# Board Bulletin

An update to the Board of County Commissioners from the County Manager

### **Strategic Planning Conference Follow-Up Topics**

The County's Office of Management & Budget staff has taken the issues identified by Board members at the Strategic Planning Conference to assemble the list below as follow up topics.

- Joint meeting with CMS Board sooner than May
- County department director introductions to the Board
- Community services grants process overview
- The Board's role regarding Consolidated Human Services Agency reporting
- Human resources policy regarding the final decision maker on employee termination; Board access to personnel files and/or Board involvement in reviewing hiring decisions
- HIV advisory board
- Transportation public transportation and MUMPO policy and planning roles
- County's role in economic development; job creation and workforce development/training (STEM) to include partners; entrepreneurial incubator
- Update on Health Department transition
- DSS operational structure, including YFS report recommendation status; director selection process

Based on the nature of topic and the volume of information available, staff will recommend to the County Manager the most appropriate method for following up with the Board on these topics. In many instances, the most appropriate method will be to schedule the item for a Budget/Public Policy

Workshop. However, to ensure all topics are addressed prior to the Board adopting the FY2014 budget, some topics may need to be scheduled for a regular Board meeting or be addressed by providing information to the Board in writing. We will communicate with the Board once we have developed a plan and schedule for following up with the Board on these topics.

In another follow-up item from the Board's Strategic Planning Conference, staff has <u>posted online</u> the FY2014 priorities adopted by the Board.

Board members with questions about these follow up items should contact Budget Manager Michael Bryant at 704-336-2624 or via email at Michael.Bryant@MecklenburgCountyNC.Gov.

## **Hosting Officials from Adams County, Colorado**

On February 15, the County's Manager's Office staff will host representatives from Adams County, CO government to share expertise and experiences about Mecklenburg's Managing for Results initiatives. The meeting will be held in the 11<sup>th</sup> floor large conference room of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government center from 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

The Adams County, CO group, which comprises county commissioners, county executives and operations directors, contacted Mecklenburg County staff to learn more about the County's approach to priority-based budgeting, the use of the balanced scorecard and the Managing for Results (M4R) approach to performance management. Adams County representatives initially learned about Mecklenburg County's M4R initiatives when they heard a presentation from County staff at a conference. Adams County, CO is one of several

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governments from across the U.S. and internationally that have sought the advice and expertise of Mecklenburg County staff in planning, budgeting and performance management.

Board members are encouraged to drop in to meet and greet the Adams County representatives during the day on Friday. Also, on February 14 at 7 p.m., there is space for two Board members to attend dinner with the visitors at McCormick & Schmick's on Tryon Street.

Board members who would like more information regarding the visit and/or dinner should contact Performance & Evaluation Manager Monica Allen at Monica. Allen @ MecklenburgCountyNC.Gov or 704-336-2283.

#### **McAlpine Creek Greenway Impacted by Sewer Project**

As Board Members may be aware, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Utility Department (CMUD) is installing a new sewer pipeline along McAlpine Creek from the McAlpine Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant to Lawyers Road. The large sewer pipe is necessary to eliminate sewer overflows and provide carrying capacity for many years of area growth. This project will enhance system performance, provide increased sewer capacity for present and future needs, and protect the water quality in McAlpine Creek.

The County's Park and Recreation Department staff has been working closely with CMUD to reduce the impact of the sewer project on adjacent public facilities such as Boyce Park and McAlpine Creek Park, especially during the Fall 5K race season. The sewer project must run through

McAlpine Creek Greenway due to the presence of adjacent sewer and natural gas pipeline corridors. The two sewer lines, existing and proposed, will both be used.

The granular McAlpine Creek Greenway is one of the oldest in the County. It is used by many individuals and coaches in the area for running, track practice, strolling and dog-walking. However, the granular surface has some limitations. Small-tired wheelchairs, street bicycles, and roller-bladders, cannot function well on a granular surface material. In addition, loose material and soil are washed away from the trail by the powerful floodwaters of the creek. Sediment, the primary stream pollutant in the County, impacts the water quality of McAlpine Creek.

The existing granular fill will be replaced with asphalt material, which is consistent with most other greenways and is easier to maintain. Staff will provide wide, mowed shoulders on both sides of the new trail for runners. Additionally, the existing weirs (concrete fill with pipe in creek) will be replaced with bridges. The weirs have become a safety concern, high maintenance and unfriendly to the creek.

Park and Recreation staff held a general public information meeting and an on-site focus group with the running community. Minutes of these public meetings and additional information is located in the yellow box at <a href="http://bit.ly/Wz74Do">http://bit.ly/Wz74Do</a>. Park and Recreation continues to work with a focus group of runners and 5K event representatives to achieve the best possible results for the entire community.

Board members with questions about the changes to Park facilities due to the sewer project should contact Greenway Planner Gwen Cook at 704-432-1570 or via e-mail at Gwen.Cook@MecklenburgCountyNC.Gov

- Harry L. Jones, Sr., County Manager