



City of CHARLOTTE

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Lewis and City Council Members

FROM: Gregg Guetschow, City Manager

SUBJECT: City Manager Report

DATE: February 22, 2019

Accounts Payable for March 11. Due to the implementation of new accounting software, we will not be distributing a listing of accounts payable to Council on the preceding Wednesday as has been our practice. I believe that we will be able to include the listing as a part of the regular agenda packet but cannot be certain of that at this time.

Absentee Voter Applications. No-reason absentee voting is now being implemented state-wide. The Clerk's Office mailed information to every voter a little over a week ago to alert them of the opportunity to be added to the permanent absentee voter roll. Since then, 278 requests have been received bringing our current total of absentee voters to 1348. We expect additional requests to continue to come in. We believe that absentee voting contributes to both an increase in overall voter participation as well as more efficient in-person voting. We are encouraged, then, by this early response.

Flight School. I was informed this morning by Airport Manager Todd Cotter that he has completed negotiations to bring a new flight school to the airport. It has been some months since the last flight school was in operation. Flight schools contributed to the overall financial condition of the airport in the short run because of increased fuel sales and in the long run by encouraging individuals to take up flying.

Pension Bonds. In late 2018, the legislature passed a bill that extends the opportunity for the City to fund its accrued unfunded pension liability through the sale of bonds. I have reached out to our bond counsel and bond financial adviser to begin exploring the opportunity. It is not clear at this point whether we are eligible under the statute. That question hinges on whether the Treasury Department views the way we treated our hybrid pension contributions as equivalent to a defined contribution plan. If we are permitted to issue bonds, our financial advisor will undertake an analysis to see if it makes sense financially.