



January 21, 2011

TO: Mayor and Members of Council
FROM: Rashad M. Young, City Manager *DNT
for*
SUBJECT: Items for Your Information

Contact Center Feedback

Attached is the weekly report generated by our Contact Center for the week of 1/10/11 – 1/16/11.

Documents for the January 25, 2011 Work Session

- 2nd Quarter Budget Update: Attached is the presentation of the 2nd quarter budget update.
- Draft 2011 States Legislative Agenda: Attached is the proposed 2011 State Legislative Agenda.

Field Operations Program Supplies Budget Adjustments

At the request of Mayor Knight, at the January 18, 2011, City Council Meeting, attached is a memorandum from Nelsie Smith, Assistant to the City Manager, dated January 21, 2011, providing a detailed explanation for the budget adjustments in the Field Operation's Program Supplies line item.

Employee Benefit Summary

At the request of Councilmember Thompson, attached is a summary of the City employee's benefits as well as the city's contribution for FY 2009-2010.

Guilford Delegation Meeting

Per direction from Councilmember Zack Matheny, an invitation has been sent to the Guilford Delegation for a meeting with the City Council on Thursday, February 3, 2011 at 4:00 pm. This meeting is to allow the City Council to share the City's legislative agenda with the Guilford Delegation. The legislative agenda will be on the January 25 Work Session agenda for discussion and the February 1 Council Meeting Agenda for formal consideration.

2011 Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control Grant Awarded to City of Greensboro from HUD

Attached is a memorandum from Sue Schwartz, Interim Director of Planning and Community Development, dated January 20, 2011, regarding the Grant that was awarded to the City of Greensboro, for the fourth time, from the US Department of Housing and Community Development (HUD) for lead remediation.

Bessemer Center Lead Agent Progress Report

Attached is a memorandum from Interim Director of Planning and Community Development, Sue Schwartz, dated January 21, 2011, providing a progress report on the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Bessemer Shopping Center on Phillips Avenue.

Reader's Digest RV Tour Stops in Greensboro

Attached is a media advisory regarding the January 24, 2011, Reader's Digest "We Hear You America" 100 Cities/100 Days RV Tour. The press conference will take place Monday at 10am at the Governmental Plaza.

**Public Affairs Department
Contact Center Weekly Report
Week of 1/10/11 - 1/16/11**

Contact Center

4941 calls answered this week

Top 5 calls by area

Water Resources

Balance Inquiry – 1189
General Info – 140
New Sign up – 126
Pay by Phone – 122
Constr. & Maint. – 76

Field Operations

Collection Day – 158
General Info – 138
No Service/Garbage – 73
Icy Conditions – 71
Loose Leaf Collection – 41

All others

Police/Watch Operations – 318
Courts/Sheriff – 241
Openings, Closings – 215
Landfill/Transfer Station/HHW – 65
Police Records – 42

Comments

We received a total of **9** comments this week:

Engineering and Inspections – 1 comment:

- Customer called to say it would be nice for the city to announce its snow removal ordinance pertaining to sidewalks in order to make the public more aware that they have the duty to remove snow and ice within 24 hours after precipitation ceases. Maybe a press release before next season would be a good time.

Finance – 1 comment:

- I was surprised to find that a \$1.95 “convenience fee” would be added to my \$10.00 parking ticket if I used the online method of payment. Is it not more convenient and less expensive for the City of Greensboro to receive an online payment? If City Government were a competitive business, it wouldn't be for long!

Field Operations – 6 comments:

- Caller wanted to thank the Solid Waste crews for even coming this week to begin with, and says they did an amazing job. They were on time on a day she didn't expect them to come at all, and even then they made it a point to repair her car that was damaged during pickup. The driver noticed the lid had fallen off when he dumped it, so he called it in to be replaced without her having to do a thing. Just wanted to say thanks to all trash and recycling crews this season.
- Ardmore Park community representative, lives near intersection of Florida and Holden, is upset that council voted to keep loose-leaf collection. Leaves on Florida are blocking the bike lane and part of the street, and now that there has been a storm, it has compounded the problem...leaves are slippery and difficult to pick up. When the city was small, it made sense to offer this service. The City is too big now. This service isn't efficient or practical anymore.
- Caller feels that the city should be able to tell their citizens whether they will have garbage collection by the time the collection day starts. Contact Center not helpful without the information customers need. States every other entity from the courts to the schools have notified their people.

- Customer says it doesn't help her at all when she calls in for an answer that the city information line can't answer. Wanted to know if her collection was going to happen today, and was not satisfied with the answer that the city does not know yet, nor does it know when they will have an answer.
- Customer calling to say, "I just wanted to give a great big thank you to all the trash collectors that are out in this horrible weather collecting trash today. That just goes up and beyond the call of duty. So many times we call to complain so I just want to send a great big thank you!"

Water Resources – 1 comment:

- Caller has completed the water adjustment process and wanted to compliment every employee he dealt with throughout the process for being courteous and helpful.

Overall

The snow storm last week caused a significant increase in calls. Callers were anxious to know when their streets would be cleared of ice and snow, and the garbage collection schedule. Calls remained steady through the end of the week.



City Council Briefing

General Fund, July – December 2010
Six-Month Revenue and Expenditure Update
Greensboro City Council Briefing
January 25, 2011

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Summary

- Through the Second Quarter of 2010, actual revenue collected compared to budget is meeting revenue projections
 - Total revenue collected of \$148.5 million is 57.7% of the amended General Fund budget of \$257.4 million, last year \$148.2 million or 57.6% had been collected
- Through the Second Quarter of 2010, expenditures and transfers equal \$128.6 million or 50.0% of budget



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FY 10-11 General Fund Overview – As of December 31, 2010 REVENUES

FY 10-11 Budget by Revenue Category

	(in millions)	% Budget
Property Tax	\$146.3	56.8 %
Sales Tax	37.0	14.4
Utility Taxes	18.3	7.1
Beer & Wine/ABC	3.9	1.5
Privilege Licenses	3.2	1.2
Building Permit Fees	1.8	0.7
Waste/Trash Coll.	6.5	2.5
Other Revenue	23.5	9.1
Transfers In	9.4	3.7
Appropriated Fund Bal.	<u>7.6</u>	3.0
Total	\$257.4 million (12/31/10)	



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FY 10-11 General Fund Overview – As of December 31, 2010 REVENUES

- FY 10-11 Estimated Assessed Valuation of \$24.64 billion (1.0% growth rate)
 - Continues to reflect slowdown in economic activity
 - Tax base increased by 0.7% in FY 09-10 to \$24.35 billion; similar increase projected in FY 10-11 due to lack of growth in business personal property and declining motor vehicle values
 - AV growth averaged 3.2% over past five years, including 2008 annexation
 - Net of 2008 annexation, AV growth averaged 2.4% annually over past five years



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FY 10-11 General Fund Overview – As of December 31, 2010

REVENUES

- Property tax revenue through December is \$111.6 million or 76.3% of budget of \$146.3 million
 - September 1 (1% payment discount date)
 - 94% projected collection by Jan. 6 due date
 - Estimated 98% collection rate for FY 10-11, comparable to past three fiscal years
 - Property tax revenue is under the budget estimate



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FY 10-11 General Fund Overview – As of December 31, 2010

REVENUES

- Sales tax revenue through December is \$9.72 million or 25.3% of budgeted amount of \$38.4 million
 - Received July-Sept. monthly distributions from the State (payments lag by 3 mos. after month earned)
 - Collections thru Dec. '10 of 25.3% were \$9.7 M compared to 24.2% or \$9.5 M thru Dec. '09
 - 1st qtr. revenue included the FY 10-11 sales tax hold harmless payment of \$1.4 million; baseline sales tax collections are tracking projections
 - Growth in sales tax collections in second half of year will depend on general economic improvement



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FY 10-11 General Fund Overview – As of December 31, 2010 REVENUES

- Utility tax revenues through December are \$5.0 million or 27.3% of budgeted amount of \$18.3 million
 - Received 1st quarter revenue distribution from the State (payments lag by 3 months after quarter earned)
 - Collections thru Dec. '10 of 27.3% were \$5.0 M compared to 24.5% or \$4.6 M thru Dec. '09
 - 2nd, 3rd & 4th quarter payments due March, June & September 2011
 - Utility tax revenues are expected to meet budget est.



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FY 10-11 General Fund Overview – As of December 31, 2010 REVENUES

- Beer & Wine tax revenue is budgeted at \$1.2 million
 - The annual payment is distributed May 31, 2011
 - The FY 10-11 State budget restored the 2/3 reduction in the FY 09-10 Beer & Wine tax distribution of \$764,243
 - This tax revenue is expected to meet budget estimate (revenue for the period April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011)



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FY 10-11 General Fund Overview – As of December 31, 2010

REVENUES

- ABC Board Profit Distribution is \$532,333 or 13.8% of budgeted amount of at \$2.68 million
 - 1st qtr. payment received – 2nd, 3rd & 4th quarter payments due February, May & August 2011
 - The ABC Board Profit Distribution has included a \$100,000 per qtr. deduction since last quarter of FY 06-07 to increase working capital and provide for future expansion & capital improvements; during FY 09-10 the Board withheld an additional \$347,000 to retire debt
 - Projected revenue of \$3.08 million was reduced by \$400,000 for a net tax pmt. budgeted at \$2.68 million
 - ABC revenue is expected to meet budget estimate



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FY 10-11 General Fund Overview – As of December 31, 2010

REVENUES

- Other Revenue Collections
 - Privilege Licenses – Business activity has remained slow and annual revenue is estimated at \$2.90 million or 91.1% of budget of \$3.18 million, primarily due to lower reported gross receipts
 - Building Permit Fees – 6 months revenue of \$1.01 million is 55.2% of budget of \$1.8 million with revenue 22.8% higher than the 2nd quarter of FY 09-10; annual revenue is expected to meet or exceed budget
 - Waste/Trash Coll. Fees – 6 months revenue of \$3.17 million is 48.9% of budget of \$6.49 million with revenue (6.8)% lower than the 2nd quarter of FY 09-10; annual revenue is estimated at \$6.2 million or 95.8% of budget
 - Other revenue – 6 months revenue of \$11.9 million is 53.8% of budget (includes Guilford County Library contribution of \$1.33 million received December 2010); annual revenue is expected to meet or exceed budget



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FY 10-11 General Fund Overview – As of December 31, 2010 EXPENDITURES

FY 10-11 Budget by Cost Category		
	(in millions)	% Budget
Salaries	\$107.9	41.9
Benefits	40.7	15.8
Maint. & Op.	79.7	31.0
Transf. Out	28.8	11.2
Capital Outlay	<u>.3</u>	<u>0.1</u>
Total	\$257.4 million (12/31/10)	



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FY 10-11 General Fund Overview – As of December 31, 2010 EXPENDITURES

- Salaries costs of \$54.96 million are 50.9% spent as a percent of budget of \$107.9 million
 - Total salaries costs for the first half of FY 10-11 are \$645,800, or 1.2% higher than compared to the first half of FY 09-10.
 - Most of the increase is in full time salaries for Fire
 - New positions added for Vandalia Fire Station and new positions absorbed as part of county district 13 merger
 - Fewer vacancies during the year to offset cost of non-budgeted salary items (example: excluding public safety sworn personnel, there were 96 vacancies in General Fund as of 1/31/10; figure was down to 52 by 6/30/10)

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FY 10-11 General Fund Overview – As of December 31, 2010 EXPENDITURES

- Police Premium Pay Costs of about \$1.21 million are \$224,000, or 18.5%, ahead of last year. Increased demand from NCDOT for Police presence along interstate highway construction through city limits (costs are reimbursed).
- Impact of snow events in late December and early January will be mostly charged in January payrolls.

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FY 10-11 General Fund Overview – As of December 31, 2010 EXPENDITURES

- Benefits costs of \$23.60 million are \$1.42 million, or 6.4%, higher than the first six-months of FY 09-10
 - Retirement contribution costs have increased by 15% (\$6.58 million compared to \$5.71 million) as required by the State Retirement System
 - Health Insurance Contributions are projected to be 4-5% higher in FY 10-11 as compared to FY 09-10 (Effective January 1, 2011, employee copays for office visits increase from \$15 to \$20; employee copays for specialist visits increase from \$30 to \$40; emergency room visits increase from \$100 to \$200)
 - Workers' Compensation contributions will be about the same as the previous year (\$3.29 million compared to \$3.27 million)

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FY 10-11 General Fund Overview – As of December 31, 2010 EXPENDITURES

- Maintenance and Operating (M&O) expenditures of \$35.34 million are \$2.6 million, or 7.95% higher than through the first six-months of FY 09-10
 - M&O expenditures are approximately 44% spent for the first half of the year compared to 41% for the same period in FY 09-10
 - Timing of several charges contributes to the overall increase
 - \$1.15 million in internal lease charges assessed to Information Technology and Engineering (Energy Program) during first half of year (charged in second half last year)
 - \$416,000 payment to Guilford County for tax collection service recorded in December
 - Controlling for these timing issues, the first half year increase is 3.1%

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FY 10-11 General Fund Overview – As of December 31, 2010 EXPENDITURES

- M&O costs (cont'd)
 - Gasoline and diesel fuel expenditures combined are 16% higher (\$1.81 million compared to \$1.55 million) during the first half of FY 10-11 as compared to the first half of FY 09-10
 - Overall fuel consumption up about 5%
 - January 2011 prices are 15-20% higher than prices were in January 2010
 - Vehicle maintenance items account for approximately \$14.3 million, or 18%, of the total General Fund adopted M&O budget
 - Actual costs to date are running about \$116,000 less than last year
 - Reduction in fleet during last year's budget process

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FY 10-11 General Fund Overview – As of December 31, 2010 EXPENDITURES

- M&O costs (cont'd)
 - Energy (heat and electricity) expenditures are down 2% for the first six months as compared to FY 09-10
 - Electrical consumption fell by 4%, or 0.5 million kilowatt hours, for the six month period as compared to FY 09-10 despite an increase in the number of summer days requiring cooling
 - Natural gas consumption is reduced 18%, or about 26,500 therms for the six month period
 - Pepco contract & changes to air handler controls, adjustments to HVAC and lighting schedules

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FY 10-11 General Fund Overview – As of December 31, 2010 EXPENDITURES

- M&O costs (cont'd)
 - Renovation costs of facilities through six months are \$612,000, compared to \$291,000 through first six months of last year
 - Completion of Maple Street Renovations
 - Consolidation of Development Services

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FY 10-11 General Fund Overview – As of December 31, 2010 EXPENDITURES

FY 10-11 Total Expenditures (Estimated)

	Low	High
Salaries	\$108.8 million	\$109.2 million
Benefits	40.9	41.0
M&O	70.8	71.3
Transfers to Other Funds	28.7	28.7
Capital Outlay	<u>0.2</u>	<u>0.2</u>
Total Est. General Fund Expenditures	\$249.4 million	\$250.4 million
Adopted FY 10-11 Budget	\$254.9 million	

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General Fund Year-to-date Financial Performance as of December 31

	2010 YTD (12/31/09) <i>Actual</i>	2011 YTD (12/31/10) <i>Actual</i>	'10-'11% <i>Change</i>	Actual YTD % of Budget Collected	Amended FY 2010-11 Budget	Projected FY 2010-11 Actual	Projected %
Revenues							
Property Tax	111,739,983	111,586,467	-0.1%	76.3%	146,279,620	145,779,620	99.7%
Sales Tax/Hold Harmless Payments	9,511,891	9,722,866	2.2%	25.3%	38,363,885	38,363,885	100.0%
Utility Taxes	4,587,466	5,000,676	0.0%	27.3%	18,294,345	18,294,345	100.0%
Beer & Wine/ABC System Profit Distrib.	588,590	532,333	0.0%	13.8%	3,861,500	3,861,500	100.0%
Privilege Licenses	2,959,236	2,799,416	-5.4%	87.9%	3,184,000	2,900,000	91.1%
Building Permit Fees	824,253	1,011,996	22.8%	55.2%	1,832,268	1,832,268	100.0%
Waste/Trash Collection	3,403,059	3,173,285	-6.8%	48.9%	6,488,000	6,216,500	95.8%
Other Revenue	9,351,443	11,904,825	27.3%	53.8%	22,132,640	22,132,640	100.0%
Total Revenues	142,965,921	145,731,864	1.9%	60.6%	240,436,258	239,380,758	99.6%
Transfers In from Other Funds	1,971,620	2,746,585	39.3%	29.3%	9,370,639	9,370,639	100.0%
Appropriated Fund Balance	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	7,571,109	0	0.0%
Total Revenue, Transfers and Appropriated Fund Balance	144,937,541	148,478,449	2.4%	57.7%	257,378,006	248,751,397	96.6%
Expenditures				<i>Actual % Spent</i>			<i>% Spent/ Encumbered</i>
Personnel (Salaries & Benefits)	76,486,255	78,554,936	2.7%	52.8%	148,640,980	150,000,000	100.9%
Maint. & Operations	32,739,764	35,338,994	7.9%	44.4%	79,676,068	71,000,000	89.1%
Capital Outlay	117,307	218,095	85.9%	73.3%	297,676	295,000	99.1%
Total Expenditures	109,343,326	114,112,025	4.4%	49.9%	228,614,724	221,295,000	96.8%
Transfers Out to Other Funds	14,728,044	14,454,154	-1.9%	50.3%	28,763,282	28,763,282	100.0%
Total Expenditures and Transfers	124,071,370	128,566,179	3.6%	50.0%	257,378,006	250,058,282	97.2%
Revenues Over Expenditures & Net Transfers	20,866,171	19,912,270	-4.6%		0	(1,306,885)	Use of Fund Balance

Notes:

Sales Tax, Utility Taxes and Beer & Wine/ABC revenue projections are based on 1st qtr. collections and are subject to change following 2nd qtr. revenue distributions

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City Council Briefing

- Other Funds
 - Coliseum – Operating deficit during first half of FY 10-11 is approximately \$1 million, compared to \$1.8 million during the first half of FY 09-10
 - Hotel-Motel Occupancy – Room tax proceeds through Dec. 31 (5 months of revenue) are \$1.25 million, about \$98,000, or 8.5% higher than first two quarters last year
 - Solid Waste Management – Private tipping fee revenue for construction debris is up 20% (about \$112,000); however private tipping fee revenue at the transfer station is down 4% (about \$77,000).

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City Council Briefing

- Questions ??



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PROPOSED 2011 STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

LOCAL LEGISLATION

***Goals are not prioritized.**

- 1. Seek local legislation to amend Sec. 4.21 of the City Charter to provide the Greensboro City Attorney be appointed by and report to the City Council.**
 - The City Attorney shall serve at the Council's pleasure.
 - Greensboro and High Point are the only municipalities in the state in which the City Manager has authority to hire and fire the City Attorney.
 - This bill has been introduced and failed to move from committee for the last three legislative sessions.
 - There is no state or local budgetary impact.

- 2. Seek legislation to limit the City Manager's authority to enter into service contracts.**
 - Currently the Manager has unlimited authority to enter into service contracts, while the Manager's authority to enter into construction contracts is limited to \$300,000.00.
 - The City will seek change to the City Charter Sec. 4.111, and provide that the Manager's authority to enter into contracts for the performance of services shall be determined by ordinance duly adopted by City Council.
 - This bill has been introduced and failed to move from committee for the last three legislative sessions.
 - There is no state or local budgetary impact.

- 3. Seek legislation to amend the City Charter to repeal the City's authority to place utility liens against residential rental property when a tenant fails to pay and when the water bill is in the name of the tenant.**
 - Greensboro City Charter provides in Section 6.83, that any municipal utility service fee which remains unpaid for 10 days or more, shall become a lien upon the real property.
 - This imposes the unpaid utility fees of the tenant as a lien upon the property owner's land. City Council deemed this an undue hardship upon landlords in the City of Greensboro. This results in higher rental costs for the citizens of Greensboro.



- Utility bills in the name of the tenant for residential rental property incurred and becoming past due after July 1, 2010, shall be collected pursuant to G.S. 160A-314, and not Greensboro Charter Section 6.83.
- This Legislation was introduced in the 2010 Short Session and failed to move from committee. This bill will be retroactive to July 1, 2010 so that Council Ordinance and the enabling State Statute are identical.
- It is anticipated this will substantially decrease collection rates for the City of Greensboro's Department of Water Resources.

4. Seek legislation to amend N.C.G.S. 160A-301, Parking.

- This will require the Department of Motor Vehicles to refuse to register the vehicles of any person who owe past due parking tickets to the City of Greensboro.
- The City will compile a list of all persons who own motor vehicles which have outstanding, overdue parking tickets in the City of Greensboro. City officials will provide this list to the County Tax Collector. The Tax Collector will add this list to the list of persons who have unpaid municipal or county taxes. This will provide the Tax Collector the same remedies as those provided in G.S. 20-50.4 for the collection of fines and penalties. This list will be forwarded to the Department of Motor Vehicles. The DMV shall refuse to register any vehicle owned by these individuals. The DMV shall collect these funds in addition to the registration fees. The payment of these outstanding civil penalties will be paid to the City of Greensboro.
- This was proposed in the 2008 and 2010 session and was not adopted by the General Assembly.
- This is anticipated to greatly reduce the uncollected parking fines owed to the City of Greensboro.

5. Seek legislation to repeal the Jordan Lake Rules.

- The State adopted new restrictions for the Jordan Lake Watershed in 2009. These new restrictions became effective on December 1, 2010.
- The City and Guilford County are not considered significant contributors to the Jordan Lake water quality issues and bear an inequitable portion of the restriction and expense imposed under the regulatory overlay. If a cost benefit analysis of these rules were adopted these restrictions would be reduced or entirely curtailed.
- The State is now proposing to expand these restrictions to other watershed areas in the state. The City will lobby with other municipalities and counties to repeal or reform the Jordan Lake Rules and other proposed watershed regulations.



- This will reduce the cost of compliance by the City of Greensboro and will reduce the cost of future development that will be passed to the consumer.

6. Seek local legislation to increase motor vehicle revenue.

- The City currently levies a fee used for public transportation of ten dollars per vehicle.
- GTA proposes to increase this levy up to up to sixteen dollars per vehicle.
- GTA's Evening Service expansion continues to be a critical need for the transit riders in the Greensboro community. Currently, the City is using a three-year demonstration grant awarded under the federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Program to support the expanded evening service that will expire July 2012. Specifically, these funds support the operating costs for weekday (*from 7:30 pm – 11:30 PM*) and Saturday evening service (*from 7:00 PM – 10:00 PM*). The estimate total operating costs including fuel and maintenance is approximately \$863,000 annually. During FY 2010 (*Year 1*) GTA transported 305,900 passenger trips which represents a 23% increase from the previous year. In order for the expanded Evening Service to continue beyond June 30, 2012, a new revenue source is desperately needed.
- This bill was introduced in the 2009 legislative session and failed to leave committee. It was not adopted as part of the 2010 legislative agenda.
- It is anticipated by GTA that this additional revenue would provide up to \$1,150,000 in new funding.

STATEWIDE LEGISLATION

7. Support legislation to protect municipal annexation rights.

- The City will monitor efforts to rewrite state annexation laws.
- Greensboro supported changes to the annexation laws designed to prevent abuses such as failing to provide newly annexed citizens with required services. Greensboro opposes efforts to remove annexation as a tool available to municipalities for growth and economic development. Limitations on annexation will reduce future growth of the tax base.
- The City will oppose efforts to link annexation to a referendum and will oppose a moratorium on annexation.
- This bill was contested in the 2009 Session and was subject to multiple amendments, some favored and some opposed by the City.



8. Oppose efforts to put forward a constitutional amendment to prohibit the use of eminent domain for private economic development purposes.

- The City in conjunction with the Greensboro Partnership will oppose efforts to put forward a constitutional amendment that would limit the options of local governments to partner with private developers to redevelop and enhance the community infrastructure and increase the tax base.
- This amendment would prohibit future expansion of the Piedmont Triad Airport for purposes such as the Federal Express Facility.
- This has the potential to prevent the condemnation of private land for extension of water and sewer to reach future sites for economic development.
- This bill was introduced and not adopted by the General Assembly in 2010.
- This would reduce growth to the future tax base.

9. Seek legislation to reform expungement procedures.

- The City will support modification of expungement laws to increase the availability of this policy and to allow more convicted citizens of North Carolina to qualify for expungement.
- Given the increased use of background checks and the increased length of time these background checks cover, an unnecessary portion of society is denied equal footing in competition for jobs.
- This amendment will make it possible to expunge convictions for non violent misdemeanors, and class H & I felonies, seven years after the date of last conviction or incarceration.
- There is no state or local budgetary impact.

10. Seek legislation to Reform Trade License Requirements.

- The City will support efforts to amend restrictions on Trade Licenses to allow convicted felons to qualify for a supervised license after release from probation or incarceration.
- This restricted license would require supervision from a non-restricted tradesman for a period of one year and also require the applicant to commit no new offenses during this period.
- This policy revision would encourage rehabilitation and education of convicts and probationers to reduce the likelihood of recidivisms.
- There is no state or local budgetary impact.



11. Seek legislation to strengthen of the current Cyber Bullying Law.

- North Carolina General Statute 115C-407.15, Bullying and Harassing Behavior, currently prohibits physical, verbal, or electronic bullying and harassment that takes place on school property, at any school-sponsored function, or on a school bus.
- The proposed amendment would extend the protection to prohibit bullying and harassment that arises from a relationship or contact made on school premises and continues outside of the school.
- This bill has been introduced and failed to move from committee in the last session.
- There is no state or local budgetary impact.



Proposed Supplemental Goals

***Submitted by Councilwoman T. Diane Bellamy-Small on January 22, 2010.**

1. Support legislation to prevent cuts to health care programs that affect youth, senior citizens, and veterans.

- If North Carolina is exempted from the Federal Health Care Act, the State will be forced to provide additional funding to maintain benefit levels for its citizens.
- Municipalities that provide health benefits to their employees will have to increase their budgets to maintain current levels of care.

2. Support legislation to improve and maintain an efficient, effective public education system.

- An educated workforce is essential to retaining existing businesses and attracting new businesses. It is important to ensure that all of our citizens have the opportunity to live and work in our communities.
- It appears that proposed actions to reduce the budget deficit will weaken the public education system and result in a system of Choice, which the poor, low-income, and middle class in rural and urban cities cannot afford. Examples of these proposed actions:
 - 1) Removing Caps on Charter Schools,
 - 2) Vouchers,
 - 3) Neighborhood Schools,
 - 4) Eliminating teacher tenure,
 - 5) Increasing class size,
 - 6) Eliminating Smart Start.

3. Support legislation to maintain funding for Historical Black Colleges, Universities and Community Colleges.

- Financial support of HBCU's and Community Colleges is essential to ensuring there is a trained and educated workforce for all people.



4. Support legislation to put programs in place to protect citizens and improve their quality of life.

- Public safety is a primary responsibility of elected officials. Maintaining law enforcement is a significant part of a municipality's budget. Finding methods to prevent, reduce and eliminate crime in our communities is a priority.
- Ensuring those who have committed crimes in our communities can become productive citizens should be integral to providing public safety.
- Some policies to be considered to improve public safety include:
 - 1) Raising the felony conviction age,
 - 2) Re-training of law enforcement officers on racial profiling,
 - 3) Establishing safer communities to draw new business and industry.

NCLM 2011-12 Municipal Advocacy Goals

Adopted January 20, 2011

THE LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP ADOPTED THE FOLLOWING TOP PRIORITY GOALS FOR THE 2011-2012 GENERAL ASSEMBLY. The Advocacy Goals Conference on January 20 was the final step in a deliberative, inclusive, member-driven process. The League's three standing legislative action committees will go back to work and consider recommendations to the League Board of Directors on other issues that affect our municipalities.

Municipal officials all across North Carolina and the League advocacy staff look forward to working with all members of the General Assembly to accomplish these goals. All North Carolinians have a stake in assuring that our cities and towns remain vibrant and open for business. As the League's new tag line says, it's about good government and great hometowns.

- 1** Seek legislation reforming annexation laws that ensures the ability of a city to grow in a reasonable manner, while providing quality municipal services on a timely basis.
- 2** Seek legislation to allow municipal creation or extensions of extra-territorial jurisdictions (ETJ) without county approval.
- 3** Support a system of liquor sales that maintains a local referendum about the decision to sell liquor, preserves local control over the location and density of liquor outlets, preserves the local revenue stream from liquor sales, and increases the authorized local permit fees statewide.
- 4** Support legislation to expand the sales tax base to include services.
- 5** Seek legislation to protect the privacy of municipal residents by limiting public access to lists of email addresses submitted by citizens to municipalities.
- 6** Seek legislation to strengthen the role of municipalities in the approval, renewal and revocation of ABC permits.
- 7** Seek legislation to allow Powell Bill funds to be used for sidewalks and walking paths that are adjacent to, but not located within, the right-of-way of State-maintained roads.
- 8** Seek legislation enhancing the authority of cities to own and operate broadband systems for their citizens, and providing incentives for last mile public-private partnerships. Include authority for cities that currently have operating broadband systems to continue.
- 9** Seek legislation to allow all municipalities to adopt a prepared meals and beverage tax.
- 10** Seek legislation creating a state bond program for upgrades to water and wastewater treatment systems, expansion of stormwater programs and assured water supplies.
- 11** Seek legislation ensuring significant municipal decision-making authority and respect for local ordinances in the design of transportation projects across all NCDOT Divisions, to lower congestion, enhance quality of life, improve aesthetics, improve public safety and bolster public health for city residents, regardless of the city's financial participation in a project.

[MORE](#)

- 12** Support legislation permitting a governmental entity to seek an order of abatement where a property may have some legitimate use, but is also the source of regular criminal nuisance activity.
- 13** Support the equal application of water quality management rules that impact cities to N.C. municipalities, counties, state agencies and private operations, require payment of city stormwater fees by all state agencies, and require maintenance of all stormwater structures by permitted entities.
- 14** Seek legislation to: 1) require that counties conduct a public hearing before approving a resolution choosing the method of sales tax distribution; 2) delay the implementation of a change in method until July 1 of the calendar year following the adoption of the change; and 3) phase in the change in method over four years.
- 15** Seek legislation to increase the \$5 municipal vehicle fee, currently available only for public transportation, to \$20 and allow it to also be used for pedestrian and bicycle projects.
- 16** Seek legislation to grant more flexible authority for local public safety officers to enforce ABC-related laws.
- 17** Seek legislation to allow all municipalities to adopt impact fees to pay for growth-related infrastructure and services.
- 18** Support legislation to increase funding for the State Mobility Fund in order to support regional congestion mitigation projects, interstate maintenance and a Powell Bill supplement; and to provide additional funding sources for State transportation projects.
- 19** Seek legislation to revise the local land transfer tax so that: 1) it can be adopted without a referendum; and 2) municipalities receive a share of the revenues.
- 20** Support legislation to reform the municipal business privilege license tax by: 1) eliminating exemptions and caps for specific categories of businesses; 2) specifying the appropriate bases for the tax; 3) requiring municipalities to adopt a rate schedule that applies to all types of businesses within a municipality; 4) limiting the amount of taxes paid by businesses that have business activity within a municipality but no business location within it; and 5) capping the amount of tax that can be imposed on any single business location.
- 21** Seek legislation to allow municipalities to establish vacant housing receivership programs for the purpose of rehabilitating structures not meeting minimum housing standards and transferring them to responsible ownership.
- 22** Support legislation establishing a water permitting system that protects existing municipal withdrawals, allows for future growth, includes all withdrawers and accounts for all downstream users.
- 23** Support legislation providing municipalities with the authority to impose a fee to recover the costs of vehicle accident and fire response from at-fault drivers and parties responsible for fires, up to a statutory maximum amount.
- 24** Support legislative and regulatory efforts for efficiencies in water, wastewater and stormwater permitting processes.
- 25** Seek legislation to classify reclaimed water as a resource water, and study the injection of treated water into aquifers.



January 21, 2011

TO: Rashad M. Young, City Manager

FROM: Nelsie Smith, Assistant to the City Manager

SUBJECT: Field Operations Program Supplies Budget Adjustments

In response to a request by Mayor Knight at the January 18, 2011 City Council meeting related to program supplies for the Field Operations Department, I have determined that the budget adjustments made were to re-categorize certain supply items (salt, asphalt and concrete) that historically were placed in a "Miscellaneous Supplies" line item to better account for those purchases. The adjustments made by Field Operations were at the request and consultation of the Budget & Evaluation Department and the Fiscal & Administrative Services Department.

At the beginning of FY 10-11, these supplies were re-categorized from "Miscellaneous Supplies" to the "Program Supplies" line item. After further review and once these items were purchased, it was determined that these supplies need to be detailed further. The budget adjustments that were made totaling \$1,257,196, which were on the January 18, 2011 Council Agenda, moved asphalt and concrete costs to the "Maintenance & Repair-Streets" line item and salt costs to the "Chemicals" line item.

The Budget & Evaluation Department must sign off on all budget adjustments that are made, which includes a justification by the Department. During that process, it was determined that this budget adjustment was not moved to another account/section to fund something that it was not originally intended to fund. Attached is a cross-walk for where the money for these supplies were in the FY 09-10 budget, at the start of the FY 10-11 budget and where they are currently housed. You will see below that the Snow Removal account's budget was twice as much as the current budget and this is primarily due to a budget adjustment done towards the end of the fiscal year to cover the cost for the large amount of storms last year.

If you have any further questions, please let me know.

NS/mm
Attachment

cc: Bob Morgan, Deputy City Manager

101-4303-02 Pavement Maintenance			FY 09-10 Budget	FY 10-11 Budget-Pre adjustment	FY 10-11 Budget- Post adjustment
	5239	Miscellaneous Supplies	\$ 622,500	\$ 3,791	\$ 3,791
	5237	Program Supplies	\$ -	\$ 778,500	\$ -
	5611	Maintenance & Repair- Streets/Sidewalk	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 778,500
			\$ 622,500	\$ 782,291	\$ 782,291
101-4303-03 Street Maintenance			FY 09-10 Budget	FY 10-11 Budget-Pre adjustment	FY 10-11 Budget- Post adjustment
	5239	Miscellaneous Supplies	\$ 158,101	\$ 3,754	\$ 3,754
	5237	Program Supplies	\$ -	\$ 285,716	\$ -
	5611	Maintenance & Repair- Streets/Sidewalk	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 285,716
			\$ 158,101	\$ 289,470	\$ 289,470
101-4303-05 Snow Removal			FY 09-10 Budget	FY 10-11 Budget-Pre adjustment	FY 10-11 Budget- Post adjustment
	5239	Miscellaneous Supplies	\$ 432,750	\$ -	\$ -
	5237	Program Supplies	\$ -	\$ 192,980	\$ -
	5233	Chemicals	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 192,980
			\$ 432,750	\$ 192,980	\$ 192,980

Employee Benefits Summary

(FY 2009 – 2010 City Contributions)

Benefits are provided to City employees in full time positions (budgeted at least 40 hours per week) and also for employees in part-time positions (budgeted at least 20 hours per week). Benefits are also provided for dependents and same sex domestic partners of employees.

Insurance Benefits

- **Health Insurance:** The City offers two (2) health plans: Choice and Choice Plus. The City offers part-time employees the same health insurance plan, but with pro-rated costs based on the number of hours worked.

- **Total City Contribution 09/10:** **\$19,400,000**

- **Dental Insurance:** The City offers a traditional dental insurance program with minimal cost to the employee and at reduced rates for coverage of dependents. The total benefit is up to \$1,250 annually for each covered participant.

- **Total City Contribution 09/10:** **\$ 1,453,146**

- **Vision Plan - Voluntary Benefit:** The City offers a voluntary vision plan to all full time and part time, benefited employees.

- **Total City Contribution 09/10:** **\$ 0**

- **Life Insurance:** Life insurance equivalent to two times an employee's base annual salary is provided by the City at no cost to the employee. In addition, a death benefit in the amount of one times the employee's annual salary (not less than \$25,000 and not more than \$50,000 maximum) is provided through the NC State Retirement System after one year of service with the City or in the State Retirement System as long as the service time is not withdrawn.

- **Total City Contribution 09/10:** **\$ 937,386**

- **Supplemental Life Insurance:** Supplemental Term Life Insurance may be purchased by the employee. Participation in the program is voluntary; therefore the cost this benefit is paid by the employee with no City contribution.

- **Total City Contribution 09/10:** **\$ 0**

Retirement and Deferred Compensation Benefits

- **State of North Carolina Local Government Employees' Retirement System (LGERS):**
By state law, all benefit eligible employees belong to the LGERS and must contribute six percent (6%) of their salary (pre-tax deducted) to this program. The City's mandated contribution is 4.9% for general employees and Fire employees; 4.87% for Police.

- **Total City Contribution 09/10: \$ 6,806,914**

- **Tax Deferred 457 Program and 401(k) Program**

- The City provides a **tax deferred (457)** supplemental retirement benefit equivalent to three percent (3%) of an employee's base salary. It is fully funded by the City and coverage begins the first payroll following 30 days of benefit eligible employment. Sworn Police personnel participate in a different program. Sworn Fire employees receive a 2% match from the City if they contribute this same amount (up to a maximum of 5%).

- **Total City Contribution 09/10: \$ 3,353,743**

- The City also offers a Statute mandated **tax deferred 401k** supplemental retirement benefit. The City contributes 5% of a sworn Police Officer's salary to this program. Other employees may voluntarily participate in the 401k program at no cost to the City.

- **Total City Contribution 09/10: \$ 1,578,763**

- **Social Security:** Benefit eligible general employees are required to participate in the Social Security system (FICA), with the City sharing equally in the cost of the program. Coverage begins immediately upon employment. Police and Fire personnel do not fully participate in the Social Security program. However, they do contribute to the Medicare portion which is currently 1.45% of pay from the City and a matching amount from the employee.

- **Federally Mandated Benefit**

- **Longevity:** Frozen on 7/1/10 – No Longer Available to New Hires
 - Employees Hired 7/1/94 – 06/30/05
 - 5-9 yrs = 1% annual salary
 - 10-14 yrs = 2% annual salary
 - 15+ yrs = 3% annual salary
 - Employees Hired Prior to 7/1/94
 - 15-19 yrs = 6% annual salary
 - 20+ yrs = 7.5% annual salary

Total City Contribution: \$ 4,317,988

Paid Leave Time

- **Annual Leave:** Benefit eligible full time employees earn annual leave (vacation) time based on length of service. The amount earned starts at 12 days per year and increases with service time up to a maximum of 24 days per year.
- **Sick Leave:** The City provides 12 days of sick leave each year for benefit eligible employees and there is no maximum amount that can be accumulated.
- **Holidays:** The City observes 10 paid holidays per year. Coverage begins immediately upon employment.
 - New Year's Day
 - Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday
 - The Friday before Easter
 - Memorial Day
 - Independence Day
 - Labor Day
 - Thanksgiving Day
 - The Friday after Thanksgiving
 - Christmas – 2 days

Wellness

- Capital outlay for gyms
 - Total City Contribution 09/10: **\$ 5,290**



January 20, 2011

TO: Rashad M. Young, City Manager

FROM: Sue Schwartz, Interim Director

SUBJECT: 2011 Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control Grant Award from HUD

On January 13, 2011, the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced the award of a \$3,100,000 grant for Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control and Healthy Homes to the City of Greensboro. This is the 4th Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control grant awarded to Greensboro since 2001.

The goal of HUD's Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control program is to eliminate childhood lead poisoning by controlling lead-based paint hazards in the home environment. Using HUD grant funds, Greensboro's Lead Safe Housing Program has remediated lead hazards in over 671 homes, and over 600 contractors, health professionals, child-care workers and members of the general public have been trained in lead-safe work practices over the past 10 years. The goal for this 4th grant is to evaluate and eliminate lead hazards in another 205 homes and to continue providing training for lead safe work practices and community education. A new 'Healthy Homes' component has been added to the program to allow for assessment, training and occupant education relating to other problems in the home environment that impact the overall health of the occupants.

With this new grant award, the Lead Safe Housing Program will continue to provide lead remediation and education to the citizens of Greensboro. There will be a HUD sponsored press event and date and location for the event will be forwarded to your office and to City Council as soon as the information is provided by HUD.

For additional information, please contact Mildred H. Powell, Lead-Safe Housing Program Administrator, 336-373-3624 or email mildred.powell@greensboro-nc.gov.

SS/mhp

cc: Andy Scott, Assistant City Manager



January 21, 2011

TO: Rashad Young, City Manager
FROM: Sue Schwartz, FAICP Interim Director
SUBJECT: Bessemer Center Lead Agent Progress Report

Background

At their November 9, 2010 meeting, City Council directed staff to use a request for proposal process in determining a lead agent for the redevelopment of the Bessemer Shopping Center on Phillips Avenue.

RFP Process

A Request for Proposals for a Lead Agent to manage the redevelopment was released on December 7, 2010 and advertised early the following week in the News & Record, the Carolina Peacemaker and the Greensboro Times to assure a wide distribution. Three proposals were submitted by the January 7, 2011 deadline, each providing a different but equally effective strategy for completing the redevelopment. The three submissions were from Carr-Powell Properties, LLC, East Market Street Development Corporation, and a joint submittal from HOYAS (Helping Our Youth Achieve Success) and Sustainable Community Solutions.

Lead Agent responsibilities would include, but not necessarily be limited to, recruiting a development team, working with that team to identify and secure funding sources, marketing the site to prospective tenants, continuing the community engagement process, and providing economic and business development.

Redevelopment activity at the center is guided by the Renaissance Center Community Advisory Committee, a five-person group composed of residents of the communities surrounding the center, which reports monthly to the Concerned Citizens of Northeast Greensboro. The Advisory Committee reviewed the proposals and determined that interviews would be needed before a recommendation could be provided to City Council. Those interviews will take place in the coming two weeks, and a recommendation for a Lead Agent will be made at the February 15th City Council meeting.

SS

cc: Dyan Arkin, AICP



**CITY OF GREENSBORO
MEDIA ADVISORY**

Date: January 21, 2011

Contact: Donnie Turlington
Phone: 336-373-3769

Reader's Digest RV Tour Stops in Greensboro January 24

WHAT: Reader's Digest "We Hear You America" Tour

WHEN: Monday, January 24 – 10 am

WHERE: Governmental Plaza, adjacent to Greene Street

WHO: A Reader's Digest representative will present a check for \$1,000 to Greensboro Mayor William H. Knight. The check ceremony is part of *Reader's Digest* "We Hear You America" 100 Cities/100 Days RV Tour. Mayor Knight is using the \$1,000 to donate \$500 each to Greensboro Urban Ministry and the Greensboro Interactive Resource Center, and representatives from both organizations will be in attendance.

###

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).