Memorandum

To: **People and Environment Recovery Board**

From: **Kiera Bulan, Sustainability Manager**

Date: **August 3, 2026**

Subject: **Supplemental Materials for August 3, 2026, People and Environment Recovery Board Meeting**

Summary Statement

Please review the enclosed materials for the upcoming People and Environment (P&E) Recovery Board meeting on August 3, 2026.

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Update on Previous Board Input

April 13, 2026 P&E Meeting

- **Agenda Item**:
    - Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Planning Allocation Recommendations
- **Board Action:**
    - Provide input on the CDBG-DR Planning project recommendations: how could these plans benefit our recovery efforts?
- **Input Reported to City Council:**
    - CDBG-DR Planning Allocation Presentation (slide 12) to City Council's Policy, Finance and Infrastructure Work Session (PFI) at the April 28, 2026 meeting
        - CDBG-DR Planning Recommendation Video Excerpt at the April 28, 2026 PFI meeting

June 23, 2026 P&E Meeting

- **Agenda Item**:
    1. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-DR) - Disaster Recovery Round Two Planning Allocations
    2. French Broad River Park Project
- **Board Action:**
    1. What outcomes or community benefits would you expect this strategic planning process to deliver in order for you to view this investment as successful?
    2. Provide feedback on the French Broad Unified Park Design
- **Input Reported to City Council:**
    1. CDBG-DR Round Two Planning Allocation Video Excerpt at the June 23, 2026 PFI meeting
        - CDBG-DR Round Two Planning Program Presentation (slide 8) at the June 23 PFI meeting
    2. French Broad Park Design Video Excerpt at the June 23, 2026 PFI meeting

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Urban Forest Master Plan

- DRAFT UFMP Goals and Strategies Overview
- Raw survey data - engagement UFMP

Resilience Hub Mapping Project

- Review the Resilience Hubs Participatory Mapping Project Final Report
- View the Resilience Hubs Participatory Mapping Project GIS map
- For a complete overview of the project, please visit the Resilience Hub Mapping project page.

Unified Parks Design - Azalea Park

This summary includes information the Infrastructure Recovery Board (IRB) has heard to date and recommendations/input they have given regarding the Azalea Park Recovery Project. For more general information about the project, please visit the Azalea Parks Project page.

Summary of Engagement to Date

- The design concepts were the direct result of input gathered at events and through surveys in late 2025 in which residents shared needs and wants for park features, accessibility, and environmental restoration following catastrophic flooding from Tropical Storm Helene in 2024.
    - View the Wave 1 Engagement Summary
- In February, the City released two design concepts and asked for feedback through community events, focus groups, and an online survey. We heard from thousands of community members. Feedback has been analyzed, and the project team is now translating it into a single unified design to be shared this summer.
    - View the Wave 2 Engagement Summary

Infrastructure Recovery Board Engagement with Azalea Park Project

January 12, 2026, Infrastructure Recovery Board Meeting

- IRB discussed high-level themes from Phase 1 engagement, including what perspectives may be missing, and identified what they see as the top three design themes for 1) Azalea Parks and Infrastructure and 2) French Broad Riverfront Parks
- Infrastructure Recovery Board voted for the top three themes for the Azalea Park Project:
    1. **flood resilience** as the design standard
    2. **pedestrian safety and multimodal access**
    3. third-place tie for **alternative sports and lifestyle activities** and **nature-first trails** and connectivity
- Video excerpt of Initial Azalea Park Presentation to Infrastructure Recovery Board at the January 12, 2026, IRB meeting

    - Complete slide deck 01-12-26 Riverfront Recovery Update
    - Riverfront Parks Recovery Survey Summary

January 13, 2026, City Council Worksession

- Presentation to Council about the top 3 themes IRB voted to prioritize for both the Azalea and French Broad Recovery Projects out of all of the identified themes from the initial survey results.

March 3, 2026, Infrastructure Recovery Board Meeting

- Azalea Parks and Infrastructure Recovery Presentation by Olin consultants
    - Olin Presentation - Video Meeting Excerpt - Azalea Park Recovery Concepts: Flood Resilience & Programming
- Board members were asked to consider and discuss:
    1. What factors must the design professionals consider when creating a single recommended design concept for each park that integrates features and amenities from all three themes?
    - Board Discussion Video excerpt - Board identifies the following factors for the themes:
        - Flood Resilience and Risk Mitigation
        - Fiscal Planning and Lifecycle Costs
        - Programming and Site Activation
        - Natural Systems and Connectivity

March 24, 2026, City Council Meeting

- Board Feedback is presented to City Council at the March 24, 2026 City Council meeting via a Manager's Report Presentation