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Charlotte Business Journal

Land deal expected soon for \$197 million treatment plant

Charlotte Mecklenburg Utilities is closing in on a deal with the developers of ReVenture Park for property that would be home to the first local wastewater plant built in more than 30 years.

“We haven’t bought the land yet,” Utilities Executive Director **Barry Gullett** told Charlotte City Council on Monday. “But we’re in negotiations with ReVenture, and we feel that we are very close.”

The proposed \$197 million Long Creek Wastewater Plant would serve Belmont and Mount Holly while also providing capacity for future growth in the area. And Gullett says the plant would clean wastewater to higher standards than currently exist.

For now, Charlotte Mecklenburg Utilities pumps sewage from northern Mecklenburg County for 27 miles to the McAlpine Creek Wastewater Plant in south Charlotte. The proposed plant would be north of the U.S. National Whitewater Center, near the Catawba River on the west side of the county.

Gullett says the utilities department needs to hammer out regional agreements and gain approval from the Belmont and Mount Holly government councils.

“This is a very complex project and a very complex agreement,” Gullett says. “It’s the (agency’s) most complicated in years and years — maybe ever.”

Wanted: Air-quality advisers

The Mecklenburg County Air Quality Commission needs volunteers for its citizen advisory board.

All 12 members of the board must be residents of Mecklenburg County. At least four participants must live in Charlotte. Representatives are also needed from Cornelius, Davidson, Huntersville, Matthews, Mint Hill or Pineville.

Ideally, the county wants board members with backgrounds in the environmental, engineering, health, industrial, legal and transportation sectors, as well as engaged citizens. Interested? Call Iesha Pierce at (704) 336-5413

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