

MINUTES
CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WORK SESSION
MARCH 16, 2009

The Board of Commissioners (“the Board”) of the County of Chatham, North Carolina, met in the Henry Dunlap Building Classroom, 80 East Street, located in Pittsboro, North Carolina, at 3:30 PM on March 16, 2009.

Present: Chairman George Lucier; Vice Chair Sally Kost; Commissioners Mike Cross, Carl Thompson and Tom Vanderbeck; County Manager, Charlie Horne; County Attorney Jep Rose; Assistant County Manager Renee Paschal; Finance Officer, Vicki McConnell; and Clerk to the Board Sandra B. Sublett

The Work Session was called to order by the Chairman at 3:30 PM.

Work Session

Presentation of Draft Recreation Master Plan: Presentation of the results of the work on the master plan update

Tracy Burnett, Chatham County Recreation Director, introduced Michael Norris and Janet Bean with McGill Associates and Don Lein with the Chatham Parks Foundation President & Vice Chair of Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

Grant King (with McGill)

Joe Fraser (Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Chair)

Michael J. Norris, ASLA, Director of Land Planning and Recreation with McGill Associates, PA, explained the specifics of the Chatham County Master Plan and presented a PowerPoint as follows:



Plan Purpose

Provide a guide for action and decisions concerning:

- Proposals and Recommendations for Existing Facilities and Future Recreation Facilities
- Cooperative efforts within Chatham County providing for recreational needs
- Priorities for Capital Improvements
- Implementation Plan



Planning Process

Five Step Process

1. Demographic Review
(Who we are)
2. Existing Facilities Inventory & Analysis
(What we have)
3. Community Needs Assessment
(What we need)
4. Recommendations & Proposals
(What to do)
5. Action Plan Implementation
(How to do it)

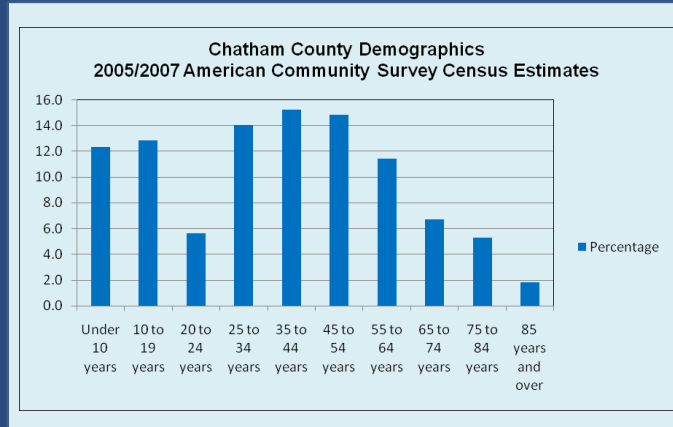


Demographic Review

- By 2028 the County population is expected to be approximately 137,795
- Projections for Chatham County has projected a 53% growth rate from 2000 to 2020
- A majority of growth in Chatham County is occurring in the eastern portion of the County



Demographic Review



Inventory



Pond at Northeast District Park



Southwest District Park

- Facilities Inventory
 - Existing public parks
 - Existing school facilities
 - Federal and state parks and open space in area
 - Facilities offered by others
 - Private recreation facilities
- Demographics
- Previous Planning Studies



Existing Facilities Inventory



Chatham County operated parks include:

Earl Thompson Park at Bynum

Site Amenities:

- 1 Lighted Youth Baseball Field
- Playground Equipment
- Concession Stand/Restroom Facility
- Parking

Southwest Park at Bear Creek

Site Amenities:

- Playground Equipment
- 1/2 Mile Walking Trail
- Sand Volleyball Court
- Parking Lot
- 1 Lighted Multi-purpose Field (baseball, softball, soccer, football)
- Picnic Shelter with Restrooms, Concessions

Bynum Beach Canoe Access



Existing Facilities Inventory

- **Recreation Providers within Chatham County:**

- Chatham County Public Schools
- Municipality Owned Facilities
- State and Federal Facilities
- Multi-Agency Joint Ownership
- Private Facilities



Community Needs Assessment

Four techniques were used to assess community needs:



- Staff/Project Oversight Group
- Survey / Questionnaire
- Four (4) Public community meetings
 November 7, November 8,
 November 13, November 14, 2007
- Recreation standards (national, state, local)

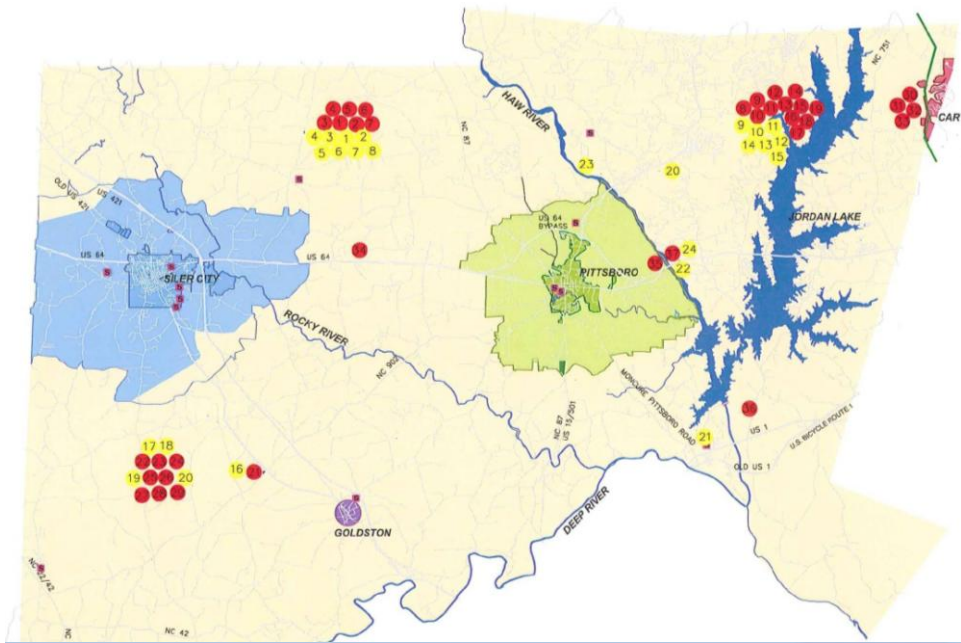


Needs Assessment

Public Workshop

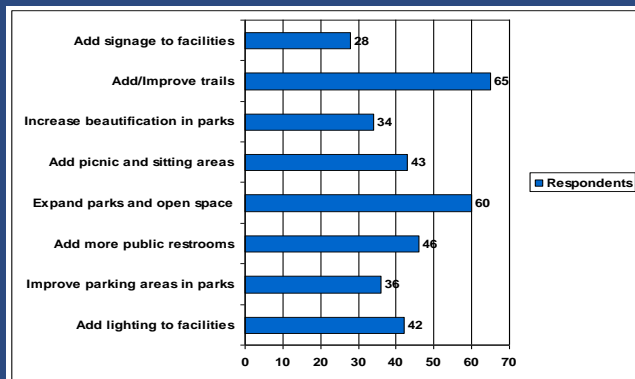
Location	Priority	Location	Priority
Southeastern Quadrant of County	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Multi-use park 2. Connecting loops for bicycle trails 	Northwest District Park	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Horse trails (5 mentions) 2. Hiking trails 3. Sports complex (2 mentions) 4. Gymnasium 5. Security 6. Camping 7. Preserve forest 8. Build "green"
Northeast District Park	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hiking/walking trails (5) 2. Disc golf (3) 3. Athletic fields (3) 4. Indoor swimming pool (2) 5. Maintain security 6. Playgrounds 7. Mountain bike trail 8. Basketball courts 9. Tennis courts 10. Nature preserve 11. Control light pollution 12. Control erosion 13. Reduce trash 	Southwest County	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Horse trail from Bennett to Bonlee (5 mentions) 2. Park with multi-use trails and camping (4 mentions) 3. Wagon trails (2 mentions) 4. Buy or lease Flat Woods property (2 mentions) 5. Community building for Southwest District Park 6. Basketball court at Southwest District Park 7. Tennis courts at Southwest District Park
Central County	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. District park – ball fields, gymnasium, pool, activity center 	Northeast County	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Connect to Orange County's horse trail system
Greenways	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Connect Pittsboro, Siler City, Bear Creek, Goldstrom, Moncure and Jordan Lake 2. Connect Pittsboro to Jordan Lake 3. Along Haw River 4. From Flat Woods to Northwest District Park and other locations in Chatham County 5. Around Jordan Lake 6. Connect Farrington to Northeast District Park 7. Connect Pittsboro to Northeast District Park 8. Westfall 9. Along Robeson Creek from Walnut Grove Apts. To Salisbury St. in Pittsboro 	Pittsboro	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sports complex (2 mentions) 2. Walking trails 3. More visibility for soccer leagues 4. Indoor pool 5. Fitness center 6. Activities for senior citizens
Haw River	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Kayaking input 2. Walking/biking trail along river 	Bicycle Trails	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Along one side of highways through County 2. Bike lanes on Jack Bennett, Lystra, Mt. Carmel Ch and Farrington Point Roads

Needs Assessment Map **Public Workshop**

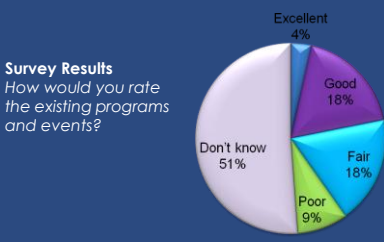
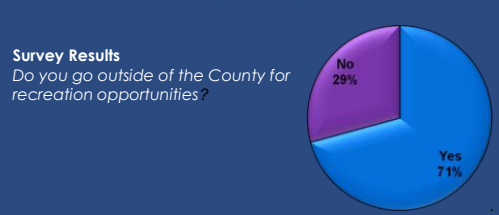
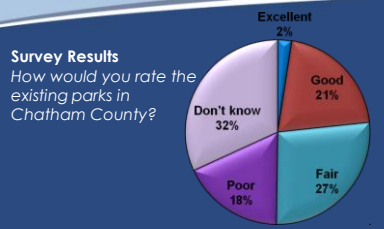


Needs Assessment

- The survey respondents expressed a high importance in additional trails and expansion of parks and open space within existing parks.



Needs Assessment



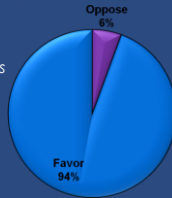
- Over 70% of respondents travel outside the County for recreational opportunities



Needs Assessment

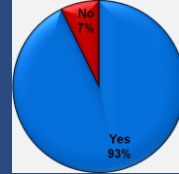
Survey Results

In favor of expanding parks



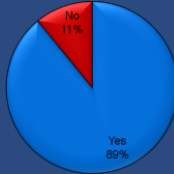
Survey Results

Willing to pay fee to attend event or use special facility



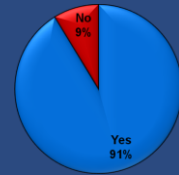
Survey Results

Support greenway



Survey Results

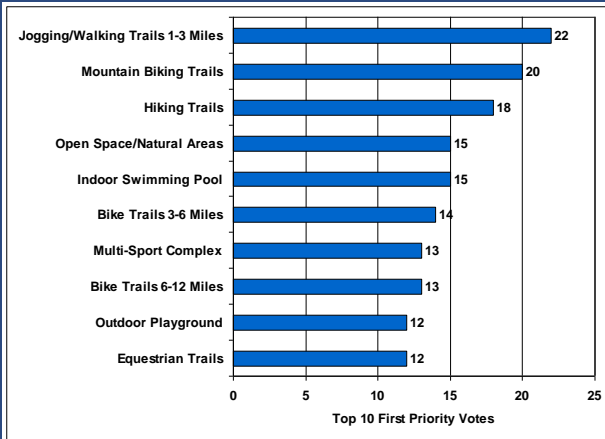
Use park/greenway if closer to home/work



- Respondents indicated a high desire to expand parks and greenway facilities



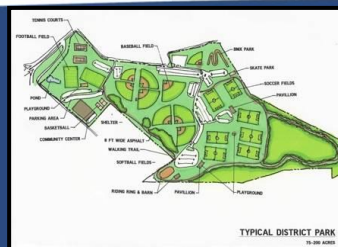
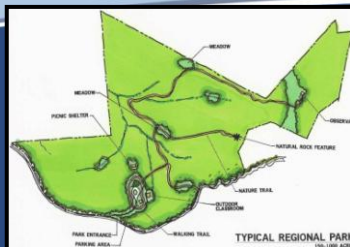
Needs Assessment

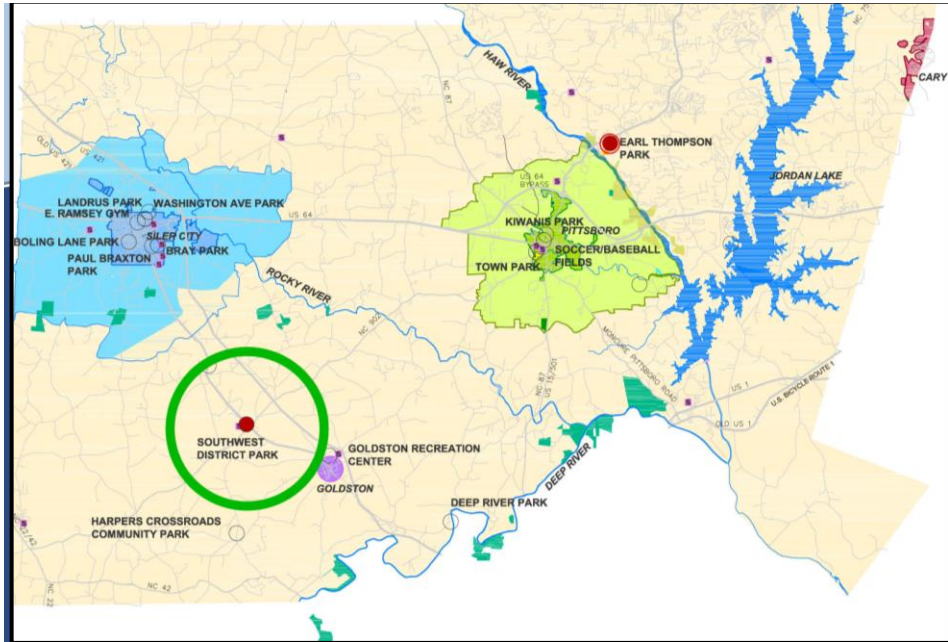


The top 10 amenities chosen as their first priority by survey respondents.



Needs Assessment Recreation Standards





Existing Chatham County Park Service Areas



Needs Assessment

Facility	NRPA Standards	NC DENR Standards	Chatham County Standards (Recommended)
Fields			
Adult Baseball	1/12,000	1/5,000	1/5,000
Youth Baseball	1/5,000	1/5,000	1/5,000
Softball	1/5,000	1/5,000	1/5,000
Football	1/10,000	1/20,000	1/10,000
Soccer	1/10,000	1/20,000	1/5,000
Courts			
Basketball	1/5,000	1/5,000	1/5,000
Tennis	1/2,000	1/2,000	1/2,000
Volleyball	1/5,000	1/5,000	1/5,000
Shuffleboard	N/A	N/A	1/5,000
Horseshoe	1/2,000	N/A	1/2,000
Outdoor Areas			
Picnic Shelter	N/A	1/3,000	1/3,000
Playground Activities	N/A	1/1,000	1/2,500
Amphitheater	1/20,000	1/20,000	1/20,000
Trails			
Walking/Hiking	1/region	0.4 mile/1,000	0.4 mile/1,000
Equestrian	N/A	0.4 mile/1,000	0.4 mile/1,000
Camping	N/A	2.5 sites/1,000	2.5 sites/1,000



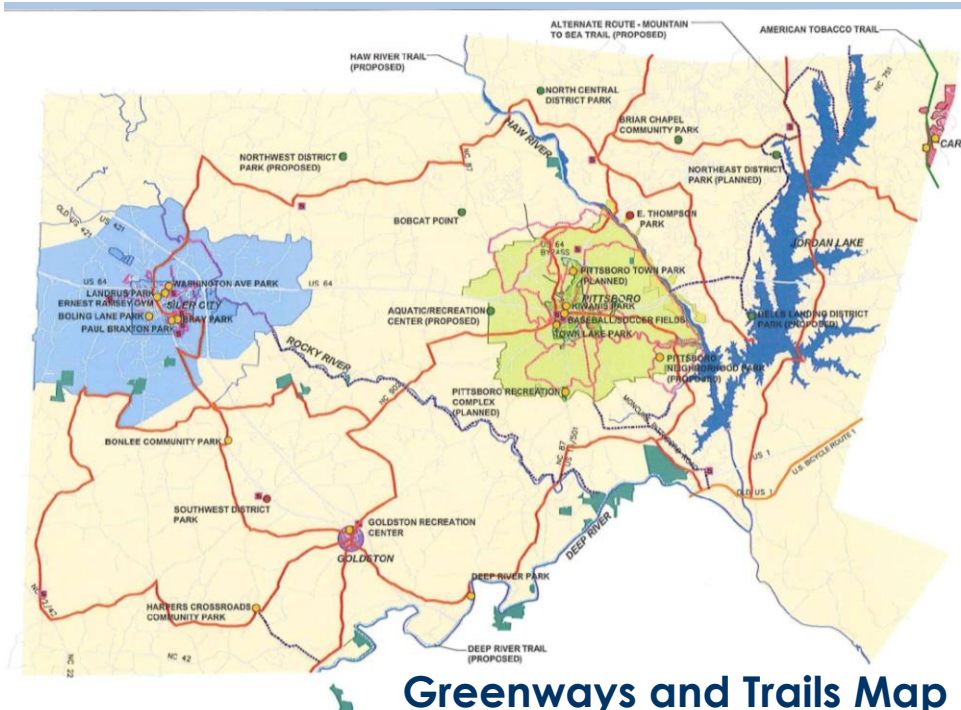
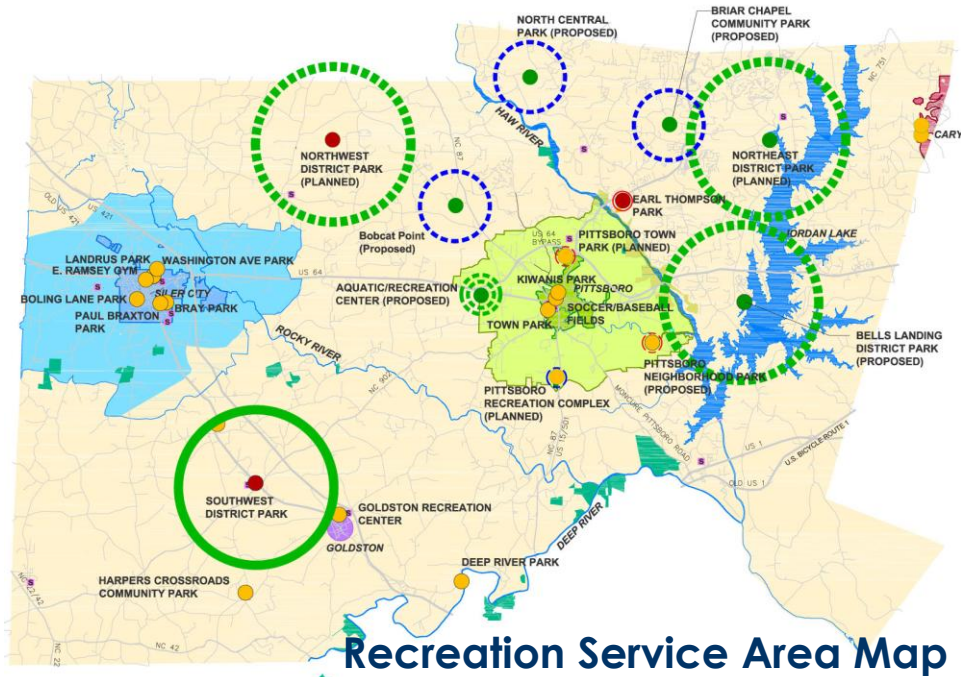
Needs Assessment

- Using state and national standards the following major facility needs were identified for 2018:
 - (13) Adult Baseball
 - (12) Youth Baseball
 - (11) Softball
 - (6) Football
 - (13) Soccer
 - (13) Basketball Court
 - (32) Tennis Court
 - (12) Volleyball
 - (26) Playground Facilities
 - (3) Amphitheatre
 - (20) Picnic Facilities
 - (21) Miles nature/hiking Trails
 - (26) Miles Equestrian Trails
 - (3) Community Center
 - (3) Swimming Pool



Proposals and Recommendations

- ❑ Park & Conservation Facilities
- ❑ Greenways and Trail System
- ❑ Recreation Programming



Proposals and Recommendations

General Recommendations

- Consider requiring developers to provide right-of-way or easement for proposed or future greenway corridors
- Establish new partnerships and continue to coordinate planning efforts and recreational programming with the County School System, local municipalities, and private recreation providers
- Acquire land contiguous to existing parks as opportunities become available
- Encourage the efforts of land stewardship by developing and implementing green building components, stewardship programs, educational programming
- Continue authorizing the Recreation Advisory's Boards role regarding advising the Parks and Recreation Department, County Administration, and Board of Commissioners in all matters concerning park operations, maintenance, acquisition and disposal of lands



Implementation Plan

10 Year Capital Improvements Plan Summary												
CATEGORY / IMPROVEMENT	COST	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 5	YEAR 6	YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	2019
		2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	AND AFTER
Earl Thompson Park	\$135,900											\$135,900
Southwest District Park	\$2,858,535											\$2,858,535
Northeast District Park												
Phase I	\$1,750,009	\$1,750,009										
Phase II	\$1,169,019				\$1,169,019							
Phase III	\$3,781,696								\$3,781,696			
Northwest District Park												
Interim	\$1,131,341			\$1,131,341								
Phase I	\$2,269,499											\$2,269,499
Phase II	\$516,261											\$516,261
Phase III	\$974,499											\$974,499
Phase IV	\$3,319,911											\$3,319,911
Bell's Landing	\$4,875,246											\$4,875,246
Aquatics/Recreation Center	\$7,467,950											\$7,467,950
Greenways/Blueways Construction	\$500,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	
TOTAL PROJECT IMPROVEMENTS	\$30,749,871	\$1,800,009	\$50,000	\$1,181,341	\$50,000	\$1,219,019	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$3,831,696	\$50,000	
PROJECT IMPROVEMENTS w/in 10 yr. CIP	\$8,332,067											
*Inflated costs using 5% cumulative	\$11,166,169	\$1,890,009	\$55,125	\$1,367,550	\$60,775	\$1,555,811	\$67,004	\$70,355	\$73,872	\$5,944,218	\$81,444	
Projected Matching Grant Monies	\$2,000,000	\$500,000		\$500,000		\$500,000				\$500,000		
TOTAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	\$9,134,724	\$1,390,009	\$55,125	\$867,550	\$60,775	\$1,055,811	\$67,004	\$70,355	\$73,872	\$5,444,218	\$50,000	
Potential Grant Options		PARTF	NCDOT	PARTF	NCDOT	PARTF	NCDOT	NCDOT	NCDOT	PARTF	NCDOT	
			RTP		RTP		RTP	RTP	RTP	NCDOT	RTP	

Implementation Plan

10 Year Operating Budget										
CATEGORY	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 5	YEAR 6	YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10
	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019
Population Projection	63,358	66,121	68,884	71,647	74,411	77,804	81,197	84,590	87,983	91,377
Operating Capital Expenses \$26,000/Park Addition				\$26,000.00						
Additional Personnel		(1) Park Supervisor at NE Dist. Park		(1) Park Supervisor at NW Dist. Park			(1) Athletic Supervisor			
Annual Operating Budget	\$1,178,264	\$1,295,977	\$1,360,776	\$1,487,615	\$1,561,996	\$1,640,095	\$1,753,600	\$1,841,280	\$1,933,344	\$2,030,011
Inflated costs using 4% cumulative										
Total Per Capita Operating Budget assumes 5% inflation	\$18.60	\$19.60	\$19.75	\$20.76	\$20.99	\$21.08	\$21.60	\$21.77	\$21.97	\$22.22



Implementation Plan

Funding Strategies

- Dedicated Source of Revenue
- Federal and State Assistance Grants
- Contributions
- Parks Foundation
- Fees and Charges
- Resident/Non-Resident Fees
- Bonds
- Sponsorships, Partnerships and Outsourcing



Implementation Plan

Creating Innovative Partnerships

- Chatham County School System
- Healthcare
- Local Municipalities (Pittsboro, Siler City, Cary)
- Corporate Sponsorship
- Institutions
- Civic Organizations
- Private Partnerships (YMCA, Developers)



Questions or Comments?



A question and answer session ensued.

Commissioner Kost asked that staff look into the land at Eagle Park, stating that she thinks there is approximately 300 acres and if it was offered to Cary, it may be something in which the County would be interested.

Mr. Norris explained that the next process is to address Commissioners' comments, to send out a final draft to the Project Oversight Group and address their concerns, and then return it to the Board of Commissioners for adoption.

Commissioner Cross stated that he had been talking with Tandy Jones of the Land Conservancy; that the Land conservancy has identified an approximate 300 acre plat in which they are interested in purchasing; that he has asked if they would consider selling the County a hundred acres of it; and that he would like for the County to consider making a substantial down payment with the remainder to be paid by the recreation exaction fees.

The Chairman thanked everyone and stated that they looked forward to getting the revised version of the plan.

Non-Profit Review Panel Volunteers Appointment: Appointment of Non-Profit Review Panel Volunteers

Commissioner Vanderbeck moved, seconded by Commissioner Kost, to appoint the following volunteers to the Non-Profit Review Panel:

Richard Edwards
Cherie Ernest
Katherine Griffith
Dianne Reid
June Heck

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

RECESS

Commissioner Vanderbeck moved, seconded by Commissioner Kost, to recess to the meeting to the County Manager's Conference Room for dinner at 4:25 PM.

The Board discussed the State of the County Address and the Economic Stimulus Package.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Kost moved, seconded by Commissioner Cross to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0), and the meeting was adjourned at 5:15 PM.

George Lucier, Chairman

ATTEST:

Sandra B. Sublett, CMC, Clerk to the Board
Chatham County Board of Commissioners