

Question	Department	Answer
Will 2% restaurant tax money be used for West Ashley landscaping?	Budget, Finance, & Revenue Collections Department	Hospitality funds have to be used for tourism related expenditures, meaning anything that will increase tourism. Using funds for landscaping in West Ashley would not be an allowable expenditure under the State Law for these funds.
Why hasn't more capital gone to infrastructure improvements,(roads, clearing, cutting/trimming of green, garbage pick up)which has been collected by the city from Tourism?	Budget, Finance, & Revenue Collections Department	Tourism funds have to be used for tourism related expenditures or capital improvements. When a project meets the requirements set by State Law, the City will utilize tourism funds. The examples you mention would not qualify for use of tourism dollars.
How do citizens keep best informed with City Budgeting and Spending decisions?	Budget, Finance, & Revenue Collections Department	There is a public hearing on the budget every year, typically in October where citizens can come and voice opinions on the budget. Our annual budgets are located on the City's webpage. In addition, the Mayor holds citizen meetings. One of those is Mayor's Night In, which is held at City Hall. The other is Coffee with the Mayor, which are held in different areas of the City. Those meeting dates and times can be found on the City's webpage. You can also communicate with your neighborhood association and your Councilmember.
Why isn't there a dog license requirement in the city of Charleston? It might help with some of the dog neighborhood problems.	Business & Neighborhood Services Division	Under section 5-71 of the Municipal Code, such licenses are, in fact, required. https://library.municode.com/sc/charleston/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=CICO_CH5AN_ARTIVLITA_S5-71TALI
The property behind mine is in shambles. It is overgrown and causing mosquito problems. Who do I call to get them to do something about it?	Business & Neighborhood Services Division	Call the Livability Hot Line 24/7 at 843-805-3226 and request that a code enforcement officer go to a specific address. Consider giving your phone number for a call back if additional info is needed as well as requesting confidentiality.
Who is responsible to pick- up lawn debris on Ashley Crossing off of Magwood and clearing debris from the drainage system	Business & Neighborhood Services Division	Staff conducted an on-site visit and sent GOV GQ request to Public Service and Traffic & Transportation.
When a neighborhood pays property taxes on slivers of land that can never be developed, and are considered right of ways, would the city ever consider taking them over?	Business & Neighborhood Services Division	No. The City is not interested in taking over parcels that are not developable simply to hold them for tax purposes. Developers and communities need to understand what they're getting themselves into with undevelopable parcels. The city does not take on unimproved rights-of-way either.
What are the services available to our community, services are divided and you know who does what. How do work between different authorities?	Business & Neighborhood Services Division	This resident was contacted on 10-9-2017 and discussion ensued about their small neighborhood. Apart from contacts for essential services from specific departments, there is an interest to form an official association and then be able to apply for membership in the Neighborhood Council. There are 9 homes in the City and 3 others requesting annexing comparison information from the City. NS will continue to be in touch with this representative from her neighborhood to share information and support their efforts.
What initiatives and effort is City making, generally and specifically, to incentivize and support small local businesses to thrive in our growing City of higher rents and complex permitting.	Business & Neighborhood Services Division	Unfortunately, the city of Charleston cannot regulate private sector rent prices, but the City continues to work with business owners on finding solutions to the issues they face. Providing information on access to capital, cutting through internal red tape, and including affordable commercial space as part of the Charleston Redevelopment Corporation Land Trust, improving our procurement process, looking at formula business overlay options where feasible, and enforcing ordinance via livability court are some examples of the City showing our commitment to supporting all small local businesses start and thrive in the City.
We need more trash cans on street corners and maybe even doggie bag stations. How do we get that request in front of the right people?	Business & Neighborhood Services Division	For downtown only, neighborhood associations can purchase litter baskets from Environmental Services Division. However, it is best to work through the Neighborhood Services Division in order to confirm if ESD can service the baskets once installed.
Who is responsible for trimming trees especially around street lights on Ashley Crossing and Westborough neighborhood	Business & Neighborhood Services Division	Contact Danny Burbage, Urban Forester from the Parks Dept. at burbaged@charleston-sc.gov and give him specific information so he can use the City's mapping system to determine ownership and responsibility.
Why do we not have recycling trash cans on public streets downtown?	Business & Neighborhood Services Division	It is an ongoing effort for the City to address this important need by working with the County.
Are CHA Tenants complying with the Community Service Policy Quality as per the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998(8hrs of community service every month)? Can this program be utilized to clean up surrounding neighborhoods?	Charleston Housing Authority	Yes and the service is recorded as this is a statutory requirement. Only residents can determine what community service they will perform. It cannot be prescribed for them.
DeReef playground was sold to a developer. Where is the new playground for this community? Thanks	Corporation Counsel	The smaller, reconfigured DeReef Park, where the Praise House now sits, is currently held by GMS/Chris Phillips. Pursuant to the settlement agreement with the City, GMS has the obligation to improve the park by May 4, 2018, and then deed it to the city within 60 days of completing the work. The park will be an outdoor recreational area and will include play equipment, drinking fountain, and landscaping which will include a grassy area.

How can I learn more about the community paramedical project? How and where is it implemented? Who is involved - especially if there is a board?	Fire Department	The plan for the community paramedic program is currently being re-evaluated. The CFD applied for a grant in 2016 to provide the necessary seed money for a vehicle and other components to launch the program. We were unsuccessful in securing the grant. The original scope of the project involved a joint partnership between the CFD and the downtown hospitals. We plan to resume pursuing the program in 2018.
Do carriage drivers receive training in safe and courteous carriage driving practices?	Livability & Tourism Department	The City's current ordinance doesn't regulate training for safe and courteous carriage driving practices. Each company is responsible for implementing their own training programs for drivers and horses. Most carriage companies are members of a national organization known as CONA (Carriage Operators of North America) who provide professional training for carriage drivers. Additionally, three of the carriage companies (Charleston Carriage Works, Old South Carriage Company, and Palmetto Carriage Works) have recently formed a group called "Carriage Association for Responsible Equine Safety" (CARES) to bring public awareness to the carriage horse industry regarding transparency and safe practices. Charleston CARES President is Tommy Doyle.
What is the value of merging Police and Fire Departments under one chief? Why is the City considering this?	Mayor's Office	The Mayor and City Council recently discussed this organizational change during a recent Public Safety Committee Meeting. The City decided to not move forward in this manner, but rather focus on filling both the Chief of Police and Chief of Fire positions via respective, national searches.
How does the City plan to support the creative community?	Mayor's Office	The City constantly works to recruit and retain creative, knowledge-based and value-added jobs and make sure our citizens have the skills and training to do those jobs. The City also engages with a variety of stakeholders to accomplish this.
Is there a liaison from mayor's office for our area?	Mayor's Office	Yes, Rick Jerue (jeruer@charleston-sc.gov) and Josh Martin (martinj@charleston-sc.gov), Senior Advisors to the Mayor.
What is the current state of UG power distribution to our homes? Should we be looking at other means to protect our trees like relocating several power poles?	Mayor's Office	The City of Charleston and SCEG entered into a franchise agreement many years ago. As part of this franchise agreement, an undergrounding capital improvement plan exists on a neighborhood by neighborhood priority basis. The priority list is on file at City Hall. If your neighborhood is not on the list, please contact the Parks Department to discuss alternative plans to protect tree canopy in your area.
What are the Director of Resiliency plans to engage citizen reflection and action for various initiatives and/or plans?	Mayor's Office	During all future resiliency initiatives, the City will engage citizens and residents along the way similar to the most recent Low Battery Wall and Church Creek Drainage Basin Study projects.
How do we obtain more green space on the peninsula? Is there an update on the lowline?	Planning, Preservation, & Sustainability Department	Because the peninsula is so thoroughly built-out, the opportunity to add more public green space is very limited. Private individuals can, of course, buy land and remove the buildings on it in order to turn it into green space, but the City is not in a position to do that in any large extent. We do have a strong street tree program, however, and will continue to plant trees and other vegetation to keep our streets as green as possible. The Lowline Park is in planning stages, and some important Right-of-Way acquisitions are being made now. Additionally, necessary variances are in process or have recently been granted.
What is the city's response so far to the tearing down of neighborhood structures to build McMansions?	Planning, Preservation, & Sustainability Department	After careful consideration, many hearings, and much Public discussion, City Council passed an ordinance dramatically altering the way the city measures building heights, in order to bring new construction in line with the existing architecture of neighborhoods. More detailed information is available here: http://www.charleston-sc.gov/index.aspx?NID=1559
What future improvements are 'on the books' along 61...outside 526?	Planning, Preservation, & Sustainability Department	A wide variety of new projects are being proposed by private groups for this area, in tandem with road and drainage improvements.
Will the moratorium on new building construction in the Bees Ferry area continue for another year?	Planning, Preservation, & Sustainability Department	That is an issue for City Council to take up. An enormous amount of study has gone into the issue of the Church Creek Basin. More information is available here: https://www.churchcreekbasinstudy.com/
Will the lower peninsula keep its period look in the far future?	Planning, Preservation, & Sustainability Department	The purpose of the Board of Architectural Review is to ensure that the most historic portions of the city are appropriately preserved. Barring a change to their status being enacted by City Council, it is unlikely that the period look of the historic portions of the Charleston Peninsula will meaningfully change.
We need to deal with runoff and aesthetic issues associated with the existing parking lot and adjoining marsh. Given that it is privately owned, how would you suggest we gather the necessary departments and approach funding?	Planning, Preservation, & Sustainability Department	The Plan West Ashley master plan recommends the evolution of outdated commercial centers like the South Windermere Shopping Center into mixed use destinations with eating places, entertainment, retail and work opportunities. The City will continue to work with landowners through the Technical Review Committee and Design Review processes to mold commercial public spaces that are more engaging, inviting, and modern, and comport with neighborhood character and desires. As the Center is redeveloped over time, the City will work to ensure that the parking lot and buildings are in a sustainable relationship with the adjacent marsh, while also remaining useful and aesthetically pleasing.

When might we see some support for developing a neighborhood character study? or even historic district designation?	Planning, Preservation, & Sustainability Department	This question should be directed to PRESERVATION STAFF re: neighborhood character appraisals that were done a few years ago (Windermere & Byrnes Downs). The Plan West Ashley draft report recommends that neighborhood character appraisals should be used as a tool to help neighbors educate residents (existing and newcomers). In the future, the City will need to decide if it has a more active role in neighborhood demolition review. You can also inquire with the Preservation Society or the Historic Charleston Foundation to see if you can set up a partnership in advocacy with them and your member of City Council. Area character appraisals are completed by outside consultants and require funding that need to be budgeted for in a given year.
What is being done to accommodate rising sea levels?	Planning, Preservation, & Sustainability Department	The city has a comprehensive Sea Level Rise Strategy, details are available here: http://www.charleston-sc.gov/index.aspx?NID=1576
How does the Preservation staff plan on keeping on top of their expanded oversight above the crosstown?	Planning, Preservation, & Sustainability Department	There is no expansion above the crosstown beyond what has been in place for years. We currently oversee the primary N/S corridors (King, Meeting, Morrison and Rutledge) extending into Romney and Brigade east of Morrison. What was named the Old City District-Upper was recently renamed the Historic Corridor District
What was the final outcome of the recommendations provided by Andres Duany with regard to BAR changes?	Planning, Preservation, & Sustainability Department	After careful consideration, many hearings, and much Public discussion, City Council passed an ordinance dramatically altering the way the city measures building heights, in order to bring new construction in line with the existing architecture of neighborhoods. More detailed information is available here: http://www.charleston-sc.gov/index.aspx?NID=1559
Is there any enforcement for work carried out without BAR approval in the Old & Historic District?	Planning, Preservation, & Sustainability Department	Yes. The BAR will fine folks, require after-the-fact hearings, and require removal of unpermitted work.
Please advise as to the steps for a development (residential & business) to receive approval.	Planning, Preservation, & Sustainability Department	Visit the Permit Center at 2 George Street or reach out to a Development Coordinator (Becca at 843-973-7225 or Tyler at 843-724-7442) before starting any project to discuss your specific development with staff. More information is available here: http://www.charleston-sc.gov/permitcenter
What is the best way for citizens to impact new zoning/ change current zoning laws?	Planning, Preservation, & Sustainability Department	There are three ways: First, make sure to come to meetings of the Boards of Zoning Appeals and to participate in public hearings elsewhere. Second, reach out to your City Councilmember to see if you can serve on any Boards, Commissions, or Task Forces relevant to Zoning and Planning, like the upcoming (in a couple short years) Comprehensive Planning Process. Third, consider running for elected office!
Would like to understand the process of area planning from zoning to appeals to approval	Planning, Preservation, & Sustainability Department	In terms of planning for a particular development, all sections of the City of Charleston have an existing base Zoning, and so do all parcels in Charleston or Berkeley county which are annexed to the City. If that Zoning is unsatisfactory to an applicant, they can apply to Planning Commission and City Council for a rezoning or, if they have more than five acres under their control, for a Planned Unit Development. After securing the optimal (or pre-existing, if rejected) zoning, an applicant will submit plans for their subdivision or building or buildings to the Technical Review Committee. Variances or Special Exceptions from the Boards of Zoning Appeals, or review by the Board of Architectural Review and Design Review Board may be necessary and can be sought as early as this preliminary stage. After several rounds of Technical Review to ensure compliance with requirements, the project can move forward to construction or subdivision. Appeals of the decisions of the city's Boards and Commissions can go to either the Circuit Court or to City Council, depending on the board and the type of approval, and must typically be lodged within five days of the ruling. Planning for the five borough areas of the City (The Peninsula, West Ashley, James Island, Johns Island, and Daniel Island) is accomplished through regional master plans, the City's Comprehensive Century V Plan, and individual decisions of City Council.
Plan to address rising cost of living on peninsula? And the proportion of residential units vs hotel rooms	Planning, Preservation, & Sustainability Department	The Mayor and Council have placed a \$20 Million bond issue for affordable housing on the November ballot, and have worked hard to ensure the continued construction of affordable housing on the Peninsula, both at scattered City sites and by the Housing Authority. The cost of living in a desirable area will continue to rise as demand outstrips supply, but we're trying to help on the Supply side as much as we can. Hotel rooms are broadly irrelevant to residential property values, and the city already strictly prohibits the conversion of residences into hotels.
Are there any templates or exemplars for common planning submissions?	Planning, Preservation, & Sustainability Department	There are not, but if you visit the Permit Center at 2 George Street, BAR and Zoning planners will be happy to help you make your submission.
Goes the WA development...anything to address the general run down condition of business and buildings on 61?	Planning, Preservation, & Sustainability Department	A wide variety of new projects are being proposed by private groups for this area, in tandem with road and drainage improvements. As long as existing buildings meet code, the city can only encourage owners to do their best to make them look good.

I would like to know how planning, approval and permitting works for all the new developments/apartment buildings/hotels and whether or not significant fees are paid to support the associated infrastructure needs.	Planning, Preservation, & Sustainability Department	The process is different for developments and apartments to how it is for hotels. For a development or apartment building, once the Zoning is verified, the project goes to the Technical Review Committee, where the city checks carefully that it meets the infrastructure needs of the area and is also up to all applicable codes. If a subdivision is necessary, that is vetted by the TRC and then the Planning Commission. If the project is in the jurisdiction of the BAR or the Design Review Board, it needs their approval as well. The project then moves forward into a construction phase. At every turn it is vetted by planners and code reviewers for safety, compliance, and meeting infrastructure needs. A Hotel has the same process, but it also needs approval for the Accommodations Special Exception from the Board of Zoning Appeals. Developers do pay some, as part of the permitting process, but they should probably pay more. We are working on adjustments to our fee structure to ensure that they pay appropriately for the necessary infrastructure.
What steps is the City taking to improve the West Ashley Greenway?	Planning, Preservation, & Sustainability Department	http://www.postandcourier.com/news/charleston-parks-conservancy-plans-major-improvements-for-west-ashley-greenway/article_fa409fe2-2e71-11e7-9d33-3f549a3a4b39.html
How do you maintain & protect the flavor of your community	Planning, Preservation, & Sustainability Department	This is really a philosophical question that deserves a longer and more detailed discussion than it would be possible to give here. Call Dexter at 843-724-3779 to discuss this question further.
What is happening to ensure that West Ashley is developed with character and more local boutique shops and eateries are opened?	Planning, Preservation, & Sustainability Department	https://www.planwestashley.com/ The Plan West Ashley master plan recognizes the value of small and local business and recommends techniques to attract and incentivize such businesses. The Plan also recommends the evolution of outdated commercial centers into mixed use destinations with eating places, entertainment, retail and work opportunities. Visit www.planwestashley.com for more info. Additionally, the City's design review process helps to ensure that projects are not just equally-anodyne anonymous concrete blocks indistinguishable from each other. Small businesses thrive in environments of entrepreneurship, so the City uses a variety of different departments and initiatives to encourage entrepreneurship and small businesses. You should start one yourself!
Way too much development of condos, apts., & hotels. More supermarkets are needed on the peninsula.	Planning, Preservation, & Sustainability Department	Housing supply is being increased by folks eager to make a profit. A new supermarket is opening in 99 West Edge soon, and the City is working hard to bring a supermarket back to the Eastside.
How the City of Charleston is promoting and planning public transportation, walkability, and connectivity between North Morrison area, West Ashley, the WestEdge project, Upper King Street and the greater Charleston region as the downtown core for the region.	Planning, Preservation, & Sustainability Department	http://www.charleston-sc.gov/index.aspx?NID=284 . The City's Century V Comprehensive Plan, ReThink Folly Rd Plan, Johns Island Community Plan, Plan West Ashley (still in draft form) all promote and call for multi-modal transportation planning, complete streets, and ways to improve bike/ped safety. Additionally the City is embarking upon a City-wide transportation plan that will also focus on multi-modal connectivity. Finally, the City will soon be applying for a TIGER grant for the Ashley River bridge bike/ped retrofit (cantilevered or detached structure).
Why is there a total lack of water access for recreation downtown?	Planning, Preservation, & Sustainability Department	This is a philosophical question which is best answered by City Council. However, there is public access to Battery Beach, and to a dock at Brittlebank Park.
When will the city enforce existing laws and regulation pertaining to short term rentals	Planning, Preservation, & Sustainability Department	The Mayor's Task Force on Short-Term Rental has finished their recommendations and is presenting them to the Planning Commission and City Council. These new regulations will be more effectively enforceable and will result in successful enforcement. More information is available here: http://charleston-sc.gov/index.aspx?nid=1520
How do you get a permit? Are there educational materials? What is the coordination between departments, DNR, DHEC, Army Corps of Engineers, etc.?	Planning, Preservation, & Sustainability Department	Visit the Permit Center at 2 George Street or reach out to a Development Coordinator (Becca at 843-973-7225 or Tyler at 843-724-7442) before starting any project to discuss the specific development with staff, who coordinate within City Government and via interagency work constantly and consistently. More information is available here: http://www.charleston-sc.gov/permitcenter
Why are we trying to build more hotels and other tourist needs if restaurants can't even find employees who can pass a background check?	Planning, Preservation, & Sustainability Department	Council did not approve the Mayor's request on placing a hold on hotel development, leading to more hotels being constructed.
What is going to happen to the former BI-LO on Meeting Street?	Planning, Preservation, & Sustainability Department	A private developer has a variety of plans for the site, none of which have been formally presented to the city.
What is the long range advantage of filling in buildings and filling on marsh area?	Planning, Preservation, & Sustainability Department	A greater supply of housing helps to keep the cost of housing down for everyone, as long as appropriate drainage measures are taken to mitigate the filled marsh. Climate change will get us all eventually, though.
What is the status of the West Ashley bike lane?	Planning, Preservation, & Sustainability Department	The Mayor's office is working to secure federal TIGER funds and a local match for construction.
Do hotel/apartment/subdivision developers pay for any of the infrastructure needs they create. I think they should pay highly.	Planning, Preservation, & Sustainability Department	They do pay some, as part of the permitting process, but they should probably pay more. We are working on adjustments to our fee structure to ensure that they pay appropriately for the necessary infrastructure.

		Sgt. Shelor is Community Outreach/Crime Prevention a consistent contact for all neighborhoods, and for the requestor in West Ashley, you can also speak to Team 4's Lt. Cretella (CretellaA@Charleston-SC.gov) or Sgt. Dasher (DasherT@Charleston-SC.gov) both at 843-766-3908 during business hours, you may need to leave a message. E-Mail is best. Additional Team Commander Contacts are: Team 1 -Upper Peninsula- Lt. Hawkins (HawkinsC@Charleston-SC.gov 843-720-3913); Team 2 Lower Peninsula below Calhoun St. - Lt. Christine Middleton MiddletonC@Charleston-SC.gov 843-720-3924; Team 3 - Lt. Adams (AdamsTH@Charleston-SC.gov) or Sgt. Murray (MurrayS@Charleston-SC.gov 843-720-3916 or -3917; Team 5 - Daniel Island & casino areas - Lt. Jim Byrne (ByrneJ@Charleston-SC.gov) or Cpl. Ed. Jones both at 843-849-0304.
Do we have a police liaison for our area?	Police Department	
In a neighborhood that does not allow overnight parking on the street, will the Police ever issue tickets to offenders?	Police Department	No. Some neighborhoods have HOA's empowered to send letters and/or fines, but Police and Parking Enforcement Officers can only enforce actual laws and ordinances like Parking on Wrong Side of the Street (left side of car against curb), Parking within 30 feet of the Corner, Blocking a Fire-Hydrant, Blocking a Driveway, etc. Police will address case-by-case on complaints, or may self-initiate a contact. Often these are dealt with by educating the vehicle owner rather than issuing a ticket.
Police respond to individual request but do not self-target high crime areas. Why don't they park vehicles in areas known to harbor drug dealers? Can they start ticketing for small crimes such as littering?	Police Department	Calls for service come so frequently most officers don't have the luxury of sitting in one place more than a few minutes. Some neighborhoods do have officers assigned to do just that but in most cases officers are kept moving.
There must be a better way to alert car owners of malfunctioning tail light than doing a traffic stop that endangers car occupants, officers, and other traffic.	Police Department	Unfortunately there is not another way. Officers usually try to select a location for the traffic stop that will not cause danger from traffic. Occupants should not feel endangered by the officer. Remember also, that the malfunctioning brake light or turn signal is in-itself creating a safety hazard every minute as the driver believes he/she is telling other cars he is stopping or turning, but they do not know it. This is especially true when 2 or even 3 brake lights have burned out. The law requires that all running lights, brake-lights, turn signals and headlights must be working. This is not a technicality - each light has a safety purpose and a safety consequence if they do not function.
Standing water continues to be a problem near the Sottile Theatre on George Street, when will this area be drained and/or a solution to this problem implemented?	Public Service Department	Public Service will investigate this.
What is the City's plan for flooding control?	Public Service Department	The city has a comprehensive Sea Level Rise Strategy, details are available here: http://www.charleston-sc.gov/index.aspx?NID=1576
What can individual citizens do to support efforts to address flooding in our neighborhood?	Public Service Department	Individual citizens can support efforts to reduce flooding by not depositing debris in the streets and drainage systems that may clog the stormwater conveyances. They may also consider implemented lot level stormwater runoff reduction controls such a rain gardens that collect runoff from their property and provide infiltration. Also disconnecting directly connected impervious areas (i.e. route downspouts into landscaped areas and not driveways) also reduces the amount of runoff discharged to City stormwater conveyances. For more information on what citizens can do to control stormwater runoff, please visit the Carolina Clear program's website at http://www.clemson.edu/extension/carolinaclear/index.html .
Please update on status of comprehensive drainage study for James Island. Are changes going to be made to Stormwater Manual?	Public Service Department	Unfortunately there is not another way. Officers usually try to select a location for the traffic stop that will not cause danger from traffic. Occupants should not feel endangered by the officer. Remember also, that the malfunctioning brake light or turn signal is in-itself creating a safety hazard every minute as the driver believes he/she is telling other cars he is stopping or turning, but they do not know it. This is especially true when 2 or even 3 brake lights have burned out. The law requires that all running lights, brake-lights, turn signals and headlights must be working. This is not a technicality - each light has a safety purpose and a safety consequence if they do not function.
When will the increase in Eastside flooding be addressed, and when can we expect improvements to the sewer system (backs up during floods)?	Public Service Department	What is the geographic reference for this comment? The eastside of the peninsula? This information would allow us to reference a specific CIP project underway or planned to improve drainage.
To where does my neighborhood drain?	Public Service Department	The Geddes Hall and Geddes Hall Extension neighborhoods drain through a roadside ditches that ultimately collect and discharge through a number of outfalls at the South end of the neighborhood.
Flooding on Bees Ferry and Shadow Moss.	Public Service Department	The city has commissioned an engineering study to provide a second opinion of options for improving drainage and reducing flooding in the Church Creek Drainage Basin. The contract requires the consultant to provide a preliminary report at the end of October.
How can we increase preventative maintenance funding on drainage system?	Public Service Department	The stormwater fees and other dedicated drainage funds are used to pay for both capital improvements and maintenance operations. We currently aim to inspect and clean all of the drainage system once per year. In addition during rain events we have a process of checking and monitoring storm drains and we also respond to individual requests throughout the year. Areas of known flooding are also checked and maintained more often. If we need to do more we can transfer more funds from capital improvements or we can increase fees to support additional maintenance.

<p>We have poor drainage in several areas that has caused frequent flooding in several area homes. Is there any public response to this?</p>	<p>Public Services Department</p>	<p>The City does have a stormwater maintenance schedule. The schedule is based on the following established levels of service that determines Stormwater resources: Cleaning and Vegetation-- Basins/inlets- cleaned once a year on the peninsula, West Ashley is inspected once a year and cleaned as necessary with specially equipped sweepers once a year ; Rear/side ditches and channels- Cut and cleaned once a year. (some ditches are cut & cleaned more than once a year based on a history of flooding problems e.g.. Church Creek) A select number of channels are sprayed on a seasonal basis to control aquatic vegetation; Front Ditches- Ditches that are greater than 3ft. in depth are cleaned and cut once a year. Ditches less than 3ft. in depth are the responsibility of the homeowner to keep cleaned and cut; Ponds- With very few exceptions ponds are the responsibility of the HOAs. Grading--Ditches- the ditches are inspected annually and graded based on the results of the inspection (usually every 3-5 years); Ponds- With very few exceptions ponds are the responsibility of the HOAs</p>
<p>When will Charleston implement a periodic maintenance schedule for drainage.</p>	<p>Public Services Department</p>	<p>The City does periodic maintenance. Stormwater does pre & post storm cleanings and responds to reports of blockages.</p>
<p>In a neighborhood, does the City own the streets? If they do, how can the HOA collect the fines for overnight street parking?</p>	<p>Traffic & Transportation Department</p>	<p>The City will not enforce a neighborhood's covenants and restrictions.</p>
<p>When will credit cards be accepted at meter locations?</p>	<p>Traffic & Transportation Department</p>	<p>This should be completed by the end of the year.</p>
<p>The new developments on 61 and traffic issues. 61 cannot support all of the traffic.</p>	<p>Traffic & Transportation Department</p>	<p>Current zoning allows for new developments to be built along Highway 61. Traffic and Transportation reviews all traffic patterns for all new developments are requires mitigation as allowed to assist with traffic impacts.</p>
<p>I am concerned about the amount of litter that is on the sides of the roads. I live off of 61 and get mixed messages about who is responsible for maintenance - DOT or City. The overgrowth of weeds is also an issue.</p>	<p>Traffic & Transportation Department</p>	<p>South Carolina Highway 61 is a SCDOT highway. They are responsible for all maintenance to the roadway.</p>
<p>Many people drive through South Windermere and the Byrnes Down neighborhood during their commutes, likely in an effort to miss traffic. Is there a way to discourage people from doing this? And what is the process in requesting speed bumps?</p>	<p>Traffic & Transportation Department</p>	<p>Traffic calming devices have been implemented throughout the neighborhood to address citizens concerns regarding cut through traffic and vehicle speed. Please contact the Department of Traffic and Transportation for more information or you can find additional information on the Traffic and Transportation website.</p>
<p>Concerned with intersection of Wappoo Creek Drive & Maybank Hwy traffic light is like a death wish, something needs to be done. No one knows who owns the landscape Island at Wappoo Creek / Maybank landscapers blow all their trash bank & office park</p>	<p>Traffic & Transportation Department</p>	<p>Stantec Consulting Firm has completed the traffic signal retiming study for James Island, Johns Island and West Ashley. This intersection is included in their study. The final report with recommendation will be presented to City Council in the near future. The island is maintained by the City's Parks Department.</p>
<p>Is any one reviewing available space to increase on street parking?</p>	<p>Traffic & Transportation Department</p>	<p>The City has just released an RFP (Request for Proposal) to have a parking study conducted on the peninsula. The last parking study was completed in 1999</p>
<p>In addition to speed humps, is the city considering any other means to make the streets safer for pedestrians? Say pedestrian street designation?</p>	<p>Traffic & Transportation Department</p>	<p>The city is evaluating our current traffic calming program to determine other means of traffic calming devices that could be implemented on city streets.</p>
<p>Pedestrians and bicyclists seem to have a lower priority when planning roads. How will crossing Septima Clark at Hagood & Cherry accommodate walkers and bicyclists? Thanks</p>	<p>Traffic & Transportation Department</p>	<p>The city is working with the Medical District, WestEdge Development, SCDOT and others to improve the crossing at Septima Clark, Hagood Avenue and Cherry Street intersection for all users. This is still in the planning stages.</p>
<p>Plan for providing reliable/efficient public transit to/from peninsula (traffic is getting more and more congested)?</p>	<p>Traffic & Transportation Department</p>	<p>The city is working with CARTA to implement Bus Rapid Transit and we are evaluating Park and Ride Locations throughout the area.</p>
<p>Hospital District sign on the Harleston Village side of Calhoun Street at Fourth Street was erected in error and needs to be changed to a brown HVA signage</p>	<p>Traffic & Transportation Department</p>	<p>Work has been completed.</p>
<p>How do we get increased traffic enforcement in residential areas, e.g., rolling through stop signs, speeding on Barre Street, etc.</p>	<p>Traffic & Transportation Department</p>	<p>Traffic and Transportation will review existing signage and pavement marking to ensure proper traffic control is in place. We will ask assistance from the police department to enforce speeding and running of stop signs.</p>
<p>Will our cities roads every be smooth, and who is in charge of quality control?</p>	<p>Traffic & Transportation Department</p>	<p>Current zoning allows for new developments to be built along Highway 61. Traffic and Transportation reviews all traffic patterns for all new developments requires mitigation as allowed to assist with traffic impacts.</p>
<p>Can we change timing of traffic light at St Andrews Blvd and Colony Drive or get a left turn signal?</p>	<p>Traffic & Transportation Department</p>	<p>St. Andrews and Colony has been reviewed as part of the Traffic Signal Retiming Study. The final report with recommendations will be presented to City Council in the near future.</p>
<p>Will left turn signals be added at choke points near Citadel Mall.</p>	<p>Traffic & Transportation Department</p>	<p>The Traffic Signal Retiming Study has reviewed the left turn movement around the Mall. Recommendation for improvements will be provided to City Council.</p>
<p>Why does it take so long to create change in Charleston(right hand turn, intersections, extra long lights on side streets.</p>	<p>Traffic & Transportation Department</p>	<p>Major changes to intersections such as right turn lanes require significant funding. Requests for this type of funding and these types of projects occurs annually and it is competitive across Charleston County. Projects with higher benefit and lower costs are the ones that are typically funded.</p>

What is being done to make travel on Savannah Hwy safer - speeding, running red lights, etc.	Traffic & Transportation Department	The City of Charleston is reviewing the corridor as part of the West Ashley Revitalization Plan. This plan will provide recommendations to improve safety and accessibility for all modes of transportation.
There are vehicles regularly parked in a "no parking" loading zone next to Zero George Hotel/Restaurant and this disrupts traffic flow, especially during rush hour. Has anyone spoken to the hotel about this?	Traffic & Transportation Department	The City's Parking Enforcement Division is located at 2 George Street and have and will continue to monitor this area.
What traffic impact will develop on Savage when Waring Senior Center Open	Traffic & Transportation Department	We do not expect significant traffic impacts to occur with the opening of this project.
How do we get street repairs done? I.E South St has been full of extreme potholes and bumps, and storm sewers in disrepair for 15 years.	Traffic & Transportation Department	Call 843- Pot-hole (768-4653)
What is the progress on the rapid transit system in Charleston	Traffic & Transportation Department	The city is currently working with BCDCOG and CARTA to implement Bus Rapid Transit. This requires significant study and design prior to implementation. We anticipate the BRT to be implemented within 2 to 4 years.
Is anyone looking at whether it is safe to use low powered/no powered bikes and golf carts in heavy traffic?	Traffic & Transportation Department	Low speed vehicles are regulated by South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles.
What happened to Scoop, the electric car initiative downtown? Was it a success?	Traffic & Transportation Department	Yes, Scoop is still operating. They run a "tips only" electric car ride service that sort of compares to Uber, except there is no app to reserve a ride, (you have to call to reserve), and they have limited hours of operation and a limited service area. http://www.scoopchs.com/
How much influence does the department of Traffic & Transportation have on the development of a Bus Rapid Transit in the city of Charleston?	Traffic & Transportation Department	The city is currently working with BCDCOG and CARTA to implement Bus Rapid Transit. This requires significant study and design prior to implementation. We anticipate the BRT to be implemented within 2 to 4 years.
I signed up for text notifications for parking, but have not received any. Did program not launch?	Traffic & Transportation Department	Please contact Mark Aakhus, City Property Manager who oversees the parking app for parking garages. Mr. Aakhus can be reached at (843) 724-7402.