CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

# Manager's Update

raleighnc.gov



September 2, 2022

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## **City Offices Closed in Observance of Labor Day**

City offices will be **closed** on **Monday**, **September 5** in observance of the **Labor Day** holiday.

## **Regular Council Meeting Tuesday, September 6 - Afternoon and Evening Sessions**

Reminder that Council will meet next **Tuesday** in regularly scheduled sessions at **1:00 P.M.** and **7:00 P.M.** The agenda for the meeting was published on Thursday:

## https://go.boarddocs.com/nc/raleigh/Board.nsf

Please note there will be a **Closed Session** immediately following the afternoon session of the Council meeting.

**Reminder**: If there is an item you would like to have pulled from the consent agenda for discussion, please send an e-mail <u>mayorstaff@raleighnc.gov</u> by 11 A.M. on the day of the meeting.

## **INFORMATION:**

## Wake County Property Tax Appeal Process – Board of Equalization and Review

Staff Resource: Allison Bradsher, Finance, 996-4970, <u>allison.bradsher@raleiqhnc.qov</u> Brandon Poole, City Attorney's Office, 996-6560, <u>brandon.poole@raleiqhnc.qov</u>

Wake County has recently revised the process for considering taxpayer appeals of property tax penalties, exemptions, and valuation adjustments. These appeals for property located within the City have been delegated in the past to the County by a resolution of the City Council. Appeals will no longer be presented to a separate Tax Committee for a decision, subject to concurrence by the Wake County Board of Commissioners, but instead will now be presented directly to the Wake County Board of Equalization and Review (BOER) for a decision. The BOER is a special board appointed by the County Commissioners and consists of Wake County residents with knowledge of local real estate values. All appeals to the BOER will have a hearing scheduled prior to the Board rendering a decision. Staff from the City will no longer be a part of the process, however, will follow the decisions of the BOER, which impact the City's property tax collections.

All decisions of the BOER will be shared on the Wake County Tax Administration web site at: <u>https://www.wakegov.com/departments-government/tax-administration/data-files-statistics-and-reports</u>

(No attachment)

## Fire Department Staffing Update - Lateral Transfer Program

## Staff Resource: Chief Herbert Griffin, Raleigh Fire, 996-6115, herbert.griffin@raleighnc.gov

Staffing in the City's Public Safety Departments including the Emergency Communications Center, police department and fire department was a high priority in the development of the FY2023 budget and our organization continues to identify new strategies to efficiently fill existing and anticipated vacancies.

The Raleigh Fire Department continues to experience high interest from applicants to join it, but as the City Council is aware, the regular academy training process to onboard new fire department recruits takes about 26 weeks and as a result, vacancies can accrue due to retirements, disability-retirements, resignations and terminations between recruit classes. To accelerate the time under which new members can enter service the fire department has followed the lead of the Raleigh Police Department and other fire departments across the nation in creating a lateral transfer program for applicants with more than two years of experience serving in other fire departments. The program takes advantage of the Raleigh Fire Department's strong reputation and interest in the region and across the nation to join our organization.

The Raleigh Fire Department has completed its first lateral recruitment and received an extraordinary response: 98 firefighters from other agencies asked to be considered with significant representation from Wake County, throughout North Carolina, and the Northeastern United States. The department has identified 30 individuals for conditional offers and the lateral firefighters are anticipated to begin training on Sept. 26, 2022.

Members of the City Council may have received communication about concerns about the starting pay of lateral transfers and leapfrogging impacts to existing Raleigh Fire Department personnel with similar experience. The City had proactively evaluated impacts and is making targeted adjustments to impacted staff. As was previously communicated to the City Council, evaluation is also under way for a Citywide retention bonus later this fall and for potential additional targeted adjustments to address pay inequities in the FY24 budget process.

The Fire Chief earlier today sent a department-wide update on the implementation of the lateral transfer program and notified individuals who will receive targeted pay increases.

The department has been authorized to "over-hire" in anticipation of upcoming retirements. There are currently 50 recruits participating in the City's traditional academies. The additional 30 laterals will address all of the vacancies within the department.

(No Attachment)

## Edwards Mill Road Bike Lanes – Partnership with NCDOT

## Staff Resource: Fontaine Burruss, Transportation, 996-2165, fontaine.burruss@raleighnc.gov

City staff have partnered and collaborated with the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) to provide 3.5 miles of buffered bike lanes on Edwards Mill Road, from Wade Park Boulevard to Crabtree Valley Avenue. The project was completed as part of the NCDOT 2022 Annual Resurfacing contract. When NCDOT announced that Edwards Mill Road was on the resurfacing list for 2022, staff worked with NCDOT to extend and enhance the existing bike lanes along the corridor. The previous bike lanes ended north of the Wade Avenue intersection and at Duraleigh Road. Improvements included with the project are as follows:

- extending the bike lane to include facilities from Wade Park Boulevard to Crabtree Valley Avenue;
- expanding bike lane continuity by extending the bike lane through intersections and gaps on Edwards Mill Road; and
- adding enhancements to existing bike lane facilities including the addition of buffers where feasible, green paint skips at conflict areas and through intersections, and addition of a two-stage turn boxes at Glen Eden Drive.





(No attachment)

## **Glenwood South - Parking and Nightlife Update**

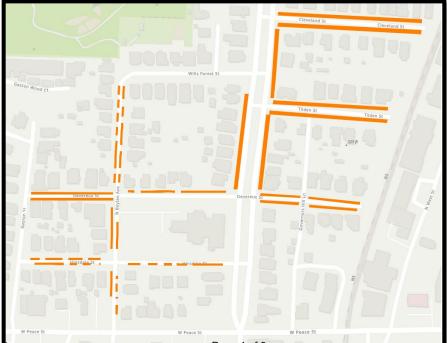
Staff Resource: Matthew Currier, Transportation, 996-4041, matthew.currier@raleighnc.gov

Over the past year parking staff have been focused on implementing various projects to enhance the quality of life around the Glenwood South Hospitality District. Below is a summary of that work and future projects.

## Parking Enforcement

Staff continue to focus efforts on ensuring visitors to the Glenwood South area can park safely and in the appropriate areas. Year to date, staff have issued just under 5,000 parking citations with 530 of those citations issued in the Brooklyn Hill neighborhood within the Residential Permit Zone "H". Below are two maps, one that shows the boundaries of the Residential Permit Zone in Orange and a second that shows the density of tickets issued in that area.

## (Residential Permit Zone "H" Map)



ak City Chiropractic Park Park wit a water with Washington St Dance with G ing nath Your Ralei Borden Building Estate 907 Glenwood Charlotte Duke Englehart N Boylan Ave St. Mary's ISC Bioexpress Family Dentistry 10 Wade Edwards nton Magnet earning Lab vereux St High School THE STORE The Cardinal Bar Partnership entary School Hir LearnPlatform, Inc Sahara Hookah Caf SPECTRAFORCE 10 TLC Marcos Pizza, MoJoe's Burger Joint ngs & Grill 8 **McDonald** 0 Victory Property Management Mellow Mushroom Publi

## (Ticket Density Map – Permit zone "H")

Parking Division staff have a dedicated evening parking enforcement shift that consists of four (4) ambassadors and an evening supervisor. At present only two positions are filled due to recruitment challenges. Positions have been advertised multiple times in an effort to fill these open positions. Staff have been using overtime shifts in the meantime to ensure adequate coverage is available.

The evening shift is Tuesday – Saturday 4pm-1am and their efforts are primarily focused along the Glenwood South area and the Brooklyn Hill neighborhood later in the evening on Friday and Saturday.

Transportation staff continue to work closely with RPD and have issued them parking enforcement equipment to ensure they can quickly and efficiently enforce residential parking concerns after the Transportation staff leave the area.

Parking staff are currently pursuing opportunities to partner with a private vendor to increase parking enforcement coverage during the early morning hours on weekends. Staff will keep Council updated on the progress of this initiative.

## **Quality of Life Projects**

Staff have finished several quality-of-life projects along the corridor summarized below:

- Installation of scooter parking corrals and new specific Glenwood South corridor rules to ensure slower speeds and better parking behavior.
- Installation of parking garage wayfinding signage to get visitors to park quickly within the Glenwood South area rather than circling the block or parking in the adjacent residential neighborhoods.

- Installation of dual trash and recycling receptacles at 15 new sites in the area to reduce littering and keep the area cleaner.
- Identified areas that needed additional street lighting and worked with Duke Energy to increase wattage on adjacent existing streetlights.
- City staff participated in the "Keeping Glenwood Safe" public safety meeting hosted by the Glenwood South Neighborhood Collaborative as well as several meetings directly with the Brooklyn Hill neighborhood.
- Staff have finalized design for new, large-format signs to be placed at the entrances to the Residential Permit Zone "H" areas. These signs are designed to educate drivers before they enter the Brooklyn Hill neighborhood and encourage them to look for parking elsewhere. The signs are scheduled to be installed by the middle of September.



(No attachment)

## Weekly Digest of Special Events

Staff Resource: Sarah Heinsohn, Special Events Office, 996-2200, sarah.heinsohn@raleighnc.gov

Included with the Update materials is the special events digest for the upcoming week.

(Attachment)

# Council Member Follow Up Items

## Follow Up from the June 21 City Council Meeting

### Unified Development Ordinance Text Change TC-7-22: Group Living - Status Update

Staff Resource: Keegan McDonald, Planning and Development, 996-4630, keegan.mcdonald@raleighnc.gov

During the meeting Council authorized an external text change request to create a new Group Living use, titled Co-Living, within the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO). As proposed, Co-Living would allow more than 4 unrelated persons to occupy a residence and share common facilities such as bathrooms, kitchens and living space. Co-Living would be permitted as a limited use in the R-6, R-10,RX, OX, NX, CX, DX and IX zoning districts.

During the meeting, the City Council requested staff draft an ordinance and bring the item back for their review by the end of September. Staff from Planning and Development and the City Attorney's Office are still in the drafting process and require additional time to work through challenges pertaining to the building code and state law. Once drafting is complete, staff will place the item on a future Council agenda.

(No Attachment)

## Weekly Events Digest

Friday, September 2 – Thursday, September 8

City of Raleigh Office of Emergency Management and Special Events specialevents@raleighnc.gov | 919-996-2200 | <u>raleighnc.gov/special-events-office</u>

### **Permitted Special Events**

### Morning Times First Friday Market Series

Hargett Street Friday, September 2 Event Time: 7:00pm - 11:00pm Associated Road Closures: E. Hargett Street between Fayetteville Street and S. Wilmington Street will be closed from 6:00pm until 11:59pm.

### <u>Futsal</u>

City Plaza Friday, September 2 - Monday, September 5 Event Times: 9:00am - 10:00pm daily (times for special programs vary) Associated Road Closures: No roads will be closed for the event. The off-street, eastside portion of City Plaza will be used through 9-6-22.

### African American Cultural Festival of Raleigh & Wake County

Fayetteville Street District Saturday, September 3 & Sunday, September 4 Event Times: 11:00am - 10:00pm on 9-3-22; 12:00pm - 10:00pm on 9-4-22 Associated Road Closures:

- Fayetteville Street between Davie Street and the south end of City Plaza will be closed from 6:00pm on 9-2-22 until 11:59pm on 9-4-22; note that local traffic will have access to the 500 block of Fayetteville Street
- Martin Street between Fayetteville Street and S. Wilmington Street will be closed from 12:00am on 9-3-22 until 11:59pm on 9-4-22
- The following roads will be closed from 3:00am on 9-3-22 until 11:59pm on 9-4-22:
  - Fayetteville Street between Davie Street and Hargett Street
  - o Davie Street between S. Salisbury Street and S. Wilmington Street
  - Martin Street between Fayetteville Street and S. Salisbury Street
- South Street between S. Salisbury Street and S. Wilmington Street will be closed from 6:00pm until 11:00pm on 9-3-22 and 9-4-22

### Hopscotch Music Festival

### City Plaza & Moore Square

Thursday, September 8 - Saturday, September 10

Event Times: 4:00pm - 10:30pm on 9-8-22 & 9-9-22; 1:00pm - 11:00pm on 9-10-22

Associated Road Closures: Fayetteville Street between Davie Street and Lenoir Street will be closed from 6:00pm on 9-7-22 until 2:00am on 9-11-22. Note that the 500 block of Fayetteville Street will remain open for local traffic.

## Other Upcoming Events

### First Friday Raleigh

Friday, September 2 Downtown Raleigh

### First Friday Market & Movie: High School Musical

Friday, September 2 Moore Square

### African American Cultural Festival Concerts

Saturday, September 3 & Sunday, September 4 Lichtin Plaza

#### September/October Gallery Exhibition

Saturday, September 3 - Saturday, October 29 Pullen Arts Center

#### **Moore Square Market**

Sunday, September 4 Moore Square

### Cinema in the Square: Black Panther

Sunday, September 4 Moore Square

### **Five Finger Death Punch**

Wednesday, September 7 Coastal Credit Union Music Park at Walnut Creek

## Arts on the Hill

Thursday, September 8 Dorothea Dix Park, Chapel

### **Public Resources**

<u>Pilot Text Alert Program</u>: Sometimes spontaneous events happen downtown and in other areas that could affect local businesses. If you'd like to receive notifications when those events happen, including unpermitted ones, sign up for text alerts.

**Event Feedback Form**: Tell us what you think about Raleigh events! We welcome citizen and participant feedback and encourage you to provide comments or concerns about any events regulated by the Office of Emergency Management and Special Events. We will use this helpful information in future planning.

**<u>Road Closure and Road Race Map</u>**: A resource providing current information on street closures in Raleigh.

Online Events Calendar: View all currently scheduled events that impact City streets, public plazas, and Dorothea Dix Park.