



NEWS RELEASE

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Board Approves Master Plan and New Name for Future Park

Project to receive funds from 2018 voter-approved bond

A future park in the southeastern corner of the county is one step closer to reality thanks to action taken today by the Wake County Board of Commissioners.



Additional information about Beech Bluff County Park, including presentations from community meetings and a flyover video, can be found [here](#).

In a unanimous vote, the board approved the master plan for the property, which is located along N.C. 42 near Garner and Fuquay-Varina. The vote also gives the land an official name. Previously referred to as Southeast County Park, the 300 acres of undeveloped forests, wetlands, stream channels and rock outcrops that make up the project are now known as Beech Bluff County Park.

“We’ve held several public meetings over the last year to find out residents’ thoughts about the park and to guide the master planning process,” said Chris Snow, director of Parks, Recreation and Open Space. “From the very beginning, people have been interested in what it should be called—we received dozens of suggestions.”

The new name is a nod to two characteristics of the parkland—the beech trees that grow there, and the steep bluffs that make the topography unique.

In addition to a diverse ecosystem and wildlife habitats, the master plan for the park includes a playground, wildlife observation platform, picnic shelters, several miles of trails, a park center, community gardens and open meadows.

Funding for Beech Bluff County Park will come from the 2018 Parks, Greenways, Recreation and Open Space bond. In January, the board made the development of the park its No. 1 priority. Today’s vote authorizes staff to continue design for the future park. Once complete, the design will be presented to the board for approval, and funds will be requested for the permitting and bidding phases of the project.

Construction could begin on the park in 2021, with an anticipated opening date of 2022.

Wake County had the vision for Beech Bluff County Park back in 2003 when it identified an unmet need for county park facilities and

services in southeastern Wake County. In 2004, the county allocated funds to start purchasing land.

The Wake County Board of Commissioners strives to implement a comprehensive approach for preserving open space and developing parks and greenways to address gaps, leverage opportunities and resources, and enhance collaboration with municipal partners.

About Wake County Parks, Recreation and Open Space

[Wake County Parks, Recreation and Open Space](#) strives to provide outdoor recreation and educational opportunities while promoting environmental and cultural stewardship through a managed system of parks and open spaces. In 2018, more than 1.3 million people visited Wake County's 10 parks and nature preserves.

To learn more about [Wake County Parks, Recreation and Open Space](#), follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) at [@WakeGovParks](#). You can also check out each of our parks on [Facebook](#).

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