



TO: Mayor and City Councilors

FROM: Rich Olson, City Manager

REF: FYI ~ Week Ending August 19, 2011

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1. Last night, we celebrated the opening of the South Park Sports Complex. This opening marks the culmination of three years of work by City and County staff to make the project a reality. During this three-year period, we saw the combination of City and County Parks and Recreation Department staff into a unified department under the direction of the City. Bobbi White and her staff spent countless hours over the last three weeks to have the complex in immaculate condition. The highlight of the evening was after the ribbon cutting seeing the boys and girls baseball and softball players sprinting to their fields to play the first games on the five new fields. I was afforded the opportunity to throw out the first pitch on one of the fields. I would like to thank the un-named baseball player who warmed me up to insure that my first pitch was a strike! It is always nice to open a new complex; however, the key is to insure that the complex continues to look like new in the years to come. The Parks and Recreation Department still has several outfield sign opportunities for businesses and individuals. For \$500, you get a 4' x 8' sign, which will hang in the outfield until January 1, 2014.
2. Phase II of Contract 2 of the Elizabeth Street Utility Relocation Project (NCDOT U4438) is well underway as of this week. The surface of Poindexter Street north of Colonial Avenue has been removed and the water and sewer line replacement has started. We also found another underground fuel storage tank in the alley behind the Mattress Warehouse, which has been removed. During the next week, the contractors plan to have most of the underground utilities complete. They will also be removing the sidewalk on the west side of Poindexter Street; and time allowing, will start to construct the curb and gutter on the west side of Poindexter Street. Next week, the contractors will also be removing the south half of the road surface on Colonial Avenue from Poindexter Street to Martin Luther King Drive to prepare for the

construction of the underground utilities. (Note: Phase II of the project extends to the east side of Martin Luther King Drive on Colonial Avenue.) The current plan is to have Phase II of this contract completed by mid-October assuming there are no substantive weather delays. The Phase II completion schedule has been posted on the homepage of the City's website. Please be cautious when driving near the construction area; and, be aware of the street signs as some traffic is being re-routed, in particular the section of Colonial Avenue from Water to Poindexter Streets. Again, we thank everyone in advance for their patience and cooperation as we make these improvements to our downtown.

3. Chief Charles Crudup has reported that three individuals have been arrested in conjunction with the shots fired incident that occurred on August 9, 2011 at 512 and 511 West Ehringhaus Street (Mamasita's Restaurant and Ace Hardware). In addition to the initial charges of Felony Hit and Run, Careless and Reckless Driving, No Operator's License, and Communicating Threats on August 9, 2011, the persons responsible for these crimes have been arrested and charged with: 17 Counts of Attempted Murder, Going Armed to the Terror of the Public, Discharging a Firearm in City Limits, Discharging a Firearm into an Occupied Vehicle, Damage to Personal Property and two Counts of Damage to Real Property. All three offenders are currently incarcerated at Albemarle District Jail. Chief Crudup is preparing a press release for local media outlets regarding this issue. I would like to thank Chief Crudup and all members of the Elizabeth City Police Department for their diligence in bringing this matter to a swift conclusion.
4. The City municipal election will be held on October 11, 2011. City staff has provided all City Council candidates with a copy of the Council's agenda package for our meetings, which will be held on August 22, 2011. We will continue to provide all non-confidential information to the candidates up to the date of the election. In addition, June Brooks sent a letter to all candidates outlining the City's election sign requirements. Election signs may be posted on any of the 14 locations starting on August 27, 2011.
5. A construction bid opening was held for the Route 17 South Sidewalk Project yesterday; however, there were only two bids submitted to the City for this project. According to the City's purchasing policies, the bids as submitted were not opened and were returned to the respective bidders. A solicitation for construction bids will again be advertised in the newspapers on August 23, 2011 for a scheduled bid opening on September 1, 2011. This project is the planned sidewalk that will run from Providence Road to the Farm Fresh shopping area, near Applebee's.

6. The Public Utilities Department has published its Utility Collection Systems Annual Performance Report for 2010. The report has been placed in the Public Works Department section of the City's website for the convenience of the public. The City's collection system overall performance was compliant for the year 2010. Some of the information detailed in the report includes reportable spills, sewer lines cleaned and a description of all system improvements made during the calendar year. Hard copies of the report are available in my office.
7. Preliminary discussions have been held with Pasquotank County regarding the upcoming joint City/County meeting scheduled for Monday, August 29. It is the County's turn to host the meeting; and therefore, the agenda will be determined by the County. We are still in the process of deciding actual agenda items. If a member of the Council has an issue that you would like to have considered for the agenda, please let me know. I hope to have an update for you during your Council meeting on Monday.
8. Next Friday evening, August 26, 2011, will be the final Kids Flix movie presentation at Mariners' Wharf Park for the summer season. The movie, Charlotte's Web, begins at 8:30 p.m. This movie series was hosted by the Parks and Recreation Department this summer for children ages toddler and up. Bring your lawn chairs, towels, and blankets and enjoy fun on the lawn!
9. Upcoming Event Reminders:
 - City Council Work Session at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, August 22 in Council Chambers
 - City Council Regular Session at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, August 22 in Council Chambers

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