

Here's what to keep an eye on as Charlotte grows in 2022



From UNC Charlotte Urban Institute <unccurbaninstitute@uncc.edu>
To <sjohnston@tuesdayforumcharlotte.org>
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CHARLOTTE | **URBAN INSTITUTE**



Charlotte leaders start wrestling with state transportation budget shortfall

By Ely Portillo

Charlotte leaders say they won't know the full impact of a nearly \$12 billion funding shortfall for state road improvements until sometime next year, but a pair of projects in University City give a hint on what the funding gap might look like in concrete terms. Think delays for needed roads, bridges and interchanges, plus more local money to fill the hole left by the N.C. Department of Transportation's budget issues.



Watch video highlights from our recent Schul Forum on economic mobility in Charlotte

Over 200 people attended the 2021 Schul Forum, held virtually on Nov. 19, where we examined the question of whether our efforts around economic mobility have really made an impact in Charlotte, and what steps we can take that will make a concrete difference for people in our community. Speakers included Dr. Andre Perry of the Brookings Institution and Charlotte Chancellor Sharon Gaber.



Five things to watch as Charlotte grows in 2022

By Ely Portillo

Despite the pandemic and economic uncertainty, 2021 was a banner year for Charlotte, with major developments announced, a long-awaited new vision plan for

the city and big – if uncertain – steps towards a new transit plan. The city's growth isn't expected to slow in 2022, but the ways in which Charlotte grows could change.



Charlotte's new focus on regionalism in transit brings more people to the table, but can they all agree on a vision?

By Tony Mecia and Ely Portillo

If all the pieces fall into place, some day in the future a new light rail train will pull out of the station at the Central Piedmont Community College Levine Campus in Matthews and head south into Union County. It will turn down a two-lane country road lined with pine trees; run alongside U.S. 74, where there's a stop at the Atrium Health Union West hospital in Stallings; then pull into the end of the line by the Carolina Courts basketball gym and Indian Trail's stately town hall.

That's the vision, anyway.



Natural wonder: Reflecting on leaves, sky and more

By Ruth Ann Grissom

At the beginning of November, I challenged myself to pause for a moment every day to contemplate and appreciate something in the natural world — a month of giving thanks.



WFAE: As Charlotte's goal for zero traffic deaths by 2030 inches closer, traffic fatalities only increase

The UNC Charlotte Urban Institute was featured on a recent episode of "Charlotte Talks," discussing increased traffic deaths and what can be done to make our roads safer. You can listen to the full episode on WFAE's website.

Read more from the UNC Charlotte Urban Institute



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

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