

8/6/25



FW: [External]Support for Lake Norman Marine Commission

From Eason, Arlissa <Arlissa.Eason@mecklenburgcountync.gov>

Date Wed 8/6/2025 8:47 AM

To Benedict, Brianna <Brianna.Benedict@mecklenburgcountync.gov>

From: Kari Lanning <karilanning@aol.com>

Sent: Monday, August 4, 2025 4:05 PM

To: BOCCALL <BOCCALL@mecklenburgcountync.gov>

Subject: [External]Support for Lake Norman Marine Commission

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Members of the Board of County Commissioners,

I am writing to express my strong support for the continued work of the Lake Norman Marine Commission. As the former chairperson of the Mountain Island Lake Marine Commission, I've seen firsthand the value these organizations bring to our communities—and the lessons we've learned since the Mountain Island Lake Commission disbanded approximately 11 years ago.

Over the years, it has become increasingly clear that Mecklenburg County and its regional partners must take a more proactive and coordinated approach to managing and protecting our waterways. The Lake Norman Marine Commission is well-positioned to lead these efforts, and I urge the Board to consider increased support for its mission.

Public Safety: Marine commissions should prioritize the promotion of safe and responsible boating practices for all lake users. Coordination with law enforcement, wildlife officers, fire departments, and MEDIC is essential to ensure swift and effective emergency response. These partnerships directly reduce accidents and improve response times, making our lakes safer for everyone.

Public Education: Long-term stewardship begins with education. The Commission should be empowered to expand outreach programs—from boater safety courses to environmental awareness campaigns—that equip residents with the knowledge to protect themselves and our shared resources. We should actively engage schools, YMCA programs, and youth organizations to promote boater safety. When I was in high school, boater safety was a required component of Physical Education. We should advocate for its return to school curricula across the county. The success of any public initiative begins with education.

Invasive Aquatic Species: Invasive species pose a serious threat to our ecosystems, local economies, and recreational access. While Mecklenburg County has taken commendable steps to address this issue, public education remains critical. With additional support, the Marine Commission can expand surveillance, strengthen partnerships, and implement more robust prevention strategies

- such as purchasing additional grass carp for biological control and educating anglers to avoid harvesting them.

By investing in the Lake Norman Marine Commission, we are investing in the health, safety, and sustainability of our community. I respectfully ask the Board to consider increased policy support and inter-agency coordination to strengthen the Commission's ability to serve our county and its residents.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this further and explore ways we can work together to protect our waterways and the people who depend on them.

Warm regards,

Kari Lanning
704-579-4350

FW: [External]Support for Transportation Referendum

From Eason, Arlissa <Arlissa.Eason@mecklenburgcountync.gov>

Date Wed 8/6/2025 8:48 AM

To Benedict, Brianna <Brianna.Benedict@mecklenburgcountync.gov>

From: Alexis Berggren <aberggren@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 5:04 PM

To: County Clerk <Clerk@mecknc.gov>

Subject: [External]Support for Transportation Referendum

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Commissioners,

As a professional who has spent a lifetime working in tourism and economic development in different markets across the country, I've had the opportunity to witness firsthand what sets thriving communities apart from those that struggle. The difference is almost always rooted in infrastructure—especially transportation.

I'm relatively new to Charlotte, having moved here just eight months ago to serve in a leadership role within the tourism sector. Already, I see the signs of a city brimming with promise but challenged by congestion. The infrastructure is not keeping pace with our population growth, and we cannot afford to wait.

I'm writing to respectfully urge you to approve the referendum that would allow voters to decide on a 1% sales tax to fund Mecklenburg County's transportation plan. This plan is not just about roads and buses—it's about access. It's about getting people to jobs, schools, grocery stores, and health care safely, quickly, and reliably. It's about creating a city where mobility doesn't determine opportunity.

From a tourism standpoint, it's about more than visitor convenience. It's about our reputation. When visitors find a city easy to navigate, they return. Some even decide to plant roots here. They become residents, investors, business owners—participants in the important cycle of economic development.

And while no one enjoys the thought of a tax increase, the impact of a one-cent increase is minimal—a \$10 lunch becomes \$10.01. Most people won't feel that change, but they will absolutely feel the benefits of a more connected, efficient, and forward-thinking Charlotte.

This vote is a turning point. I ask you to support placing this referendum on the November ballot and allow Mecklenburg County residents to choose the future they want.

Thank you for your public service and for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Alexis Berggren
4801 Steepleton Way
Charlotte, NC 28215

FW: [External]About PAVE Initiative

From Eason, Arlissa <Arlissa.Eason@mecklenburgcountync.gov>

Date Wed 8/6/2025 8:47 AM

To Benedict, Brianna <Brianna.Benedict@mecklenburgcountync.gov>

From: Roxana Marinescu <wellnessalliance.us@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 1:20 PM

To: County Clerk <Clerk@mecknc.gov>

Subject: [External]About PAVE Initiative

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello.

Regarding the Pave Initiative, first of all, there should have been initially, before introduced some discussions, on social media with the citizens about what the citizens' needs are

because I consider **these sale taxes should go not only to transportation but also to other needs.**

I have two bachelor degrees and almost two master degrees and I have been struggling with a small non-profit for getting funding and getting a part-time job

There are no possibility and no opportunity for preventive medicine, lifestyle medicine, and healthy living, counseling for pregnant women and chronic patients.

there are other needs, that should also be covered by

the huge amounts of money that will come from increasing sales taxes.

transportation is not the only need.

we have forests that are destructed. we need forest preservation,

experts to come with better allocation of space for housing solutions.

. We need authority to preserve forests, and for sustainability,

We see now medians are made of concrete instead of being made of green evergreens, so they will absorb heavy rain and they will be more aesthetical in my neighborhood, Northeast Charlotte.

we don't see any landscaping in Northeast Charlotte.

So I understand transportation is one slice, but a sales tax should go equally to other needs

And second aspect,, the costs.

The costs that you post, for these projects are too high and we need to focus on reducing costs out of public money.

and in order to do that, we need to use more state employed engineers and construction teams and planners.

to consult and build infrastructure.

And so that prices will be cheaper because if you create contracts with private business players those contracts are

hugely high, and they need to be transparent and, audited for conflict of interest and disclosures.

but focusing on having, more governmental, employees than private employees to do these roads.

The money that you are posting, for now, It looks too much.

you want to spend billions of dollars on, on a light rail that I even don't consider is, efficient as time-wise. Um, it has two frequent stops and I don't use it because it does not quite connect what is to be connected.

So I think it's an arrogance to the public money.

those proposed amounts of money that you want to spend on the public transportation and, that our needs also are for very various subjects.

and they need to be equally, equally given for the different other different other needs of this community that is not only transportation. That is not only transportation.

while I struggle with two bachelor degrees and two master degrees, for finding funding for my non-profit

opportunities for preventive healthcare are inexistent. and for small nonprofits like mine are rare

you want to spend billions of dollars on one subject.

these sales tax of course, needs to excuse main categories ,

because food has anyway increased its price

we have also other needs:

we want to be legally represented to have access to legal, centers where we can defend our causes no matter, how old they are.

They should not be restricted to three years. And legal care should be as important as healthcare.

we are- cannot be well if no- we don't have access to **legal care for human rights environmental rights, education rights, water rights(low cost)**

How can we fight the fact our water was stolen by a business player ,

maybe with the accept of the HOA, uh, who is a mafiotic group.

, that probably they signed at our backs some kind of agreement that now our water was stolen.

so instead of the water to be for the people, now the water is taken advantage by private companies.

And I have to pay \$130 a month for my water.

I should have access rapidly to a legal representation to fight, uh, the corruption and the fraud that was done in my name, in my behalf in this neighborhood.

and legal centers should be should be at the use the easy use of every citizen so that we live in dignity, we have access to labor, and we live in dignity.

I don't think I live in dignity if if the water is for profit.

You, **we have needs for legal representation for any kind of subjects, any kind of categories, and no matter how old they are** because all the state represented entities, they kind of legally represent themselves.

, they don't defend our rights. If we have an issue with them and they have a legal representation, that legal is for them, not for us.

, we need to spend huge amounts of money to defend a cause that should be accessible for us.

legal representation for the price of water and the water ownership is very important.

Water ownership should be for the people and should not be taken advantage. And if private, wants to invest, that should not be 100%.

That should be like a just a small percentage of the ownership and not 100% how is now.

access for dignified work for people who are over-specialized should be very easy to obtain."

I don't have to struggle so much to get a part-time job, a remote job,

to be at my comfort level and my capacity level.

so what is here, what has been here, is not into my niche.

There should, grants and other preventive jobs in this healthcare system.

They should be, required to leave open positions for innovation, local talent interests, because I

come with an interest to provide preventive healthcare counseling, lifestyle medicine, and to do advocacy for

preventive health, causes and initiatives.

I should have access for easy funding.

other people have other needs,

I think a lot has been done recently in the transportation, at least for my area.

And, we don't have a train, fast train, from Charlotte to,, Raleigh, from Charlotte to Charleston, from Charlotte to, Outer Banks, from Charlotte to Myrtle Beach.

We don't have that. I think that is, should be cheap,..... and should be done with state employees, not with, private employees or at least combined.

and should not be so expensive as you post them the pricing for these rails,

because they can get grants because of the protection of environment and the fact they reduce pollution.

so we should have had that since many years ago connection between the big cities of North Carolina through fast train.

and that should not be very expensive.

And if it that expensive, that means, we need to reconsider with whom we work these projects.

I don't see urban design on these streets.

One side of the street has one aspect. The other side of the street has another aspect, so urban,

center, urban design should have people who, take care of the landscaping and all of the aesthetics of all the streets and they enforce rules.

They don't listen to the private people. They enforce rules.

There should be enforced rules of symmetry, aesthetics, so that one side of the road looks the same like the other side of the road and they are aesthetically, pleasant and, harmonious.

And, conclusion, tax, sale increase need to go not only to transportation, but to other needs of the population.

And second, contracts for this transportation need to be, done with the state employees and not private employees because private, businesses,, overly, use public money.

So practically overly waste the public money.

, this evaluation are highly and, excessively overpriced. And, uh, third, when you decide something, you need first ask the population what their needs are, not institute, a in- initiative

before talking with the citizens.

and also the participatory democracy, you need to do it, uh, very transparently, very visibly, uh, through social media. I'm talking about Facebook, like in an official, in an official manner,

such as City of Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, and other, um, business pages, uh, to keep us on a daily basis informed with all the projects that are going on and all the plans that, that are intended to be done.

And, so that we can give our feedback on a timely manner, and also those posts need to be carefully read because there will be hundreds of comments

and they need to be carefully read and taken into consideration.

this is what, **participatory democracy means.**

we don't want a group of people, and especially the business players, that are sometime, less educated than other people, other professional or other citizens, to take decision that will negatively impact our life and our environment, such as the zoning.

Because if you continue with,, non-protection of our suburban area from deforestation, we soon will come back to the flooding zone that we had before because all this imbalances in environment and deforestation

create climate imbalances and flooding. So, not everyone has time to go in person to participate in person at those meetings, and for the best, communication, you need to be transparent and have on a daily basis

posted your activities, your projects, your work, and your intention plans on all the of- the official pages, uh, of Mecklenburg County and City of Charlotte and other ministries, that are.

I think virtual communication is the best, faster way to assess the needs of a population and to communicate in a transparent, um, in a transparent way. Uh, this is this is what, uh, you need to do.

Not us writing emails. I prefer texting my comment exactly on a Facebook page where other citizen will take note of my insight and my opinion and my perspective and my mindset, and me, I will, know their perspectives and their needs.

And, in this way, if I know the other citizens' needs and they know my needs

it's much better than we send an email to a person that we even are not confirmed that person will read the email or will take it into consideration.

So, I consider it is better to communicate through social platforms, um, because attending meetings is not, not very easy.

Would be easy if you would, create meetings in every district, but I think the fastest way of communication is through, virtual platforms.

yes, online platforms. This is what I have to say. Thank you.

--

Roxanne Marinescu

RN,BSN, Master Studies, WSSU, UNCC,

American College Lifestyle Medicine Practitioner

European Lifestyle Medicine Organization Health and Fitness Advisor

Community Nursing & Lifestyle Medicine

Founder and President Wellness Alliance INC, a 501c3 nonprofit

Alianta pentru bunastare ONG

AMAZON: 3 Month health and Wellness Planner- by Wellness Alliance

Copyright:

All the concepts sent are the intellectual property of Wellness Alliance Inc.

--

Roxanne Marinescu

RN,BSN, Master Studies, WSSU, UNCC,

American College Lifestyle Medicine Practitioner

European Lifestyle Medicine Organization Health and Fitness Advisor

Community Nursing & Lifestyle Medicine

Founder and President Wellness Alliance INC, a 501c3 nonprofit

Alianta pentru bunastare ONG

AMAZON: 3 Month health and Wellness Planner- by Wellness Alliance

Copyright:

All the concepts sent are the intellectual property of Wellness Alliance Inc.

FW: [External]PAVE Act Referendum

From Eason, Arlissa <Arlissa.Eason@mecklenburgcountync.gov>

Date Wed 8/6/2025 8:48 AM

To Benedict, Brianna <Brianna.Benedict@mecklenburgcountync.gov>

From: Kymberly Brantigan <kbrantigan@charlottedestination.com>

Sent: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 4:37 PM

To: County Clerk <Clerk@mecknc.gov>

Subject: [External]PAVE Act Referendum

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear County Commissioners:

I am writing to ask that you please move forward with placing a one-cent sales tax increase referendum on the ballot for the upcoming November election.

Our community enjoys great growth and prosperity but desperately needs the infrastructure to support it, as do our most underserved citizens.

Thank you for your consideration in letting the voters decide.

All the best,

Kymberly Brantigan

Mecklenburg County Resident and Small Business Owner