

# CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY REPORT

raleighnc.gov



CITY OF  
**Raleigh**  
MANAGER'S  
OFFICE

Issue 2019-29

August 2, 2019

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## INFORMATION:

**Weekly Digest of Special Events**

Staff Resource: Derrick Remer, Special Events Office, 996-2200, [derrick.remer@raleighnc.gov](mailto:derrick.remer@raleighnc.gov)

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

(Attachment)

## Council Member Follow Up Items

### General Follow Up Item

**Pullen Park and Arts Center Improvements Project - Tree Removal**

Staff Resource: Scott Payne, Parks, 996-4825, [scott.payne@raleighnc.gov](mailto:scott.payne@raleighnc.gov)

*There continues to be community discussion regarding the necessary tree removal at Pullen Park as part of this capital improvement project, funded with proceeds from the 2014 Parks Bond referendum. A Council member recently received inquiry about replacement trees and tree replacement standards; the following*

*was provided in response to the Council member inquiry and is presented below for the use and information of all of City Council. Below is the email from a citizen followed by the staff response.*

**From:** MICHl NJERl <[michinjeri@yahoo.com](mailto:michinjeri@yahoo.com)>  
**Date:** Monday, July 29, 2019 at 11:51 PM  
**To:** Joy Toro <[joy.toro@outlook.com](mailto:joy.toro@outlook.com)>  
**Cc:** "Mendell, Stef" <[stef.mendell@raleighnc.gov](mailto:stef.mendell@raleighnc.gov)>, "Crowder, Kay" <[Kay.Crowder@raleighnc.gov](mailto:Kay.Crowder@raleighnc.gov)>, "Stephenson, Russ" <[Russell.Stephenson@raleighnc.gov](mailto:Russell.Stephenson@raleighnc.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Tree removal at Pullen Park

Hi, Joy, thanks for keeping on this. I don't think you were at the July meeting where someone from the City Forestry Dept spoke, but let me point out that he stated that the UDO only requires that each inch DBH (Diameter at Breast Height, 4.5' above the ground) is replanted. So, if you have a grand old tree that is 30" across, the UDO or other regulations **considers 10 trees that are 3" in diameter each as an appropriate equivalent** (3x10 = 30 IN LINEAR MATH ALONE). I have a degree in forestry and I can TELL you that that is so far from equitable that it made my head spin. I think my mouth actually fell open with the shock.

So, at the bare minimum - leaving aside the fact that the regulations are clearly inadequate on this point (ahem) - it is crucial to find out the size AND SPECIES of the trees that will be replacing the large healthy ones. Beautiful, native, 80+ yr old white oak trees of 36" diameter should not be replaced by 12 measly 3" crepe myrtle or other short lived and not particularly wildlife-friendly species.

<https://www.raleighnc.gov/content/ParksRec/Documents/Programs/UrbanForestry/UFCityTreeManual.pdf>

### **Staff Response**

Subject matter experts on staff reside within the Urban Forestry team. Staff believes the citizen inquiry is related to a recent CAC presentation that focused specifically on right-of-way trees and the requirements for new development. It is neither possible nor beneficial to replace a 30-inch tree in the public right-of-way in front of a new single-family dwelling with ten (10) 3" trees. There are no provisions in the Unified Development Ordinance that requires replacement of trees internal to a City site.

On another note, neither is it possible to "replace" a 30-inch tree with new plantings with respect to the environmental and aesthetic benefits. New plantings will take 20-30 years to reach the equivalency of carbon sequestration and stormwater mitigation benefits. Improvements associated with the Pullen Arts Center renovation however provide tangible benefits to the community and will continue to establish the next generation of Pullen trees.

The replanting plan, although still under development, will likely be broken down into multiple plantings based on the timeframe and need. Urban Forestry staff goals are to always to plant the right tree in the right location; issues such as age, mature size, and species diversity as driving factors in selection of replacement trees. Traditionally staff uses a mostly native palette and, in this case, will be looking at existing species as a template for replacement, with an eye towards increasing diversity. Staff then looks at the historical inventory, the current use of the area, access for maintenance, proximity to infrastructure and apply these contexts toward the future to determine specific planting locations.

- Trees installed as part of the art center project may likely be shade trees (minimum 3" caliper, 10' height at installation balled and burlap prepared (B&B) with a minimum mature height of 35') and in cases where there are overhead utilities or space considerations understory trees (minimum 1.5" caliper and 6' height) and meet specific zoning/parking requirements for the project.

- Plantings will likely occur with at least two plantings. Initial discussions are considering these to be volunteer projects which suggests the trees will be much smaller; likely be in 7-10 gallon pots . One of these plantings will be specific to supplementing the art center project and subsequent plantings will be to fill gaps or to start the next generation in areas with a significant number of older trees.

*(No attachment)*

## **Follow Up Item from the May 22 City Council Meeting**

### **Police LGBTQ Liaison and Special Operations Division (Council Member Cox)**

*Staff Resource: Chief C.L. Deck-Brown, Police, 996-3155, [cassandra.deck-brown@raleighnc.gov](mailto:cassandra.deck-brown@raleighnc.gov)*

Council requested staff to provide information on placing LGBTQ liaison information on the City website. Also requested was information regarding the Special Operations Division. Included with the *Weekly Report* is a staff memorandum responding to each topic.

*(Attachments)*

# Special Events Weekly Digest

Friday, August 2 – Thursday, August 8

City of Raleigh Special Events Office  
[specialevnts@raleighnc.gov](mailto:specialevnts@raleighnc.gov) | (919) 996-2200 | [www.raleighnc.gov/specialevnts](http://www.raleighnc.gov/specialevnts)

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## ***Permitted Special Events***

### **First Friday Market Series**

Hargett Street

Friday, August 2

Event Time: 7:00pm - 11:00pm

Associated Road Closures: E. Hargett Street between Fayetteville Street and S. Wilmington Street will be closed from 6:00pm until 11:59pm.

### **Downtown Raleigh Food Truck Rodeo**

Fayetteville Street District

Sunday, August 4

Event Time: 3:00pm - 9:00pm

Associated Road Closures: Fayetteville Street between Morgan Street and Lenoir Street, and Hargett Street, Martin Street, and Davie Street between S. Salisbury Street and S. Wilmington Street will be closed from 6:00am until 11:59pm. The 500 block of Fayetteville Street will remain open for local traffic only.

### **Raleigh Scooter Education Tabling**

Exchange Plaza

Monday, August 5

Event Time: 11:00am - 4:00pm

Associated Road Closures: No roads will be closed for the event. Exchange Plaza will be used from 10:30am until 4:30pm.

### **NCSU Old Tuffy Beer Launch Party**

Oberlin Road

Monday, August 5

Event Time: 5:00pm - 9:00pm

Associated Road Closures: Oberlin Road between Hillsborough Street and the roundabout will be closed from 9:00am until 11:00pm.

### **Raleigh Night Market**

City Market

Thursday, August 8

Event Time: 5:30pm - 10:30pm

Associated Road Closures: Parham Street between Martin Street and Wolfe Street, Wolfe Street between Blount Street and Blake Street, and Blake Street between Martin Street and Davie Street will be closed from 2:00pm until 11:59pm.

## ***Other Events This Weekend***

### **First Friday Raleigh**

Friday, August 2

Downtown Raleigh

### **KIDZ BOP**

Friday, August 2

Coastal Credit Union Music Park at Walnut Creek

**Original Sewing & Quilt Expo**

Friday, August 2 – Saturday, August 3  
Raleigh Convention Center

**Moore Square Grand Opening Celebration**

Saturday, August 3  
Moore Square Park

**Why Don't We**

Saturday, August 3  
Red Hat Amphitheater

**moe. and Blues Traveler**

Sunday, August 4  
Red Hat Amphitheater

**Summer Concert Series: Thelonius**

Sunday, August 4  
Pullen Park

**Moore Movies – The Iron Giant**

Sunday, August 4  
Moore Square Park

**Neha Kakkar – Live in Concert**

Sunday, August 4  
Meymandi Concert Hall

***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



**Raleigh**

## **MEMO**

TO: Ruffin Hall, City Manager

FROM: Cassandra Deck-Brown, Chief

DEPARTMENT: Police

DATE: August 1, 2019

SUBJECT: Council Inquiry Regarding LGBT's Website

Upon further review of the LGBT Center's website, we found that the center had noted one of the community officers in the downtown district on their site as a resource. This is not unusual for a community, apartment complex, community watch group, Next Door and other community groups to notify their members of a police point of contact. However, I would yield with extreme caution in noting a single officer who is actually one of several officers serving businesses and residences in the Downtown District to include the LGBT Center. By posting a single community officer on the city's website as a liaison for any one community would not be totally accurate or totally effective because community officers are all over the city and in each police district and all of them are expected to liaise with all communities they serve.

In my conversation with the new LGBT Director following Mr. Miller's retirement, we discussed the importance of serving all within the LGBT Community and as she is rolling out her vision of inclusivity, the RPD will have an even greater role and partnership with the LGBT Community. It is important to establish this greater partnership from a more global community perspective because the while the LGBT Center is a resource, the greater LGBTQAI community lives, works, plays and learns throughout all of the City of Raleigh.

Municipal Building  
222 West Hargett Street  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

One Exchange Plaza  
1 Exchange Plaza, Suite 1020  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

City of Raleigh  
Post Office Box 590 • Raleigh  
North Carolina 27602-0590  
(Mailing Address)



**Raleigh**

## **MEMO**

TO: Ruffin Hall, City Manager

FROM: C. L. Deck-Brown, Chief of Police

DEPARTMENT: Police

DATE: August 1, 2019

SUBJECT: Special Operations Division

The Special Operations Division is a compact and flexible unit that often sees the nature of its assignments change in response to crime trends and other identified special needs. Currently, the Special Operations Division is allocated 104 personnel: 88 sworn positions and 16 civilian positions. Special Operations Budget for fiscal year 2019-2020 is approximately \$9.2 million.

The Special Operations Division facilitates a unity of investigational and tactical teams that work together to form a joint force that is capable of effectively addressing nearly every possible situation. Major operational elements of the Special Operations Division include:

- Selective Enforcement Unit;
- DWI Unit;
- Traffic Enforcement Unit;
- Staff Planning and Logistics Unit;
- Code Enforcement Unit;
- Net Forces/Permits;
- K-9 Unit;
- Animal Control Unit
- Mounted Unit;
- Crash Reconstruction Unit;
- Taxi Inspections; and,
- Secondary Employment.

This Division closely monitors statistical information generated by the Department's Crime Analysts and the Records Section, along with intelligence gathered from the Field Operations District Commands and other sources. It maintains direct relationships both with district commanders and with the Detective Division, and provides the districts with resources that specifically target criminal activities and assist with investigations.

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