

We're launching new research projects to tackle Charlotte's biggest issues



From UNC Charlotte Urban Institute <unccurbaninstitute@uncc.edu>

To <sjohnston@tuesdayforumcharlotte.org>

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Seeking a new path: Announcing the third Gambrell Faculty Fellows cohort

By Lori Thomas

When the Gambrell Faculty Fellows program started, the world looked different. We launched our first cohort of scholars in 2019, before the COVID-19 pandemic that shut down much of the world and took millions of lives; before the national reckoning on racial injustice touched off by the killing of George Floyd and too many other Black people; and before the political unrest that followed the 2020 elections and left many concerned about the foundations of our democracy.

But in too many ways, both our world and the challenges we're facing in Charlotte still look familiar. These issues now stand out more urgently than ever in Charlotte, demanding honest assessment and effective solutions. Our new Gambrell Faculty Fellows are studying four key challenges or opportunities facing Charlotte and our broader region.



[Register now: Join Andre Perry and UNC Charlotte Chancellor Sharon Gaber at the Nov. 18 Schul Forum](#)

We've been talking about economic mobility in Charlotte for a long time, but have we really moved the needle? And what steps can we take that will make a concrete difference for people in our community, enabling better access to jobs, education, health and the opportunity to improve their quality of life?

That's the focus of the 2021 Schul Forum: Moving the Needle in Charlotte and Beyond. We'll be talking about the challenges facing us and the solutions that we can implement to help our community. See our full lineup — including Andre Perry of the Brookings Institution and Chancellor Sharon Gaber — and register at the link below.

Register for the Nov. 18 Schul Forum



[Is it time for Charlotte to bring back traffic cameras?](#)

By Ely Portillo

The city of Charlotte has a problem: Despite pledging to end traffic deaths by 2030, we're on pace to see as many or even more people killed on the roads this year than last, and officials say speed is the single biggest contributing factor.

Could automated cameras to catch speeders and nab red light-runners be part of the answer, especially as Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police write drastically fewer citations? A Charlotte City Council committee plans to examine the use of technology to enforce traffic laws, including traffic cameras — a program Charlotte ended more than a decade ago.

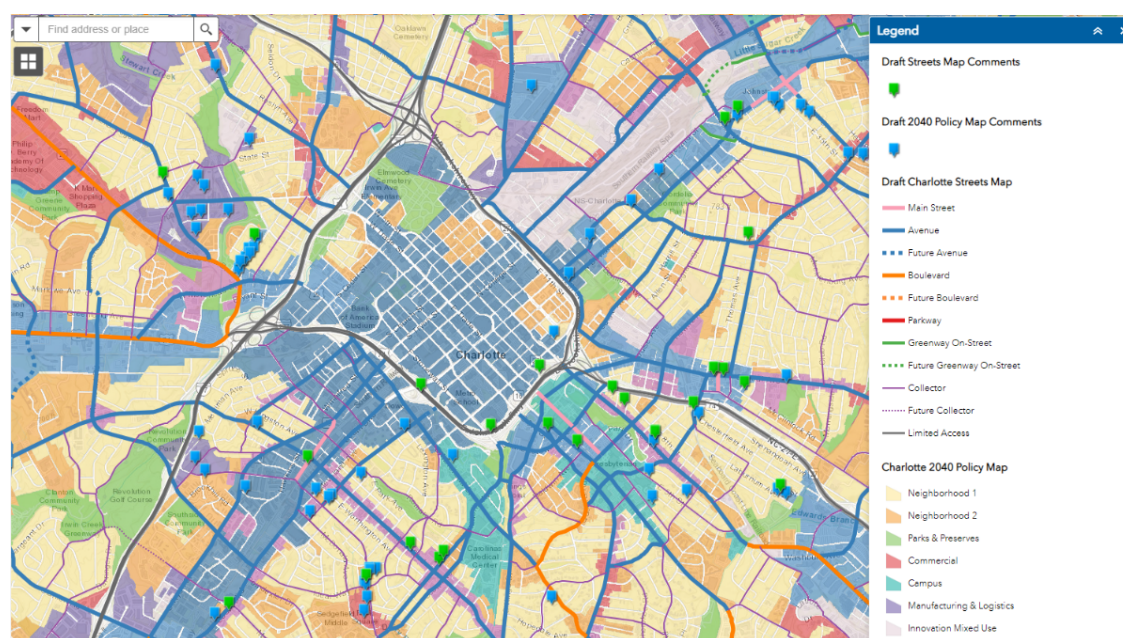
"I think we absolutely should be pursuing it," said Mayor Pro Tem Julie Eiselt.



The price tag for creating a better bus system in Charlotte

By Ely Portillo

Building a better bus network in Charlotte will cost a lot – though not nearly as much as the multibillion-dollar rail projects like the east-west Silver Line that have dominated public conversations so far.



Podcast: You can have a voice in mapping Charlotte's future

On this episode of "Future Charlotte," let's get a little nerdy and jump right into the alphabet soup of zoning, land use, planning and development on this episode. Join us for a talk with Keba Samuel and Phillip Gussman about why the city's planning effort wasn't finished with the 2040 plan's passage, what happens next, and why your input on the policy map and other parts of the plan is vital, right now.

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UNC Charlotte Urban Institute
9201 University City Blvd
Charlotte, NC 28223

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