

**Meeting Minutes  
November 21, 2023**

**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 5:00 p.m. and in Formal Session in the Meeting Chamber of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 21, 2023.

**ATTENDANCE**

**Present:** Chair George Dunlap, Vice-Chair Elaine Powell  
and Commissioners Patricia “Pat” Cotham, Arthur Griffin,  
Mark Jerrell, Vilma D. Leake, and Susan Rodriguez- McDowell  
County Manager Dena R. Diorio  
County Attorney Tyrone C. Wade  
Clerk to the Board Kristine M. Smith  
Deputy Clerk to the Board Arlissa Eason

**Absent:** Commissioner Leigh Altman  
Commissioner Laura J. Meier

---

**-INFORMAL SESSION-**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Dunlap, 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:

**Meeting Minutes  
November 21, 2023**

**23-0617** Commissioner Leake  
**23-0644** Commissioner Leake  
**23-0658** Commissioner Leake  
**23-0675** Commissioner Leake  
**23-0684** Commissioner Leake  
**23-0685** Commissioner Leake  
**23-0686** Commissioner Leake  
**23-0688** Commissioner Leake

**STAFF BRIEFINGS - None**

**23-0690      CLOSED SESSION**

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Griffin, and unanimously carried to go into Closed Session for the following purpose(s): Land Acquisition and to Consult with Attorney

*The Board went into Closed Session at 5:12 p.m. and came back into Open Session at 6:01 p.m.*

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

**-FORMAL SESSION-**

**CALL TO ORDER**

*Chair Dunlap called this portion of the meeting to order, which was followed by introductions, invocation by Chair Dunlap and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag; after which, the matters below were addressed.*

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Powell, and unanimously carried to authorize the County Manager to negotiate and execute all documents necessary for the acquisitions of tax parcel 059-271-01 (+ / – 8.377 acres) from Robbie Garrett for a purchase price of \$520,000 for Park and Recreation purposes.

## **Meeting Minutes**

### **November 21, 2023**

Motion was made by Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell, seconded by Commissioner Powell, and unanimously carried to authorize the County Manager to negotiate and execute all documents necessary for the acquisitions of tax parcel 105-161- 23 (+ / – 2.34 acres) from Sheryl Plott and spouse Vicki Plott for a purchase price of \$320,000 for Park and Recreation purposes.

Motion was made by Commissioner Powell, seconded by Commissioner Griffin, and unanimously carried to authorize the County Manager to negotiate and execute all documents necessary for the acquisitions of a portion of tax parcel 015-223-10 (+ / – 3.6 acres) from Sherry Moore-Reed for a purchase price of \$224,600 for Park and Recreation purposes.

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Powell, and unanimously carried to authorize the County Manager to negotiate and execute all documents necessary for the acquisitions of a Permanent Greenway Easement (+ / – .39 acres) and a Temporary Construction Easement .07 acres on a portion of tax parcel 143-133-02 from Duke Energy Carolinas LLC. for a purchase price of \$ 38,225 for construction of a portion of the Sugar Creek Greenway.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell, seconded by Commissioner Leake, and unanimously carried to authorize the County Manager to negotiate and execute all documents necessary for the acquisitions of a Permanent Greenway Easement .3.5 and a Temporary Construction Easement .80 on a portion of tax parcel 143-272-04 and 143-272-09 from Coliseum Inn owner LLC. for a purchase price of \$ 122,750 for construction of a portion of Sugar Creek Greenway.

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Griffin, and unanimously carried to accept the County Statutory right of Refusal for tax parcel 079-017-29 (+ / – 4.18 acres) and authorize the County Manager to negotiate and execute all documents necessary for the acquisition of 1400 N. Graham Street for the purchase price of \$6,500,000.00.

### **AWARDS/RECOGNITION**

#### **23-0695 PROCLAMATION – WORLD AIDS DAY 2023 (CHAIR DUNLAP)**

Proclamation was read by Commissioner Griffin.

*Background: World AIDS day began in 1988 and is observed each year on December 1. Organizations and individuals across the world bring attention to the HIV epidemic, endeavor to increase HIV awareness and knowledge, speak out against HIV stigma, and call for an increased response to move toward ending the HIV epidemic.*

## **Meeting Minutes November 21, 2023**

Dr. Bernard Davis, RAO Community Health accepted the proclamation and gave remarks.

Motion was made by Commissioner Griffin, seconded by Commissioner Leake, and unanimously carried to adopt a proclamation declaring December 1, 2023, as World AIDS Day in Mecklenburg County.

Commissioner Leake and Commissioner Griffin thanked Dr. Davis and made comments.

### **23-0705 PROCLAMATION – WORLD PREMATURETY DAY (COMMISSIONER PAT COTHAM)**

Co-sponsors of this proclamation were Commissioners Jerrell and Meier.

*Background: In North Carolina, March of Dimes has worked extensively to reduce preterm birth by improving access to care through closing health insurance gap for individuals of reproductive age, eliminating maternity care deserts, expanding group prenatal care, increasing awareness of impacts of implicit bias on maternal health care, and raising awareness of the importance of optimal preconception health as a strategy to reduce preterm birth, infant mortality and maternal mortality. The month of November is recognized as Prematurity Awareness Month and November 17 is recognized as World Prematurity Day to raise awareness.*

Commissioner Patricia Cotham read the proclamation.

Dr. Catherine Ohmstede, Novant Pediatrician, and Swiyyah Muhammad, a Novant Nurse and Midwife accepted the proclamation and made comments

Motion was made by Commissioner Cotham, seconded by Commissioner Griffin to adopt a proclamation declaring November 17, 2023, at World Prematurity Day in Mecklenburg County.

The commissioners made comments and thanked the medical professionals.

The proclamation was unanimously carried, to adopt a proclamation declaring November 17, 2023, at World Prematurity Day in Mecklenburg County.

### **PUBLIC ART MOMENT**

The Commissioners receive a presentation on Public Art pieces titled “We Hold These Truths” and “Let Justice Like a River Roll” located in District 4.

## Meeting Minutes

November 21, 2023

Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell gave the presentation.

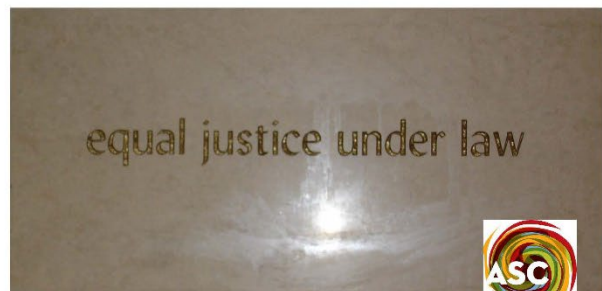
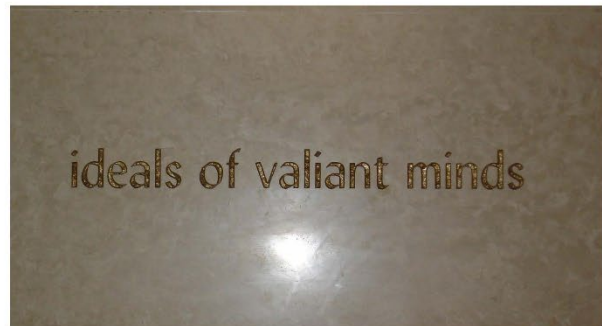
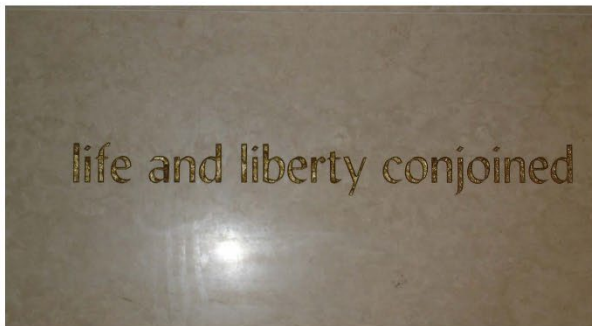
# We Hold These Truths and Let Justice Like a River Roll

Robin Brailsford and Fred Chappell

Mecklenburg County Courthouse



**Meeting Minutes**  
**November 21, 2023**



**Meeting Minutes**  
**November 21, 2023**



**Meeting Minutes**  
**November 21, 2023**

**23-0691      PUBLIC APPEARANCE**

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

1. George Bohmfalk, MD (Organization: Health Care Justice – NC Retiree Medical Benefits, Medicare for all)

**APPOINTMENTS**

**23-0702      APPOINTMENTS – JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL**

*Appointments are needed on the above said board. On November 8, 2023, the Board nominated Wendy Fontela, Darrell Gregory, Kimberly James-Williams, and Meghann Lail for appointment consideration to the General Public slot on the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council. Wendy Fontela removed her name from appointment consideration.*

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Jerrell, and unanimously carried to appoint Darrell Gregory, Kimberly James-Williams, and Meghann Lail to the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council to fill three (3) unexpired terms expiring June 30, 2025, for the General Public slot.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS - NONE**

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**23-0687      INFORMATION SERVICES & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE – ANNUAL REPORT**

The Board received an Annual Report of the Information Services & Technology Committee.

Travis Burgess, Chair, Information Services & Technology Committee gave the report.



## Information Services & Technology Advisory Committee

Presented to the Mecklenburg  
Board of County Commissioners  
November 2023

### Information Services & Technology Advisory Committee

**The Information Services & Technology Advisory Committee serves as an advisory group to the Board of County Commissioners and to review County plans at a conceptual level for major new automated systems with respect to:**

- Adequacy of the system functions to solve the business problem(s) addressed by the system
- Appropriateness of the technical approach utilized
- Availability of adequate hardware, software, communications and personnel
- Advise on how IT is accomplishing goals or approaching challenges
- Provide feedback to the BOCC on IST strategies, implementations and challenges



## Information Services & Technology Advisory Committee

- **Alignment and responsiveness:** Ensure IT investments are aligned with County objectives. Provides transparency and ensures resources are spent accordingly.
- **Objective decision making:** IT professionals from the community offer expertise in areas such as cyber security, technology applications, resource balancing, risk management and accountability of resources and objectives.



MeckNC.gov

3

## ISTAC Members

**Travis Burgess, Chair**  
Bank of America  
SVP, Portfolio Delivery Manager



**Jesse Newsom**  
Bank of America  
Sr Technology Mgr  
Information Security



**Kevin Hutchinson**  
Retired



**Erica Frazier**  
Wells Fargo Business  
Systems Consultant



**Cynthia Barbarino**  
UNC Charlotte  
Asst Vice Chancellor  
(Interim) and Chief Data  
Officer



**Stacey Jenkins**  
US Bank  
VP Risk & Compliance



**Jonathon Trimmer**  
Independent IT  
Consultant



**Aaron Howse**  
Brightspeed  
Wholesale Sales  
Engineer



**Ferry Chapman**  
Wells Fargo  
Granite Solutions  
Groupe



**Johnathan Gorke**  
Hyconix, Inc.,  
Lead Engineer



**Andrew Blake**  
Opening Bet Ventures  
Managing Director



**Shvetketu Pandya**  
AT&T  
Sr RAN Design Engineer



Meeting Minutes  
November 21, 2023

## 2023 ISTAC – Talent Matrix

Name	Strategy & Planning	Service Development	IT Security Services	IT Quality Services	Engineering & Tech Svcs	IT Business Operations	County Commission District
<b>Travis Burgess, Chair</b>	●				●	●	6
Cynthia Barbarino	●	●	●	●	●	●	3
Erica Frazier	●	●	●	●	●	●	3
Andrew Blake	●	●			●	●	6
Johnathan Gorke	●				●		6
Aaron Howse	●		●		●	●	6
Jonathon Trimmer	●	●				●	6
Stacey Jenkins	●	●	●			●	5
Jesse Newsom	●	●	●		●	●	5
Shvetketu Pandya	●	●				●	2
Kevin Hutchinson	●	●	●	●	●	●	6
Perry Chapman	●					●	1

### ITS STRATEGIC PLANNING

#### FY23-FY25 Goals

- 1. Protect and Secure County Technology:** Improve system security, data security and disaster recovery capabilities to provide the County with a trusted technology platform for its critical business operations.
- 2. ITS Operational Excellence:** Improve the IT capabilities critical to the County's future: Enterprise Master Data Management and Enterprise Architecture, Software Development, Integration & Testing, and IT Service Management. Maintain Evergreen IT Refresh.
- 3. Build a Resident Responsive Platform:** Establish a technology architecture composed of essential building blocks needed for future County initiatives by simplifying, integrating and reducing redundancy where applications, data, and enabling platforms in the current technology portfolio can be expanded to provide enterprise-wide capabilities.
- 4. IT Vendor Risk Management:** Establish discipline that ensures the use of external service providers, IT vendors and other third parties does not create an unacceptable potential for business disruption or a negative impact on business performance.
- 5. Equity and Inclusion:** In partnership with the Office of Equity & Inclusion, create department-specific equity vision, align department goals and objectives to the Equity Action Plan and identify equity-centered outcome measures.



**Meeting Minutes**  
**November 21, 2023**

## 2023 ISTAC Discussion Topics

Topics	Month
Transparent Data Encryption (TDE) – SQL Server	January
IT Governance	February
BOCC Retreat	February
ITS Operations	March
Cloudification, Leveraging Data Lakes & Implementing Zero Trust Strategies	April
Technology Reserve Updates	May
IT Vendor Risk Management	July
Tour: Ella B. Scarborough Community Resource Center (CRC)	August
Data Distribution and Reporting	September
Cyber Security Updates	October
Internal Audit Roadshow	October
Shelter Plus Care Case Management System	November



## 2023 ISTAC Accomplishments

**ISTAC provided the following oversight:**

1. ISTAC Committee continued to meet virtually and in-person through 2023 to advise Mecklenburg County ITS on priorities and budget proposals
2. Thorough reviews of IT Plans on:
  - A. IT Governance
  - B. Vendor Management
  - C. Data Management
  - D. Cyber Security



## 2023 ISTAC Observations

- ITS continues to provide excellent IT services with a goal of bridging the digital device and enabling all Mecklenburg County residents.
- ITS continues to focus on cybersecurity and ensuring that Mecklenburg County maintains a secure and resilient technology ecosystem.
- There is a continued evolution across ITS to better leverage Cloud and SaaS platforms, improving both capabilities and optimizing costs.
- ISTAC continues to see progress in enabling a self-service analytical environment allowing all county employees to have access to better information to help complete their daily tasks.



## 2023 ISTAC Observations

**ITS is partnering with leaders throughout the county to drive Digital Transformation, optimizing the coordination and delivery of services to Mecklenburg residents.**

Evidence was seen during the ISTAC tour of the Ella B. Scarborough CRC, where services provided by the county were enabled and supported by technical functionality.

The services that are being rendered for our residents has an inclusive objective with all of our residents in mind, along with the knowledgeable staff utilizing the updated technologies.



## 2023 ISTAC Observations

**The County continues to drives for excellence with being resident centric which is proven with investments focused on improving services.**

### **Key areas of focus for ITS:**

- Voice of the customer
- Proactive with accessing areas of need
- Developing a mature model to operate
- Providing value to our residents



## Focus for the Future

Mecklenburg County ITS is focused on the following to serve the residents of Mecklenburg County:

### **Applications Theme: Cloudification**

- Conversion of applications, data storage, and compute cycles to leverage cloud computing for expanded high-availability and disaster recovery capabilities.
- Leverage vendor software as a service or Microsoft Dynamics for custom/hybrid solutions

### **Data Theme: Data Lakehouse**

- Leverage Azure data lake as a centralized repository allowing County to store all structured and unstructured data at any scale.
- Provides ability to store required data as-is, without having to first structure the data

### **Network Theme: Highly Available & Zero Trust Security**

- Provide County with highly available, "always on", secure network that provides protection of the underlying networking infrastructure from unauthorized access, misuse, or theft.
- It involves creating a secure infrastructure for devices, applications, and users to work in a secure manner.



## Meeting Minutes November 21, 2023

### Comments

Commissioner Jerrell thanked the ISTAC. He asked if the team was drilling down to make things easier for residents to access information. *Mr. Burgess answered from an IT perspective, once the new tech was deployed, they wanted to know what the response was from the residents. He said they always asked what the residents thought about tech delivered. He said they were doing that through surveys and feedback through ITS.*

Commissioner Jerrell said that it would be great to have visibility on some of the items they implemented, the results and discussions, and how they had added value.

Commissioner Powell thanked ISTAC for its service. She said she understood that the meetings were remote. She asked as part of the committee if they had the opportunity to give feedback on things. *Mr. Burgess said yes.*

Commissioner Powell said people are concerned about AI. *Mr. Burgess said AI was not in a strategic plan but was an item that needed to be addressed.*

Commissioner Dunlap thanked the committee.

### MANAGER'S REPORT

### DEPARTMENTAL DIRECTORS' MONTHLY REPORTS

#### **23-0703      DEPARTMENT MANAGEMENT MONTHLY REPORTS**

The Board received as information the department directors' monthly management reports. The monthly management reports can be accessed online via public dashboards at:

<https://meck.co/DataDashboard>

*Background: The County Manager has requested department directors develop department management monthly reports highlighting key activities and initiatives within the departments and that reports show relevant performance indicators of departmental activity.*

**Meeting Minutes**  
**November 21, 2023**  
**STAFF REPORTS & REQUESTS - NONE**

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORTS & REQUESTS - NONE**

**CONSENT ITEMS**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell, seconded by Commissioner Leake, and unanimously carried (7-0) to approve the following item(s):**

**23-0677        MINUTES**

Approve the following Meeting Minutes:

June 15-16, 2022 Budget Straw Votes

**23-0681        MECKLENBURG COUNTY FEE ORDINANCE LAND USE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES (LUESA) FY2024**

Approve revisions to the Mecklenburg County Fee Ordinance Land Use Environmental Services

*Background: LUESA Code Enforcement requests a revision to the Mecklenburg County Fee Ordinance for Land Use and Environmental Services to comply with the changes approved in HB 488 on August 16, 2023. The changes, particularly pertaining to increased thresholds for General Contractor Licensure include:*

- 1. Page 1: Revised date when approved by the BOCC.*
- 2. Page 9: Note d: Moves from \$30,000 to \$40,000*
- 3. Page 11: 1c: Moves from \$30,000 to \$40,000*
- 4. Page 14: Under expectations (2) Moves from \$30,000 to \$40,000*
- 5. Page 23: Sections 45.1 Moves from \$30,000 to \$40,000*

*Upon adoption of these revisions, the fee Ordinance will be in compliance with the legislative changes of August 16th, 2023.*

**Meeting Minutes**  
**November 21, 2023**

**23-0683      STORM WATER PROGRAM- FY24 HAZARD MITIGATION FLOODPLAIN  
ACQUISITION**

Accept the Offer of Sale of Real Estate from RCD PROPERTIES, LLC, owners of property located at 800 and 816 Prince Street, Charlotte, NC (tax parcel 069-071-02), for \$402,000.00 and authorize the Manager to execute all paperwork necessary to complete the transaction.

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, to expand greenways, to construct wetlands, etc.*

*The buyout is voluntarily. The owner has agreed to sell the property which contains seven (7) flood prone houses for \$402,000. This purchase price is based off a current fair market value appraisal that assumes three (3) flood damaged non-habitable structures are demolished. Storm Water Services (STW) plans to fund demolition of all seven (7) structures on the property after closing. We anticipate all four (4) remaining habitable structures will be vacant prior to closing but will work with any remaining tenants as needed.*

*Mitigating the flood risk on this property has been a high priority for STW for many years because of the high probability of flooding and the damage to 7 individual homes/families located on the parcel. Additionally, this acquisition supports an on-going stream restoration project and future open space initiatives.*

*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 risk reduction goals and consistent with recommendations in the Flood Risk Assessment and Risk Reduction Plan, 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.*

**Meeting Minutes  
November 21, 2023**

**23-0689      TAX REFUNDS**

Approve refunds in the amount of \$2,592.08 for registered motor vehicles as statutorily required to be paid as requested by the County Assessor; and

Approve refunds in the amount of \$52,843.91 as statutorily required to be paid as requested by the County Assessor.

*Background: This Board action is necessary to approve registered motor vehicle tax refunds*

**THIS CONCLUDED ITEMS APPROVED BY CONSENT**

---

**23-0692      PULLED CONSENT ITEMS**

Commissioners may remove agenda items from the Consent Agenda for a separate vote, to bring public awareness or to make comments. The following items were pulled and voted upon separately:

**23-0617      CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT – WALKER BRANCH HOOVER CREEK GREENWAY  
AND AMEND CAPITAL PROJECT ORDINANCE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Griffin, and unanimously carried, to award a construction contract to JD Goodrum in the amount of \$6,119,131.39 and amend FY2020 Authorization Park and Recreation Capital Ordinance.

*Background: Mecklenburg County Asset & Facility Management and Park & Recreation have been involved in the design of a project which will add +/- 1.74 miles of new greenway trail to the County's greenway acceleration initiative. The project includes new greenway trail (asphalt and concrete), drainage structures, stream mitigation, boardwalk, street crossings, renovation of an existing bridge, prefabricated pedestrian bridge, low water crossings, concrete swale bridges and a signalized pedestrian cross-walk. The anticipated construction period will be approximately 18 months.*

*This action will also amend the FY2020 Park and Recreation Capital Ordinance to allow unused funding from several Park and Recreation projects to be utilized to fund an increase in costs for*

## Meeting Minutes

### November 21, 2023

*Walker Branch Hoover Creek Greenway, Torrence Trib 2 Greenway, and Naomi Drenan Recreation Center.*

#### MECKLENBURG COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA FY 2020 AUTHORIZATION PARK AND RECREATION CAPITAL PROJECT ORDINANCE

The following ordinance was offered as an amendment to and reinstatement of FY2020 Authorization Park and Recreation Approved Capital Project Ordinance as adopted June 4, 2019, and amended November 21, 2023, by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_, who moved its adoption:

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MECKLENBURG COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THIS THE 21st DAY OF NOVEMBER 2023:

Section I. That for the purpose of providing additional funds, together with any other available funds for the following projects:

Briar Creek Greenway (Central to Commonwealth to Monroe)	Long Creek (III)	Briar Creek Little Hope Greenway
Briar Creek Little Hope Greenway-Keystone Court	Reedy Creek	Irvins Creek Gwy-Idlewild Road to Lakeview Circle
Irwin Creek Greenway	Walker Branch/Hoover Creek	McAlpine Creek Gwy-Green Rea Road to Johnston Road
McIntyre Creek Greenway	Mallard Creek Greenway	McDowell Creek Gwy-Upper McDowell at NC76 to Chilgrove Lane
Sugar Creek Greenway (BG Parkway to McDowell Farms Dr)	Stewart Creek Greenway	Plum Creek Gwy-South Bailey Road to South Prong Rocky River Gwy
Ezell Farms Community Park	Discovery Place	Torrence Trib#2-Cats Park and Ride to Rosewood Meadow Drive
Paw Creek	Druid Hills Neighborhood Park	Naomi Drenan Recreation Center
Caldwell Station Tributary	Independence Park	Park Road Park Shelter
Briar Creek Greenway- Randolph to Meadowbrook		

Including the acquisition and construction of new facilities, the improvement and expansion of existing facilities and the acquisition and installation of furnishings and equipment and the acquisition of interests in real property required therefore, \$ 122,098,052 is hereby appropriated.

Section II. That it is estimated that the following revenues will be available during the construction period to meet the appropriations in Section I, as set forth in the following schedule:

Proceeds from Sale of Bonds, Pay-As-You-Go/Other County Funds:

2014-2018 fiscal years	\$	9,266,304
2019-2023 fiscal years		108,918,943
2024-2028 fiscal year		3,912,805

**Meeting Minutes**  
**November 21, 2023**

Section III. That the Director of Finance is authorized from time to time to transfer as a loan from the General Fund or unspent bond proceeds in the Capital Projects Funds, cash in an amount necessary to meet obligations until such time as permanent financing, if any, is arranged, at which time repayment, if required, will be made; and the Director of Finance is authorized to sign the Declaration of Official Intent to Reimburse Expenditures as required by Internal Revenue Service regulations.

The motion to adopt the foregoing ordinance was seconded by Commissioner and adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Noes: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Approved as to form:

Park & Rec-Amendment FY2023

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Attorney

***Ordinance recorded in full in Ordinance Book 52, Document #49.***

**Meeting Minutes  
November 21, 2023**

**23-0644 NAMING OF COUNTY FACILITY**

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Jerrell, and unanimously carried, to receive an application to name the TownePlace Suites property, located at 7805 Forest Point Blvd, "Forest Point Place" and to schedule a public hearing on December 5, 2023 at 6:30p.m. to receive public comments on the proposed naming of TownePlace Suites property "Forest Point Place."

*Background: In December 2022 the County purchased the TownePlace Suites hotel property at 7805 Forest Point Blvd. for conversion to housing for older adults experiencing homelessness and for supportive housing. An application has been submitted to name the TownePlace Suites property, "Forest Point Place." Pursuant to the County's facility naming policy, the Board will need to set a public hearing to receive public comments before approving the request.*

**23-0658 LEASE AGREEMENT – DISCOVERY PLACE, INC.**

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Jerrell, and unanimously carried, to authorize the County Manager to negotiate and execute a lease between the County and Discovery Place, Inc. for the lease of the new Discovery Place Nature museum that will be located on a portion of Tax Parcel 151-041-01 at Freedom Park.

*Background: On April 16, 2019 the Board authorized the County Manager to negotiate and execute a Development Agreement between the County and Discovery Place, Inc. ("DPI"). As part of the FY 2019-2023 Capital Improvement Plan the County allocated \$16,000,000 for a joint development with DPI for replacement of the existing nature museum. The facility is currently located at 1658 Sterling Road on the Freedom Park site, and the new building will be at this same location. The existing building has outlived its useful life and needs replacing to modernize the facility. The total design & construction cost is estimated at \$40+ Million with the County contributing \$16,000,000 and DPI responsible for providing the balance of the funds. The Development Agreement describes general requirements for DPI to secure funding for their portion of the project and provide documentation of such funding commitments to the County. Once the new building is constructed, DPI will lease it from the County.*

*The next step is for the County to enter a construction contract with Rodgers Builders, the Construction Manager at Risk selected for the project. Before entering the contract, the County needs documentation of DPI's funding sources for construction. DPI's bank providing the construction loan requires DPI to demonstrate the County has authorized the negotiation and*

## **Meeting Minutes**

**November 21, 2023**

*execution of a lease of the future facility before the loan documentation will be provided. If approved by the board, the County Manager will negotiate and execute a lease consistent with the following major business terms:*

*Premises: Approximate 13-acre site with surface parking and outdoor exhibits and an approximate 26,000 SF New Building*

*Rent: One Dollar (\$1.00) per year*

*Initial term: Thirty-five (35) years*

*Renewals: Following the 35-year initial period, the lease will automatically renew for three (3) consecutive five (5) year periods, unless terminated by either County or DPI.*

*Operations/Maintenance: DPI will be responsible for day-to-day operations of the nature museum, including interior janitorial services and maintenance of all interior and exterior exhibits. County is responsible for repair, replacement, and maintenance of building systems, including structural, electrical, plumbing, HVAC, life safety systems, and exterior of the building and site.*

*Utilities: DPI to pay for water, sewer, gas, electric, cable services and data connectivity for their network. County to pay for data connectivity for its network.*

### **23-0675      RESOLUTION CERTIFYING NOVEMBER 7, 2023, BOND REFERENDUM RESULTS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Jerrell, and unanimously carried, to adopt a resolution certifying the results of the Special Election held November 7, 2023, regarding the \$2,500,000,000 School Bond Referendum and to direct the Clerk to the Board to publish the Statement of Result of Special Election held November 7, 2023.

*Background: This action is necessary to comply with statutory requirements to authenticate the bond referendum. This is the final action required by the board relative to the referendum.*

Meeting Minutes  
November 21, 2023

**RESOLUTION CERTIFYING AND DECLARING THE RESULTS OF THE SPECIAL BOND  
REFERENDUM ON THE BOND ORDER AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL  
OBLIGATION BONDS, HELD FOR THE COUNTY OF MECKLENBURG, NORTH CAROLINA  
ON NOVEMBER 7, 2023**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mecklenburg, North Carolina has considered the Certificate of Canvass of the Mecklenburg County Board of Elections canvassing the referendum held for the County of Mecklenburg, North Carolina on November 7, 2023 and certifying the result thereof to the Board of Commissioners and has canvassed the result of said Referendum.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF MECKLENBURG, NORTH CAROLINA** that it be and hereby is certified and declared that the number of voters registered and qualified to vote at said Referendum was [776,318].

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that it be and hereby is certified and declared that the total number of voters who voted "Yes" in answer to the question

"SHALL the order authorizing \$2,500,000,000 of bonds plus interest to provide funds to pay the costs of constructing, improving, and renovating school facilities, specifically including, among other things, the construction and renovation of classroom facilities, the construction and equipping of athletic facilities, the acquisition and installation of furnishings and equipment, the acquisition of land, rights-of-way and easements in land required therefor, and related public infrastructure development and providing that additional taxes may be levied in an amount sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds be approved?";

was [75,369]. The total number of voters who voted "No" in answer to such question was [44,141]. The question in the form submitted was APPROVED by the affirmative vote of a majority of those who voted thereon at said referendum.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a statement substantially in the form hereinafter set forth declaring the result of said referendum will be filed in the Clerk to the Board of Commissioners' office and inserted in the minutes of the Board of Commissioners and published in accordance with law.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this Resolution shall become effective on the date of its adoption.

Read, approved and adopted this 21st day of November, 2023.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
COUNTY OF MECKLENBURG,  
NORTH CAROLINA

\_\_\_\_\_  
George Dunlap  
Chairman of the Board of Commissioners

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kristine M. Smith, Clerk to the  
Board of Commissioners  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA )

**Meeting Minutes  
November 21, 2023**

COUNTY OF MECKLENBURG                    )  
  )  
  ss:

I, Kristine M. Smith, Clerk to the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mecklenburg, North Carolina, ***DO HEREBY CERTIFY*** that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of a resolution titled **"RESOLUTION CERTIFYING AND DECLARING THE RESULTS OF THE SPECIAL BOND REFERENDUM ON THE BOND ORDER AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, HELD FOR THE COUNTY OF MECKLENBURG, NORTH CAROLINA ON NOVEMBER 7, 2023"** duly adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mecklenburg, North Carolina, at a meeting held on the 21st day of November, 2023 and that such proceedings are to be recorded in the minute books of said Board of Commissioners.

***WITNESS*** my hand and the seal of the County of Mecklenburg, North Carolina, this the \_\_\_\_ day of November, 2023.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk to the Board of Commissioners  
County of Mecklenburg, North Carolina

(SEAL)

***Resolution recorded in full in Ordinance Book 52, Document #51.***

## **Meeting Minutes**

**November 21, 2023**

### **23-0684 GRANT APPLICATION – PROVIDE VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAMMING IN NEIGHBORHOODS AND SCHOOLS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Jerrell, and unanimously carried, to affirm the submission of a renewal grant application in the amount of up to \$40,000 to the Project Safe Neighborhoods Task Force of the Western District of North Carolina to provide neighborhood and school-based violence prevention programs in Mecklenburg County; and if awarded, recognize, receive and appropriate the award amount in the General Grant Fund (G001) within Community Support Services and to also adopt the grant project ordinance in the General Grant Fund (G001).

*Background: The mission of Community Support Services Intervention and Prevention Services Division is to connect the dots among multiple forms of violence to promote a healthier, safer and more equitable community through intervention, primary and secondary prevention. Funding from the Project Safe Neighborhoods initiative for the Western District of North Carolina will be used by the department to work with community stakeholders to address violent crime. CSS will support this work through both community and school-based prevention efforts including Teen Dating Violence Prevention programming in schools and the community, providing the Do The Write Thing program to middle school-aged teenagers, and engaging in violence prevention conferences. It is anticipated that the grant will be awarded for a 1-year term with a possible renewal after the term.*

**Meeting Minutes  
November 21, 2023**

**GRANT PROJECT ORDINANCE**

**WHEREAS,** Mecklenburg County is applying and/or has been awarded a grant from the Western District of North Carolina. The grant has been made available to Mecklenburg County under the Project Safe Neighborhoods Task Force up to the amount of \$40,000.00; and

**WHEREAS,** the grant funds must be used to provide neighborhood and school-based violence prevention programs in Mecklenburg County.

**WHEREAS,** the Mecklenburg County Board of County Commissioners deems this activity to be a worthy and desirable undertaking;

**NOW, THEREFORE, PURSUANT TO N.C.G.S. 159-13.2, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MECKLENBURG COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS that:**

- Section 1. The project described in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Task Force grant application is hereby authorized to be undertaken for the duration of the grant.
- Section 2. The County Manager is authorized to execute the grant agreement and other documents that are required or appropriated for the County to receive the Project Safe Neighborhoods Task Force and to undertake the project. The County Manager is directed to take steps necessary to ensure compliance with all spending and reporting requirements Western District of North Carolina.
- Section 3. The following revenues are anticipated for Mecklenburg County in fund G001 to complete this project:

**Western District of North Carolina  
\$40,000.00**

- Section 4. The following amount is appropriated in the G001 to complete this project:

**\$40,000.00**

Adopted this 21 day of November 2023

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk to the Board

***Grant Application recorded in full in Ordinance Book 52, Document #53.***

## **Meeting Minutes**

**November 21, 2023**

### **23-0685      ENGINEERING CONSULTANT TEAM SELECTION – FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2024 POND DREDGING/REHABILITATION FOR PARK ROAD PARK & FREEDOM PARK PROJECTS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Griffin, and unanimously carried, to authorize the County Manager to negotiate the terms and conditions, including fees, and execute a contract for Engineering Services with LJB Engineering-for the FY 2024 Park Road Park Pond Dredging/Rehabilitation & Freedom Park Projects, and in the event negotiations with the selected firm are unsuccessful, approve negotiations and contracting with the alternate firm.

*Background: Mecklenburg County has the need to select and contract with a professional engineering firm for the design of the following two recently funded pond dredging and rehabilitation projects: Park Road Park and Freedom Park*

### **23-0686      AMENDMENT TO BYLAWS-MECKLENBURG COUNTY HUMAN RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Powell, and unanimously carried, to approve an amendment to the Bylaws of the Human Resources Advisory Committee.

*Background: The Human Resources Advisory Committee (HRAC) modifies its bylaws occasionally to reflect the committee's purpose and vision.*

*The HRAC supports all changes recommended.*

*The highlights of the proposed changes include:*

- 1. Add strategy and development to the committee representation.*
- 2. Justification for the Committee's organization and collaboration with the Human Resources Department: This process enables the county to compete more effectively with the private sector for qualified candidates.*

### **23-0688      GRANT APPLICATION – NATIONAL CENTER FOR FATALITY REVIEW AND PREVENTION**

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Jerrell, and unanimously carried, to affirm the submission of a grant application to the National Center for Fatality Review and Prevention (National Center) up to \$50,000 to Build Capacity for Local, State and Tribal Child Death Review and Fetal-Infant Mortality Review Teams and If awarded, amend the 2023-2024

## **Meeting Minutes**

**November 21, 2023**

annual budget ordinance to recognize, receive and appropriate the award amount to the General fund (0001) within Public Health.

*Background: The grant funding is to Build Capacity for Local, State and Tribal Child Death Review and Fetal-Infant Mortality Review Teams. Mecklenburg County is requesting up to \$50,000 in grant funding to implement: Count the Kicks Stillbirth Prevention Program. The grant period is from December 15, 2023 - June 30th, 2024.*

*The purpose is to implement this evidence-based stillbirth prevention program that teaches expectant parents the method of and importance of monitoring their baby's movements daily during the third trimester of pregnancy. The goals of this program are to lower the stillbirth rate, improve outcomes for moms, and safe health births. Count the Kicks helps expectant parents get to know their baby's normal movement patterns and empowers them to contact their healthcare provider right away if there is change in what's normal for their baby.*

*Mecklenburg County Health Department does not currently have a stillbirth prevention program in place, and the need for this in our community is strong. With Count the Kicks, county residents will benefit from proven, evidence-based pregnancy education.*

*The application deadline is November 15, 2023.*

## **23-0693 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 Leake, seconded by Commissioner Jerrell, and unanimously carried, that there being no further business to come before the Board that the meeting be adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

---

Kristine M. Smith, Clerk to the Board

---

George Dunlap, Chair