MANDATORY REFERRAL-REPORT NO. 02-19

Proposal to Transfer City Property to the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Public Library System

PROJECT PROPOSAL AND LOCATION:

This proposal is to transfer City property to the Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County (PLCMC) for the purpose of the construction of a library. The property is **3820 Ridge Road (p.i.d. number 029-281-08)** located in northeast Charlotte. This 3.5-acre property was initially acquired for construction of Fire Station # 31, which now occupies 1.5 acres. The remaining 2 acre portion (at the rear of the property) would transfer to County ownership for the purpose of the construction of the library. Although the property is zoned R-3, the Charlotte Fire Department has stated that it prefers a library use rather than allowing housing to be constructed so close to the station.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

A City of Charlotte's Real Estate Division's objective is determining, current or future "public purpose" of City owned property and to pursue the sale/transfer of all surplus properties.

CONSISTENCY WITH ADOPTED LAND USE AND PUBLIC POLICY:

The proposed use is consistent with the Northeast Area Plan which calls for residential use on this parcel; a library is considered to be a reasonable acceptable use for a residential parcel. The PLCMC has identified, through their Master Plan a need for a library in this area.

PROJECT IMPACT:

This new public use, adjoining Fire Station 31, will reduce public expenditures and will increase public services in this growing part of the community.

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER PUBLIC OR PRIVATE PROJECTS:

Existing Fire Station 31 and a future library branch will be located on adjoining parcels originally purchased by the city for use as a fire station.

ESTIMATED PROJECT COMPLETION DATE:

A specific date for construction of the library is contingent upon funding.

JOINT USE TASK FORCE REVIEW COMMENTS:

Transfer of the Fire Department property to serve as a future library site was initially identified as a joint development opportunity by the Joint Use Task Force in the Spring of 2002.

CMPC STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval for transferring a portion of this parcel to PLCMC for branch library purposes.

CMPC PLANNING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Planning Committee approved the staff recommendation by a vote of 7-0 at its July 16, 2002 meeting.

