



COMPREHENSIVE PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN UPDATE



March 2005



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UPDATE 2005: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

The Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update was produced to reflect system-wide changes and additions made since the original master plan was completed by Woolpert in 1998. The Update is inclusive of significant staff and citizen input. Existing conditions were evaluated relative to demographics, programs, facilities and community needs. Further, recommendations, based on these findings, for programs and facilities are proposed by the Update. Update recommendations, coupled with 1998 master plan recommendations yet to be implemented are projected to largely address needs through 2017, the original planning period outlined by the 1998 plan.

MASTER PLAN PURPOSE

The main purpose of this document is to provide the Department with an accurate and usable plan to guide its actions and decisions concerning:

- Land acquisition and park development
- Renovations
- Facilities and programming
- Partnerships
- Implementation of recommendations

The Master Plan report is organized into six major sections:

1. Review of Demographic and Physical Information
2. Inventory and Analysis of Existing Recreation Programs
3. Inventory and Analysis of Existing Park Facilities
4. Community Needs Assessment
5. Master Plan Proposals and Recommendations
6. Action Plan Implementation

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

- Current demographic information obtained from the 2000 Census and Greensboro's Planning Department was employed to assess changes in the demographic makeup of Greensboro.
- The seven (7) planning districts established by the original master plan, based loosely on City Council districts, have changed slightly, reflecting City Council district changes. The planning districts are illustrated in Figure 1-2.
- Trends relative to increasing household incomes, declining family size and a rising median age have not changed.
- Culturally, Greensboro's diversity continues to grow at a rapid pace, with the growth of the non-white population outweighing that of the white population.
- Significant urbanization and residential development is expected to continue.
- The adoption of the Connections 2025 Comprehensive Plan is expected to guide growth and development in Greensboro over the planning period.



INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS OF EXISTING RECREATION PROGRAMS

- The inventory and analysis of existing programs was compiled with significant staff input.
- New programs have been implemented section-wide.
- It appears that the life cycle of programs is being considered in a more consistent manner.

INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS OF EXISTING PARK FACILITIES

- The Department currently operates 180 sites and manages over 3,700 acres of regional, community, neighborhood, mini-park and special facilities.
- In the summer of 2003, a detailed “Facilities Inventory” was completed by the Department.
- Since 1998, two (2) community parks, Carolyn Allen and Price Park, have been established. In addition a new neighborhood park, Rosewood Park, and a new special facility, the Greensboro Sportsplex, are new to the system.
- Planned garden, regional, community and neighborhood parks programmed for development include Caldwell Park, Bryan Park at Guilford County, Southwest Recreation Center, Keeley Park and Brightwood parks respectively.

COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

- Citizen input was obtained for the Update through the distribution of surveys at multiple Department facilities and special events in each City Council District.
- The survey measured how familiar and satisfied respondents are with the Department’s programs and facilities.
- 602 surveys were returned.
- Results of the survey were largely very positive. Ninety-two (92%) of respondents rated the overall programs and facilities of the Department as good to excellent.

MASTER PLAN PROPOSALS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- One (1) new regional park in the southeast is proposed for consideration in partnership with Guilford County or other land managing agencies. This recommendation is based on long-range anticipated needs and is proposed for consideration toward the end of the planning period.
- One (1) new community park is recommended in the northeast.
- Two (2) new neighborhood parks in eastern Greensboro.
- One (1) new mini-park is recommended in central Greensboro.
- Recommendations made by the original master plan are still relative.
- New special facility recommendations include but are not limited to a skate park, a new teen center and an indoor climbing wall.
- New facility recommendations include but are not limited to the renovation and/or development of swimming pools and the addition of multi-use practice fields.
- Recommendations made by Connections 2025 relative to greenways and open space are endorsed here.



- Recommendations expected to be made by the Comprehensive Trails Master Plan currently underway are anticipated to be endorsed here.
- New program recommendations are made relative to recreation centers, fitness programs, adventure programming, senior programming and teen program delivery.
- New maintenance recommendations include but are not limited to the implementation of a facility inventory system.
- New administrative recommendations include new reporting methods, assessments and studies to effectively plan for current and future parks, facilities and programs.
- Marketing is recommended to be strengthened.
- On-line registrations and payments are recommended to be further pursued.
- Funding recommendations include but are not limited to advocating for a fall 2006 and fall 2010 bond referendum and the establishment of a “Friends of Parks” organization.

ACTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

Implementation of the recommendations herein and those made as a part of the original master plan are expected to be accomplished through traditional municipal funding means, the Capital Improvement Program, future bond referendums, grants, partnerships and to a lesser degree user fees.

CITY OF GREENSBORO
COMPREHENSIVE PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN
UPDATE 2005

MASTER PLAN UPDATE: PURPOSE

In 2004 the Parks and Recreation Department staff recognized the need to update the Master Plan to report and reflect changes made as a result of the original document adopted in 1998 and to account for currently existing conditions within the system. The Update is also intended to recommend future programs and facilities based on needs identified through demographic analysis, the assessment of existing programs, the assessment of existing facilities and input from the community.

REFERENCE MATERIAL

Numerous relative reports, maps, data and planning documents were consulted and referenced in the preparation of the Master Plan Update. These documents include:

Athletics Study, 2003. University of North Carolina at Greensboro-Recreation, Parks and Tourism Department.

City of Greensboro 2017 Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan, 1998. Woolpert, LLP.

City of Greensboro Swimming Pool Evaluation, 2002. Water Technology, Inc.

City Data Book, 2003. Greensboro Planning Department.

Census 2000, United States Census Bureau.

Differential User Fee Study, 2003. Greensboro Department of Budget and Evaluation.

Greensboro Connections 2025 Comprehensive Plan. Adopted by the City Council of Greensboro May 6, 2003.

Guilford County Comprehensive Plan (working draft), 2004. Guilford County Department of Planning and Community Development.

Guilford County Open Space Report. Adopted by Guilford County Board of Commissioners July 20, 2000.

Landscaping Maintenance & Mowing Study, 2000. Greensboro Department of Budget and Evaluation.

Major Budgetary and Economic Trends Report, FY 02-03. Greensboro Department of Budget and Evaluation.

Natural Areas Inventory, Guilford County North Carolina, 1991. Guilford County and the North Carolina Natural Heritage Foundation.

Woods and Poole County Forecasts to 2030, 2004.



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REVIEW OF DEMOGRAPHIC AND PHYSICAL INFORMATION

UPDATE 2005: Population

Greensboro’s population continues to register steady increases. The Census Bureau reported Greensboro’s population to be 223,891 in 2000, exceeding the Planning Department’s projections by 12,323. Population increases between 1990 and 2000 can in part be attributed to annexations. Over the decade 16,401 people were annexed into the city limits, partially accounting for a 21.8% increase. Indeed 67% of the City’s growth between 1990 and 1999 was attributed to annexation. During that same time a net decrease in growth due to migration was reported. Even still, between 1999 and 2003 with no significant residential annexations, Greensboro’s population rose from 208,887 to 231,740 indicating a true population increase of 2.66% annually (Major Budgetary and Economic Trends Report, FY 02-03).

Analysis of census data at the tract level between 1990 and 2000 revealed that population growth is occurring in the northwest and southwest areas of Greensboro. Growth in these areas is largely due to new residential construction, housing unit additions and to a smaller degree positive natural increase.

The rising trend evident annually is expected to continue. The Planning Department projects that Greensboro’s population could rise to 235,000 for 2004-2005, 245,448 for 2010 and 272,649 for 2020.

Table 1-1

Population Projections				
Location	2000	2002	2010	2020
Greensboro	223,891	229,634	245,448	272,649
Guilford County	421,048	428,794	499,132	578,918

Source: 2000 U.S. Census; Guilford County Department of Community Development-Comprehensive Plan Update (County Population for 2002-2020); Greensboro Planning Department-Greensboro City Data Book, 2003 (City estimates 2002-2020).



Table 1-2

Greensboro Annual Population Growth, 1992-2002			
Year	Population*	Numeric Change	Percent Annual Change
1992	186,392	NA	NA
1993	187,050	658	0.4%
1994	188,228	1,178	60.0%
1995	192,330	4,102	2.2%
1996	194,020	1,690	90.0%
1997	202,321	8,301	4.3%
1998	205,132	2,811	1.4%
1999	208,887	3,755	1.8%
2000	223,891	15,004	7.2%
2001	226,880	2,989	1.3%
2002	229,634	2,754	1.2%

Source: *Greensboro Planning Dept. estimates; 2000 population from 2000 Census of Population & Housing, 2002.

UPDATE 2005: Age Distribution and Median Age

In 2000, the U.S. Census reported Greensboro's fastest growing age group to be 45-54 years of age, increasing from 10 to 13 percent between 1990 and 2000. Consequently, the median age for the City in 1990 was 33 in 2000, up from 32.2 in 1990. In 2000 Guilford County's median age was 33.4. Current projections indicate a rise in the County's median age through 2015. Thereafter slight declines are anticipated through 2030 (Woods & Poole, 2004).



Table 1-3

Greensboro Population by Age 1980-2000						
Age Groups	1980		1990		2000	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0-9	20,100	13%	22,353	12%	28,820	13%
10-14	11,712	7%	10,673	6%	13,620	6%
15-19	15,676	10%	14,533	8%	16,773	8%
20-24	14,978	10%	17,745	10%	22,183	10%
25-34	27,631	18%	34,034	19%	37,483	17%
35-44	16,579	11%	28,043	15%	33,296	15%
45-54	15,651	10%	17,898	9%	28,068	13%
55-64	14,270	9%	15,113	8%	17,069	8%
65-74	9,593	6%	12,776	7%	13,607	6%
75+	5,694	4%	8,855	5%	12,972	6%
Total Population	155,642	100%	183,521	100%	223,891	100%
Median Age	28.9		32.2		33.0	

Source: US Census Bureau, Population & Housing, 1950-1990; Census 2000.

UPDATE 2005: Race

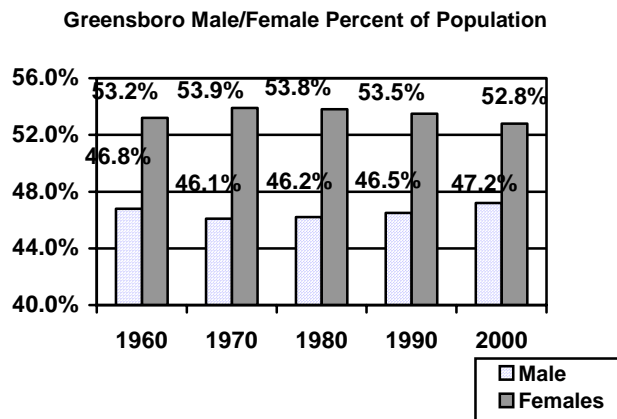
In 2000, the U.S. Census altered the method that racial information is reported by allowing people to identify themselves as being of one race alone or as being of more than one race. As a result, direct comparisons of racial composition between the 1990 and 2000 are difficult to calculate. However, it is evident that the non-white population in Greensboro continues to increase at a higher rate than the white population. Between 1990 and 2000 the Black and American Indian populations grew faster than any other race, 34.3 percent and 27 percent respectively. In addition, the growth change of Hispanic or Latino identified persons during this time was reported at 601.4 percent. Data also indicates that the Asian population increased significantly during this time as well, however due to the new reporting methods direct comparisons cannot easily be made. (City Data Book, 2003)



UPDATE 2005: Sex/Gender

In 2000 the ratio of males to females in Greensboro shifted slightly with males increasing to 47.2 percent and females decreasing to 52.8 percent of the population.

Figure 1-1



UPDATE 2005: Households

In the year 2000, according to the Census Bureau, married couples with children under 18 increased to 16,474. Female householders with children under 18 were reported to total 9,425 (City Data Book, 2003). As predicted, the average household size fell to 2.30 between 1990 and 2000 in Greensboro. In Guilford County during this period the average dropped only slightly to 2.41. Projections in Guilford County estimate that the average household size will continue on a downward trend to 2.33 in 2015 and 2020 (Woods & Poole, 2004).

UPDATE 2005: Income

Between 1990 and 2000 Greensboro's average family income rose from \$46,224 to \$54,065. Guilford County's average household income was reported as \$57,488 in 2000, up from \$44,042 in 1990. Between FY 1998-1999 and FY 2002-2203 inflation has been relatively low at an annual increase of 2.18%. FY 2001-2202 registered the lowest inflation rate of 0.75%. FY 2002-2003 showed only a slight increase over the previous year. In the near future possible increases in the inflation rate may be associated with rising fuel and telecommunications services (Major Budgetary and Economic Trends Report, FY 02-03).



UPDATE 2005: Planning District Profiles

Planning districts are illustrated in Figure 1-2.

Planning District 1–South

- Neighborhood renewal initiatives continue.
- Significant private downtown renewal and investment is expected as a result of Action Greensboro's downtown master plan.
- It is a culturally diverse district with a 70% non-white population.
- This district continues to have the lowest average household income of all of the districts.
- This district, tied with District 3, has the most youth ages 5 to 9 years old.
- Heavily urbanized, there is not a lot of opportunity for additional parks and open space within the city limits in this district at this time.
- The Connections 2025 Comprehensive Plan calls for much of the future growth in this district to entail industrial/corporate parks, commercial, and mixed-use land uses. In addition the plan identifies significant reinvestment opportunities in the district.

Planning District 2–Northeast

- The most intense private downtown redevelopment is currently occurring in this district. The new Greensboro Grasshoppers baseball stadium, the privately developed Center City Park and the new urbanism Southside development are all located in District 2.
- This district continues to have the second lowest average household income and remains culturally diverse with the non-white population being 69%.
- This district has the lowest percentage of bachelor and advanced degrees for persons 25 years and older at 11% and 4% respectively.
- The population of youth ages 5 to 19 is highest in this district at 24%.
- The Connections 2025 Comprehensive Plan calls for much of the future growth in this district near the center city to involve industrial/corporate parks, commercial, mixed-use land uses and reinvestment opportunities. In addition, northeastern portions of this district are identified for current growth within the next 0-10 years.

Planning District 3–North

- This district is no longer the most populous. It is the fourth most populated behind districts 4, 2, and 5 respectively.
- The population is 79% white.
- This district has experienced intense high-end residential development.
- The proposed widening of Battleground Avenue and the proposed Urban Loop will impact parks and trails.
- Among all districts, District 3 is tied with District 4 for the highest percentage of those holding advanced educational degrees.
- The district continues to have the third highest average household income.
- While being tied with District 1 for having the largest percentage of 5-9 year olds, the district has the lowest percentage of 18-19 olds.



- District 3 has the highest percentage of the senior population ages 70-79 and the lowest percentage of 55-64 year olds.

Planning District 4–West

- District 4 is the most populated district and has the highest average median income of any other district.
- This district has the highest percentage of persons holding Bachelors degrees and is tied with District 3 for the highest percentage of those holding advanced educational degrees.
- This district has the lowest percentage of the senior population ages 65-69.
- With FedEx’s expected presence in 2008, much of the use in the airport vicinity is anticipated to continue to become industrial/corporate park, commercial and mixed-use commercial.
- Significant infrastructure enhancements are underway with the realignment of Bryan Boulevard, the addition of a third runway at the airport, the planned Interstate 73 and the construction of the Urban Loop.
- The western portion of this district is designated as a current growth area by the Connections 2025 Comprehensive Plan.

Planning District 5–Southwest

- The district is the third most populated in the study area.
- The district is 62% white and has the highest percentage of the Hispanic/Latino population.
- District 5 has the lowest percentages of 5-17 year olds.
- The area is largely urbanized with little opportunity for parkland and open space acquisition.
- While having the largest percentage of the senior population over age 80, the district has the lowest percentage of those greater than 55 years old when compared to other districts.
- The Connections 2025 Comprehensive Plan anticipates future development in this area to involve high density residential uses as well continued heavy commercial uses along the West Wendover Avenue corridor.

Planning District 6–Southeast

- The district remains the second least populated area with the highest percentage of the white population.
- The majority of the youth population ages 15-19 are found in this district.
- District 6 has the greatest percentage of the total population greater than 55 years of age.
- The Connections 2025 Comprehensive Master Plan calls for the portion of this district north of the water and sewer boundary line to continue to be developed as industrial/corporate park with significant area also being slated for mixed-use residential. As well a large portion of the district within the city limits is proposed for reinvestment.



Planning District 7–East

- Still rural in nature and the least populated, District 7 is poised for the most immediate growth as indicated by the Connections 2025 comprehensive plan. The area is slated for corporate park development, mixed use residential and moderate to low density residential development. Significant development is expected to grow along the I-85 corridor.



Table 1-4 Planning District Profile

Planning District	1 South	2 Northeast	3 North	4 West	5 Southwest	6 Southeast	7 East
Population	49,404	53,118	49,648	58,367	52,924	11,382	9,692
Race/Ethnicity percent of planning district's population*							
White	30%	31%	79%	83%	62%	90%	72%
African American	61%	60%	16%	10%	24%	7%	24%
Hispanic/Latino	4%	5%	3%	3%	6%	1%	2%
Other	5%	5%	3%	4%	8%	2%	2%
White	30%	31%	79%	83%	62%	90%	72%
Non-white	70%	69%	21%	17%	38%	10%	28%
Highest Educational Level percent of planning district's population aged 25 yrs or older*	29,410	32,004	36,542	41,704	33,482	8,298	9,439
No high school diploma or GED	23%	25%	8%	7%	16%	14%	18%
High school graduate	30%	31%	18%	16%	23%	28%	35%
Some college	24%	23%	22%	21%	24%	22%	21%
Associate degree	5%	5%	6%	6%	8%	8%	7%
Bachelor degree	12%	11%	31%	34%	22%	21%	14%
Graduate, professional or PhD	5%	4%	16%	16%	8%	7%	6%
Youth Population	10,199	12,495	8,296	10,365	10,433	2,255	1,840
5-9 year olds	37%	30%	37%	34%	15%	31%	35%
10-14 year olds	32%	28%	35%	35%	13%	37%	36%
15-17 year olds	17%	15%	19%	20%	7%	21%	18%
18-19 year olds	14%	27%	10%	12%	15%	11%	12%
Total % children < 20 out of total district population	21%	24%	17%	18%	20%	20%	19%
Senior Population	5,462	5,326	6,554	7,381	4,528	1,662	1,258
55-64 year olds	39%	39%	35%	38%	37%	49%	45%
65-69 year olds	16%	16%	15%	14%	15%	17%	16%
70-79 year olds	28%	28%	31%	29%	26%	22%	25%
80+	17%	17%	19%	19%	22%	12%	14%
Total % of population > 55	11%	10%	13%	13%	9%	15%	13%
Median Household Income							
Maximum	\$50,375	\$62,500	\$145,770	\$98,296	\$80,401	\$71,648	\$57,939
Minimum	\$11,731	\$13,750	\$22,404	\$30,977	\$20,121	\$45,492	\$37,344
Average Median Income	\$31,225	\$32,259	\$52,257	\$59,982	\$42,408	\$54,777	\$46,209



UPDATE 2005: Economy

Currently Greensboro is transitioning from a manufacturing driven economy to an economy driven by the service sector. Once the backbone of the region's economy, the textiles, apparel and furniture industries have steadily lost ground in Greensboro and Guilford County. From January 2001 to November 2003 employment in manufacturing fell 16.3%, textile and apparel employment fell 22.6% and furniture employment dropped 10.9% in the Triad (Major Budgetary and Economic Trends Report, FY 02-03). In Greensboro, the percentage of employment in the manufacturing sector declined from 25.4% in 1990 to 15.7% in 2000 while the non-manufacturing sectors collectively increased from 74.6% to 80.8% over the decade (City Data Book, 2003). Subsequently, Census data revealed that from 1990 to 2000 the service sector replaced the manufacturing sector as the largest employer in Guilford County.

While unemployment rates have risen in Greensboro from 3.1% in 1998 to 7.1% in 2003 (Major Budgetary and Economic Trends Report, FY 02-03), the City is still experiencing new business start-ups and net job increases. New businesses in Guilford County increased by 48.3% from 1990 to 2000, while net jobs increased by 50.6%. Countywide, Greensboro accounted for approximately 30.4% of all new businesses and 31.4% of all net new jobs (City Data Book, 2003).

In an effort to attract and foster new business and industry in Greensboro, the City has established the Office of Economic Development, a function of the City Manager's Office. Services provided to existing and prospective businesses from this office include the provision of incentives and small business loans, liaison services between the business community and municipal government and guidance and assistance in growth or relocation efforts. Other local and regional efforts to recruit and foster new businesses are found through various initiatives in organizations such as the Greensboro Economic Development Partnership, the Piedmont Triad Partnership, the Greensboro Area Chamber of Commerce and the Greensboro Area Convention and Visitors Bureau.

As a result of increased recruitment efforts, and likely the low cost of living, Greensboro has been successful in recruiting new business. The proposed Fed Ex hub slated to be constructed by 2008 is one of the largest recruitment projects. Moreover the region as a whole is enjoying success in recruiting new industry. Dell's decision to site a new manufacturing plant in Winston-Salem is expected to positively impact the Triad region as a whole, likely in the form of attracting more supporting businesses relative to FedEx and Dell. These recent accomplishments coupled with new major highways planned for the region suggest that transportation logistics and services relative to the transit of goods may well emerge as the primary growth industries for the future in Greensboro.

Update 2005: REGIONALISM IN THE TRIAD

There is recent evidence that the concept of regionalism is beginning to be viewed as a valid means for achieving coordinated growth by many organizations in the Triad area. Organizations working together toward regionalism include the Piedmont Triad Council of Governments, the Piedmont Triad Partnership and various Chambers of Commerce and municipal governments in the Triad. This is not to say that there is not a competitive spirit among members of the Triad, especially in the economic development arena, however there



does appear to be considerable regional coordination among agencies especially where parks and trails are concerned. For example Triad Park is an example of a regional partnership between Guilford and Forsyth counties as is the proposed Piedmont Greenway, a regional greenway extending from the Lake Higgins area in Greensboro to Salem Lake in Winston-Salem.

Regionalism is difficult at best to achieve due to the multiple agencies involved even in other locals across the country where the concept is employed successfully. It is likely that market forces such as Dell and Fed Ex, may further initiate regional cooperation in the Triad. Planned infrastructure including new highways and interstates are also anticipated to foster regionalism. Such cooperation and coordination will be key in competing with other geographic regions such as the Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill area and the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Metropolitan Area. The Triad's geographic location as it relates to transportation corridors lends itself well to being a major regional competitor in the Southeast.

UPDATE 2005: Growth Trends and Land Use

In 2001, citizens and the City of Greensboro began the task of creating its first comprehensive master plan to guide the City's future over the next 20 years. A response to changing conditions related to growth, the comprehensive plan, *Connections 2025*, exists to positively influence the direction and momentum of change, to promote economic vitality and ensure that quality of life indicators are such that citizens want to work and live in Greensboro. *Connections 2025* addresses the City as a whole in terms of land use, community character, the preservation of open space, housing and neighborhoods, economic development, transportation and community facilities and services and infrastructure. Particular emphasis is placed on infill activities, downtown revitalization and the "fringe" area outside of the existing city limits but within the established water and sewer service area. Having been adopted by City Council in May 2003 the plan is now in the first phases of implementation.

As part of the comprehensive plan a "Generalized Future Land Use" map was established to illustrate the desired future pattern of land use. Large areas for industrial and corporate park land uses are directed to the areas south and west of the airport, and in areas of south, east and northeast Greensboro. Mixed use residential is proposed for much of the area surrounding downtown and in areas south of downtown. High density residential is proposed for areas of western, southern and central northern Greensboro.

Current major growth factors beyond environmental constraints, existing land use patterns and land use restrictions are primarily related to the water and sewer boundary, which established limits for the extension of water and sewer services and the urban loop, portions of which are now under construction.



UPDATE 2005: Growth Trends

- As a result of Action Greensboro and Downtown Greensboro, Inc.'s master planning efforts, downtown land use will significantly change. With the Greensboro Grasshopper's baseball stadium, First Horizon Park, currently under construction and the development of new and innovative downtown housing stock, downtown is expected to benefit significantly from such reinvestment.
- The Battleground Avenue retail corridor continues to expand. However the High Point Road retail corridor appears to be on the decline as the Wendover Avenue retail area continues to rapidly grow.
- Significant industrial growth is expected around the airport due to the planned FedEx Hub, which is expected to attract new industrial/light industrial functions as well as "spin off" operations.
- The impact of the planned Interstate 73 and Interstate 74 in western Guilford County and eastern Forsyth County is expected to impact land use regionally, extending to the Greensboro city limits.
- Light industrial, industrial and commercial will continue to emerge along the I-85 corridor between Greensboro and Burlington. In addition, Connections 2025 identifies this general area for a "mixed use corporate park" site.
- Planned Urban Loop interchanges are likely to spur retail and commercial development.

UPDATE 2005: Neighborhood & Historic Preservation

Neighborhood and historic preservation efforts have gained momentum in Greensboro. The Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) continues to champion neighborhood revitalization and redevelopment through the federal block grant program and local redevelopment bonds. Recent major projects include the redevelopment of Southside, a neighborhood just south of downtown. The redevelopment of this area made possible by local bond funding follows "new urbanism" principles, which feature front porches, mixed uses and sidewalks. In addition, the Willow Oaks project is revitalizing Morningside Homes public housing project with a HOPE VI grant as well as local resources. The oversight of the Neighborhood Small Projects Program, a competitive grant program available to the community is also housed within HCD.

The Department continues to administer the Historic District program in Greensboro comprised of three neighborhoods, Charles B. Aycock, Fisher Park and College Hill. HCD, in partnership with the Aycock Neighborhood Association, has produced the Aycock Neighborhood Strategic Plan, which outlines significant renovations to be made to this historic neighborhood. In addition, the department has worked closely with the Lindley Park Neighborhood Association to produce a neighborhood master plan.



Connections 2025 also seeks to preserve and promote Greensboro's historic resources and heritage by establishing and maintaining an ongoing historic survey program and by supporting the protection of historic resources identified in the survey.

Finally, the Neighborhood Congress, a recently established non-profit organization, exists to improve the quality of life within the City of Greensboro by addressing issues of city-wide importance and by empowering neighborhoods to resolve neighborhood specific concerns. This relatively new organization serves as a liaison between neighborhood groups and resources within the community and city government.

UPDATE 2005: Transportation and Roads

Transportation and roads remain critical to Greensboro as the city continues to grow. Proposed Interstate 73 will put Greensboro on major transportation route between Sault St. Marie, Michigan and Georgetown, South Carolina while proposed Interstate 74 will route through Forsyth County from Portsmouth, Ohio to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Both planned interstates are expected to have positive economic impacts in the areas along the corridor.

A southern portion of the Urban Loop has been complete. A northern portion is currently under construction. In addition the relocation of Bryan Boulevard as a result of the addition of a third runway at Piedmont International Triad Airport is currently underway. Pedestrian and bicycle facilities are also of increasing importance to Greensboro's Department of Transportation (GDOT). In March 2002 City Council adopted a walkability policy, which enhanced efforts in prioritizing and authorizing sidewalk projects and strengthened development ordinance requirements for sidewalk construction.

As the recipient of \$1,100,000 in federal funding the first phase of the Battleground Rail Trail project, which will connect Pisgah Church Road to Markland Drive along an abandoned rail corridor, is currently being overseen by GDOT. As well GDOT is also currently updating and revising on street bicycle routes established in the early 1980's. These routes will be mapped and available to the public in late 2005.

Additional local projects designed to improve traffic flow and facilitate safe routes for pedestrians as part of the Transportation Improvement Plan are listed below. These projects will be designed and/or constructed between 2004-2010.

New Projects

1. C-4404 Establish 5 Regional Park and Ride Lots New PART project. Construction 2004.
2. E-4706 McKnight Mill Road Sidewalk. New Enhancement Project. Construction 2004.
3. E-4707 Southeast Greensboro Multi-Use Trail Connector. New Enhancement Project. Construction 2004.
4. E-4708 Landscaping at NC 68 / NC150 Intersection. New Enhancement Project. Construction 2004.



5. E-4709 Battleground Rail Trail from Pisgah Church Road to Markland Drive. Newly scheduled for funding. Design phase underway. Construction 2004.
6. I-4715 I-40/I-85 from US 29 to I-85 Bypass milling and resurfacing. Construction 2007.
7. R-4707 Eckerson Road Interchange - Total Project Cost \$16,400,000. Construction after 2010.
8. U-4711 Greensboro Signal / ITS System Replacement - Total Project Cost \$20,000,000. Construction 2008.

Existing Projects

9. I-2201 I-40 Widening from Squire Davis Road to Freeman Mill Road. Complete.
10. I-2402 Southern Urban Loop Completion expected fall 2003. Complete.
11. U-2412 High Point Road
Section A from US 311 Bypass to Manor Drive. Construction to begin 2007.
Section B from Manor Drive to Stanford Road. Expected completion 2010.
Section C from Stanford Road to Hilltop Road/Groometown Road. Construction to begin 2010.
12. U-2524 Western Urban Loop Total Project Cost decreased by \$7,400,000
Section A from I-85 to I-40. Under construction, expected completion 2007.
Section B from I-40 to Bryan Boulevard. Under construction, expected completion 2007.
Section C from Bryan Boulevard to Lawndale Drive. Construction to begin 2009.
13. U-2525 Eastern Urban Loop
Segment A from I-40/I-85 to US 70. Complete.
Segment B from US 70 to US 29. Expected completion 2010.
Segment C from US 29 to Lawndale Drive. Construction to begin 2009.
14. U-2581 US 70 Widening from Mt. Hope Church Road to Rock Creek Dairy Road. Construction scheduled after 2010.
15. U-2815C Bryan Boulevard Relocation at PTIA Total Project Cost increased by \$26.5 million. Under construction.
16. U-2913 Guilford College Road Total Project Cost increased by \$1,499,000
Section A relocation from Mackay to High Point Road. Construction to begin late 2004.
Section B widening from Mackay Road to Ruffin Road. Construction to begin late 2004.
Section C widening and relocation from Ruffin Road to I-40. Complete.



17. U-3313 Groometown Road Widening from Vandalia/Wayne Road to Grandover/Wiley Davis Road. Construction to begin 2005.
18. U-3612 Hilltop Road Widening from Guilford College Road to Adams Farm Parkway. Construction to begin late 2005, expected completion 2007.
19. U-4015 Gallimore Dairy Road Widening
Section A from NC 68 to I-40. Under construction.
Section B from International Drive to West Market Street. Construction to begin 2008.
20. U-4006 Bridford Parkway Extension from Hornaday Road to Burnt Poplar Road. Construction to begin 2008.
21. R-984 US 29 pavement and bridge rehabilitation from 16th Street to Rockingham County. Completion expected 2004. Under Construction.
22. R-2309 US 220 Widening from Horse Pen Creek Road to US 220/NC 68 Connector. Construction to begin 2007.
23. R-2413 US 220/NC 68 Connector
Segment A new alignment from Pleasant Ridge Road to Brookbank Road. Construction to begin fall 2009.
Segment B new alignment from Brookbank Road to US 220 south of Haw River. Construction to begin fall 2009.
Segment C widening existing US 220 from Rockingham County to south of Haw River. Construction to begin late 2005.
24. R-2611 West Market Street Widening from NC 69 to Colfax. Construction to begin mid-2009.
25. R-2612
US 421 construct interchanges.
Woody Mill Road. Construction to begin 2010.
Neeley Road. Construction to begin 2008.
26. R-2910 US 70 Widening from Rock Dairy Road to Burlington (Burlington-Graham MPO Area) Construction scheduled after 2010.
27. P-3801 Track and Station Rehabilitation The Depot (MMTC) renovations and mainline track relocation. Under Construction.
28. W-4401 US 29 at McKnight Mill Road construct pedestrian bridge. Complete.



UPDATE 2005: Water and Sewer

In 1998 Greensboro's Water Resources Department adopted a policy of limiting water and sewer service to areas outside of the City within a limited boundary. The boundary was established to most effectively manage Greensboro's limited water and sewer treatment resources.

In response to droughts in 1998 and 2001, the City built an emergency pipeline to Winston-Salem, a new pipeline to Reidsville and an emergency raw water line to the Haw River enabling the City to buy water from neighboring cities and towns in times of crisis. Water from Reidsville may be bought on an ongoing basis. In addition, a new water tower was constructed on Highway 70 near Burlington to store water obtained from this neighboring municipality.

The Randleman Reservoir, a 3,000-acre lake, is currently being constructed jointly by High Point, Jamestown, Archdale, Randleman and Randolph County with oversight from the Piedmont Triad Water Authority. Upon completion anticipated in 2007, this reservoir will provide water to each of these jurisdictions. This capacity will provide the City of Greensboro with up to 28 million gallons of water a day and is projected along with current water sources to meet the needs of Greensboro for the next 25-35 years.

Current sewer infrastructure with programmed improvements is expected to serve Greensboro sufficiently for approximately 11 more years. The North Buffalo Sanitary Sewer and Stream Restoration Project is one such improvement planned to be constructed in 2005. This project will reduce the likelihood of sewer overflows now common in and near Latham Park. For future growth beyond 2015 Water Resources will likely explore non-traditional alternatives for wastewater treatment such as interbasin transfers and indirect potable reuse of treated effluent.

UPDATE 2005: Environment, Open Space and Watersheds

The City of Greensboro currently acquires open space through the development process. Regulations require developers subdividing property to dedicate open space if the land to be subdivided is traversed by a stream which has been identified on the Drainageway & Open Space Map or if the stream would theoretically require a sixty-six inch pipe.

Connections 2025 comprehensive plan established the broad goal of protecting and restoring Greensboro's irreplaceable scenic and natural resources: its system of parks and greenways, urban and woodland tree canopy, stream corridors and wetlands, and air and water quality. Specifically, policies were created to establish an expanded network of parks and greenways by identifying priority conservation areas, expanding linkage elements such as trails and natural habitat corridors, identifying and creating funding sources for parkland and greenway lands, establishing enhanced regulations to promote open space dedications in new developments and requiring the dedication of land along designated streams and missing links in the greenways system.

To this end, a citizen stakeholders committee, the Parks, Open Space and Greenways Committee comprised of representatives from the development and environmental



communities has been convened to recommend the implementation of the policies outlined by the comprehensive plan. To date the committee has enhanced the current Drainageway and Open Space Map to produce the Parks, Open Space and Greenways Open Space Plan. The plan identifies all perennial and intermittent streams, Natural Heritage sites, search radii for community and neighborhood parks, areas of environmental significance proposed for acquisition, proposed trail corridors and slopes greater than 15% for potential protection and/or dedication. Subdivided lands with streams located on site are proposed to be subject to open space dedication in the development process. Other elements illustrated on the map are proposed to be reserved for purchase by the City of Greensboro for ninety days. Means for funding the open space plan are also proposed to be recommended as a \$20 million bond referendum.

To balance enhanced regulations regarding the dedication of open space and other regulatory measures recommended by the Connections 2025, incentives for the development community are also being proposed as an equally important part of the implementation process. Specific incentives have yet to be decided upon, however they will likely be designed to provide more flexibility within the development process regarding lot sizes and density. The Parks, Open Space and Greenways Connections 2025 Committee will forward recommendations for implementation upon completion to an oversight committee charged with forwarding recommendations to City Council.

Guilford County also takes an active interest in the preservation of open space and environmental habitat. An ad hoc group of citizens concerned about the loss of open space in Guilford County began meeting in 1998. By 1999 the group, with endorsements from local groups and organizations proposed the creation of an open space plan to the Guilford County Board of Commissioners. Subsequently, the Open Space Subcommittee, a subcommittee of the Guilford County Parks and Recreation Commission, was charged with the task of creating the Guilford County Open Space Report, later adopted by the Guilford County Board of Commissioners and the Guilford County Parks and Recreation Commission in 2000. This report includes a natural areas inventory, a parks and open space inventory and recommendations of generalized areas for open space acquisition. The Guilford County Open Space Subcommittee remains active and is represented on the Connections 2025 Parks, Open Space and Greenways Committee. Moreover, in the fall of 2004, a \$20 million Guilford County parks and open space bond referendum was approved by voters. Currently the committee is devising the strategy to be employed in the acquisition of open space using these funds.

UPDATE 2005: Unique Natural Areas

Sites in the Natural Heritage Inventory compiled under the of the North Carolina Natural Heritage Program in 1991 are included on the proposed Parks, Open Space and Greenways Plan currently under consideration by the Connections 2025 Parks, Open Space and Greenways Committee. Specific information regarding the significance of each site follows.



1. JT1 Lake Jeanette #1, Gazebo Shore
Size: About 80 acres
Significance: Minor, except for pink moccasin flower in pine stand.
2. JT2 Big Alamance Creek
Size: About 100 acres
Significance: This site is relatively significant because of the presence of heath bluffs and granitic rock outcroppings along with rich herbaceous cover. There are also small areas of climax oak-hickory forest.
3. JT3 Big Alamance Creek #2
Size: 100 acres
Significance: Presence of north facing acidic cliffs with many fern species on granitic outcroppings. These cliffs are very steep and show the most relief of any in the county.
4. JT4 Little Alamance Creek
Size: About 200 acres
Significance: A stream bottom corridor with gently to steeply descending bluffs along the stream. High density of mountain flora on mesic north facing south shore of stream. Historic site, now destroyed on the site. Potential for War Between the States archaeological findings.
5. JT5 Pole Cat Creek – Murrow Site
Size: 200 acres
Significance: None with respect to flora; however, as an example of an abandoned mill site with dam and small waterfall, it is relatively scenic. Large trees are found along creek margins.
6. JT6 Hagan Stone Park Depression
Size: 2 acres (actual site) but 10-15 acres with buffer
Significance: This site harbors an excellent example of a large Piedmont Hardpan Bog, wet all year except in extremely dry summers.
7. JT7 Staley Lake Upland Flats
Size: About 50 acres
Significance: This is an excellent example of an Upland Pool (Hardpan Bog) with surrounding Xeric Hardpan Forest.
8. JT8 Beaver Pond Site
Size: About 30 acres
Significance: This site serves as a good example of a long-established beaver pond complex. Although this site was not surveyed for plants, its upper shallow parts probably contain interesting pond or floodplain flora.



9. JT9 Guilford Wildlife Club
Size: About 45 acres
Significance: Both the north and east facing aspects of the south shore of this peninsula are unusually rich and diverse in all floral strata for Guilford County.
10. JT10 Enon Bog
Size: 3 acres
Significance: An example of an Upland Pool within a Xeric Hardpan Forest. There are better examples of both types of communities and associations in Guilford County.
11. JT11 Stoney Hill Spring
Size: About 5 acres
Significance: Good example of a Low Elevation Seep (not an Upland Depression) on a dry, stony site of high elevation for Guilford County.
13. BC2 Reedy Fork Creek
Size: Undetermined
Significance: The site contains alluvial wetlands in the watershed which supplies Greensboro's drinking water. The natural area contains a large population of pink lady's slipper.
14. BC3 Moores Creek
Size: Undetermined
Significance: The natural area contains at least one population of Purple Fringeless Orchid and a valuable floodplain.
15. BC4 Lake Brandt – Reedy Fork Creek
Size: Undetermined
Significance: The natural area contains a variety of wetland communities. The wetland and woodland communities present at the site provide habitats for a variety of birds and other wildlife.
16. SG1 Pearman's Quarry Woods
Size: Undetermined
Significance: The natural area contains Dry-Mesic Oak-Hickory Forest and Mesic Mixed Hardwood Forest of good integrity on publicly held land.
17. SG2 Anthony Road Holler
Size: Undetermined
Significance: The site contains a Dry-Mesic Oak-Hickory Forest which appears to be undisturbed since logging several decades ago. The site is of high integrity and is representative of a common Piedmont plant community.



18. SG3 King's Creek Slopes
Size: Undetermined
Significance: Rare species, Shinleaf and Waterleaf, are present on the site. The natural area contains a colony of showy orchids.
19. DB1 Reddick's Creek
Size: Undetermined
Significance: The site contains a representative Mesic Hardwoods Forest dominated by beech. It supports healthy populations of a number of spring wildflowers and a population of horsetail. The site contains scenic rapids and a rocky bar and shore community.
20. DB2 McManus Preserve
Size: Approximately 150 acres
Significance: The natural area includes a sandy floodplain with an open, park-like understory. Mature hardwoods are present on some of the slopes. The area is valuable for wildlife and as a natural buffer between the stream and upland development.
21. DB3 Freeman Mill Pond
Size: 325 x 200 yards
Significance: The site is of historical significance. It contains a dam composed of large, natural stone. Its age is uncertain, but possibly 18th Century. There are the remains of a large millhouse associated with the dam, though it is in disrepair and overgrown with kudzu.
22. DB4 Piedmont Environmental Center
Size: 376 acres
Significance: A dry upland area with sandy, gravelly, soils in the northern preserve has what may be a natural population of loblolly pine that is of ecological interest.
23. DB5 East Fork Road Lake Trail
Size: 500 x 150 yards
Significance: The cut, adjacent woodlands and lake shore provide habitat for birds and other wildlife. The site is of potential value as a protected natural area or woodland trail and park.
24. DB6 Laurel Thicket
Size: 300 x 100 yards
Significance: The site contains a small heath bluff of mountain laurel on a north facing slope.
25. DB7 Johnson Road Crossing
Size: Undetermined



Significance: A BellSouth right-of-way follows Deep River through typical Piedmont mixed hardwoods forest. Wood of various successional stages and maturity are represented.

26. DB8 Buckeye-Tangle Nature Trail
Size: Approximately ½ mile x 100 yards
Significance: The site contains a small wooded floodplain valuable as greenspace and habitat for birds and other wildlife. The site acts as a buffer between residential development and High Point Lake.
27. GM1 Brooks Bridge Crossing
Size: Approximately 1 acre
Significance: Two closely related *Leucothoe* species, *L. axillaries* and *L. fontanesiana*, occur within several feet of one another. Neither has previously been reported from Guilford County. A number of distinct communities coexist within a very small area.
28. GM2 Reedy Fork – Buffalo Creek Confluence
Size: 120 acres
Significance: The river bluffs are visually spectacular and rare for the county. Ravines associated with the bluffs support herbaceous vegetation of high diversity and good integrity.
29. LP1 Haw River Bur Reed Floodplain
Size: 8 acres
Significance: The site is large and of high integrity. It supports a diverse wetlands flora and provides valuable habitat for wildlife.
30. LP2 Witty Road Wetland
Size: 28 acres
Significance: The site provides valuable habitat for wildlife. The natural area is of potential educational value as it is easily accessible from Lake Brandt Road. The site has future value as greenspace in a rapidly developing area of the county.
31. LP3 Cummings Dairy Beaver Pond
Size: 14 acres
Significance: The site provides valuable wetland habitat for wildlife.
32. LP4 Strader Road Beaver Pond
Size: 2.25 acres
Significance: The site provides valuable wetland habitat for Wildlife. The site acts as a natural trap for sediment, pesticides, and pollutants.
33. LP5 Cone Swamp
Size: Approximately 94 acres
Significance: The site provides a large, contiguous, and somewhat



inaccessible wetland as habitat for wildlife. The site contains a large swamp forest, a community rare in the county and region.

34. LP6 Benja Creek Marsh
Size: 32 acres
Significance: The site provides wetland habitat for wildlife and recreation. The wetlands serve as a filter for the removal of sediment, pesticides and pollution which enter the watershed.
35. LP7 Haw River Skunk Cabbage Patch
Size: 15.5 acres
Significance: The site contains a relatively large Low Elevation Seep. This community is rare in the county. A plant on the North Carolina Plant Watch List is present on the site. The site contains one of the largest known populations of skunk cabbage in the region.
36. LP8 Draper's Wildlife Sanctuary
Size: 150 acres
Significance: The site includes several wetland communities. The area contains the largest known population of pickerelweed in the county. The slopes of the northern edge of the site contain a relatively mature Mesic Mixed Hardwood Forest, something which is becoming increasingly rare in the county.



INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS OF EXISTING RECREATION PROGRAMS

UPDATE 2005: Athletics Overview

In 1999-2000 the Athletics division implemented the Parents Association for Youth Sports (PAYS) program. This program is a national initiative organized by the National Alliance for Youth Sports (NAYS), which encourages good sportsmanship and positive reinforcement on the part of participants and parents. Participation is now mandatory for all parents of all youth sports programs within the Department. In 2004, this division also introduced a Coaches Certification program aimed at sensitizing coaches to their responsibility and holding them accountable to a Code of Ethics Pledge.

New leagues implemented by the Athletics Division since 1998 include: Ultimate Frisbee, Lacrosse, Girls Fast Pitch Softball, Junior Pee Wee Flag Football and drop-in soccer options. In the next five years, Athletics is expected to implement Adult Flag Football, Adult Kickball, Ultimate Frisbee Drop-In leagues, summer youth sports camps and Midnight Basketball. Field space continues to be scarce. The need for large multipurpose fields to be used for soccer, lacrosse, football and the like has been identified. Non-programmed pick-up areas for various sports are also needed as well as general practice areas.

While multicultural youth soccer is seen as an area of growth, the division should expand multicultural programming to include Cricket, Bocce, etc. as associated with demographic change in the community.

The department has responded to programming challenges attributed to the wear and tear of soccer fields through a partnership with the Greensboro Youth Soccer Association (GYSA) involving the installation of artificial turf at Smith High School. A new artificial turf field is also being explored for Leonard Recreation Center.

Update 2005: Youth Baseball

“Bitty” and “Itsy Bitsy” baseball for youth ages 4-6 has been added to the program since 1998. This program is designed to be an introduction to the game of baseball.

Participation numbers appeared to remain constant for the 2001-2002 and 2003-2004 seasons with total participation numbers at 1,151 and 1,195 respectively.

UPDATE 2005: Youth Football

Junior Pee Wee Flag Football for 3-6 year olds was introduced as a new program in fall of 2004.

Overall youth football participation numbers have rebounded slightly to 1,150 in 2003. Strengths are identified as being the stability of coaches continuing in the programs and parent participation. The cost of equipment remains a weakness.



UPDATE 2005: Youth Soccer

A strong partnership with the Greensboro Youth Soccer Association (GYSA) continues to exist. Participants in 2003 totaled 1,850 representing 155 teams surpassing both youth baseball and youth football.

There is a lack of soccer game and practice fields.

UPDATE 2005: Cheerleading Clinic

The Cheerleading program, once organized and implemented by Recreation Centers is now housed in the Athletics Division. Recreation centers with football teams continue to provide practice locations. The program has been reorganized to include dance and gymnastic elements as core components of the program. Participation numbers for 2003 held steady at approximately 300. Special programming has been added to include the Cheer Showcase. This event provides all squads the opportunity to showcase their abilities before an audience.

UPDATE 2005: Martial Arts

Martial Arts classes continue to be offered at recreation center facilities. A wide variety of disciplines are represented including Karate, Tae Kwon Do, Hapkido, Mikeba Ryu, Go Ju Ryu, Ninjutsu, Jujutsu and Capoeira. Women's self defense classes as well as general self defense classes are also offered.

Update 2005: Aquatic Programs

In 2003, the average summer attendance at pools totaled 27,000 participants with average off-season participation at 2,500.

Swimming lessons continue to be offered at each pool. Outreach Boy Scout Badge swimming classes are new to aquatics since 1998.

The high maintenance costs associated with aging pools cannot be off set by actual revenues. The CIP identifies funds to be utilized for the maintenance of pools over a four-year period beginning in 2006. Repairs to these facilities are anticipated to be an on-going issue, which will require scrutiny from a feasibility standpoint in the near future.

In 2002, the department commissioned Water Technology, Inc., an aquatic planning and design firm, to evaluate the condition of the five outdoor and two indoor pools within the system. Primary recommendations included the addition of shade umbrellas to all outdoor pools, ADA improvements and chemical controllers for all pools. Zero depth water playgrounds with interactive water features and water slides were also recommended.

While the study found the condition of the pools to be relatively good, the age of the facilities was found to be a limiting factor for the future in terms of maintenance and outdated design. Estimates for needed renovations associated with the study at Peeler, Windsor, Warnersville, Lindley, Smith and Grimsley pools exceeded \$5,500,000.



UPDATE 2005: Youth First

Since its inception in 1996, Youth First has served over 10,000 teenagers. Today, Youth First provides programs and activities for teenagers between the ages of 13 and 17. At its core Youth First remains committed to providing recreational and educational programs aimed at building positive self-esteem in young people in crisis.

New programs include the Teen Advisory Board, Club Champion, The Promises, Teen Summer Camp and the Brother 2 Brother program. Program offerings vary widely and change often based on current issues relevant to teens, participation, numerous community partners and input/feedback from teens and parents.

Needs identified for the future include facility improvements or a new Teen Center aimed at attracting teens to Youth First. Desirable improvements to the existing facility include a computer lab with internet access, audio visual equipment, new pool and fosse ball tables and exercise equipment. Program promotion/marketing and outreach were reported as challenges.

UPDATE 2005: Greensboro Youth Council

The Greensboro Youth Council (GYC) continues to administer and implement programs and activities that foster youth leadership such as Goulash, Santa's Workshop, High IQ Bowl, the Youth Citizen's Police Academy and Youth Leadership Greensboro.

Programs new to this section include: the Volunteer Fair, Sexual Attitudes, and the Youth Citizen's Fire Academy. In addition the Talent Expo, now called the Artistry Awards, has been revitalized. Plans are underway to initiate a new program, suggested by the original master plan that will give youth the opportunity to shadow city employees in various departments. Staff has also developed a new website which appeals to youth and educates potential participants on programs and service opportunities.

GYC continues to be a model for other developing youth councils across the nation. This section enjoys strong community support from partners and sponsors.

During 2002-2003 GYC participants performed over 16,560 hours of volunteer service. Physical space was reported as a challenge. Additional space, preferably centralized, for meetings, activities, storage and offices has been identified by this section as a major need. Indeed a new facility has been requested by staff to house the functions of the Greensboro Youth Council.

UPDATE 2005: Summer Day Camps

Theme weeks have been established for Summer Day Camp programming. Programming for the summer occurs prior to camp beginning and themes are coordinated to coincide concurrently at each site. Participation remains steady. Fees have been slightly reduced to ensure that the program is affordable to the general populous. Limited capacity, which equates to a higher staff to camper ratio, as well as cost, should be counted as a program strength that sets the summer day camp program apart from other day camp programs offered in the community.



UPDATE 2005: After School

The After School program has experienced decline, which is thought to be the result of natural decreases in Greensboro's youth population and the implementation of Guilford County Schools' After School Enrichment Services (ACES) program. With over 3,700 kindergarten through fifth graders enrolled in 63 schools across the county, private, quasi-public and public childcare providers have in part attributed their declining enrollment numbers to the ACES program.

Although themes are not a part of the After School program, each site's program is structured to include homework time, snack, crafts, games and supervised free play. Program participants receive significantly more individual attention as compared to programs with higher enrollments.

UPDATE 2005: Special Populations

New programs offered by the Special Populations Unit include Friends Today, Leisure Counseling and Hoop for Fun basketball clinic. In the future programming opportunities may be expanded to include more out of town trips and social clubs.

The Mainstream Unit effectively uses sponsorships among many community businesses. New community partnerships include Big Brothers/Big Sisters, UNCG Partnership 5 and the Gate City Blind Bowlers.

Staff has identified the need for a full time driver/programmer position to ensure consistent and reliable staffing to provide for additional program opportunities. An accessible aquatics center is also desired.

UPDATE 2005: Program Area- Miscellaneous Programs for Recreation Centers

(Dog Obedience, Ceramics, Dance)

Each of the three programs studied appear to remain in a declining state. While several canine clubs continue to meet at recreation centers, dog obedience classes are now only offered at one center. As well, ceramics programming is offered at one center only. Dance classes are offered at most centers and encompass a wide variety of dance styles (Square Dancing, Line Dancing, Belly Dancing, Scottish Dancing and Clogging). However, only a third of these classes are revenue generating.

UPDATE 2005: Fitness

Fitness oriented programs offered include but are not limited to aerobics (regular, step and low impact), kickboxing, Yoga, Track and Field Fundamentals, Double Dutch, Kids Fitness, Badminton, Youth Fencing and the A.H.O.Y. Senior Exercise Program.

Growing concerns nationally and locally regarding rising obesity rates, particularly among children, are emerging in Greensboro. Strategies and initiatives are being formulated by



various organizations and collaborations, such as the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and Guilford County's Heart, Stroke and Health Partnership, to address obesity issues. Various national and local grant makers have and are committing significant funds toward the reduction of obesity rates. Community based recreation centers in partnership with community initiatives are ideal for the implementation of new fitness and wellness programs designed to reduce obesity. Partnerships with these collaborative efforts should be sought as fitness programs are redefined to include not only traditional programming but also non-traditional programs.

UPDATE 2005: Adult Softball

With the addition of a state of the art facility at Carolyn S. Allen Park, which includes four pinwheel style softball fields surrounding a two-story scorers booth/concession area, Parks and Recreation is further realizing the strengths of the adult softball program.

Recognizing the growth of girls fast pitch softball, for the last two years the department has administered a cooperative agreement with a local fast pitch organization that organizes such leagues with Greensboro Parks and Recreation providing field space in return.

UPDATE 2005: Adult Basketball

The adult basketball program participation remains steady, although there have been incidents of negative behavior among players. In response to the 1998 plan's recommendation to implement three on three leagues Athletics initiated such programs, however due to low registration the program did not materialize.

The newly renovated Simkins Indoor Pavilion at Barber Park, which includes four (4) full size basketball courts, has allowed Athletics to centralize the adult basketball program in this location, rather than rely on borrowed courts at various middle schools. This facility is also expected to provide more opportunities for pick-up games, as many outdoor courts previously serving this need have been removed. Small scale tournaments and sport camps are also anticipated at this facility. Recreation Centers will continue to provide a venue for adult basketball as well.

UPDATE 2005: Sailing Program

The relationship between the Lake Townsend Yacht Club and Parks and Recreation is still unclear. Between 2001 and 2003 regatta and race participation has declined by more than 25%. Likewise, during the same time period participation in classes has dropped by just under 50%.

Annual permits, which include sailboat rental fees, are sold to members of the Lake Townsend Yacht Club. However, the department does not require the Club to contribute any portion of the class participation fees back to Parks and Recreation.

In response to master plan recommendations, the department made efforts to change the name of the facility and to address the fee structure. These efforts were met with resistance due to political elements.



UPDATE 2005: Historic Programs

Historic programming at Tannenbaum continues to provide quality exhibits, living history programs and special events on a small budget. Major changes since 1998 include the reenactment of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse, once held on site at Tannenbaum, moving to the grounds at Country Park and an archeological survey, which revealed the Hoskins House to be from a later period than originally identified.

Staff is currently in the process of reevaluating Tannenbaum Park's internal Strategic Plan, which expires in 2006. Goals include installing a new set of permanent exhibits, an addition to the building and significant work to the pedestrian infrastructure on the grounds. Preliminary evaluation of the internal Strategic Plan indicates that programming may shift slightly to incorporate a modern versus historical approach, which may for example highlight historical approaches to farming and trade and their modern equivalents. The Historic Programs Section also foresees facilitating a more cohesive coordinated effort among historic programming providers in Greensboro and additional sponsorships. The addition of a full-time Historical Education Specialist is desired as well. Through these efforts Tannenbaum could be developed to attract visitors across the region.

Apart from Tannenbaum Historic Park, the Historic Programs Section seeks to expand historical education opportunities to a property currently referred to as the "West House." It is estimated that the West House was built sometime between 1815 and 1820. The architectural style and the decorative Flemish Bond brick are unique and relatively rare for this area. The property is owned by the City of Greensboro. The house itself will require significant renovation.

UPDATE 2005: Seniors

The Seniors Unit continues to provide a wide variety of programs and activities aimed toward social and physical wellness for older adults. New programs and activities include: personal fitness training, self directed fitness training in the fitness center, quarterly dances, a walking club, lecture/special interest series, senior weight loss support group, soup and potato bar/speaker, overnight trips to destinations of interest, bocce, tai chi, water color painting classes, shuffleboard, horseshoes, line dancing classes, craft classes and a deaf seniors group. Among senior service providers in Greensboro the Senior's Unit appears to have a stronghold on fitness programming. The Seniors Unit offers some limited outreach through programming at various recreation centers. A partnership has been established with the United Arts Council for the Silver Arts portion of Senior Games.

Staff recognizes the impact that "Baby Boomers" are expected to have where recreation services are involved. The unique nature of Baby Boomers may precipitate programming shifts that appeal to this cohort resulting in a wide diversity of programs appropriate for seniors in different age groups. In addition, more community outreach and community based programming or a full-time driver would benefit seniors with limited transportation.



UPDATE 2005: City Arts-Drama

While the Drama Unit has experienced significant administrative changes the unit continues to provide quality productions and classes through Creative Drama classes, Children's Theatre, Livestock Players Musical Theatre, Greensboro Playwright's Forum and Livestock Players Second Stage. Since 1998 twenty youth and adult productions have been staged.

In 2001 the Scene Shop, where sets are built, moved to a new location, operated by Triad Stage. Loss of roster positions and a cooperative agreement with the Community Theatre of Greensboro brought more changes in 2002. As a result the Drama Unit moved performances to different locations and mobilized volunteers to assist in production work. Despite these transitions, many due to difficult budget conditions experienced department wide, the Drama Unit has been creative and tenacious in providing services. In an environment with increasing competition from other service providers, this program area enjoys strong community support.

UPDATE 2005: The Music Center

The Music Center has instituted many new programs since 1998. These include: the Piedmont Trombone Guild, the Bluegrass Jam, the Suzuki Piano Program, the Jazz Education Program, the Piedmont Youth Jazz Orchestra, Women's Voices, and three youth choirs. In response to changing budget conditions this section has successfully partnered with corporate groups, the Community Foundation for Greater Greensboro and the Chrysler Classic to continue to provide the Music for a Sunday Evening in the Park program. In addition, the Music Center continues to enjoy a successful partnership with the Greensboro Youth Chorus, a non-profit organization sponsored by the Music Center and City Arts. The Music Center continues to receive strong community support.

UPDATE 2005: Dance

A wide variety of classes continue to be offered for all ages and experience levels. The Dance program has expanded to include Irish Step classes, Latin Folkloric Dance and Rhythm Tap. In addition, this section co-sponsors Andrews Arts Dance Company and offers adult professional classes in conjunction with the Van Dyke Dance Group. Due to administrative changes the Arts Connections Summer Camp and Dance on Tour Residencies are no longer in operation.

UPDATE 2005: Greensboro Visual Arts

Visual Arts programs have been contracted to the Art Alliance of Greensboro, a private, non-profit corporation. The contractual agreement with Art Alliance has successfully continued the provision of visual arts programs to the public. The Department has benefited from this contractual arrangement by diminishing the significant operational expenses that were associated with administering the Visual Arts program to achieve a "breakeven" point.

UPDATE 2005: Multicultural Outreach

The Multicultural Outreach section has expanded programs significantly since 1998. Native American Cultural and African American Heritage School Days are two-day mini festivals



designed for school children pre-kindergarten through fifth grades. These programs charge a minimal fee and serve approximately 1,800 students each. The programs were initiated in part due to interest from the schools seeking performers on a limited budget. As a result, these volunteer driven programs were created to fulfill a community need.

The Barber Park Music Series has undergone significant change due to budget constraints and efforts to reach a broader audience. To this end, gospel was removed from the Series and ultimately the program was merged with the MUSEP Series.

Sabora Cultura, a Hispanic festival, which featured twenty-six (26) human service agencies and performers, was held for two (2) consecutive years. Additional new programs include: the Native American Festival, Kwanza Celebration, Chinese New Year, African American Heritage and the African American Arts Festival.

In an effort to share information with the community, this section has produced a resource list for ethnic and cultural performances.

UPDATE 2005: City Arts Administration

City Arts collaborates extensively with other Department sections to produce the following special events, Art in the Arboretum, Parisian Promenade, Ghoulash, Bayou Bash, Candlefest, Festival Sunday Arts Market, Summer Family Movie Night and North Carolina Tall Tales and Liars Festival.

In response to deteriorating budget conditions in 2003, the Arts Advisory Coalition was established to assess citizen feedback with regard to City Arts' strengths, weaknesses and opportunities and to advise and advocate for City Arts' programs. Sixteen (16) focus groups were conducted to gain citizen input. This input was compiled and presented to the Parks & Recreation Commission in March of 2004. At present, the Arts Advisory Coalition has dispersed but may reconvene on an as needed basis in the future.

UPDATE 2005: City Beautiful/ Landscape/ Horticulture

The efforts of the Department related to City Beautiful, Landscape Management and Horticulture remain strong. Aside from a vital and strong partnership with Greensboro Beautiful, the Botanical Gardens section partners with One Step Further, Outreach for Troubled Youth, Boy and Girl Scouts, A&T Horticultural Department and UNC-Greensboro. Volunteer and community support for these programs continues to be solid. Likewise, fundraising efforts on the part of Greensboro Beautiful continue to be successful. These private fundraising efforts have funded multiple enhancements to Greensboro's gardens.

A new botanical garden, Gateway Garden, is planned near Barber Park. This eleven (11) acre site will be constructed in partnership with Greensboro Beautiful, Inc (GBI). A conceptual master plan which includes a Greensboro icon and gateway feature, a visitor center, a wedding garden, children's garden, heritage garden, walking trails nature observatory and restroom facilities was funded by GBI. Construction is tentatively planned to be complete in fiscal year 2007-2008.



UPDATE 2005: City Beautiful Environmental Programs

The Botanical Gardens section offers new horticultural classes conducted by Master Gardeners and Botanical Gardens' staff at select recreation centers and public libraries. Special events added to this section include the Parisian Promenade, the Bog Bayou Bash, Art in the Arboretum and Candlefest.

UPDATE 2005: Environmental Programs

New environmental programs include Outdoor Skills Camp, Rocks and Minerals, Orienteering, Hydrologic Cycle, Fossils, Tracking, Soils, Lake Ecology, Edible and Medicinal Plants and Native American Culture. Programs are well described in brochures and on the Lakes' website. Special events, which incorporate environmental themes, include kayak instructional classes, the Environmental Fair and the Flying Frog Adventure Race.

Participation numbers have fluctuated slightly but have remained fairly constant over the last 3 years and are currently on the rise. Fluctuations in participation may in part be attributed to changes in school policy regarding field trips and other externalities. In 2000, Guilford County Schools mandated that all field trips meet specific curriculum goals. In response, Environmental Programs have been altered to meet those goals.

UPDATE 2005: Adopt-A-Park

The Rose Garden at the Arboretum is now a part of the Adopt-A-Park program. This volunteer program has been formalized to include volunteer orientation, recognition, and tracking procedures.

DEPARTMENTAL INITIATIVES

Since 1998 the Department has undertaken several major initiatives with far reaching impacts to the organization as a whole.

UPDATE 2005: Differential User Fee Study

The 1998 master plan's recommendation for a 25% differential user fee was implemented in 2000-2001 in an effort to increase cost recovery for program delivery to 18%. This initiative introduced and employs the "Leisure Card" to differentiate city residents from non-residents. The institution of the Leisure Card required significant public education and staff training led successfully by the Department's Marketing staff.

In 2003 the City Manager's Office initiated a comprehensive differential user study to consider a more equitable balance of costs associated with the provision of services relative to City residents and non-resident users. Devising a fair differential rate for various user fees that could be applied reasonably and consistently to services regularly used by non-residents was the intent of the study.



Specific to Parks & Recreation Athletics, Arts and Lakes were studied closely as a result of high non-resident participation. The study found that Athletics, Arts and Lakes operations were heavily subsidized by general property tax revenue at \$1.9 million, \$770,000 and \$400,000 respectively in fiscal year 2002-2203. Even with the 25% differential user fee in place the study reported a decline in cost recovery from fiscal years 2000-2001 to 2002-2003.

While the original master plan called ultimately for a 50% differential user fee across the board, the 2003 study recommendations were based on community feedback and market knowledge from the Department, noting that a one size fits all approach was not appropriate. The final recommendations were implemented July 1, 2004. As of December 2004, the Department has made \$4000 as a result of this new fee structure over this six- month period.

UPDATE 2005: Accreditation

In 2004 the Department began work on achieving National Accreditation through the National Recreation and Park Association and the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies. The National Accreditation process involves meeting and/or exceeding operational guidelines and standards established as desirable by these organizations. This dynamic two-year process involves the staff of every division working together on various committees to achieve a minimum of thirty-six (36) fundamental standards and 102 of the remaining 120 standards. The process itself enables the department to self-assess operational procedures. In addition it affords staff the opportunity to gain a broad knowledge not only of their own division but of others as well.

An Accreditation Steering Committee made up of staff persons across the Department was established to guide the Department through the two-year period. This initiative now in its second year is expected to continue through 2005 as staff continue to gather information documenting met standards and in some cases create policy to meet others. The process will culminate in 2006 when a team of professionals from the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies visits the department and ultimately assesses the met or unmet standards.



INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS OF EXISTING PARK FACILITIES

UPDATE 2005: Inventory and Analysis of Existing Park Facilities

Overview of Entire Park System

The Greensboro Parks and Recreation Department completed an extensive facilities inventory conducted by a graduate student at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro during the spring and summer of 2003. As a part of this project 154 parks and facilities were visited, amenities associated with each were counted and pictures of features were taken recording visual quality throughout the system.

Since 1998, with guidance from the originally adopted comprehensive master plan, significant additions and renovations have been made to the parks system. Major additions include but are not limited to:

Carolyn S. Allen Park

Completed during the summer of 2004, this 39-acre community park in District 4 is home to four pinwheel style softball fields surrounding a two story scoring booth/concession area. Four picnic shelters are also on site. The park serves the northwest portion of the city as recommended by the original master plan document referenced in the plan as Proposed Community Park Facility (4C) and works toward the satisfaction of the plan's recommendation for 20 new baseball fields throughout the system.

Price Park

Also in District 4, this community park was a gift to the City of Greensboro from the Kay Bryan Edwards Family and the Piedmont Land Conservancy. Passive in nature, the 92 acres at Price Park include open meadows, woodland and a tributary of Horsepen Creek. Amenities include a paved greenway and a natural trail. A new library has been constructed on the park site, representing the first joint-use of this kind in Greensboro. Further development will occur as recommendations made in the park's master plan are implemented.

Greensboro Sportsplex

The Greensboro Sportsplex, purchased by the City of Greensboro in 2003, is a 106,000 square foot multi-sports facility, which accommodates indoor hockey, basketball, volleyball, badminton and soccer in District 2. With eight (8) basketball and volleyball courts, three (3) indoor soccer fields and two (2) roller hockey rinks this facility is one of a kind in the Southeast. This special events center is suitable for regional and national tournaments and is home to local leagues. The facility is also available for birthday party and meeting room rentals. The Greensboro Sportsplex partially fulfills the original comprehensive master plan's recommendation for two large regional recreational centers. Programming of this facility is on-going. Basketball and football camps as well as a karate tournament were new



programming additions for summer 2004. Sponsors/partners are currently being sought for this multi-use facility.

Rosewood Park

Rosewood Park is a new neighborhood park which was developed in partnership with the City's Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) in District 2. The development of the park was a part of the redevelopment of Rosewood Neighborhood, a neighborhood once owned by Cone Mills. Designed with considerable community input to reflect the diversity of the community, central themes in the park include inclusion and diversity manifested through layout and signage in Spanish, Vietnamese, Rhade and English. Five deteriorated houses were removed to make way for the park. Amenities at the park include charcoal pedestal and pit grills, a tricycle loop with miniature traffic signs, playground equipment and a walking trail.

Planned new parkland and facility additions include:

Caldwell Park

The City of Greensboro and Greensboro Beautiful, Inc. (GBI) are partnering together to develop David Caldwell Park. The park, adjacent to the Bicentennial Garden, will be developed to include a 2,500 square foot education and visitors center. The park will have a strong historical emphasis highlighting the significance of David Caldwell and his Log College, which stood on this property.

Bryan Park at Guilford County

In 1999 Bryan Park at Guilford County was established through a donation made by the Joseph M. Bryan Foundation. The Department and Guilford County will jointly develop this shared natural resource. Bryan Park at Guilford County is located just north of existing Bryan Park. Development of the park is expected to begin in 2005-2006 with bond funds from Guilford County's successful 2004 bond referendum.

Southwest Recreation Center

A property search is currently underway to purchase land to meet the recommendation made by the 1998 plan for a new recreation center in the southwestern portion of the City, to serve this growing residential area comprised of the Adams Farm and Grandover developments. To date suitable property, approximately 30 acres, has been identified and an offer is anticipated. Acquisition will be funded with bond funds associated with the successful 2000 bond referendum. Development of the recreation center is planned to occur in 2006. Athletic fields are tentatively planned for the site in the future, based on a known need in this area.

Brightwood Neighborhood Park

A new neighborhood park is planned for Planning District 2 to serve the Brightwood neighborhood area and new residential development in the northeastern portion of Greensboro. The purchase of this six (6) acre site is currently being negotiated. Development of Brightwood Neighborhood Park is programmed to occur in 2008-2009, as funding is not yet available and will likely be contingent upon a future bond referendum. The park is planned



to include interpretive walking trails, a playground, a small parking lot, and a restroom facility.

TRAILS AND GREENWAYS SYSTEM

In response to citizen desire for trails and greenways identified during the 1998 master planning process, the Trails Division was established to oversee the maintenance of existing trails and initiate the development of a comprehensive trail system in the City of Greensboro. Functions of the Division include: planning, working with community groups and other city departments, public presentations, project proposal writing, grant writing, special event planning, public outreach/education, overseeing and administering the construction process, designing appropriate trailhead signs for all new trails constructed by the Division, producing and distributing the *Trails of Greensboro* map book and providing technical assistance and construction assistance to regional parks, neighborhood parks, neighborhood associations, recreation centers, and other community groups wishing to establish a new trail.

Since 1998, 21.7 miles of natural surface trails and 9.7 miles of paved/concrete surface trails have been added to the system. With approximately 80 miles of trail in Greensboro, the Department continues to enjoy strong citizen support for existing and additional trails and greenways. Planned trails associated with the successful 2000 bond referendum will bring this total to over 100 miles.

Currently, a comprehensive trails master plan is being completed by Greenways, Inc., a trail design and consulting firm. Funded by a grant to Action Greensboro received from the Moses Cone Wesley Long Community Health Foundation, this planning process will chart the course of future trails in Greensboro for the next 20 years by assessing the existing trails system and relevant planning data for the area, surveying the public to identify desires and needs, nominating future corridors, presenting an implementation strategy for the plan and establishing construction and maintenance standards system-wide. This process will involve a multi-disciplinarian staff team, a citizen stakeholders committee and significant public input. Moreover, it will encompass the trail plans of others in the community such as Action Greensboro, Guilford County and the Piedmont Land Conservancy.

SCHOOLS

Joint use agreements have been added at Faulkner Elementary School and Harriston Middle School. Existing joint use agreements employed include: Kernodle Middle School, Jesse Wharton Elementary School, Jefferson Elementary School, Pilot Elementary School, Rankin Elementary School, Grimsley High School, Page High School, Western Guilford High School and Smith High School. Both Guilford County Schools officials and Parks & Recreation have been satisfied with those previously existing and new joint use agreements. Parks & Recreation continues to negotiate with the school system with hopes of expanding joint use agreements to other facilities including gymnasiums in the future.



UPDATE 2005: Review of Select Key Facilities

District One Facilities Recreation Centers

The Brown Center

Since 1998 several additions have been made to this recreation center. Inside the building a workroom/office was created by more efficiently utilizing existing space. On the grounds, significant landscaping has been completed adding flowerbeds to the property. In early 2001, the Vandalia Vista Trail, a .3-mile natural surface trail, was completed on the grounds. In 2002 as the result of a successful “citizen CIP request” in excess of \$20,000, new playground equipment, a picnic shelter with a grill and water fountain and horseshoe pits were added to the property. As well, a modified softball field was added to the site in 2004.

Warnersville Recreation Center and Park

Major renovations underway during the completion of the original master plan have since been complete. Structurally, a locker room was converted into a game room, the kitchen was updated with new cabinets, counters and range/stove, new drop ceilings were installed, skylights and louvers were removed and a new vestibule and a new storage room were created. A new fitness room with new fitness equipment including treadmills, stationary bikes and weight lifting equipment has also been added. Heating and air conditioning were placed in the gymnasium during 2003-2004. Outside of the building, roofing work was completed on the center and concession stand, new sidewalks were installed on the east side of the building and a new fence was erected between the playground and the swimming pool. A new deck, large “funbrellas” and benched tables were added to the pool area as well. New playground equipment is scheduled to be installed by 2007.

Regional Parks

Barber Park

The Simkins Indoor Sports Pavilion, originally a special use facility featuring eight tennis courts and four volleyball courts was completely renovated in 2004 as a result of an ice storm which destroyed the structure’s roof suspended by circulated air. The facility was replaced with a traditional structure which now encloses four (4) basketball and eight (8) tennis courts making efficient year round use of the facility. A new meeting room was also added as a part of this renovation. New stadium seats were installed at Barber Bronco baseball field.

In July of 2003, the City of Greensboro, through contracted services, embarked on a master planning process for Barber Park. The process encompassed public forums and extensive site and program analyses. Currently, Phase I elements of the plan include a community center, a spray ground, a combination concessions/restroom facility and associated parking facilities. Planning for the implementation of Phase I is anticipated to begin in the spring of 2005. The Barber Park master plan also recommends a six half-court/one full court basketball facility, enhanced picnic shelters, a new practice baseball field and a bark park, among other elements, for future phases of development.



Schools

Allen Junior High School

Field lights have been replaced at Allen Junior High School joint use facilities.

Dudley High School

Tennis courts at Dudley High School were resurfaced in 2004.

Special Facilities

Caldcleugh Art Center and Park

Many facility upgrades have occurred at the Caldcleugh Multicultural Center since 1998. Indoors, the entrance and foyer has been renovated to include glass double doors, emergency exit doors have been added to three meeting rooms, the kitchen floor tile was replaced, new cabinets and appliances were added to the kitchen, a new alarm system was installed and air conditioning was added to the Multipurpose Room (former gym). Outdoors, the lighting has been upgraded, a gate has been added to the entrance, the basketball court has been removed and new playground equipment has been installed. The modular unit once occupied by the Natural Science Center has been removed since 1998 due to budget reductions.

Staff has identified future facility needs as being enhanced lighting, electrical and acoustic improvements in the Multipurpose Room to accommodate theatre productions. Storage and flooring upgrades also have been listed as needs.

Drama Workshop

Department employees no longer have exclusive use of the Drama Workshop in the same location. This operation has since moved to a new location, and is now operated by the new Triad Stage.

Gillespie Golf Course

Since 1998 a new automated irrigation system has been installed at Gillespie Golf Course. In addition three new bridges are in place to accommodate stream crossings. New flooring has been installed in the grill area.

Old Peck Ball Field

New field lights were installed at Old Peck Ball Field in 2003.

Greensboro Maintenance Division Facilities

There have been no significant changes to the Maintenance Division's facilities since 1998.



District Two Facilities Recreation Centers

Peeler Center and Park

Since 1998, air conditioning has been installed in this recreation center. In response to deteriorating conditions and recurring vandalism noted in the original master plan the baseball field house has been demolished. In addition new decking has been installed at the pool as well as “funbrellas” and benched tables. Plans for a new restroom and concession facility are currently underway.

Smith Center and Park

Facility improvements to the Smith Center have been on-going since 1998. In late 1998 the game room was converted into a fitness center, complete with carpet, mirrors and fitness equipment consisting of treadmills, bicycles and weight training machines. The center’s pool was resurfaced in 1999. In 2003, the ceramics room became a lounge with the addition of carpet and furniture, the gymnasium was air conditioned and parking was expanded. The need for paving the handicapped parking lot to improve accessibility has been identified. A side entrance from this parking lot to enhance ADA accessibility is conceptually planned. Other planned improvements include the addition of a walking trail, picnic shelter, bocce courts and improved Senior Games practice space.

Windsor Center and Park

Windsor Center has been the recipient of facility improvements as well as site improvements. In the building, air conditioning was added and louvers removed in the gymnasium. In the pool area new bleachers, a new shallow interior, new decking, “funbrellas” and benched tables were added. Site improvements, some associated with observations and recommendations made by the original master plan document, include a new facility sign, landscaping and new playground equipment. In addition, picnic tables and benches were added to the site. Tennis courts, which experienced a low level of use, were resurfaced to provide an outdoor skating area.

Community Parks

Joe Davis Park

There have been no changes or improvements to Joe Davis Park.

Revolution Park

There have been no changes or improvements to Revolution Park.

Neighborhood Parks

Nocho Park (Levette Field)

A new score board was installed and field lights were replaced at Nocho Park.



Schools

Rankin School

Field lights have been replaced at Rankin School joint use facilities.

Special Facilities

The Greensboro Farmers' Curb Market

The hours of the Greensboro Farmers' Curb Market have changed slightly. The market is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:00pm-6:00pm and on Saturdays from 6:00am-12:00pm May through December. From January to March the operational hours are Saturdays from 6:00am-12:00pm.

Numerous improvements have been made to this facility, many the result of master plan recommendations, specifically a new roof and a new heating system. In addition, the interior has been painted, a new sound system has been installed, a garden area has been developed on the Homeland Avenue side of the building and outdoor window flower boxes and a sprinkler system have been installed. In order to most efficiently utilize existing space, additional folding tables and new "pop up" tents have been purchased to increase sales space, a new walk-in cooler was purchased and a propane gas grill was added for a Chef's Showcase.

The Greensboro Arts & Cultural Center

While some tenants have changed since 1998, the Greensboro Arts and Cultural Center maintains the same general integrity and aesthetic appearance. However, a lack of landscaping, cleanliness and security have been reported as being issues. Further, leaks occur in the building during rain events.

Keeley Nursery

In part, to fulfill the need identified by the original comprehensive master plan for a community park in the eastern portion of Greensboro, nursery operations at Keeley Nursery have been phased out. In 2001, with a successful bond referendum in support of the project, Parks & Recreation began making plans to convert the nursery into a park. Elements for this proposed community park are expected to encompass athletic facilities, playgrounds, picnic shelters, game courts, pond improvements, trails and associated amenities. Requests for proposals were distributed and a parks consulting firm was chosen to complete the site assessment, design and construction administration associated with the development of Keeley Park in early 2002. As a result of the state's budget crisis which also occurred in early 2002, impacts to the City's budget necessitated this project being placed on hold. Bond sales relative to this project are expected to occur in early 2007, thereafter plans for Keeley Park will resume.

Memorial Stadium

Upgrades to this facility include new lights, and a new tennis complex consisting of four (4) soft surface tennis courts, four (4) hard surface tennis courts and a tennis building.



Presently Memorial Stadium continues to be leased and managed by the Greensboro Bats Organization. However, upon completion of a new privately funded downtown baseball stadium, currently under construction with completion expected in time for the 2005 season, the Bats will no longer be tenants of Memorial Stadium. As a result of this development the Parks & Recreation Department held six public input sessions in late 2003 and early 2004 to assess potential future uses for the facility. A taskforce comprised of members of the Parks & Recreation Commission and Parks & Recreation staff facilitated the public input meetings and compiled results into a report identifying potential and best uses recommendations. Recommendations adopted by the Parks & Recreation Commission as a whole in March 2004 include: securing A&T State University and Greensboro College baseball teams as regular season tenants, pursuing the development of a baseball museum in the facility, partnering with private industry to house a restaurant in the facility and utilizing the facility as a venue for concerts and civic events to the extent that such activities are practical. In early 2005 the City Manager's Office convened a second citizens' committee to consider additional recommendations regarding architectural changes to the facility.

The department is expected to begin maintaining the stadium in February 2005 with the implementation of best use recommendations to follow thereafter.

District Three Facilities Recreation Centers

Craft Center and Park

Like other recreation centers, air conditioning has been installed and louvers removed in the gymnasium at the Craft Center. In addition a new stove and refrigerator have been added to the kitchen. Replacement of gymnasium floor and bleachers are scheduled within the next four years.

Lewis Center and Park

Major improvements to Lewis Recreation Center include rewiring the building for generator access, the addition of air conditioning to the gymnasium and renovations to the outdoor basketball court. Replacement of the gymnasium floor and bleachers are scheduled within the next four years. Future improvements proposed to be accomplished through a public-private partnership include the development of a multi-use practice field where the volleyball court currently exists.

Community Parks

Henry Street Park

Henry Street Park has received new playground equipment since 1998.



Lake Daniel Park

The tennis courts at Lake Daniel Park have been resurfaced. New signs and exercise equipment have been installed along the route of Lake Daniel Trail. Future improvements include the replacement of footbridges and the resurfacing of the trail.

The Westerwood community surrounding Lake Daniel Park has funded a park master plan completed by a professional architectural firm. Fundraising efforts are currently underway to aid in the proposed renovation of Lake Daniel Park.

Latham Park

Portions of the concrete greenway were resurfaced in 2004. New exercise equipment and trail signs have been installed along the route of the trail. Future improvements include resurfacing the tennis courts at Latham Park.

Regional Parks

Bryan Park

Considerable improvements have been made throughout Bryan Park since 1998. Renovations include the replacement of a picnic shelter damaged by a storm, the installation of power to fields 10, 11 and shelter 4 and the expansion of the main concession building for Greensboro Youth Soccer Association offices and operations. New facilities added to the park include a scoreboard for field 8, five (5) new picnic shelters and the Batten Complex, a 12 acre site which added six (6) new soccer fields, a concession stand and restrooms. Also new to the park is the McPherson Stadium, this project involved reconstructing field 1 and constructing a 1,600 seat stadium, concessions area and restrooms with field lighting, fencing and a scoreboard. A new soccer maintenance facility was added in 2004. A new sewage lift station was added in the park in 2001.

Golf operations at Bryan Park were privatized in February of 2003. Future improvements relative to golf are expected to include the renovation of fourteen (14) greens on the Player's Course in 2005.

Bur-Mil Park

In December 2000, Bur-Mil's master plan, prepared by a park consulting firm, was presented to the Guilford County Parks & Recreation Commission. With implementation of the plan almost complete major renovations have been made to the Park since 1998. Many of the improvements address recommendations made by the original comprehensive master plan. Significant facility additions to the park include the Bur-Mil Family Aquatic Center, two (2) new large corporate picnic shelters, two (2) new restroom facilities and a new maintenance equipment building. The new aquatic center features a 25 foot lap pool, a zero entry main pool, a splash pad, a pool house, tot slide, sunning area, family changing areas and concession stand. New major structural facility renovations have entailed converting a barn, estimated to have been built prior to 1950, into the Frank A. Sharpe Wildlife Education Center and extending the patio/terrace located to the north of the Clubhouse. The Wildlife Education Center is home to displays of wildlife and flora native to the Piedmont and also houses offices



of the Trails Division. The patio/terrace enhancements expanded this outdoor facility considerably making it suitable for weddings, receptions and other special events.

Other improvements throughout the park include: 275 additional parking spaces, repaved roadways, shelter renovations, improvements to Par 3 greens, resurfacing of tennis and basketball courts, enhancements to the tennis area, new playground equipment, pond improvements and trail enhancements. As a result of these additions and renovations the original pool was removed and shelter 1 and the softball practice field were eliminated to accommodate the new pool and its associated amenities.

The future widening of US 220, a NCDOT project, is expected to impact the entrance of the park at Owls Roost Road and the western edge of the property line, through the loss of trees, to Lake Brandt.

Country Park

Several significant additions have been made to Country Park. The Guilford County Veteran's Memorial and the Bark Park at Country Park were both made possible through community partnerships which drove fundraising efforts for their construction. The Guilford County Veteran's Memorial is a tribute honoring those Guilford County residents who have served in the armed services. The Stephen M. Hussey Dog Park is a four-acre fenced-in, off leash dog park complete with waste receptacles, waterline connections and lighting. In addition, a "free ride" mountain biking course is expected to be complete in spring of 2005.

Other improvements throughout the park include a picnic patio, new fencing in various locations, the resurfacing of portions of the roadway and the Veteran's Memorial Trail.

School

Grimsley High School

A new pool deck has been installed at Grimsley High School.

Page High School

The tennis courts have been resurfaced at Page High School.

Special Facilities

Jaycee Park

Scoreboards have been updated and the field at Stoner-White Stadium has received new sod. Fencing was installed around the soccer/football fields. Two volleyball courts were resurfaced. Resurfacing of the tennis courts is scheduled.

Tannenbaum Park

From 1999-2003 restorations have taken place at this special use facility. The Hoskins House was provided with new wooden siding, a new roof, weatherproofing and log replacement. The kitchen and barn structures also received weatherproofing and log replacement. Renovations were made in the Colonial Heritage Center to accommodate for a new exhibit space for



temporary exhibits. In addition, a permanent high density storage unit has been purchased for artifacts. Exhibit Hall improvements are planned for post 2009.

District Four Facilities Beautification

The Greensboro Arboretum

The Arboretum has seen significant improvements since 1998. A new maintenance and education building has been constructed, a new foot bridge has been installed and new screening beams which serve as a buffer between the garden and Wendover Avenue are in place. Each of these new additions were designed and constructed to blend in with the unique character of this garden. Resurfacing the paved paths was completed in 2004.

New natural collections include: the Rose Garden, the Red Holly Collection, the Hosta Collection and the Dwarf Conifer Collection.

Horticultural classes are now being offered at the Arboretum education building by Master Gardeners. Botanical Gardens staff also conducts horticultural classes at various public libraries and recreation centers.

Bicentennial Garden/David Caldwell Historic Park

The Bicentennial Garden has seen significant improvements since 1998. Since that time an office and restroom facility and a gazebo for weddings and special events has been built. A new bridge is also in place as well as sculptures and a new water feature.

In 2000 hundreds of trees were destroyed in David Caldwell Historic Park due to a severe storm. Since that time reforestation has been underway. Trails have been constructed throughout this garden and new collections have been added, Camberly's Garden and Charlie Myers Garden. In the future a historic interpretation center is planned to be constructed on this site.

The Bog Garden

Improvements to the Bog Garden since 1998 include the addition of several foot bridges, donated and constructed by Boy Scout troops.

Recreation Centers

Leonard Center and Park

At less than 8 years old, Leonard Recreation Center has required few renovations/additions to date. Air conditioning has been added to the gymnasium, as have new lights. In addition, a portion of Guilford County's Bicentennial Greenway, a regional paved trail which upon completion will connect Greensboro to High Point, now traverses the park grounds. A concession stand/bathroom facility for the existing baseball and soccer fields is being planned with construction anticipated in 2006.



The construction of an artificial turf practice field at Leonard Center is currently being considered.

Lindley Center and Swimming Pool

Lindley Center has recently been repainted and air conditioning has been added and louvers removed from the gymnasium. Scheduled future improvements include new bleachers and resurfacing the gymnasium floor.

New playground equipment has been added to the grounds, a recommendation made by the original comprehensive master plan. In addition, a new pool deck has been installed and new competitive swimming starting blocks, large “funbrellas” and benched tables have been added to the pool area.

Community Parks

Lindley Park (Market Street Fields)

Satisfying a recommendation made in the original comprehensive master plan, new playground equipment has been installed at Lindley Park. New stadium seats and scoreboards have been installed at the Market Street Pony League baseball field.

School

Western Guilford High School

Parks and Recreation has made no changes or improvements to Western Guilford High School joint use facilities.

District Five Facilities Recreation Centers

Glenwood Center and Park

Glenwood Center has also been the recipient of air conditioning in the gymnasium, with louvers removed, and new playground equipment. New gym floors and bleachers are scheduled in the near future.

New scoreboards have been added to the ball field. The basketball goals on the concrete slab outdoors have been removed as a response to unwanted behaviors in effort to promote safety and security on the park grounds.

Trotter Center

Like other centers system wide, air conditioning has been added to Trotter Center. New ceiling lights have been installed as well. New gym floors and bleachers are scheduled in the near future.



Community Parks

Hampton Park

Hampton Park field lights were replaced in 2002.

Regional Parks

Oka T. Hester Park

Hester Park has seen many improvements since 1998. Two new playground units have been added to the park, ADA wheelchair accessible ramps were installed, tennis courts have been resurfaced, new flooring has been installed in the tennis building and damaged sidewalks have been replaced. In addition, a gravel parking area is new to the park, roofs of all shelters were replaced and electricity is now available at select shelters. At the ball fields, scoreboards have been updated.

The construction of Greensboro's Urban Loop has impacted Hester Park considerably. As a result, 3 acres formerly utilized as parkland have been lost. In addition, a new dam, recently constructed as a part of the Urban Loop project has reduced the size of the lake by approximately one third of its original size. The park, closed during the construction of the Urban Loop, is expected to re-open in spring of 2005.

School

Smith High School

Construction is underway to convert the soccer fields at the Smith Complex from grass to artificial turf.

District Six Facilities

Regional Parks

Hagan Stone Park

Facilities new to Hagan Stone Park include a renovated wedding chapel available for rent, new sidewalks associated with a new bathhouse in the campground, three new well pumps and two chlorinators, a 9-hole miniature golf course and additional fencing around the maintenance facility.

Special Facilities

Camp Joy

Improvements made to Camp Joy include the replacement of the air conditioner in the Activity Center, the renovation of the kitchen and the craft storage room and the installation of a new pool pump. Significant improvements relative to ADA compliance include new sinks, mirrors, toilets, water fountains, signage and lowered thresholds.



Lakes

Greensboro Watershed Parks: Lake Brandt, Lake Higgins, Lake Townsend

Improvements have been made to each of Greensboro's Watershed Parks since 1998. The parks continue to operate on a rotating six-day schedule. Fishing as an activity at the lakes continues to remain constant. A significant increase in canoe and kayak launches is evident and reflects the national trend of increased participation numbers in outdoor recreation and paddle sports.

At Lake Higgins a new picnic shelter has been added, a new retaining wall constructed for the trout pond, restrooms have been renovated and the driveway has been paved. In addition canoe and kayak storage racks have been installed and a new storage building has been added to the site for taxidermy work.

Renovations made to Lake Brandt include the extension of the fishing pier, improvements to the restrooms and upgrades to the storage building. New facilities include a picnic shelter, canoe and kayak storage racks, eighteen rental kayaks and a signed and mapped water trail accommodating paddlers.

Renovations to Lake Townsend's storage building have been made to accommodate the Lake Townsend Yacht Club and associated sailing equipment. Future renovations are scheduled to replace Lake Townsend's retaining wall and specified sidewalk around the site.



COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

UPDATE 2005: Community Input Needs Assessment

Introduction

In September 2004 a Citizen’s Survey was distributed throughout the city at various Parks & Recreation facilities and events representing each City Council District. Very similar to the survey employed in the original master plan, the purpose of this short survey was to assess the public’s familiarity with the Department’s programs and facilities, gauge their satisfaction with programs and facilities and solicit comments regarding desired improvements and new programs.

The survey was distributed to the following locations:

Recreation Centers

Council District

Brown Center	District 1
Craft Center	District 3
East White Oak	District 2
Glenwood Center	District 5
Leonard Center	District 4
Lewis Center	District 3
Lindley Center	District 4
Peeler Center	District 2
Smith Center	District 2
Trotter Center	District 5
Warnersville Center	District 1
Windsor Center	District 1
Folk Center	District 5

MUSEP Events

Center City Park	District 1
War Memorial Stadium	District 2

Community Meetings

Sierra Club Meeting	District 4
Lindley Park Neighborhood Association	District 5
Concerned Citizens of Northeast Greensboro	District 2
Bluford Park Neighborhood Association	District 1

Community Events

Farmer’s Appreciation Day-Curb Market	District 2
Kathleen Kay Edwards Family Branch Library Dedication	District 4
Rotary Club	
Greensboro Sportsplex Open House	District 2



Survey Design

The format of the original survey used in the 1998 master plan was altered slightly to include an additional item for measurement, question number six (6) below.

1. Are you familiar with the programs and facilities of the Greensboro Parks & Recreation Department?
2. If “yes”, indicate which programs below:
(check all that apply)
Athletics
Recreation Centers
Parks & Gardens
Youth Programs
Seniors and/or Special Populations
City Arts
Lakes & Trails
Other _____
3. Do these programs meet your leisure needs?
4. If “no”, how can we improve our current leisure services?
5. What other programs and/or facilities would you like to see the Greensboro Parks & Recreation Department offer?
6. Please rank the following in order of importance to you.
(1 = most important, 13 = least important)
Expanded facilities at Recreation Centers
Youth Programs
The preservation of open space and greenways
Beautification and Gardens
Athletic fields and athletic complexes
City Arts
The development of passive parks
Tennis centers and tennis courts
Public pools and aquatic centers
Outdoor Adventure Programs
The development of a skate park
Expansion of the trails system
Environmental Education Programs
7. How would you rate the overall Parks & Recreation programs and facilities?
Poor Fair Good Excellent



Results

In total, six hundred two (602) surveys were completed and returned. The results, summarized below, were overwhelmingly positive.

Question # 1: Are you familiar with the programs and facilities of Greensboro Parks & Recreation?

YES = 84%

NO = 16%

Question # 2: If yes, indicate which programs below. (check all that apply)

1. Recreation Centers = 51%
2. Parks and Gardens = 47%
3. City Lakes and Trails = 37%
4. Athletics = 36%
5. Seniors or Special Populations = 28%
6. Youth Programs = 27%
7. City Arts = 25%

Question # 3: Do these programs meet your leisure needs?

YES = 91%

NO = 9%

Questions #4 and # 5: What other programs/facilities would you like to see offered?

Note: Responses for Questions # 4 and #5 were grouped by like categories, combined and ranked by the number of mentions.

- 1-Expanded and enhanced trails system
- 2-City Arts
- 3-More programs overall
- 4-More and improved parks, facilities, natural area, playgrounds and fields
- 5-Skate Park
- 6-More aquatic facilities, programs (additional hours)
- 7-More senior programming and additional facilities for seniors
- 8-Fitness equipment and programs

Question # 6: Please rank the following in order of importance to you.

Top five (5) programs/activities/facilities reported as most important (1):

- 1-Preservation of open space and greenways
- 2-Youth Programs
- 3-City Arts
- 4-Expanded facilities at recreation centers
- 5-Expansion of the trails system

Top five (5) programs/activities/facilities reported as being second most important (2):

- 1-Beautification and city gardens



- 2-Athletic fields and athletic complexes
- 3-Preservation of open space, public pools and aquatic centers, and expansion of the trails system
- 4-Youth Programs
- 5-City Arts

Top five (5) programs/activities/facilities reported as being third most important (3):

- 1-Beautification and city gardens
- 2- Expansion of the trails system
- 3-Athletic fields and athletic complexes and the development of passive parks
- 4-City Arts
- 5-Environmental education programs

Top five (5) programs/activities/facilities reported as being fourth most important (4):

- 1- Beautification and city gardens
- 2- Development of passive parks and expansion of the trails system
- 3-Outdoor adventure programs
- 4- Environmental education programs and youth programs
- 5- City Arts

Top five (5) programs/activities/facilities reported as being fifth most important (5):

- 1- Outdoor adventure programs
- 2- Beautification and city gardens
- 3- Athletic fields and athletic complexes and City Arts
- 4- Expansion of the trails system
- 5- Development of passive parks

Question # 7: How would you rate the overall programs and facilities of the Greensboro Parks & Recreation Department? (check one box)

Excellent = 30%

Good = 62%

Fair = 8%

Poor = .2%

Summary

The results of the survey indicate that the majority of respondents (84%) are familiar with the Department's programs and facilities and feel that their leisure needs are being met (91%), especially where recreation centers, parks/gardens, lake and trails and athletics are concerned. The large majority of respondents (92%) rated the Department's programs and facilities as "good" to "excellent."

Similar to the results of the original survey in 1998 and to the City of Greensboro's 2000 Citizen Survey, respondents expressed the preservation of open space and greenways as being most important to them. Further the development of an expanded and enhanced trails system was reported most often as a desired improvement to parks the parks and recreation system. Youth programs, City Arts, athletic fields and complexes and City Gardens and beautification were also reported as being of high importance.



Desired improvements by respondents included the continuation of City Arts programming, additional parks and facilities (including a skate park), additional aquatic facilities, additional facilities and programming for seniors and the addition of fitness programs and equipment to recreation centers.

Tennis Centers were not ranked as being important to respondents. While the skate park was listed as a desired improvement to the parks system, it was not ranked as being important by respondents.



PARK PROPOSALS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

UPDATE 2005: Magnet Parks

The State of North Carolina has authorized two state parks in the Triad region since 1998. The Cape Fear Headwaters State Park will be established in Guilford County along the Haw River from the western edge of Guilford County to the confluence with Reedy Fork Creek in western Alamance County. This linear park is proposed to be comprised of large parcels of parkland coupled and connected by narrow corridors along the river and its tributaries. The park will preserve significant biologic, geologic and scenic features. Recreational uses are slated to include facilities which support canoeing/kayaking, hiking, biking, horseback riding and passive recreational pursuits. The State is in the process of acquiring parcels.

The State has also committed to buy nearly 800 acres for the establishment of the Mayo River State Park in Rockingham County. Upon completion the park may ultimately preserve 2,000 acres for recreational purposes. The county hopes to develop the park as a destination for canoeists, kayakers and other outdoor enthusiasts. Property acquisitions are currently being negotiated.

The addition of these two state parks to the region enhances recreational opportunities available in magnet park settings. The Parks & Recreation Department must consider the outdoor/adventure leanings of these new facilities, along with its extensive trail system and lakes in the northern area of Greensboro in future programming. Adventure programming is recommended which compliments the planned new state parks and capitalizes on the natural resources already available to the Department.

UPDATE 2005: Regional Parks

The planned regional park facilities referenced in the 1998 comprehensive master plan, Guilford County's Northeast Park and the Randleman Reservoir recreation area, are currently being implemented. Northeast Park is currently under development. This 385-acre regional facility is anticipated to open in late 2005 to early 2006. The Randleman Dam is also under construction, although no decisions have been made to date regarding recreational uses.

Existing Regional Park Facilities

Existing regional park facilities are experiencing increasingly intense use. As a result of age and use infrastructure such as roads and parking lots are in need of repaving and repair. Additional parking is also needed.

Master plans have been prepared and are being implemented for Barber and Bur-Mil Parks. Formal master plans are recommended for Country and Hester Park to envision and guide future development and uses for these heavily used parks.



Proposed Regional Facilities

A new city or city-county regional park should be considered for the central portion of Planning District 7 near the water and sewer boundary in the long-range future (Figure 5-1). The Connections 2025 Comprehensive Plan identifies this area for current and immediate growth in the overall growth strategy. The Future Generalized Land Use Map envisions this area to accommodate low to moderate residential uses as well as mixed use corporate and commercial uses. In addition the Guilford County Open Space Committee and the Parks, Open Space and Greenways Committee (Connections 2025) have recommended open space acquisition in this immediate vicinity. A regional park in this area would accommodate anticipated growth in this area thereby distributing use more evenly across the system in the future.

UPDATE 2005: Community Parks

Existing Community Park Facilities

Recommended improvements made or programmed to be made since the original master plan was adopted include:

- Improved play areas at Lindley, Glenwood, Lewis, and Lindley Park at Market Street
- Improved signage and landscaping has occurred at Warnersville Center Park and is programmed for Peeler Center Park.
- Programmed installations and improvements to restroom facilities at Lake Daniel Park and Leonard Center Park.

Other recommended improvements remain relevant.

Proposed Community Park Facilities

Since 1998 three (3) of the six (6) community parks recommended by the master plan have been established or are in the process of being established. Carolyn Allen Park, recommendation 4C, was dedicated in November of 2004. This 39-acre park serves Planning District 4 in the northwest portion of Greensboro. Amenities include four (4) pinwheel style softball fields, a scoring booth/concession area and four (4) picnic shelters.

Plans for recommendation 2C are underway. This recommendation called for a community park in the northeastern portion of Greensboro. The former Keeley Nursery is programmed to satisfy this recommendation. A consultant has been selected to prepare the master plan, anticipated for 2006-2007, for this 138-acre site. In addition, the property search for recommendation 5C in southwest Greensboro is currently underway. Sites are being narrowed and acquisition is anticipated to occur by spring of 2005. Development of the recreation center is expected in 2006-2007.

The remaining recommended sites for community parks proposed by the original master plan (1C, 6C and 7C) are still relevant and expected to occur later in the planning period as development moves out toward the water and sewer boundary line. Due to a new planned unit development (PUD) in Northeast Greensboro the Department has identified the need for an



additional community park in Planning District 2 to serve over 5,000 new residents in this vicinity (Figure 5-2).

UPDATE 2005: Neighborhood Parks

Existing Neighborhood Park Facilities

Recommended improvements made or programmed to be made since the original master plan was adopted include:

- Improved play areas at Carriage Hills, Henry Street, Friendly Acres, Hamilton Lakes, Mitchell Street, Three Meadows, British Woods, Cumberland Parks, Greenway, Oaks West and Fisher Parks.
- Installation of new walking trails are planned for Bluford, Sussman and Hillsdale Parks.
- Rosewood Park, a new neighborhood park, has been developed in partnership with the City's Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) in District 2.

Other recommended improvements remain relevant.

Proposed Neighborhood Park Facilities

Three (3) of the sixteen (16) neighborhood parks proposed by the 1998 master plan are slated to be included on the Department's next bond referendum. These recommended parks are referenced in the original plan as 3N-1, 3N-6 and 4N-1 in Planning Districts 3 and 4. Districts 3 and 4 were identified as being those with the most significant shortages of neighborhood parks. Other additions to the system are expected to include Brightwood Neighborhood Park in District 2. The purchase of the Brightwood Park site is being negotiated with proposed development likely contingent upon a future bond referendum. A new neighborhood park is also proposed to be sited in an area of eastern Greensboro to be annexed in 2005 (see figure 5-2). This annexation will add 516 dwelling units and thus 1,233 citizens to the City of Greensboro's incorporated limits. This proposal recognizes the need for additional park facilities to sufficiently serve these new citizens of Greensboro.

The remaining 13 recommendations distributed among planning districts remain relevant and are anticipated to coincide with projected growth toward the water and sewer boundary line throughout the planning period. No additional new neighborhood parks are proposed at this time.

UPDATE 2005: Mini-Parks

Existing Mini-Park Facilities

Recommended improvements made or programmed to be made since the original master plan was adopted include:



- Improved play areas at Terrell-Keck, Murchie, Elmwood, Springdale, Cascade, Carolina Laurel, Caldcleugh, Arlington, Johnson and Coronado Parks.
- Trail linkage to Nealtown Park.

Other recommended improvements remain relevant.

Proposed Mini-Park Facilities

To date recommended new mini-parks have not been implemented. A one (1) acre donation of parkland on the corner of Lee and Arlington Streets is expected in 2005. No additional mini-park facilities are proposed at this time.

UPDATE 2005: Special Use Parks/Facilities

Existing Special Use Facilities

Caldcleugh Multi-Cultural Center

Improvements to the “multipurpose room” (former gym) should include a lighting grid and associated electrical upgrades, acoustic panels and appropriate flooring suitable for theatre productions. Such improvements would facilitate this facility’s mission and would provide City Arts with a much needed additional venue for theatrical performances.

Gillespie Golf Course

An in-house formal use/cost analysis that considers previous commissioned studies regarding Gillespie is recommended for this facility as use and thus revenue continue to decline with operational expenses remaining constant.

Park Maintenance Facility

The proposed new maintenance shop is recommended for implementation. This new facility will consolidate the existing park maintenance facility and the existing Gillespie Park maintenance facility into one. Beyond providing more work and storage area it will allow for one inventory, rather than two, to be more efficiently maintained.

Greensboro Farmer’s Curb Market

On-going maintenance for this facility is recommended to include addressing peeling paint on the ceiling in the Farmer’s Market. Additional parking, a permanent outside covered market area (requested in the Aycock Neighborhood Association’s master plan) and electrical outlets for all vendor tables would allow for maximum use of this facility.

Greensboro Arts & Cultural Center

Additional security, enhanced landscaping and improved building maintenance is recommended.



Camp Joy

Recommendations made as a part of the original master plan are still relevant. These include improved access to the site from the park as well as additional parking and re-grading of the Activity Center landscape to divert run-off away from the building. Regarding the pool, decking repairs are recommended as is additional fencing. An addition to the pool building would aid in accommodating the public swim operation.

Tannenbaum Park

Partnership opportunities for the expansion of this facility should be further explored with the Guilford Battleground Company to include additional office space, a larger auditorium, a maintenance shed and significant changes to pedestrian access throughout the park.

Memorial Stadium

Further recommendations are forthcoming regarding the future use of this facility and will be made by a special committee appointed by the City Manager's Office in early 2005.

Sportsplex

Additional restroom facilities and concessions upgrades are known to be needed at this facility and are recommended in order to appropriately accommodate large-scale tournaments. Moreover, renovations have been proposed in order to host indoor roller hockey more effectively. Partnerships should continue to be explored on this issue.

Smith Senior Center

Indoor improvements should include the addition of an ADA accessible entrance on the north side of the building adjacent to the parking lot. Renovations to enlarge locker rooms should also be considered. Grounds improvements should include paving of the existing gravel parking lot, the installation of a paved walking trail around the perimeter of the property, the development of multi-purpose senior games practice fields and a picnic shelter.

Proposed Special Parks or Facilities

Skate Park

A skate park is proposed to be developed for this recreational activity which is enjoying a popular come back. The need for such a facility has been expressed by advocates for the sport, as no such facility currently exists within 25 miles of the planning area. Moreover, skate boarding is prohibited in the downtown and in strip style shopping centers and parking lots throughout the City of Greensboro.



West House

This historic landmark, currently held by the Department is recommended to be preserved and refurbished to further enhance the historical programs currently offered by the Department. Grant funding and partnerships should be sought for this endeavor.

Teen Center

The acquisition of a new facility is proposed to house GYC and Youth First. The facility should include multi-purpose rooms for meetings and programs as well as lounge areas attractive to teens. GYC and Youth First, which provide services to the same population, are proposed to be merged, thereby sharing and utilizing resources more effectively and reaching a broader and larger teen population.

Indoor Climbing Wall

An indoor climbing wall is recommended for installation at an existing conducive facility such as the Sportsplex to complement adventure programming suggested below (see Programs-Adventure Programming). This growing sport facilitates strength and endurance training and is used extensively in team building.

Caldwell Park

A new historic center is planned for Caldwell Park adjacent to the Bicentennial Garden. This facility is planned to be accomplished through community partnerships with departmental participation.

Gateway Garden

Gateway Garden is a planned new botanical garden which is currently held by the Department, adjacent to Barber Park. This garden will be developed through a fundraising effort facilitated by Greensboro Beautiful and other community partners with departmental participation. The facility will be managed by the Botanical Gardens Division.

UPDATE 2005: Greenways and Trails

Currently, a trails and greenways master plan is being prepared by Greenways, Inc., a professional consulting firm, to specify needs related to trail facilities for the next 20 years. An in depth analysis which will include an infrastructure survey, demographic profile, public input process and specific recommendations will be the product of the plan. Connectivity strategies via trails are an expected result of the plan. It is proposed that upon its completion the trails and greenways master plan become an addendum to the Parks & Recreation Comprehensive Master Plan.

During this interim the resurfacing of existing paved and concrete trails is recommended as needed. As the result of a request from the Fisher Park Neighborhood Association, walkways through Fisher Park are also proposed for replacement.



Based on the citizen demand for trails and greenways, as evident by the results of the citizen survey included herein additional outside funding sources should continue to be aggressively pursued. In addition, a tool to evaluate requests for new trails should be considered for development to aid in planning and prioritizing unanticipated new trail requests from the community.

In 2000, the Landscaping Maintenance and Mowing Study prepared by the City's Budget and Evaluation Department recommended a benchmark standard for the staffing necessary to maintain the trails and greenways system. The study found that one (1) Full Time position is required for every twelve (12) miles of Class A Trail (paved trails) and twenty-eight (28) miles of Class B Trail (unpaved). This standard is recommended to be adopted and employed.

UPDATE 2005: Natural Areas and Open Space

As a part of the City's comprehensive plan, Connections 2025, the Parks, Open Space and Greenways Committee has elected to enhance the preservation of open space through the Parks, Open Space and Greenways Open Space Plan. This plan identifies all perennial and intermittent streams, Natural Heritage sites, search radii for community and neighborhood parks, areas of environmental significance proposed for acquisition, proposed trail corridors and slopes greater than 15% to be considered for preservation or acquisition as part of the development process. Means for funding the open space plan are proposed to be recommended as a \$20 million bond referendum. These committee recommendations are contingent upon incentives for the development community being approved as a part of the Connections 2025 process. Regardless of the outcome or adoption of the committee recommendations it is proposed here that the \$20 million bond referendum be sought for open space preservation.

UPDATE 2005: Facilities

Recommendations made by the 1998 master plan for Adult Baseball, Baseball/Softball, Youth Soccer, Volleyball Courts, Picnic Shelters and Tables, Playground Activities and Recreation Center facilities remain relative as the Department continues to actively pursue opportunities for their fulfillment. Changes and additions to original recommendations are as follows.

Swimming Pools

As noted in the original master plan, the maintenance of the Department's existing aging pools will have significant budget impacts in the future. The high maintenance costs associated with aging pools cannot be off set by actual revenues. The CIP identifies funds to be utilized for the short-term maintenance of pools over a four-year period beginning in 2006. Repairs to these facilities are anticipated to be an on-going issue, which will require scrutiny from a feasibility standpoint in the near future.

The Department commissioned Water Technology, Inc., an aquatic planning and design firm, in 2002 to evaluate the condition of the five outdoor and two indoor pools within the system. Primary recommendations included the addition of shade umbrellas to all outdoor pools, ADA



improvements and chemical controllers for all pools. Zero depth water playgrounds with interactive water features and water slides were also recommended.

While the study found the condition of the pools to be relatively good, the age of the facilities was found to be a limiting factor for the future in terms of maintenance and outdated design. Mindful of these challenges, the existing pools at Windsor and Warnersville are recommended to be phased out of operation. To serve the competitive swim community a competitive swim venue is proposed for development at Windsor Center. While a new large “leisure pool” is proposed to serve the recreational pool users in the communities surrounding both Windsor and Warnersville recreation centers. Peeler pool is recommended to be redeveloped into a “leisure pool.” While Lindley pool is proposed to be renovated. Improvements are recommended for Grimsley pool. Beyond necessary maintenance, other planned improvements include a small addition to the building to provide space for trainings. Smith Center pool is proposed to be replaced as recommended by the Pool Study.

In addition, a partnership to serve the competitive swim community has and continues to be negotiated with public and private interests. The Department should continue to be a part of this effort.

Multi-Use Practice Fields

The need for multi-use practice fields is the result of a shortage of fields in general. It is unlikely that the Department will be able to ever meet the demand for practice fields.

The addition of multi-use practice fields could eliminate some conflicts between games and practices and could potentially allow for more practices and aid in the reduction of over use. It is recommended that the Department acquire multi-use practice fields at every opportunity.

Recreation Centers

Recreation Center facilities are often cited as being in need of building additions to provide more space for programs and services. These requests are recommended to be studied carefully based on programming, demographics, user statistics and need. At present, a study to address citizen demand is recommended to assess the need for the expansion of the Brown Recreation Center.

UPDATE 2005: Programs

Recreation Centers

Demographic analysis is proposed for each center as new data is released by the U.S. Census. Based on demographic data and community focus groups it is recommended that each center develop individual mission statements, goals and objectives based on core program areas related to community building, fitness/wellness, youth development and



other areas unique to the community of which they are part. This endeavor should be completed with significant community input from the residents surrounding each center.

To enhance programming and best utilize resources the addition of a Full Time fitness programmer is recommended. This position would coordinate and plan programs centrally for all centers. The fitness programmer's responsibilities would also include programming for the Smith Senior Center, the Sportsplex and other facilities and special events as needed. Moreover the fitness programmer would obtain, manage and coordinate instructors for fitness programs department-wide.

The conversion of Part Time assistant center directors to Full Time assistant center directors is also recommended. These positions are proposed to be phased in, with Lewis, Windsor, Leonard and Lindley centers in the first phase of implementation. The timing for the implementation of these positions at remaining centers will be determined based on programming and need.

These staffing strategies are intended to help free center directors to circulate in their respective communities and focus on new program development. Ultimately increasing the quality of the programs offered and increasing participation numbers would be the intended outcomes.

The issue of Center operational hours should be revisited on a continual basis to ensure that current community needs are being met. Hours should be dictated by demand and programming.

New centers proposed by the original master plan are still relevant.

Athletics

A survey of select municipalities (Raleigh, Charlotte-Mecklenburg, Greenville and Columbia SC, Richmond, VA and Chattanooga, TN) found athletics programming to be comparable to that of the Department.

With some of our athletics services contracted, volleyball, tennis, and some soccer and basketball, new options for programming should be explored, especially relative to the demographic make up unique to Greensboro. Indeed Athletics has plans to initiate Adult Flag Football, Adult Kickball, Ultimate Frisbee Drop-In leagues, summer youth sports camps and Midnight Basketball. In addition to these planned new programs the following programs should be considered for implementation:

- Track and Field
- Cricket Leagues
- City Swim Teams (youth and adult)
- Instructional and Conditioning Clinics (youth and adult)
- Various leagues geared toward capturing the collegiate student population in the summer and off seasons for collegiate sports and intramurals.
- Field Hockey
- Sculling



Fitness

With the epidemic of obesity growing nationwide, it is recommended that the Department place a major emphasis on becoming a part of the solution for children and adults through increased fitness programming, the addition of fitness equipment in recreation centers and partnerships with the Guilford County Health Department and other area health serving agencies. Grant funding and collaborations with others should be actively pursued as the reduction of obesity has received significant national media attention and thus federal funding. Parks and Recreation should assess what the Department can offer to potential partners such as facility space, administrative duties and so forth. Likewise, potential partners with expertise in health, wellness and nutrition should be sought out.

Fitness programming should be expanded beyond traditional aerobics and marital arts classes at recreation centers and other Parks and Recreation facilities. A concerted and coordinated programming effort should include classes and activities for all fitness levels, for children, teens, seniors, adults and families. Popular classes in the fitness industry targeting specific muscle groups (isolation classes), cardio classes, combo cardio and strength training classes and boot camps are recommended as well as walking clubs at all recreation centers.

Potential programming space at Parks & Recreation facilities as well as other public facilities should be inventoried to access the potential for new circuit training and cardio fitness equipment. It is likely that additions may be necessary to recreation centers identified for such equipment. In facilities where a fitness room would not be feasible investments in portable fitness equipment such as exercise bands, steps, balance balls and so forth are recommended.

Adventure Programming

With the recent rise in outdoor adventure participation, such as camping and canoeing/kayaking, and the natural resources surrounding the watershed reservoirs already held by the department, a structured adventure programming division is recommended to enhance and expand upon current environmental programs and special events currently offered by the Lakes Division. One Full time position is recommended.

Programming to be considered should include backpacking, outdoor culinary skills and wilderness first aid as well as the coordination of off-site trips to employ skills acquired such as canoe camping, backpacking, rock climbing and mountain biking. The addition of more youth outdoor camps on-site, with off-site trips, is also recommended.

Senior Programming

It is recommended that the Department begin planning now for the progression of the Baby Boomer generation through the life cycle. It is likely that additional community based facilities and significant outreach may be necessary to accommodate this need in the future. Additionally, the unique characteristics of this generation should be considered and reflected in programming efforts. A programming and outreach plan which studies demographic analysis, senior programming trends and assesses future staff and facility needs should be completed within the next five (5) years, perhaps through partnership



with UNCG's Gerontology Department to ensure that the recreational and leisure needs of the Baby Boomers and seniors in general are adequately met.

Teen Program Delivery

GYC and Youth First are recommended to be combined, although still serving different segments of the teen population, into one unit housed together in a new teen center, designed specifically for this demographic population.

UPDATE 2005: Maintenance

Facility Inventory and Inspections System

It is recommended that a thorough inventory and inspections system be developed and implemented utilizing GIS. This system would place each facility on a regular inspection schedule aiding in eliminating safety hazards, planning for improvements and budgeting for capital improvements. Permanent staff resources will be necessary for implementation. One Full Time position is recommended.

Maintenance Standards

Maintenance standards are in the process of being refined as a part of the Accreditation process. These standards will aid in putting facilities on a regular schedule for maintenance based on levels of service.

New Project Requests and Budget Impacts

New unanticipated projects as well as the regular addition of maintenance to medians and right of way increase the Maintenance Division's duties and thus expenditures in terms of labor and equipment. These additions to the system have become a challenge to sound fiscal management and planning, as often such projects are not accompanied by additional budget allocation, rather they are absorbed into existing operations.

It is recommended that the Department devise and adopt a formal procedure to assess the benefits, costs and on-going maintenance funding associated with all unsolicited new project requests. Ultimately, the procedure would serve to document the decision making process regarding the prioritization of implementation or the denial of such requests.

Athletic Field Maintenance

A thorough review of the athletic field maintenance program is proposed to most effectively utilize staff resources and improve communications between the Athletics and Maintenance staff. The maintenance of all athletic fields is recommended to be centralized under the Division Manager for Youth and Community Programs.



UPDATE 2005: Administration

Planning

Effective planning for current and future parks, facilities and programs should include regular needs assessments for programs and facilities, evaluation, reporting, research, public involvement, policy making and inventory management. To this end, the following are recommended.

- **Land Use Plans**
Master plans are recommended for each regional, community and neighborhood park to ensure that planned facilities and uses are consistent with the character of existing parks and the expressed needs of the public. Master plans are proposed for Country and Hester Parks first.
- **Evaluation**
A performance measurement tool is recommended for design and implementation for all programs. Goals and objectives should be established for each program and measured through evaluations distributed to participants. The results of evaluations are recommended to be compiled department-wide and reported quarterly to Division Heads and the Director.

Likewise, a universal method of reporting participation numbers department-wide is recommended to be implemented and reported quarterly to Division Heads and the Director.

Finally, empirical citizen surveys, which measure the public's desire for programs and facilities and assess citizen satisfaction with services offered is recommended to occur every five (5) years.

- **Market and Trends Research**
Research should be completed every five (5) years to assess the programs and facilities that are offered by other service providers to identify what needs are being adequately served and those needs that are not being met in the community. The purpose of the study will be to capitalize on needs that are not being met by other providers and will work hand in hand with citizen surveys. This research should be accompanied by national recreational trends analysis as well as information gathered identifying programs and facilities offered in other similarly sized cities throughout the Southeast.
- **Economic Impact Analysis**
The economic impact of parkland, programs, facilities and special events must be studied and reported to truly assess the value of the Parks & Recreation Department. Studies should be completed in partnership with UNCG's School of Business and/or the Greensboro Chamber of Commerce. Further, utilizing this information a marketing package highlighting Parks & Recreation's role in Greensboro's economic development and in the attraction of business and industry as well as human capital, is recommended for distribution to economic development agencies in the Triad.



Economic impact analyses will be key to a larger development strategy, as their results along with the results of evaluations and citizen surveys are anticipated to make a compelling case for parks and recreation programs and facilities where grant applications, fundraising efforts, potential community partnerships and sponsorships are concerned.

- **Inventory Management**

The “Parks” Geographic Information System (GIS) layer and attribute table should be updated regularly to ensure that all parkland and open space is accounted for accurately. Further, information gathered in the 2003 Facilities Inventory should be joined with the GIS Parks layer.

- **Policy Making**

Departmental policy outlining land acquisition procedures and procedures for the acceptance or denial of land donations is recommended to be established and implemented.

Transportation Feasibility Study

Cost analysis determining the feasibility of owning and maintaining a fleet of vans/buses versus the current policy of renting vans for youth, special populations and senior programming is recommended.

On-line Registrations and Payments

Web based on-line registrations and payments should continue to be pursued. The purchase of software and a Full Time position will be necessary to implement and maintain this program.

Marketing

A Marketing Plan is currently being developed to strategically plan for this section.

Results of the Citizen Survey indicate that the public desires better promotion and marketing of programs and facilities. As evidenced by the successful results of paid advertisements for summer day camps, it is recommended that marketing be strengthened by increasing advertising dollars whenever possible. In addition the creation of a Full Time Assistant Marketing Director is recommended.



UPDATE 2005: Funding

Cost Analysis Studies

Cost analysis studies are recommended to sufficiently plan for anticipated maintenance and ownership of parks and trail facilities being initiated downtown by Action Greensboro and Downtown Greensboro, Inc.

Bond Referendum

Advocating for a Parks & Recreation bond referendum for the fall of 2006 and a subsequent bond referendum in the fall of 2010 is recommended.

“Friends of Parks” Organization

Establishing a “Friends of Parks” organization is strongly recommended for consideration to enable fundraising through a 501-c3 entity.

Equitable Provision of Services

Advocacy for policy change relative to the equitable provision of services to other City departments is recommended to evenly distribute the costs associated with landscape and maintenance services.



ACTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

The implementation of the recommendations made herein, as well as the first phase recommendations made in the original 1998 plan, are expected to be accomplished through traditional municipal funding methods, including the Capital Improvement Program (CIP). Other funding means are recommended to include future bond referendums, grants, partnerships and to a lesser degree user fees.

Table 6-1 details the expected expenses projected for recommendations and the proposed primary funding mechanism associated with each. A total of \$131,672,537, comprised of current and proposed Capital Improvement Projects and current and proposed bond projects, reflects necessary funds needed to implement Update recommendations and first phase recommendations proposed by the 1998 plan.

Moreover, where possible grants and partnerships are recommended to be aggressively pursued. The establishment of a “Friends of Parks” organization is also recommended to be implemented as a means for fundraising and for raising community support.

UPDATE 2005: Capital Improvement Program

The Capital Improvement Program (CIP) has been and continues to be used extensively to implement many of the master plan recommendations made in 1998. Master plan recommendations programmed into the CIP include:

Land Acquisition for Future Park Development – scheduled to begin in FY 06-07

Purchase of land for future park development. Greensboro will experience future growth in a number of areas that will require investment for future parkland. Recognizing these growth patterns allows the City the opportunity to purchase parkland in advance of development. Funding will be provided from the Capital Reserve Fund.

Tennis Court Repairs – currently being implemented

Court resurfacings are needed at multiple sites. This project is funded by the Capital Reserve Fund. Repair schedule: Woodlea and Greenway Courts in 2006-2007, Spencer Love Tennis Center in FY 2007-2008, and Latham Park Tennis Center in 2008-2009.

Keeley Park Development – scheduled to begin in FY 06-07

The development of Keeley Nursery into a community park comprised of an athletic complex (softball), trails, shelters, open space and practice fields.



Land Acquisition for Southwest Recreation Center – currently being implemented

Based on the department's service standards for the City and the continued growth of Adam's Farm, Sedgefield and Grandover, there exists a need for a new recreation center and adjacent parkland in District 5.

Barber Park Master Plan Implementation – planning currently being implemented

The recently completed Barber Park Master Plan proposes a community center, spray ground, new playground, and an expanded picnic area as part of the first phase development.

Centers Floor and Bleacher Replacement – currently being implemented

This project will replace old gym floors and bleachers.

New Neighborhood Park Development – scheduled for FY 06-07

The development of new neighborhood park on existing acreage to meet citizen needs. Site to be located in Council District 3.

ADA Compliance for Restroom Facilities – currently being implemented

This project involves the renovation or replacement of over 25 rest room facilities which do not meet ADA standards.

Parks Play Equipment Replacements – currently being implemented

Upon completion one hundred two (102) new play ground structures will be installed throughout the system, replacing aging structures. Forty-seven (47) out of one hundred two (102) units will have been replaced by June 2005. Installations are scheduled through 2010.

Trail System Expansion and Connectors – currently being implemented

Projects are intended to enhance pedestrian and bicyclist safety, improve access and promote walking and cycling as legitimate transportation modes. These improvements will provide facility connections along major/minor thoroughfares, improve access to City parks, and provide for new sidewalk and bikeway infrastructure and provide connections to neighborhoods, schools, downtown and other activity centers. To date 1.3 miles out of 12.5 miles have been completed.

Pool Improvements/Repairs – currently being implemented

Pool improvements to be made include: fencing at Peeler, Lindley and Warnersville pools. Additional yearly funding is requested for health inspection code requirement changes from year to year that are mandatory for pool operation.



Parks, Open Space and Greenways Acquisition – scheduled for FY 06-07

Acquisition for parks, open space, and greenways was recommended by both the master plan and Connections 2025. A combination of general fund and bond fund sources were recommended by the citizen committee selected to discuss the guidelines as presented in Connections 2025. Funds will be used to purchase park land necessary to meet current and future demands, open space, parks in proposed developments, natural heritage areas, sites with significant woodlands, critical habitats, and other environmentally sensitive areas. The citizen committee has also recommended that an additional \$850,000 a year from the Capital Reserve Fund be allocated to this project.

Community Park Development – scheduled for FY 08-09

This project consists of the development of a new community park in the area near I-40 and the Urban Loop. The forty (40) acre plus park would contain a sports complex, picnic shelters, trails, restrooms, playgrounds and other family oriented activity centers.

Additional CIP projects identified after 1998:

Bryan Park at Guilford County: Phase I – scheduled for FY 07-08

This project involves the development of the first phase of this park, jointly owned with Guilford County. Costs associated with Phase I will be shared equally with the County. Phase I development includes: entrance roads, utilities, picnic area, all purpose trails, restrooms, and sports fields.

Gateway Garden Construction – construction scheduled to begin FY 05-06

This project involves the construction of a new Botanical Garden near Barber Park similar to existing gardens in other parts of the community. A conceptual master plan has been competed by Greensboro Beautiful, Inc. (GBI) and approved by the GBI Board of Directors, the Parks & Recreation Commission, the City Manager's Office, and the Greensboro City Council. The garden is proposed to be eleven (11) acres in size and will include a Greensboro icon and gateway feature, a visitor center, a wedding garden, children's garden, heritage garden, walking trails, nature observatories, ongoing maintenance costs and a restroom facility.

Caldwell Park Master Plan – currently being implemented

This project entails the further development and major enhancements to Caldwell Historic Park. The City of Greensboro and Greensboro Beautiful, Inc. (GBI) have entered into a development and funding agreement for the project. Improvements include expanded parking off Cornwallis Drive to serve the heavily used Bicentennial Garden and future Visitor Center. The project includes the construction of a visitor center to educate the public about David Caldwell and his Log College which stood on this property. GBI has received a \$300,000 bequest to conduct research and archaeology work, to construct a Log College visitor center and establish an endowment for long-term maintenance of this addition to the site.



Lakes Facility Improvements – scheduled for FY 06-07

Lake improvements include the removal and replacement of a damaged bulkhead and sidewalk at Lake Townsend.

Trail Bridge Replacement – scheduled for FY 06-07

This long term project involves the replacement and/or upgrade of foot and bike bridges throughout the City which are in need of attention due to the naturalization of streams and the age of existing structures.

Sportsplex Renovation – scheduled for FY 07-08

This project involves converting a portion of the Sportsplex to a hockey facility in order to meet the growing demands of the citizens. The project is the result of the local hockey community's request to upgrade existing facilities. Other improvements are to include expanded restroom facilities and an upgraded concessions area.

Re-Landscape Downtown – scheduled for FY 06-07

This beautification project involves re-landscaping the downtown area and is associated with improving the visual quality of the area.

Artificial Turf Installation – scheduled for FY 07-08

Artificial Turf Installation is scheduled to occur at Hester Park.

Westerwood Park Renovation – scheduled for FY 06-07

This project was a citizen-driven improvement designed at renovating a popular neighborhood park in the Westerwood community. The community employed an architectural firm to complete the master plan. The community also launched a fund raising effort to generate funds towards the renovation project. The master plan recommends improved restrooms, game courts, trails, replacement bridges, parking, and a playground.

Table 6-1 Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update 2005								
Current Bond Project Name	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2010 Bond	Total
Barber Park Community Center - MP Phase I	\$ 350,253	\$2,399,437		\$ -	\$ -			\$ 2,749,690
Barber Park Tennis Court Pavilion Roof	complete	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			\$ -
Carolyn Allen Community Park	complete	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			\$ -
Centers Floor and Bleacher Replacement	\$ 840,000	\$ 253,000		\$ -	\$ -			\$ 1,093,000
Keeley Park Development	\$ -	\$ 450,000	\$ 444,850	\$ 5,895,350	\$ -			\$ 6,790,200
Lakes Facility Improvements	\$ 12,150	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			\$ 12,150
Recreation Center HVAC Upgrades	complete	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			\$ -
Parks Playground Equipment & Bleachers	\$ 180,000	\$ 269,000	\$ 269,100	\$ 298,180				\$ 1,016,280
Restrooms - ADA Compliant at Various Parks	\$ -	\$ 457,000	\$ 290,200	\$ 290,200	\$ -			\$ 1,037,400
Trail Park Connectors	\$ 500,000	\$ 700,000	\$ 1,100,000					\$ 2,300,000
Southwest Recreation Center	\$1,600,000	\$ 4,175,696	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			\$ 5,775,696
Sportsplex Purchase	complete							\$ -
Gateway Garden	\$ 886,670	\$ 886,660	\$ 886,670					\$ 2,660,000
NE Community Walking Trail	complete							\$ -
	\$ 4,369,073	\$ 9,590,793	\$ 2,990,820	\$ 6,483,730	\$ -			\$ 23,434,416
Proposed 2006 Bond Referendum	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11		Total
Northwest Neighborhood Park		\$ 300,000						\$ 300,000
Brown Recreation Center Expansion		\$ 350,000						\$ 350,000
Development of a New Neighborhood Park		\$ 300,000						\$ 300,000
Development of a Skate Park			\$ 575,000					\$ 575,000
Development of the Piedmont Greenway		\$ 383,350	\$ 313,650					\$ 697,000
Memorial Stadium Renovations (costs unknown)								\$ -
Teen Center		\$ 3,835,000						\$ 3,835,000
Development of Reedy Fork Community Park		\$ 650,000	\$ 5,850,000					\$ 6,500,000
Development of Fields at Southwest Rec. Center		\$ 300,000						\$ 300,000
Development of Brightwood Park		\$ 35,000	\$ 65,000	\$ -				\$ 100,000
Smith Senior Center Renovations		\$ 150,000						\$ 150,000
Barber Park MP Implementation		\$ 500,000	\$5,000,000	\$ 4,500,000	\$ -			\$ 10,000,000
Bryan Park at Guilford County - Phase I	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -				\$ 2,000,000
Sportsplex Hockey		\$ 450,000						\$ 450,000
Artificial Turf Installation at Hester Park		\$ 1,650,000						\$ 1,650,000
Trail System Expansion ****				\$ 5,000,000	\$ 5,000,000	\$5,000,000		\$ 15,000,000
Centers Fitness Equipment			\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000			\$ 225,000
Price Park Development		\$ 200,000						\$ 200,000
Land Acquisition	\$ -	\$ 5,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$ 5,000,000	\$ 5,000,000	\$ -		\$ 20,000,000
Development of a Mini Park-Lee Street		\$ 100,000						\$ 100,000
Community Park Eastern Loop and I40	\$ -	\$ -	\$0	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 4,000,000	\$ -		\$ 7,000,000
	\$ -	\$ 15,203,350	\$ 17,878,650	\$ 17,575,000	\$ 14,075,000	\$5,000,000		\$ 69,732,000
**** denotes a GDOT project								
Capital Reserve Project Name	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11		Total

Tennis Court Repairs		\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000		\$ 750,000
Land Acquisition		\$ 150,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 150,000		\$ 600,000
Pool Repairs		\$ 65,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000		\$ 185,000
	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11		Total
Paving of Arboretum Paths					\$ 92,500			\$ 92,500
Caldwell Park Historic Center		\$ 310,000						\$ 310,000
Lake Dan - Westerwood Park Renovation		\$ 120,000	\$ 120,000	\$ 120,000	\$ 170,000			\$ 530,000
Re-landscape Downtown		\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000					\$ 200,000
Maintenance Building at Gillespie Golf Course*		\$ 252,440						\$ 252,440
Resurfacing of Greenways		\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000				\$ 270,000
Trail Bridge Replacement		\$ 120,000	\$ 120,000	\$ 120,000	\$ 120,000	\$ 120,000		\$ 600,000
Greens Renovation at Bryan Park	\$ 150,000							\$ 150,000
Trail Replacement at Fisher Park		\$ 700,000						\$ 700,000
Shelter Replacements at Bryan Park		\$ 234,000						\$ 234,000
Security System at Park Maintenance		\$ 90,000						\$ 90,000
Outdoor Shelter at the Curb Market		\$ 65,250						\$ 65,250
Soccer Field Renovation at Bryan Park			\$ 130,000	\$ 105,000	\$ 70,000	\$ 70,000		\$ 375,000
Colonial Heritage Center Addition & Walkways		\$ 20,000	\$ 82,000					\$ 102,000
Forest Lawn Visitation and Maintenance Facility			\$ 400,000					\$ 400,000
Lake Townsend-Bulkhead Repair		\$ 140,000						\$ 133,000
Expanded Restroom Facilities at GSO Sportsplex		\$ 108,000						\$ 108,000
Room Addition at Grimsley Pool		\$ 200,120						\$ 200,120
Maintenance for GDOT Road Improvements	\$ 80,000	\$ 109,015	\$ 125,971	\$ 133,842	\$ 140,530	\$ 147,553		\$ 736,911
	\$ 230,000	\$ 3,023,825	\$ 1,447,971	\$ 848,842	\$ 873,030	\$ 667,553		\$ 7,084,221
Update 2005: Master Plan Projects	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2010 Bond	Total
Facility Inventory and Inspections Specialist (FT)		\$ 35,000						\$ 35,000
Facility Inventory Software		\$ 75,000						\$ 75,000
Fitness Programmer (FT)		\$ 46,200						\$ 46,200
Portable Fitness Equipment		\$ 3,500						\$ 3,500
Assistant Marketing Director (FT)		\$ 35,000						\$ 35,000
Economic Impact Analysis		\$ 8,000						\$ 8,000
Adventure Programmer (FT)		\$ 46,200						\$ 46,200
Caldcleugh Improvements			\$ 50,000					\$ 50,000
Cultural Arts Landscape Improvements		\$ 6,000						\$ 6,000
Acquisition of Practice Fields		\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000			\$ 60,000
Baby Boomer Study			\$ 4,000					\$ 4,000
Performance Measurement Design-Evaluation				\$ 10,000				\$ 10,000
Camp Joy Improvements				\$ 150,000				\$ 150,000
Mass Survey Design and Implementation					\$ 20,000			\$ 20,000
Indoor Climbing Wall							\$ 350,000	\$ 350,000
Lindely Pool Upgrade							\$ 648,000	\$ 648,000
Grimsley Pool Upgrade							\$ 415,000	\$ 415,000
Smith Center Pool Replacement							\$ 960,000	\$ 960,000
New Pool Development serving central GSO							\$ 5,000,000	\$ 5,000,000

