# Mecklenburg County Manager's "Board Bulletin"

From Mecklenburg County <web@subscriptions.mecklenburgcountync.gov>

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December 14, 2020

#### COVID-19 Update

As of 4:30 a.m., there were 51,604 cases of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) with 491 deaths due to COVID-19 reported among Mecklenburg County residents.

Click here for the latest data report.

#### Mental Health Virtual Town Hall

Mecklenburg County residents will have a chance to learn how to manage stress and anxiety associated with COVID-19 during a Mental Health Virtual Town Hall.

The County's COVID-19 Renewal and Recovery Task Force is hosting the town hall on Thursday, December 17 from 6-7:30 p.m.

Panelists will discuss the mental and emotional effects of the pandemic and share how the community may access local mental health resources. The town hall will be moderated by Dr. Gina Navarrete, neuropsychologist and member of the COVID-19 Task Force, and Dr. Aalece Pugh-Lilly, Mecklenburg County Department of Social Services Division Director of Clinical and Contractual Services.

Panelists include: - Gibbie Harris, Mecklenburg County Public Health Director - Kathy Rogers, Executive Director of Mental Health America of Central Carolinas - O'Neale Atkinson IV, LCSWA, Interim Executive Director of Time Out Youth The town hall is open to the public. Residents may access the virtual town hall via MeckHope.com.

For more information on the town hall, contact Dr. Aalece Pugh-Lilly.

#### Next Flu Shot Clinic December 18

The Public Health Department will host its next drive-thru flu shot clinic on Friday, December 18.

The *Flu Fighter Fridays* drive-thru flu shot clinic is one in a series of clinics held throughout November and December to help residents prepare for the flu season.

Flu shots are recommended for anyone ages 6 months or older. There is no out-of-pocket cost for the vaccinations. Insurance is not required, but if residents have insurance, they should bring their insurance ID cards. All attendees should wear a mask to the clinic.

# <u>Flu Fighter Fridays</u>

- Southeast Health Department, 249 Billingsley Rd, Charlotte
- December 18, 10 a.m. 2 p.m.

Click here for more information about the flu vaccine or the event.

# Comment Period for Environmental Leadership Now Open

Mecklenburg County launches the Environmental Leadership Public Comment Survey for a 30-day public review period.

Residents are encouraged to comment on policy language and provide ideas on implementing the proposed initiatives. The comment period begins Wednesday, December 9, 2020 and will be available through Friday, January 8, 2021. The questionnaire may be found on MeckNC.gov and or by clicking here.

To review a copy of the draft Revised Resolution of the Mecklenburg Board Of County Commissioners Modifying The Adopted Environmental Leadership Policy click here. Information on the current in place policy and other environmental resources can be found on Mecklenburg County's Land Use and Environmental Services website.

Comments will be shared with the Board of County Commissioners in advance of their annual retreat in January. More information about Mecklenburg County's Land Use and Environmental Services is available at MeckNC.Gov.

Commissioners with questions about the public comment period or environmental leadership should contact Assistant County Manager Leslie Johnson at (980) 314-2910.

# FY2022 Resident Budget Priority Survey Closing Soon!

There are just over two weeks left to participate in Mecklenburg County's FY2022 Resident Budget Priority Survey!

So far, more than 3900 residents have completed the survey, which is in its third year.

The survey is designed to allow residents to share their input on budget priorities before the budget is adopted.

The FY2022 Resident Budget Priority Survey covers a variety of priority areas such as education, affordable housing, recreation and the environment.

The survey is available until the end of December. The survey can be found on MeckNC.gov. Paper copies of the survey are also available at libraries across the County. Residents may also text the word "budget" to 1-833-686-1234 to complete the survey via their smartphones.

The Meck Budget Simulator is also available for FY2022. The Meck Budget Simulator is another tool designed to gather public input by allowing residents to prepare their own version of the budget by adjusting expenses and revenues.

Results from the budget survey and Meck Budget Simulator will be shared with the Board of County Commissioners during their retreat in January.

For more information on the budget survey, the Meck Budget Simulator or other FY2022 budget events, contact Acting Budget Director Adrian Cox.

### County, City teams up to offer free WI-Fi Service in Lincoln Heights Park

Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation is collaborating with the City of Charlotte to offer free Wi-Fi service in Lincoln Heights Park under the Access Charlotte initiative.

The Access Charlotte Initiative is a two-year pilot program meant to increase internet access for County residents affected by the digital divide.

Park patrons will be able to access the internet throughout the park from any wi-fi enabled device. The anticipated completion date for this project is January 1, 2021.

For more information, contact Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation Management Analyst, Liz Morrell.

## Juror Parking Deck Digital Billboard Project

As many of you will remember, Mecklenburg County has had a vinyl banner to promote County services and programs posted on the County's 4<sup>th</sup> Street Parking Deck (near the County courthouse) on the 4<sup>th</sup> Street side of the building for many years.

This promotional tool has been incredibly popular with County departments and community partners, and as such, the demand for space outpaces the availability. To meet this demand, and to continue to promote the many, many services we provide to the tens of thousands of residents who pass that space each day, we are constructing a digital billboard there which will launch around the first of April.

Structural improvements to the parking deck to hold the new digital billboard began on Dec. 9 and will be completed around Jan. 18, 2021. The installation of the billboard will begin around the first of March and will be complete by the beginning of April, when we hope to have our first ads running.

We are working on a policy to make sure that we have appropriate, vibrant, meaningful content, and that County departments and community partners will be able to utilize this exciting new County promotional tool more effectively. Our contracted digital content provider will receive content from our Public Information Department each month that will allow up to eight ads to run each month.

We will continue to post a new vinyl banner on the I-277 side of the parking deck each month to promote other County services and programs.

If you have any questions about this project, please contact Public Information Manager Andy Fair at 704-995-6156 or Andrew.Fair@MeckNC.gov

#### News Releases:

- Mecklenburg County COVID Data for Dec. 9
- County Leaders Ask Congress for Action on Coronavirus Bill
- Mecklenburg County's Statement on Commitment to Prevent and End Homelessness
- Mecklenburg County OTC Increasing Ways for You to Pay Your Tax Bill
- Comment Period for Environmental Leadership Now Open

Click here to view a full list of news releases.

#### COVID-19 Symptoms:

As the pandemic continues to have an impact on the community, click here to view a list of COVID-19 symptoms.

#### COVID-19 Testing and Medical Advice:

Residents who believe they may have been exposed to the virus can contact the County's Public Health Hotline at 980-314-9400 to speak with a medical professional or for guidance on testing.

Testing locations can be found here.

#### What to Do If You're Feeling Sick:

Click here for more information on what to do if you think you may have been exposed to the virus.

#### Frequently Asked Questions - Residents:

Click here to view a list of the most frequently asked questions related to COVID-19.

#### Resources for County Employees:

#### Employee Rights Under Families First Coronavirus Act

On April 1, the Families First Coronavirus Response Act was signed to help provide additional paid leave for government employees affected by COVID-19.

Click here to learn more about the act.

# CALENDAR REMINDERS

- Tuesday, Dec. 15 BOCC Health and Human Services Committee Meeting CMGC Room 267, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, Dec. 15 BOCC Economic Development Committee Meeting Virtual, 3:30 4:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, Dec. 15 Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners Regular Meeting CMGC Room 267, 6:00 p.m.

The latest MecklenburgCountyNC.gov

# **Board Bulletin**

is now available online.

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