MANDATORY REFERRAL REPORT NO. 97-19 CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG PLANNING COMMISSION TRANSFER OF PROPERTY FROM THE LIBRARY BOARD TO MECKLENBURG COUNTY MAY, 1997

PROJECT LOCATION

The subject property is located at 2324 LaSalle Street in the University Park neighborhood.

PROJECT PROPOSAL

The Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County Board is considering transferring ownership of the former North Branch Library building to Mecklenburg County.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

The new Beatties Ford Road Branch Library recently opened on Beatties Ford Road at Gilbert Street; therefore, this property is no longer needed by the Library Board. The Board is offering to transfer ownership of the building to Mecklenburg County for joint use by City and County departments to house various governmental agencies such as law enforcement, regulatory, human services and, neighborhood services.

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER PUBLIC OR PRIVATE PROJECTS

This property is located within the boundaries of the Central District Plan. The Plan recognizes the existing office zoning at this location. Surrounding land uses include single family housing, several small commercial centers, and the recently renovated University Park shopping center is located adjacent to the site.

For several years, University Park, and other neighborhoods along the Beatties Ford Road Corridor have expressed an interest in using the building as a City satellite services center. The residents in the area have indicated a desire to have Police, Community Improvement and, Code Enforcement offices located in the building.

PROJECT IMPACT

Staff is not aware of any adverse impacts associated with the transfer of this property.

PROJECT COST

Administrative costs associated with the transfer of this property are not available at this time.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff supports the transfer of this property to the County and staff recommends that the County pursue joint uses that are inclusive of the services (i.e. police, regulatory, human services, and neighborhood services) that are being requested by the surrounding neighborhoods.

PLANNING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Planning Committee supports the transfer of this property to Mecklenburg County.

