



April 25, 2014

TO: Mayor and Members of Council
FROM: Jim Westmoreland, City Manager
SUBJECT: Items for Your Information

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Apr 28 at 5:30 pm District 3 Neighborhood Walk
- Apr 29 at 4:00 pm CRC Enhancement Committee
- May 1 at 4:00 pm Participatory Budget Committee Meeting
- May 5 at 5:30 pm District 2 Budget Meeting
- May 7 at 4:00 pm Work Session
- May 7 at 5:30 pm City Council Meeting

Proposed 2014 Legislative Agenda

Attached is a memorandum from Interim City Attorney Tom Carruthers providing the proposed 2014 Legislative Agenda.

Portions of Elm Street Closed Sunday

Attached is a press release regarding the portion of Elm Street, from Washington to Market that will be closed from 8am Sunday, April 27, 2014, to 5am Monday, April 28, 2014, while the City's Transportation Department recoats and repairs the crosswalks.

Bridging the Gap: City, Community and State Symposium

Attached is a press release regarding the first in a series of events called "Bridging the Gap: City, Community and State", designed specifically to help minority and women-owned businesses (M/WBE). This event is scheduled for May 1, 2014, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Gateway University Research Park.

Community Budget Meetings

Below is the upcoming community budget meetings schedule by Council districts. For more information about the City's budget, visit www.greensboro-nc.gov/budgetprocess.

District 1	Tuesday, April 29	5:30 pm	Warnersville Recreation Center
District 2	Monday, May 5	5:30 pm	Peeler Recreation Center
District 3	Tuesday, May 13	5:30 pm	Natural Science Center
District 4	Thursday May 8	5:30 pm	Lindley Recreation Center

Public Information Request Report

Attached is the weekly Public Information Request Report for the week of April 25, 2014.

Contact Center Feedback

Attached is the weekly report generated by our Contact Center for the week of April 14, 2014 through April 20, 2014.

Small Group Meetings

Attached is the Small Group Meeting report for the week of April 25, 2014, between City Staff and [more than two but less than five] Councilmembers.

Grant Report

Attached is an updated list of grants for which the City intends to apply that do not require a match. Under the policy adopted by City Council, grants that do not require a match are not required to receive formal Council action.

JRW/mm
Attachments



April 21, 2014

TO: Jim Westmoreland, City Manager

FROM: Tom Carruthers, Interim City Attorney

SUBJECT: Proposed 2014 General Assembly Legislative Agenda

The North Carolina General Assembly will re-convene for the second year of the 2013-2014 biennium on May 14, 2014. This is the “short session”. General Assembly rules allow crossover legislation, budget items, and local legislation to be considered. In 2013, City Council adopted fourteen items for last session’s Legislative Agenda. The General Assembly adopted nine of these items. Two items survived the crossover deadline and can be considered during the short session. These crossover bills and current new issues are noted below.

Current City Legislative Agenda

1. MWBE/SBE

The City Manager established the M/WBE Community Relations Steering Committee in 2012 to review the 2012 Disparity Study. This Committee proposed changes to the current M/WBE program to include small (and typically local business) under the program. Council adopted this proposal. It would not affect the current M/WBE program, but would expand the scope of targeted businesses. HB 524, Greensboro Charter Amendments, passed the House only. This bill is eligible for consideration in the Senate Chamber.

2. Electronic Notice

Senate Bill 287 was amended several times as the session neared closure. The final version of the bill applies to Guilford County and the cities therein. It allows publication of notices in daily newspapers, weekly newspapers or on the internet. It needs one successful vote on the floor of the House to become law.

3. Expand Medicaid Coverage

On March 19, 2014, the City Council resolved to encourage the North Carolina General Assembly and the Governor to accept federal funds to expand Medicaid coverage in North Carolina.

4. Expand Autism Coverage

The City Council resolved to recognize April 2, 2014 as World Autism Awareness Day in the City of Greensboro. The purpose of this resolution was to increase the awareness of the autism crisis and inform of the importance of early diagnosis and intervention for all persons affected by autism spectrum disorders. H498, Require Autism Spectrum Disorder Coverage, crossed over from the House Chamber to the Senate Chamber last session. It will require insurance policies in

the state to cover diagnosis and treatment of this disorder. The bill resides in the Senate Committee on Insurance.

Proposed City Legislative Agenda

1. Fair and Flat and Revenue Neutral Privilege License Tax

The Revenue Laws Study Commission voted to approve legislation that would cap privilege license tax rates at \$100.00. It would expand the right of municipalities to collect this tax to businesses such as banks, medical offices and law firms. It will eliminate the gross receipts tax. The League of Municipalities estimates this will reduce municipal revenue \$24 million dollars per year state wide. The City's loss in revenue is estimated at \$1.3 million. The City Council is requested to oppose this legislation. If enacted, this proposed legislation would take effect July 1, 2015.

2. Historic Tax Credits

Since 1976, historic preservation incentives provided by the state and federal governments have helped bring in over \$1.7 billion in private investment to the state while preserving North Carolina's historic structures. Under the North Carolina tax credit program, commercial developers receive a 20 percent credit and residential developers a 30 percent credit on all expenditures. To claim the credit, the homes or buildings must be on the National Register of Historic Places and the remodel must meet certain standards designed to preserve the historical integrity of the structure. This program will expire on January 1, 2015 unless extended by the General Assembly.

3. Greensboro Ticket Price Increase

The City of Greensboro sought and obtained local legislation in 1989 to permit the City to levy a \$1.00 fee on all tickets sold in City owned facilities with more than 10,000 seats. The levy is not used by the Greensboro Coliseum at this time. This state law created an unintended ambiguity in the ability of the city to assess reasonable fees at its facilities. The City will seek amendment or repeal of this law as may be necessary so that the City may assess reasonable and appropriate amounts at all City owned facilities as determined by City Council.

4. Uniform Tax Opportunity

The General Assembly establishes local acts to benefit individual municipalities or counties across the state. This revenue bill would seek to open to all communities those tax and fee opportunities permitted to individual governments under local acts adopted by the General Assembly. This equal application of tax authority would benefit all governments and would create more uniformity under the current tax codes.

5. Annexation within Municipal Borders

The General Assembly revised the annexation laws of North Carolina in 2011. This new law has left large areas within the borders of municipalities that cannot be annexed by initiation of the City. This creates inequity in economic opportunity. Areas which are primarily urban and surrounded by a municipality cannot be taxed at municipal levels. This also encourages urban sprawl as cities leapfrog over these areas to continue growth. The City requests that areas within

a city's border or within a city's urban loop be subject to municipal initiated annexation without a referendum.

Greensboro Partnership Proposed Items.

(These two items are submitted by the Partnership and are directly related to City issues.)

1. *Urban Loop*

The Greensboro Partnership's top priority remains the completion of Greensboro's Urban Loop. Four sections remain. One of the four is under construction, one has a pending construction contract, and two remain unfunded. The Partnership requests the State to maintain the original 2020 projected completion timeline.

2. *Union Square Campus*

The Greensboro Partnership strongly supports the Union Square Campus for a State investment of \$8 million over the next several years. An initial appropriation of \$2 million is requested in the 2014 short session. These funds would be a contribution toward construction costs for the first 100,000 sf building. This building is a public private collaboration with an estimated \$37 million overall cost. The four major tenants are anticipated to be NC A&T, UNCG, GTCC and Cone Health. An additional \$6 million will be requested during the next biennium for purchase of high tech medical training equipment.

TDC



**CITY OF GREENSBORO
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Ryan Moats
Phone: 336-373-2859

Portions of Elm Street to be Closed Sunday Morning for Crosswalk Improvements

GREENSBORO, NC (April 25, 2014) – A portion of Elm Street, from Washington to Market Street, will be closed from 8 am, Sunday, April 27 until 5 am, Monday, April 28 as the City of Greensboro's Transportation Department recoats and repairs the decorative pedestrian crosswalks. During this time, no parking is permitted in the work area. Any vehicles left in the area will be towed to the parking lot at the corner of Elm and McGee Streets.

The project will continue throughout the summer, recoating and repairing all of the decorative pedestrian crosswalks on Elm Street. Weather permitting; the tentative project schedule is as follows:

- May 11: Elm Street will be closed from Market Street to Friendly Avenue.
- May 18: The east and west crossings along Market Street will be completed resulting in lane closures along Market Street. The east crossing along Friendly Avenue will be completed resulting in lane closures along Friendly Avenue. Davie Street will be closed from Market Street to Summit Avenue.
- June 1: Elm Street will be closed from Friendly Avenue to Summit Avenue, with lane closures on Friendly Avenue at the west crossing.
- June 8: Summit Avenue will be closed from Elm Street to Davie Street. Bellemeade Street will be closed from Elm Street to Greene Street.
- June 15: Elm Street will be closed from Friendly Avenue to Summit Avenue and from Summit Avenue to Lindsey Street.

The end result of the pedestrian enhancement project will provide residents traveling in downtown Greensboro with crossings that are highly visible, not only improving safety, but also the overall appearance of Elm Street.

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The City works with the community to improve the quality of life for residents through inclusion, diversity, and trust. As the seventh largest employer in Greensboro, the City has a professional staff of 2,800 employees who maintain the values of honesty, integrity, stewardship, and respect. The City is governed by a council-manager form of government with a mayor and eight council members. For more information on the City, visit www.greensboro-nc.gov or call 336-373-CITY (2489).



**CITY OF GREENSBORO
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Jake Keys
Phone: 336-373-2105

Minority and Women-Owned Business Symposium Set for May 1

GREENSBORO, NC (April 23, 2014) – Sustainable Community Resources, along with the City of Greensboro, is hosting the first event in a series of sessions called “Bridging the Gap: City, Community, and State” symposium from 10 am to 3 pm on Thursday, May 1 at the Gateway University Research Park, 2901 E. Lee St. The event is designed specifically to help minority and women-owned businesses (M/WBE) in construction-related fields learn how to participate in publicly-funded projects.

Participants will learn about City policies on M/WBE inclusion and how to respond to Requests for Proposals with state agencies, as well as have networking opportunities with other M/WBE contractors and subcontractors.

“The goal of our symposium is to not just provide a list of contractors to the City of Greensboro, but to provide a list of companies that are truly ready, willing, and able to do the work needed,” said Evon J. Smith, president of Sustainable Community Resources. “There is currently an opportunity to obtain resources and assistance in working with public entities.”

Presenting at the symposium are Greensboro Mayor Nancy Vaughan, City Manager Jim Westmoreland, Dennis English of the NC Historically Underutilized Business Office, Trent Rawley of the NC Department of Transportation, John Murrell of Greensboro’s Union Square Campus, and other panelists representing public and private entities that have future development projects and are committed to including minority designers, contractors, and subcontractors.

For more information, contact Smith at 336-655-3635.

The City of Greensboro works in partnership with the community to build an increased quality of life for all residents by fostering an environment where inclusion, diversity, and trust are valued. As the seventh largest employer in Greensboro, the City has a dedicated professional staff of 2,700 employees, who maintain four core values of honesty, integrity, stewardship, and respect. The City of Greensboro is governed by a council-manager form of government where a mayor and eight council members act as the legislative body. For more information on the City of Greensboro, please visit us online at www.greensboro-nc.gov.



Current Public Records Requests Update April 25, 2014

Date Requested	Requestor	Subject	Status
8/5/2013	Mike Carter	Email Correspondence from 8/1/11 to 8/5/13	GPD and Legal reviewing email search.
1/13/2014	Terra McKee	GPD Crime Analysis Unit Emails from 1/1/12 to 1/13/14	GPD and Legal reviewing email search.
2/4/2014	Terra McKee	City of Greensboro lawsuits	Legal compiling information.
2/14/2014	Paul Clark	Civil Rights Museum Records	Legal reviewing email search.
2/20/2014	Mallory Horne	Email Search	Response received from requestor on 4/22/2014. Legal reviewing email search.
3/5/2014	Jason Huber	Complaint Review Committee info	Follow-up response sent to requestor on April 7, 2014. Staff compiling additional information.
3/5/2014	George Hartzman	Koury Rain Tax Payments	Legal reviewing the information.
3/14/2014	Earl Jones	Vendor contracts	Staff compiling information.
3/17/2014	George Hartzman	Settlement of claims	Legal reviewing this request.
3/24/2014	Jorge Cornell	Request for all public records RE: Jorge Cornell	Legal reviewing information.
4/14/2014	Margaret Banks	Email search for Mel's Pressure Washing, Melvin Dick, Mattie Dick	First batch of emails provided on 4/22/2014. Legal reviewing remainder of email search.
4/15/2014	Billy Jones	City Council Meeting minutes for April 1, 2014.	Staff compiling information.
4/15/2014	Ben Holder	Agenda, Notes, Meetings City Manager Jim Westmoreland attended	Info left for requestor at front desk of the MMOB Building. Awaiting to see if additional information is needed.
4/15/2014	Ben Holder	Request regarding pressure washing	Staff compiling information.
4/15/2014	Ben Holder	Inquiry regarding Ramey Kemp and Associates	Response sent to requestor on 4/23/2014. Staff compiling additional information.
4/17/2014	Billy Jones	History of payments from City to Organizations	Staff compiling information.
4/17/2014	Jeff Sykes	Email search from July 14, 2013 to Sept. 30, 2013	Legal reviewing email search.
4/23/2014	John Hammer	GPD documents	Staff compiling information.
4/24/2014	Ben Holder	Payments to vendors	Staff compiling information.
4/25/2014	Ben Holder	Copies of Search Warrants for the week of April 21-25	Staff compiling information.

Closed Public Information Requests

For the Week of April 25, 2014

Tracking Number	Date Requested	Date Closed	Business Days Open	Requestor	Subject
3370	3/24/2014	4/22/2014		Rob Conrad	Request for Info RE: Avaap and Tekterra
3404	4/4/2014	4/23/2014	19 days	George Hartzman	Emails to or from Councilman Mike Barber
3416	4/14/2014	4/22/2014	8 days	George Hartzman	Wyndham Championship
3421	4/14/2014	4/22/2014	8 days	George Hartzman	Economic Dev. And Impact Strategy Report for South Elm Development LLC
3428	4/15/2014	4/24/2014	9 days	Ben Holder	On-call Consultants
3429	4/16/2014	4/21/2014	5 days	James Tate	Request regarding 118 Erwin Street
3430	4/17/2014	4/23/2014	6 days	Abigail Bains	Passive Soil Gas
3434	4/17/2014	4/24/2014	7 days	Jeff Sykes	Follow-up request RE: Bostons House of Jazz
3436	4/17/2014	4/23/2014	6 days	Sheri McNeill	Employee Information
3437	4/17/2014	4/23/2014	6 days	Terra McKee	Police Department HR File Request
3438	4/22/2014	4/23/2014	1 day	Sabine Sopher	Phone Calls from Call Center
3441	4/23/2014	4/25/2014	2 days	Naizr Hejazi	Civil Project Engineer
3442	4/22/2014	4/23/2014	1 day	Ben Holder	Conflict of Interest Policy
3443	4/23/2014	4/24/2014	1 day	Troy Zieman	Environmental Site Assessment
3444	4/23/2014	4/24/2014	1 day	Greg Messinger	2202-2290 Golden Gate Drive
3447	4/25/2014	4/25/2014	0 days	Ben Holder	Search Warrant

Weekly Totals (4/21/14 - 4/25/14):		
	Number of PIRTS Opened	11
	Number of PIRTS Closed	16
	Average Completion Time	4.31 days
Totals Since January 1, 2014:		
	Number of PIRTS Opened	256
	Number of PIRTS Closed	289
	Average Completion Time	15.65 days

Contact Center Weekly Report Week of 04/14 – 04/20/14

Contact Center

4617 calls answered this week

Top 5 calls by area

Water Resources

Balance Inquiry – 512
IVR/Pay by Phone – 124
New Sign up – 107
Cutoff Requests – 75
Constr. & Maint. – 63

Field Operations

Storm Debris Pickup – 233
Holiday Schedule – 174
No Service/Garbage – 107
Bulk Guidelines – 77
HHW/Landfill/Transfer – 71

All others

Police/Watch Operations – 132
Computer Help Desk – 62
Privilege License – 44
Inspections -- 24
Streetlight Outage – 24

Comments

We received a total of 7 comments this week:

Field Operations – 3 comments:

- Caller wants management to know he is not pleased with the way the storm debris is being picked up. He states his area is always the last to be serviced in leaf season and now the same way with storm debris. He said he pays a lot in taxes and wants his storm debris picked up by April 21st.
- Customer called yesterday to report pothole on Knox Rd and it is already fixed. That is astonishing. Great job.
- Caller works in maintenance at the Everitt Street apartments. He was so thankful that the driver took it upon himself to come back and pick up the green cans that were put out late. Caller didn't realize Friday was a holiday. He didn't even have to call us, the driver saw everything put out late and took it upon himself to come back and pick it up. He was very thankful.
- Caller wanted to let us know what an awesome job the trash truck is doing. Caller forgot today was pick up day and the driver backed up for her husband to get the trash then drove up and made sure to get her son's across the street.
- A big thank you to the storm debris crews for picking up. Great job and it is appreciated.

Water Resources – 2 comments:

- Wanted to let us know that he has spent the whole day signing up for utilities and ours was the shortest wait and the smoothest process he came across. It was a pleasure doing business with us.
- Caller states you can easily do power, electricity, internet, and cable over the phone. It is very inconvenient to have to come in or mail in to sign up for new service for water especially when you already have service.

Overall

Calls about storm debris collection continued to impact our call volume. Calls about the holiday garbage collection schedule also increased. Call volume was busy through the end of the week.



SMALL GROUP MEETINGS 2014

Small Group Meeting Dates & Times	Councilmember Attending	Person Contacted / Department	Subject	Council Notification Date
April 21, 2014	Mayor Nancy Vaughan Councilmember Hightower	City Manager Jim Westmoreland	Community Benefits Agreement	April 25, 2014



City of Greensboro
Grant Applications Submitted

Grantor	Grants Projects / Description of Purpose	Amount Requested	Department Requesting Funding	Council Notification Date	Status
Wal-Mart Foundation	The Greensboro Police Department, Community Relation's Office will utilize the grant funds if awarded to support the 31 st Annual National Night Out (NNO) program scheduled for Tuesday, August 5, 2014 and Public Safety programming. Funds will assist with the NNO Kick-Off event as well as purchase promotional items and safety giveaways for the community..	\$2,500.00	Police Department	April 25, 2014	Approved by Department April 21, 2014