

**Meeting Minutes  
January 21, 2026**

**MINUTES OF MECKLENBURG COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

The Board of Commissioners of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, met in Informal Session in the Meeting Chamber Conference Room CH-14 of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center located at 600 East Fourth Street, Charlotte, North Carolina at 5:11 p.m. and in Formal Session in the Meeting Chamber of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center at 6:51 p.m. on Wednesday January 21, 2026.

**ATTENDANCE**

**Present:** Chair Mark Jerrell, Vice-Chair Leigh Altman  
and Commissioners Arthur Griffin,  
Laura J. Meier, Vilma D. Leake,  
Elaine Powell, Yvette Townsend-Ingram  
Susan Rodriguez-McDowell, and George Dunlap  
County Manager Michael Bryant  
County Attorney Tyrone C. Wade  
Clerk to the Board Kristine M. Smith  
Deputy Clerk to the Board Arlissa Eason

**Absent:** None

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**-INFORMAL SESSION-**

**CALL TO ORDER**

*The meeting was called to order by Chair Jerrell, after which the matters below were addressed.*

**REMOVAL OF ITEMS FROM CONSENT**

The Board identified item(s) to be removed from Consent and voted upon separately. The items identified were Items:

- 25-0694-** Commissioner Leake
- 25-0697-** Commissioner Leake
- 25-0699-** Commissioner Leake
- 25-0703-** Commissioner Powell
- 26-0003-** Commissioner Leake
- 26-0004-** Commissioner Leake
- 26-0005-** Commissioner Leake
- 26-0008-** Commissioner Leake
- 26-0009-** Commissioner Leake
- 26-0010-** Commissioner Leake

**STAFF BRIEFINGS – NONE**

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County Manager Michael Bryant discussed the alternative options for the board retreat due to the expectation of inclement weather.

**26-0002      CLOSED SESSION**

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Meier, and unanimously carried, to go into Closed Session for the following purpose(s): to Consult with Attorney and Prevent Disclosure of Information that is Confidential.

*The Board went into Closed Session at 5:25 p.m. and came back into Open Session at 6:38 p.m.*

*The Board then proceeded to the Meeting Chamber for the remainder of the meeting.*

**-FORMAL SESSION-**

**CALL TO ORDER**

*Chair Jerrell called this portion of the meeting to order, which was followed by introductions, invocation by Commissioner Powell, the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag; and the reading of the County's Mission and Vision and the FY2026 Board Budget Priorities after which, the matters below were addressed.*

Chair Jerrell invoked a moment of silence in remembrance of former Commissioner Lloyd Scher who formerly represented District 4 and had recently passed away. A video was played in his honor.

**AWARDS/RECOGNITION**

**26-0018      JOINT PROCLAMATION - INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY**

*Background: International Holocaust Remembrance Day is a United Nations designated day to commemorate the victims of the holocaust and the liberation of Auschwitz Birkenau in 1945. It is a day to renew commitment against hatred, bigotry, and antisemitism. It is observed annually on January 27th.*

Commissioner Altman read the Proclamation.

Motion was made by Commissioner Altman, seconded by Commissioner Dunlap, and unanimously carried to adopt a Joint Proclamation declaring January 27, 2026, as International Holocaust Remembrance Day.



City of Charlotte  
and  
Mecklenburg County



**JOINT PROCLAMATION**

*WHEREAS*, January 27, 2026 is recognized by the United Nations and the international community as International Holocaust Remembrance Day, commemorating the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau in 1945; and

*WHEREAS*, the Holocaust represents one of the gravest atrocities in human history, resulting in the systematic murder of six million Jews and millions of others, including Roma, people with disabilities, political dissidents, LGBTQ individuals, and other groups targeted by Nazi ideology; and

*WHEREAS*, the Holocaust did not begin with mass murder, but with the normalization of hatred, the spread of antisemitic propaganda, the erosion of democratic institutions, and the silence of bystanders; and

*WHEREAS*, remembrance of the Holocaust is not solely an act of historical reflection, but a moral imperative that challenges contemporary society to confront antisemitism, bigotry, and all forms of hatred that persist today; and

*WHEREAS*, the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County affirm their commitment to human dignity, pluralism, and democratic values, and recognizes the essential role of education, civic leadership, and public remembrance in fostering a community grounded in empathy, truth, and justice.

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED* that January 27, 2026, is hereby designated as International Holocaust Remembrance Day in the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, and that all residents are encouraged to observe this day through reflection, education, and renewed commitment to opposing antisemitism, intolerance, and injustice in all its forms.

*BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED* that on this day, the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County honor the memory of the victims of the Holocaust, pays tribute to the survivors, and reaffirms its responsibility to ensure that the lessons of history are neither forgotten nor ignored.

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Vi Alexander Lyles, Mayor of Charlotte and Mark Jerrell, Chair of the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners do hereby proclaim January 27, 2026 as*

**“International Holocaust Remembrance Day”**

in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County and commend its observance to all citizens.

*WITNESS OUR HANDS* and the official Seals of the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County.

  
Vi Alexander Lyles, Mayor  
City of Charlotte

  
Mark Jerrell, Chair  
Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners

Adam Kolett, CEO and Chairman of the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte and Jackie Fisher accepted the Proclamation and gave remarks.

The Commissioners gave remarks.

**ARTS & CULTURE MOMENT**

**25-0682 "Culture Blocks"**

The Board received a presentation highlighting ASC's "Culture Blocks" program.

*Background: On January 5, 2021, the Board of County Commissioners approved the addition of an agenda topic to the second regular meeting of the month entitled Public Art Moment in partnership with ASC. The purpose of this item was to raise public awareness and appreciation for the Mecklenburg County tax dollars that are spent on enriching lives through support of public art. On June 3, 2025, the Board approved 1) a name change from "Public Art Moment" to "Arts & Culture Moment" and 2) expanding content to include, among other things, community supported arts and science cultural programming and cultural educational programs for school.*

Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell gave the presentation.

# At the Intersections of *Art and Community Engagement*

- Highlighting the "Culture Blocks" Program
- In Partnership with ASC and Mecklenburg County










# CULTUREBLOCKS



a community partnership with

















 <b>FUNDING BREAKDOWN</b> Applications Received: 119 Applications Funded: 49 <b>TOTAL AMOUNT FUNDED</b> <b>\$450,440.50</b>  24 Creative Individuals  25 Nonprofit Orgs	 <b>PROGRAMS PRESENTED ACROSS MECKLENBURG COUNTY</b>  <b>12</b> at Libraries  <b>19</b> at Recreation Centers  <b>9</b> at other community spaces
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**TYPES OF EXPERIENCES**

Music (25) 	Art (21) 	Performances (11) 	Theater (12) 	STEM (5) 	Concerts (12) 
Film (5) 	Dance (13) 	Festivals (5) 	Multi-disciplinary (3) 	Writing/Poetry (1) 	


**CULTUREBLOCKS**  
 a community partnership with  
  

**CULTUREBLOCKS**  
 EXPANDING CULTURAL ACCESS ACROSS  
 MECKLENBURG COUNTY – FY25 HIGHLIGHTS

**FY25 AT A GLANCE**

<b>RESIDENTS ENGAGED</b> <b>90,326</b> Up from 35,849 in FY24	<b>PROGRAMS LED BY 175 PRESENTERS</b> <b>980</b> Up from 98 in FY24	<b>VENUES ACTIVATED 68</b> Up from 53 in FY24 <b>TOTAL DIRECT INVESTMENT \$1,325,384.64</b>
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**ARTS & SCIENCE  
COUNCIL**

A supporting organization of  
Foundation For The Carolinas

### **PUBLIC APPEARANCE**

#### **26-0014 PUBLIC APPEARANCE**

The Board received comments from members of the public desiring to speak on items not appearing on the agenda.

The following persons appeared to speak during the Public Appearance portion of the agenda:

1. Wise Shahid Topic: Community Development
2. Charles DeLoach Topic: A study conducted on investing in childcare options

### **APPOINTMENTS**

#### **25-0700 Appointments- Domestic Violence Advisory Board**

Motion was made by Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell, seconded by Commissioner Powell, and unanimously carried to nominate and appoint Carla Brafford, Anque DeBerry, and Christie Hammond to fill three (3) unexpired terms on the Domestic Violence Advisory Board, expiring April 30, 2027.

#### **25-0701 Appointments- Unified Development Ordinance Board of Adjustment (UDO)**

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Griffin, and unanimously carried to reappoint Mr. Kevin Shea to the Unified Development Ordinance Board of Adjustment for one (1) three-year term expiring January 31, 2029.

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

#### **26-0022 Budget Public Hearing FY2026 – 2027**

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Griffin, and unanimously carried to open the Public Hearing to receive public input as part of the Fiscal Year 2026 - 2027 Budget Development Process.

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*Background: The Board of County Commissioners will receive public input as part of the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 budget development process in advance of the Board's budget retreat. This public hearing is not required by North Carolina General Statute. A second hearing is mandated after the presentation of the Manager's Recommended Budget.*

<b>Group</b>	<b>First</b>	<b>Last</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Notes</b>
No	Marcus	Krider	2	Request for funding for non-profit organization: 'Teaching Right Before They Go Left'
Yes	Dr. Devonya Tierra Sundra Dominique	Govan-Hunt Cole Hanna Bostic-Arrington	4	Family/childcare assistance for underserved youth.
No	Beverly	Knox	2	Historic Hoskins Coalition seeking funding for 2026 for the Hoskins and Thomasboro communities.
Yes	Laura Stacy Carol Lucille	Cooper Hancock Gray-Adler Howard	4	Increased support for CMS teachers; living wage for NC teachers.
No	Ailen	Arreaza	4	Library funding to hire additional staff.
No	Jon	Buchan	5	Member of Library Board of Trustees: seeking funding for staffing and collections.
No	Caroleen	Towery	2	Member, Board of Directors: Library Foundation funding for FY2026-27.
No	Kyle	Queen	1	Request to fully fund CMS.
Yes	Kenneth Jennifer	Robinson Vollmer	4	Freedom Fighting Missionaries: Seeking ways to get employment up to \$25/hr. or increase subsidies; seeking alternative ways to fund similar orgs. Request: funding of grassroots organizations.
No	Michelle	Winchester	4	Alpha Learning Center, request for partnership and support to expand existing programs for families in underserved communities.
No	Gene	Winchester	4	Chair of the Board of Alpha Learning Center: began as a virtual learning center, expanded to programs for kids and families. Request for funding assistance.

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No	Men Tchaas	Ari	1	CEO-Communities in Schools (CIS): Seeking educational investments to reconnect & stabilize challenged students.
No	Queen	Williams	3	Co-founder (non-profit) Creative Cornerstone, re: development of media productive skills for youth to provide outlets for creativity. Requested additional funding.
No	Robert	Hillman	5	Queen City Robotics Alliance, CEO. Re: Stem opportunities for students in greater Charlotte area. Request for continued support for ASC and culture blocks program, funding for after-school programs, assist in the creation of stem recreation center, request for public volunteers.
No	Don	Thomas		Regional Market Lead for Europe United (national workforce development organization) focused on expanding economic opportunities for young adults. Goal: to partner with Mecklenburg County to strengthen talent readiness, using the County as a baseline to create a more economically vibrant workforce.
No	Kim	Janat		Family Childcare Homes - requests: 1) to provide partial property tax rebate or adjustments for licensed family childcare homes. 2) fund a parent educational initiative through FCH with partnerships with Atrium, Novant and DSS. 3) Create a County-supported bulk purchasing program for accessing essential supplies at discounted rates.

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunlap, seconded by Commissioner Powell, and unanimously carried to close the public hearing.

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**ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS – NONE**

**MANAGER’S REPORT**

County Manager Bryant formally introduced Dr. Virginia Covill, the new Assistant County Manager of Workforce Development and Upward Mobility and gave an overview of her career and accomplishments.

County Manager Bryant presented Commissioner Meier with a 5-year pin. A short video was shown followed with words of appreciation by Commissioner Meier.

**DEPARTMENTAL DIRECTORS’ MONTHLY REPORTS – NONE**

**STAFF REPORTS & REQUESTS - NONE**

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS’ REPORTS & REQUESTS**

**26-0020 Board Committees’ Affirmation (Chair Jerrell)**

Chair Jerrell announced one change on the committee assignment as follows: Vice Chair Altman was assigned to Environmental Stewardship and Commissioner Townsend-Ingram to the HHS. He said liaison assignments remained the same.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell, seconded by Commissioner Altman, and unanimously carried, to:

A) Re-affirm the following board committees for calendar year 2026:

1. Economic Development Committee
2. Environmental Stewardship Committee
3. Health and Human Services Committee
4. Intergovernmental Relations Committee
5. Performance Review Committee
6. Audit Review Committee
7. Equity Investments Ad Hoc
8. Seniors Ad Hoc

B) Receive as information, the Board Liaison Assignments as assigned by Chair Jerrell.

**CONSENT ITEMS**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Dunlap, seconded by Commissioner Griffin, and unanimously carried, to approve the following item(s):**

**25-0702 Budget Amendment for FY26 Carolina Volunteer Fire District Fund Balance Appropriation**

Amend the FY2025-2026 Budget Ordinance to appropriate \$301,710.22 of Charlotte ETJ Fire District (9021) fund balance for the Carolina Volunteer Fire Department for the purchase of two Engines.

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*Background: LUESA is requesting fund balance to cover the down payment of two engines for the Carolina Volunteer Fire Department (VFD). This funding will be added to the FY26 capital allocation for the Carolina VFD. The two engines will allow the Carolina VFD to meet the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1900 standard for apparatus. It recommends a 15-year front line and a 25-year removal from operations. Currently, Carolina VFD has two apparatus that are not meeting the standard.*

*The amount requested for additional funding is \$301,710.22, sourced from the Fire Tax Fund, and will cover the down payment for the two engines. Carolina VFD will use ongoing capital fund allocation to pay the loan payments.*

**25-0704 Ad Valorem Tax Advertisement**

Order the advertisement of delinquent 2025 real estate and personal property taxes.

*Background: The advertisement is a notification to taxpayers of outstanding tax balances due. As of December 22, 2025, \$545,898,438.30 of the \$1,418,538,827.40 net levy remains unpaid. In accordance with NCGS 105-369(a), the governing board must order the Tax Collector to advertise the tax liens.*

**26-0006 Construction Contract - Carolina Place Parkway Connector**

Award a construction contract to United of Carolinas, Inc. in the amount of \$868,250.00.

*Background: This contract will provide construction services for a sidewalk connector between Little Sugar Creek Greenway and McMullen Creek Greenway, along Carolina Place Parkway and adjacent to the Carolina Place mall. The project includes construction of approximately 3,700 linear feet of concrete sidewalk, associated earthwork, and pedestrian improvements at numerous intersections that include traffic signal modifications.*

**26-0019 Minutes**

Approve the following Meeting Minutes:

October 21, 2025, Regular Minutes

November 25, 2025, Budget Public Policy Workshop

**THIS CONCLUDED ITEMS APPROVED BY CONSENT**

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**26-0015 PULLED CONSENT ITEMS**

The Board received as information the items Commissioners have pulled from the Consent Agenda.

*Background: Commissioners may remove agenda items from the Consent Agenda for a separate vote, for public awareness, and/or to make comments. The attachment lists items pulled from the Consent Agenda.*

**25-0694 FY2026 Capital Project Ordinance Amendment**

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Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Altman, and unanimously carried to approve the following item(s):

- 1) Approve the amendment to increase the FY2026 School Facilities Capital Ordinance by an amount of \$322,460,866 bringing the ordinance to a new total of \$2,675,064,632.
- 2) Approve the amendment to increase the FY2026 Capital Project Ordinance by an amount of \$4,631,172 bringing the ordinance to a new total of \$2,224,929,730.

*Background: The start dates on several projects have been revised, and the capital ordinances are being updated to reflect these new start dates:*

*A. Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools will be moving the start date for Albemarle Road Middle School to FY2027. The following projects will now be starting during FY2026: New Middle School #3, Allenbrook, Garinger, and East Mecklenburg High School.*

*B. Asset and Facility Management will be starting the New Courthouse HVAC Controls and Smoke Damper Modifications in FY2026.*

**This item was pulled by Commissioner Leake for clarity and/or public awareness.**

**25-0697      Construction Manager at Risk (CM@R) Selection - Tuckaseegee Recreation Center**

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Altman, and unanimously carried to authorize the County Manager to negotiate terms and conditions including fees to execute a contract with the selected team/firm, Edifice Construction & All-Pro Builders, for Construction Manager at Risk Services for the Tuckaseegee Recreation Center and, in the event negotiations with the selected team/firm are unsuccessful, approve negotiations and contract execution with the alternate team/firm.

*Background: A Construction Manager at Risk is needed to provide Preconstruction and Construction Management services during the design and construction phases of The Tuckaseegee Recreation Center project.*

*This project will involve renovating and/or reconstructing the existing Tuckaseegee Recreation Center, which was constructed in 1974. The recreation center is located within Tuckaseegee Park, a 19-acre park located in west Charlotte. The original project scope for the recreation center anticipated the inclusion of an indoor gym, multipurpose and meeting rooms, fitness rooms, locker rooms/restrooms, administrative space, and an outdoor swimming pool. It also envisioned park renovations that include improving and adding park amenities such as shelters, fields, courts, playground, fitness equipment, sprayground, and trails.*

*After reviewing the original scope for the project throughout community engagement and the incoming manager, a determination was made to expand the scope to add additional programming space and convert the outdoor pool into an outdoor/limited season indoor pool. The additional scope increases the cost (\$35,774,444 as allocated in FY26 CIP budget vs. \$55,153,275 as estimated by consultants/AFM based upon additional scope - including escalation) but does not fundamentally alter the type or nature of this construction.*

**This item was pulled by Commissioner Leake for clarity and/or public awareness.**

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**25-0699 Grant Project Ordinance Amendment - Health Department**

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Griffin, and unanimously carried to adopt the required grant project ordinance for Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Strengthening US Public Health Infrastructure, Workforce, and Data Systems Grant in the General Grant Fund (G001).

*Background: The CDC - Strengthening US Public Health Infrastructure, Workforce and Data Systems grant, originally approved via RFBA # 22-7791 for up to \$13,809,076, has increased federal revenue and expenses in the amount of \$775,551 for a total award of \$14,581,627.*

**This item was pulled by Commissioner Leake for clarity and/or public awareness.**

**25-0703 Budget Amendment for FY26 Long Creek Volunteer Fire District Fund Balance Appropriation**

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Altman, and unanimously carried to amend the FY2026 Budget Ordinance to appropriate \$187,389.00 of Charlotte ETJ Fire District (9021) fund balance for the Long Creek Volunteer Fire Department's soil removal and replacement project.

*Background: LUESA is requesting fund balance to cover the removal and replacement of unsuitable soil, trash, and debris within the proposed building area for the Long Creek Volunteer Fire Department (VFD). This funding will be added to the FY26 capital allocation for the Long Creek VFD. Long Creek is scheduled to begin construction of a new fire station. Unfortunately, the soil contains trash and debris from a prior demolition, making it unsuitable for the new build. This project will help restore the soil to a suitable condition for the new construction.*

*The amount requested for additional funding is \$189,389.00, sourced from the Fire Tax Fund, and will cover the full cost of the soil replacement project (option #2 in the attached quote).*

**This item was pulled by Commissioner Powell for clarity and/or public awareness.**

**26-0003 Sole Source Vendor Approval, Van Dyk Baler Corp. dba Van Dyk Recycling Systems**

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Powell and unanimously carried, to:

1) Approve the purchase of equipment as authorized by the sole source exemption of G.S. 143-129(e) (6) and,

2) Approve Van Dyk Recycling Systems as a vendor and supplier for the repair, maintenance, and purchase of machinery, repair parts, and materials for the Mecklenburg County Material Recycling Facilities.

*Background: N.C. G.S. 143-129 and the County Procurement Policy mandate that Mecklenburg County procure all apparatus, supplies, materials and equipment totaling \$100,000 or more by competitive bidding. An exemption is allowed if a needed product is available from only one source of supply or standardization, or compatibility is the overriding consideration.*

*Van Dyk Recycling Systems (Van Dyk) was previously chosen to supply the recycling equipment*

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*for the upgrades to Mecklenburg County's Material Recycling Facility (MRF) located at 1007 Amble Drive. This was done through an RFP process and award of a \$24M contract by the Board of County Commissioners for the new equipment in November 2022.*

*The Van Dyk equipment is highly specialized, and a Sole Source determination has been completed, and that determination recommends the Board's concurrence and approval to establish this Sole Source determination for Van Dyk Recycling.*

*Repair and maintenance parts are necessary for the operation of the MRF, and these items will be sourced from Van Dyk to ensure that the MRF remains operational.*

**This item was pulled by Commissioner Leake for clarity and/or public awareness.**

### **26-0004      Budget Amendment - Sheriff's Office Special Revenue Fund (Revenue and Expense Increase)**

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Griffin, and unanimously carried to:

1) Recognize, receive and appropriate \$959,905.99 from Inmate Commissary revenue to the Sheriff's Office Special Revenue Fund (8521). (6100)

2) Recognize, receive and appropriate \$275,000.00 from Vocational Facility telephone revenue to the Sheriff's Office Special Revenue Fund (8521). (6105); and

3) Recognize, receive and appropriate \$347,542.00 from concealed handgun permit and miscellaneous fingerprinting fees to the Sheriff's Office Special Revenue Fund (8521). (6102)

*Background: 1. All funds collected through jail commissary operations are to be used for detention resident education, library and self-sufficiency programs, as well as supplies and equipment to support the programs (ordinance attached). In addition to programs for residents in custody, the programming is for the newly released residents also, as they transition to reintegrate into society through the re-entry services available.*

*2. All funds received from 33.1 percent of commissions from the inmate telephone system are to be used for inmate vocational education programs.*

*3. The Sheriff's Office share of all funds resulting from the issuance of concealed carry permits and processing of miscellaneous fingerprinting fees will be used for law enforcement purposes only. These funds will be used for the purchase of supplies and equipment as necessary.*

**This item was pulled by Commissioner Leake for clarity and/or public awareness.**

### **26-0005      Comprehensive Plan for Unincorporated Southern Mecklenburg Endorsement**

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Griffin, and unanimously carried to approve the Comprehensive Plan for Unincorporated Southern Mecklenburg.

*Background: The Comprehensive Plan for Unincorporated Southern Mecklenburg (CPUSM) fulfills the state's legal requirement to provide land use guidance for the area.*

*The development of the CPUSM was a joint effort between Mecklenburg County and the City of Charlotte.*

*The CPUSM was presented to the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) during the Public Policy*

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Workshop on September 24, 2025.

*A public hearing to receive feedback from the community on the CPUSM was held during a regular BOCC meeting on November 18, 2025.*

*The CPUSM was taken to the City of Charlotte's Planning Committee on December 16, 2025.*

**This item was pulled by Commissioner Leake for clarity and/or public awareness.**

### **26-0008      Application for Grants for the Solid Waste Program from the NC Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)**

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Griffin, and unanimously carried to:

- 1) Approve submission of grant application up to \$5,000,000 to the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for the Helene Recovery Recycling Infrastructure (HRRI) Grant.
- 2) Approve submission of a grant application for up to \$50,000 to the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for the 2026 Community Waste Reduction and Recycling Grant Program (CWRAR).
- 3) Approve submission of a grant application for up to \$150,000 to the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for the Multifamily Recycling Grant Program.
- 4) If awarded, adopt the respective Grant Ordinance and recognize, receive, and appropriate the awarded amount to the Solid Waste Grant Fund (G701) for the duration of the grant award.

*Background: Mecklenburg County's Solid Waste Management Program works to minimize solid waste and support the development of recycling infrastructure in the community and actively pursues grant opportunities that are available to help defray costs. The NC Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) recently advertised three competitive grants for communities in North Carolina. The Solid Waste Program would like to apply for each of these grants and is hereby requesting approval from the BOCC to apply for the maximum allowed under each of these three grants, with awarded funding being received and appropriated to the Solid Waste Grant Fund (G701). These grants are:*

1. *The Helene Recovery Recycling Infrastructure Grant: Supports counties and municipalities in restoring, replacing, or upgrading recycling equipment and infrastructure disrupted by the impacts of Tropical Storm Helene. No match needed.*
2. *The Community Waste Reduction and Recycling (CWRAR) Grant: Provides funding to support local recycling expansion projects, equipment purchases, and waste reduction initiatives. Match of 20% required.*
3. *The Multifamily Recycling Grant: Supports improved recycling access and infrastructure for multi-family communities including carts, collection points, signage, and education. Match of 10% is required.*

*We envision that the Helene Recovery grant would supply infrastructure for programmatic needs at the Material Recycling Facilities (MRF's), and other solid waste acceptance and processing*

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*centers such as sorting and processing equipment, for improving the handling, sortation and marketing of recyclable materials.*

*The Community Waste Reduction and Recycling Grant would be utilized to prioritize work associated with removing lithium-ion batteries, solar panels and other electronic wastes, this includes infrastructure for the new facilities such as the Steele Creek and Monroe Road Centers, that are under construction. It will also be used to work with local groups on food waste reduction activities.*

*The Multifamily Recycling Grant will be used to establish a pilot recycling program at several multifamily buildings in the Mecklenburg County region to work toward a better system for those types of properties to manage recyclables and reduce waste that is otherwise placed in landfills.*

*The Waste Management Advisory Board (WMAB) has encouraged staff to apply for the DEQ grant at their December 9, 2025, meeting.*

**This item was pulled by Commissioner Leake for clarity and/or public awareness.**

### **26-0009 Storm Water Program - FY26 Hazard Mitigation Floodplain Acquisition**

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Griffin, and unanimously carried to:

- 1) Accept the Offer of Sale of Real Estate from EMBP Properties LLC, owner of property located at 220 Mellow Drive, Charlotte, NC (tax parcel 089-022-03), for \$157,800.
- 2) Authorize local emergency response agencies to use the structures for training exercises.

*Background: Since late 1999, Mecklenburg County has used storm water fee revenue to acquire flood prone property. Buyouts reduce the risk to life and property during floods, while also enhancing the natural and beneficial functions of the floodplain. Mecklenburg County uses the land as open space, for expanding greenways, constructing wetlands, etc.*

*The buyout is voluntary. The property at 220 Mellow Drive is a single-family home located within the FEMA and Community Floodway. The owner has agreed to sell the property for \$157,800. The purchase price is based upon the current tax value.*

*This action is consistent with goals in the Environmental Leadership Action Plan which supports the Environmental Leadership Policy adopted by the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC). These acquisitions are part of Storm Water's 15-year CIP flood risk reduction goals and consistent with recommendations in the Flood Risk Assessment and Risk Reduction Plan (RARR), adopted by the BOCC on May 1, 2012.*

*STW staff allows training opportunities for local police and fire personnel prior to demolition of flood prone buildings. In addition, STW staff has established a process with Habitat for Humanity of Charlotte to maximize the responsible reuse of materials prior to structure demolition while protecting the health of the community.*

**This item was pulled by Commissioner Leake for clarity and/or public awareness.**

### **26-0010 Budget Amendment - Community Support Services - Revenue Increase**

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Griffin and unanimously

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carried, to:

- 1) Recognize, receive and appropriate an award amount of up to \$177,000 from the North Carolina Council for Women and Youth Involvement Office, the administrator of the North Carolina Family Violence Prevention Services Act (FVPSA) CORE grant program, for prevention of domestic violence and teen dating violence for year two of a two-year grant within Community Support Services.
- 2) Authorize an additional position in the Community Support Services Department, Prevention Intervention and Services Division: 1 PT Information and Education Coordinator (annual market rate is \$22,180).
- 3) Adopt a grant project ordinance for the FVPSA CORE grant in the General Grant Fund (G001).

*Background: Adolescents experience violence from a wide range of perpetrators that may include family members and dating partners. Adolescent victims experience fear and shame, and social norms that may discourage them from seeking help. Through this funding, Community Support Services (CSS) will increase and enhance provision of teen dating violence prevention information to a wide variety of audiences, including youth, parents, and service providers. CSS will continue to educate youth in the community and at Charlotte-Mecklenburg middle school and high school levels.*

*The grant was brought before the board as Agenda Item #25-0005 and approved on January 3, 2025. The grant awards are for a twenty-month period with applications were due December 6, 2024. Year 2 of grant performance is December 1, 2025 - September 30, 2026.*

**This item was pulled by Commissioner Leake for clarity and/or public awareness.**

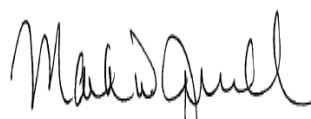
**26-0016      COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

Commissioners shared information of their choosing within the guidelines as established by the Board, which included, but not limited to, past and/or upcoming events.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunlap, seconded by Commissioner Meier, and unanimously carried, that there being no further business to come before the Board that the meeting be adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kristine M. Smith, Clerk to the Board

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark Jerrell, Chair