IN THIS ISSUE

Fleet Services Listed in Rankings for the 2022 Leading Fleets
Raleigh Planning Academy Set to Begin June 8
Parks Summer Staffing and Operations Update
Upper Walnut Creek Sanitary Sewer Improvements Project – Construction Status
Mine Creek Greenway Improvement Project
Dreamville Festival Recap
Weekly Digest of Special Events

Council Follow Up Items

Engagement Activities - Recent Major Planning Efforts (Council Member Cox)

Budget Work Session Monday, June 6 - 4:00 P.M.
Reminder that Council will begin deliberating the City Manager’s Proposed Budget for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1 on Monday, June 6.
Listed below are the additional scheduled budget work sessions:
  • June 13, 4:00 P.M.
  • June 27, 4:00 P.M. (if necessary)

Regular Council Meeting Tuesday, May 7 - Afternoon and Evening Sessions
Reminder that Council will meet next Tuesday in regularly scheduled sessions at 1:00 P.M. and 7:00 P.M.
The agenda for the meeting was published on Thursday:
  https://go.boarddocs.com/nc/raleigh/Board.nsf

Reminder: If there is an item you would like to have pulled from the consent agenda for discussion, please send an e-mail mayorstaff@raleighnc.gov by 11 A.M. on the day of the meeting.
Fleet Services Listed in Rankings for the 2022 Leading Fleets

Staff Resources: Shelton Williams, Engineering Services, 996-3420, shelton.williams@raleighnc.gov
Rick Longobart, Engineering Services, 996-5616, rick.longobart@raleighnc.gov

The industry publication Government Fleet magazine (www.government-fleet.com) announced the Leading Fleets for 2022, recognizing the top 50 fleets in the nation. The City of Raleigh Vehicle Fleet Services, a division of the Engineering Services department, came in at No. 10 on the list of best fleets in the United States.

The awards program, co-produced with the American Public Works Association and sponsored by Ford Pro, recognizes operations performing at a high level, particularly in leadership and efficiency, planning, and overcoming challenges. The Government Fleet Criteria for the award included:

- The efficiency, effectiveness, and modernity of the fleet operation, based on 20 key criteria.
- How the operation tracks metrics.
- How the operation prioritizes and exhibits leadership within its team, with customers, within its local community, and within the overall fleet community.
- How the operation ensures competitiveness and efficiency.
- The future vision of the operation and steps taken to get there.
- How the operation addresses and overcomes its biggest challenges.

Listed below is an excerpt of the Top 20 ranked fleets:

1. Dakota County Fleet Management, Minnesota
2. New York City Fleet - Department of Citywide Administrative Services
3. Denver International Airport, Colorado
5. County of Sacramento, California
6. City of Baltimore, Maryland, Department of General Services, Fleet Management Division
7. City of Long Beach, California
8. City of Dublin, Ohio
9. Manatee County Government Fleet, Florida
10. City of Raleigh Vehicle Fleet Services, North Carolina
11. City of Greenville, South Carolina
12. County of Santa Clara, California
13. San Joaquin County Fleet Services, California
14. City of Durham, North Carolina
16. City of San Antonio, Texas
17. Sarasota County Fleet Services, Florida
18. City of Ventura, California
19. City of Madison, Wisconsin, Fleet
20. City of Beverly Hills, California

Transforming the City fleet is one of the top strategies in Raleigh’s Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP), and includes transitioning to electric and alternative fuels, fuel efficiency and other sustainable measures.
Vehicle Fleet Services (VFS) staff partners with Sustainability and all City department fleets on these initiatives. In support of the CCAP and the Raleigh Transportation Electrification Study, vehicle fleet services is partnering with Sustainability on an Electric Vehicle Implementation Strategy Rollout this upcoming year. More information about this project will be shared with City Council as the project gets underway. VFS will continue to look for ways to build on the success of this national recognition for efficiency and effectiveness, with their pursuit and support of sustainable goals through planning and partnering for a cleaner climate.

(No attachment)

Raleigh Planning Academy Set to Begin June 8

Staff Resource: Katie Dombrowski, Planning and Development, 996-2683, katie.dombrowski@raleighnc.gov

Participants have been selected for the Summer 2022 Raleigh Planning Academy. The inaugural academy will have 25 participants, five from each council district: Data on race, income, gender, tenure (i.e.: renter vs. owner) and age from the 2020 American Community Survey and demographic data provided by applicants were used to ensure a representative group of participants were chosen that accurately represent the diversity of Raleigh. Interest in the Planning Academy is high, with over 150 applicants. Applicants not selected will received priority for participation in the next Planning Academy to be held this Fall.

Academy sessions will be held June 8, 15, 22, and 29 at John Chavis Memorial Park from 6-8 P.M. The purpose of the academy is to provide opportunity for residents to learn more about City plans for growth, how to engage with the City, and how to participate in planning and development projects.

(No attachment)

Parks Summer Staffing and Operations Update

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

As Council is aware, recruiting staff to deliver the recreation programs and services eagerly anticipated by the community remains a challenge. Included with the Update materials is a staff memorandum which
outlines necessary service delivery adjustments for the 2022 summer season.

(Attachment)

**Upper Walnut Creek Sanitary Sewer Improvements Project – Construction Status**

*Staff Resource: Janeen Goodwin, Raleigh Water, 996-3494, janeen.goodwin@raleighnc.gov*

Raleigh Water began construction last month for the Upper Walnut Sewer Improvements project with survey and clearing activities along the project corridor. The project is replacing approximately 18,500 linear feet of 42-inch sewer with 60-inch diameter sewer. The project was identified in the 2014 Sanitary Sewer Capacity Study for replacement due to predicted wet weather overflows and additional condition assessment determined the pipe was in poor condition. Additional information may be found on the project website.

As illustrated below, the project limits are from the Walnut Creek softball complex off Sunnybrook Road west along Walnut Creek crossing Rock Quarry Road and ending near South State Street. There will be impacts and associated greenway closures along the Walnut Creek Trail greenway during construction.

Staff is communicating with residences and businesses in the area via construction notifications, project webpage, and greenway closure alerts via Parks website. The project is scheduled to be complete in Spring 2024.

(No attachment)

**Mine Creek Greenway Improvement Project**

*Staff Resource: David Bender, Parks, 996-4798, david.bender@raleighnc.gov*

Improvements to a section of the Mine Creek Greenway Trail are proposed south of Shelley Lake. The improvements proposed as part this initiative include the removal of two existing and aged wooden pedestrian structures, and the realignment of the existing trail to the northwest side of Mine Creek to take
advantage of alignment with the existing sewer easement present on that side of the creek.

This project is being coordinated with a Raleigh Water project that includes sewer improvements along this section of Mine Creek. Staff will be hosting an Open House at the Sertoma Arts Center, 1400 West Millbrook Road, on Wednesday, June 22 from 4 to 7 P.M. A virtual presentation of the project can be viewed on the project website and a survey link is provided for residents interested in providing feedback.

(Dreamville)

Dreamville Festival Recap
Staff Resource: Whitney Schoenfeld, Ofc. of Emer. Mgt. & Spcl. Events, 996-2204, whitney.schoenfeld@raleighnc.gov

The Dreamville Festival, launched 2019, was presented as a two-day festival in 2022. The event took place at Dorothea Dix Park on Saturday, April 2 and Sunday, April 3 from Noon to 11:00 P.M. each day. Presented in partnership with Dreamville and ScoreMore Shows, the festival played host to 80,000 attendees over the two days. Dreamville featured a selection of music performers that blended together some of today’s biggest national acts with exciting up-and-comers, and concluded on Sunday with a fireworks display.

No on-site parking was available, but attendees had a variety of options for getting to and from the park, including shuttling from downtown, event parking at nearby Centennial Campus, and rideshare options. Security was of the utmost importance, with a multi-agency planning and response effort comprised of Raleigh Police, Raleigh Fire, Wake County EMS, Wake County Sherriff’s Office, State Capitol Police, NC State University Police, and event security staff working to ensure the safety of festivalgoers.

The festival aims to provide a unique opportunity for locals and traveling visitors alike to gather and enjoy a music celebration in one of Raleigh’s most beautiful and historic locations. The overall goal of the Festival is to provide a positive and substantial economic and cultural impact on the City and the surrounding region; proceeds from the event benefit the Dreamville Foundation and the Dix Park Conservancy.
Statistics listed below, compiled by Visit Raleigh, provide an overview of the economic significance of the event.

- 80,000 attendees traveled to Raleigh from all 50 states, Washington D.C., U.S. Virgin Islands, and 20 countries including Australia, Germany, Israel, South Africa, Uruguay, and the U.K.
- $6.7 million in direct economic impact within Wake County, nearly double from 2019.
  - This estimate is conservative and does not include locals’ spending.
- Local Wake County residents accounted for just 16% of ticket sales.
- More than 60% of fans were returning festivalgoers from the inaugural event in 2019.

Hotel occupancy, rooms sold, and average daily rates for hotels in Wake County saw a significant increase during the weekend of Dreamville Festival.

**Hotel Occupancy:**
- Friday, April 1: 88% up 40% from same day last year
- Saturday, April 2: 92% up 43% from same day last year
- Sunday, April 3: 76% up 80% from same day last year

**Rooms Sold:**
- Friday: up 43.7% from same day last year
- Saturday: up 46.4% from same day last year
- Sunday: up 84.9% from same day last year

**Average Daily Rate:**
- Friday: $140.96, up 60.1% from same day last year
  - ($101.41 in 2019)
- Saturday: $150.43, up 70.4% from same day last year
  - ($108.25 in 2019)
- Sunday: $122.36, up 56.5% from same day last year

Staff has compiled a formal After-Action Report to review lessons learned and inform future event practices at the park.

*(No attachment)*
Council Member Follow Up Items

Follow Up to the May 17 Work Session

Engagement Activities - Recent Major Planning Efforts (Council Member Cox)
Staff Resource: Bynum Walter, Planning and Development, 996-2178, bynum.walter@raleighnc.gov

During the work session Council received an overview presentation on the Public Project Community Support Fund. During discussion, Council requested information about public engagement around major public projects.

The City has over the course of the last three years conducted large-scale planning efforts aimed toward the communities adjacent to major public investments, specifically Dix Park and bus rapid transit (BRT). These efforts - Dix Edge, Equitable Development around Transit, and New Bern Station Area Planning - have been a major focus for the department and have involved high levels of public engagement.

Approximately 100,000 residents have been contacted about these projects. Several thousand have participated in some form, from attending an in-person or virtual meeting to completing a survey or watching a streamed presentation. Consistent themes have involved a desire to grow more around walkable places near transit and to invest in and otherwise support housing affordability.

A staff memorandum is included with the Update materials which provides additional information and data.

(Attachment)
As the pandemic slowly loosens its grip on the community and nation, recruiting staff to deliver the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources (PRCR) programs and services eagerly anticipated by the community remains a challenge. While compensation increases supported by City Council and creative recruiting efforts in partnership with COR Human Resources have driven recent upticks in submitted applications, PRCR must adjust service delivery for this coming 2022 summer season until the staffing shortage abates.

**Lake Operations (Lake Johnson and Lake Wheeler)**

Recruitment and onboarding of part time staff continues, but with our current levels of staff, Lake Wheeler will return to 7 days/week operation as of Monday June 20th. The PRCR “rental” watercraft will only be available at Lake Johnson in summer 2022 and will operate Friday -Sunday with a target start date of July 8th. Patrons will access watercraft by registering for an “open-paddle” program in advance. The pre-registration approach allows available staff to provide assistance as users enter and exit the water. The number of watercraft that can be programmed, or number of days per week the service can be provided may increase over the remainder of the summer when qualified staff can be onboarded and trained.

**Amusements**

The State of North Carolina Department of Labor (NCDOL) requires lead ride operators (carousel and train) to be over eighteen years of age, an age gap in the current staff roster. Recent organizational interventions to increase part-time compensation combined with active recruiting efforts have procured staff meeting those NCDOL requirements. Therefore, beginning Monday June 6th Pullen Park intends to run our two feature attractions, the train and carousel, from 10am to 6pm each day. Additionally, we plan to resume normal pedal boat, carnival game, and pop-up programming operations throughout the summer using our younger school age staff. The carousel at John Chavis Memorial Park will begin the summer operating at a reduced capacity, 3 days per week. Additional days will be added as staff are hired and trained.

**Summer Camps:**

Summer camp will be similar to years past. With a strong last-minute push, we remain confident we will have staff needed to provide a quality experience for the participants. A change for this summer will be the number of participants served. Concerned with staffing constraints for the ratio-based program, PRCR limited the number of camp space availability from our pre-pandemic capacity. Nonetheless, we will be
serving 1,000-1,100 campers per week over a nine-week period. Pre-pandemic PRCR served 1,500 campers per week.

**Pool Operations:**

During the 2019 summer season, our last year of normal pre-COVID operations, PRCR maintained an active staff of 205 Lifeguards, Pool Managers, and Assistant Pool Managers. As of now the active staff roster includes 69 Lifeguards, Pool Managers, and Assistant Pool Managers. All three positions are certified American Red Cross Lifeguards qualified to perform patron surveillance and if needed, perform water rescues for distressed swimmer.

Since April 6, PRCR has hired 11 new lifeguards, and has 15 more lifeguard candidates in the various stages of the screening process. One critical assessment requires candidates to demonstrate the ability to swim 300 yards continuously, tread water using only their legs for two minutes, and to swim 20 yards and retrieve a 10-pound object from the bottom of the pool within one minute and 40 seconds. This assessment of a candidates swimming proficiency (a requirement for American Red Cross Lifeguarding certification) qualifies the candidate for the American Red Cross (ARC) Lifeguarding classes provided by Raleigh Aquatics staff. Candidates coming to PRCR with an existing American Red Cross Lifeguarding Certification must also demonstrate their current proficiency to perform these tasks as well.

If candidates successfully meet the requirements for employment, the active staff roster would increase to 84 lifeguards, still well short of the 205 staff roster utilized for the 2019 summer season. While these employees are seasonal, most will work on average between 25-35 hours per week. Information about Lifeguard Positions may be found at the following link:

[https://raleighnc.gov/services/parks/lifeguards](https://raleighnc.gov/services/parks/lifeguards)

Pool operations for Summer 2022 will follow this plan:

- **Seasonal Pools** (Biltmore Hills, Lake Johnson, Longview, and Ridge Road) will operate Friday – Sunday on a rotating basis, with one facility open each weekend beginning Friday, June 10, 2022. The initial rotation will be between Biltmore Hills and Longview opening on alternating weekends. Once we can secure additional staff, Lake Johnson or Ridge Rd will join in rotation with the goal of having two (2) pools open each weekend (Biltmore Hills/Longview and Lake Johnson/Ridge Rd.).

  Currently Ridge Rd. pool will not be available until sometime in July. National supply chain challenges have impacted delivery of a piece of equipment essential for pool operations at that site. We will continuously work to recruit additional staff in order to increase facility availability per weekend.

- **Year-Round Lap Pools** (Millbrook, Optimist, and Pullen) will continue to operate as they are currently, opening their seasonal amenities (Millbrook and Optimist) as their staffing levels allow. Note: due to staffing challenges, Millbrook continues to operate on a limited basis, opening at 2:00 pm daily.

- **Buffaloe Road Aquatic Center** will service PRCR Summer Camps from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm Tuesday through Friday and open to the public for lessons and public Recreational Swim Time from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm Monday through Friday, and they will operate their regular hours on Saturdays (10:00 am to 7:00 pm) and Sundays (1:00 pm to 5:00 pm).
Permitted Special Events

**First Friday City Market**
City Market
Friday, June 3
Event Time: 4:30pm - 11:00pm
Associated Road Closures: Parham Street, Blake Street, and Wolfe Street will be closed from 1:00pm until 11:00pm.

**Morning Times First Friday Market Series**
Hargett Street
Friday, June 3
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.

**Raleigh's International Food Festival**
Fayetteville Street District
Saturday, June 4
Event Time: 12:00pm - 10:00pm
Associated Road Closures: Fayetteville Street between Martin Street and the south end of City Plaza 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.

**Flight Day with Y Guides**
Dorothea Dix Park, Big Field
Saturday, June 4
Event Time: 1:00pm - 4:00pm
Associated Road Closures: Blair Drive between Barbour Drive and Umstead Drive, and Barbour Drive/Biggs Drive between Blair Drive and Goode Street will be closed from 10:00am until 6:00pm. Big Field will be used from 10:00am until 6:00pm.

**Black on the Block**
Hargett Street
Sunday, June 5 (Rescheduled from May 27)
Event Time: 7:00pm - 10:00pm
Associated Road Closures: Hargett Street between Salisbury Street and Fayetteville Street will be closed from 6:00pm until 11:59pm.

**Midweek Mini Market**
City Plaza
Wednesday, June 8
Event Time: 11:00am - 2:00pm
Associated Road Closures: No roads will be closed for the event. The east-side, off-street portion of City Plaza will be used from 9:00am until 3:00pm every Wednesday through 6-29-22.

Other Events This Weekend
Foodie Friday  
Friday, June 3  
Dorothea Dix Park, Magnolia Room

First Friday Raleigh  
Friday, June 3  
Downtown Raleigh

Beethoven’s 9th Symphony – NC Symphony  
Friday, June 3  
Meymandi Concert Hall

Morgan Wallen  
Friday, June 3  
Coastal Credit Union Music Park at Walnut Creek

CC & Co. Dance End of Year Gala/Recital  
Friday, June 3 - Sunday, June 5  
Memorial Auditorium

Parker McCollum  
Saturday, June 4  
Red Hat Amphitheater

Moore Square Market  
Sunday, June 5  
Moore Square

The Raleigh Ringers Spring Concert  
Sunday, June 5  
Meymandi Concert Hall

Public Resources

Pilot Text Alert Program: 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.

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 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.

Online Events Calendar: View all currently scheduled events that impact City streets, public plazas, and Dorothea Dix Park.
Council Member Follow Up
Overview

Council recently requested information about public engagement around major public projects. The city has in the last three years conducted large-scale planning efforts aimed toward the communities adjacent to major public investments, specifically Dix Park and bus rapid transit (BRT). These efforts – Dix Edge, Equitable Development around Transit, and New Bern Station Area Planning, have been a major focus for the department and have involved high levels of public engagement.

Approximately 100,000 residents have been contacted about these projects. Several thousand have participated in some form, from attending an in-person or virtual meeting to completing a survey or watching a streamed presentation. Consistent themes have involved a desire to grow more around walkable places near transit and to invest in and otherwise support housing affordability.

Metrics: A list of events and outreach is below.

Equitable Development around Transit (2019-2020)

Number of events

- Four meetings/workshops
- Three GoTriangle presentations
- Three CAC meetings
- WakeUp Wake County presentation
- Conversations with transit riders at GoRaleigh station
- 60,000+ postcards
- Dozens of “pop up” events, community meetings, BRT events

Four surveys
- 10,508 views
- 1,445 participants
• 16,302 responses
• 1,335 comments
• 109 subscribers

**Location of events**
Raleigh Convention Center, Southeast Raleigh YMCA, Martin Street Baptist,
Raleigh Council Chambers

**Dix Edge (2020-21)**
15 Community Leaders
4 Neighborhood Ambassadors (first project to use this method)
1,500 survey responses
300+ public participants
27,000 website interactions
28 workshops
5 surveys
1 Cook Out at Eliza Poole Park

**New Bern Station Area Planning (2021-22)**

**Number of events**
Three in person meetings, with three parallel virtual events
Three separate week-long workshops (one for each of three sections of corridor). Primarily in person, but daily summaries streamed, and live remote participation available for wrap-up event.
Six meetings with community group/project ambassadors
Two-part (community and housing provider) affordability summit. Hybrid in-person/virtual format for both.
Pedestrian safety summit. Hybrid in-person/virtual format.
Five meetings with boards/commissions (Raleigh Transit Authority (2), Fair Housing, Human Relations, Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission)
More than 20 other meetings with institutions and groups (St. Augustine’s University, WakeMed hospital, business owners, neighborhood groups, pastor’s group, similar)

**5 surveys**
• 4,707 views
• 928 participants
• 9,635 responses
• 1,045 comments
25,000+ postcards and letters
16 members of community partner group, three ambassadors

**Location of events**

- Roberts Park, Roberts Park Community Center, Tarboro Community Center,
- Comfort Suites conference room, Martin Street Baptist Church, Lions Park
- Community Center, Raleigh Urban Design Center, Virtual