

City Manager's Weekly Report

raleighnc.gov



Issue 2020-42

November 6, 2020

IN THIS ISSUE

Mass Gatherings Planned – Halifax Mall
Community Engagement Digital Inclusion Article
New Bern Station Area Planning: Initial Community Survey

Council Follow Up Items

Response to Fayetteville Streetscape Concerns (Email message to Council Members)

INFORMATION:

City Offices Closed in Observance of Veterans Day

City offices will be **closed** on **Wednesday, November 11** in observance of the **Veterans Day** holiday.

Work Session - Tuesday, November 10 - 4:00 P.M.

The regularly scheduled monthly second **Tuesday work session** will be conducted via remote electronic format beginning at **4:00 P.M.**

The agenda for the work session was posted to the electronic agenda management system Thursday.

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

Mass Gatherings Planned - Halifax Mall

Staff Resource: Derrick Remer, Ofc. of Emerg. Mgt. & Spcl. Events, 996-2200, derrick.remer@raleighnc.gov

Halifax Mall, located on the north end of downtown, is State of North Carolina property. Events on the mall are planned for Saturday, November 7 and Saturday, November 14.

Several Council Members have been lobbied to assist with permitting at Moore Square for the November 14 planned event. Earlier today the Police department issued a permit to sidewalk picket to the *Southern Vision Alliance* organization to allow for assembly at Moore Square Park on Saturday, November 14 and then to proceed to Halifax Mall. Included with the *Weekly Report* materials is a map of the approved route. Feel free to refer further inquiries from event organizers to the Office of Special Events.

(Attachment)

Community Engagement Digital Inclusion Article

Staff Resource: Linda Jones, Housing & Neighborhoods, 996-5707, linda.jones@raleighnc.gov

The Community Engagement division was recently featured in the November issue of *Municipal Magazine* on various ways municipalities are working to be more digitally inclusive and engage residents of all ages.

Programs highlighted in the article are the Citizen Leadership Academy, Digital Connectors, Foster Grandparents, Raleigh Neighborhood College, and the Raleigh Summer Youth Employment.

The article can be found on pages 18-21 at the following link:

<https://issuu.com/thepapersinc/docs/municipal-nov2020-linked?fr=sZTQzZDlxNDUzNzM>

(No attachment)

New Bern Station Area Planning: Initial Community Survey

Staff Resource: Jason Hardin, Planning and Development, 996-2657, jason.hardin@raleighnc.gov

Staff is set to release a request for qualifications (RFQ) for planning services in the vicinity of future bus rapid transit (BRT) stations along New Bern Avenue.

The RFQ includes community input from an online survey that looked for information on priorities and asked for specific questions to put to respondents. Participants rated safe walkability around stations as a top priority, and confirmed that other topics, including housing affordability and land uses around stations, are critical to address as well.

The project will build on the Equitable Development Around Transit (EDAT) planning process, which focused on housing affordability, sustainability, and equity issues along all four BRT corridors. The New Bern process will begin in 2021 and build on that work to deliver specific recommendations for zoning changes and pedestrian improvements in BRT station areas.

(No attachment)

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department – Fall Athletic Events

Staff Resource: Ken Hisler, Parks, 996-4823, kenneth.hisler@raleighnc.gov

Staff continues to work with sporting event organizers and associations as well as the Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitor's Bureau to balance community desires related to sporting events with public health goals. Reviewing operations against the requirements and recommendations provided by NCDHHS, the CDC and Parks & Recreation professional organizations, operations have been modified to comply with required guidelines and best practices to successfully deliver these experiences.

As presented previously, staff has been exploring how to re-enter the tournament market by introducing a few significantly smaller youth baseball and softball tournaments prior to the end of the fall season at Walnut Creek Athletic Complex (WCAC). Regrettably, competition from other events in the region left one event organizer unable to gather enough teams for the event planned for the weekend of November 7-8. The potential for hosting a youth baseball tournament the weekend of November 14-15 remains.

The next opportunity will be delivered in cooperation with local competitive swim team programs. Working with leadership from the Marlins of Raleigh (MOR) youth swimming organization, Pullen Aquatic Center will host a swim meet the weekend of November 13-15. Continuing to review operations against the requirements and recommendations provided, modified operations that comply with (or exceed) required guidelines and best practices to successfully deliver this event. The meet will run in 4-hour time blocks, with no more than 120 swimmers, plus support staff, in the facility during a time block. There will be a total of 10, 4-hour time blocks over the three-day period. For this event, spectators will not be permitted in the venue during the competition.

Utilizing these smaller scale opportunities are a major step in our sustained returned to hosting events and tournaments. Gaining invaluable operational knowledge, staff will continue to evaluate sports tournaments and other events as 2020 concludes and preparations begin for the 2021 season.

(No attachment)

Council Member Follow Up Items

General Follow Up Item

Response to Fayetteville Streetscape Concerns

Staff Resource: Sally Thigpen, Parks, 996-4115, sally.thigpen@raleighnc.gov

Council recently received email communicating concerns from The Hudson Condominiums HOA regarding the condition of the Fayetteville streetscape. Fayetteville Street is a right-of-way that is critical to the downtown core. Various City departments work in coordination to maintain the Fayetteville Street streetscape. The Raleigh Department of Transportation maintains the street, sidewalks and associated infrastructure and amenities. Engineering Services is the lead on mechanical, plumbing and electrical. Through an internal service level agreement, staff with Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources maintains the plantings along the street to include the raised planter bowls and the landscapes in the plazas.

Included with the *Weekly Report* materials is a staff memorandum which describes the current status, ongoing projects, and planned improvements along the Fayetteville Street corridor.

(Attachment)

12:00pm-4:30pm



Council Member Follow Up



Raleigh

MEMO

TO: Ruffin L. Hall, City Manager

FROM: Sally Thigpen, Assistant Director
Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources

CC: Oscar Carmona, Director
Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources

Michael R. Moore, Director
Transportation

DATE: November 6, 2020

SUBJECT: Fayetteville Streetscape

Concerns were raised by The Hudson Condominiums HOA to Mayor Baldwin and City Council regarding the condition of the Fayetteville streetscape. The information below describes the current status, ongoing projects and improvements.

Fayetteville Street is a right of way that is critical to the downtown core. The Raleigh Department of Transportation maintains the street, sidewalks and associated infrastructure and amenities. Engineering Services is the lead on mechanical, plumbing and electrical. Through an internal service level agreement, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources (PRCR) maintains the plants along the street including the raised planter bowls and the landscapes in the plazas.

While the COVID-19 response did initially impact staffing and service levels causing the delay of several planting projects, there has been little deviation from normal operations. The Core area as defined by Team Downtown Raleigh is cleaned daily.

Fayetteville Street is a high priority for the City and, when it is safe to do so, we are eager to reactivate the space and provide opportunities for community celebrations, special events and commerce.

Planters

Half of the 172 planter bowls on Fayetteville Street were damaged during the protests in May, mostly in the 100, 200 and 300 blocks. Due to the specialty design and lead time to manufacture these planters, installation and replanting will begin at the end of November and continue for several weeks as weather allows.

There have been other activities including planting annual flowering bulbs, refreshing mulch, renovating the beds in front of the Wake County Court House and treating weeds in tree grates over the summer. The PRCR Parks Team also maintains the perennial gardens

Municipal Building
222 West Hargett Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

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

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

at the Convention Center, Duke Energy Center for the Performing Arts and dozens of other downtown parks.

Weekly maintenance will continue with typical spring installations of flowering annuals and perennials.

The Plazas

- Exchange Plaza- landscape renovated in the spring of 2019
- Market Plaza- spring 2020 renovation delayed until spring 2021
- City Plaza- [The City Plaza Renovation project](#) should be substantially complete in the next 30+ days pending potential delays. Once renovated, the planters will be refilled with soil and plants.

Pedestals and Lighting

An assessment is planned for the pedestals and lighting. While some were damaged during the protests, the street infrastructure is exhibiting normal wear and tear and any needed repairs will be scheduled. The streetscape renovation was completed in 2006.

The Warehouse District

Team Downtown Raleigh services the Warehouse District three times a week, and parts of it on Sundays. Fayetteville Street still receives six-day-a-week service at a minimum. Kane Realty Corporation has its own team that keeps the Dillon and immediate surrounding area maintained.

Leaves

Following the annual work plan for leaf collection, Team Downtown Raleigh started leaf collection approximately three weeks ago. Fayetteville Street is the only street that receives this level of service. Per City Code Sec. 12-1037 it is the adjacent property owner's responsibility to keep sidewalks clear of leaves and other debris including snow and ice. They have also been maintaining storm drains on the plazas and other storm drains are cleared through regular street sweeping cycles.

An additional concern was raised regarding paint splatters on the sidewalks and pavers. Team Downtown Raleigh has pressure washed and removed much of the paint and burned plastic residue from the sidewalks. Fayetteville Street and the three plazas are pressure washed twice annually. Team Downtown Raleigh continues to monitor and remove dirt, debris, paint and other substances to the extent possible without damaging the surfaces.