



City of CHARLOTTE

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Lewis and City Council Members

FROM: Gregg Guetschow, City Manager

SUBJECT: City Manager Report

DATE: November 8, 2017

108/110 E. Lawrence Building Demolition. The demolition contractor has given the required 10-day notice to the DEQ for the demolition of this structure. Initial work involves removal and bagging of some materials that require special handling. We expect this work to commence within the next 7 to 10 days. We will be executing the temporary easement agreement next week so that the contractor may access the building from the rear if he chooses to do so.

Election. City Clerk Ginger Terpstra has reported that the election ran very smoothly with results reported to the County Clerk in record time. One noteworthy observation concerns the small margin by which the Charter amendment proposal passed. Despite our efforts, I suspect that the public was not as well informed about this measure as we might have hoped. It is significant, I think, that the 911 proposal, which will result in the imposition of a new fee, passed in the City with 63% of voters in favor while the Charter amendment garnered just 53% in support. I do not believe that those who voted in opposition preferred that Council have unfettered ability to spend limited City resources. It will do us well to remember the challenge of educating voters about matters that are a bit more complex than the typical proposals they are accustomed to seeing.

Health Insurance. We will be meeting next week with representatives of Austin Benefits regarding health insurance rates for 2018. The preliminary indication from the company is that we will be seeing a small reduction in rates. I will provide more detail to Council after the meeting.