

CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY REPORT

raleighnc.gov



CITY OF
Raleigh
MANAGER'S
OFFICE

Issue 2019-09

March 1, 2019

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Bus Rapid Transit Framework Plan and Future Public Engagement (Council Member Stephenson)

Regular Council Meeting Tuesday, March 5 - No Lunch Work Session - Afternoon and Evening Sessions

Reminder that Council will meet in regular session next **Tuesday** at **1:00 P.M.** and **7:00 P.M.** The agenda for the meeting was published on Thursday:

<http://boarddocs.com/nc/raleigh/board.nsf>

At present it is *undecided* if there will be a **Closed Session** following the afternoon session of the Council meeting.

Reminder: If there is an item you would like to pull from the consent agenda for further discussion, please send e-mail mayorstaff@raleighnc.gov by 11 A.M. on the day of the meeting.

INFORMATION:

Cameron Village Post Office to be Relocated

Staff Resource: Sarah Baker, City Manager's Office, 996-4479, sarah.baker@raleighnc.gov

The US Postal Service is looking to relocate the Cameron Village Station Post Office to another nearby location, due to the landlord not continuing the lease. The Postal Service's New Space Project will solicit and consider

input from local officials and the community starting with a public meeting scheduled for Thursday, March 14, at 6 P.M. at Oberlin Baptist Church, 806 Oberlin Road.

Written feedback and comments will be accepted for 30 days following the meeting. Included with the *Weekly Report* materials is a letter received from the USPS containing additional information.

(Attachment)

Board and Commission Applicants

Staff Resource: Megan Hinkle, City Manager's Office, 996-3050, megan.hinkle@raleighnc.gov

Council has requested to receive regularly updated information about residents who have expressed interest in an appointment to a city board via the City website. Attached to the transmittal email please note a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet of submissions received since the current web form has been in place. This spreadsheet has been updated since the initial version shared with Council two weeks ago, to include any new applicants in that timeframe as well as notes indicating those applicants who have been appointed to a city board or commission.

Staff continues to work to identify a solution to deliver this information to Council online.

(Attachment to Transmittal Email)

Raleigh Urban Design Center Relocation

Staff Resource: Joe Michael, City Planning, 996-4639, joe.michael@raleighnc.gov

Construction is complete and the Raleigh Urban Design Center, a division of the Department of City Planning, has officially relocated from the Briggs Building to the ground floor level of One Exchange Plaza. As shared with City Council in *Weekly Report 2018-48* (December 21), the center is relocating due to the expiration of the current lease.

The new location will enhance customer service and create public facing components at Exchange Plaza. In addition to providing better access for citizens, the Raleigh Urban Design Center will be near the development community who patronizes the One Exchange Plaza building regularly for Development Services one-stop resource for all development permits, reviews, and inspections.

(No Attachment)

Economic Development Quarterly Update

Staff Resource: Veronica Creech, Office of Econ. Dev. & Innovation, 996-2707, veronica.creech@raleighnc.gov

The Office of Economic Development & Innovation released its first economic development quarterly update in February. The piece highlighted key metrics, including project activity, business growth announcements, and venture funding, and reflected on the strategic efforts the ED&I team made towards key economic development priorities between October and December 2018. The newsletter was distributed digitally to 4,631 subscribers, including community and business leaders as well as members of the public. The newsletter is included with the *Weekly Report* materials.

(Attachment)

Invasive Species Program - Year Three Report

Staff Resource: Sally Thigpen, Parks, 996-4858, sally.thigpen@raleighnc.gov

The Invasive Species Program was initiated in September 2015 and at the time in initiation Council requested a progress report after three years. In response to citizen concerns that invasive plants such as English ivy and wisteria were negatively impacting neighborhood parks, City Council directed the focus initially on four sites: Cooleemee Park, Fallon Park, Cowper Drive Park and Marshall Park. Invasive plants have been pulled, chopped, mowed or sprayed as part of the program; native plants have been reintroduced; and the quality of habitat actively monitored. Staff and volunteers are fighting the march of invasive plants into other parks and nature preserves.

- Management efforts have taken place in **41** parks and preserves
- **99.8%** increase in volunteers engaged in invasive plant removal over past 3 years
- **18** new partnerships developed throughout the City and Wake County
- **\$162,770.29** value of volunteer invasive removal efforts in 3 years



The executive summary invasive Species Phase 1 Report summary is in the backup information. The full report can be found at [this link](#).

(Attachments)

Downtown Transportation Plan - Public Open House

Staff Resource: Mila Vega, Transportation, 996-4123, mila.vega@raleighnc.gov

In partnership with CAMPO, GoTriangle, and the NCDOT the City is leading the development of the Raleigh Downtown Transportation Plan (RDTP). The multimodal plan will provide recommendations on improvements for bicycles, pedestrians, transit, transportation, and urban design through the next 10 years. The plan will also include recommendations for the proposed Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) routes identified in the 2016 Wake Transit Plan throughout downtown. The outcome will be an implementable plan that will address modal priorities and set the vision for how transit and multimodal transportation serves downtown Raleigh.

The implementation plan is based on feedback received at the initial public meeting (November 2018) as well as input obtained from the Advisory Committee and the Technical Team over the past few months. On February 2 the Advisory Committee voted to present the phased implementation plan to the public and to the

City Council. The recommendations were also presented February 22 to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission at the annual retreat. Additional presentations on the plan will be given to the Raleigh Transit Authority (RTA) Route Committee on March 5 and to the full RTA on March 14.

The next RDTP public meeting will be held March 13 from 4 to 7:00 P.M. at the Raleigh Convention Center. Feedback will be gathered at this public meeting and documented for use in the next phases of project development. The final implementation plan and a summary of public feedback will be presented to City Council at a future meeting in March or April.



All materials presented at the public meeting will be posted on the project website on March 13th. More information about the project can be found here: <https://goraleigh.org/downtownplan>.

(No attachment)

Historic Preservation Architectural Survey Update

Staff Resource: Tania Georgiou Tully, City Planning, 996-2674, tania.tully@raleighnc.gov

The updated 2017-18 Architectural Survey for historic preservation is complete.

In September 2016 the City received a Historic Preservation Fund grant to update the architectural survey of Raleigh with a focus on mid-20th-century neighborhoods and areas annexed since 2006, when the last update was completed. The project was conducted in two phases: I) survey and presentation of properties for placement on the State Study List for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. II) intensive survey and creation of an inventory list of one neighborhood.

The project was kicked-off with a public meeting in March 2017. The final report was reviewed by the State Historic Preservation Office in December 2017 and presented to the state's National Register Advisory Committee in February 2018 which completed Phase I.

The report was presented to the Raleigh Citizens Advisory Council at the April 18, 2018 meeting. Staff and the consultant presented the findings of the survey update including a list of those neighborhoods that are newly or continue to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

The Ridgewood North neighborhood was intensively surveyed for Phase II of the architectural survey update. The survey includes a written and photographic inventory of each of the houses as well as a brief report on the history of the development. The results of the study were presented to the Raleigh Historic Development Commission on February 19, 2019. [The report and more on the Architectural Survey are available on the Raleigh Historic Development commission's website.](#)

(No Attachment)

Weekly Digest of Special Events

Staff Resource: Derrick Remer, Special Events Office, 996-2200, derrick.remer@raleighnc.gov

Included with the *Weekly Report* packet is the special events digest for the upcoming week.

(Attachment)

Council Member Follow Up Items

Follow Up from the February 19 Work Session

Fiscal Year 2019-20 Budget and Finance Outlook - Impacts from FY17 Sales Tax Redistribution

Staff Resource: Allison Bradsher, Finance, 996-4970, allison.bradsher@raleighnc.gov

Beginning with the FY17 sales tax distribution, state-wide sales tax collections were expanded to include sales tax on installations, repair and maintenance type services. These newly taxable services were intended to expand the overall sales tax base and to increase state-wide collections of local sales tax.

NC State Statute G.S. 105-524 granted approval to redistribute \$84.8 million of local sales tax from the base expansion to benefit 79 counties which were defined as small and rural counties. Future year redistributions are adjusted annually based upon sales tax growth. Counties receiving redistributed amounts of sales tax are required to use these funds to support economic development, public education and community college initiatives. Wake County was not identified as one of the 79 counties therefore the City has not benefited from the redistribution.

The Department of Revenue reports do not isolate the amount of new revenue brought in by the base expansion. Given the lack of data and general nature of sales tax revenues being dependent upon on consumer buying habits identifying impacts across the State are difficult based on feedback from the League. However, beginning in FY17, Wake County and the City's sales tax growth rates have been lower on average than the State of NC's growth.

(No attachment)

Follow Up from the February 19 City Council Meeting

Bus Rapid Transit Framework Plan and Future Public Engagement (Council Member Stephenson)

Staff Resource: Mila Vega, Transportation, 996-4123, mila.vega@raleighnc.gov

Jason Hardin, City Planning, 919-996-2657, jason.hardin@raleighnc.gov

During the meeting Council requested clarification on the timing related to the development of the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Framework Plan and corresponding public engagement. The BRT Framework Plan, which focuses on land use, will be developed in parallel with the initial New Bern Avenue Project Development work, which is transit-focused. The Project Development work includes 30 percent design and the completion of NEPA (environmental screening).

The BRT Framework Plan will create a citywide policy foundation necessary to fully realize the benefits of Bus Rapid Transit provision in Raleigh. Transit-supportive planning will result in higher transit usage, additional housing and affordable housing opportunities, improved economic opportunity, and community improvement. This project will support transit investments by working toward community consensus on the proportion of growth that should be accommodated along BRT corridors. It also will consider policy questions

related to housing affordability, economic and community development, and urban design. Ultimately, it will create a policy framework for subsequent station-area planning efforts.

Public engagement will be critical throughout the various steps of planning and implementation of the BRT corridor. The two projects outlined above, BRT Design/NEPA and BRT Framework Plan, each have multiple input opportunities that begin this spring. While the two processes are separate, events will be designed so that information and input opportunities for each project are available.

The BRT Framework Plan envisions an input process that includes hands-on workshops, open houses, and pop-up events in each of the BRT corridors. Participants will be asked to consider potential scenarios and tradeoffs as they answer a fundamental question: To what extent should Raleigh grow around transit in the future?

The NEPA process has a federally prescribed public participation element. A detailed Public Involvement Plan (PIP) will be developed to ensure the public has ample opportunities to provide input into transportation decision-making processes through a broad array of involvement opportunities. The plan will outline activities for the City of Raleigh and its partners to engage and educate the public, policy makers, stakeholder groups, and staff during work related to New Bern Avenue BRT development.

The attached graphic provides examples of opportunities for public feedback as well as a summary of outreach tools that could be used to engage the public. This graphic will be further refined to reflect public engagement activities for both projects described above.

(Attachments)



RECEIVED

FEB 28 2019

Raleigh City Council

February 27, 2019

The Honorable Nancy McFarlane
Mayor, City of Raleigh
222 West Hargett Street
Raleigh, NC 27601

RE: Raleigh, NC Cameron Village Station Post Office New Space Project

Dear Mayor McFarlane,

The United States Postal Service is proposing to relocate the retail services provided at the above referenced Post Office to a yet to-be-determined location as close as reasonably possible to the prior location.

The Postal Service is relocating because it has been informed by the Landlord of the Cameron Village Station location that they will not continue the current lease.

The "new space project" will consist of procuring a suitable substitute location and preparing the new location for use as a post office.

In undertaking this project, the Postal Service will complete a process set out in 39 CFR 241.4 for soliciting and considering input from the community and local officials. As we are at the beginning of the process, I am offering to discuss the project with you. In our discussion, I would address the need for the new facility, outline the proposal that is under consideration, explain our process for soliciting and considering input from the affected community, and ask for input from you and other local officials regarding the proposal.

We will send an initial news release outlining the proposal to one or more news media serving the community and post a copy of the information in the public lobby of the nearest Postal facility.

The Postal Service wishes to work closely with your community and has been granted the opportunity to present the proposed project at a public meeting, Thursday March 14th, 2019 at 6:00 pm at the Oberlin Baptist Church, 806 Oberlin Road Raleigh, NC 27605. The Postal Service will advertise the date, time, and location of the public meeting in a local news medium and post in the nearest Post Office's public lobby a notice of the date, time, and location of the public meeting.

At the public meeting, the Postal Service will identify the need, identify the tentative decision to reestablish retail services, outline the proposal to meet the need for the new facility, invite questions, solicit written input on the proposal, and provide an address to which the community and local officials may send written appeals of the tentative decision and comments on the proposal for a period of 30 days following the public meeting.

The Honorable Nancy McFarlane
Mayor, City of Raleigh
222 West Hargett Street
Raleigh, NC 27601
RE: Raleigh, NC Cameron Village Station Post Office New Space Project
Page 2 of 2

Because the proposal concerns a new space project, we also will: (1) discuss the reasons for the new space project; (2) identify the site or area, or both, to which the Postal Service anticipates reestablishing the retail services; and (3) describe the anticipated size of the retail service facility for the new space retail services, and the anticipated services to be offered at the new location. The Postal Service may identify more than one potential relocation site and/or area, for example, when the Postal Service has not selected among competing sites.

After the 30-day comment and appeal period, the Postal Service will consider the comments and appeals received that identify reasons why the Postal Service's tentative decision and proposal is, or is not, the optimal solution for the identified need. Following that consideration, the Postal Service will make a final decision to proceed with, modify, or cancel the proposal. The Postal Service then will inform you in writing of its final decision, send an initial news release announcing the final decision to local news media and post a copy of the information in the public lobby of the nearest Post Office. The Postal Service then will implement the final decision.

If the Postal Service decides to use a site or area that it did not identify at the public meeting, then our regulation generally requires the Postal Service to return to the public meeting stage of the process to make a new presentation regarding the new site or area.

We look forward to working with you and your staff as this project develops.

Sincerely,



Richard Hancock
Real Estate Specialist
United States Postal Service
PO Box 27497
Greensboro, NC 27498-1103
919-420-5284
Richard.a.hancock2@usps.gov



Projects

	Q2 FY19 (Oct. – Dec. 2018)	FY To Date (July – Dec. 2018)
Total Projects Received	16	40
New Jobs Potential	1,970	7,021
New Investment Potential	\$1.03 M	\$1.50 M

New & Expanding Business Announcements

7

announcements

\$104.96 M

in investment

1,117

new jobs

Advanced Auto | Retail, HQ

- Relocating corporate headquarters from Roanoke, VA to Raleigh
- Adding 435 new jobs
- Investing \$5.4 million

Capital Bank | Finance

- Will lease 50k square feet of space in One Glenwood building in Downtown Raleigh once construction is complete
- Adding 50 new jobs

ImageQuix | Software/IT

- Combining Greenville, SC and Cary, NC operations into a new headquarters operation in Raleigh
- Adding 10 new jobs by the end of 2019

Lee & Associates | Real Estate

- New branch opening in Raleigh
- Currently employs 2 with plans to add additional brokers in the near term

Pendo | Software/IT

- Investing \$33 million to construct new office facility to house its growing headquarters operation in Raleigh
- Adding 590 new jobs

Prometheus Group | Software/IT

- Announced plans to add up to 50 to its headcount by the end of 2018

UNC Rex Healthcare | Healthcare

- Will construct a 145,000-square-foot, \$65 million cancer center by the end of 2020

Startup Funding

- **\$90.62 M +**

Small Business Support

- **4 grants awarded**
- **\$79,500 value of awards**
- **3 new jobs created**
- **\$500,215 capital investment made by recipient companies**

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES & EVENTS

Raleigh ED&I Participates in IT Roundtable

In October, the City of Raleigh's Office of Economic Development & Innovation (Raleigh ED&I) collaborated with Capital Area Workforce Development Board (CAWD), Wake County Economic Development (WCED), and the North Carolina Technology Association (NC Tech) to host an IT roundtable discussion regarding the critical IT workforce needs of regional businesses.

[read more >](#)

Startup Summit NC 2018

Raleigh ED&I was a sponsor and participant of Startup Summit NC in October.

[read more >](#)

The City of Raleigh Partners with District C on Project-based Learning Initiative

Raleigh ED&I team members, Veronica Creech and Derrick Minor, participated in a launch meeting with District C in October on an initiative that will give students from 12 Triangle area high schools the opportunity to engage in project-based learning with the City of Raleigh.

[read more >](#)

All Things Open

Raleigh ED&I alongside Wake County Economic Development exhibited at All Things Open, an open source, open tech and open web conference, in October to promote Raleigh as a technology and innovation hub to businesses and talent.

[read more >](#)

The City of Raleigh Partners with NC State University to Host Smart Cities Summit

The City of Raleigh partnered with NC State University to host the 2018 Triangle Smart Cities Summit in October at the Raleigh Convention Center.

[read more >](#)

Innovate Raleigh Summit

The Raleigh ED&I team attended the Innovate Raleigh Summit in November among nearly 500 attendees to hear keynote presentations and engage in discussions geared towards elements that create successful innovation communities -- funding, talent and inclusivity.

[read more >](#)

Internet Summit

Raleigh ED&I and Wake County Economic Development exhibited at Internet Summit in November to promote Raleigh and Wake County as a premiere hub for tech business and talent.

[read more >](#)

Hiring Well Raleigh

Raleigh ED&I was a sponsor and participant in the Hiring Well, Doing Good conference in December.

[read more >](#)

FY18 Annual Report Released

Raleigh ED&I has released its [FY18 Annual Report!](#)

[read more >](#)

Raleigh ED&I Team Members Receive CEcd Certifications from IEDC

Raleigh ED&I Business Retention and Expansion Managers, Jenn Bosser and Tiffany Hall McNeill, received the distinguished designation of Certified Economic Developer (CEcd) from the International Economic Development Council in December.

[read more >](#)

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
AND INNOVATION

quarterly update



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[read more >](#)



City Of Raleigh *North Carolina*

DATE: 3/1/2019

TO: Ruffin Hall, City Manager

FROM: Leigh Bragassa, Invasive Species Program Coordinator

CC: Diane B. Sauer, Director Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department

SUBJECT: Invasive Species Program 3-year Update

Program Initiation 2015

The City of Raleigh created the Invasive Species Program in September 2015 in response to citizen concerns that invasive plants such as English ivy and wisteria were negatively impacting neighborhood parks. With the launch of the program, the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department (PRCR) made control of invasive species and restoration of native ecosystems a clear priority.

City Council directed the focus initially on four parks: Cooleemee, Fallon, Cowper Dr. and Marshall, known internally as the Big Four. Council also asked that the program report on its progress after three years. The Invasive Species Phase 1 Report is designed to fulfill that request.

Focus Areas and Progress

Over the past three years, the Invasive Species Program has successfully promoted healthy habitat at the Big Four parks. Invasive plants have been pulled, chopped, mowed or sprayed, native plants reintroduced, and the quality of habitat actively monitored. Staff and volunteers are fighting the march of invasive plants into other parks and nature preserves.

- Management efforts have taken place in **41** parks and preserves across the City
- **99.8%** increase in volunteers engaged in invasive plant removal over past 3 years
- **18** partnerships developed throughout the City of Raleigh and Wake County
- **\$162,770.29** value of volunteer invasive removal efforts in 3 years
- Restoration plantings in **7** parks (reintroduction of native plants)
- Over **1,400** acres of park property impacted by control efforts

One full time position, the Invasive Species Program coordinator is based in the Parks Volunteer Services Division. The program engages staff in multiple City Departments, recruits and organizes volunteers, conducts extensive outreach and forms partnerships throughout Raleigh and beyond.

The work is never ending. Invasive plants constantly migrate into our parks. Even after removal, their seeds lie dormant, awaiting the right conditions to germinate. The City of Raleigh has long recognized the value of protecting and enhancing

our natural areas. The report highlights multiple initiatives in the PRCR System Plan and 2030 Comprehensive Plan where the control of invasive plants aligns with these principles.

What are Invasive Species?

Invasive species include plants and animals that have been introduced from other regions and spread quickly, free of predators and diseases from their native territory. The Invasive Species Program focuses on invasive plants, rather than animals as a result of policy and limits on resources.

Non-native plants are considered invasive if they harm the native ecosystem of our parks and nature preserves. They prevent the growth of native species, including our beloved oaks. Many species of invasive plants – vines, grasses, shrubs and trees – threaten native plants. They grow faster and spread more rapidly than natives and may leaf out early or be evergreen, shading out the seedlings of native deciduous trees and creating impenetrable screens.

Most of the plants that the City seeks to eradicate or control migrated from residential yards and gardens. Homeowners in urban areas often acquire invasive plants from nurseries and landscapers, inadvertently contributing to their spread. Invasive plants imperil our natural environment, our economy and our safety. Resources added to this issue now will reduce losses, costs and hazards in the future. Please review the full report for more information and background on the program as well as the environmental, economic and safety impacts of invasive plants.

Next Steps

1. Manage invasive species and educate the public

- The overarching goal of the Invasive Species Program is to prevent, control or eradicate invasive plants in parks and preserves. The program also strives to educate the public about the problem of invasives and actively involve them in solutions. The program relies on staff, volunteers, outreach and technology. A volunteer approach and small team limits the scope and productivity of the program. Additional resources would be required for the program to grow.

2. Maintain the invasive species inventory and maps using ArcGIS and the Southeast Early Detection Network (SEEDn) to track progress and provide performance data.

- The Invasive Species Program has devoted many hours to identifying and mapping valuable habitat for preservation. Knowing the location of rare or threatened species is necessary to prioritize and protect habitat before it is destroyed. Many native species occur in highly specific ecosystems that are difficult, if not impossible, to replicate. Conserving these natural resources ensures quality parks and open spaces for the next generation.

3. Continue to recruit volunteers and develop partnerships

- Volunteers perform most of the labor required for the program. In FY18, citizen volunteers carried out 67 projects outside regular working hours. In partnership with Exploris Middle School, students are mapping invasives at Edna Metz Wells and Forest parks, both within walking distance of the school. An AmeriCorps NCCC team provided 984.5 hours, valued at \$23,195.
- In alignment with Strategic Initiative SVH 2.1 The program is currently working with the Police Department on the safety hazards of invasive species. This project is being conducted with two police districts at Dorothea Dix Park in cooperation with Park Maintenance. The coordinator is certified in Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design. The Fire Department, Public Utilities and Transportation Departments have partnered with the program to assist in control of invasives along greenways and rights-of-way.
- Other partnerships include Adopt-A-Park groups, Boy Scouts, WakeNature, Wild West, Fallon Park Garden Club, NCSU College of Natural Resources, Bugg Elementary School, Athens Drive High School, Audubon North Carolina, N.C. Invasive Plant Council, Friends of Lake Johnson, N.C. Wildlife Federation and the Neuse River Hawks.

Please visit our website www.raleighnc.gov 'Invasive Species'

A copy of the full report can be found in the [link](#).

Thank you,

Leigh Bragassa
Invasive Species Program Coordinator
Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City of Raleigh created the Invasive Species Program in September 2015 in response to citizens' concerns that invasive plants – English ivy, wisteria and the like – were overrunning neighborhood parks. With the launch of the program, the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department made the control of invasives and restoration of native ecosystems a clear priority.

City Council directed the program's focus initially on four neighborhood parks: Cooleemee, Fallon, Cowper and Marshall, known as the Big Four. It also asked that the program report on its progress after three years. This document is designed to fulfill that request.

Over the past three years, the Invasive Species Program has successfully promoted healthy habitat at the Big Four. Invasives have been pulled, chopped, mowed or sprayed. Native plants have been reintroduced. And the quality of habitat is being monitored. But the program has not stopped there. We also have fought the march of invasives into other parks and nature preserves. In all, management efforts have taken place in 41 parks and preserves across the City.

The Invasive Species Program coordinator, the sole full-time staffer, is based in the Volunteer Services Division. But this is more than a one-person effort. The program engages staff in a number of City departments, organizes volunteers, conducts extensive outreach and forms partnerships throughout Raleigh and beyond.

The work is never ending. Invasive plants constantly migrate into our parks. Even after removal, their seeds lie dormant, awaiting the right conditions to germinate. Expansion of our park system will require ongoing attention to invasives. The City of Raleigh has long recognized the value of protecting and enhancing our natural areas (Appendix A). Control of invasive plants aligns with that value.



Native wildflowers thrive at John Chavis Park after the removal of invasive trees.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY CONT.



N.C. State University volunteers cut vines at Walnut Creek Wetland Park.

BY THE NUMBERS

99.8% increase	in volunteers engaged in invasive plant removal over past 3 years
18 partnerships	throughout the City of Raleigh and Wake County
\$162,770.29 value	of volunteer invasive removal efforts in 3 years
7 parks	Restoration plantings (reintroduction of native plants)
Over 1,400 acres	of park property had invasive management efforts

Special Events Weekly Digest

Friday, March 1 – Thursday, March 7

City of Raleigh Special Events Office
specialevents@raleighnc.gov | (919) 996-2200 | www.raleighnc.gov/specialevents

Permitted Special Events

There are no permitted events during this time.

Other Events This Weekend

First Friday Raleigh

Friday, March 1
Downtown Raleigh

Hurricanes vs. Blues

Friday, March 1
PNC Arena

Della Mae with Special Guest Lindsay Lou – PineCone Piedmont Council of Traditional Music

Friday, March 1
Fletcher Opera Theater

Triangle Heart Ball

Friday, March 1
Raleigh Convention Center

Brahms Symphony No. 2 – North Carolina Symphony Classical Series

Friday, March 1 – Saturday, March 2
Meymandi Concert Hall

All About BeYOUty Expo

Saturday, March 2
Raleigh Convention Center

Bead Mercantile Show

Saturday, March 2 – Sunday, March 3
Raleigh Convention Center

MAPL Raleigh

Saturday, March 2 – Sunday, March 3
Raleigh Convention Center

Franco Escamilla

Sunday, March 3
Meymandi Concert Hall

NC Opera – Leah Crocetto

Sunday, March 3
Fletcher Opera Theater

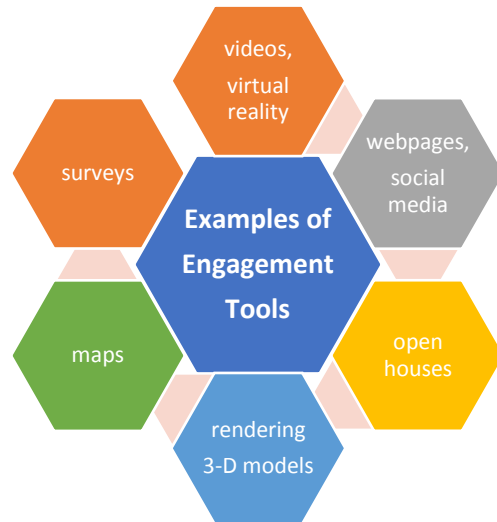
Public Resources

[Event Feedback Form](#): Tell us what you think about Raleigh events! We welcome citizen and participant feedback and encourage you to provide comments or concerns about any events regulated by the Special Events Office. We will use this helpful information in future planning.

[Temporary Road Closures](#): A resource providing current information on street closures in Raleigh.

[Online Events Calendar](#): View all currently scheduled events that are regulated by the City of Raleigh Special Events Office.

Council Member Follow Up



Preliminary BRT Design and Environmental Study

Key Elements of Public Input:

- Existing access to transit and future needs
- Schematic bus lane configuration: curb vs. center-running
- Number of BRT stations
- Station locations
- Conceptual station design (size and geometry of platforms and key amenities). Detailed architectural elements and artwork is included in the Final Design and Engineering.

Public Input Opportunities:

- Kick-off event
- Workshops and public meetings
- Targeted outreach
- Surveys

BRT Framework Plan (Citywide)

Key Elements of Public Input:

- How much should Raleigh grow around transit (BRT)?
- Goals for affordable housing
- Community/economic development needs
- Urban design near stations
- Station typologies (general land use character) for BRT corridors
- Questions that should be addressed in station area plans
- Evaluation of policies and tools

Public Input Opportunities:

- Major introductory event
- Hands-on workshops
- Pop-up/CAC outreach
- Issue-related open houses
- Final open houses/meetings

Final Design and Engineering

Key Elements of Public Input:

- Individual property impacts
- Amenities at and surrounding stations
- Stations identity to reflect public art and community heritage
- Landscape design
- Wayfinding
- Multi-modal connections

Public Input Opportunities:

- Public meetings and popup events, stakeholder sessions
- Presentations and online reports
- Online interactive maps and surveys

Station Area Planning

Key Elements of Public Input:

- Builds upon Framework plan policy
- Identify issues (pedestrian safety, land use, housing, etc.) and opportunities for infrastructure at or around the station area
- Evaluate public and private investment opportunities around stations to enhance quality of life and service
- Specific land use aspirations and recommendations
- Address community/economic development and other issues

Public Input Opportunities:

- Highly localized planning process for individual station(s) plan
- Multiple points of input for each station plan

FEBRUARY 2020 – JULY 2021

CONSTRUCTION STARTS – SUMMER 2021

OPEN FOR SERVICE – WINTER 2023

Public Engagement and Communication Efforts for the Major Investment Study (MIS)

Phase 1 Major Investment Study Outreach

Public Meetings

- John Chavis Community Center, Raleigh 10/25/17
- Carolina Pines Community Center, Raleigh 10/26/17
- Tarboro Road Community Center, Raleigh 10/30/17
- Wake County Northern Regional Center, Wake Forest 11/1/17
- Laurel Hills Community Center, Raleigh 11/2/17
- Wake County Eastern Regional Center, Zebulon 11/6/17
- Wake County Southern Regional Center, Fuquay-Varina 11/8/17
- Green Road Community Center, Raleigh 11/9/17
- Raleigh Convention Center, Raleigh 11/16/17
- Cary Arts Center, Cary 11/16/17
- McKimmon Center, Raleigh 11/16/17

Phase 2 Major Investment Study Outreach

Community Events

- Spring Daze Arts & Crafts Festival – Bond Park, Cary 4/28/18
- Senior Citizen Day – Cary Senior Center, Cary 5/2/18
- Crosstowne – Habitat for Humanity Community Event, Raleigh 5/2/18
- Capital Area Friends of Transit Monthly Meeting, Raleigh 5/4/18
- May Day, Zebulon 5/5/18
- OUT! Raleigh – GoRaleigh Station, Raleigh 5/5/18
- PeakFest, Apex 5/5/18
- Habitat for Humanity Advocacy Meeting, Raleigh 5/10/18
- Follow Me 2 Fuquay-Varina Concert of Spring, Fuquay-Varina 5/10/18
- Spring into the Arts Walk, Wendell 5/12/18
- State Farmer's Market, Raleigh 5/12/18
- Diamante's Ritmo Latino Festival, Cary 5/12/18
- Six Sundays in Spring, Wake Forest 5/13/18
- Crosby-Garfield Community Advocacy Group Meeting, Raleigh 5/14/18
- Main Street Vision Plan Open House, Rolesville 5/17/18
- Apex Town Hall, Apex 5/17/18
- Artsposure, Raleigh 5/19/18
- Wheels on Academy Cary Car Show, Cary 5/19/18
- SpringFest, Morrisville 5/19/18
- Holly Springs Farmers Market, Holly Springs 5/19/18
- Wake County Department of Health Services Super Saturday, Raleigh 5/19/18
- Psyched About Bikes, Knightdale 5/19/18
- Touch-A-Truck, Apex 5/20/19
- Western Wake County Open House, Morrisville 5/22/19

Pop-Up Meetings

- GoTriangle Regional Transit Center, RTP 5/8/18
- Crabtree Mall, Raleigh 5/10/18
- Cary Train Depot, Cary 5/16/18
- GoRaleigh Transit Center, Raleigh 5/16/18

- GoRaleigh Station, Raleigh 5/18/18

Public Meetings

- Garner Town Hall, Garner 4/30/18
- GoRaleigh Operations Center, Raleigh 5/3/18
- Wake Med Andrews Conference Room, Raleigh 5/14/18
- Cary Arts Center, Cary 5/15/18

Phase 3 Major Investment Study Outreach

Pop-Up Meetings

- Garner Rec Park, Garner 8/25/18
- GoTriangle Regional Transit Center, RTP 8/30/18
- Raleigh Union Station, Raleigh 9/7/18
- GoRaleigh Station, Raleigh 9/11/18

Transit and Treats

- HQ Raleigh 8/8/18
- Citrix 8/30/18
- Industrious 8/30/18
- Red Hat 9/6/18
- Raleigh Union Station, Raleigh 9/10/18

Community Events

- Lazy Daze, Cary 8/25/18
- Lazy Daze, Cary 8/26/18
- Market on Market, Raleigh 8/29/18
- Follow Me 2 Fuquay-Varina Concert Series, Fuquay-Varina 9/6/18
- Apex Farmers Market, Apex 9/8/18
- Arts and Education Festival, Knightdale 9/8/18
- Farmers Market, Morrisville 9/15/18
- Carolina Cougars game, Raleigh 9/16/18
- Follow Me 2 Fuquay-Varina Concert Series, Fuquay-Varina 9/20/18
- La Fiesta del Pueblo, Raleigh 9/23/18

Town Council/Board Meeting Presentations

- Apex 9/4/18
- Rolesville 9/4/18
- Wake Forest 9/4/18
- Knightdale (to Planning and Engineering Committee) 9/10/18
- Morrisville 9/11/18
- Holly Springs 9/18/18

Public Meetings

- Laurel Hills Community Center, Raleigh 8/21/18
- Tarboro Road Community Center, Raleigh 8/28/18
- Cary Arts Center, Cary 8/29/18
- GoRaleigh Operations Center, Raleigh 9/4/18

Public Engagement and Communication Efforts for the New Services – January 2019

Presentations at Local CACs re: New Services:

- Worthdale CAC- 10/29th (7pm)
- Barwell Road CAC- 11/8th (7pm)

Transportation Talks/Pop-Ups:

- Barwell Community Center 10/30th (5pm to 7pm)
- Ralph Campbell Community Center 11/1st (2pm to 4pm)
- Exchange Plaza Courtyard 11/20th (11am to 1pm)
- Crabtree Mall 12/18th (8am to 10am)
- GoRaleigh Station 1/3rd (3:30pm to 6:00pm)
- Crabtree Mall 1/4th (3:30pm to 6:00pm)

On-Site Assistance available:

City and GoRaleigh Staff were available at both Crabtree and GoRaleigh Station to aid passengers, in case there was any confusion during the initial days of the new services.

- 1/7th- Morning Shift (6:30am to 9:00am)
- 1/7th – Evening Shift (3:00pm to 6:00pm)
- 1/8th- Morning Shift (6:30am to 9:00am)
- 1/8th- Evening Shift (3:00pm to 6:00pm)

Engagement Efforts:

- Ride with Santa Event 12/19th (3:30pm)

Postcard Reminder Distribution:

Staff created a postcard summarizing the new changes for each new route in the Southeast and Northwest. Postcards were distributed in the following ways:

- Drivers made them available on their buses, located in the schedule holders (starting in December)
- Distributed at the GoRaleigh Information Booth
- Emailed to local CACs
 - o Northwest CAC and Southeast CAC
 - o Local Libraries
 - Athens Drive
 - Express Library
 - Olivia Raney
 - Southgate
 - Richard B. Harrison
 - Green Road
 - North Regional
 - Leesville Community
 - Duraleigh
 - Cameron Village
 - o Local Community Centers
 - Barwell Road
 - Worthdale
 - Biltmore Hills
 - Ralph Campbell at Apollo Heights
 - John Chavis
 - Laurel Hills
 - John P. 'Top' Green
 - Taboro Road

- o Wake County Human Service Organizations (distributed with assistance from Nicole Kreiser from Wake County)

Public Communication Efforts

- Press Releases (12/21/18 & 1/3/19)
- Twitter/Instagram/Facebook contest to spot Holiday Buses and win a prize (12/13/18 – 1/9/19)
- Twitter/Instagram/Facebook/Snapchat/LinkedIn/Meetup – Announcements on each social media platform throughout December 2018 and early January 2019
- GovDelivery – weekly newsletter with ~4k subscribers (12/2018 – 1/2019)
- Announcements posted on transit websites – goraleigh.org and raleighnc.gov/transit
- Bus placards (super-sized, 2 per bus)
- Digital posters at GoRaleigh Station and on bus monitors (1600, 1700 and 1800 series buses)

Public Engagement and Communication Efforts - Downtown Transportation Plan

Technical Team Meetings

The Technical Team is the primary reviewing body of the deliverables prepared throughout the study. This team will provide detailed feedback prior to material distribution to other stakeholders. The Technical Team includes staff from the City of Raleigh, GoTriangle, CAMPO, NCDOT, and the Downtown Raleigh Alliance (DRA). The Technical Team members will review materials independently and are anticipated to meet as needed for further discussion. All Technical Team comments on project deliverables will be compiled by the Core Team and reconciled as necessary to provide the Project Team with unified comments for incorporation.

- Technical Team Meeting Kick-off – March 25, 2018
- Technical Team Meeting #1 – May 24, 2018
- Technical Team Meeting #2a – July 16, 2018
- Technical Team Meeting #2b – July 26, 2018
- Technical Team Meeting #3 – September 10, 2018
- Technical Team Meeting #4 – November 16, 2018
- Technical Team Meeting #5 – Scheduled for January 23, 2019

Advisory Committee Meetings

Advisory Committee participants will be part of a more extensive educational event to learn about trade-offs and study goals, provide feedback on outreach materials prior to public meetings, and provide input on decisions.

- Advisory Committee Meeting #1 – June 25, 2018
- Advisory Committee Meeting #2 – August 30, 2018
- Advisory Committee Meeting #3 – November 27, 2018
- Advisory Committee Meeting #4 – Pending scheduling

Stakeholder Group Meetings

The stakeholders identified above will be invited to participate in two meetings. The project team will present findings and recommendations, as well as invite stakeholders to provide input and ask questions. Stakeholders attended an initial meeting to discuss background, vision, priorities, and trade-offs. Stakeholders were invited to attend the public workshop and view the alternative scenarios, talk with the core team, and share thoughts on each alternative. The stakeholder group is intended to meet one additional time once the implementation plan is ready for presentation.

- Stakeholder Groups Meeting #1 – August 6, 2018
- Stakeholder Groups Meeting #2 – Pending scheduling

Public Meeting Open House #1 November 7, 2018

The purpose of the meeting is for the community to learn about the trade-offs and improvement options in Downtown, provide input on high-level priorities, provide input on potential scenarios, and to remain educated on the study.

Public Meeting Open House Advertisements

Emails were sent to all Technical Team, Advisory Committee, and Stakeholder Group members inviting them to attend the public workshop.

Social Media Notices

GoRaleigh, DRA, and WakeUP Wake County shared public workshop information via their social media platforms and websites.

- WakeUP Wake County Twitter – October 23, 2018
- Downtown Raleigh Alliance Twitter – October 24, 2018
- Raleigh Moves Twitter – October 30, 2018
- GoRaleigh Facebook – October 31, 2018
- GoRaleigh Facebook – November 1, 2018
- GoRaleigh Facebook – November 2, 2018
- Downtown Raleigh Alliance Facebook – November 6, 2018
- WakeUP Wake County Twitter – November 6, 2018
- WakeUP Wake County Twitter – November 7, 2018
- Downtown Raleigh Alliance Twitter – November 7, 2018

Flyer Distribution

Flyers were distributed across downtown leading up to the public workshop. The comprehensive list is provided below.

- GoRaleigh Travel Demand Management (TDM) distributed flyers at these events:
 - Red Hat on 11/1
 - Five Points on 11/5
- Distributed by City of Raleigh at Wake Transit Bus Events:
 - Southeast CAC at Worthdale Community Center on 10/29/18
 - Barwell Community Center from 5 – 7 PM on 10/30/18
 - Ralph Campbell Community Center in Apollo Heights 2-4 PM on 11/1/18
- GoRaleigh Station - handing out flyers from 4pm - 6pm on 11/1/2018
- Flyers distributed at the following locations the week of 10/22 and 10/29/2018:

- Starbucks Downtown
- Tama Tea
- Raleigh Raw
- Raleigh Union Station
- Morgan Street Food Hall
- Bittersweet
- Sir Walters Coffee
- Lucette Grace
- Morning Times
- Sir Walter Apts
- 42 & Lawrence
- Poyner YMCA
- NC Justice Department
- Raleigh Wake Citizens Association
- Downtown Express Library
- Campbell University
- Raleigh Provisions
- Reliable Loan Pawn
- Clyde Cooper's BBQ
- Beasley's
- Chuck's
- Trophy Brewing
- Hannah Stop & Shop
- Barber Shop
- Tunbo Ramen
- Taz's
- Sitti
- Gravy
- Centro
- Stitch
- Zen Succulent
- Pizza Times
- Turner Print Services
- Manhattan Café
- UPS
- DGX Raleigh
- Growler USA
- Bida Manda
- Brewery Bhavana
- Treat
- City Market Barber
- Woody's
- Mofu Shoppe
- El Rodeo
- Marbles Museum
- House of Swank
- Arrow
- Read with Me
- Briggs Hardware
- M&F Bank
- Apex Outfitter
- Art of Style
- Petale
- Raleigh Raw
- Morning Times
- Raleigh Times
- Barber Shop
- Cafe Luna
- Oak City Market
- 42 and Lawrence
- Short Walk Wines
- Subway
- Hot Dogs
- Bishop's Cut & Color
- Heirloom Coffee
- Father & Son
- Junction West
- Neighbor to Neighbor