

Mecklenburg County Manager's "Board Bulletin"

Mecklenburg County [web@subscriptions.mecklenburgcountync.gov]

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To: sjohnston@tueforumclt.org



MECKLENBURG COUNTY GOVERNMENT



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

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January 13, 2015

Executive Team Transition

Assistant County Manager Michelle Lancaster has announced her plans to leave the organization effective April 14, 2015. Lancaster will continue in her role as Assistant County Manager and will assist in the transitioning of the human services agency departments. Ms. Lancaster plans to pursue other interests and will share more details when they are finalized.

I am taking the following steps to ensure a smooth transition in light of her impending departure.

Effective immediately, I will begin serving as the Director of the Consolidated Health and Human Services Agency (CHSA). This includes overseeing the Department of Social Services (DSS), the Health Department, Community Support Services, the Provided Services Organization (PSO) and other related programs and services.

Deputy County Manager Chris Peek will oversee Child Support Enforcement (CSE) and the Behavioral Health Division (BHD). Additionally, as part of the implementation of the Facilities Master Plan, he will oversee the consolidated services delivery project for CHSA.

Assistant County Manager Leslie Johnson will provide staff support to the Task Force on Economic Opportunity. Assistant County Manager Mark Foster will manage the reorganization of the PSO. Other assignments will be made as needed on a go forward basis.

The search for Ms. Lancaster's replacement is underway.

I remain committed to making this change seamless for the organization and our customers.

Influenza Update

As Influenza season is progressing, Mecklenburg County Health Department staff is doing what it can to track the spread of the virus. Over the past week, the number of reported cases and deaths has increased significantly statewide. Staff wants to make you aware of important flu prevention tips available on the [County website](#). You can also find flu prevention information and the latest numbers at www.flu.nc.gov.

General Assembly Convenes

On Wednesday, Jan. 14, the North Carolina General Assembly officially convenes for its 2015 long session. The House and Senate will elect their leadership on Wednesday, and then each is expected to recess until Jan. 28. County staff will continue working closely with our delegation on items in the Board's legislative agenda, as well as on other items of County interest.

As an example, the General Assembly is expected to revisit childcare subsidies which are administered in Mecklenburg County by Child Care Resources. We will be working closely with Child Care Resources to promote a subsidy program that most effectively serves recipients. Also this week, the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners will meet for its annual legislative conference. We will continue to work closely with the state association on County issues of statewide significance.

Throughout the session, expect to see regular updates on legislative action in this publication. Additionally, if you have any questions about items before the General Assembly, please contact Brian Francis at 980-314-2905 or

Mecklenburg Livable Communities Plan

At the Jan. 21 Board meeting, you will be asked to adopt a resolution, endorsing the Mecklenburg Livable Communities Plan and supporting the implementation of actions that align to County goals, priorities and initiatives. As you may recall, in April 2013, the Board agreed to join the seven local jurisdictions and Foundations For The Carolinas in developing a unified community vision and plan. Input has been received from residents and community partners from the private, non-profit and academic sectors. This Plan is reflective not only of community voice but also of the hard work that has been undertaken to develop the more than 200 plans that were used to inform the resident workgroup assembly of the Plan. Throughout development of the Plan, presentations and feedback have been received from elected bodies throughout the County (inclusive of County, City, and Town elected officials) as well as more than 50 private and non-profit sector stakeholders. To date, we have received positive responses from 105 entities that will join our local governments in implementing actions to support this plan.

The Mecklenburg Livable Communities Plan will be a tool for facilitating opportunities for collaboration. It also will serve as a single-source document for residents to have a holistic understanding of the numerous initiatives that local government, non-profit agencies and private sector businesses are undertaking to make our community a great place to live and work.

As we move forward, I envision this plan serving as the backdrop to the County's strategic planning efforts and will incorporate the applicable components as we develop our FY17 -19 department business plans. Additional details on this effort will be shared at the Board's annual retreat.

If you have any questions in advance of the meeting, contact Assistant County Manager Leslie Johnson at 980-314-2910 or Leslie.Johnson@mecklenburgcountync.gov.

Park and Recreation Announces Full Slate of Construction Projects for 2015

2015 will be another big year for the Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation Department. Staff is expected to begin work on or complete several projects around the County, including:

Berewick Park ball fields
Campbell Creek Greenway - W.T. Harris to Lockmont Drive
Eagles Landing Park
Evergreen Nature Preserve
Flat Branch Nature Preserve
Friendship Sportsplex- Phase 1
Holly Bend House renovations
Mecklenburg County Aquatic Center renovations
Mecklenburg County Sportsplex - Phase 2
West Charlotte Recreation Center renovations

For more information on Park and Recreation, visit www.parkandrec.com or contact Jim Garges at 980-314-1012, or James.Garges@MecklenburgCountync.gov

County Closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Just as a reminder, the County will be closed on Monday, Jan. 19 in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

The next Board of County Commissioners meeting will take place on Wednesday, Jan. 21 at 6 p.m. The next Board Bulletin will be sent on Tuesday, Jan 20.

CALENDAR REMINDERS

- Wednesday, January 21, 5-6 p.m. – BOCC Regular Meeting, Informal Session, CMGC CH 14
- Wednesday, January 21, 6 p.m. – BOCC Regular Meeting, Formal Session, CMGC Meeting Chamber
- Tuesday, February 3, 5-6 p.m. – BOCC Regular Meeting, Informal Session, CMGC CH 14
- Tuesday, February 3, 6 p.m. – BOCC Regular Meeting, Formal Session, CMGC Meeting Chamber

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