

TO: Mayor and City Council Members

DATE: April 8, 2014

FROM: Martha W. McGlohon, Interim City Attorney

SUBJECT: Legislative Agenda 2014

Summary Statement: Consideration of the City's Legislative Agenda for the 2014 Session of the North Carolina General Assembly.

Review and Analysis: The session of the North Carolina General Assembly that begins on May 14, 2014, is a "short" session. A copy of the Adjournment Resolution of July 26, 2013, is attached (Attachment No. 1).

As set forth in the Adjournment Resolution, only certain categories of bills will be eligible for consideration; such bills include: (1) Bills that passed out of the chamber in which they were introduced, and that were received in the other chamber ("crossover bills"); (2) Bills implementing the recommendations of study commissions ("study bills"); and (3) Local bills that meet certain requirements (non-controversial, unanimous support among local delegation, etc. "local bills"). The City of Asheville is interested in some bills that fall into each of these categories.

RESOLUTION NO. 14-84

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2014 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA FOR THE CITY OF
ASHEVILLE

WHEREAS, the 2014 North Carolina general Assembly "short session" will convene on May 14, 2014; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Asheville has identified certain matters of local and State-wide interest where legislative action is needed or desired;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE THAT:

The "City of Asheville Legislative Agenda for the 2014 Session of the North Carolina General Assembly," attached hereto as Exhibit A, is hereby adopted.

The City Attorney is hereby directed to transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to the members of the General Assembly whose districts include the City of Asheville.

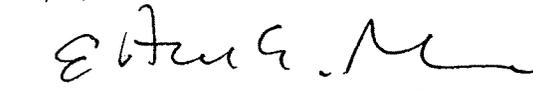
The City Council offers the City's assistance to members of the General Assembly and the legislative staff with respect to any items listed on Exhibit A, including the provision of additional information, and further resolutions in support of specific bills.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Asheville City Council expresses its thanks and appreciation to the members of the local delegation for their service on behalf of the City of Asheville.

Read, approved and adopted this 22nd day of April, 2014.



City Clerk



Mayor

Approved as to form:



City Attorney



Exhibit A

2014 City of Asheville Legislative Agenda

Environmental Issues

- Support changes to HB 74, Regulatory Reform Act, to restore local control regarding environmental protection.
- Seek legislation requiring the appropriate clean up and disposal of coal ash in coal ash ponds.

Revenue

- Support reducing the complexity and inequity of the privilege license tax while maintaining the tax as a locally controlled source of revenue that supports services to businesses and consumers.
- Seek changes to Session Law 2013-414 to exempt farmers markets and farmers market managers from N.C.G.S. 66-255, allowing farmers markets and farmers market managers to operate without the requirements of registration lists and vendor certificates.
- Seek legislation to give municipalities the option to use electronic legal public notices in lieu of newspaper publication. In FY 2012-2013 the City of Asheville spent \$85,000 on notification advertisements and publications.

Transportation Infrastructure

- Seek funding of the I-26 Connector Project as recommended by joint resolution of the Board of Commissioners for the County of Buncombe and the Asheville City Council.

Graffiti

- Seek to strengthen and/or clarify current state law to more effectively deter and punish perpetrators who damage property, such as by committing vandalism with graffiti.