Citizen Planning Committee Meeting #1

Project Update

Walnut Creek Wetland Park Master Plan

June 26, 2017
Tonight’s Meeting Agenda

• Project Update & Planning Progress
• Presentation of Charter
• Park Visioning & Goals Session
• Next Steps and Future Meetings
• Questions

Meeting Purpose:
Brainstorm a **high level vision** for the future Walnut Creek Wetland Park
Walnut Creek Wetland Park

Remember! This is a Master Plan

A MASTER PLAN IS:

• A conceptual framework that provides direction & flexibility
• Comprehensive and long range (10-20 years)
• A planning instrument
• A vision that balances needs + desires with site character and function

A MASTER PLAN IS NOT:

• A guide for park construction
• A design document
• Static
• The result of ONE person’s idea
Walnut Creek Wetland Park

Consultant Team

- Experienced team of landscape architects, ecologists, wetland scientists, planners, engineers, and FAA-certified UAS pilots
- Alta specializes in active and healthy community design and planning
Walnut Creek Wetland Park

Park Planning Process

Project Sequence

- **January - May 2017**: Situation Assessment
- **February - July 2017**: Existing Conditions Inventory
- **July - September 2017**: Public Participation/CPC Meetings
- **October - January 2017**: Develop Master Plan
- **Master Plan Presentation**

- **March 2017**: Drone Flight #1
- **August 2017**: Drone Flight #2
## Project Schedule

### Walnut Creek Wetland Park Master Plan

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<th>Task/Event</th>
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- Meetings and Presentations
- Progress/Deliverables
Walnut Creek Wetland Park
Walnut Creek Wetland Park

Drone Flight

- High quality imagery to:
  - Visualize the wetlands
  - Observe the tree cover
- Another flight scheduled for August
- Opportunity for education demonstration with Neighborhood Ecology Corps (NEC)
**Walnut Creek Wetland Park**

**Wetlands Inventory**

- 22.9 acres of delineated wetlands
- Biohabitats submitted the Preliminary JD application in April
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Flora + Fauna Inventory

- Spring inventory
- Summer inventory scheduled for July 2017
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Situation Assessment

- Presentation to Park Planning
- Presentation to Parks, Recreation, and Greenways Advisory Board (PRGAB)
- Approved on City Council’s June consent agenda
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Community Outreach, Engagement + Participation

- Project Website
- Social Media Outreach
- Community Input Survey
- Wetland Center Poster
Walnut Creek Wetland Park

Stakeholders

Audubon

Walnut Creek 9000

WRRI

Exploris

NC STATE UNIVERSITY

BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF NORTH CAROLINA
Walnut Creek Wetland Park

**Stakeholder Interviews**

- Five Key Themes:
  - Park Role in Community
  - Wetland Preservation + Access
  - Premier Education Facility
  - Greenway Access + Focal Point
  - Perception of Safety

*Cay Creek Wetland Interpretive Center has a 15 foot tower that provides a wetland experience from multiple viewpoints.*
Walnut Creek Wetland Park

Community Needs Assessment Survey

- 92 Responses
  - 80% of responses are Raleigh residents
- Access:
  - 85% access by vehicle
  - 25% access by bike
  - 23% access by walking

66% of respondents are most likely to use the walkways and trails
### Q8 What experiences should be provided at Walnut Creek Wetland Park? Please CHECK your top three (3):

*Answered: 85  Skipped: 7*

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Answer Choices</th>
<th>Responses</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sitting outside (e.g., reading, contemplating)</td>
<td>44.71%</td>
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<td>Going to a playground</td>
<td>25.88%</td>
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<td>Unstructured play (e.g., playing catch)</td>
<td>20.00%</td>
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<td>Walking or riding a bike in a park or on a greenway trail</td>
<td>55.29%</td>
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<td>Playing pick-up sports on a court or field</td>
<td>9.41%</td>
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<td>Enjoying the outdoors (e.g., observing nature and wildlife)</td>
<td>68.24%</td>
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<td>Fitness activities (e.g., running, exercise meet-ups)</td>
<td>23.53%</td>
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<td>Cultural opportunities (e.g., public art, special events)</td>
<td>50.59%</td>
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**Total Respondents: 85**
Citizen Planning Committee

- List of potential members compiled from:
  - Stakeholder interviews
  - Community surveys
  - Recommendations from other stakeholders
  - Site research
  - Demographic analysis

- Criteria for selection:
  - Willingness to commit
  - Interest in the park and its usage
  - Diverse demographics and interests
  - Community representation
Walnut Creek Wetland Park

CPC Purpose - Why are You Here?

Provide recommendations to the Raleigh Parks, Recreation and Greenways Advisory Board (PRGAB) for a future park program that will best meet the needs of the community

- **Discover**, share information, and learn from each other
- **Develop**, review, and discuss program elements
- **Shape** agreements that resolve issues and balance multiple interests
- **Inform** the public and the City about topics addressed in the process
Your Final Products

- **Program Statement** that describes the overall vision for the park and serves as the foundation for a range of Plan Alternatives
- **Draft Master Plan** that includes a conceptual plan rendering, Program Statement, background information, and recommendations for environmental stewardship of the park
- **Priorities** for phased development of the project, with consideration for existing and anticipated funding
- **Proposed Plan** based on public feedback of the Draft Master Plan
Your Responsibilities

- **Deliberate in Good Faith** balance interests and participate in a consensus building process
- **Represent Constituents** when reviewing issues and recommendations
- **Attend Meetings** and fully participate in each meeting
Consensus Based Decision Making

- **Consensus** decision-making is a group decision-making process in which group members develop, and agree to support a decision in the best interest of the whole.
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Your Consensus Choices:

1. **Endorsement** (Member fully supports it)
2. **Endorsement with minor point of contention** (Member likes it)
3. **Agreement with minor reservation** (Formal disagreement, but will not block or hold up the proposal/provision)
4. **Stand aside with major reservations** (Formal disagreement, but will not block or hold up the proposal/provision)
5. **Block** (Member will not support the proposed plan)
Measuring Consensus:

- **Consensus** = All committee members present rate the proposal as a 1, 2, or 3

- **Consensus with Major Reservations** = All committee members present rate the proposal as a 1, 2, or 3, expect at least one Committee member rates it as a 4

- **No Consensus** = Any committee member rates the proposal as a 5
Walnut Creek Wetland Park

Discussion

Proposal

Test for Consensus

Modify Proposal

Endorse, Endorse w/Reservations, or Stand Aside

Consensus Achieved

Concerns Raised

Block

NO

YES
Walnut Creek Wetland Park

**Ground Rules**

- Only one person will speak at a time and no one will interrupt when another person is speaking.
- Each person will express his or her own views rather than speaking for others at the table.
- No one will make personal attacks or issue statements blaming others for specific action or outcomes.
- Members will avoid grandstanding (extended comments and questions) in order to allow everyone a fair chance to speak and to contribute.
Walnut Creek Wetland Park

CPC Schedule + Duration

- **Meeting #1:** June 26, 2017
- **Meeting #2:** July 24, 2017
- **Meeting #3:** August 28, 2017
- **Meeting #4:** September 18, 2017
- **Meeting #5:** October 16, 2017

Save the Date!