

YEAR IN REVIEW

Center City has emerged from the recession with a more diverse economy thanks to a rebounding office market and investments in cultural venues and 21st century transportation infrastructure. These investments have laid the foundation for recruiting companies and a talented workforce to Charlotte. The influx of the educated and upwardly mobile Generation Y is a primary driver for a new development cycle as they seek walkable, dynamic neighborhoods. Their contributions will be a key factor in Charlotte's continued competitiveness as they become the majority of the workforce in less than a decade.

A vibrant Center City was essential to attracting and successfully hosting the Democratic National Convention. With significant investments in infrastructure, and in cultural and hospitality assets, public and private sector commitment and leadership paid off, positioning our great city to shine in the global spotlight. And, with our partners at the Charlotte Chamber and the Charlotte Regional Partnership, we were well prepared to extol the virtues of our city to the world through the second year of a wide-reaching national public relations program.

In the midst of all the excitement that surrounded the DNC, a new development cycle began to emerge. With nearly 2,400 housing units under construction in Uptown and South End, a growing demand for urban residential product foreshadowed a very positive sign and testament to Center City's economic resilience. This increased residential development activity paralleled a new planning effort in South End geared toward continuing to transform the one-time manufacturing district into an even more dynamic neighborhood with a diversity of uses. Through the work of stakeholders and local and national design and development experts, 6 key strategies identified to help guide South End's growth for the next 5 to 10 years are being implemented.

This uptick in activity also coincided with the City Council's adoption of the Center City 2020 Vision Plan in September 2011—representing a continuation of Charlotte's long tradition of formulating bold strategies. Implementation of the plan is underway including the goal to become a true 'City of Bikes' with the launch of Charlotte B-Cycle bike sharing program.



Harvey B. Gantt Chairman / Board of Directors



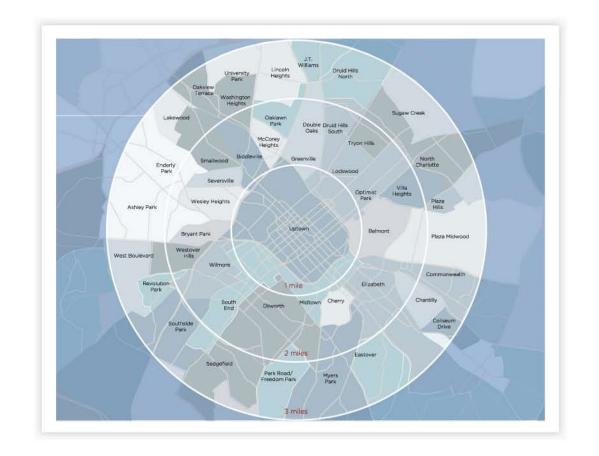
Michael J. Smith President and CEO

Center City added more than 350,000 square feet of new office space over the past year. With steady additions to the inventory, business recruitment and relocation activity remained active throughout the recession. Major tenant relocations or expansions included the Chiquita Brands headquarters, Chobani, Tire Intelligence, Heels.com and the Charlotte School of Law. With several expected wins on the horizon, we anticipate vacancy rates to continue to drop and remain among the lowest of our peer cities.

Looking forward, we are excited about new initiatives unfolding over the next year. Third Ward will become a more active and lively neighborhood with the completions of Romare Bearden Park and the BB&T Ballpark. Additionally, First Ward Village will break ground and South End residents and workers will begin efforts toward designing a community park. The next round of significant infrastructure investments will begin to take shape with the I-277 loop study's recommendations and the master planning for the Gateway Station properties.

Thoughtful and balanced investments such as these will make certain that talented workers, residents and companies continue to be attracted to the Center City and will help to maintain our path toward becoming an even more viable, livable, memorable and sustainable place.







The annual State of the Center City report highlights the growth and development of Charlotte's urban core. This report is prepared by Charlotte Center City Partners (CCCP), a 501(c)4 not-for-profit corporation that envisions and implements strategies and actions to drive the economic, social, and cultural development of Charlotte's Center City. The vision for Charlotte's Center City is one that is viable, livable, memorable and sustainable, with modern infrastructure, a tapestry of great urban neighborhoods, and a diversity of thriving businesses. As defined in this report, Center City includes Uptown, Charlotte's Central Business District (CBD), South End, and a portion of the Midtown neighborhood as noted by the blue area on the reference map on page 25. Data associated with the term '3 Mile Ring' pertains to the neighborhoods within 3 miles of "The Square" at Trade and Tryon streets.

WORK

In 2012, Charlotte and Center City were introduced to the world for relocation, job growth and innovation by hosting an international cast of influential developers, executives and decision makers who attended annual conferences of the Urban Land

Institute, International Economic Development Council, International Downtown Association and the Democratic National Convention. This unprecedented exposure should reinforce the continued stream of interest that attracted a diverse group of industries and tenants to Center City in 2012, expanding the local economy in the energy, food, and technology sectors. Major wins included the relocation of the Chiquita Brands corporate headquarters and the opening of Chobani's North American sales headquarters in Uptown. The education cluster also saw significant gains with the addition of several higher education institutions including the Charlotte School of Law and programs at Montreat College.

FAST FACTS

Square Miles	~2
Office Square Feet	21 million
% of County Office Space	41%
Class A - Office Square Feet	13.3 million
LEED Certified Square Feet	7.3 million
Total Employees	73,000
Total Wages	4.6 billion

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. Local Employment Dynamics On the Map (2009). & Quarterly Workforce Indicators (2009). CBRE 3Q 2012 Reports These two schools leased a combined 260,000 square feet in Uptown and 13,000 square feet in South End. This alone will lower vacancy rates over 1% during the coming year. The impact of the Duke Energy-Progress Energy merger will also be realized in 2013. It is anticipated that the merger will yield thousands of jobs in the Center City as spin-offs and supporting services emerge. Like Uptown, South End has also seen diversification with the addition of technology start-ups including Tire Intelligence, Tresata, Shomo Live and KYCK.

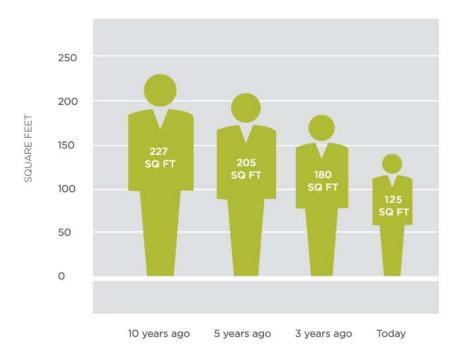
Uptown vacancy is currently at 9.8% and falling. Meanwhile, South End rests at a relatively low sub 9% vacancy. With lease rates hovering above \$24 and \$21 for space in Uptown and South End respectively and falling vacancy, the tightening market has spurred talk about the need for new office buildings. With unparalleled accessibility and boundless amenities, combined with visibility and the ideal location for the future workforce, both developers and tenants are looking to Center City to meet this opportunity.



GEN Y: By the end of the decade, the balance in the U.S. will turn

from approximately 50% baby boomers and 25% Generation Y workers to 25% baby boomers and 50% Generation Y workers.

SQUARE FOOTAGE PER EMPLOYEE TARGETS





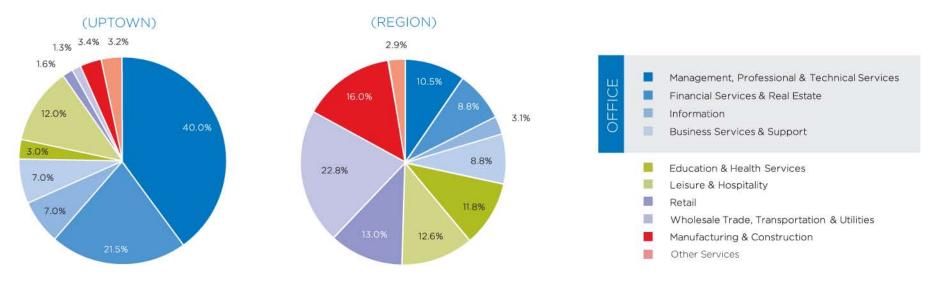


Source: Knoll, Inc (2012)

Most Important Workspace Features To Employees:

- 1. Choice of workspace type 2. Collaboration technology 3. Flexible work location

EMPLOYMENT SECTORS



Source: US Census Bureau Local Employment Dynamics On the Map (2010)



NEW & EXPANDED UPTOWN OFFICE TENANTS

FIRM	TYPE	LOCATION
Alcoa Wheel Products	Manufacturing	NASCAR Plaza
Crescent Resources	Real Estate	Carillon Building
Chiquita	Food Distributor	NASCAR Plaza
DealCloud	Financial Services	Packard Place
Heels.com	Web Retailer	NASCAR Plaza
Chobani	Food Distributor	Charlotte Plaza
Charlotte School of Law	Education	Charlotte Plaza

Source: Charlotte Center City Partners (2012)

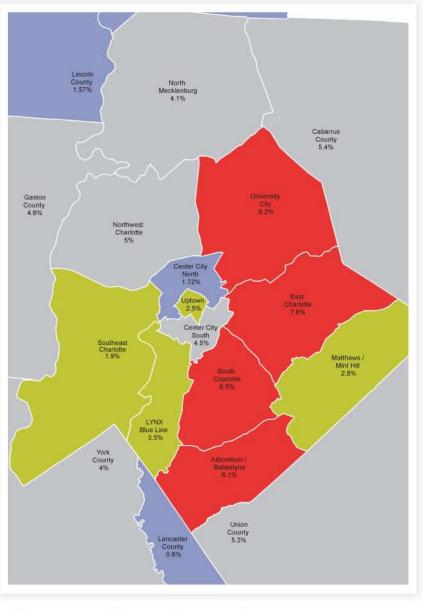
Uptown is at the heart of the Charlotte region, recognized for a strong workforce, excellent quality of life, and low cost of living and doing business.

- DCI, LGA "A Survey of Relocation Advisors" (2010)

NEW & EXPANDED SOUTH END OFFICE TENANTS

FIRM	TYPE
CGS Quaero Solutions Group	Marketing
Ettain Group	Technology & Management
Tresata	Financial Services
Tire Intelligence	Software
Alter Imaging	Design & Marketing
KYCK.com	Technology & Management
Shomo Live	Technology & Management

WHERE UPTOWN EMPLOYEES LIVE



Source: Kingsley, Christopher E. "Employment in Uptown Charlotte: Measuring the Importance of the Charlotte CBD to the City and the Region" Charlotte Center City Partners (2011)

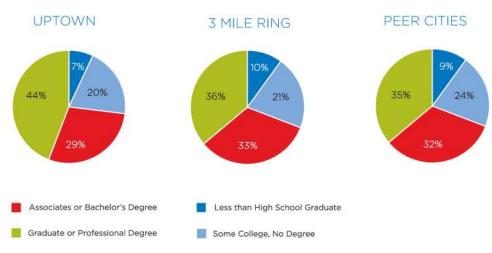
CENTER CITY HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

INSTITUTION	ENROLLMENT
Central Piedmont Community College	19,900
Johnson & Wales University	2,600
UNC Charlotte - Uptown Campus	1,600
Johnson C. Smith University	1,550
Charlotte School of Law	1,150*
Presbyterian School of Nursing at Queens	550
Carolinas College of Health Sciences	450*
Montreat College	400*
Kings College	400
Northeastern University Charlotte Campus	200*
Wake Forest University Charlotte Center	200
TOTAL	29,000

*Relocated / expanded to Uptown in 2011/2012 Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Institute of Education Sciences (2010) & Higher Education Institutions Admissions Offices

* Uptown is the regional center of education contributing to a highly educated workforce.

WORKER EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT



Source: US Census Bureau Local Employment Dynamics On the Map (2010)



LIVE

Nationally, the housing market has shifted dramatically and tipped to favor the rental market. Buyers experiencing higher barriers to entry and new residents who value mobility over mortgages are showing a preference for leasing. These trends of

increased demand are leading to higher rents; and these conditions, along with supportive financing, have catalyzed multi-family development projects in Uptown and South End. With demand in Center City on the rise, developers are jockeying to launch projects to meet the market. Investments in transit infrastructure, a supply of developable properties and interesting, walkable neighborhoods continue to attract residential developers to Charlotte's newest urban community, catapulting South End's population from 1,000 residents in 2000 to 3,200 residents in 2010. With the addition of 1,648 housing units in 9 residential projects under construction, South End's residential population will soon increase to 5,000.

FAST FACTS

	UPTOWN	SOUTH END	3 MILE RING
Total Housing Units	8,895	3,180	31,454
% of Housing Built After 2000	40%	88%	12%
Estimated Population	14,495	3,200	64,389
Median Household Income	\$45,947	\$41,352	\$53,680
Non-Single Household %	16%	49%	56%
Average Family Size	2	1.8	3.1

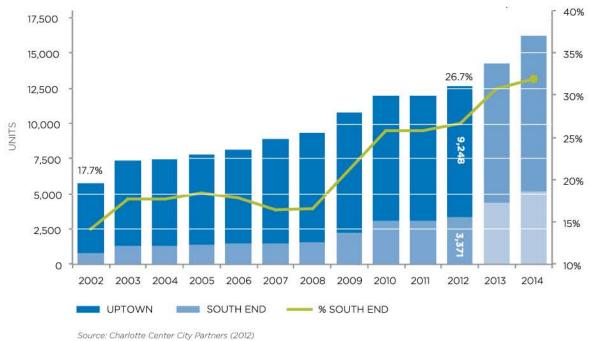
Source: US Census Bureau Decennial Census (2010), US Census Bureau American Community Survey 5 year estimates (2006-2010) Multi-family rental projects are also slated for Uptown. New amenities in Third Ward, including the long-awaited BB&T Ballpark and Romare Bearden Park, have sparked interest in new residential projects. Gateway West, a multi-family residential development in Third Ward will add 270 apartment units to the market; and another new development will add 350 units to a site located directly over the ballpark's left field wall. With the pipeline filling up, a new development cycle is well underway in Center City.





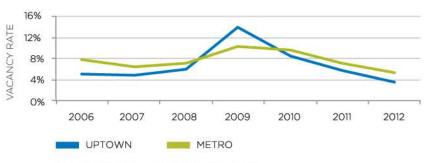


HOUSING MARKET GROWTH (2002 - 2014)



Source. Character certain city i arthers (2012)

APARTMENT VACANCY RATE (2006-2012)



Source: Red Capital Group Multifamily Reports, Reis

* Set to deliver 2,500+ units through 2013,

\$300 million in residential projects are currently underway.



HOUSING UNDER CONSTRUCTION

PROJECT	LOCATION	UNITS
1225 South Church (Phase II)	South End	210
Colonial Grand at South End	South End	353
Fountains at South End	South End	208
330 West Tremont Apartments	South End	164
Junction 1504	South End	281
Park & Kingston Apartments	South End	153
Silos South End	South End	279
Third Ward / BB&T Ballpark Apartments	Uptown	153
Gateway West	Uptown	280
Skye Condominiums/Hyatt Place Charlotte Uptown	Uptown	67
TOTAL		2,347

Source: Charlotte Center City Partners (2012)

Center City projects currently under construction will add 20% more units to the total housing stock.



Total Housing Units	3,180
Rental Units	2,800
Total Housing Square Footage	3.4 million
% Housing Units Created Since 2000	88%
Units Currently Under Construction	1,648
Vacancy Rate	1%
Average Monthly Rent	\$1,355

Source: US Census Bureau (2010); Noell Consulting Group; South End Market Overview (2011)

*"Everybody wants high population density, and they want proximity to employers, attractions and transportation."

- Beau McIntosh, Capstone Apartment Partners Source: Charlotte Business Journal 1/2012









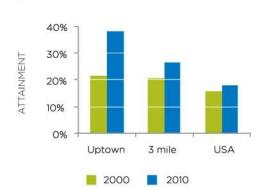


Generation Y (32 and younger) prefer to live in central cities and urban areas far more than any other generation in history.

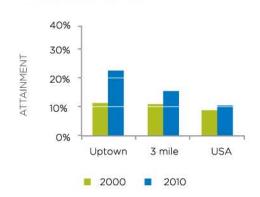
Source: Pew Research Center (2009)

RESIDENT EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT (2000 - 2010)

BACHELORS DEGREE

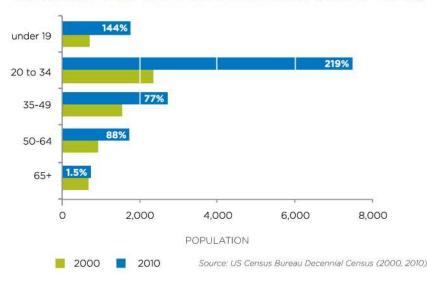


MASTERS DEGREE



Source: US Census Bureau Decennial Census (2000, 2010)

UPTOWN POPULATION GROWTH (2000 - 2010)



SHOP

With the residential population on the rise, market opportunities for retail are following suit. This year, First Ward welcomed the grand opening of 7th Street Public Market with 15 vendors selling cheese, wine, beer, coffee, local produce, fresh meat, flowers and a range of prepared foods.

This part of First Ward is slated to see additional development in the next year: the new First Ward Park will take shape in early 2013, followed by additional parking, apartments, offices and ground-floor retail space.

In Third Ward, Romare Bearden Park and the return of the Charlotte Knights to Uptown at BB&T Ballpark will stimulate development of adjacent lots as prime retail locations. Retail will spring up around the ballpark which will become a regional destination projected to bring 500,000 fans into Uptown for 70

games each season. This is certain to bring additional spending power to Center City.

FAST FACTS

Retail Spending Power - Uptown	\$530 million
Retail Square Feet - Uptown	2.1 million
Number of New Establishments YTD - Uptown	63
Total Square Feet Delivered Between 2008 & 2012	700,000
Retail Square Feet - South End	2.5 million
Number of New Establishments YTD - South End	30
Source: Charlotte Center City Partners (2012)	

South End is maturing as Charlotte's prime design destination, with more than 130 home furnishing and creative businesses. With 30 retail and entertainment openings in 2012 alone, South End strengthened its grasp on the home interiors market, and added others supporting it as a hub for craft beer and hip restaurants. With over 2,000 new housing units on the way, support and demand for retail in South End will continue to grow.



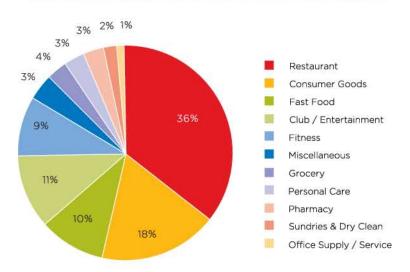
SPENDING POWER PROXIMATE TO RETAIL CENTERS





Source: U.S. Census Bureau. Local Employment Dynamics On the Map (2010)

UPTOWN RETAIL SPACE DISTRIBUTION



Source: Charlotte Center City Partners (2012)

2012	IN	CRE	1EN	TAL	SUP	POR'	TABLE
RETA	IL	SPAC	EU	PTO	WN		

Retail Spending Power	\$530 million
Estimated Annual Sales	\$154 million
Unrealized Spending	\$375 million
Square Feet of Supportable Retail Space	1+ million SF

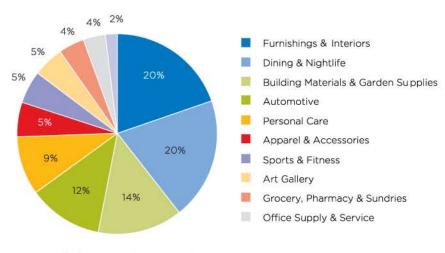
* Every weekday 21,000 pedestrians and 10,000 cars pass through the Trade and Tryon intersection.

Source: Charlotte Department of Transportation, Charlotte Center City Partners (2012)

^{*}Spending power calculations are based on incomes of employees and residents within a 3 mile radius.

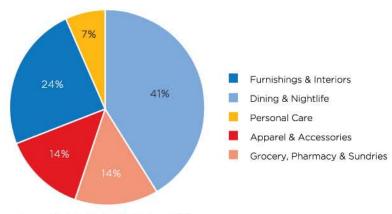
*South End added 30 new retailers, restaurants and service providers in 2012.

SOUTH END RETAIL SPACE DISTRIBUTION



Source: Charlotte Center City Partners (2012)

DISTRIBUTION OF NEW SOUTH END ESTABLISHMENTS



Source: Charlotte Center City Partners (2012)

SOUTH END FACTS

Number of Businesses	773
Retail & Restaurants	345
Professional Service Providers	328
Arts, Furnishing & Design Establishments	56
Average Office & Retail Lease Rate	\$19 SF/Yr
4 year Growth in Dining & Entertainment Establishments	49%
4 year Growth in Furnishing & Design Establishments	23%

Source: Denton, Amy Jo "Historic South End Economic Development Study", Charlotte Center City Partners (2011)

South End has transformed from a textile and manufacturing district into Charlotte's prime design destination.

-Charlotte Home + Garden Magazine (10/2011)



PLAY

From barbeque to ballet, Center City offers something for the 11 million visitors that descend on Uptown and South End annually. With world class museums, year-round sporting events and festivals, as well as a spectrum of dining and shows, there is always something to see and do in Center City.

Adding to an already robust line-up, several recent events and openings made headlines in 2012. Undoubtedly, the year's banner event was the Democratic National Convention, where 35,000 delegates, media and tourists mixed with curious locals in Uptown streets and local venues and attended an assortment of events from festivals to private functions.

FAST FACTS

Performing Arts Venues	19
Performances	1,229
Professsional and College Sporting Events	103
Total Number of Arts, Culture Organizations & Performance Venues	56
Number of Dining Establishments & Clubs	148

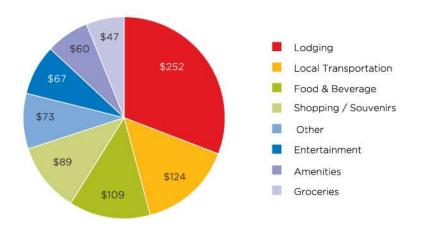
Source: Charlotte Center City Partners (2011)

Other highlights include the ribbon cutting of the 1,3-mile long urban section of the Little Sugar Creek Greenway in Uptown. This amenity offers residents and visitors a world-class place to stroll or bike with connections to another 5.5-mile long system of trails linking Uptown to popular destinations such as Freedom Park, Selwyn Avenue and south Charlotte. The impact of the groundbreakings for Romare Bearden Park and BB&T Ballpark in the heart of Third Ward will reverberate across Center City as a catalyst for further investment in topnotch destination assets.

CBD TOTAL HOTEL ROOMS

24,000 - Visitors 10M 20,000 - 12,000 - 12M 8,000 - 4,000 - 12M 4,000 - 12.8M 8.1M 12M 9.5M 11M 4M

CENTER CITY VISITOR SPENDING BY PARTY



Source: TNS Travel America Survey (2011)

Source: National Downtown Visitors Organization (2011), CCCP (2012)

UPTOWN HOTEL FACTS

Number of Hotels	19
Total Room Count	4,219
Hotel Occupancy	70.7%
Occupancy Increase Over 2011	3.3%
Average Daily Rate (ADR)	\$146
ADR Increase Over 2011	9.1%

Source: Charlotte Regional Visitors Authority (2012)

UPTOWN EVENT ATTENDANCE

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Attendance of Charlotte Center City Partners Sponsored Events	1,100,000
Carolina Panthers Games	578,342
Bobcats Games	486,984
Top ASC Funded Venues	2,087,682
Projected Charlotte Knights Games	500,000+

Source: Arts & Science Council (2011), ESPN, Charlotte Center City Partners



Center City is home to major events that are enjoyed by people from all over the region and the nation.

The **Presbyterian Hospital July 4th Spectacular** brought family-oriented outdoor events into Center City, with classic competitions such as the tug-of-war and watermelon eating contest. After sunset, a choreographed fireworks display lit up the night for as many as 350,000 people across Center City.

At the **Time Warner Cable BBQ & Blues** festival, more than 100 teams gathered in Uptown to compete for the coveted Governor's Cup trophy and a chance to represent the Southeast in the Memphis BBQ Network World Barbeque Cooking Contest. More than 75,000 attended the festival to celebrate southern music and cuisine, enjoy craft beers and talented acts, and taste some of the best grilled and smoked pork east of the Mississippi.

Nearly 400,000 people gathered on Tryon Street in May for the three-day **Food Lion Speed Street** festival. Celebrating the May races at the Charlotte Motor Speedway, the free event featured live music, meet-and-greets with famous NASCAR drivers, food vendors and a block of activities specifically for kids.

Professional cycling energized the streets of Charlotte during the **Presbyterian Hospital Invitational Criterium**. The event brought 200 cyclists to compete on a 1.3 mile closed-loop course through the streets of Uptown. Forty-thousand spectators came to see some of the best cyclists in the world compete in the 25 and 50 mile races for one of the largest prize purses in the country offered for a one-day event.

At the end of the year Center City hosted **Holidays in the City**, a month-long program of events and performances. The festivities began with the Belk Carolinas Carrousel Parade on Thanksgiving. In December, live music and festivities animated Uptown with the Center City Tree Lighting, AT&T ACC Fan Fest and Dr. Pepper ACC Championship Game, and the holiday market at 7th Street Public Market.

After Christmas, Charlotte hosted the **Belk Bowl Fan Fest** and Championship Game followed by **First Night Charlotte**. Unfolding from noon to midnight along South Tryon Street and the Levine Avenue for the Arts, First Night Charlotte continued its tradition as the largest public New Year's Eve celebration in the Southeast. The family-friendly event attracted 60,000 people to enjoy acrobatics, music, art, theater, juggling and magic in back-to-back performances.







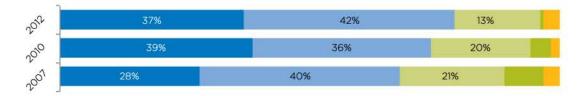






PERCEPTIONS ABOUT UPTOWN

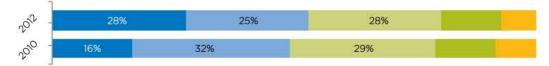
HAS CLEAN STREETS & PUBLIC SPACES



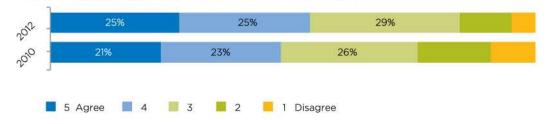
IS EXCITING & FULL OF FUN THINGS TO DO



HAS AMPLE DIRECTIONAL SIGNAGE FOR DRIVING



HAS AMPLE DIRECTIONAL SIGNAGE FOR WALKING



The number of people with an extremely favorable perception of Uptown increased 37% from 2010 to 2012.





ON THE GO

Center City Charlotte is the most densely populated area in Charlotte and the hub of the region's transportation network, offering an array of options for people who live, work and visit the urban core. Center City was easily identified as the most logical

setting for Charlotte B-cycle, the state's first bike share program and the largest urban bike share program in the southeast, made possible by a grant from Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina. Two hundred shared-use bikes at twenty stations are now available for members and walk-up users to ride for point-to-point transportation. This added transportation asset, along with improved bike lanes, added greenways, enhanced sidewalks and pedestrian crossings make Center City Charlotte a more walkable and bikeable place. Continued progress on the Blue Line Extension from Uptown to UNC-Charlotte and the Gateway Station demonstrate Charlotte's continued commitment to transit, and increased passenger volume shows the city's willingness to ride.

FAST FACTS

Annual Light Rail Ridership	4.9 million
Charlotte Douglas International Airport Total Passengers Served	39 million
Annual Gold Rush Ridership	1+ million
CATS Bus Routes That Serve Center City	50
Trips Made Via Transit in the Charlotte Area in FY 2012	26 million
Increase in Ridership FY 2011 to FY 2012	6.4%

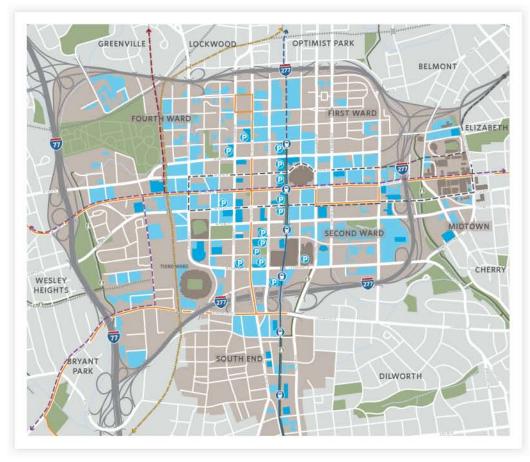
Source: Charlotte Area Transit System, Charlotte Center City Partners (2012)

For those who drive into Center City, finding an available parking space is easier than ever with real-time parking information at fifteen of the City's largest decks and dynamic messaging signs to direct drivers to the nearest open spot. And, for those driving electric cars, Center City now boasts over 50 plug-in electric vehicle charging stations complementing an emerging network of stations throughout the region.

No matter what mode you prefer, it is available in Center City; not only making it easier to get around for residents, but also for visitors and business prospects.



* There are 50 electric vehicle charging stations throughout Uptown.



- Center City Streetcar (planned)
- Bus Rapid Transit (planned)
- High Speed Rail (planned)
- Gold Rush
- Greenway/Rail Trail
- Parks





PARKING FAST FACTS

Total Number of Parking Spaces	46,308
Parking Deck Spaces	37,811
Surface Lot Spaces	7,397
On-street Parking Spaces	1,100
Number of Parking Spaces in the Real Time Parking System	14,377
Number of Garages in the Real Time Parking System	15
Average Daily Parking Costs	\$11
Average Monthly Parking Costs	\$98

Source: Charlotte Department of Transportation, Charlotte Center City Partners (2012)

There are now 15 decks providing real time parking space availability information. Get this and more information now through the Charlotte Center City Partners app.

Smart Parking Deck

Structured Parking

Blue Line Light Rail Station

Blue Line Light Rail (existing)

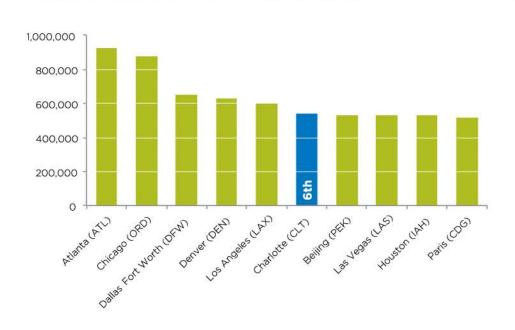
Blue Line Light Rail (planned)

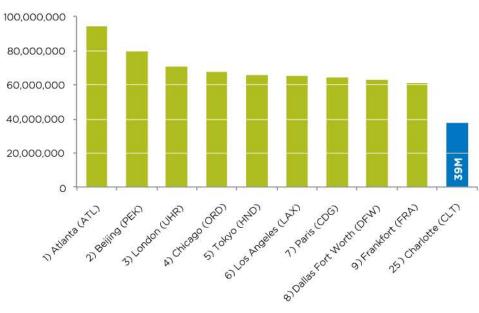
Commuter Rail (planned)

Surface Parking

GLOBAL AIRPORT OPERATIONS ACTIVITY

GLOBAL AIRPORT PASSENGER ACTIVITY





Charlotte Douglas held strong as the 6th busiest airport

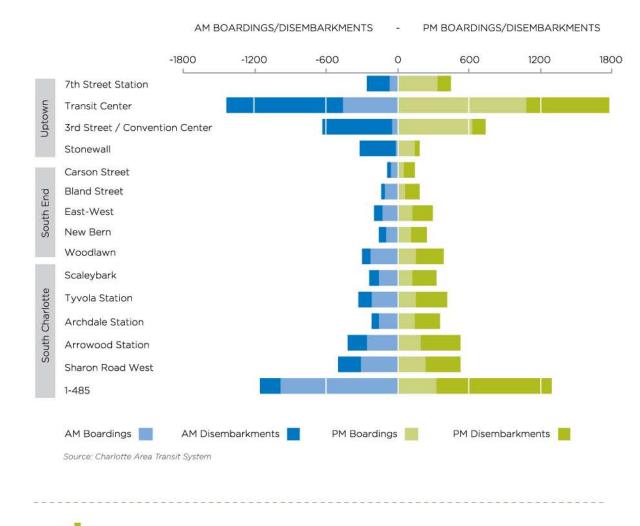
worldwide, registering 539,842 operations (take-offs and landings) in 2011, 33% more than 2005.







BLUE LINE STATIONS - AM/PM RIDERSHIP

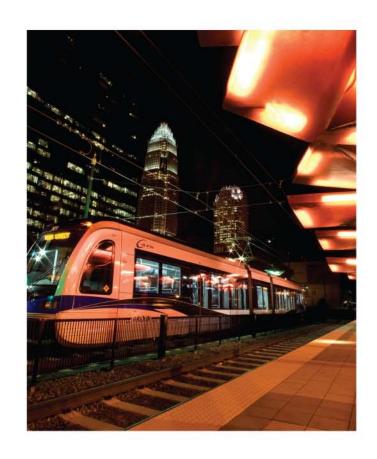


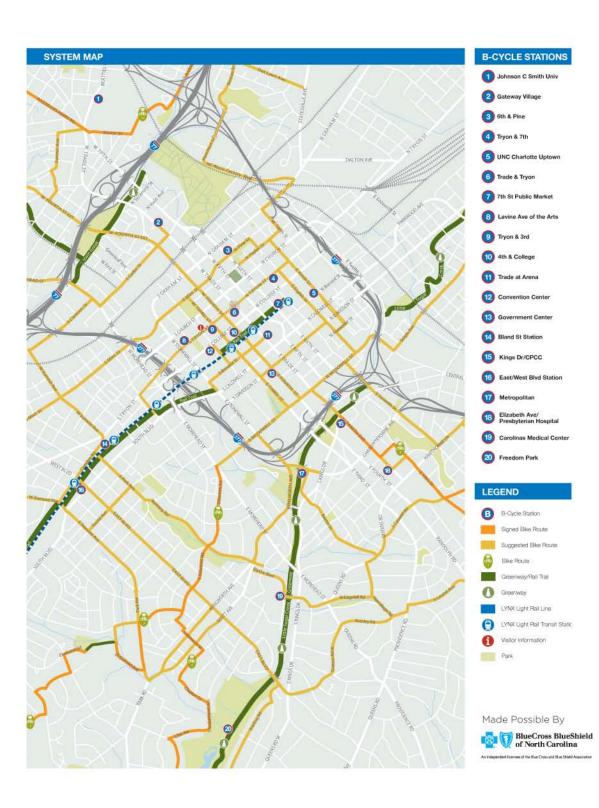
The Blue Line Extension received a full federal funding agreement to add 9.3 miles and 11 stations to the existing light rail sustem, scheduled to open in 2017.

BLUE LINE - FAST FACTS

Blue Line Extension (9.3 miles & 11 stations)	\$1.16 billion
Number of Blue Line Stations	15
Number of Park & Ride Lots	7
Park & Ride Lots 2017	11
Blue Line Stations 2017	26
Average Weekday Blue Line Ridership	15,565
Rush Hour Frequency	10 minutes

Source: Charlotte Area Transit System







CHARLOTTE BIKE SHARE FAST FACTS

Bicycles	200
Stations	20
Average Rides Per Week	900
Miles Ridden	24,782
Calories Burned	991,301
Pounds of CO2 Offset	23,543

Source: Charlotte B-Cycle

ON THE HORIZON





BALLPARK NEIGHBORHOOD

With BB&T Ballpark now under construction, fans are looking forward to cheering on the Knights in the shadows of the Charlotte skyline when they welcome baseball back to Center City in the spring of 2014. As recommended in the Center City 2020 Vision Plan, this investment has already sparked a new wave of development projects that will transform this part of Third Ward into a reinvigorated "ballpark neighborhood" and employment center, boasting new housing, shopping, office, a hotel, Romare Bearden Park and Gateway Station.

FIRST WARD VILLAGE & PARK

In 2013, First Ward will welcome phase one of the highly anticipated urban village development. This phase will include construction of First Ward Park, a new "market street" connecting 7th and 9th streets, apartments and two parking decks with ground floor retail. Later phases of the project will feature new housing, hotel rooms, office space and additional street-level retail.

1-277 LOOP STUDY

This year, the Charlotte Department of Transportation led a study to comprehensively evaluate the I-277/I-77 Loop to understand the inter-relationships of all segments of the roadway and to identify projects that will help improve safety, operations and capacity on the highway now and in the future. The study also considered ways to connect Uptown with adjacent neighborhoods while maintaining necessary highway functionality. Multi-modal access is critical to the continued development of Center City, and Charlotte is uniquely positioned to manage downtown automobile traffic while building transit, bike and pedestrian connections to provide a variety of access options. Look for more information on recommended improvements to the I-277/I-77 highway loop to be released in 2013.







CITY OF BIKES

With the summer 2012 launch of Charlotte B-Cycle, Center City's new bike share program, Charlotte is on the way to becoming a City of Bikes. Stay tuned for potential expansion of B-Cycle as well as new infrastructure projects and initiatives that will help better integrate cycling into the street and recreational network. As outlined in the Center City 2020 Vision Plan, Charlotte aspires to grow from a city of recreational cyclists to one where the bicycle is a viable and visible mode of transportation.

SOUTH END STRATEGIC PLAN



Through workshops with neighborhood stakeholders and experts, six priority strategies were identified to guide future growth and development in the South End. Specific initiatives to implement the ideas are now underway including: devising a strategy to nurture authentic neighborhood retail; conducting a study to improve neighborhood parking; acquiring land for and designing a new park; creating bold ideas for enhancing the Blue Line Rail Trail; developing design guidelines aimed at "raising the development bar;" identifying traffic calming and pedestrian and bike safety tactics and improvements; and extending the central business district along South Tryon Street into South End.

GATEWAY STATION MASTER PLAN

With the selection of a development partner in fall 2012, the Charlotte Gateway Station multi-modal transit hub and mixed-use development will soon be a reality. The designated master developer will begin working with the community and stakeholders to recommend phasing, design and development of the 20-acre site. Much more than a transit station, Charlotte Gateway Station is envisioned to include ground-level retail with offices, residential development and other uses that will be Center City's most significant new development opportunity and employment center. Upon completion, the Charlotte Gateway Station development will be a bridge between the Third and Fourth Ward neighborhoods and will better connect the east and west sides of Center City.

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