Grant Center Recreational Improvements

Providing Recreational Opportunities for the Southside Community

June 8, 2021

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Director
Parks & Recreation Department

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Key Takeaways

- Strategic Priority
- Community Engagement
- Southside Neighborhood
- Recreational Services
- Summary of the Project



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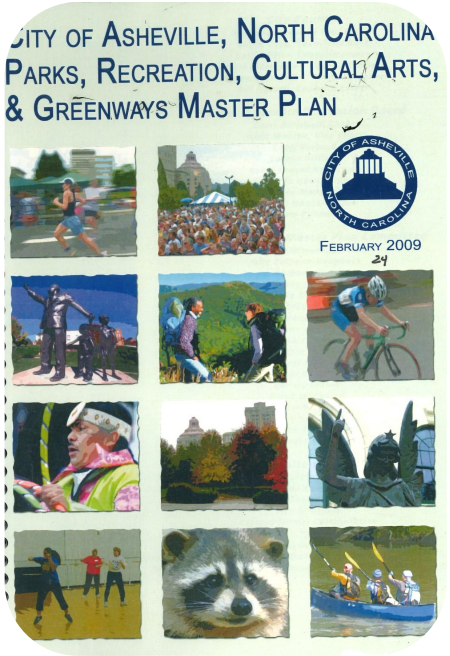
City Council Strategic Priorities

An Equitable and Diverse Community

The Parks and Recreation department plays an important role in maximizing equitable access to recreation and leisure services across the city.

Fostering racial equity through its programming, facilities, staffing, operations and partnerships.

Project History



Parks & Recreation Comprehensive Plan (2009)



Grant Center Phase 1 (2010)



Aquatic Facility Needs Assessment (2016)

PARKS

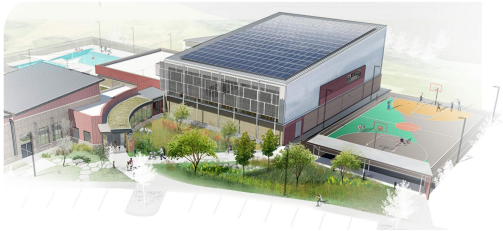
Bond Program (2016)



Planning Workshops (2017)



Concept Designs (2018)



Construction Drawings (2020)

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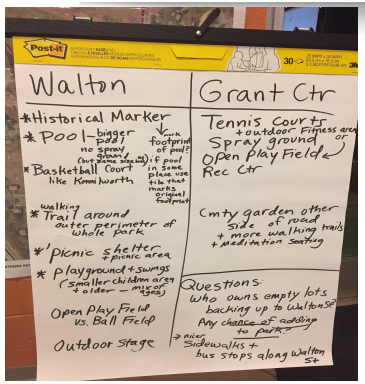
Planning Efforts

How do we know to make these Community Investments…..

“Community Engagement”

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Engagement Plan



- Town Hall Meeting
- Southside Recreational opportunity survey
- Series of community meetings

Sharing results of engagement

- Community Events & Display board of project
- Comments available during center hours
- City Department drop-in office hours



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Community Engagement

2006-15

Staff led efforts

2016 Equity Action Plan

New Model for Community involvement

2016-19

Develop Community Citizen Engagement & Outreach Planning Team

Community led efforts



Community Engagement

Community Engagement Planning

- Members of the Residents Council of the Housing Authority
- Neighborhood residents
- Partners including Green Opportunities and Southside Advisory Council

Roy Harris
Robert Hardy
Ralph Ingram
LaFredia Brown Morris
Natalie Bailey
Sheneika Smith
Michelle Smith
Marsha Stickford

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Community Engagement

2016-2019
Community lead efforts

Advisory Boards, Community groups	Community Design Exercise Meeting	Youth Design Exercise Meeting	Community Events & Socials
22 hours	53 hours	122 hours	24 hours

Total Community Engagement Hours
221 hours

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Department Supported Feedback

Location of the Pool

Honor History Walton St Park

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Walton Street Park

Community Investment Project

Service Level Benefits

Replacement of the current pool would provide an opportunity to address a gap in programming and facility equity. Walton Street Pool was built in 1938 and is about **4,000 square feet**. The total pool occupant load is **217 users**.

As compared to:

Rec Park Pool **14,233 square feet.** Total pool occupant load **866 users** and built in 1970.
Malvern Hill Pool **7,500 square feet**. Total pool occupant load **694 users** and built in 1922.

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Swimming Pool Annual Attendance
2019

General Public:	May	June	July	Aug	Total
Malvern Hills Pool		5,259	5,086	1,736	**12,081**
Recreation Park Pool	1,356	5,643	5,760	3,459	**16,218**
Walton Street Pool			347	158	**505**

Annual Attendance by Age

General Public	18 & Under	19-30 yr olds	31-40	over 40	Total
Number of swimmers	373	129	3	0	**505**

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Department Supported Community Feedback

The feedback from community meetings has been to preserve history and build a new pool for the following reasons:

Adults - Advocated for preserving the history of the park because it touched the lives of many generations. Pool was just one element of the Parks history.

Youth- Advocated to build a new pool with capacity to accommodate more swimmers, fun activities, and programming

Location: Our survey and focus groups of **Youth 18 & under** prefer a pool located at the Grant Center because it could be larger, they would feel safer, and increased visibility being next to the gym would increase people using the pool.

Current Walton Street Park Planning

The City recognizes the importance of this community park and is partnering with **Southside Rising, a non-profit organization** located in the Southside community, to conduct community education and engagement.

They are collecting community feedback on the following:

- To gather input from neighborhood residents on future improvements
- Community feedback on the most appropriate way to preserve the park
- Community feedback on the best way to honor the historical importance of the park.

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Summary of the Project

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Grant Center Building Addition

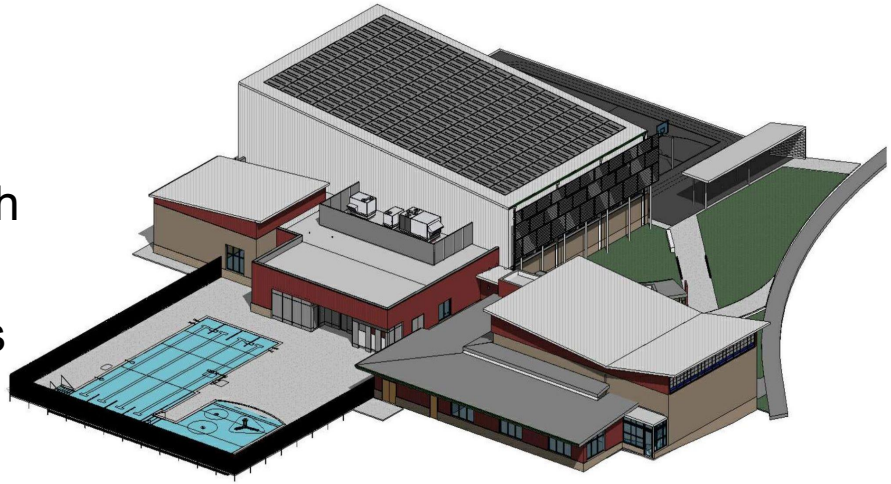
- 13,116 sf Addition to existing center
- Multi-purpose gym (7,700 sf)
- Community Rooms (1,271 sf)
- Solar Array
- Additional Parking
- New Sidewalks



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Grant Center Building Addition

- Provides 162 hours of additional community & recreation programming
- Expansion doubles the space for youth and creates the capacity for a teen program - the current program room is a 20’ x 60’ space that supports programming for about 30 youth at a time.



MODEL VIEW - FROM SW

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New Community Pool

- New Community Pool (3,100 SF) with 220 person capacity
- Zero entry and toddler play zone
- Changing Rooms & Restrooms
- Lounge Chairs and Picnic Area



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Outdoor Facilities

- Outdoor Basketball Court
- Picnic Area
- Rain Gardens and Landscape Enhancements
- Access to future Nasty Branch Greenway
- Outdoor Lighting





OUTDOOR SEATING





COLORED PAVEMENT DESIGNATING OUTDOOR PLAY SPACES

Project Timeline-Grant Center/Pool Investments

INTERNAL REVIEW

Come to an agreed project scope within budget

April 2015

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE & COUNCIL UPDATES

Present project for feedback & approval

April 2016

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Create opportunity to engage the public on the concept

March 2017

CONSTRUCTION DESIGN

Execute Design Services Amendment with Council Approval in

October 2020

CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT

Council Approval

June 2021

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Grant Center Building Addition

- Request to award the project to be presented on the June 22 City Council agenda

Lowest Responsive/Responsible Construction Bid:	$5,863,360
Project Contingency	$ 879,504
Total	$6,742,864

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Discussion

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