Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Commission

Year in Review & Outlook

July 6, 2015
City’s Vision...

Livable city
Vibrant economy
Thriving natural environment
Diverse population

Choices for housing, education, employment
Safe & attractive neighborhoods
Citizen involvement
Charlotte – Mecklenburg Planning Department

Assistant Director
Long Range Planning Services
Develops plans and policies that help to enhance livability, strengthen economic competitiveness, provide transportation options, and ensure the orderly growth of our community.

Assistant Director
Strategic Planning Services
Implements Charlotte's community vision by providing urban design guidance, design services, community outreach, and strategic planning for developing and redeveloping areas.

Assistant Director
Development Services
Provides regulatory services designed to help achieve the community vision. These include managing the rezoning, subdivision and historic district processes; updating the Zoning Ordinance; administering the variance and appeals processes; and making ordinance interpretations.
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Department: FY 2015 Year in Review & 2016 Outlook

City Council Focus Area Plans

Includes budget & organizational needs + Balanced Scorecard to measure success

Department Strategic Operating Plan

Project specific, identifies managers & teams, updated throughout the year

Department Work Program

Employee Work Plan

City-wide vision as defined by Council

Performance Review & Development (PRD) to measure employee success

Charlotte Mecklenburg Planning Department

Employee Performance Work Plan – (Janet S.)
2015 Year in Review
Development Services

2015 Highlights:

- Zoning Ordinance Update (consultant selection & scope of work)
- Permit Development Review Process (Joint County/City review of approval, permitting & inspections process)
- Development Response (Golf Links)
- Significant increase in development activity

- Urban Reviews (65 cases): + 70%
- Rezoning Petitions (127 cases): + 40%
- Historic District Commission (284 cases): + 30%
- Subdivision Review (122 cases): + 15%
- Zoning Board of Adjustment (65 variances / appeals): + 15%

Percentage increase over 2014.
Historic District Commission

2015 Highlights:

- New staff member (Principal Planner)
- Expanded community engagement (postcards, neighborhood meetings, etc.)
- Quarterly Commission Retreats
- Strengthened communication with zoning enforcement staff
- Updated meeting procedures (time, workshop, building surveys, etc.)
Area Planning & Community Outreach

2015 Highlights:

• Adoption of University City Area Plan & BLE Station Plans
• Pending adoption of Prosperity Hucks Area Plan
• + 65 community meetings and presentations
• Significant role in Community Investment Plan
Community Investment Plan & Comprehensive Neighborhood Improvement Plans (CNIP)

2015 Highlights:

- Staffing 4 interdisciplinary Strategy Teams
- Staffing CNIP Teams
- Project support on all CIP projects
- Extensive Community Engagement
Charlotte Regional Transportation Planning Organization

2015 Highlights:

- Strategic Transportation Investments (STI) Legislation (new state funding model)
- Established Bicycle & Pedestrian Work Group
- Bonus Allocation Funds (part of STI and based on toll bond revenue)
- Implemented new TIP Database (www.tip.crtpo.org)
2016 Outlook
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Department:
FY 2015 Year in Review & 2016 Outlook

2016 Budget Reductions

People
- Frozen Positions (prior to 2015)
- Admin 4 Position (vacant)

Operations
- Travel, training, office supplies
- Contractual Services

3% Reduction

56 Total Positions
Currently being filled:
- Planning Director
- Planning Coordinator – Temp Zoning Ord.
- Senior Principal Planner
- Planning Coordinator
- Office Assistant V
Planning Commission Support

2016 Outlook:

• Full Commission Work Sessions
• Zoning Committee
• Planning Committee
• Executive Committee
• Ad Hoc Zoning Ordinance Committee (New)
• Planning Commission Retreat
City Council Transportation & Planning Committee Support

2016 Outlook:

- Committee provides direction on a range of transportation and planning issues referred by full Council
- Committee creates and directs Focus Area Plan
- Planning Director/Department provide staff support
- Key issues will include the Zoning Ordinance Update and implementation of transit station area plans
Zoning Ordinance Update

2016 Outlook:

- Contract approval & project kick-off (fall 2015)
- Significant Community Engagement Process
- Community Character dialog (what kinds of places are we creating?)
- Creating new/updated zoning districts, tools and process
On-Going Priorities

2016 Outlook:

- Rezoning process enhancements
- Station area plan implementation (BLE zoning strategy)
- Economic development support (Eastland Mall, Uptown, Airport)
- Development Permitting Process implementation
- Continued support - Community Investment Plan & Comprehensive Neighborhood Improvement Plan
- Customer service & community engagement
Questions