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Charlotte Area Recycling Authority

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Hi to all,

I have received notice that there will be discussion and possible closing of the Charlotte Area Recycling Authority. It concerns me to hear that. I realize that it has become an expense to the City to keep it open, but we are talking about a very valuable service to the community. Many of us as business owner's have come to rely on the Recycling Center and use it regularly to support our community. Captain's Cabinetry uses it for a place to recycle our cardboard from our cabinetry boxes. Other businesses use it for similar reasons. The possible closure of the Recycling Center will require us to seek other options that will no doubt increase our expenses.

As many of us as business owner's could be looking at added expenses and associated labor inconveniences to manage our cardboard recycling. I know many of us a business owner's support the Recycle Center in different ways and at different levels. With that said, is there a way to arrange levels of commitment to financially support the Recycle Center through businesses using the facility? Could we not commit our increased expenses to the support of this valuable asset to the community? Could there not be a pledged donation by business users to support the Center based on the level that you use it the facility?

I know that when you are using something basically for free, plus or minus your donations, it's hard to start paying for the privilege. Increased expenses are not something that is favored, but sometimes it's unavoidable. As I have already stated, most of us will be looking at an increased financial investment with the closure of the Recycle Center whether we like it or not. Why not find a solution based on mutual financial commitment both from business users and the City of Charlotte?

I have not mentioned private pledges because my understanding that a large portion of the private users are elderly on fixed income. I think donations from the private sector would continue to be an acceptable idea. The Recycling Center may need to find a way to make that more apparent as they use the facility.

Captain's Cabinetry LLC would be willing to commit to a fixed donation system to keep the Center open. I believe a joint effort between the City of Charlotte and community minded business leaders could be the answer for continued growth in our City. Do we really want our recycle dollars to leave the community because we can not provide our own? I really don't think trash service companies are going to participate in the development of Charlotte from their increased revenues. Do we really want to put more people out of work?

Respectfully,

Paul Wilson – Owner Captain's Cabinetry and DDA Chairman

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