

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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May 11, 2015

General Assembly Update

I spent this past Wednesday in Raleigh meeting with members of our legislative delegation from both houses and both parties. All of the members that I spoke with were interested in the County's perspective and interested in working with us on important issues. Most of our conversations focused on proposals to redistribute sales taxes and erode the property tax base. I am committed to continuing to build on our relationships with members of the delegation and will continue to engage them on issues of mutual concern.

Of particular concern is House Bill 168, legislation that would exempt builder's inventory from taxation. In essence, any property that is under construction both commercial and residential would not be subject to taxation until completion.

Working with our delegation, the NCACC and the bill sponsor, we are attempting to make several changes to the bill that would improve the legislation. These include: 1) Clarifying that the exemption is only available to licensed General Contractors; 2) Clarifying that the bill only applies to residential real estate; 3) Allowing us to collect a prorated tax when the property is sold by the builder; 4) Protecting the current tax status of subdivided property (the bill would require undeveloped subdivisions to be taxed as acreage, rather than the more valuable subdivided lots); and 5) Change the effective date from 7/1/15 to 7/1/16.

While we believe that even changed legislation would unnecessarily erode the County tax base, we believe that legislation incorporating these changes is fair to both the county and homebuilders. It is unclear when this bill will be heard in the House Finance Committee, but I will keep you apprised of any developments as it moves forward.

Following the crossover deadline of the previous week, there was a significant decline in formal action taken by the General Assembly. The House did pass a regulatory reform bill that was not subject to crossover. The bill, which I discussed in last week's Board Bulletin, could impact several areas in LUESA. Our staff continues to work with legislators to find compromises that will allow us to continue to protect the health and safety of our residents.

Chairman Fuller to Host Community Meeting

Chairman Trevor M. Fuller will host a community meeting on Monday, May 18, from 6:30 p.m. to 8

p.m. at Pinewood Elementary School, 805 Seneca Place, Charlotte.

I will be there, along with several County department directors and other speakers to discuss economic development, the Cross-Charlotte Trail, immunizations, smoke-free Mecklenburg, libraries and more.

For more information, contact Fallon Hopkins at 980-314-2924 or Fallon.Hopkins@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov.

DSS Employee Appreciation Event

The Department of Social Services will hold its annual Spring Fling event on May 13 at the Wallace H. Kurlalt Centre on Billingsley Road. DSS will close at noon on Wednesday to give all employees a chance to participate.

This is a great event to reward DSS workers for their hard work and commitment to those in our county who are most in need.

If you have any questions about the DSS Employee Appreciation Event, please contact Terri Brown at 980-314-6126 or Terri.Brown@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov.

CALENDAR REMINDERS

- Tuesday, May 12, 1:30 p.m. – Planning Commission Ad Hoc Appointment Committee, CMGC 11th Floor Large Conference Room
- Tuesday, May 12, 3 p.m. – BOCC Budget/Public Policy Workshop, CMGC Room 267
- Monday, May 18, 6:30 – 8 p.m. – Chairman Fuller will host a community meeting at Pinewood Elementary School, 805 Seneca Place, Charlotte
- Tuesday, May 19, 3 p.m. – BOCC Special Budget/Public Policy Workshop, CMGC Room 267
- Tuesday, May 19, 5 – 6 p.m. – BOCC Regular Meeting, Informal Session, CMGC CH 14
- Tuesday, May 19, 6 p.m. – BOCC Regular Meeting, Formal Session, CMGC Meeting Chamber

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