



MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: James L. Hutchison, Mayor

DATE: April 21, 2004

SUBJECT: MONTHLY REPORT – MARCH 2004

In this final report to Council, I would like to strongly recommend that our new leadership review the City's goals and objectives with the following suggestions in mind:

1. Immediately address the brown water problem.
2. Create a Blue Ribbon Task Force consisting of business executives in the community to help the City address the future cost of salaries and benefits and to take steps to address the financial shortfalls in our current pension plan.
3. Focus on the goal of increasing the homeownership rate in the City to 60 percent or better. Keep in mind that we are currently at 52 percent.
4. Certainly one of the highlights over the last several years has been our relationship and partnership with the Duke Corporation. That is a partnership from which this City has truly benefited in the past, and hopefully that is a partnership that will continue.

JLH/tik