intelligent Transportation Systems

(A) Reject the non-responsive bid of \$312,009.90 from Partners Communications Services, Inc. due to a non-compliance with the City's Charlotte Business INCLUSION Program, and (B) Award the low-bid contract of \$343,599.36 to Whiting Construction Company, Inc. for the Intelligent Transportation Systems Project.

Summary of Bids

Partners Communication Services, Inc.	\$312,009.90
Whiting Construction Company, Inc.	\$343,599.36

Item No. 22: Private Developer Funds Appropriation.

Adopt Budget Ordinance No. 5901-X appropriating \$83,100 in private development funds for traffic signal improvement with the following developers: VSP1, LLC, Elevation Church, Providence Day School and 521 Partners, LLC.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 59, at Page 303.

Item No. 23: Bridge Repair Design Services

Approve a contract in the amount of \$338,279 with WSP USA Corporation for design services associated with bridge repairs.

Item No. 24: Airport Fixed Base Operator Aircraft Tow Vehicles

(A) Approve the purchase of two Lektro aircraft tow vehicles as authorized by the sole source exemption of G.S. 143-129 (e)(6), and (B) Approve a contract in the amount of \$124,677 with Lektro, Inc. for the one-time purchase of two aircraft tow vehicles.

Item No. 25: Airport Rubber and Line Removal Equipment

(A) Approve the purchase of a Waterblasting Technologies Stripe Hog rubber and line removal vehicle as authorized by the source exemption of G.S. 143-129 (e)(6), and (B) Approve a contract in the amount of \$639,980.30 with Waterblasting Technologies for the one-time purchase of an Airport rubber and line removal vehicle.

Item No. 26: Passenger Loading Bridge Repair Parts

(A) Approve the purchase of passenger loading bridge equipment, materials, and repair parts from John Bean Technologies, as authorized by the sole source purchase exemption of G.S. 143-129 (e)(6), (B) Approve a contract with John Bean Technologies for the purchase of passenger boarding bridge equipment materials, and repair parts for the term of three years, and (C) Authorize the City Manager to extend the contract for two additional one-year terms with possible price adjustments as stipulated by the contract at the time of renewal.

Item No. 27: Airport Baggage Cart Rental Concession

(A) Approve a five-year agreement with Smarte Carte, Inc., for baggage cart rental operations at the Airport, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to extend the contract for two additional, one-year terms with possible price adjustments as stipulated by the contract at the time of renewal.

Item No. 28: Airport Terminal Renovation Design Services

(A) Approve a contract in the amount of \$1,402,000 with C-Design, Inc. for design services to renovate Concourses A, B and C, and (B) Approve a contract in the amount of \$1,100,394 with LS3P Associates for design services to renovate the Atrium and Concourses D & E.

Item No. 29: Airport Roof Inspection Services

(A) Approve a contract with Stafford Consulting Engineers for roof inspection services for Airport-owned buildings for a term of three years, and (B) Authorize the City manager to extend the contract for up to two additional, one-year terms.

Item No. 30: Airport Terminal Ramp Concrete Repairs

(A) Award a low-bid contract of \$141,261.60 to Stone Restoration, LLC for concrete repair work on the terminal ramp, and (B) Adopt Budget Ordinance No. 5902-X appropriating \$141,261.60 from the Aviation Discretionary Fund to the Aviation Community Investment Plan Fund.

Summary of Bids

Stone Restoration	\$141,261.60
Dane Construction	\$289,710.00
Dakota Contracting	\$326,902.00

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 59, at Page 304.

Item No. 31: Airport Group Hanger III Change Order

(A) Approve change order #1 in the amount of \$117,377.64 with Quinn Sales dba Custom Building Systems, Inc. for additional corporate hanger renovations, and (B) Adopt Budget Ordinance No. 5903-X appropriating \$117,377.64 from the Aviation Discretionary Fund to the Aviation Community Investment Plan Fund.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 59, at Page 305.

Item No. 33: Sewer Repairs and Replacements

(A) Award the low-bid, unit price contract of \$818,146.16 to Atlantic Coast Contractors, Inc. for the repairs and replacement of defective sewer infrastructure throughout the Charlotte Water service area for Fiscal Year 2015, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contract for up to two additional terms with possible price adjustments based on the Construction Cost Index.

Summary of Bids

Atlantic Coast Contractors	\$818,146.16
State Utility Contractors	\$1,312,703.28
R. H. Price, Inc.	\$1,742,629.46
Propst Construction Company	\$3,736,852.88

Item No. 34: Water and Sewer Extensions and Repairs

(A) Award the low-bid contract of \$2,166,233.05 to Dallas 1 Construction, LLC for the construction or replacement of water and sewer mains throughout the Charlotte Water service area, and (B) Award the low bid contract of \$2,194,620.80 to R. H. Price, Inc. for the new construction or replacement of water and sewer mains through the Charlotte Water service area.

Summary of Bids (A)

Dallas Construction, LLC	\$2,166,233.05
State Utility Contractors, Inc.	\$ 2,209,619.60
R. H. Price, Inc.	\$ 2,245,590.80
Propst Construction Company	\$2,809,456.60

Summary of Bids (B)

R. H. Price, Inc.	\$2,194,620.80
State Utility Contractors, Inc.	\$2,198,974.60
Propst Construction Company	\$2,809,456.60

Item No. 35: Water Quality Optimization Engineering Services

Approve a professional services contract in the amount of \$887,400 with Hazen and Sawyer, PC for engineering services associated with the Water Quality Optimization project.

Item No. 36: Water Distribution System Master Plan

Approve a professional services contract in the amount of \$2,125,000 with Black & Veatch for engineering services to prepare the Charlotte Water Distribution System Master Plan.

Item No. 37: Electronic Document Management System

(A) Approve a master services contract with Imaging Solutions and Services, Inc. for Charlotte Water for implementation, licensing costs, and two years of maintenance for Hyland OnBase Electronic Document Management System in the amount not to exceed \$574,848, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to extend maintenance up to five additional, one-year terms with possible price adjustments as authorized by the contract, and contingent upon the company's satisfactory performance.

Item No. 38: Hauling Services

(A) Approve a contract with McGirt Trucking Company to provide hauling services of topsoil and spoils for an initial two-year period, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to extend the contract for an additional one-year term.

Item No. 39: Laboratory Information Management System Replacement

Approve a contract with Autoscribe Informatics, Inc., for software implementation services for a Laboratory Information Management System and system support and maintenance for an initial term of five years in the amount not to exceed \$528,744.

Item No. 40: Water and Wastewater Treatment Facilities Polymers

(A) Award performance-based, low-bid unit price contracts to Solenis, LLC, Polydyne, Inc., and BASF for the purchase of polymer chemicals for solids thickening and dewatering operations for a term of one year, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to extend the contracts for up to two additional, one-year terms for McAlpine Creek and McDowell Creek, and for up to one additional, one-year term for Mallard Creek and Franklin with possible price adjustments at the time of renewal as authorized by the terms of the contract.

Summary of Bids

Vendor	Polymer	Total Cost \$/dry ton of solids (Basis of Award)	Bid Price \$/lb of polymer (Unit Price used to Calculate Total Cost)
McDowell Creek WWTF			
BASF	Thickening – Zetag 8847FSB	\$87.57	\$.89/lb
BASF	Dewatering – Zetag 8846FS	\$188.89	\$.89/lb
Solenis, LLC	Thickening – K136L	\$101.18	\$.1.07/lb
Solenis, LLC	Dewatering – K163L	Did not qualify on full scale performance	
Polydyne, Inc.	Thickening – C6292	\$91.50	\$.93/lb
Polydyne, Inc.	Dewatering – C6292	Did not qualify on full scale performance	
McAlpine Creek WWTF			
Solenis, LLC	Dewatering/Thickening - Praestol K136L	\$227.60	\$.95/lb
Polydyne, Inc.	Dewatering/Thickening - SE757	\$199.75	\$.77/lb
BASF	Dewatering/Thickening –Zetag 8828FSB	\$223.35	\$.81/lb
Mallard Creek WWTF			
Polydyne, Inc.	Dewatering/Thickening - SE-1261	\$391.83	\$.89/lb
Solenis	Dewatering/Thickening - Praestol K275FLX	\$295.81	\$1.17/lb
Franklin WTF			
BASF	Thickening – Zetag 8812	No Bid	No Bid
BASF	Dewatering – Magnafloc E38	No Bid	No Bid
Solenis, LLC	Thickening - Praestol A3025LA	\$234.56	\$.94/lb
Solenis, LLC	Dewatering - Praestol A3025LA	\$89.73	\$.94/lb
Polydyne, Inc.	Thickening – C-6210	\$284.97	\$.93/lb
Polydyne, Inc.	Dewatering – A-210P	\$104.94	\$.95/lb

Item No. 41: Water and Wastewater Treatment Process Control Equipment Maintenance

(A) Approve service contract for an initial term of two years to provide Instrumentation and Control System maintenance for all of Charlotte Water's Treatment facilities and Community Investment Projects with the following vendors: CITI, LLC and MPG Consulting Services, LLC, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to extend the contract up to two additional, one-year terms with possible price adjustments as stated in the contracts.

Item No. 42: Donation of Surplus Computers and Related Equipment to Goodwill Industries.

Adopt a resolution approving the donation of surplus computers and related equipment to Goodwill Industries of the Southern Piedmont.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 46, at Page 565-566.

Item No. 43: Public Auction for Disposal of Equipment

(A) Adopt a resolution declaring specific vehicles, equipment, and other miscellaneous items as surplus, and (B) Authorize said items for sale by public auction on April 18, 2015.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 46, at Page 567-573.

Item No. 44: Refund of Property and Business Privilege License Taxes

(A) Adopt a resolution authorizing the refund of property taxes assessed through clerical or assessor error in the amount of \$82,953.16, and (B) Adopt a resolution authorizing the refund of business privilege license payments in the amount of \$1,206.

The resolutions are recorded in full in Resolution Book 46 at Page 574-575 and 576-577.

Item No. 45: Meeting Minutes

Approve the titles, motions and votes reflected in the Clerk's record as the minutes of: January 20, 2015 Zoning Meeting; January 26, 2015 Citizens' Forum/Business Meeting; January 28-30, 2015 City Council Retreat and February 9, 2015 Business Meeting.

Item No. 46: In Rem Remedy

Item No. 46-A: 2225 A & B Booker Avenue

Adopt Ordinance No. 5904-X authorizing the use of In Rem Remedy to demolish and remove the structure at 2225 A & B Booker Avenue (Neighborhood Profile Area 85).

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 59 at Page 306.

Item No. 46-B: 6733 Ellendale Drive

Adopt Ordinance No. 5905-X authorizing the use of In Rem Remedy to demolish and remove the structure at 6733 Ellendale Drive (Neighborhood Profile Area 230).

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 59, at Page 307.

Item No. 46-C: 922 September Lane

Adopt Ordinance No. 5906-X authorizing the use of In Rem Remedy to demolish and remove the structure at 922 September Lane (Neighborhood Profile Area 88).

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 59 at Page 308.

Item No. 47: Property Transactions

Item No. 47-A: 9419 Walkers Ferry Road

Acquisition of 1,179 acres in Fee Simple at 9419 Walkers Ferry Road from David Plyler for \$85,000 for Aviation Master Plan.

Item No. 47-B: 9421 Dorcas Lane

Acquisition of 3.41 acres in Fee Simple at 9421 Dorcas Lane from Reba Conrad for \$212,500 for Aviation Master Plan.

Item No. 47-C: 5414 Wilkinson Boulevard

Acquisition of 1.6 acres in Fee Simple at 5414 Wilkinson Boulevard from Pamela Belk Thompson for \$940,000 for Aviation Master Plan.

Item No. 47-D: 115 West Arrowood Road

Acquisition of 1,725 square feet in Sidewalk and Utility Easement, plus 2,507 square feet in Temporary Construction Easement, plus 1,052 square feet in Utility Easement at 115 West Arrowood Road from WEC 2000B-CLF-7 LLC for \$39,025 for Arrowood/Nations Ford Road Intersection Improvements, Parcel #4.

Item No. 47-E: 3047 Dunlavin Way

Acquisition of 2,101 square feet in Sanitary Sewer Easement, plus 2,101 square feet in Temporary Construction Easement at 3047 Dunlavin Way from Vandaa Property, LLC for \$10,000 for Briar Creek Relief Sewer Phase III, Parcel #136.

Item No. 47-F: 1722 Eastway Drive

Resolution of condemnation of 2,661 square feet in Sanitary Sewer Easement, plus 633 square feet in Temporary Construction Easement at 1722 Eastway Drive from Then Cam Truong and any other parties of interest for \$1,725 for Briar Creek Relief Sewer Phase III, Parcel #31

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 46, at Page 578.

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ZONING

ITEM NO. 10: PETITION NO. 2014-043 AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE TO AFFECT A CHANGE IN ZONING FOR APPROXIMATELY 2.71 ACRES LOCATED ON THE WEST SIDE OF PROSPERITY CHURCH ROAD BETWEEN PROSPERITY POINT LANE AND PINEWOOD LANE FROM R-3 (SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) TO INST (CD) (INSTITUTIONAL, CONDITIONAL).

The Zoning Committee found this petition to be inconsistent with the Northeast District Plan, based on information from the staff analysis and the public hearing, and because the Plan recommends single family residential up to four dwelling units per acre for this site. However, this petition is found to be reasonable and in the public interest based on information from the staff analysis and the public hearing, and because area plans typically do not specify locations for institutional uses; and, the site has frontage along a major thoroughfare; and, the proposed use would serve the needs of the surrounding neighborhoods. The Zoning Committee voted 7-0 to recommend approval of this petition with the following modifications:

1. Reduced the length of the new internal walkway by eliminating the portion that runs along the inside of the driveway and instead locating it along the guest parking area to connect to the sidewalk along Prosperity Church Road. This walkway may meander to preserve any existing trees.
2. Removed the sign from the site plan.
3. Added the heading "Signage" and a note stating that signage is permitted per the ordinance.

A protest petition has been filed and is sufficient to invoke the rule requiring affirmative votes of $\frac{3}{4}$ of the Mayor and Council not excused or recused from voting in order to rezone this property.

Mayor Clodfelter said Ms. Keplinger since we have had the hearing on this matter, I think not only once, but twice, does Council feel the need for a review of the matter or want to review the presentation?

Councilmember Phipps said I don't know that we've had a hearing on it twice but I know we've had one hearing. I'm perfectly willing, if the Council doesn't feel the need to go through it, but I would think that inasmuch as it has been October since we had the public hearing that we should at least go through any slides they might have.

Mayor Clodfelter said very briefly in deference to Councilmember Phipps.

Tammie Keplinger, Planning said I'm not prepared with the maps but I can give you the general ideal behind the rezoning petition. It is a request to go from single family residential to institutional for a daycare. The property is located off Prosperity Church Road; there is a sufficient protest petition on it. Staff recommended approval of this and as you know with institutional type uses daycares, we've looked at the area as proposed for the area plan because it tells us to look at these uses individually through the rezoning process. When staff did that we thought this was an area that was suitable for a daycare. The Zoning Committee also voted 7-0 to approve, but as I mentioned there is a sufficient protest petition.

Mr. Phipps said while I agree that daycares are an institutional use in this instance I share the view of the neighborhood who vigorously protested this petition. For one thing I think this daycare represents commercial encroachment in a single family residential community; also I do not agree as the neighbors do not agree that the use has low traffic and noise impact since trip generation is 240% above the normal 80 trips that exist under the current zoning which is R-3 and that the clientele consist up to 60 children. I thought I read somewhere that they have the ability to expand to 100.

Motion was made by Councilmember Phipps, seconded by Councilmember Lyles, and carried unanimously that Petition 2014-043 by the City of Charlotte, as amended, is inconsistent with the North East District Plan based on information from the staff analysis and the public hearing and because the plan recommends single family residential uses and up to four dwelling units per acre and therefore, to deny the petition.

Mayor Clodfelter said for the reasons that you stated in your motion. Mr. Hagemann we can combine the consistency findings and the action item as well? That is what I take Councilmember Phipps' motion to have done. Is that correct?

City Attorney Bob Hagemann said yes sir.

The vote was taken on the motion to deny and was recorded as follows:

YEAS: Mayor Clodfelter, Councilmembers Austin, Autry, Barnes, Driggs, Fallon, Howard, Kinsey, Lyles, Mayfield, Phipps and Smith.

NAYS: None

Mayor Clodfelter said the petition is denied and the Statement of Plan Consistency is as adopted as read by Councilmember Phipps.

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**ITEM NO. 11: PUBLIC HEARING ON CERTIFICATES OF PARTICIPATION
FINANCING FOR BANK OF AMERICA STADIUM AND BOJANGLES COLISEUM**

Mayor Clodfelter said for this item I'm going to give the Chair to Mayor Pro Tem Barnes because of a conflict I have on the matter so I will excuse myself. Since I don't vote I don't think they need to excuse me.

City Attorney Bob Hagemann said correct.

Motion was made by Councilmember Howard, seconded by Councilmember Mayfield, to (A) Hold a public hearing on the financing of improvements to Bank of America Stadium and Bojangles Coliseum, and (B) Adopt a resolution approving the financing of a total of \$38,960,000 in Certificates of Participation for the Bank of America Stadium improvements (\$23,500,000), and renovations and improvements to the Bojangles Coliseum (\$15,460,000).

Councilmember Fallon said can I ask Mr. Hagemann a question; are we obligated at this point to do this or can it be put in abeyance since our budget is such a problem?

Mayor Pro Tem Barnes said before you answer that let me point out one thing; it is funded by the Convention Center Debt Fund not the General Fund.

Mr. Hagemann said before taking any action you need to close the public hearing.

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

Mayor Pro Tem Barnes said we are back to Item B and there is a question for the City Manager.

Deputy City Manager Ron Kimble said there are contractual obligations in place on both of these items and this is furthering carrying through on what your previous votes were and obligations were under these. It is a use of Convention Center funding which as you know was opened up a little bit where you can use it for Convention Center, Bank of America Stadium and Amateur Sports and these two qualify for that usage.

Ms. Fallon said I just wanted to clarify that it is not coming from general funds or from disposable money.

Mr. Kimble said that is correct, it is not.

Mayor Pro Tem Barnes said and to further clarify we can't use it to hire Policemen or Firemen or to pave roads or to build sidewalks.

Ms. Fallon said it is dedicated, right?

Mr. Kimble said it is a dedicated restricted revenue source.

Councilmember Smith said I did not support the original vote made by the previous Council regardless of the funding source I think this sends the wrong message to the taxpayers. We are talking about cuts for Police, Fire, trash and other services and I know this is not the same funding source but I do think it sends the wrong message to the community that we are going to find money for professional sports franchises yet we have to turn the couch upside down to find a few quarters to move forward in some other areas. I am not going to be supporting this; I was not supportive of it by the previous Council and I don't feel bound by the previous Council's vote to cast the unanimous vote.

The vote was taken on the motion and recorded as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Austin, Autry, Barnes, Fallon, Howard, Kinsey, Lyles, Mayfield and Phipps.

NAYS: Councilmembers Driggs and Smith.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 46, at Page 550-555.

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ITEM NO. 13: PUBLIC HEARING ON A RESOLUTION TO CLOSE A PORTION OF WOODARD STREET AND ELI STREET.

Mayor Clodfelter declared the public hearing open.

There being no speakers, either for or against, a motion was made by Councilmember Austin, seconded by Councilmember Driggs, and carried unanimously to close the public hearing and adopt a resolution to close a portion of Woodard Street and Eli Street.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 46, at Page 556-561.

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ITEM NO. 46-D: 443 A & B SYLVANIA AVENUE

Mayor Clodfelter said this was to adopt an In Rem action against 443 A & B Sylvania Avenue.

Deputy City Clerk Emily Kunze said the speakers left.

Mayor Clodfelter said I hope they didn't think we were pulling the item for not taking any action tonight because we pulled it only because of speaker and I hope they didn't misunderstand what we did.

Councilmember Kinsey said this is in my district and I had talked with Mr. Krise earlier and his recommendation is for us to go ahead and vote to demolish, but he said he would be working over the next 90-days to try to work out something and that is usually what we are able to do.

Mayor Clodfelter said I'm just concerned that if they were here to speak and they got the wrong impression about why we pulled the item off the consent agenda and they thought we were not going to act on it I'm concerned they not have their chance to say so.
Ms. Kunze said they left during the Zoning discussion.

Mayor Clodfelter said Councilmember Kinsey let's proceed with the item if that is your suggestion.

Ms. Kinsey said if you want to talk to Mr. Krise; that is his recommendation.

Mayor Clodfelter said let's hear the recommendation.

Ben Krise said our recommendation is in this instance to ask the Council to pass the ordinance to demolish and we will enter into a consent agreement with the individuals who have just recently hired a contractor and pulled the necessary permits. We are entering a consent agreement asking them to post the bond in the amount of the demolition; if they post that bond and they complete all their affairs within 90 days we will then be able to have a standard dwelling unit. If not we will have the ability to move forward with the demolition as Council desires. That would be our recommendation.

Mayor Clodfelter said so they would have a chance to complete the repairs before any demolition would occur; that is your recommendation?

Mr. Krise said as long as they enter into the consent agreement and are able to post the bond.

Mayor Clodfelter said have you had discussions with them about the consent agreement?

Mr. Krise said we have not. Our only conversation was they wanted to sign up to speak.

Councilmember Driggs said could I just ask Council if we would be open to challenge; if they walk out like that do they have any legal rights?

City Attorney Bob Hagemann said I do not believe so.

Councilmember Smith said it seems I recall, maybe not the exact circumstances, but a similar circumstance where we left the hearing open for a month to give somebody some time. I'm struggling if they left for reasons if they thought it was off the agenda.

Councilmember Barnes said we don't know that so let me ask this question and Mr. Krise are you suggesting that if we approve the action you will still give them an opportunity to enter into a consent agreement. If they comply with that agreement then the action would be deferred anyway.

Mr. Krise said correct.

Mr. Barnes said I would be comfortable moving ahead.

Motion was made by Councilmember Kinsey, seconded by Councilmember Barnes, and carried unanimously to adopt Ordinance No. 5907-X authorizing the use of In Rem Remedy to demolish and remove the structure at 443 A & B Sylvania Avenue (Neighborhood Profile Area 157).

Councilmember Howard said could you make sure in our follow-up packet Mr. Manager, that we get a report after you contact the property owner and where the process is so we can see a report please?

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 59, at Page 309.

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ITEM NO. 15: CONCLUSION OF CONSENT AGENDA

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ITEM NO. 14: CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Ron Carlee said Mayor and Council are keenly aware from our budget discussions last week we are working very hard with the Budget Committee and with Council to put together a variety of options for you to consider to balance the budget closing a gap of roughly \$22 million; about 4% of our budget. This evening I did receive notice that in Raleigh today Senate Leadership announced that they would be filing legislation to change sales tax distribution from point of sale to per capita distribution without adjustments in over a three-year period of time. They did not actually release legislation; they just announced their intention to do so, so what is actually filed is anybody's best guess at this point, but it does look like there is serious discussion in Raleigh to redistribute sales tax that could have a much deeper impact on our budget discussions even if it is a three-year phase in. That puts us in three –years of fairly significant budget challenges. I share that with you only to make you aware of it and also so the public can understand as well. There are some really serious issues being discussed in Raleigh right now that could adverse our ability to deliver services or put you in a position to consider the only revenue source that you really have control over at this point and that is property tax. We are going to be in for a very challenging couple of months here and potentially very challenging to the three years.

Mayor Clodfelter said wow that is a scary report.

Councilmember Driggs said I'm sorry Mr. Manager, I was having trouble hearing the beginning of what you said; what exactly is happening in the General Assembly?

Mr. Carlee said the Senate Leadership today held a press conference and has posted material on their website of an intention to file legislation. They didn't actually release bills but intent to file legislation that would transition sales tax distribution from point of sale to per capita. Part of it is already distributed per capita that has an adjustment factor that actually works against us. They

are saying they would remove the adjustment factor; nonetheless would have a serious impact. The specific amounts it would impact us and what period of time we can't really calculate until we see the legislation. They are talking in the press conference today that I received notice on a three-year phase in.

Mr. Driggs said is this the event that we discussed that could have a \$29 million impact?

Mr. Carlee said yes.

Mr. Driggs said not the question is whether it gets phased in, but there hasn't actually been a vote; all they have done is announce the intention to bring it to the floor?

Mr. Carlee said no it is actually one step earlier than that it is just announced by Senate Leadership that they will file; they have not at this point actually filed the bills. They just held a press conference to discuss that they would ... frame of what would be contained in that legislation.

Mr. Driggs said so it is a further development in the event that we were already considering.

Mr. Carlee said this is late breaking news Mr. Mayor and we just had a note come in from our Legislative Representative in Raleigh saying that a bill has been filed. Obviously we have not read it or analyzed it yet. That will be priority one tonight and tomorrow.

Councilmember Howard said over the week-end I read that Senator Rucho mentioned that he had a compromise. Is that requested in anything that we've heard so far?

Mayor Clodfelter said that is not part of the legislation that drawn up today; he has a different approach altogether and his has not yet been put to paper but there is a long way for this issue still to go. Filing a bill of this sort of this type, especially when there are alternatives that he has been working on is going to be, as the Manager said, a long two to three months. His proposal has not yet been put on paper.

Mr. Carlee said we don't know what the House may do at this point.

Mr. Driggs said you know how the Senate works and are familiar with their process.

Mayor Clodfelter said this one is going to be interesting to watch.

Councilmember Driggs said there has been some discussion about the constitutionality of such a move.

Mayor Clodfelter said there has been and that discussion will probably continue.

Councilmember Barnes said two things, completely different topics. Mr. Manager, within our package of information for this meeting there is a document called Corporate Communications and Marketing Capital Funds Expenditures and it is approximately \$200,000 in spending and about \$40,000 has yet to be spent. I suppose and I was going to ask you for your feedback, I supposed this is money we plan to spend to move or relocate some of the corporate communications staff from down in the basement to upstairs. There is a lot of audio visual equipment and electronic equipment in here and furniture. That is the sort of spending that I think we might want to be more conservative about right now. It appears as I said that a lot of that money has already been spent. If you could give us some update about what that was about and I cannot find what it was attached to in our action items.

Mr. Carlee said that was part of Item No. 12 which I pulled to re-evaluate.

Mr. Barnes said was that in addition to the cars that were going to be replaced?

Mr. Carlee said it is all part of that package that we pulled to re-examine what has been spent and what is commitment, what is discretionary, what can we make any changes around before we
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bring that to you. This came through just before we got the new information and every item that is coming through we are putting through that budget filter.

Mr. Barnes said that would be helpful. The second item on Saturday night I had the chance to attend my first Daddy/Daughter Dance and it was a great time; my girls enjoyed it and I enjoyed it. There was some rumor that I was doing the wobble among other things and I will neither confirm nor deny that I tried it, but it was fun and my babies enjoyed it so I enjoyed it.

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ITEM NO. 16: MAYOR AND COUNCIL TOPICS

Councilmember Smith said I've got two events that I would like to announce; tomorrow night, March 24th at 6:30 at Myers Park Baptist Church there will be a neighborhood meeting for the proposed project at the Colony Apartments and if you are interested in that I would encourage you to attend the meeting and on April 16th I have a Town Hall at 6:30 at Sharon Methodist Church. The primary topic of discussion ironically was going to be the budget as we are coming out of budget season now I think it will be a little bit more of an eventful discussion, but we will have staff members there and we will go over budget items and then have some Q and A so all are invited.

Councilmember Phipps said I want to address something that has been in the news about what I consider to be unacceptable behavior by one of our citizens in District 4. Due to a loophole in the State Indecent Exposure Law our Police Department has been unable to stop this particular behavior but I understand that efforts are being made in the Legislature to close the loophole that exists in this particular law. In light of that I don't think it is necessary for Council to formerly take up this matter but I did want to acknowledge the situation and let our citizens know that we share their outrage. I have spoken to the Homeowners Association President prior to coming to this meeting and they are having a meeting tonight so they are interested and know and appreciate that we will do all we can to support whatever action the Legislature may choose to close the loophole.

Councilmember Mayfield said I just want to advise the community that there will be a Community Open House Meeting regarding new development on Tuckaseegee. That will be happening tomorrow evening from 5:00 to 7:00 at Trinity Church of the Nazarene at 6031 Tuckaseegee Road. We will be discussing new development opportunities on Tuckaseegee.

Councilmember Lyles said I would like to thank the community; over 50 to 60 people that came out this Saturday to bike and walk along our downtown area, along our greenways and by our parks as a way to show that our City can be a bikeable and walkable City. I would also like to invite all of you to attend the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women for their Hall of Fame induction this Friday at the Levine Museum of the New South where I will be joined with Shirley Fulton, Carolyn Flowers, our former CEO of CATS and Senator Joyce Waddell for induction into their Hall of Fame.

Councilmember Autry said I just want to thank Keep Charlotte Beautiful Committee; I joined them this past Saturday morning for clean-up in a neighbor of Eastway/Sheffield and it was a great opportunity in doing some community building and getting some clean-up in the community. I've spoken before during this part of the meeting about speeding on our streets and asking our drivers on the streets to drive on the street like that is the street that your children are playing on, but we also have an accumulation of liter that is just unacceptable anymore. I would appreciate you as you move through the City to be cognizant of having stray paper in your car with the windows open now that the weather is getting warmer and debris in the back of pick-up trucks that can blow out. Be cognizant of that and mindful of the impression that that sets to have that stuff blowing around and lining our streets. When it comes to liter treat it like you are driving in the street that you live on.

Councilmember Austin said I just want to remind all District 2 residents that I'm still holding office hours on the week-end, every Saturday and every Sunday as I've done for the last year. Please call my office at 704-336-3185.

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Ms. Mayfield said Mr. Autry reminded me and thank you for that; two weeks ago the early rainy Saturday morning, thanks to Keep Charlotte Beautiful we were out and I want to also call to order all of the residents in District 3. We had the opportunity of cleaning up in the Enderly Park Neighborhood as well as part of Historic Camp Greene for about three hours and we only made it to less than ½ mile thanks to the items that have been left. A lot of that happens unfortunately from people that do not live in the community, but people that drive through the community and leave bulky items. I will just give a charge for us to take the time to become crime watch captains and captains of our streets. Don't even look at the whole neighborhood, choose your individual street, pay attention to what is going on. If you notice anything that is out of place then please pick up the phone call 311, call 911; let's just really be engaged.

Mayor Clodfelter said I'm going to pipe on top of the Manager's great report just as an information item. If you don't think it is bad enough that they are looking at taking the sales tax revenue away from the City there is also some possibility that the Legislature may take up and consider a complete rewrite top to bottom of the planning and zoning statutes all the way from beginning to end. We don't yet know whether that is going to get any traction or not, but it is out there. The Planning staff is analyzing it now to see what would happen and what it would mean but it is in some respects a pretty dramatic revision of a lot of the planning and zoning laws. Mr. Hagemann is our expert on that and I don't know at this point whether we've got a short-hand summary of that available, but we will try to get for any of you who want it. It is 160-page bill right now and we will try to find that short-hand summary of it; we don't yet know if any action is going to be taken on it.

Mr. Phipps said on that note I know that we have plans to rewrite our zoning ordinance; I think it is an item in the budget for over \$1 million to do just that. Does this mean that we will postpone that particular budget item?

Mayor Clodfelter said I don't know; I think the Legislative action would come sooner rather than later if it came at all and probably well before our process is underway so we would know whether there is any likelihood of having to deal with a new set of enabling legislation before we got very far into our process.

Mr. Carlee said that is correct; it would significant change the scope of our project thought because what we would have to be doing is looking at our local ordinances relative to what would be an entirely new set of state enabling legislation and guidelines. It would change the character of what we are doing and probably make it more pressing that we had to do it.

Mr. Smith said is this a new statewide zoning ordinance?

Mr. Clodfelter said no it would not be a statewide ordinance; it would be a rewriting of the enabling laws that enable local ordinances.

Mr. Barnes said let me say this; I would like to end these meetings on a positive note or at least something that feels decent. The Carolina Tar Heels were looking sharp Saturday night and let's just hope they keep that up Thursday. Go HEELS that is my point!

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 p.m.



Emily Kunze, Deputy City Clerk

Length of Meeting: 2 Hours, 57 Minutes
Minutes Completed: April 25, 2015