

GREENSBORO LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

1. Body Worn Camera - Continue to work with Rep. John Faircloth to make favorable amendments to the law. Two matters are of particular concern, allowing Council to view recordings in closed session without being required to sign confidentiality agreements and allowing the Greensboro Criminal Justice Advisory Commission to view recordings without having to obtain a court order as a part of their oversight function.

Notes. The part of this item related to council access was included in the 2019 Greensboro Legislative Agenda.

2. Triad Connected Cities - Greensboro requests \$1M in funding from the State to help Greensboro and its neighbors complete the fiber connection along the I-40/85 corridor from Winston-Salem through Greensboro and to finish the 11.8 mile gap to Burlington. The goal of Triad Connected Cities is to establish our region as a world-class broadband community which drives enhancements in economic development, education, healthcare, and other quality of life components of the region.

Notes. This item was included in the 2019 Greensboro Legislative Agenda and is an opportunity to continue to work with other Triad Cities.

3. Restore Flexibility of Transportation Funding - In 2017, the General Assembly diverted state transit funding from local transportation budgets to highway construction needs. This resulted in a loss of approximately \$500,000 of state SNAP funding for Greensboro. While the \$500,000 was ultimately replaced with CMAQ funding, SNAP funding is more flexible than CMAQ funding. So Greensboro requests that this funding stream be restored to the City's SNAP allocation because Greensboro is faced with increased contract costs, increased para-transit ridership costs, and decreased fixed-route ridership all while it pursues clean energy and fiscal responsibility by purchasing more electric buses.

Notes. This item was included in the 2019 Greensboro Legislative Agenda. As noted by GDOT's Hanna Cockburn, this issue persists. The total impact in the FY 21 state budget was \$1.7 Million in lost funding for Greensboro. State SNAP funds are some of the most flexible we receive and can be used to match Federal Funds to support operations, depot renovation needs and capital purchases of rolling stock. In FY 2019, NCDOT replaced a portion of funds with CMAQ funds which are restricted to qualifying projects and not a suitable long term replacement.

4. Small Business Enterprise - Greensboro requests authority to establish a Small Business Enterprise program to promote the development of small businesses in the Greensboro market area. During its 2013 session, the General Assembly considered HB 524 which was a local act to allow Greensboro to focus on small, local businesses in the granting of contracts. Greensboro requests a program similar to Durham or Charlotte.

Notes. This item was included in the 2019 Greensboro Legislative Agenda. Durham and Charlotte have charter amendments which were approved by the state legislature: Durham Charter Section 84.5; Charlotte Charter Section 8.88.

5. Collection of Parking Fines Linked to DMV Registration - Greensboro seeks to partner with Winston-Salem to drive this issue. This bill allows the collection of unpaid parking

tickets by linking fines to the annual vehicle registration software maintained by the DMV. Greensboro and Winston request the authority to use such software for collection purposes. Our McGuire Woods lobbyists report they continue to meet with the DMV on this matter, and they have learned that several other cities are interested in this as well.

Notes. This item was included in the 2019 Greensboro Legislative Agenda and continues to be supported by GDOT.

6. Presumptive Disability for Fire Fighters - This bill would seek recognition that a disability can arise from a series of harmful exposures, not just a single event or accident. Presumptive disability allows for a disability claim to be made because of the cumulative effects of exposure to toxins or pollutants.

Notes. This item was included in the 2019 Greensboro Legislative Agenda. This was a state-wide bill introduced as HB 666 in the 2015 session.

7. Healthcare for Retired Councilmembers - City Council requests the same benefit granted to County Commissioners in 2009 (S.L. 2009-564) which gave healthcare coverage to retired commissioners. The request is to provide retired councilmembers the ability to buy into the city's health insurance program. Greensboro requests an appropriate amendment to NCGS 160A-163(e) to obtain this benefit.

Notes. This item was included in the 2019 Greensboro Legislative Agenda. This matter was also pursued in 2017 when Council passed a Resolution seeking legislative approval for this matter.

8. Fire Department: Search and Rescue Funds - Greensboro Fire Department and the NC Coalition of Fire Chiefs request an appropriation of approx. \$2.3M in recurring funds to be used to support the search and rescue programs as provided in Article 6 of Chapter 166A. These funds will be used by local governments to supplement the expenses to purchase and maintain equipment to ensure the viability of search and rescue services.

Notes. This item was included in the 2019 Greensboro Legislative Agenda.

9. Statewide Housing & Community Development -- to enhance and bolster the statewide efforts regarding Housing & Community Development policy, programs, funding, and strategies, the City Council requests that the General Assembly establish a North Carolina Department of Housing and Urban Development. We believe that the State needs to take a stronger role of leadership and coordination. An NCHUD would be able to focus state policy, programming and funding on efforts to impact current and future housing needs and issues that affect our entire State and to coordinate with federal housing initiatives. This housing crisis may present differently in different communities, but it is a problem that exist all across this State.

10. Rental unit certificate of occupancy ("RUCO") – the City Council requests that the General Assembly provide the City of Greensboro with the authority to require rental unit certificates of occupancy before new tenants may move into a property with a history of verified housing code violations or where rental assistance is being provided.

In 2019, there were 11 items pursued as part of the City's legislative agenda. Three of them were essentially achieved in 2019 or 2020 and have been deleted from this list. The two additional items below were identified by GDOT as items to consider for addition to the 2020 Greensboro Legislative Agenda.

11. 25 MPH Speed Limit Authority – Provide for municipal authority to establish 25 MPH speed limit for locally controlled, residential streets in a prima facie manner without having to comply with NCDOT metrics.
12. School Zone Electronic Speed Enforcement - Establish authority to conduct electronic speed enforcement within school zones. Members of the Durham delegation offered SB 271 in 2019 which proposed a pilot program in Durham. SB 271 never got out of the Senate Committee on Rules and Operations.
13. Default enrollment of new employees into deferred compensation plan – The City's Deferred Compensation Committee recommended that the City pursue amending NCGS 95-25.8 which restricts the ability of employers to withhold or divert an employee's wages. The City recognizes that financial wellness is an important part of the overall health and well-being of its employees. Certainly, tax-advantaged retirement savings can be a vital tool in providing financial security for our employees and their families later in life. The City's Deferred Compensation Committee would like to amend the statute to allow political subdivisions to automatically enroll new employees into a deferred compensation plan. In addition, the Committee would like the authorization to require a contribution or withholding of 1% of new employees' salaries.