CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

# Manager's Update

raleighnc.gov



Issue 2021-18 May 14, 2021

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#### Regular Council Meeting Tuesday, May 18; Lunch Work Session at 11:30

Council will meet in remote electronic format at **11:30 A.M.** Please note the agenda for the lunch work session is included with the regular meeting agenda and may be accessed via the BoardDocs electronic agenda system:

https://go.boarddocs.com/nc/raleigh/Board.nsf

The regular Council meeting begins at 1:00 P.M.

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

You will be receiving information on joining the WebEx Events session on Monday; staff will be available to assist with log ins and joining the virtual City Council meeting.

#### **INFORMATION:**

#### 2021 Falls Lake Nutrient Management Study Research Symposium

Staff Resource: Kenneth Waldroup, Raleigh Water, 996-3489, kenneth.waldroup@raleighnc.gov

The Upper Neuse River Basin Association (UNRBA) is collaborating with the University of North Carolina (UNC) Institute for the Environment to provide the **2021 Falls Lake Nutrient Management Strategy and Research Symposium** on Wednesday, May 19 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, with a 30-minute lunch break at 12:00 pm. This will be a virtual symposium and is free and open to the public. The purpose of this year's symposium is to inform stakeholders of recent research that has been funded by the North Carolina Policy Collaboratory and UNRBA's efforts to re-examine the Falls Nutrient Management Strategy. The symposium will be held virtually and will feature updates from researchers from UNC, North Carolina State University, and East Carolina University, as well as the UNRBA.

The City of Raleigh is a founding member of UNRBA and, through the Raleigh Water department, funds approximately 28% of Association activities. The effort to monitor and model Falls Lake is designed to improve scientific understanding of the lake and watershed, in anticipation of a revised nutrient management strategy in the 2024 timeframe. The Symposium provides an excellent opportunity for policy makers, as well as the general public, to understand the latest research and its potential impact on Raleigh's most significant source of drinking water.

Registration for this event is required and <u>can be completed here</u>.

(No attachment)

#### Milburnie East Park – Public Access Restored

Staff Resource: Scott Payne, Raleigh Parks, 996-4825, scott.payne@raleighnc.gov

In follow up to a report that appeared in *Manager's Update Issue 2021-17* (May 7), mitigation work for the chemical spill that occurred over the May 1 weekend at the Aqua America Sanitary Wastewater Treatment plant has been completed. Removal of the contaminated soil, transfer to the landfill and backfilling of the area started on Tuesday, May 11 and was completed Thursday, May 13 by Aqua America's environmental contractor. Parks staff visited the site and upon review of the work will reopen the park to public access today.

(No attachment)

#### Wakefield Small Area Study – Issues and Opportunities

Staff Resource: Hannah Reckhow, Planning and Development, 996-2622, hannah.reckhow@raleighnc.gov

The first phase of public engagement for the Wakefield Small Area Study is taking place in this month. On May 3 staff held a virtual live "Ask-a-Planner" event to discuss the project and answer questions from the community. Over 50 participants attended the event live, and a recording of the discussion is available <a href="here">here</a>.

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An <u>online survey</u> opened April 30 that includes an interactive map and questions aimed at understanding the study area better. Results of the survey will help the project team compile options for discussion during the next phase of the project. The survey will be open through May 23.

(No attachment)

<u>Upcoming Events – Raleigh Convention Center, Performing Arts Center, Red Hat Amphitheater</u>

Staff Resource: Kerry Painter, Convention & Performing Arts Centers, 996-8503, <u>kerry.painter@raleighnc.gov</u>

#### **Amped Up Music Series at Red Hat Amphitheater**

A six-concert Thursday music series taking place at Red Hat Amphitheater May 28 through July 1 will highlight local acts from a variety of genres, including Kooley High, Hank, Pattie & The Current, Eric Gales, Toubab Krewe, Sarah Shook & The Disarmers, and Dillon Fence. Masks will be required unless eating or drinking and social distancing will be observed. Currently, 1,300 tickets per show will be on sale. Tickets will be \$5 on the lawn or in seat pods with the option for guests to purchase a six-seat table for groups at \$90/table. Concessions to be sold. The amphitheater's first live music event in a year will also highlight extensive quality of place upgrades and updates to the venue's restrooms, seating, and stage.

#### Birds and the Bees

As reported last week, the Duke Energy Center for the Performing Arts will host "The Birds and The Bees" popup markets in May. "Perch Market" May 15th and "Buzz Market" May 22nd from 12-3pm on Lichtin Plaza. Both markets will feature products from local makers and educational opportunities on supporting and sustaining these species. Drinks and snacks will also be available for purchase during the markets. Apiopolis, a Raleigh-based beekeeping organization will also install a new beehive at the Duke Energy Center on World Bee Day, May 20th. The install will be live streamed on the center's YouTube and website. Local elementary schools have been invited to participate in naming the new queen bee, which will be announced during the live stream. Staff also worked with Downtown Raleigh Alliance to help highlight and drive business to downtown Raleigh establishments who will be featuring specialty products during the week. These businesses will be notated by "The Birds and The Bees Citywalk" sidewalk decals which will be created by a local Raleigh artist.

#### **Caps and Gowns Downtown Giveaway**

Due to COVID-19 precautions, thousands of high school seniors will not be crossing the stage at the Raleigh Convention Center or the Duke Energy Center for the Performing Arts for graduation ceremonies. To celebrate graduates and their families and drive business to our downtown neighbors, the Raleigh Convention and Performing Arts Complex will be announcing a giveaway of hotel room nights, meals out, and packs of tickets to shows at Red Hat Amphitheater and Duke Energy Center for the Performing Arts beginning on Tuesday, May 18. To win, graduates will pose with Sir Walter Raleigh at the RCC or in front of the DECPA and share the photo on each venue's Facebook page on Saturday, June 12. Winners will be selected randomly.

#### Mako Medical Sk8 Raleigh Presented by DJ Uniq

On the heels of the last successful skating event in the Exhibit Hall at the Raleigh Convention Center, Shop Local Raleigh in partnership with Mako Medical and DJ Uniq will once again host a weekend of roller skating with skate rentals, concessions, as well as family and adult skating hours. This experience will feature a

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larger rink with higher capacity. The event organizers worked closely with Sales and Event staff to ensure a safe and fun outing for all.

**Noon Tunes @ City Plaza**: A lunchtime concert series every Wednesday in June from 12-1pm in City Plaza featuring local musicians and Duke Energy Center resident theatre companies. Staff is working closely with the Downtown Raleigh Alliance to encourage residents and workers to grab lunch from a downtown restaurant and enjoy some music.

(No attachment)

#### **Weekly Digest of Special Events**

Staff Resource: Derrick Remer, Special Events Office, 996-2200, <a href="mailto:derrick.remer@raleighnc.gov">derrick.remer@raleighnc.gov</a>
Included with the Update materials is the special events digest for the upcoming week.

(Attachment)

## Council Member Follow Up Items

General Follow Up Item

#### **District B Parks Bond Priorities (Council Member Cox)**

Staff Resource: Stephen Bentley, Raleigh Parks, 996-4784, stephen.bentley@raleighnc.gov

As Council will recall, staff has been working on various parks bond scenarios the last several months. On Monday, April 26 staff from the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department met with Council Member Cox about potential parks bond projects. These project recommendations are based on priorities from the District B community. Council Member Cox requested that staff review the scope and approximate cost estimates for multiple projects in addition to those currently in the proposed parks bond list. A memorandum outlining these projects and estimated costs is included with the *Update* materials.

(Attachment)

### Follow Up from the May 4 City Council Meeting

#### **Active Demolition Contracts (Council Member Branch)**

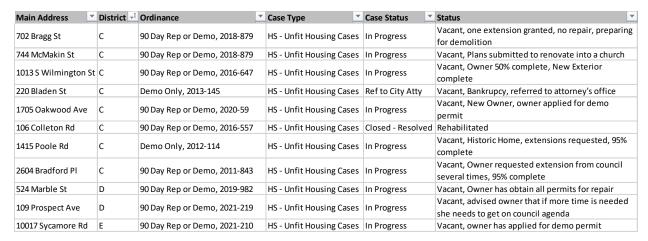
Staff Resource: Larry Jarvis, Housing & Neighborhoods, 996-6947, larry.jarvis@raleighnc.gov

During the meeting Council requested staff to provide a report on active demolition contracts. There are two pending contracts for demolition of properties owned by the City, 319 N. Carver Street and 2813 Seclusion Court. As noted in a previous *Manager's Update*, the City also owns the adjacent but unbuildable parcel

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located at 317 N. Carver Street. There is an opportunity to create three or more affordable rental units by either shifting a shared lot line or combining the two lots into one after the demolition of the existing aged structure is complete. The four-unit building at 2813 Seclusion Court will also be replaced with new affordable rental units.

Beyond City-owned properties, in H&N's Code Enforcement division there are 11 demolition orders for privately-owned properties across the City. A table of the number of demolition orders by Council District is shown below:



North Carolina law recognizes the public necessity for the demolition of dwellings whose condition renders them unsafe, dangerous, or detrimental to the health, safety, and welfare of the community. Also recognized by state law is the danger abandoned structures pose by creating fire hazards, attracting insects and rodents, or being used by vagrants.

A demolition order can be brought against a private property when:

- A building is declared "Unsafe" because its condition poses a risk to life, health, fire, or safety;
- A dwelling is found to be "Unfit for Human Habitation" under the Minimum Housing Code, and the cost to repair the property is more than 50% of its value.

After an order to repair or vacate and close a dwelling has been issued, and the property has been vacant and boarded for over a year, City staff can take the case to City Council to consider a demolition ordinance. City Council must find that the owner has abandoned the intent to repair the property and issues a demolition ordinance.

Recent attention has been drawn to the demolition order for the privately-owned property at 702 Bragg Street. In 2014, an inspection identified multiple health and safety violations, including water damage, holes in the ceiling and floors, inoperable windows, major structural issues on the front porch, and inoperable smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. At the time of the inspection, the house was occupied. A Code Enforcement hearing was held on August 18, 2014 and at least one of the owners attended. After the hearing, a Repair Order was issued in October of the same year requiring that the home be repaired or vacated and closed. No repairs were subsequently made. Two years later, the dwelling was vacated and added to Code Enforcement's vacant and closed properties list. The City's ordinance allows for a property not meeting code to be vacant and boarded for one year.

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In September 2018, the City Council found that the owners had abandoned the intent to repair the property and issued a 90-day Repair or Demolish Ordinance for the home. In March 2019 the City issued a civil citation for not complying with the ordinance. At the City Council meeting May 7, 2019, a family member appeared and was granted a 90-day extension to gain ownership from other family members and complete the repairs.

As of this date, there has been no change in ownership and there have been no repairs made. The City has solicited a demolition contractor but has not yet executed a contract due to the pandemic. Photos taken during an asbestos inspection March 18, 2020 illustrate the condition of the property and are shown below. Demolition of the structure is pending.







702 Bragg Street

(No attachment)

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\*All permitted special events are subject to mass gathering limitations and Statewide requirements for face coverings and social distancing. For questions regarding the safe return of special events, please contact the Office of Emergency Management and Special events at 919-996-2200 or <a href="mailto:specialevents@raleighnc.gov">specialevents@raleighnc.gov</a>.

#### **Permitted Special Events**

#### **NC State Memorial Belltower Celebration**

Hillsborough Street Friday, May 14

Event Time: 2:00pm - 3:00pm

Associated Road Closures: Hillsborough Street between Pullen Road and Enterprise Street will be closed from 2:00pm until 3:00pm.

#### **Shopper's Block**

Cabarrus Street Saturday, May 15

Event Time: 11:00am - 8:00pm

Associated Road Closures: E. Cabarrus Street between S. Blount Street and S. Person Street will be

closed from 6:00am until 10:00pm.

#### **Dine Out Downtown Glenwood South**

Glenwood South Saturday, May 15

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

Associated Road Closures: Glenwood Avenue between W. North Street and W. Jones Street will be closed from 3:00pm until 11:00pm. Note that local traffic will have access to the 600 block of W. Lane Street.

#### Raleigh Union Station Community Yoga Programs

Raleigh Union Station Plaza

Sunday, May 16 through Thursday, May 20

Event Times: 5:00pm - 8:00pm on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays; 6:00pm - 8:00pm on

Tuesdays; and 9:30am - 11:00am on Sundays

Associated Road Closures: No roads will be closed for the events. Raleigh Union Station Plaza will be used during the above dates and times from 3-22-21 until 11-24-21. Details regarding class registration can be found through <a href="Yoga Soul·lect·tive">Yoga Soul·lect·tive</a> for Mondays, <a href="Yoga Soul·lect-tive">Oak City Yoga</a> for Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and <a href="Current Wellness">Current Wellness</a> for Thursdays and Sundays.

#### Other Upcoming Events

#### Beethoven Symphony No. 4 - North Carolina Symphony

Friday, May 14 Meymandi Concert Hall

#### **Balsam Range**

Friday, May 14 Memorial Auditorium

#### **Longleaf Film Festival**

Friday, May 14 – Saturday, May 15 Virtual

#### **National Bike Month Events**

Friday, May 14 – Monday, May 31 Locations Citywide

#### **Perch Market**

Saturday, May 15 Lichtin Plaza

#### POPS Around the World - North Carolina Symphony (streaming)

Saturday, May 15 Streaming from Meymandi Concert Hall

#### **Dix Edge Community Workshops**

Saturday, May 15; Tuesday, May 18; & Thursday, May 20 Virtual and In-Person

#### **Moore Square Market**

Sunday, May 16 Moore Square

#### Try a Citrix Cycle E-Bike

Sunday, May 16 Gateway Plaza

#### NC State Live @ The Lot

Thursday, May 20 Spring Hill Park and Ride Lot

#### **Public Resources**

<u>Pilot Text Alert Program</u>: Sometimes spontaneous events happen downtown and in other areas that could affect local businesses. If you'd like to receive notifications when those events happen, including unpermitted ones, sign up for text alerts.

<u>Event Feedback Form</u>: 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 Office of Emergency Management and Special Events. We will use this helpful information in future planning.

**Road Closure and Road Race Map**: A resource providing current information on street closures in Raleigh.

<u>Online Events Calendar</u>: View all currently scheduled events that impact City streets, public plazas, and Dorothea Dix Park.

# **Council Member Follow Up**



## memo

То	Marchell Adams-David, City Manager
Thru	Oscar Carmona, Director, PRCR
From	Stephen C. Bentley, Assistant Director, PRCR
Department	Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources (PRCR)
Date	May 7, 2021
Subject	Council Member Cox Request: District B Parks Bond Priorities

On Monday, April 26, 2021 staff from the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department met with Council Member Cox about potential parks bond projects. These project recommendations are based on priorities from the District B community. Council Member Cox requested that staff review the scope and approximate cost estimates for the following projects:

#### • Leonard Property

- o Master Plan and Phase 1 Development.
- General scope includes new entrance drive, parking, restrooms, picnic shelter, greenway access and playground.
- Estimated Project Budget = \$9M.
- Current proposed DRAFT parks bond project list includes \$12M. That scope includes "in river" improvements for public recreational whitewater experience.

#### • Thornton Road Property

- o Master Plan and Phase 1 Development.
- General scope includes new entrance drive, parking, boat launch, restrooms, trails, picnic shelter and playground.
- Estimated Project Budget = \$7M.

#### • Brentwood Phase 2

- General scope includes new neighborhood center to replace existing, improved ADA access, walking trails, pollinator garden, court improvements and outdoor fitness equipment.
- Estimated Project Budget = \$6M.
- Current proposed DRAFT parks bond project list includes \$1.5M. That scope includes outdoor fitness equipment, improved play courts and walking trails.

#### • Riverbend Phase 2

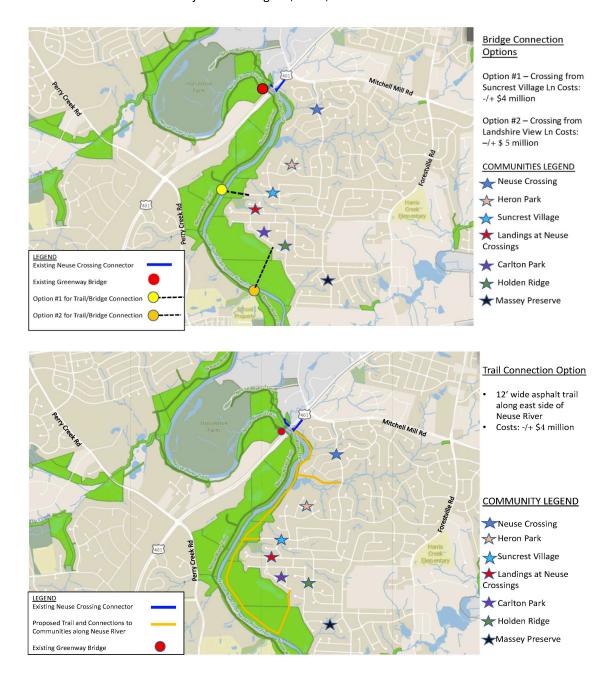
- o General scope includes open play and picnic areas, shelter and walking trails.
- Estimated Project Budget = \$4M.

#### Green Road Improvements

- o General scope includes improving ADA access and replace the existing restrooms.
- Estimated Project Budget = \$2.5M.
- o This scope is currently in the proposed DRAFT parks bond projects list.

#### • Improved Greenway Access to Neighborhoods East of the Neuse River

- Provide a new bridge crossing the Neuse River south of Highway 401 and additional greenway trails to improve access to Raleigh neighborhoods on the eastern side of the river. Staff has developed multiple options for this request. Maps are provided below.
- Estimated Project Cost Range = \$4M \$10M.



#### Other Projects Currently in the Proposed DRAFT Parks Bond List

- Kyle Drive Master Plan and Phase 1 Implementation = \$6M.
- Forest Ridge Park Trails = \$1M.
- Marsh Creek Disc Golf Course = \$1.2M.