



RFQ EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Moore Square Café Operation





The City of Raleigh is seeking a partner to operate the café space at Moore Square.

The café includes 251 square feet of frontage and 384 square feet of kitchen space, accompanied by a 1,675 square foot outdoor seating area. At \$25 per square foot rent, the space is available at well-below market rate, with most utilities covered by the City of Raleigh. All food concept proposals welcome!

A modern amenity in one of Raleigh's most historic locations.

At the front end, the 635 square foot building includes a dedicated servery, designed for both walk-in and window service. The back of the house consists of a kitchen already equipped with a fume exhaust hood and grease trap

interceptor, as well as hand, food prep, and dishwashing sinks. *The City of Raleigh can assist with additional upfit costs and rent abatements, to be negotiated with the selected operator.*

Guests dine al fresco in the heart of downtown.

The City of Raleigh will work with the vendor to improve and maximize the existing 1,675 square foot outdoor seating area to better define the space in support of the café and its guests. Possibilities include creative partitioning and lighting to distinguish the area and provide ambiance for diners, whether grabbing a quick bite or lingering over a meal. Diners are also able to enjoy beer and wine on the outdoor patio, should the café operator choose to sell alcohol.

Opportunity abounds and “Moore” is on the way.

Moore Square is an active urban park staffed seven days a week with regular programming for all ages. In 2023, approximately 112,500 patrons attended over 80 Moore Square events, including Jazz in the Square, First Friday movies, Hopscotch, and sports viewing parties, just to name a few. Moore Square anticipates a record-breaking year in 2024, with an expanded special event and program calendar. Moore Square invites the café operator to partner in these initiatives, as well as to participate in idea generation for future concepts.

Exciting developments are on the horizon for the Moore Square District.

Loden Properties is currently planning redevelopment of parcels directly east and south of Moore Square. This major renovation includes the construction of 560-590 residential units, a 150-160 room boutique hotel, 22,000 square foot grocery, 5,500 square feet for retail and dining, and 25,000 square feet of studio space for co-working, audio production, and art. These new buildings will substantially increase foot traffic – and customers – in the years ahead.

And Moore Square is already surrounded by some of the most popular destinations in Raleigh.

On the north end, Marbles Kids Museum sees over 680,000 visitors each year. And on the southern end of the square, City Market features some of the best galleries, art studios, shopping, and bars in the city.

Downtown is on the Rise!

Among the 25 largest urban office markets, Raleigh has the third lowest vacancy rate. In 2023, 3,221 downtown residential units were under construction or delivered; there was a net gain of 31 storefront businesses downtown; and weekday foot traffic rose by 4% year-on-year.

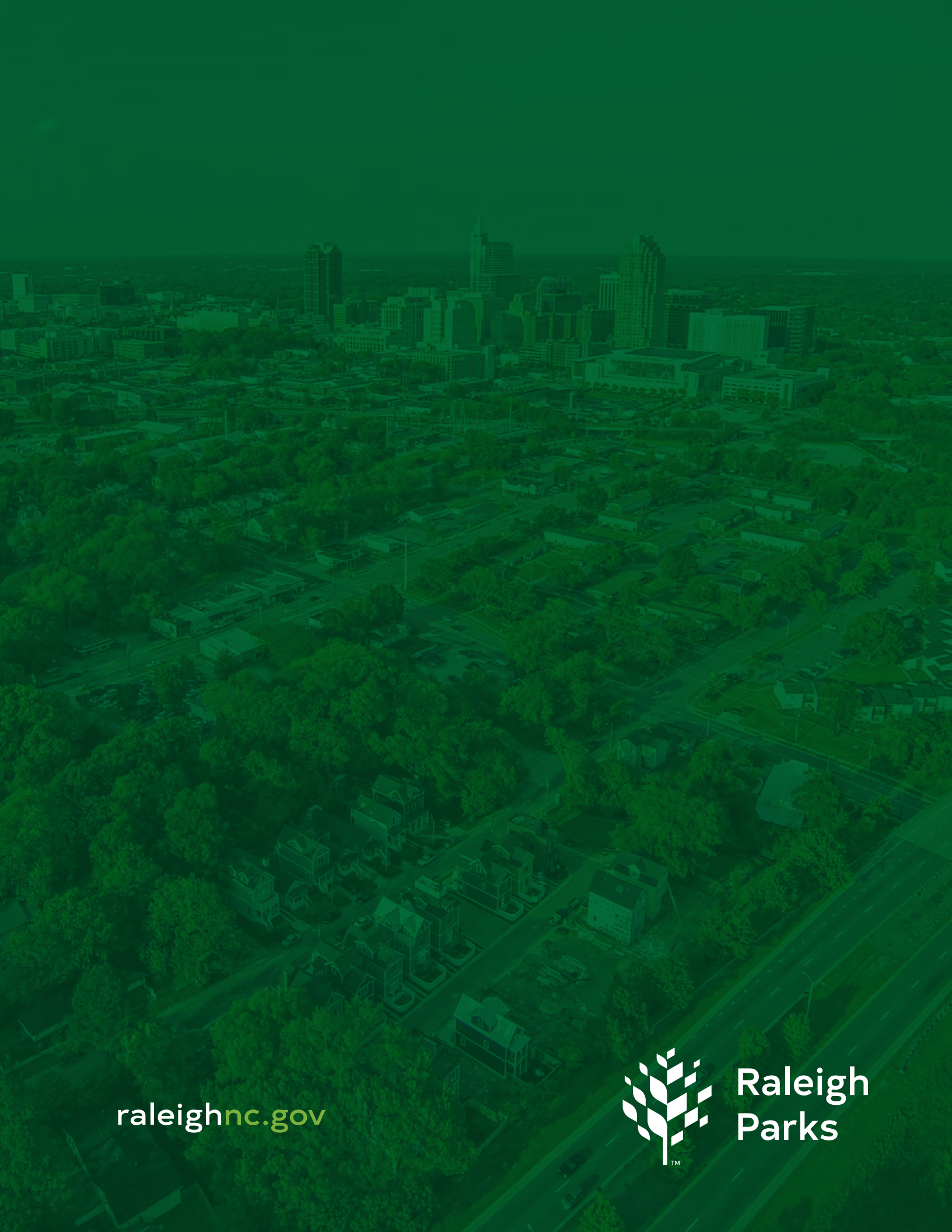
Be a part of Moore Square's evolving story.

Designated in the 1792 city plan, Moore Square is one of Raleigh's most important historic sites and has been central to Raleigh's story for over 230 years. At the same time, Moore Square is a modern urban park with an eye toward the future. The Café Operator will have the unique opportunity to contribute to the Square's rich and vibrant future!

For full information and proposal guidelines, please see the RFQ posted to the North Carolina electronic Vendor Portal (eVP) at evp.nc.gov.

Questions related to this RFQ may be submitted via email to Douglas Porter at douglas.porter@raleighnc.gov





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