



Early Voting Began October 15 | Election Day November 3



# **Campaign Weekly Update**

On the 2020 general election ballot, City of Charlotte voters have the opportunity to approve a \$197.2 million bond referenda package that will fund construction and revitalization of transportation corridors including streets and sidewalks, more affordable housing, and improvements to neighborhoods in established and emerging high-growth areas. At end end of your ballot, please vote YES or all three bonds: \$102.7 million for streets, \$50 million for housing and \$44.5 million for neighborhoods.

Visit Website







#### **Know Your Ballot Before You Go**

Before you vote, become familiar with your ballot. The city bonds referenda are at the very end of the ballot and are pretty lengthy. The language can be overwhelming and even misleading. Here's why: The ballot language is set by the state statutes and includes the reference "taxes may be levied." But, it's important to note, the city anticipated issuing these bonds and included the debt financing cost to cover them when it set the budget and tax rate. NO property tax increase will be required to pay for these bonds.

To view your sample ballot by address, visit Mecklenburg Board of Elections.

#### **REFERENDA**

City of Charlotte Transportation Bonds

"SHALL the order authorizing \$102,732,000 of bonds plus interest to provide funds to pay the capital costs of constructing, reconstructing, enlarging, extending and improving certain streets, including streets and roads constituting a part of the State highway system or otherwise the responsibility of the State and including the cost of related studies, streetscape and pedestrian improvements, relocation of utilities, plans and design; acquiring, constructing, reconstructing, widening, extending, paving, milling, resurfacing, grading or improving streets, roads, intersections, parking lots and pedestrian and bicycle paths; acquiring, constructing, reconstructing or improving sidewalks, curbs, gutters, storm drainage, bridges, overpasses, underpasses and grade crossings and

#### City of Charlotte Housing Bonds

"SHALL the order authorizing \$50,000,000 of bonds plus interest to pay the capital costs of housing projects for the benefit of persons of low income, or moderate income, or low and moderate income, including construction of infrastructure improvements related thereto and the acquisition of land and rights-of-way required therefor, and providing that additional taxes may be levied in an amount sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds be approved?"



O No

#### City of Charlotte Neighborhood Improvement Bonds

"SHALL the order authorizing \$44,500,000 of bonds plus interest to provide funds to pay the capital costs of infrastructure improvements for various neighborhoods of the City, including the cost of related studies, plans and design, acquiring, constructing, reconstructing improving, installing or providing curbs, gutters, storm drainage, sidewalks, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and relocation of utilities; paving, milling, resurfacing, grading or improving streets, roads and intersections, providing public open space, landscaping, lighting and traffic controls, signals and markers, and acquiring any necessary equipment, land, interests in land and rights-of-way therefor, and providing that additional taxes may be levied in

providing related landscaping, lighting and traffic controls, signals and markers; and the acquisition of land and rights-of-way in land required therefor, and providing that additional taxes may be levied in an amount sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds be approved?"



an amount sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds be approved?"



**End of Ballot** 

# SPOTTED: Bonds Supporters at the Polls 😌

For those who have voted early (in person) already or have been watching our social media channels, you may have been introduced to our vote YES cardboard crew. Our life-size supporters are 'working hard' at the early voting locations to catch voters' eyes and invite them to vote YES for the bonds at the end of the ballot. Each cutout is equipped with a customized QR code that, when scanned, will play a special message from that person.

Keep an eye out for Mayor Lyles and volunteers Kathy, Ryan, Sam, Maggie and LaWanda, and if spotted, please snap a selfie and tag us (#VoteYesForBonds)! And make sure you're following us on <a href="Facebook">Facebook</a>, <a href="Twitter">Twitter</a> and <a href="Instagram">Instagram</a>.

Visit our website's early voting page for a list of all locations.



## **Facebook Live Recordings**

Over the past week, we've hosted three successful Facebook Live Bonds Discussions, each focusing on a bond topic. If you missed the events, you can access them on our website or by the individual links below:

#### Friday, October 16 Bonds Discussion: Housing

Speaker Pam Wideman, director of the City of Charlotte's Housing and Neighborhood Services, provided information about how the city uses affordable housing bonds. The event

was moderated by John Kindbom, Canopy REALTOR Association President.



Click here to view the Facebook Live video recording.

## Monday, October 19

#### **Bonds Discussion: Streets**

Speaker Kieth Cockrell, campaign co-chair and Global Technology & Operations Chief Operating Officer at Bank of America, discussed the \$102.7 million streets bond and its importance to the city's quality of life and economic vitality. The event was moderated by Tracy Montross, Regional Director of Government Affairs at American Airlines.

Click here to view the Facebook Live video recording.

#### Wednesday, October 21

**Bonds Discussion: Neighborhood Improvements** 

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Speaker Angela Yochem, campaign co-chair and EVP and Chief Digital and Technology Officer at Novant Health, discussed the \$44.5 million neighborhoods bond that supports the Corridors of Opportunity and Comprehensive Neighborhood Improvement Program (CNIP). The event was moderated by Steve Allison, MVA Public Affairs.

Click here to view the Facebook Live video recording.

### Project Spotlight: Bicycle Facilities 🚲



Over the years, bicycles have grown in popularity beyond recreation and sport, as a key mode of transportation for commuters in our city. This may be, in part, due to the Charlotte BIKES plan, which is the city's blueprint focused on making Charlotte a bicycle-friendly community.

Included in the streets bond is \$4 million that will go toward expanding the bicycle network in Charlotte with the goal of making bicycling safe, comfortable and convenient for people of all ages, abilities and neighborhoods. Additionally, if approved, \$2 million will fund various bikeway and

sidewalk projects throughout the Independence Boulevard corridor, furthering connectivity and accessibility for both pedestrians and bicyclists.

To learn more about the Charlotte Bikes plan, please visit the City of Charlotte Transportation website.

To learn more about the Independence area sidewalk and bikeway improvements, <u>please visit the City of Charlotte project website</u>.

And for more information about the streets bond and other transportation projects included, <u>please visit</u> <u>our website</u>.

# **Frequently Asked Question**



# Q: What is the timeframe for constructing the projects and issuing the bonds to pay for them?

A: Bonds are issued as projects are being constructed in order to minimize the financing costs during the construction period. Some projects are public-private collaborations (such as development of certain housing communities), meaning the timing will largely depend upon the specific project.

Visit our website's FAQ page for more frequently asked questions.

Improving Charlotte, Connecting People.







Vote Yes For Bonds Committee | 330 S. Tryon Street, Charlotte, NC 28202

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