April 27, 2015
Work Session Meeting

Mayor Bryan Hough
Mayor Pro-Tem Perry Toomey
Councilman Jerry Bishop
Councilwoman Carolyn Breyare
Councilman J. Jason Gowen
Councilman Jim Hope
Councilman David Moore
Kemp Michael, City Attorney
Danny Jackson, City Manager

CITY OF MOUNT HOLLY
MOUNT HOLLY CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
Location: Council Chambers

April 27, 2015
6:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER BY THE MAYOR

INVOCATION

SET THE AGENDA

1. Discussion of Signage at the Old Gym	*Mark Jusko*
2. Discussion of the MPO Projects Resolution	*Brian DuPont*
3. Discussion of the Highway 273 Widening Project	*Brian DuPont*
4. Presentation of the 2015-2016 Paving Projects	*Miles Braswell*
5. Discussion of the New Street Sign Design	*Miles Braswell*
6. Discussion of the Architectural Firm for the North Fire Station	*Miles Braswell*
7. Discussion of the System Development Fee Grandfathering Timeline	*Marie Anders*
8. Review of Updates to the City Code	*Marie Anders*
9. Discussion of Alliance for Growth Project	*Mayor Bryan Hough*
10. Adjourn	

City of Mount Holly
Action Agenda Item

To: Mayor and City Council	**Date: 4-22-15**
From: Mark Jusko	**Meeting Date:** 4-27-15

Agenda Item to be considered:

Discussion of signage at Old Gym

Will this require a public hearing? ☐ **YES** X☐ **NO**

Background/Purpose of Request :

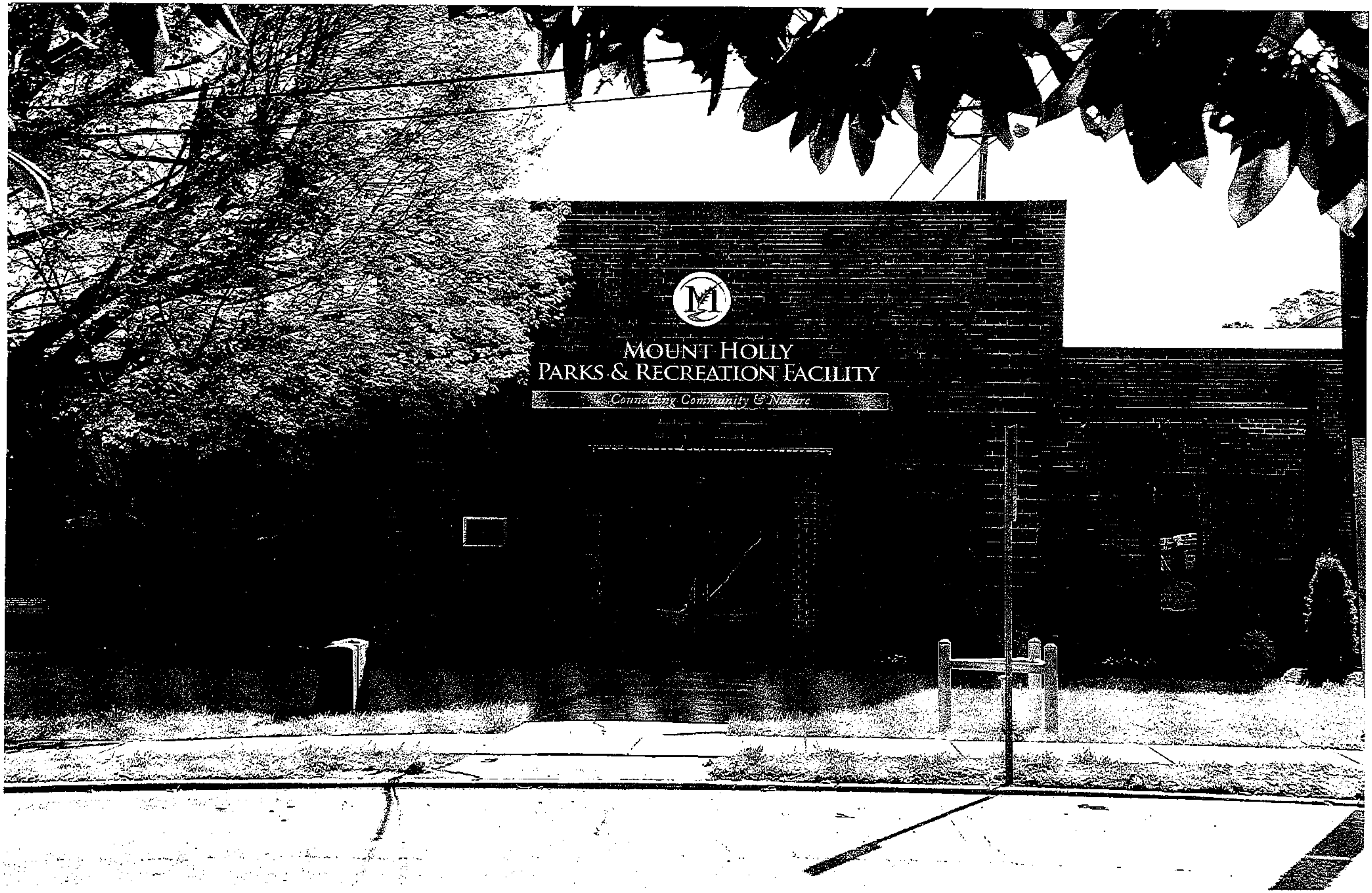
As part of our park signage program we will be installing signage at Catawba Heights Neighborhood Park and Veterans Park this spring. We will have enough budgeted money left over from the two signs to place signage on the Old Gym. At our recent Parks & Recreation Commission meeting we discussed putting a sign over the front door. The Parks & Recreation Commission recommended the wording to read "Mount Holly Parks & Recreation Facility". The sign will also include the Mount Holly brand, and tagline Connecting Community and Nature. There will also be a smaller main entrance sign by the entrance doors near the men's restroom.

Fiscal Impact:			
Will Item affect current budget	☐ YES	X☐ NO	☐ N/A
Reviewed by Finance Director	☐ YES	X☐ NO	☐ N/A
Preaudit Certification required	☐ YES	X☐ NO	☐ N/A
Capital Project Ordinance required	☐ YES	X☐ NO	☐ N/A
Budget Transfer required	☐ YES	X☐ NO	☐ N/A
Total City Dollars:	***$***		
Budget Code			
Reviewed by City Attorney	☐ YES	X☐ NO	☐ N/A

Manager/Staff Recommendation:

Result of City Council Decision:

Attachments: Picture of what sign will look like on Old Gym.


MOUNT HOLLY
PARKS & RECREATION FACILITY
Connecting Community & Nature

City of Mount Holly
Action Agenda Item

To: City Council	**Date:** 4-14-15
From: Brian DuPont	**Meeting Date:** 4-27-15

Agenda Item to be considered: Discussion of Strategic Prioritization Office of Transportation (SPOT) 4.0 Projects to the GCLMPO

Will this require a public hearing? ☐ YES ☒ NO

Background/Purpose of Request : The GCL MPO is in the process of obtaining local projects for re-submittal to the SPOT 4.0 project methodology to rank and fund high impact transportation projects.

Under the SPOT 3.0 conducted in 2014 the following projects were submitted by the City:

1. NC 273 Widening – Tuckaseege Road to A&E Drive(#2 on Regional Tier; #11 on Division Tier)
2. NC 27 – West Charlotte Avenue & Hawthorne Intersection Upgrade (#15 on Regional Tier; #14 on Division Tier)
3. NC 273 Widening – A&E Drive to Lanier Avenue (#17 on Regional Tier)
4. NC 273 Sidewalk (#1 on Division Tier)
5. NC 27 – East Charlotte Avenue bicycle lanes (#2 on Division Tier)
6. Beaty Road sidewalk (#18 on Division Tier)

However, we must resubmit these project for the SPOT 4.0 process, but staff wants to include the following projects:

1. West Catawba Avenue & Hawthorne Street – intersection upgrade similar to project scope of 27/Hawthorne intersection

The two tiers (Regional and Division) represent two sources of funding pots based on a State/Federal allocation formula. Having a project in both tiers increases the projects ability to be funded because the project qualifies for both pots instead of one. The purpose of SPOT is to identify finite projects that have immediate local impacts on traffic modes in the immediate future based on local municipalities needs. A resolution of support for these projects will be needed by the GCLMPO. The MPO will draft a resolution for all municipalities to use, which can be placed on a future consent agenda as needed.

Fiscal Impact:

Will Item affect current budget	☐ YES	☐ NO	☒ N/A
Reviewed by Finance Director	☐ YES	☐ NO	☒ N/A
Preaudit Certification required	☐ YES	☐ NO	☒ N/A
Capital Project Ordinance required	☐ YES	☐ NO	☒ N/A
Budget Transfer required	☐ YES	☐ NO	☒ N/A
Total City Dollars:	*$*		
Budget Code			
Reviewed by City Attorney	☒ YES	☐ NO	☐ N/A

Manager/Staff Recommendation:
Consideration and approval of projects for SPOT 4.0 process.

Result of City Council Decision:

Attachments:

1. **Regional & Division Tier Project Rankings under SPOT 3.0 process**
2.
3.

Recommended Regional Tier Projects

MPO Rank	Project Route	Description	County	Cost	SPOT Score (of 70)	MPO Score (of 100)	MPO Points Assigned
1	NC 73	Widen to Multi-Lanes from Business NC 16 to Vance Road Ext./ Beatties Ford Road	Lincoln	$ 44,258,000	37.41	85	55
* 2	NC 273 South Main Street	Widen to multi-lanes from Tuckaseegee to Highland Street	Gaston	$16,250,000	27.62	80	100
3	NC 279-Lower Dallas Highway	Intersection improvements at intersection of NC 279 and Dallas-Stanley Highway.	Gaston	$2,325,000	48.58	75	100
4	US-74	Placement of Directional Crossovers from US 74 Bus to NC 226 and Management of Access Roads	Cleveland	$12,312,000	28.12	75	100
5	NC 279	Widen to Multi-Lanes from Robinson – Clemmer Road to west of NC 275 in Dallas	Gaston	$14,718,000	25.97	75	100
6	US-74-BUS-Marion St	Realign intersection at NC 150	Cleveland	$1,560,000	49.00	70	100
7	NC 180	NC 226 to NC 150. Widen to Multi-Lanes. Section C: SR 2052 to NC 150.	Cleveland	$19,504,000	23.73	70	100
8	NC 279 S New Hope Road	Widen existing facility to three-lanes from Titman Rd to Union-New Hope Rd with bicycle facilities and sidewalks on both sides of road. Reconfigure intersection at Armstrong Ford.	Gaston	$28,131,000	22.28	70	100
9	US-29-Franklin Blvd	Intersection Improvements at NC 274. Crosswalks, pedheads, turn lanes on every approach.	Gaston	$2,170,000	28.93	65	100
10	US-29 Franklin Boulevard, US-74	SR 2200 (Cox Road) to SR 2339 (Church Street). Add Lane in the Westbound Direction.	Gaston	$8,438,000	21.25	65	100

Recommended Regional Tier Projects

MPO Rank	Project Route	Description	County	Cost	SPOT Score (of 70)	MPO Score (of 100)	MPO Points Assigned
11	NC 274 Union Road	Widen to three lanes from Gaston Day School Rd to Beaty Rd with a portion on new location with sidewalks and bike lanes on both sides of road.	Gaston	$22,538,000	19.89	65	100
12	US-74 New Route - Shelby Bypass	Upgrade Roadway to Freeway from Long Branch to Stoney Point Roads	Cleveland	$41,700,000	26.40	65	100
13	US-74 New Route - Shelby Bypass	Construct Freeway on New Location from NC 150 to Long Branch Road	Cleveland	$45,500,000	26.40	65	100
14	NC 73	Add through lanes on NC 73 at NC 16 Business and other intersection improvements as needed.	Lincoln	$930,000	53.21	60	100
* 15	NC 27-West Charlotte Ave	Intersection improvements and signalization. At Hawthorne St Crosswalks, pedheads, turn lanes on every approach.	Gaston	$2,325,000	25.01	60	100
16	NC 279 Dallas Cherryville Highway	Widen to Multi-Lanes from Lakeside St to Dallas Bessemer City Hwy.	Gaston	$7,400,000	19.86	60	100
* 17	NC 273-Highland Street	Widen two-lane facility to four-lane divided facility from A&E Drive to Lanier Ave with sidewalks and bike lanes on both sides.	Gaston	$17,914,000	19.14	60	100
18	US-74 New Route - Shelby Bypass	Construct Freeway on New Location from west of NC 226 to west of NC 150.	Cleveland	$69,101,000	26.60	60	100
19	I-85	Widen from 6-lanes to 8-lanes from US 321 to US 74.	Gaston	$124,485,000	30.20	60	45

Recommended Division Tier Projects

MPO Rank	Project Name	Description	County	Cost	SPOT Score (of 50)	MPO Score (of 100)	MPO Points Assigned
* 1	NC 273 (S Main St)	Tuckaseegee Rd to Rose St. Construct sidewalks on both sides.	Gaston	$487,600	30.61	90	100
* 2	NC 27 (E Charlotte Ave)	Highland St to Catawba River. Implement road diet for on-street bike facilities.	Gaston	$160,000	28.78	85	89
3	SR1255 (Hudson Blvd); SR2446 (Redbud Dr)	Gaston Day to Redbud; Hudson to S New Hope. Construct sidewalk on one side.	Gaston	$254,800	31.83	85	100
4	US 29/74 (E Franklin Blvd)	Cox Rd to City Limits. Construct missing sidewalk on north side.	Gaston	$276,000	43.09	85	100
5	NC 279-Lower Dallas Highway	Intersection improvements at intersection of Dallas-Stanley Highway. Crosswalks, pedheads, turn lanes on every approach.	Gaston	$2,325,000	38.32	85	100
6	Various Major Intersections	Construct pedestrian improvements to intersections at Wilkinson Blvd and Lakewood Rd; Wilkinson Blvd and Market St; and Eighth Ave and Market St.	Gaston	$128,000	35.31	80	100
7	NC 279 (N New Hope Road)	Franklin Blvd to NC 7. Construct missing sidewalk segments on one side of road.	Gaston	$322,000	42.02	80	100
8	NC 279 (S New Hope Rd)	Armstrong Park Rd to Hudson Blvd. Construct sidewalk on both sides and make ADA and intersection improvements.	Gaston	$380,400	33.93	80	100
9	NC 73	Add thru lanes on NC 73 at NC 16 Bus and other intersection improvements as needed.	Lincoln	$930,000	39.30	80	100
10	Gaston Mall Drive	Extend Gaston Mall Drive from Cox Rd to Franklin Blvd.	Gaston	$2,270,000	33.57	80	100

Recommended Division Tier Projects

MPO Rank	Project Name	Description	County	Cost	SPOT Score (of 50)	MPO Score (of 100)	MPO Points Assigned
11	NC 273 South Main Street	Widen to multi-lanes from Tuckaseegee to Highland Street.	Gaston	$16,250,000	22.14	80	100
12	SR 2200 (Cox Rd)	I-85 to Court Dr. Construct missing sidewalk on both sides.	Gaston	$230,400	37.85	75	100
13	US-74-BUS-Marion St	Realign intersection at NC 150.	Cleveland	$1,560,000	39.05	75	100
14	NC-27-West Charlotte Ave	Intersection improvements and signalization at Hawthorne St. Crosswalks, pedheads, turn lanes on every approach.	Gaston	$2,325,000	19.04	75	100
15	NC-279 S New Hope Road	Widen existing facility from Titman Rd to Union-New Hope Rd to three-lanes with bicycle facilities and sidewalks on both sides of road. Reconfigure intersection at Armstrong Ford.	Gaston	$28,131,000	18.01	75	100
16	NC-73	NC 16 Bus to Beatties Ford Rd. Widen to Multi-Lanes.	Lincoln	$44,258,000	24.98	75	55
17	Lincolnton-Lincoln County Airport	Easement acquisition for obstruction removal.	Lincoln	$158,040	17.35	70	100
18	Beaty Rd	Sidewalk on one side from Smith St to Ferstl Ave.	Gaston	$255,200	28.92	70	100
19	Second Ave	Construct bike facilities and missing sidewalk.	Gaston	$336,400	32.17	70	56

City of Mount Holly
Action Agenda Item

To: City Council	**Date:** 4-14-15
From: Brian DuPont	**Meeting Date:** 4-27-15

Agenda Item to be considered: Discussion of Highway 273 Widening Project

Will this require a public hearing? ☐ YES ☒ NO

Background/Purpose of Request : Staff from Planning, Utility, and Street departments have been talking with Division 12 about the opportunities available for Mount Holly to make the widening project more welcoming as it is one of the City's gateways. As part of the process to amend any improvements to the design, **the City must decide as soon as possible** in order to maintain the schedule for the project found below:

2015 (April to July 2016): NCDOT has hired Gulf Coast, LLC out of Charlotte to handle property acquisition for the project. The total ROW cost for the project is estimated at $6.3 million. Also, during this time utility relocations will begin occurring. Relocations will likely begin after final acquisitions and easements have been obtained.

2016: Continued utility relocations for water, sewer, gas, power, etc. Estimated cost is $1.35 million.

2017: NCDOT is expecting to begin construction January of 2017 and estimated cost to be $12.4 million. The project will include pedestrian sidewalks and bicycle lanes on both sides of the project. There will also be crosswalks at signalized intersections. These locations for crosswalks include:

- NC 273/Beatty Drive and Tuckaseege Road at approaches where sidewalks are proposed under the project or included in the City's pedestrian plan
- South Main Street and Rankin Avenue on all approaches
- N. Highland Street and South Main Street/Food Lion Driveway on all approaches

The project is expected to take 3-5 years (2020-2022) to complete after construction begins.

Fiscal Impact:

Will Item affect current budget	☐ YES	☒ NO	☐ N/A
Reviewed by Finance Director	☐ YES	☐ NO	☒ N/A
Preaudit Certification required	☐ YES	☐ NO	☒ N/A
Capital Project Ordinance required	☐ YES	☐ NO	☒ N/A
Budget Transfer required	☐ YES	☐ NO	☒ N/A
Total City Dollars:	$		
Budget Code			
Reviewed by City Attorney	☒ YES	☐ NO	☐ N/A

Manager/Staff Recommendation:
Consideration and approval of project amendments to include median landscaping and mast arms at signalized intersections.

Result of City Council Decision:

Attachments:
1.
2.
3.

City of Mount Holly
Informational Item

To: Mayor and City Council	**Date:** April 21, 2015
From: Miles Braswell, Director	**Meeting Date:** April 27, 2015

Agenda Item to be considered:

2015-2016 Powell Bill Projects

Will this require a public hearing? ☐ YES ☒ NO

Background/Purpose of Request :

The 2015-2016 Powell Bill projects are based on several considerations, including Pavement Condition Rating (PCR), actual field conditions and the Capital Improvement Plan. For Fiscal Year 2015-2016, we anticipate a similar State allocation as received during Fiscal Year 2014-2015, which was $360,000.

The below table lists the project information for 2015-2016 Powell Bill Projects:

Project	PCR	Repair Description	Estimate
A&E Drive	55	Full Depth Patching, Milling, Resurfacing, Crack Seal, Striping	$120,000
Fire Department Drive	50	Full Depth Patching, Milling, Resurfacing, Striping	$25,000
Deerfield Subdivision	Avg. 68 (Multiple areas w/ different PCR)	Full Depth Patching, Milling, Resurfacing, Crack Seal, Striping	$140,000
Runnymeade Subdivision	55	Full Depth Patching	$40,000
Pothole / Sidewalk Repair	NA	Repairs as needed	$25,000
Miscellaneous Supplies	NA	Recurring supply expenses	$10,000
		TOTAL	$360,000

Fiscal Impact:

Will Item affect current budget	☐ YES	☒ NO	☐ N/A
Reviewed by Finance Director	☐ YES	☒ NO	☐ N/A
Preaudit Certification required	☐ YES	☒ NO	☐ N/A
Capital Project Ordinance required	☐ YES	☒ NO	☐ N/A
Budget Transfer required	☐ YES	☒ NO	☐ N/A
Total City Dollars:	$		
Budget Code			
Reviewed by City Attorney	☐ YES	☒ NO	☐ N/A

Manager/Staff Recommendation: Proceeding with the 2015-2016 Powell Bill projects as presented.

Result of City Council Decision:

None Required – Informational Item Only

Attachments:

City of Mount Holly
Informational Item

To:	Mayor and City Council	**Date:**	April 21, 2015
From:	Miles Braswell, Director	**Meeting Date:**	April 27, 2015

Agenda Item to be considered:

New Street Sign Design

Will this require a public hearing? ☐ YES ☒ NO

Background/Purpose of Request :

In an effort to create visual appeal and increase road awareness, the street signs throughout the City will be replaced with a new street sign that depicts a reflective City logo and the street name.

We plan to prioritize the sign replacements during Fiscal Year 2015-2016, starting with Highway 273, Belmont/Mount Holly Road and the downtown district. As funds permit, the remaining major corridors will be replaced and then continuing to work towards neighborhood areas.

Fiscal Impact:

Will Item affect current budget	☐ YES	☒ NO	☐ N/A
Reviewed by Finance Director	☐ YES	☒ NO	☐ N/A
Preaudit Certification required	☐ YES	☒ NO	☐ N/A
Capital Project Ordinance required	☐ YES	☒ NO	☐ N/A
Budget Transfer required	☐ YES	☒ NO	☐ N/A
Total City Dollars:	$		
Budget Code			
Reviewed by City Attorney	☐ YES	☒ NO	☐ N/A

Manager/Staff Recommendation: Proceeding with installing new signs as presented.

Result of City Council Decision:

None Required – Informational Item Only

Attachments:

City of Mount Holly
Action Agenda Item

To:	Mayor and City Council	**Date:**	April 21, 2015
From:	Miles Braswell, Director	**Meeting Date:**	April 27, 2015

Agenda Item to be considered:

Architectural Firm Selection - North Fire Station

Will this require a public hearing? ☐ **YES** ☒ **NO**

Background/Purpose of Request :

With the recent North Fire Station property purchase, an architectural firm is needed to provide new construction design and construction administration services. During the January 15, 2015 City Council Retreat, staff was tasked with proceeding with the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) process and reconvening the Construction Committee to recommend an architectural firm to design the North Fire Station.

An RFQ was advertised on February 15, 2015 with the Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) due from interested firms on March 10, 2015. Seven (7) firms responded and are listed below:

- ADW Architecture
- Boomerang Design
- Cole & Russell Architects
- Creech & Associates
- Gant Huberman Architects
- Garner & Brown Architects
- Stewart – Cooper – Newell Architects

The Construction Committee received the SOQ's and met on March 12, 2015 to discuss each firm. From this meeting, ADW Architects, Boomerang Design and Creech & Associates were short listed and interviews were held on March 31, 2015. Post interview, staff was requested to visit Boomerang Design's completed fire stations and check their references, as well as check Creech & Associates references, given we were familiar with their construction experience.

On April 21, 2015 the Construction Committee reconvened to discuss Boomerang Design and Creech & Associates reference and construction verifications. After much discussion it was determined that both firms are well qualified to design our North Fire Station; however, Creech & Associates stands out in several regards, listed below (in no particular order):

- Project experience with the City of Mount Holly,
- Proposed civil and structural engineering subconsultants,
- Available workload to commit resources immediately, and
- Positive reference comments.

On behalf of the staff representatives to the Construction Committee, we recommend Creech & Associates to perform architectural design and construction administration services for the North Fire Station.

Fiscal Impact:			
Will Item affect current budget	☐ YES	☒ NO	☐ N/A
Reviewed by Finance Director	☐ YES	☒ NO	☐ N/A
Preaudit Certification required	☐ YES	☒ NO	☐ N/A
Capital Project Ordinance required	☐ YES	☒ NO	☐ N/A
Budget Transfer required	☐ YES	☒ NO	☐ N/A
Total City Dollars:	***$***		
Budget Code			
Reviewed by City Attorney	☐ YES	☒ NO	☐ N/A

Manager/Staff Recommendation: Approval of Creech & Associates to provide a fee for architectural design and construction administration services for the North Fire Station.

Result of City Council Decision:

Attachments: None

PETITION REQUESTING ANNEXATION

Date: April 24, 2015

To the City Council of the City of Mount Holly:

1. We the Undersigned owners of real property respectfully request that the area described in Paragraph 2 below be annexed to the City of Mount Holly.

2. The area to be annexed is contiguous to the City of Mount Holly and the boundaries of such territory are as follows: Gaston County tax PID 181666, Deed Book 4573, Page 748, Gaston County Public Registry; and Gaston County tax PID 181655, Deed Book 4779, Page 1861, Gaston County Public Registry.

3. We acknowledge that any zoning vesting rights acquired pursuant to G.S. 160A-385.1 or 153A-344.1 must be declared and identified on this petition. We further acknowledge that failure to declare such rights on this petition shall result in termination of vested rights previously acquired for this property. (If zoning vested rights are claimed, indicate below and attach proof.)

Name	Address	Do you declare vested rights? (Indicate yes or no.)
JAZ Design Group, LLC	P.O. Box 134 Belmont, NC 28012	Yes

Signature

JAZ Design Group, LLC

By: ______________________
Zarek Melton, member/manager

By: ______________________
Jennifer Melton, member/manager

00019856

Resolution No. ____________

System Development Fee Policy

System Development Fees ("Fees") are set by the City Council from time to time and are due at the time of application for a meter. Credits may be allowed toward these Fees as follows:

REGARDING FEES FOR WATER SERVICE:

A. A Parcel of land which was previously served by municipal water may receive a credit when the owner or developer applies to re-establish water service. This credit is only available if the Parcel was previously served by water (i.e. receiving a water bill). If the City has no record of prior water service to the Parcel, then in order to receive the credit, the landowner must establish, to the satisfaction of the City, that the Parcel was previously served by water. The credit is equal to the Fee in effect at the time of such application corresponding to the size of water meter which previously served the Parcel. By way of example, if a standard 3/4" residential meter previously served the Parcel, then the credit would be equal to the current Fee for a 3/4" residential meter. (However, the meter setting fee still applies.)

B. There is no Fee for fire service lines.

C. There is no Fee charged to a property owner who taps into an existing line belonging to such owner and utilizes only water flowing through the existing water meter serving the Parcel.

REGARDING FEES FOR SEWER SERVICE: A Parcel of land which was previously served by municipal sewer may receive a credit when the owner or developer applies to re-establish sewer service. This credit is only available if the Parcel was previously served by sewer. If the City has no record of prior sewer service to the Parcel, then in order to receive the credit, the landowner must establish, to the satisfaction of the City, that the Parcel was previously served by sewer. The credit will be equal to the Fee in effect at the time of such application which corresponds to the sewer service which previously served the property.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council, City of Mount Holly

FROM: Marie M. Anders, Assistant City Attorney

RE: System Development Fee "Grandfathering" Policy

DATE: April 22, 2015

At the March 23, 2015, Work Session, Council gave direction as to revisions to the "Grandfathering" System Development Fee policy as presented. Attached is a revised draft of this policy removing the limitation that the credit is only available if the land was served by water and sewer within the past five years. This attached re-draft was based upon the consensus of City staff and is presented for Council's review. Jamie Guffey can provide some information regarding the possible financial impact of this policy.

RESOLUTION TO AMEND SECTIONS OF
CHAPTER 2 ENTITLED, "ADMINISTRATION",
OF THE MOUNT HOLLY CITY CODE

BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council hereby amends Chapter 2 entitled, "Administration", of the Mount Holly City Code as follows:

Sec. 2-5 reads as re-written:
"Sec. 2-5. Mayor—Duties generally.

It shall be the duty of the mayor to:

(a) Keep himself informed as to the city's business.

(b) Preside over the meetings of the council.

(c) Sign ~~all~~ contracts, franchises or paper writings authorized by the council and as required by law.

(d) Appoint such committees and outline their powers and duties as he deems necessary.

(e) Make such recommendations as he deems necessary or expedient to the council.

~~(f) Make a monthly report to the council relative to the operation of the city's government for the preceding month.~~

For state law as to powers of mayor generally, see G. S., § 160A-67.
As to proclamation of emergencies generally, Ch. 6 of this Code."

Sec. 2-10 reads as re-written:
"Sec. 2-10. Salaries.

Repealed.~~The Mayor shall receive for his services the sum of Three Hundred Dollars ($300.00) per council meeting, not to exceed Seven Thousand Two Hundred Dollars ($7,200.00) per year. The Council members shall receive for their services the sum of Two Hundred Fifty Dollars ($250.00) per council meeting, not to exceed Six Thousand Dollars ($6,000.00) per year. The compensation shall be calculated based upon the number of meetings held by Council without regard to the actual number of meetings attended by the Mayor or any Council member. The compensation set forth herein shall be effective on July 1, 2000. (Amended June 12, 2000)~~

~~For state law as to authority of council to fix its own compensation and mayor's compensation, see G. S., § 160A-64.~~"

Sec. 2-11 reads as re-written:
"Sec. 2-11. Meetings--Regular.

There shall be one~~two~~ regular meetings~~s~~ of the City Council each month held at the Mount Holly Municipal Complex. The ~~first such~~ meeting shall be on the second Monday of each month beginning at 7:00 PM~~, and the second such meeting shall be on the fourth Monday of each month beginning at 6:30 PM~~. The City Council may establish additional regular meetings at such intervals as it may determine. The City Council may take up such matters as they may elect at ~~either of these two~~ regular meetings. (Code 1961, § 2-19.) (amended 9-12-11).

For state law as to regular and special meetings of council, see G. S., § 160A-71."

Sec. 2-13 reads as re-written:
"Sec. 2-13. Order of business.

The order of business for regular meetings of the council shall be as follows:

(a) ~~Roll call.~~Call to order by the mayor.

(b) ~~Reading and approval of minutes of former meeting.~~Invocation and pledge of allegiance.

(c) ~~Hearing complaints and petitions.~~Approval of the agenda.

(d) ~~Reports of committee~~Approval of the consent agenda and minutes of former meeting.

(e) ~~Unfinished business.~~Presentations.

(f) ~~Regular order, including election of officers, levy of tax and other duties required by law.~~Public hearings.

(g) ~~Passing ordinances.~~Unscheduled public comment.

(h) Old business.

(i) New business.

~~(1) If the council directs any matter to be the special business of a future meeting, the same shall have precedence over all other business at such meeting.~~
~~(2) No proposition shall be entertained by the mayor until it has been seconded, and every proposition shall, when required by the mayor or any member, be reduced to writing.~~

(j) ~~Auditing bills.~~Closed session pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11 (if any required).

(k) Other business.

(l) Adjournment.
(Code 1961, § 2-26.)

For state law as to authority of council to adopt rules of procedure, see G. S., 160A-71."

Sec. 2-21 reads as re-written:
"Sec. 2-21. Personnel Regulations.

The city manager may, in his discretion, establish and amend a "Personnel Policy" from time to time, which policy shall not be an ordinance and shall not vest in any employee a property right or employment contract. Repealed January 5, 1995."

Sec. 2-23 reads as re-written:
"Sec. 2-23. Retirement.

The city enrolls its eligible employees in the Local Government Employees' Retirement System or its successor and other applicable state maintained retirement systems. ~~All employees regardless of the manner of payment shall be eligible for retirement upon attaining the age of sixty five years. All employees of the municipality shall retire upon attaining the age of seventy years; provided, however, that an employee in excess of seventy years of age may be retained as an employee upon the request and approval of a majority of the members of the then existing city council.~~ (11-11-63)

State law reference-Retirement benefits for city employees, G.S., § 160A-163."

Sec. 2-24 reads as re-written:
"Sec. 2-24. City manager--Duties.

The city manager shall have the powers and duties pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 160A-148.
~~In addition to any other duties imposed by state law, it shall be the duty of the city manager:~~

~~(a) To act as director of finance and purchasing agent.~~

~~(b) To act as chief conservator of the peace within the city.~~

~~(c) To supervise the administration of the affairs of the city.~~

§ 160A-148. Powers and duties of manager.

The manager shall be the chief administrator of the city. He shall be responsible to the council for administering all municipal affairs placed in his charge by them, and shall have the following powers and duties:

(1) He shall appoint and suspend or remove all city officers and employees not elected by the people, and whose appointment or removal is not otherwise provided for by law, except the city attorney, in accordance with such general personnel rules, regulations, policies, or ordinances as the council may adopt.

(2) He shall direct and supervise the administration of all departments, offices, and agencies of the city, subject to the general direction and control of the council, except as otherwise provided by law.

(3) He shall attend all meetings of the council and recommend any measures that he deems expedient.

(4) He shall see that all laws of the State, the city charter, and the ordinances, resolutions, and regulations of the council are faithfully executed within the city.

(5) He shall prepare and submit the annual budget and capital program to the council.

(6) He shall annually submit to the council and make available to the public a complete report on the finances and administrative activities of the city as of the end of the fiscal year.

(7) He shall make any other reports that the council may require concerning the operations of city departments, offices, and agencies subject to his direction and control.

(8) He shall perform any other duties that may be required or authorized by the council. (1969, c. 629, s. 2; 1971, c. 698, s. 1; 1973, c. 426, s. 22.)

(d) ~~To see that the ordinances of the city and the laws of the state are enforced.~~

~~(e) To make such recommendations to the council concerning the affairs of the city as may seem to him desirable.~~

~~(f) To keep the council advised of the financial condition and future needs of the city.~~

~~(g) To prepare and submit to the council such reports as may be required by that body.~~

~~(h) To perform such other duties as may be required of him by ordinance or resolution of the council. (Code 1961, § 238.)~~

For charter provision adopting council-manager form of government, see Char., § 3.
For state law as to city manager generally, see G.S., §§ 16OA-147 to 16OA-152.
As to sales of lots in cemeteries, see § 5-5 of this Code. As to city manager as executive head of police department, see § 15-1."

Sec. 2-25 reads as re-written:
"Sec. 2-25. Same--Appointment of personnel.

Appointments made by, or under the authority of, the city manager, including the city clerk and finance officer, shall be on the basis of executive and administrative ability and of the training and experience of the appointees in the work which they are to perform. All the appointments shall be without definite term unless for provisional, temporary or emergency service. (Code 1961, § 2-39.)"

Sec. 2-27 reads as re-written:
"Sec. 2-27. Clerk ~~and treasurer--Appointment; bond; d~~Duties generally.

~~The city council shall appoint, at the first meeting after their election and qualification or as soon thereafter as possible, a city clerk who shall hold office during the pleasure of the council, and shall receive such compensation as the council shall fix by ordinance.~~ The city clerk shall be under the supervision and direction of the city manager and shall act as secretary to the city council and shall perform other such duties as may be required by the city manager and as prescribed by law. In the absence of an appointment of a city clerk, the city manager may be required to perform the duties of said city clerk in addition to those duties heretofore required of him. The city clerk shall have the powers and duties pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 160A-171. The city manager shall be authorized to appoint a deputy clerk who shall have full authority to exercise and perform any of the powers and duties of the city clerk.

~~It shall be the duty of the city clerk to:~~

~~(a) Act as clerk to the council, and as such, keep a complete and accurate account of all meetings in a book especially provided for this purpose by the council.~~

Part 5. City Clerk.

§ 160A-171. City clerk; duties.

There shall be a city clerk who shall give notice of meetings of the council, keep a journal of the proceedings of the council, be the custodian of all city records, and shall perform any other duties that may be required by law or the council. (1917, c. 136, subch. 13, s. 1; C.S., s. 2826; 1941, c. 103; 1949, c. 14; 1971, c. 698, s. 1.)

§ 160A-172. Deputy clerk.

The council may provide for a deputy city clerk who shall have full authority to exercise and perform any of the powers and duties of the city clerk that may be specified by the council. (1917, c. 136, subch. 13, s. 1; C.S., s. 2826; 1941, c. 103; 1949, c. 14; 1971, c. 698, s. 1.)

~~(b) Do such other and further acts as may be required by the council.~~

For state law as to city clerk, see G. S. §§ 16OA-171, 16OA-172.

(Amended 12-08-2008)"

Sec. 2-28 reads as re-written:
"Sec. 2-28. Finance Officer.

~~The city council shall appoint, at the first meeting after their election and qualification or as soon thereafter as possible, a city finance officer who shall hold office during the pleasure of the council, and shall receive such compensation as the council shall fix by ordinance.~~ The city finance officer shall be under the supervision and direction of the city manager and shall perform such duties as may be required by the city manager and as prescribed by law. The city finance officer shall be provided with a surety bond in an amount fixed by the city council. The city manager shall be authorized to appoint a deputy finance officer who shall have full authority to exercise and perform any of the powers and duties of the finance officer.

The city finance officer shall have the powers and duties pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 159-25(a).
~~It shall be the duty of the city finance officer to:~~

~~(a) Keep a list of all taxes.~~

~~(b) Collect license taxes, water rents and electric light rents when directed by council.~~

~~(c) Receive and keep faithfully moneys which he shall receive on behalf of the city.~~

~~(d) Keep an accurate account of all moneys deposited with him or by him and disbursed by him for the council.~~

~~(e) Supply the council with such information as they may require of him relative to finances.~~

~~(f) Make a monthly report to the council of all receipts and disbursements of funds to the city.~~

~~(g) Honor all orders drawn on him signed by the mayor, and under said seal of the council, and for which purpose an appropriation has been made that are presented.~~

(Amended 12-08-08)."

Sec. 2-29 reads as re-written:
"Sec. 2-29. Same--Office hours.

Repealed.~~The office hours of the clerk and treasurer shall be from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.~~

§ 159-25. Duties of finance officer; dual signatures on checks; internal control procedures subject to Commission regulation.

(a) The finance officer shall have the following powers and duties:

(1) He shall keep the accounts of the local government or public authority in accordance with generally accepted principles of governmental accounting and the rules and regulations of the Commission.

(2) He shall disburse all funds of the local government or public authority in strict compliance with this Chapter, the budget ordinance, and each project ordinance and shall preaudit obligations and disbursements as required by this Chapter.

(3) As often as may be requested by the governing board or the manager, he shall prepare and file with the board a statement of the financial condition of the local government or public authority.

(4) He shall receive and deposit all moneys accruing to the local government or public authority, or supervise the receipt and deposit of money by other duly authorized officers or employees.

(5) He shall maintain all records concerning the bonded debt and other obligations of the local government or public authority, determine the amount of money that will be required for debt service or the payment of other obligations during each fiscal year, and maintain all sinking funds.

(6) He shall supervise the investment of idle funds of the local government or public authority.

(7) He shall perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by law, by the manager, budget officer, or governing board, or by rules and regulations of the Commission.

All references in other portions of the General Statutes, local acts, or city charters to county, city, special district, or public authority accountants, treasurers, or other officials performing any of the duties conferred by this section on the finance officer shall be deemed to refer to the finance officer.

(b) Except as otherwise provided by law, all checks or drafts on an official depository shall be signed by the finance officer or a properly designated deputy finance officer and countersigned by another official of the local government or public authority designated for this purpose by the governing board. If the board makes no other designation, the chairman of the board or chief executive officer of the local government or public authority shall countersign these checks and drafts. The governing board of a unit or authority may waive the requirements of this subsection if the board determines that the internal control procedures of the unit or authority will be satisfactory in the absence of dual signatures.

(c) The Local Government Commission has authority to issue rules and regulations having the force of law governing procedures for the receipt, deposit, investment, transfer, and disbursement of money and other assets by units of local government and public authorities, may inquire into and investigate the internal control procedures of a local government or public authority, and may require any modifications in internal control procedures which, in the opinion of the Commission, are necessary or desirable to prevent embezzlements or mishandling of public moneys. (1971, c. 780, s. 1; 1973, c. 474, ss. 18-20; 1975, c. 514, s. 10; 1987, c. 796, s. 3(5).)

§ 105-350. General duties of tax collectors.

It shall be the duty of each tax collector:

(1) To employ all lawful means to collect all property, dog, license, privilege, and franchise taxes with which he is charged by the governing body.

(2) To give such bond as may be required of him by the governing body under the provisions of G.S. 105-349.

(3) To perform such duties in connection with the preparation of the tax records and tax receipts as the governing body may direct under the provisions of G.S. 105-319 and 105-320.

(4) To keep adequate records of all collections he makes.

(5) To account for all moneys coming into his hands in such form and detail as may be required by the chief accounting officer of the taxing unit.

(6) To make settlement at the times required by G.S. 105-373 and at any other time the governing body may require him to do so.

(7) To submit to the governing body at each of its regular meetings a report of the amount he has collected on each year's taxes with which he is charged, the amount remaining uncollected, and the steps he is taking to encourage or enforce payment of uncollected taxes.

(8) To send bills or notices of taxes due to taxpayers if instructed to do so by the governing body.

(9) To visit delinquent taxpayers to encourage payment of taxes if instructed to do so by the governing body. (1939, c. 310, s. 1703; 1971, c. 806, s. 1.)

~~on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.~~"

Sec. 2-31 reads as re-written:
"Sec. 2-31. Tax collector--Appointment.

The city council shall appoint a tax collector who shall hold office during the pleasure of the council. The city tax collector shall be provided with a surety bond in an amount fixed by the city council. ~~At the first meeting of the city council, after their election and qualification, or as soon thereafter as possible, the city council shall appoint a tax collector.~~ (Code 1961, § 2-45)"

Sec. 2-32 reads as re-written:
"Sec. 2-32. Same--Duties.

The tax collector shall have the powers and duties pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 105-350.
~~It shall be the duty of the tax collector to:~~

~~(a) Collect all taxes due the city.~~

~~(b) Make an accounting to the council at the end of each month.~~

~~(c) Whenever collections exceed two hundred and fifty dollars in any one day, the collector shall deposit same in the appropriate bank account.~~

~~(d) Deliver a list of all unpaid taxes with the reason therefor as ascertainable to the council.~~

~~(e) Supply the mayor and the council with such information as they may require of him relative to his department.~~

~~(f) Make a monthly report to the council, listing therein all funds collected by him.~~

~~(g) Act as registrar of motor vehicles as provided in Chapter 13. (Code 1961, § 2-46)~~"

Sec. 2-33 reads as re-written:
"Sec. 2-33. Director of public works--Office created.

Repealed.~~There is hereby created the office of the director of public works.~~"

Sec. 2-34 reads as re-written:
"Sec. 2-34. Same--Appointment.

Repealed.~~At the first meeting of the city council, after their election and qualification, they shall appoint the director of public works, upon the recommendation of the city manager. (Code 1961, § 2-53)~~"

Sec. 2-35 reads as re-written:
"Sec. 2-35. Same--Duties.

Repealed.
~~It shall be the duty of the director of public works to:~~

~~(a) Serve as building inspector.~~
~~(b) Serve as superintendent of sanitation.~~
~~(c) Serve as superintendent of streets.~~
~~(d) Do such other acts as the city manager may require.~~
~~(Code 1961, § 2-54)~~"

Sec. 2-36 reads as re-written:
"Sec. 2-36. Beautification commission--Created; composition; appointment and terms of members.

Repealed.~~There is hereby created a beautification commission composed of twelve (12) members, three of whom must be women, appointed by the mayor and council at their first meeting following the election of the mayor for terms of two years. (Code 1961, § 2-60; Ord. of 1-12-76, 9-10-84)~~"

Sec. 2-37 reads as re-written:
"Sec. 2-37. Same--Organization; compensation; vacancies.

Repealed.~~At their first meeting following their appointment the members of the beautification commission shall elect one of their number chairman and one secretary and treasurer.~~

~~The members of the commission shall serve without compensation.~~

~~Vacancies on the commission shall be filled by the mayor and council upon the recommendation of the remaining members of the commission. (Code 1961, § 2-61)~~"

Sec. 2-38 reads as re-written:
"Sec. 2-38. Same--Duties and powers.

Repealed.~~It shall be the duty of the beautification commission to survey and make recommendations to the council on ways and means to make Mount Holly a clean and beautiful city. (Code 1961, § 2-62)~~"

Sec. 2-42 reads as re-written:
"Sec. 2-42. Community Appearance Commission--Established.

Repealed.~~There is hereby created and established "The City of Mount Holly Community Appearance Commission", hereinafter referred to as the "CAC" composed of seven members appointed by City Council of the City of Mount Holly. All members shall be residents of City of Mount Holly's planning and zoning jurisdiction at time of appointment.~~"

Sec. 2-43 reads as re-written:
"Sec. 2-43. Same--Membership qualifications and terms of office.

Repealed.

(a) ~~Where possible, appointments shall be made in such a manner as to maintain on the CAC members who have had special training or experience in a design field, such as architecture, landscape architecture, horticulture, city planning or a closely related field. The terms of office of the members shall be initially three members to serve a two year term and the remaining four members to serve three year terms. After the expiration of the initial first term of office, all members thereafter will be appointed to two year terms.~~

(b) ~~Members of the CAC shall serve without pay, but may be reimbursed for reasonable pre approved expenses incidental to the performance of their duties within the limits of funds available to the CAC.~~"

Sec. 2-44 reads as re-written:
"Sec. 2-44. Same--Organization.

Repealed.

~~(a) The Appearance Commission, within thirty days of its appointment, shall meet and elect a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Treasurer, and a Secretary; the latter officer need not be a member of the CAC. It shall also adopt by laws to govern the conduct of its business.~~

~~(b) The commission shall maintain for public review a record of its group meetings and actions taken. The record of meetings with permit applicants will be logged by the Zoning Administrator in a permit application log for public review. Minutes of official meetings of the CAC will be provided to Council on a timely fashion.~~

~~(c) A quorum of a majority of members of the CAC will be required for official CAC meetings in order to take any official action authorized or required by this ordinance, except for meetings between the CAC and permit applicants. These latter meetings may be conducted by one CAC member approved by the CAC or its authorized representative other than the Zoning Administrator himself.~~

~~(d) The CAC shall hold at least four group meetings per year. All of its meetings shall be open to the public.~~"

Sec. 2-45 reads as re-written:
"Sec. 2-45. Same--Powers and duties.

Repealed.

~~The Appearance Commission shall have the following powers and duties:~~

~~(a) To seek to coordinate the activities of individuals, agencies, and organizations, public and private, whose plans, activities and programs bear upon the appearance of Mount Holly;~~

~~(b) To provide leadership and guidance in matters of area or community design and appearance to individuals, and to public and private organizations, and agencies;~~

~~(c) To make studies of the visual characteristics and problems of Mount Holly, including surveys and inventories of an appropriate nature, and to recommend to the City Council standards and policies of design for the entire area, any portion or neighborhood thereof, or any project to be undertaken, such recommendations to be approved by the City Council;~~

~~(d) Prior to consideration of any application for approval of a conditional use, the Mount Holly Planning Board and Board of Adjustment may request a recommendation on the appearance of such proposed conditional use from the CAC. The CAC shall have a reasonable time to submit its recommendations;~~

~~(e) To prepare both general and specific plans for the improved appearance of Mount Holly, such plans to be presented to and approved by the City Council. These plans may include the entire area or any part thereof, and may include private as well as public property. The plans shall set forth desirable standards and goals and visions for aesthetic enhancement of Mount Holly or any part thereof within its area of planning and zoning jurisdiction, including public ways and areas, open spaces, and public and private buildings and projects;~~

~~(f) To request from the proper officials of any public agency or body, including agencies of the State and its political subdivisions, its plans for public buildings, facilities, or projects to be located within Mount Holly;~~

~~(g) To review these plans and to make recommendations regarding their aesthetic suitability to the appropriate agency, or to the planning or governing board.~~

~~(h) To formulate and recommend to the City Council and Planning and Zoning Board the adoption of amendments of ordinances (including the zoning ordinance, subdivision regulations, and other local ordinances regulating the use of property) that will, in the opinion of the CAC, serve to enhance the appearance of the municipality and its surrounding areas;~~

~~(i) To direct the attention of the Mount Holly Zoning District officials to needed enforcement of any ordinance that may in any way affect the appearance of the Mount Holly Zoning District;~~

~~(j) To seek voluntary adherence to the standards and policies of its plans;~~

~~(k) To enter upon the prior consent of owner or tenant, in the performance of its official duties and at reasonable times, upon private lands and make examinations or surveys;~~

~~(l) To promote public interest in and an understanding of its recommendations, studies and plans, and to that end to prepare, publish and distribute to the public such studies and reports as will, in the opinion of the CAC, advance the cause of improved community appearance.~~

~~(m) To conduct public meetings and hearings, giving reasonable notice to the public thereof.~~

~~(n) Permit tie in with Community Appearance Commission. The application for building permits, which involves exterior modifications to existing buildings or constructions of new structures, and permanent signage permits in B-1 Business Districts, within Mount Holly and its one mile zoning perimeter, will contain the requirement that the applicant must consult in good faith with a representative (or representatives) of the CAC. This meeting must take place in accordance with the procedure set forth below before the permit may be issued.~~

~~(1) Tie in procedure. Upon application for building or signage permit, the Mount Holly Zoning Administrator will arrange a meeting between a representative (or representatives) of the CAC and the applicant.~~

~~This meeting must take place within five working days of the date of the applicant's permit request, or could be delayed by mutual consent of the three parties (applicant, CAC, and the Zoning Administrator). If the CAC does not make a reasonable attempt, as verified by the Zoning Administrator, to meet with the applicant within the five working day period, then the requirement to meet is automatically waived. The requirement to meet may be waived by the CAC at any time.~~

~~No permit will be issued if the meeting has not taken place or unless alternate conditions as stated above are met. The Zoning Administrator will certify that the requirements herein have been met by initialing a line on the permit entitled 'Applicant has met with the Community Appearance Commission ordinance'.~~

~~The Zoning Administrator may attend the meeting at his/her discretion.~~

~~The applicant is required to allow, in good faith, thirty minutes minimum (unless waived by the CAC) for the CAC to present its views.~~

~~(2) Compliance is voluntary. Compliance, by the applicant, with the views and standards presented by the CAC is completely voluntary.~~"

Sec. 2-46 reads as re-written:
"Sec. 2-46. Same--Annual report.

Repealed.~~The CAC shall, no later than April 15 of each year, submit to the City Council a written report of its activities, a statement of its expenditures to date for the current fiscal year, and its requested budget for the next fiscal year. All accounts and funds of the CAC shall be administered substantially in accordance with the requirements of the Municipal Fiscal Control Act.~~"

Sec. 2-47 reads as re-written:
"Sec. 2-47. Same--Advisory Council, Committees.

Repealed.
~~The CAC may establish an advisor or an Advisory Council when in the judgment of the CAC such a Council will be an aid to the performance of its duties. In addition, the CAC may, from its own membership, establish any temporary or permanent committees needed to assist it in the study of specific questions and problems.~~"

Sec. 2-48 reads as re-written:
"Sec. 2-48. Same--Staff and technical services.

Repealed.
~~The CAC may recommend to the City Council suitable arrangements for the procurement or provision of staff or technical services for the CAC.~~"

Sec. 2-49 reads as re-written:
"Sec. 2-49. Same--Receipt and expenditures of funds.

Repealed.
~~The CAC may receive contributions from private agencies, foundations, organizations, individuals and the state or federal government, or any other source in addition to any sums appropriated for its use by the City Council. Such funds shall be received and disbursed by the City of Mount Holly in accordance with Section 2-46 above.~~"

Sec. 2-50 reads as re-written:
"Sec. 2-50. Same--Effective date.

Repealed.
~~This Community Appearance Commission ordinance shall be effective from and after September 12, 1988. (Sections 2-42 through 2-50 were adopted on 9-12-88)~~"

Sec. 2-51 reads as re-written:
"Sec. 2-51. Alcoholic Beverage Control Board- Created; composition; appointment and terms of members.

There is hereby created an Alcoholic Beverage Control Board composed of three members appointed by the City Council of the City of Mount Holly. The members shall serve a three year, staggered term.~~, with one such member being appointed for three years, one such member being appointed for two years, and one such member being appointed for one year.~~

Compensation for the services of the members shall be as set by the City Council. (Resolution dated May 10, 2004.)"

Sec. 2-52 reads as re-written:
"Sec. 2-52. Tourism Development Authority- Created; composition; appointment and terms of members.

There is hereby created a Tourism Development Authority composed of three members appointed by the City Council of the City of Mount Holly. The members shall serve a three year, staggered term.~~, with one such member being appointed for three years, one such member being appointed for two years, and one such member being appointed for one year.~~ Compensation for the services of the members shall be as set by the City Council. (Resolution dated March 8, 2010.)"

§ 160A-148. Powers and duties of manager.

The manager shall be the chief administrator of the city. He shall be responsible to the council for administering all municipal affairs placed in his charge by them, and shall have the following powers and duties:

(1) He shall appoint and suspend or remove all city officers and employees not elected by the people, and whose appointment or removal is not otherwise provided for by law, except the city attorney, in accordance with such general personnel rules, regulations, policies, or ordinances as the council may adopt.

(2) He shall direct and supervise the administration of all departments, offices, and agencies of the city, subject to the general direction and control of the council, except as otherwise provided by law.

(3) He shall attend all meetings of the council and recommend any measures that he deems expedient.

(4) He shall see that all laws of the State, the city charter, and the ordinances, resolutions, and regulations of the council are faithfully executed within the city.

(5) He shall prepare and submit the annual budget and capital program to the council.

(6) He shall annually submit to the council and make available to the public a complete report on the finances and administrative activities of the city as of the end of the fiscal year.

(7) He shall make any other reports that the council may require concerning the operations of city departments, offices, and agencies subject to his direction and control.

(8) He shall perform any other duties that may be required or authorized by the council. (1969, c. 629, s. 2; 1971, c. 698, s. 1; 1973, c. 426, s. 22.)

Part 5. City Clerk.

§ 160A-171. City clerk; duties.

There shall be a city clerk who shall give notice of meetings of the council, keep a journal of the proceedings of the council, be the custodian of all city records, and shall perform any other duties that may be required by law or the council. (1917, c. 136, subch. 13, s. 1; C.S., s. 2826; 1941, c. 103; 1949, c. 14; 1971, c. 698, s. 1.)

§ 160A-172. Deputy clerk.

The council may provide for a deputy city clerk who shall have full authority to exercise and perform any of the powers and duties of the city clerk that may be specified by the council. (1917, c. 136, subch. 13, s. 1; C.S., s. 2826; 1941, c. 103; 1949, c. 14; 1971, c. 698, s. 1.)

§ 159-25. Duties of finance officer; dual signatures on checks; internal control procedures subject to Commission regulation.

(a) The finance officer shall have the following powers and duties:

(1) He shall keep the accounts of the local government or public authority in accordance with generally accepted principles of governmental accounting and the rules and regulations of the Commission.

(2) He shall disburse all funds of the local government or public authority in strict compliance with this Chapter, the budget ordinance, and each project ordinance and shall preaudit obligations and disbursements as required by this Chapter.

(3) As often as may be requested by the governing board or the manager, he shall prepare and file with the board a statement of the financial condition of the local government or public authority.

(4) He shall receive and deposit all moneys accruing to the local government or public authority, or supervise the receipt and deposit of money by other duly authorized officers or employees.

(5) He shall maintain all records concerning the bonded debt and other obligations of the local government or public authority, determine the amount of money that will be required for debt service or the payment of other obligations during each fiscal year, and maintain all sinking funds.

(6) He shall supervise the investment of idle funds of the local government or public authority.

(7) He shall perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by law, by the manager, budget officer, or governing board, or by rules and regulations of the Commission.

All references in other portions of the General Statutes, local acts, or city charters to county, city, special district, or public authority accountants, treasurers, or other officials performing any of the duties conferred by this section on the finance officer shall be deemed to refer to the finance officer.

(b) Except as otherwise provided by law, all checks or drafts on an official depository shall be signed by the finance officer or a properly designated deputy finance officer and countersigned by another official of the local government or public authority designated for this purpose by the governing board. If the board makes no other designation, the chairman of the board or chief executive officer of the local government or public authority shall countersign these checks and drafts. The governing board of a unit or authority may waive the requirements of this subsection if the board determines that the internal control procedures of the unit or authority will be satisfactory in the absence of dual signatures.

(c) The Local Government Commission has authority to issue rules and regulations having the force of law governing procedures for the receipt, deposit, investment, transfer, and disbursement of money and other assets by units of local government and public authorities, may inquire into and investigate the internal control procedures of a local government or public authority, and may require any modifications in internal control procedures which, in the opinion of the Commission, are necessary or desirable to prevent embezzlements or mishandling of public moneys. (1971, c. 780, s. 1; 1973, c. 474, ss. 18-20; 1975, c. 514, s. 10; 1987, c. 796, s. 3(5).)

§ 105-350. General duties of tax collectors.

It shall be the duty of each tax collector:

(1) To employ all lawful means to collect all property, dog, license, privilege, and franchise taxes with which he is charged by the governing body.

(2) To give such bond as may be required of him by the governing body under the provisions of G.S. 105-349.

(3) To perform such duties in connection with the preparation of the tax records and tax receipts as the governing body may direct under the provisions of G.S. 105-319 and 105-320.

(4) To keep adequate records of all collections he makes.

(5) To account for all moneys coming into his hands in such form and detail as may be required by the chief accounting officer of the taxing unit.

(6) To make settlement at the times required by G.S. 105-373 and at any other time the governing body may require him to do so.

(7) To submit to the governing body at each of its regular meetings a report of the amount he has collected on each year's taxes with which he is charged, the amount remaining uncollected, and the steps he is taking to encourage or enforce payment of uncollected taxes.

(8) To send bills or notices of taxes due to taxpayers if instructed to do so by the governing body.

(9) To visit delinquent taxpayers to encourage payment of taxes if instructed to do so by the governing body. (1939, c. 310, s. 1703; 1971, c. 806, s. 1.)

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council, City of Mount Holly

FROM: City Attorney Kemp A. Michael and Assistant City Attorney Marie M. Anders

RE: Updates to the City Code

DATE: April 22, 2015

Staff and City Attorneys have undertaken an updating of the Mount Holly Code of Ordinances. This updating has resulted in the elimination of obsolete provisions of the City Code. The updated chapters of the City Code will be presented to Council periodically until the entire City Code is revised.

The first chapter for your review and consideration is Chapter 2- Administration. Attached is a draft for Council's review which shows the obsolete portions of the Code lined through and shows the new provisions underlined. By law, the City Council appoints only the City Manager, the City Attorney, and the Tax Collector, all of whom serve at the pleasure of the City Council, and are not required to be re-appointed at the organizational meeting following a municipal election.

A few of the revisions that we would specifically like to point out are as follows:

- Sec. 2-10: This section is repealed so as to give flexibility for the salaries for Mayor and Council members to be set during the budget process and to be able to be changed from time to time without having the amend the ordinance. This does not repeal that the Mayor and Council shall receive salaries.
- Sec. 2-11: This section is revised to give Council the flexibility to set its meeting schedule for the coming year in December and decide whether or not to have Work Sessions at that time each year without having to amend the ordinance.
- Sec. 2-24, -27, -28, and -32: These sections are revised to provide that the duties of the City Manager, City Clerk, Finance Officer, and Tax Collector are as set forth under NC law and incorporates state law by reference. Copies of those statutes are attached.
- Sec. 2-25, -27, and -28: These sections are revised to provide that the appointments of the City Clerk and Finance Officer are to be made by the City Manager. At one time, the offices of City Manager, City Clerk, and Finance Officer were all held by one person. In 2008, when the City Manager was relieved from the duties of City Clerk and Finance Officer, the ordinance provided for Council to make those appointments. However, current state law does not allow Council to appoint these two offices and the authority is vested in the City Manager to make such appointments.
- Sec. 2-27 and -28: These sections allow for the City Manager to appoint a deputy clerk and deputy finance officer. These deputies would function in the absence of the City Clerk or the Finance Officer.

City of Mount Holly
Action Agenda Item

To: City Council	**Date:** April 23, 2015
From: Danny Jackson, City Manager	**Meeting Date:** April 27, 2015

***Agenda Item to be considered:* Agenda Item #9 – Discussion of the Alliance for Growth Project.**

Will this require a public hearing? ☐ YES ☒ NO

Background/Purpose of Request : ***If you all will recall, at the April 13th Regular City Council Meeting you heard a presentation from Mr. Joel Long and Mr. Cramer. Both gentlemen were representing the Greater Gaston Development Corporation (GGDC). The GGDC is an organization that is formulating a plan for economic growth in Gaston County. The project in question is called Alliance for Growth, which has several components. Mr. Long and Mr. Cramer were focusing on the "Image" component of the project. The GGDC is seeking a financial commitment from surrounding jurisdictions and other entities in Gaston County. They are asking the City of Mount Holly to provide financial support in the amount of $50,000, which would be over a three (3) year period. The interval of payment would be $25,000 for the first year and $12,500 for each of the remaining two years. On Monday night you are being asked to discuss the matter, in order to give direction as to approving or denying the request by the GGDC.***

Fiscal Impact:			
Will Item affect current budget	☐ YES	☒ NO	☐ N/A
Reviewed by Finance Director	☐ YES	☒ NO	☐ N/A
Preaudit Certification required	☐ YES	☒ NO	☐ N/A
Capital Project Ordinance required	☐ YES	☒ NO	☐ N/A
Budget Transfer required	☐ YES	☒ NO	☐ N/A
Total City Dollars:	***$***		
Budget Code			
Reviewed by City Attorney	☐ YES	☐ NO	☒ N/A

Manager/Staff Recommendation: To be discussed at the meeting on Monday night.

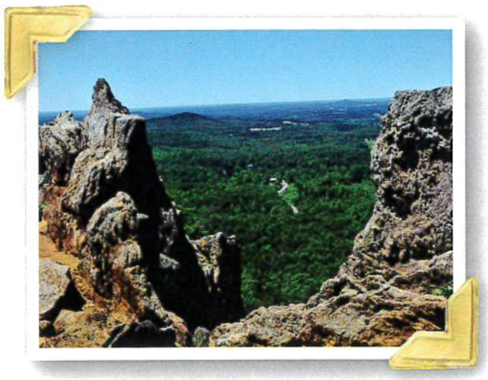
Result of City Council Decision:

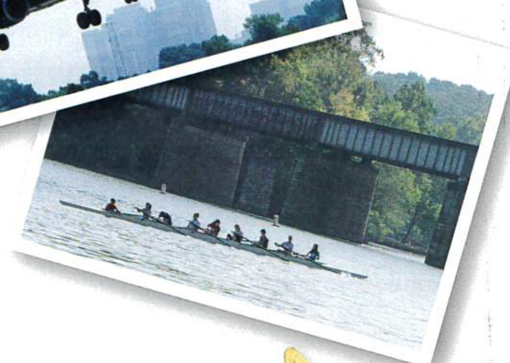
Attachments:

Alliance for Growth

Greater Gaston Development Corporation

Poised to Prosper



Imagine a Gaston County where...

Career opportunities abound.
Technological advancements meet manufacturing needs.
Education is tailored to synchronize with job demand.
New roads open land to development.
Quality of life flourishes.
Companies clamor to expand and relocate.

It can all happen soon if we start working toward a brighter future now because Gaston County is Poised to Prosper.

A message from Bob Clay, Chair of the Board of Trustees, Greater Gaston Development Corporation

Thank you for taking time to learn more about the Alliance for Growth growth-planning initiative. While we are proud of the thousands of hours of volunteer time it took to produce this report, it means nothing unless we work together to implement the enclosed recommendations to accelerate Gaston County's growth and prosperity. Beginning in the New Year, we will shift our focus to the critical implementation phase. The investors in the GGDC invite your comments and involvement over the coming weeks and months. Please send me your ideas and suggestions for making Gaston County the top choice in the region for capital investment and jobs. Contact me at bob.clay@cbcmeca.com. See the full report on our website at gastondevcorp.com.

Gaston County Today

Ideally situated along I-85, I-485 and U.S.321 in a dynamic region offering numerous quality lifestyles and business opportunities, Gaston County has a proven track record in attracting national and international investment. With a rich history steeped in manufacturing tradition, Gaston boasts a dedicated, capable workforce and convenient access to highways, rail and air transportation.

Offering close proximity to all the advantages of the bustling urban center of Charlotte, as well as to the mountain and coastal regions, make Gaston County well positioned for corporate and industrial/manufacturing site growth with an array outstanding options for affordable family living.

Who Is Alliance for Growth?

The Alliance for Growth, a special task force commissioned by the Greater Gaston Development Corporation (GGDC), has assembled a blue-ribbon panel of local business leaders to develop plans for a prosperous Gaston County. This report serves as a starting point for elected and corporate leadership to guide Gaston County into a new era of prosperity.

Why Now?

Beginning in 2015, Gaston County must bring together the public and private sectors as never before. We must bring new focus on the need to add value to our county tax base. That means helping businesses expand and grow here is Job One. But, without the involvement and dedication of the private sector, local government alone will likely continue to be challenged by intense competition for business throughout the region. A survey of Gaston's recent employment growth shows that medical and related business is today one of the fastest growing sectors, according to the ongoing, 14 county regional cooperative initiative, Connect Our Future.

We must accept that Gaston County is in transition and must re-tool from the schoolhouse up in order to meet the needs and demands of a changing regional and global economy.

Such efforts have already begun thanks to the 105 Alliance For Growth volunteers who have worked toward developing findings and recommendations to help improve Gaston County's economic development competitiveness. Many viable suggestions were made that were not selected as recommendations, but have been captured in the full report for future consideration and action.

Alliance for Growth: Local Expertise

Recommendations by Alliance for Growth's committees together form a cohesive action plan to make Gaston a major player in the regional economic landscape. It is important to distinguish that these action items have been developed by civic and industry leaders from within the Gaston business and governmental communities and *not* by a group of outside consultants.

Local citizens representing a variety of disciplines have partnered to develop recommendations for the seven drivers of growth. Their proposals are the result of 120 days of meetings in separate committees, extensive research and data analysis and historical perspectives that relate to current conditions and future trends.

Together, this consortium has identified actions that we believe will create increased economic self-sufficiency between Gaston County government and its 13 municipal jurisdictions and will, when implemented, result in a stronger, more diverse property tax base and a wider array of employment opportunities for our citizens.

Now, we invite your review and comment on this body of work. Contact jhannon@gastondevcorp.com

Committees and Chairpersons

- Entrepreneur/Small Business: Don Harrison, Alliance Bank; Brad Rivers, Gaston College
- Workforce Preparedness: Reeves McGlohon, Gaston County Schools (Retired)
- Sites/Buildings/Infrastructure: Robert Browne, Beam Construction
- Growth Regulatory: Gerald Sosebee, Carolinas Design Group, PLLC; Mike Stanforth, Excel Engineering
- New/Expanded Recruiting: John Lowery, WealthPlan Financial
- Image/Marketing: Elaine Lyerly, Lyerly Agency; Andy Warlick, Parkdale Mills
- Transportation/Access: Regina Moody, Holy Angels Services; Tim Efird, Standard Distributors

Methodology

The seven committees proceeded with a focused, customized planning process that included:

- Data gathering
- SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats analysis
- Priorities identification
- Recommendations

Image/Marketing

Finding: The Committee retained the market research firm Voccii to develop a questionnaire regarding perceptions of Gaston County, compose a list of participants and conduct a statistically valid poll of Mecklenburg County residents, Gaston County residents and 15 developers who are active in the region's economic growth. Results included:

- Most Mecklenburg residents have NO impression of Gaston County.
- More than 78% of Mecklenburg County residents have only "moderate" to "low" (or no) knowledge of Gaston County.
- 58% of Gaston County residents see their home county as "positive," 42% view Gaston County as "negative."
- The important developers' impressions of Gaston County are "negative."
- A lack of job opportunities is seen by County residents as a primary concern, while a lack of available, ready-to-sell land is the developers' largest concern.
- Gaston County's two publicly funded promotion organizations (Economic Development Commission and Travel and Tourism) target their marketing dollars out of the Gaston market. Therefore there is no "message" or "story" available to the Region or the State regarding the attributes of the County.

Recommendation: *Convene key business and governmental leaders to: 1) identify the strengths of Gaston County; 2) create a strong and inspiring story about what and who we are; 3) craft a public/private funding model to extend for three or more years; and 4) implement, monitor, measure and report the effectiveness of the campaign.*

Recommendation: *In the spring of 2015, initiate relationship building activities to assist in delivery of the new Gaston "story."*

Entrepreneur/Small Business

Finding: Most leaders in technology-driven, innovative companies wish to expand and improve their business model. Gaston's entrepreneurs are ambitious. They need a forum where they can communicate and exchange creative ideas beyond current networking efforts, ultimately creating jobs and regional economic growth.

Recommendation: *Create a virtual hub for entrepreneurs. Local chambers of commerce can identify forward-thinking businesses and direct them to the hub to exchange ideas, services and recommendations.*

Finding: The small business person feels over-regulated by municipal governments. While proper regulation for health and safety are necessary, small business persons often cite plans being dissected and analyzed by municipalities beyond code. This perception can be pervasive in dissuading other new businesses and relocations from considering Gaston County.

Recommendation: *Municipalities within Gaston County should employ helpful, consistent and reasonable zoning and code oversight when working with new and expanding businesses within their jurisdictions.*

Finding: Small business owners indicate a lack of readily available space, suitably located, to meet their needs. While there are numerous empty buildings throughout the County, the cost to rehabilitate that space for new uses is often prohibitive, effectively rendering them useless for small business needs. Gastonia, as well as nearby cities, have cooperated with the private sector to partner on commercial projects such as Loray Mill in Gastonia for residential and commercial adaptive reuse, and the NEXT Center in Greenville, S.C., for small commercial uses.

Recommendation: *Evaluate current and future needs for market-driven, cost-effective facility to serve the current and future space needs.*

Finding: Gaston County's location as central to the Charlotte Region is underdeveloped from a service industry perspective. With the spring 2015 completion of I-485, no part of the region will be more than a 45-minute drive from downtown Gastonia. Service industry recruiting would be a natural service of both Gaston Regional and Montcross chambers of commerce.

Recommendation: *Gaston Regional and Montcross chambers of commerce should partner to organize and administer a region-wide campaign to recruit service industries.*

Workforce Preparedness

Finding: There is a lack of appreciation of the value of education among Gaston County citizens. There is also a lack of awareness among students, parents and teachers as to the options available in the 21st century workplace and the skills and abilities needed to take advantage of these options.

Recommendation: *1) Introduce workforce readiness concepts at the middle school level involving business community participation; 2) create an awareness campaign that promotes the value of education; and 3) offer students and teachers exposure to apprenticeships and internships.*

Finding: Gaston County Schools ranked 114th out of 115 North Carolina school districts in per-pupil spending. The district has approximately $1,000 less per student to spend than does the average North Carolina school system. Given an enrollment of 31,000 students, that translates into a $31 million annual gap between where the district is and the average per-pupil expenditure in North Carolina. Gaston College has faced significant state operating fund cutbacks in recent years and has seen its capital funding reduced by the county.

Recommendation: *Gaston County Legislative Delegation support budgets in the 2015-2017 biennium that restore basic needs funds cut from state education budgets and make salary improvement for teachers and college faculty a priority. We urge the Gaston County Commission to increase financial support for local schools.*

Finding: Matching prospective employees with available jobs is a difficult task. The Career Readiness Certificate (CRC) provides one avenue of measure to give employers an assessment of an individual applicant's ability to perform the duties and responsibilities of a specific job. The WorkKeys test used with the CRC program in Gaston County does not, however, provide information on the lack of "soft" skills (attendance, punctuality, getting along with others, etc.) that business leaders indicate create significant problems.

Recommendation: *Develop an awareness program to provide businesses information about the CRC and its appropriate use in the recruitment and hiring process. Furthermore, the Committee recommends that use of the portion of the WorkKeys test that measures soft skills be explored.*

Finding: Gaston College is the primary training partner of local business and industry. Anticipating industry needs is a primary role of the institution and the college has developed plans and has secured most of the funds for an Center for Advanced Manufacturing. It is imperative that this facility provide state-of-the-art equipment if it is to meet the short-term and long-term needs of Gaston County.

Recommendation*: In order to make the Center for Advanced Manufacturing operational, the estimated $450,000 needed to fully equip the facility be raised from both public and private sources.*

Finding: One missing component in the array of options available to students in Gaston County is a vocational/technical high school that focuses on manufacturing and trade programs. Such a facility, if meshed with advanced training opportunities at Gaston College, would be an asset to the overall workforce preparedness effort in Gaston County.

Recommendation: *The Gaston County Board of Education should explore an option of a vocational high school that focuses on manufacturing and trade programs and provides students with the opportunity to go directly into the workplace or to further their education in a community college or four-year college or university.*

Finding: Because of the importance of workforce preparedness, the Committee believes that there should be an on-going effort to maintain focus on Gaston County preparing and maintaining a skilled workforce. It is imperative that business leaders, educators and government officials continually monitor how well the community is meeting its workforce needs and recommend needed changes.

Recommendation: *Gaston County establish a permanent group (similar to the Spartanburg Academic Movement - SAM) to provide ongoing and collaborative leadership for workforce preparedness programs.*

New/Expanded Recruiting

Finding: Recent activity in the manufacturing sector has absorbed most of the time of Economic Development Commission (EDC) staff. However, the committee believes other business expansion clients could be served as well, such as major mixed use and/or major retail projects.

Recommendation: *EDC and staff make known its interest in facilitating all capital investments that will expand our tax base.*

Finding: Gaston County has top business leaders with national and international reputations who are willing to volunteer on a stand-by basis to assist in "closing" the sale of manufacturing, office, retail and other capital investment projects. The EDC board could fulfill that aspect as could non-board business leaders.

Recommendation: *The EDC board identify and train local leaders "closing team" to be available to meet with business prospects and sell the county on as-needed basis.*

Finding: A vital part of the EDC relationship marketing is credibility and ongoing communications. Our business friends and associates must think of Gaston County in a positive way when opportunities arise. There is no better way to deliver a message than face-to-face.

Recommendation: *The EDC plan and conduct key allies events beginning in spring 2015 to showcase Gaston County's assets and enhance personal relationships for mutual benefit.*

Finding: The County appoints local citizens to serve on the Economic Development Commission for specified terms. But, there is confusion about what responsibility the EDC board actually has and what is expected of the appointees. An engaged EDC board can add assistance and clout.

Recommendation: *The EDC board's leadership should meet with County management and the County Commission to resolve in detail the EDC board's role and authority to oversee the programs and strategies of the County's recruitment program.*

Growth/Regulatory

Finding: The current version of the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) was first adopted by the City of Gastonia, Gaston County, Bessemer City and Lowell in 2008 and 2009. Other municipalities continue to manage growth with their own set of rules. However, in the current economy, the committee believes a more systematic review of the UDO could accelerate growth.

Recommendation: *Initiate a complete review of the UDO involving key staff, elected officials and representatives of the building development industry.*

Finding: Most public employees approach their assignments with a professional and helpful attitude. However, there are examples at municipal levels in which staff and appointed boards will require changes to plans above and beyond ordinance requirements in order to gain approval. Sometimes these amendments appear arbitrary and often result in delay and increase costs of the project, and can endanger the project altogether.

Recommendation: City and/or County regulatory staff and appointed boards should require proposed projects to meet code and refrain from preferential negotiations beyond adopted requirements.

Finding: County staff recently created the Small Business Project Manager position, serving as an internal advocate. The County staff needs an upgrade in technology, especially software, putting the county building inspection function on the same tech platform as the City of Gastonia.

Recommendation: *City and County continue to improve their customer service focus and include vital technology needs in their FY 2015-16 budget plans.*

Finding: The City of Gastonia convenes all department heads (or representatives) each week to offer free, informal development plans review. This process creates a virtual "one stop" and provides a clear picture of what is needed to prepare the application for fast approvals. The County should consider starting a version of this Technical Review Committee, resulting in a positive interface experience between the County and applicant.

Recommendation: *Gaston County Building Inspections Department initiate their own version of an informal, regularly scheduled technical review group to meet with applicants, explain the required process and facilitate quick approvals.*

Sites/Buildings/Infrastructure

Finding: Gaston County's elected leaders and staff have considerable expertise in recruiting manufacturing clients. But in terms of marketing Gaston County, the Committee believes the time is right for the County and EDC to conclude the free land policy. Available revenues could be directed to a new policy to work with private land owners to assist in bringing their land to market via strategic infrastructure investments and improvements.

Recommendation: *The timing is right for the county to evolve current land purchase/ donated policy to a public/private model to expand available privately owned sites.*

Finding: Developers have understandable concerns about Gaston County's views on growth and therefore many choose to invest in Cabarrus, Union, Iredell, Lincoln, York or Lancaster, where governmental signals are clearer and they believe their investment risk is lower. This analysis leads the Committee to urge public and private interests to encourage developers to invest in Gaston County. A spec building in the 75,000- to 100,000-square-foot range or more would change the dialogue about investment prospects here.

Recommendation: *The public and private communities should immediately work with land owners and developers to construct one or more spec buildings.*

Finding: Several years ago, EDC staff analyzed a number of privately owned lands coupled with an estimate of development costs required to make those properties "sell-ready" or certified by North Carolina Department of Commerce. This analysis should be updated. When this research is complete, a data bank of land/ prices should be created and distributed widely to local and regional developers.

Recommendation: *The EDC should update development costs needed to obtain "certified" sites status on selected properties and to create, maintain and make available this information available.*

Finding: There are a number of large tracts that would make excellent sites for manufacturing, office or flex space provided water and sewer were available and the sites were better serviced by access roads. Large tracts exist along U.S. 321 North and west of N.C. 16. Both sites would greatly benefit from new interchanges at strategic points.

Recommendation: *The Two Rivers Utilities and the City of Gastonia should create a county-wide infrastructure plan to provide water/sewer and reasonable access to parts of the County with highest job development potential.*

Finding: Poor image, or a lack of an image, directly affects how business clients and developers perceive Gaston, which affects their investment decisions. Therefore, the County's image ***does*** matter. We know pride exists throughout and for Gaston County. Let's begin telling the real story of Gaston County as soon as possible.

Recommendation: *The private and public interests in a better image of Gaston County should initiate a marketing and public relations campaign aimed at targeted markets, companies and individuals.*

Finding: Gaston County's location on I-85 — the main commerce corridor between Washington, D.C., and Atlanta — is greatly underutilized. Gaston County is also favorably located to I-485, I-77, U.S. 321 and I-40. Additionally, it is Charlotte-Douglas International Airport's closest neighbor. With these abundant transportation assets, Gaston has the ability to appeal to both the automotive industry here (Daimler), just 70 miles west in Greenville/Spartanburg (BMW and Michelin), to Charleston, S.C. (Boeing, Bosch) and Greensboro (HondaJet) as a potential site for their current/future supplier networks or for distribution to the North, South and West.

Recommendation: *The EDC should develop a business case for Gaston County to serve supplier needs of the large manufacturers, especially in the automotive and aerospace industries, such as BMW, Michelin, Daimler, Boeing and HondaJet.*

Transportation/Access

Finding: Gaston County has no widely supported transportation vision. Such a vision would provide a fact-based approach to making local interstate, bridge and road needs more widely understood and supported. The Committee feels strongly that while there are "flagship" needs in the County, there are other less-publicized needs as well. The process of developing transportation vision would involve continuing demand for road improvements and provide much-needed advocacy to and with elected officials.

Recommendation: *All Gaston municipal and County governments authorize a county-wide transportation study to update current and projected data and prioritize needs.*

Finding: Despite the failure of the proposed Garden Parkway project, there remains a growing interest in seeking local and state approval to fund another bridge across the Catawba River near Charlotte-Douglas International Airport to facilitate economic growth, safety and access.

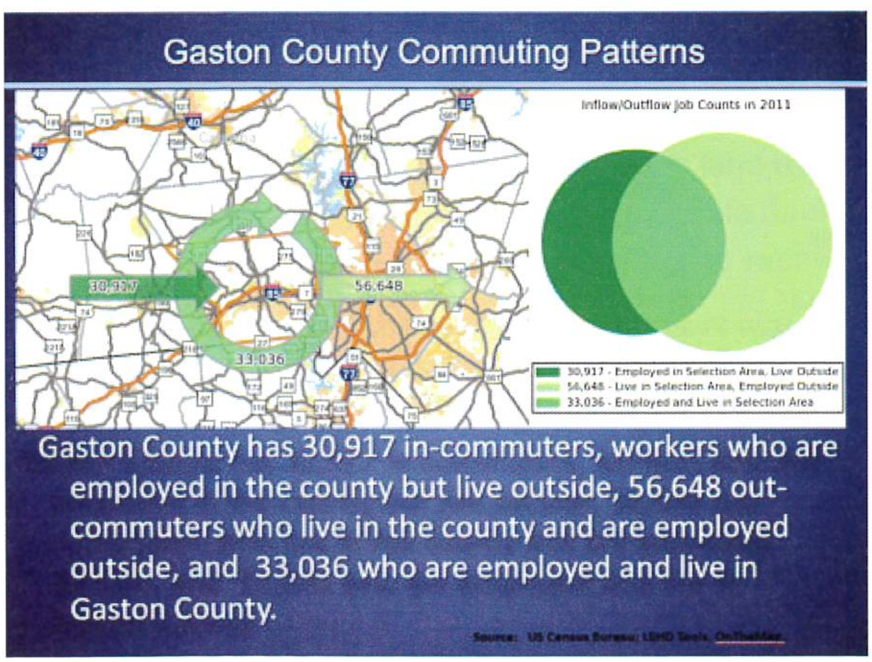
Recommendation: *Develop a fact-based case for an additional bridge across the Catawba River between Gaston County and Mecklenburg County and organize community support for the concept.*

Finding: In spite of a dwindling state and federal dollars for highway construction and improvement, there remains a need for improvements to existing roadways and new roads to provide access to potential business and industrial sites. This will require alternative funding strategies, such as York County's "Pennies for Progress."

Recommendation: *Gastonia and other municipalities in conjunction with Gaston County government seek legislation to authorize a sales tax referendum for roads.*

Finding: Good transportation planning and investment leads directly to economic growth. Two examples of lack of planning are U.S. 321 and N.C. 16. There are large tracts of developable land on both four-lane divided highways, with easy connections to I-85 and to I-485, but there are no direct access points to either tract. Commuters in and out of Gaston County drive past these sites to work elsewhere.

Recommendation*: Business and government should work through the Gaston-Cleveland-Lincoln Metropolitan Planning Organization to promote two new interchanges on U.S. 321 and N.C. 16 in Gaston County.*



To Sum It Up:

Image/Marketing:

- Develop strong Gaston County story.
- Secure public/private funding for three years.
- Implement and monitor marketing campaign.
- Activate personal relationships in region and with North Carolina leaders.

Entrepreneur/Small Business:

- Create a virtual hub where Gaston County business leaders exchange ideas, services and recommendations.
- Municipalities rework zoning ordinances to be more consistent and reasonable.
- Evaluate current and future needs for market-driven, small business incubator.
- Recruit regional service industry to locate in Gaston County.

Workforce Preparedness:

- Design workplace needs and education awareness for middle school, including work experiences for students/ teachers.
- N.C. Legislature and Gaston County restore cuts in funding for basic needs and increase support for County schools.
- Promote value of Career Readiness Certificate (CRC) to local businesses, and add soft skills testing.
- Develop public/private funding strategy to complete Gaston College's Advanced Manufacturing Center.
- Explore adding vocational/technical high school as student career alternative.
- Establish permanent group to collaborate with education leaders on needs/trends in workforce preparedness.

New/Expanded Recruiting:

- Continue manufacturing recruiting and recruit other significant investments.
- Create business/political leaders "closing team" to meet clients as needed.
- Conduct allies appreciation event in spring 2015 to unveil new Gaston image promotion.
- County redefine role of EDC Board to oversee and enhance business recruiting program.
- Expand contacts within automotive and aerospace industries in Carolinas.

Growth Regulatory:

- Initiate a comprehensive review of the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO)
- City of Gastonia and other County municipalities require capital investment projects to meet existing ordinance requirements with no additional conditions.
- City and County continue progress toward best customer service and ensure all their regulatory departments utilize same technology platform.
- Gaston County Building Inspection Department build on new customer service function to facilitate applicants' rapid departmental approvals.

Sites/Buildings/Infrastructure:

- Assist private property owners to obtain "certified site" status by defraying required application fee.
- EDC/County should evolve current free land incentive to new policy of extending infrastructure to private sites.
- Update private land inventory and development costs and post on EDC website.
- Two Rivers Utility as well as City of Gastonia and Gaston County governments should collaborate on infrastructure plan to open major sites/acreage in county.

Transportation/Access:

- Produce new 20-year Gaston Transportation Vision and priorities.
- Gastonia and Belmont work jointly to assemble fact-based case for an additional bridge across the Catawba River.
- Gastonia and other interested municipalities confer with Gaston County and Legislative Delegation to permit referendum on a sales tax for roads.
- Promote new interchange access on North U.S. 321 and N.C. 16.
- Organize a Highways/Roads advocacy group to build community support.

Special Thanks:

Special appreciation to the investors in the Greater Gaston Development Corporation and the founding directors/officers Bob Clay, Andy Warlick, Doug Luckett and Fred Jackson.

Also, the committee chairs and co-chairs Don Harrison, Brad Rivers, Regina Moody, Tim Efird, Reeves McGlohon, Robert Browne, Elaine Lyerly, Andy Warlick, John Lowery, Gerald Sosebee and Mike Stanforth. Also, Ann Hoscheit, Rick Houser, Ted Hall and Wes Bumgardner as well as Donny Hicks, Devin Swindall, Malissa Gordon of the EDC and Walter Israel and Emily Carpenter of Travel and Tourism, GGDC special assistant Joyce Hannon, copy editor Andrew Warfield and the 105 volunteers who served many hours on our committees. Consultants Carroll Gray and Bill Millett of Gray and Associates facilitated the many committee meetings, research and report preparation.

ALLIANCE FOR GROWTH IMAGE CAMPAIGN
CONCEPT OVERVIEW AND FUNDING REQUEST
THE MOUNT HOLLY CITY COUNCIL
April 13, 2015

1. The Gaston County Image Campaign is a critical component of the Alliance for Growth plan developed by over 100 Gaston County leaders.
2. The broad goal of the plan is to help create jobs and grow the tax base in Gaston County.
3. In developing the plan, the market research firm VOCCII conducted a survey and discovered among other findings that:
    a. 78% of Mecklenburg County residents knows little or nothing about Gaston County, and
    b. Only 58% of our own residents have positive image of Gaston County.
4. These are sobering statistics and that negative image is reinforced by a steady stream of bad press reports, making it difficult to attract employers, new residents and visitors.
5. Improving Gaston County's image will take financial resources and a sustained commitment.
6. The targets of the campaign would be:
    a. Business, recreational, cultural and other visitors, as well as conventioneers,
    b. The development community from the region and beyond,
    c. Workforce moving to the region and within the region,
    d. Small businesses and entrepreneurs, and
    e. News Media.
7. The Image Campaign would extend over 3 years, with at least $400,000 total funding in Year 1 and $250,000 in years 2 and 3. The GGDC is asking the City of Mt. Holly for $25,000 in year 1 and $15,625 in each of years 2 and 3 of the campaign. Other committed or potential funding sources are:
    a. Gaston County Travel and Tourism/Gaston County - $150,000 (Yr1), $93,750 (Yr2+3),
    b. Private Sector/GGDC - $100,000 (Yr1), $62,500 (Yr2+3),
    c. City of Gastonia - $100,000 (Yr1), $62,500 (Yr2+3),
    d. City of Belmont - $25,000 (Yr1), $15,625 (Yr2+3), and
    e. All other Gaston municipalities will be asked for at least $5,000 each.
8. This is a great opportunity for all participants to leverage their individual investments as part of a large-scale campaign made possible through working together.
9. This is a good deal of money and what Return on Investment can be expected?
    a. Our image will improve, both in the region and here at home,
    b. We will engage the "movers and shakers" to personally visit Gaston County,
    c. We will establish missing connections throughout the region, and
    d. More capital investment will occur here which will expand our tax base and create jobs.
10. All investors in the Image Campaign would receive seats on a Steering Committee (2 seats for $100,000 or over, 1 seat for $25,000 up to $100,000, all municipalities contributing less than $25,000 would share 1 seat).
11. The Steering Committee would oversee the RFP process, select the Public Relations-Marketing firm and have oversight of contract implementation.
12. Greater Gaston Development Corporation would support the RFP process, serve as fiscal agent for the resulting contract and manage execution.
13. Building off the VOCCII survey, metrics for the campaign will be established and the effectiveness of the campaign will be measured periodically.
14. Working together we CAN improve Gaston County's image, and we must, if we are to grow and prosper as a vital part of one of the most dynamic regions in the country.