

# NOTES

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members  
FROM: Ann E. Wall, <sup>AEW</sup> City Manager  
DATE: January 26, 2022  
SUBJECT: Materials for Your Information

Please find attached the following materials for your information:

1. A memo from Don Octigan, Director of Recreation and Parks, regarding Thomas Foreman Park project updates
2. A memo from Don Octigan, Director of Recreation and Parks, regarding Wildwood Park development update

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Attachments



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**To:** Ann Wall, City Manager  
**From:** Don Octigan, Director of Recreation and Parks *DO*  
**Date:** January 26, 2022  
**Re:** Thomas Foreman Park Project Updates

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Two City projects taking shape in the West Greenville community continue to move along as scheduled. The construction of the Greenville Outdoor Aquatic Center, which will replace the current Community Pool, as well as the expansion of Eppes Recreation Center are scheduled to conclude spring 2022. The projects are being constructed within Thomas Foreman Park, located at 400 Nash Street.

An update on both projects is below:

**Greenville Outdoor Aquatic Center – Attachment #1**

Construction of the new pool is being managed by *Parks Planner* Mark Nottingham and the contactor is Farring and Sons. Mr. Nottingham has done a great job working with construction crews to ensure the City is able to provide assistance when needed to keep the project on schedule. The new outdoor aquatic center will feature a completely new bathhouse and many new recreational components. The bathhouse will feature men's, women's, and family changing rooms as well as vending machines and lockers. The aquatic center includes a zero-depth recreation pool with a children's play structure, a six lane lap pool area, and a 16' tall waterslide. Three large shade structures will also be located on the pool deck which will be available for the community to rent for family outings. Concrete has been installed in the pool shells and plaster will be applied in the coming weeks. The concrete slab for the bathhouse has been poured and the block walls are almost complete. Farring and Sons have kept the project on schedule and construction should be complete in May of 2022.

**Eppes Recreation Center Improvements – Attachment #2**

The improvements to the Eppes Recreation Center, managed by *Parks Coordinator* Mike Watson, are looking great. This project has experienced some delays due to supply chain issues but is still scheduled to be completed in March. The new teen room is almost finished and most of the interior renovation work in the C.M. Eppes Alumni Cultural & Heritage Center is nearing completion. Painting, electrical, and lighting upgrades in the weight room have also been completed. The new entrance on the Nash Street side of the building is beginning to take shape. Sheetrock for the lobby and the reception area has been installed, along with the new storefront windows. This entrance area will be great for Eppes Recreation Center employees and the community, as it will provide an excellent place for citizens to inquire about various programs and events.

Once both projects are complete, a ribbon cutting event will be planned in May to highlight both of these impactful new additions to Thomas Foreman Park.

Please let me know if there are any questions.

cc: Michael Cowin, Deputy City Manager

**Attachment #1 – Greenville Outdoor Aquatic Center**

**Bathroom Construction**



**Outdoor Pool Construction**





**Attachment #2: Eppes Recreation Center Expansion**

New Nash Street Front Entrance



Teen Lounge Addition





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**To:** Ann Wall, City Manager  
**From:** Don Octigan, Director of Recreation and Parks *DO*  
**Date:** January 26, 2022  
**Re:** NTC Wildwood Park Development Update

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City staff continue to work on various development projects related to Wildwood Park. Since the park opened in October 2021, staff have received positive feedback from users thus far. The park is proving to be a great asset to our community and with many amenities being designed for Phase II, 2022 will be an exciting year for Wildwood Park as other amenities are added.

Below are brief updates on several Wildwood Park initiatives being led by *Parks Planner* Mark Nottingham:

**Phase II – Welcome Center & Playground:**

At the October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021 meeting, City Council approved the Wildwood Park Development Plan (*attachment #1*) which included a restroom facility and playground where the existing middle shelter is located. Staff are working with The East Group on the site plan design for the area and have also issued an Informal Bid Request for the removal of the existing shelter. The bid request is due February 3<sup>rd</sup> and the shelter will be removed by June 1<sup>st</sup>. Removal of the shelter will create the landscape needed for construction.

The design of the Welcome Center, which will include restrooms, family restroom and a small customer service area, will be completed by April. The design of a nature themed playground will also be completed at the same time, which will allow staff to solicit construction bids for the entire project. As this project evolves, updates will be provided.

**Phase II – Expansion of Current Trail System:**

Staff are finalizing the design of a comprehensive trail system for Wildwood Park which will provide an additional 3 miles of trails within the park. The connections will include natural surface trails, boardwalks, a raised canopy walk and two pedestrian bridges. This project will complete the walking trail around the east side lake, connect the east parcel with the west parcel under highway 264 alternate and connect the west parcel of Wildwood to River Park North via a raised boardwalk system. The trail system will further increase the outdoor recreational opportunities for citizens and provide additional access to the Tar River via a pedestrian trail system. The design of the trails will be completed in February and staff will then solicit bids for construction. A construction contract will be presented for City Council consideration during an April meeting.

**Phase II – Mountain Bike Trail, Pump Track and Skills Course:**

Staff continue to work with Nature Trails, LLC and community supporters on the design of the mountain bike trail and pump track. Attached (*attachment #2*) is an overview of the mountain bike trail course, which will be finalized in early February. The course, funded by the *Eddie and Jo Allison Smith Family Foundation*, is six miles in length and will provide riders a unique experience as they ride through primitive areas of Wildwood Park that includes various elevation changes.

In addition to the mountain bike trails, the design of a pump track and skills course will also be finalized in early February. The pump track and skills course will be located north of the east side lake, shown in purple on the attached map. The pump track will be paved and will accommodate a diverse group of users to include bikers, skaters and others.

The construction contract for both the mountain bike trail and the pump track/skills course will be presented for City Council consideration in April. Construction will begin in May and will not impact park operations.

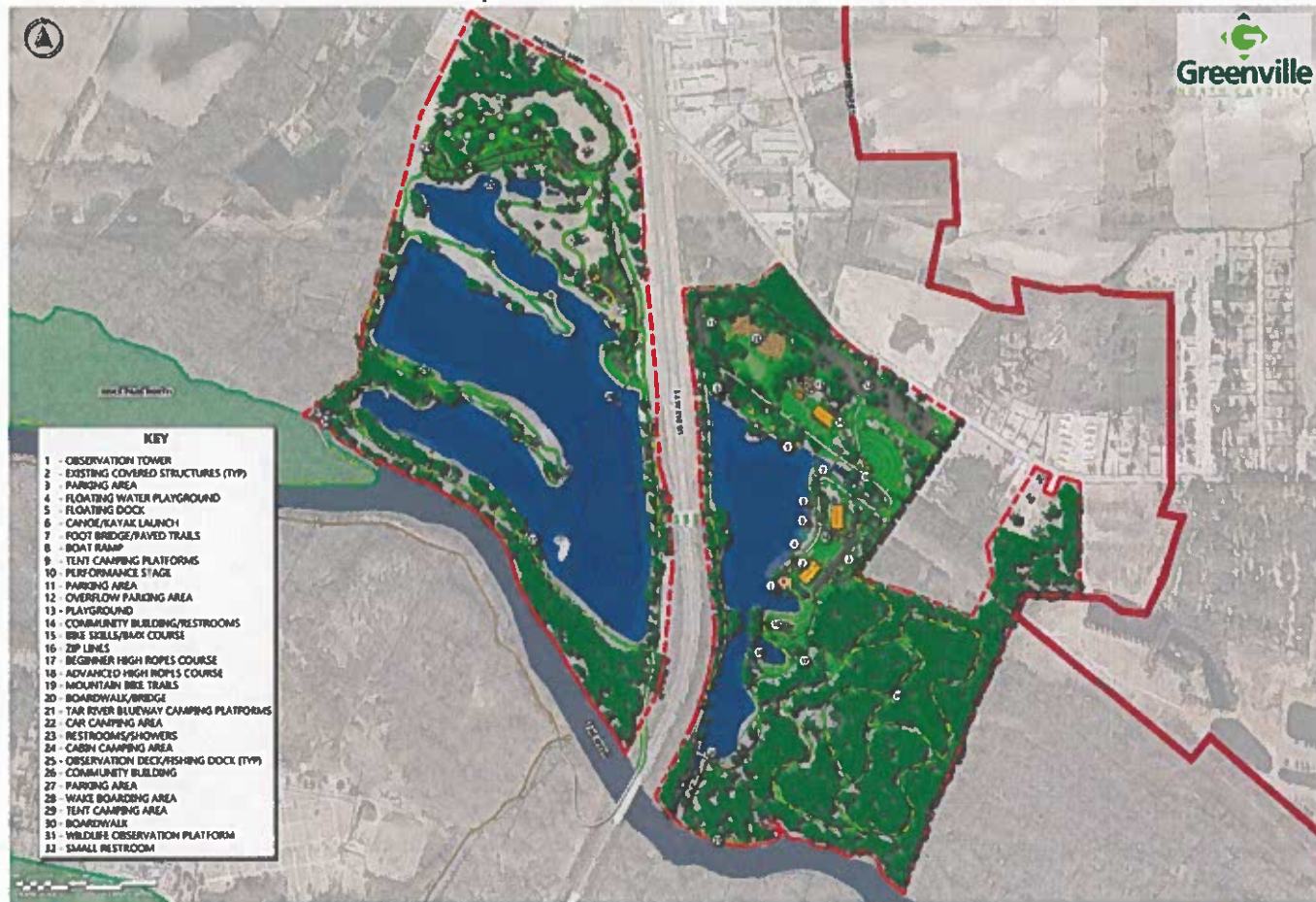
In addition, fundraising efforts continue to help increase community support for future amenities at Wildwood Park. Thanks to the assistance of Evolve, INC, staff will finalize a giving catalog by the end of January. This catalog will be a great resource as staff share the vision of Wildwood Park. Along with the Wildwood Park Resource Office, Recreation and Parks staff will be meeting with and presenting to various community organizations and businesses in the next several months. A memo providing a complete fundraising report will be drafted in February once details have been received from the Community Foundation of NC East.

Please let me know if there are any questions.

cc: Michael Cowin, Deputy City Manager  
Mark Nottingham, Parks Planner



Attachment #1 – Wildwood Park Development Plan



**Attachment #2: Draft of the Mountain Bike Trail Preliminary Layout Design**

