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## Mecklenburg County Manager's "Board Bulletin"

Mecklenburg County [web@subscriptions.mecklenburgcountync.gov]

**Sent:** Monday, December 17, 2018 9:34 PM

**To:** Steve Johnston



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**Dec. 17, 2018**

### State and Federal Legislative Update

#### State Update

The General Assembly informally concluded its business for the 2017-2018 biennium.

During the recent three-week reconvening, the Senate and House considered a variety of issues, including many related to the recently passed constitutional amendments.

Bills passed by both chambers have been sent to the governor. The General Assembly will return by Dec. 31, 2018 to address any bills vetoed by Gov. Cooper.

The 2019-2020 session will begin in mid-January. The County looks forward to working with its delegation.

#### Federal Update

This past week, Congress approved a \$867 billion farm bill. The primary role of the bill is to allocate funds to American farmers. However, it also includes provisions for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) which so many of our residents depend on for subsistence. During Senate and House deliberations, the County shared concerns regarding the impact that suggested funding cuts and stricter work requirements would have on children, adults and families in Mecklenburg. Fortunately, the suggested cuts and stricter work requirements weren't included in the final bill that passed. We appreciate the opportunity to provide comments to members of our Congressional delegation on the critical issues that affect our County.

For more information, contact, Starla Tanner, legislative affairs liaison, at 980-314-2884 or [Starla.Tanner@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov](mailto:Starla.Tanner@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov).

### Air Quality Staff Leading Effort to Create 'Breathing Room'

During ozone season 2018, Mecklenburg County remained in compliance with the health-based standard for ground-level ozone. The County's compliance value of 70 parts per billion (ppb) narrowly meets the 70-ppb health standard set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). However, Mecklenburg County experienced five days when air quality was unhealthy for sensitive groups (e.g. seniors, children, asthmatics).

County [Air Quality](#) staff are working to identify ways to put "Breathing Room" between local

compliance values and the health-based ozone standard. A review of existing stakeholder-developed plans that align with air quality, like [Livable Meck](#), led to 15 strategies that will reduce local air pollution. To prioritize these strategies, Air Quality has solicited input from over 450 stakeholders ranging from middle and high school youth, to elected officials and city planners, to business leaders and manufacturing workers. Public input is still ongoing and will shape the future of Breathing Room. This path forward will be presented to the Board in early 2019.

Work on Breathing Room is being completed in line with [LUESA's](#) Strategic Business Plan (Goal 3, Objective 1) and the EPA's Ozone Advance program.

For more information, contact Megan Green, Air Quality program manager, at 980-314-3386 or [Megan.Green@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov](mailto:Megan.Green@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov).

### Charlotte-Mecklenburg Youth Council Hosts Alumni Night Event Tomorrow

Tomorrow evening beginning at 6 p.m., the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Youth Council will host its annual Alumni Night event at the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center.

Students will welcome past members and future emerging leaders to learn about the Youth Council -- the official youth advisory organization for Charlotte, Mecklenburg County and CMS. Students will also discuss college and career readiness and how to get involved in civic life. All high school students are encouraged to attend.

For more information, [click here](#) or contact Community Relations Coordinator Christine Edwards at 704-975-5042 or [Christine.Edwards@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov](mailto:Christine.Edwards@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov).

### Happy Holidays

Mecklenburg County government offices will be closed on Monday, Dec. 24 and Tuesday, Dec. 25, 2018 for the Christmas holiday.

Our next Board Bulletin will be sent on Monday, Jan. 7, 2019.

Happy holidays!

#### CALENDAR REMINDERS

- Tuesday, Dec. 18, 11:30 a.m. – Assessor Ken Joyner will participate in a prerecorded interview on WFAE about the 2019 revaluation. The interview is expected to air between 4-6 p.m. during the Dec. 18 *All Things Considered* show.
- Tuesday, Dec. 18, 5-6 p.m. – BOCC Regular Meeting, Informal Session, CMGC Room CH-14
- Tuesday, Dec. 18, 6 p.m. – BOCC Regular Meeting, Formal Session, CMGC Meeting Chamber

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