



## Appendix C: Recommendations Evolution



## Overview

The recommendations of this plan were developed through the evaluation of existing conditions by Wake County staff and the consultant team and input through public engagement by the Steering Committee, focus groups, park staff, and the general public. Each recommended addition or modification was considered through the lenses of staff, management, citizens, visitors, users, and non-users of all ages and abilities. This multi-faceted recommendation development process was documented in the spreadsheets that follow.

For each topic evaluated, these spreadsheets document:

- Existing data in the form of existing memoranda of understanding, existing plans, and past community surveys
- Demand and site analysis performed by the consultant team
- Public input from Steering Committee meetings, focus groups, staff, and the general public
- Recommendations





# American Tobacco Trail

Topic	MOUs and Existing Plans	Past Community Survey	LWP	Steering Committee Ideas	Focus Group	Site Analysis
Non Categorical	Currently there are lease agreements with the North Carolina Department of Transportation and the Town of Cary. Sub leases exist with the State of North Carolina and Wake County for the trailheads within Jordan Lake gamelands (New Hill and Wimberly).	<p>Most important Service</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Acquiring Open Space</li> <li>2. Expanding Greenway System</li> <li>3. Developing Large Regional Parks Nature</li> <li>4. Maintaining Improving Services</li> <li>5. Providing environmental Cultural Historic education</li> </ol> <p>What does this mean: The citizens show support for acquiring open space. The County should remain vigilant about opportunities to acquire lands to meet their conservation goal as well as to preserve and educate the community about the importance of open space. The greenways system is critical for livability in the county (the greenway plan is already being executed).</p>		This is Part of the East Coast Greenway and it is hardly acknowledged or explained.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Equestrians know weekends, summer are busy; tend to come during weekdays &amp; winter</li> <li>• Expanding parking lot on Wimberly Rd- and possibly adding water at same spot!</li> <li>• More garbage cans, more than just at the parking lots- people toss trash, dog waste bags, water bottles, etc., on and along trail</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No current policy on horse waste; users remove from trail and discard in woods. Should consider a "bag your horse" policy so that waste material does not become a water quality concern.</li> </ul>
Mission and Education				Need to have a message of transportation, orientation, and education on where you are in the triangle.		
Connections to Other Facilities				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• White Oak Creek connection will create connection from Downtown Durham to Raleigh via Walnut Creek and then access to Neuse River Trail (Huge regional connectivity to be embraced!)</li> <li>• Bike/ped connectivity with trail spurs to developments to convert vehicular trips to the trail to bike/ped</li> </ul>		
Bike Repair Stations		Water stations needed for people and animals		Provide Bike Repair stations at the trailheads		
ADA Accessibility		<p>Most used parks in last 12 months</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Lake Crabtree (70.6)</li> <li>2. Harris Lake (66.5)</li> <li>3. American Tobacco Trail (55.1)</li> <li>4. Historic Yates Mill (53.2)</li> <li>5. Crowder (40.4)</li> <li>6. Blue Jay (35.9)</li> <li>7. Historic Oak View (32.5)</li> <li>8. N. Wake Landfill (24.2)</li> </ol> <p>What does this mean: Crabtree, Harris Lake, ATT, and Yates are a priority for addressing challenges like <b>ADA accessibility or maintenance issues</b>. Blue Jay, Oak View, and Landfill need outreach campaigns to increase use. Blue Jay is a bit of an outlier. Oak View now is special use – this can be changed with the recommendations, Landfill could use a PR campaign and additional comfort/uses to activate.</p>				
Access to Drinking Water and Food				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rest area accommodations and aid stations for water breaks are needed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water is needed!!</li> </ul>	
Connections To Transit		<p>Why are they not using parks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Prefer to use City or State Parks</li> <li>2. Too Far/don't have transportation</li> <li>3. Not convenient</li> <li>4. Hours not convenient</li> <li>5. Time Constraints/Personal issues</li> <li>6. Didn't know</li> </ol> <p>What does this mean: We need to advocate for connections to transit. The public needs to be informed of how to get to parks via transit and greenways. People need to understand it doesn't take hours to enjoy a park – it can take minutes.</p>				

Topic	Steering Committee and Staff Workshop	Public Input	Recommendations				Staff Comment
			Preserve	Remove	Modify	New	
Non Categorical		There were approximately 215 survey respondents through community events and online surveys. Response varied from question to question. Percentages highlighted below are specific to that topic.					
Mission and Education						Provide more interpretation on the history and evolution of transportation in relationship to the past and current use of the rail line.	More educational opportunities, history and environmental.
Connections to Other Facilities					Create a standard for connections from Spine Trails and Neighborhoods so there is consistency.	Work with New Hope Valley rail line to provide a stop at the east end of their passenger line that could serve trail users to and from the trail and become a major bike to train destination	
Bike Repair Stations	Provide Bike Repair stations at the trailheads	69% of respondents support adding bike repair stations to trailheads.				Provide Bike Repair Stations at the Trailheads	Staff supports this and would like to see them at trailheads at a minimum.
ADA Accessibility	More Benches are needed along the trail at a greater frequency.					Provide Parking and bollard spacing that allow for wheelchair, stroller, and bike carriage accessibility	
Access to Drinking Water and Food		94% of survey respondents support the idea of having water stations for people and animals along the trail and specifically at the trailheads. 42% of people support the idea of food vending ALONG the trail, however, it was noted that 22% were "unsure" because they supported the idea of having food vending at trailheads but not the idea of vendors along the trail.				Provide Water Stations along the trail. Provide Vending though carts and markets at the parking area's and trailheads.	Staff supports access to drinking water and considers it the highest priority. Considers access to food vending at trailheads a great idea (Vending trucks, etc. but NOT along the trail)
Connections To Transit						Work with nearby buslines to connect to key trail locations to assist distance commuters with transportation connections.	



Topic	MOUs and Existing Plans	Past Community Survey	LWP	Steering Committee Ideas	Focus Group	Site Analysis
Parking					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parking/trailer access could be better</li> <li>• Is there an opportunity for designated trailer parking with signs?</li> <li>• Overflow parking lot doesn't get used much- rest of areas will be full &amp; overflow empty, in spite of signs, but once a car parks there, more will join</li> </ul>	
Trailhead Facilities				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lighting along the trail for commuting (Dawn to dusk policy)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hitching posts near bathrooms are needed for horse riders</li> <li>• Lighting: no strong preference, as long as lights aren't disruptive to neighboring homeowners</li> </ul>	
Walking, Hiking, Biking, and Horseback Riding		<p>Why are they using:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Walking/hiking/dog walking</li> <li>2. Cycling/mountain biking</li> <li>3. Viewing nature/wildlife</li> <li>4. Use of Playground</li> <li>5. Attending a program</li> </ol> <p>What does this mean: First – this identifies the demand for these activities in all of the parks. Second, it illustrates what is currently successful. And third, it may indicate that people are unaware of the other types of activities in the park system.</p>				
Outreach and Awareness		<p>Sources of information</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Email Newsletter</li> <li>2. Website</li> <li>3. Brochure/Fliers</li> <li>4. Friends</li> <li>5. Conversations with Staff</li> </ol> <p>What does this mean: Keep up the good work on the newsletter and consider increasing frequency. Make sure the newsletter is archived on the website. Nationally, Facebook is the number one source for learning about parks and recreation programs so the County should increase the Facebook and social media presence.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Major destination for cyclists across the state, country</li> <li>• Safety from user conflict (bad reputation for crime)</li> </ul>		
Health and Wellness						
Wayfinding and User Orientation				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Define destinations with wayfinding signage to Cary, Apex, Holly Springs, Raleigh</li> </ul>		
Programs						
Priorities						

Topic	Steering Committee and Staff Workshop	Public Input	Recommendations				Staff Comment
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Parking		71% of survey respondents support the idea of additional parking and improved access to and along the trail			Add Parking specifically for trailers.	Expand Parking Areas.	
Trailhead Facilities	It would be nice to have a shelter and or gathering facility at the trailheads for group gatherings and events. Maintenance and storage facilities are needed at the trailheads	86% of survey respondents support the idea of additional lighting at the trailheads.			Add Lighting, hitch posts at restrooms, and consistent kiosk map.	Provide kiosks at trailheads, showing trail maps and destinations you can get to near/off the trail. Provide Lighting, shelters, picnic areas, bike repair stations and interpretation at the major trailheads.	Lighting (solar), train kiosks, Don't want to encourage people to stay longer.
Walking, Hiking, Biking, and Horseback Riding							
Outreach and Awareness	Need to have consistent high visibility crosswalks and signs alerting vehicles and identifying trail.						
Health and Wellness	Provide fitness challenges as part of the wayfinding						Stretching stations but not necessarily fitness stations. Better mileage and information on distance.
Wayfinding and User Orientation		79% of survey respondents stated that user orientation, signage, and wayfinding improvements and consistency were needed.				Provide wayfinding signage along the trail that corresponds to the kiosk map. Provide consistent mile marking along the trail.	This is very important. Better connection to ECG, would like to make the system user friendly. X miles to bike shop, etc. Use a caboose or depot car as trail head kiosks.
Programs	It would be great to add rental bikes/bike share program along the trail so that beginner users could experience the park.	Survey respondents stated several times that it would be beneficial for early morning exercise and commuting to open the trail access locations earlier.					
Priorities							Priorities 1. Access to water 2. Parking 3. Lighting 4. User orientation 5. Shelters 6. Bike repair



# Blue Jay Point County Park

Topic	MOUs and Existing Plans	Past Community Survey	LWP	Steering Committee Ideas	Focus Group	Site Analysis
Non-Categorical	There is currently a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), the NC Division of Parks and Recreation, the NC Wildlife Resources Commission, and the Friends of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail. As part of this agreement it is understood the Lake Trail shall be promoted and identified as the MST along the Falls Lake shoreline. In addition, this agreement prohibits motorized, bike, and equestrian traffic. The primary land lease agreement exists between the USACE and the State of NC for Blue Jay Point to serve as a recreational resource. A sub-lease exists between the State of North Carolina and Wake County to operate Blue Jay Point as a park; this lease runs until 2026 and outlines plans for active recreation park development.	Most important Service 1. Acquiring Open Space 2. Expanding Greenway System 3. Developing Large Regional Parks Nature 4. Maintaining Improving Services 5. Providing environmental Cultural Historic education What does this mean: The citizens show support for acquiring open space. The County should remain vigilant about opportunities to acquire lands to meet their conservation goal as well as to preserve and educate the community about the importance of open space. The greenways system is critical for livability in the county (the greenway plan is already being executed).	Need to focus on diversity and youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhance and promote natural area playground</li> <li>Programming offered to people with disabilities</li> <li>Driving to the park can be difficult</li> <li>Mountain biking policy</li> <li>Marketing efforts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Need to Add Park signs on Six Forks Rd/Highway 98. The Park is not overly visible and it is easy to pass.</li> <li>Staff can work with Go Ape marketing to drive foot traffic. • Focus kids on each other &amp; being outside.</li> <li>Redo playground into natural playground with trees &amp; shade (not a fan of sails)</li> <li>Low impact, leave-no-trace camping would fill 20-mile gap between Shin Leaf &amp; the dam along MTS- doesn't need to be extensive and could be done on a permit basis</li> <li>Upgrade turf on main field- lacrosse requires good grass, even field- no equivalent to Cedar Falls in this area, high demand for existing fields &amp; facilities- would allow field to serve as true athletic field rather than something volunteers do their best to make work</li> <li>More natural resource mgt: BIP has beautiful stand of short leaf pine which is unique &amp; native &amp; which will not survive succession- Staff would like to see it preserved</li> <li>More staff would afford more programs and facility expansion opportunities.</li> <li>Office building expanded. Education staff has no break room b/c has been converted into office space. Would love to provide for them a place to get away from work/public during breaks.</li> <li>Classroom with a play patio for preschoolers- large portion of educational groups. Could also be used for coaches to rent &amp; use for classroom trainings, especially when rained out.</li> </ul>	
Mission and Education						
Expansion					Add more land	The park could expand by acquiring the property adjacent to the park and just downstream on Steep Hill Creek. This land would connect to the Phares Yates House.
ADA Accessibility		Most used parks in last 12 months 1. Lake Crabtree (70.6) 2. Harris Lake (66.5) 3. American Tobacco Trail (55.1) 4. Historic Yates Mill (53.2) 5. Crowder (40.4) 6. Blue Jay (35.9) 7. Historic Oak View (32.5) 8. N. Wake Landfill (24.2) What does this mean: Crabtree, Harris Lake, ATT, and Yates are a priority for addressing challenges like ADA accessibility or maintenance issues. Blue Jay, Oak View, and Landfill need outreach campaigns to increase use. Blue Jay is a bit of an outlier, Oak View now is special use – this can be changed with the recommendations, Landfill could use a PR campaign and additional comfort/uses to activate.		Need to add hierarchy of trails so there is a hierarchy of trails for a variety of abilities		Steep terrain makes all hiking areas challenging for visitors with physical impairments; add ranking of trail system and utilize flat terrain for accessible trails. Fluctuating water levels of Falls Lake make shoreline development challenging; address water level fluctuation when locating and designing water access, viewing platforms, and fishing piers.
Connections To Transit		Why are they not using parks: 1. Prefer to use City or State Parks 2. Too Far/don't have transportation 3. Not convenient 4. Hours not convenient 5. Time Constraints/Personal issues 6. Didn't know What does this mean: We need to advocate for connections to transit. The public needs to be informed of how to get to parks via transit and greenways. People need to understand it doesn't take hours to enjoy a park – it can take minutes.		No current access to public transit		No nearby access to public transit

Topic	Steering Committee and Staff Workshop	Public Input	Recommendations			New	Staff Comments
			Preserve	Remove	Modify		
Non Categorical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Highlight the rope course; huge attraction with private marketing; leverage their marketing efforts to promote entire county system</li> <li>Mountain to Sea trail should be promoted</li> <li>Driving to the park can be difficult</li> <li>Mountain biking policy?</li> <li>Marketing efforts</li> </ul>	Note: between on-site surveys and the survey monkey respondents there were 276 total responses to the public input survey. Percentages highlighted are from these results.					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shade/canopy benches at playground</li> <li>Individual canopy picnic tables? (similar to some rest stops)</li> <li>ADA access to lake shore / ADA fishing access / ADA platforms</li> <li>Office expansion (staff is reviewing programming needs)</li> <li>Don't pave Go Ape parking area</li> <li>Blueway trail – primary purpose would be time reference points (10 minutes paddle time to _____)</li> <li>Accessibility to natural play area</li> <li>See spreadsheet comments</li> </ul>
Mission and Education			Interpretive opportunities along the trail.		Add more interpretation in a variety of ways (reading, touch, site, etc.) so they become accessible to varied ages and abilities.		
Expansion					Expand Hiking opportunities throughout; add a challenge hiking course near the existing maintenance area; offer primitive/organized group camping and MST through hike camping sites.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>STAFF SUPPORTS – Cool idea, BUT no parking or access through the maintenance shop area; Hike to facility only.</li> <li>Concern is location - don't think it needs its own parking</li> <li>Using existing topo; this can be designed to be plenty challenging – no building of "challenges" as shown in photos – too artificial.</li> <li>SHIFT location on plan; add location to the north on plan.</li> </ul>	
ADA Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Programming offered to people with disabilities</li> </ul>				Create a paved and/or hardpack ADA accessible loop around the primary park features linking the center, fields, nature based play, Go Ape, playground, garden, and identify the trails that are served from that primary loop. This would provide easy access for seniors, youth, and strollers. Provide additional programs, interpretive features, and spaces that serve a variety of abilities.		
Connections To Transit					There are no nearby transit stations that directly access this park site.		



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Parking				Not a clear identifiable entry or starting point; clearly articulate arrival to the park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School drop off can be dangerous, consider a carpool lane or drop off sequence.</li> <li>Paved parking lot to give users a more professional appeal when coming to Go Ape</li> </ul>	
Connections via Walking and Biking				Mountain to Sea trail should be promoted	Users Appreciate fact that there are not mountain bike trails.	Plans are progressing to link the park with some of the University Field Laboratories including constructing a greenway trail from the Dairy Museum to the park. The plans exist conceptually and are not currently funded.
Walking and Hiking	The lease does not allow for paved trails along the Mountains to Sea Trail (shoreline trail); this trail should remain unpaved.	Why are they using: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Walking/hiking/dog walking</li> <li>Cycling/mountain biking</li> <li>Viewing nature/wildlife</li> <li>Use of Playground</li> <li>Attending a program</li> </ol> What does this mean: First – this identifies the demand for these activities in all of the parks. Second, it illustrates what is currently successful. And third, it may indicate that people are unaware of the other types of activities in the park system.		Need to rate trails based upon difficulty.	There should be a hierarchy of trails so that walking and hiking are accessible to all abilities of users.	
Outreach and Awareness	The Lease states the Mountains to Sea Trail shall be advertised.	Sources of information <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Email Newsletter</li> <li>Website</li> <li>Brochure/Fliers</li> <li>Friends</li> <li>Conversations with Staff</li> </ol> What does this mean: Keep up the good work on the newsletter and consider increasing frequency. Make sure the newsletter is archived on the website. Nationally, Facebook is the number one source for learning about parks and recreation programs so the County should increase the Facebook and social media presence.			Make the website more interactive Better marketing to get the word out	Blue Jay Point Park provides an incredible setting for experiencing nature, learning about your surroundings, and serving as a fantastic setting for improved health and wellness for residence by being active outside. This site is difficult to find, and not easy to navigate once in the park.

Topic	Steering Committee and Staff Workshop	Public Input	Recommendations			New	Staff Comment
			Preserve	Remove	Modify		
Parking						Pave the parking Area near the GO Ape, consider a loop or drop off for school children that serves as a "entrance"	
Connections via Walking and Biking	Connect with regional trails	Connect trails and park features to a primary loop trail system with improved wayfinding (80% support this idea)				Expand the trail system within the park to better promote the MST trail. Have a primary pedestrian loop that links key features and serves as more of the HUB for all of the trails and features off of that primary loop. Have the primary loop paved and ADA accessible.	o STAFF SUPPORTS o Already have to some extent... make additional connections o More thoughtful layout with signs; Get people off the roadways. o Connect dead ends
Walking and Hiking	Add steep hill creek hiking trail Remove trail connection to bypass visitor center Add hardpack primary loop	Add/Expand trails throughout the park with interpretive signage, and an adventure hiking course (81% support this idea)				Add trail ranking system instructing users if the trail "easy, moderate, or difficult." If this system is used again, make sure it is consistent Countywide. Add a challenge terrain hiking course near the maintenance area where steep topography exists. This could add another level of challenge for more skilled hiking users. Walking, hiking, and dog walking are top activities for the county. Enable all users to understand where this is permissible, what skill level is required, how long it takes to complete a route, and the rules pertaining to dog walking. Providing bags and trash receptacles at each trailhead with a message alerting users to bag and carry out to the receptacle will promote compliance and protect the environment.	
Outreach and Awareness	Need to provide signage, and a place to start once you arrive at the park. The Park needs map kiosks throughout the park not just at the center.	The Park needs Map Kiosk and better entrance signage.				Keep up the good work on the newsletter and consider increasing frequency. Make sure the newsletter is archived on the website. Nationally, Facebook is the number one source for learning about parks and recreation programs so the County should increase the Facebook and social media presence. Outreach and awareness should be addressed for each park and for the system as a whole. Each park should be used to cross promote the offerings and locations of each of the county parks. A map for each park should be displayed in the parks as well as a map illustrating all parks in the county. This map should also include transit routes and greenways that connect the parks with neighborhoods, "town centers", and large places of employment. Transit routes and greenways should be illustrated on a map on the County website, as well as in a published brochure for all of the parks. The County may also choose to partner with health based organizations or non-profits to create an "Access to Health" campaign by which illustrations and messaging are used on buses, in downtowns, and via media outlets (traditional and social) to help education the public about how they can access the park system. Facebook and social media are easy and inexpensive avenues for reaching families across the County. Increase the County's presence by having a dedicated Wake County Parks and Recreation Page and consider a page for each park (some parks have a dedicated page). In addition to posting events and activities on the County pages, assign a staff member to monitor other groups, events, and municipal sites for cross posting, promotion, and support. Create a more interactive County Park Website and update the page twice monthly to become a better clearing house of information for park activities, events, rules, and trip planning information.	



Topic	MOUs and Existing Plans	Past Community Survey	LWP	Steering Committee Ideas	Focus Group	Site Analysis
Health and Wellness				This site can serve as a go to for hiking; better advertise the time it takes to complete a specific route. This could be a health retreat center.		
Wayfinding	This site has an agreement to advertise the Mountains to Sea trail, this needs to be done throughout: website, brochures, and on site.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This park is not the easiest to get around, need to improve where you "Start" when you arrive.</li> <li>Need to have Park Gateway signage/clear entryway</li> <li>Parking lot can be unsafe loading groups of kids; carpool loop would be helpful</li> </ul>	This site is difficult to get around.	The investment in time and the skill level required to hike a trail should be posted for users.
Fishing, Kayaking, canoeing, Water Access				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Need to provide an opportunity to interact with the water (fishing, non motorized boating, and observation)</li> <li>Boat ramp/docking for lake access to park</li> <li>Improved water access – an easy way to get a kayak into the water (not motorized/boat ramp, but not hauling a kayak a mile)</li> </ul>	Add fishing piers along the shoreline to improve access and reduce erosion from high use areas. Consider public private partnerships at the retreat center and as a separate vending opportunity.	The water level fluctuate due to the dam at Falls Lake; consider this fluctuation when locating the water dependent features.
Youth Attractors			Cross promote in a manner that provides educational opportunities geared toward the youth population.	Highlight the rope course; huge attraction with private marketing; leverage their marketing efforts to promote entire county system		The park lacks traditional park facilities such as playgrounds and picnic shelters that some visitors identify with a park facility. Adjacency with NC State University Agricultural Field Laboratories provide partnerships for trails and transit connections.

Topic	Steering Committee and Staff Workshop	Public Input	Recommendations			New	Staff Comment
			Preserve	Remove	Modify		
Health and Wellness						<p>The County should work with municipal and state parks and recreation departments to connect with doctors and encourage them to begin a Park Rx Program. In this program, doctors will prescribe patients with time spent in parks.</p> <p>To coincide with the development of Park Rx Program, Wake County Parks should identify activities that can be accomplished by individuals in 10, 20, 30, 40, and 60 minute increments. These cards should be available in each of the park in a display about time and health. The cards should be crafted of sturdy material to enable return and reuse. A marketing campaign should accompany this program and all cards should be visible for trip planning on the County website.</p> <p>In addition to the cards, Wake County should enact a "Health and Energy" program. This program would have several components. Private partnerships should be explored with Duke Energy to fund personal health tracking devices in parks. These devices could be borrowed (or purchased) at each park to track activity while in the park. These would overcome barriers to health tracking devices for economically challenged individuals. Every person would have the ability to enter a personal number or pin to activate the device and continue to build their personal profile of activity. The County would facilitate personal login credentials through a health portal on the website where each individual could monitor their steps, calories burned, miles walk/biked/hiked, etc. The park system can become a part of a Countywide media campaign "eye on health" where the county, in real time, tracks human power, calories burned, etc. as a way to monitor the need to increase physical activity and combat the obesity epidemic, cardio vascular health issues, and inactivity.</p>	
Wayfinding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gateway signage/clear entryway</li> </ul>	<p>Participants would like a entrance sign to find the park.</p> <p>Have a map kiosk near trails, map at building is very general and hard to find your way around the park.</p>				<p>Signage for each of the parks should be evaluated. Currently, the parks, recycling centers, and other county facilities all use the same sign creative. This strengthens the brand, but prevents the parks from standing out as recreations public spaces. The county should consider adding an additional flag, symbol, or logo to identify park facilities as special. Also, the arrival sequence to each park should be examined for additional wayfinding sign (MUTCD or Wake County) to alert people of the proximity to the park and build confidence for those navigating to each of the facilities. Letter sizing should also be examined. MUTCD standards for vehicular signage are four inches – any monument signs that do not have this size lettering should be vetted for clarity and visibility. Pedestrian circulation and area maps should be clearly displayed throughout the park to aid in navigation and understanding the features of the park. Skill level of trails and time commitments should be posted. Currently, visitors may not understand they have to double back on the Creekside Trail. All parks should have a rating system to educate all ages about the surface type, difficulty, and hike time.</p>	
Fishing, Kayaking, canoeing, Water Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Boat ramp/docking for lake access to park</li> </ul>	<p>Would like sailboat/boat rental, improved kayak access closer to parking.</p>				<p>Consider a vendor location to address distance from parking area to water access location opportunities.</p> <p>Add Fishing Piers, viewing platforms, and platforms for education near/along the Shoreline. Consider Vending for water access.</p> <p>Add a Blueway trail along the shoreline of the Park site for park users.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o STAFF SUPPORTS, BUT location needs to be revised</li> <li>o ADA access would be extremely difficult in plan location; extremely busy boat activity in this area as well</li> <li>o Where to put to maximize access, but limit disturbance</li> <li>o Upper Barton is extremely busy (boat ramp), as is the Lower Barton with boat traffic.</li> <li>o Locate near one of the bridges; Parking just off six forks road at south bridge</li> <li>o Possibility to partner with WRC on west side in (2) locations</li> <li>o YMCA still utilizing canoes once per week during season</li> </ul>
Youth Attractors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Highlight the rope course; huge attraction with private marketing; leverage their marketing efforts to promote entire county system</li> <li>Expand Nature Based Play Area</li> </ul>					<p>Advertise GoApe; seek additional outdoor adventure partnerships and marketing this site as environmental education, health and wellness, and adventure.</p>	



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Rental Space For Groups				The current internal policy is to rent the space only to those focused on the mission of the park. While the staff isn't set up for corporate retreats, consider expanding the rental policy to include a diverse array of groups in order to use the funding to support park development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A way to add shelters for reunions and meetings, brings different types of visitors to the park</li> <li>The lodge being separated from fields and active recreation areas is viewed as a positive</li> </ul>	
Additional Shelter					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Large (200-250 person) picnic shelter; good for corporate trainings/retreats, YMCA &amp; Blazing Trails, weekends for regular park visitors, good for school groups to use as base of operations/shelter in bad weather, teams can use for rain-outs, would put off BIP trail beyond where Go Ape building will be (comes with restrooms, grounded, possibly fireplace, storage, work space- YMCA in Cary has facility that could be used as example)</li> <li>Another/more sectioned off outdoor learning space.</li> </ul>	
Primitive Camping						
Photography Programs (Touch, Play, Do)					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Natural play area expanded to include water features, larger area, fenced in and professionally done.</li> <li>Astronomy/telescope area: BIP is a good place to see night sky without light pollution from city.</li> </ul>	
Marketing						
Priorities						

Topic	Steering Committee and Staff Workshop	Public Input	Recommendations			New	Staff Comment
			Preserve	Remove	Modify		
Rental Space For Groups						Change the rental policy to include groups outside the mission of the park for the Blue Jay Point Lodge. Begin the program by setting parameters for set up, clean up, catering, etc. to not overburden the staff. Increase by one staff member (or hire a staff member as an overarching event coordinator for all parks) to facilitate rental agreements, questions about rentals, and support during events.	
Additional Shelter		97% of survey respondents agreed with the addition of a large shelter and also stated the need for several additional shelters throughout the park.				Provide a shelter that can serve as a large gathering space and/or covered classroom area closer to the activity areas (hiking, nature based play and playground, and hiking trails) Provide additional shelters throughout the park that can serve as gathering spaces and classroom spaces for multiple groups.	STAFF SUPPORTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o General location good; need more parking; limited parking now...</li> <li>o Show parking in plan</li> <li>o Old home sites... w/ dumps!! – interpret or remove</li> <li>o Double as a home base for day camps... YMCA, others, which might require "office" space, storage, restrooms (Similar to Holly Springs shelter for YMCA)</li> </ul>
Primitive Camping		81% of respondents support the idea of introducing primitive camping. It was highlighted for thru hikers and for people kayaking and using the Blueway system.				Add a Primitive Camping area that serves thru hikers and kayakers.	STAFF SUPPORTS CONCEPT BUT Not 100% behind – staffing / cleaning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Concern is car camping – parking on Six Forks road and people walking in...</li> <li>o FMST (Friends of Mountain to Sea Trail) would be excited</li> <li>o Other recently approved camping nearby (WRC and Shinleaf). Also – use... if Shinleaf does change operational hours – is this camping needed? (Staff verifying other nearby camping).</li> </ul>
Photography Programs (Touch, Play, Do)	Add a variety of view/overlooks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhance and promote natural area playground</li> </ul>					Viewing platforms to make photography more accessible at this site. Expand Nature Based Play and attach it to traditional play area to draw in users of each type of play into another setting.	
Marketing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Highlight the rope course; huge attraction with private marketing; leverage their marketing efforts to promote entire county system</li> </ul>					An outreach and awareness campaign should be executed to help the public understand what is offered at this park. Go Ape can play a key role in attracting people to the park for the first time, and the County needs to capitalize on this by making sure visitors to Go Ape are educated about the other uses within the park.	
Priorities							Priorities: 1. Large Shelter 2. Park Office expansion 3. Park loop trail 4. Challenge hiking 5. Kayak/paddle access and Primitive camping (tie)



# Crowder District Park

Topic	MOUs and Existing Plans	Past Community Survey	LWP	Steering Committee Ideas	Focus Group	Site Analysis
Non Categorical	Crowder is one of the few County Parks that is owned solely by the County and is not bound by additional agreements, leases, or Mou's	<p>Most Important Service</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Acquiring Open Space</li> <li>2. Expanding Greenway System</li> <li>3. Developing Large Regional Parks Nature</li> <li>4. Maintaining Improving Services</li> <li>5. Providing environmental Cultural Historic education</li> </ol> <p>What does this mean: The citizens show support for acquiring open space. The County should remain vigilant about opportunities to acquire lands to meet their conservation goal as well as to preserve and educate the community about the importance of open space. The greenways system is critical for livability in the county (the greenway plan is already being executed).</p>	Need to focus on diversity and youth			
Mission and Education Expansion	The park has built out the items in the previous master plan.				Add more land	This park site is heavily used and programmed fairly dense for the acreage and population its serves. Acquisition nearby/adjacent would aid in the opportunities to expand services at this site.
ADA Accessibility		<p>Most used parks in last 12 months</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Lake Crabtree (70.6)</li> <li>2. Harris Lake (66.5)</li> <li>3. American Tobacco Trail (55.1)</li> <li>4. Historic Yates Mill (53.2)</li> <li>5. Crowder (40.4)</li> <li>6. Blue Jay (35.9)</li> <li>7. Historic Oak View (32.5)</li> <li>8. N. Wake Landfill (24.2)</li> </ol> <p>What does this mean: Crabtree, Harris Lake, ATT, and Yates are a priority for addressing challenges like ADA accessibility or maintenance issues. Blue Jay, Oak View, and Landfill need outreach campaigns to increase use. Blue Jay is a bit of an outlier, Oak View now is special use – this can be changed with the recommendations, Landfill could use a PR campaign and additional comfort/uses to activate.</p>				Steep terrain makes all hiking areas challenging for visitors with physical impairments; add ranking of trail system and utilize flat terrain for accessible trails. Fluctuating water levels of Falls Lake make shoreline development challenging; address water level fluctuation when locating and designing water access, viewing platforms, and fishing piers.
Connections To Transit		<p>Why are they not using parks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Prefer to use City or State Parks</li> <li>2. Too Far/don't have transportation</li> <li>3. Not convenient</li> <li>4. Hours not convenient</li> <li>5. Time Constraints/Personal Issues</li> <li>6. Didn't know</li> </ol> <p>What does this mean: We need to advocate for connections to transit. The public needs to be informed of how to get to parks via transit and greenways. People need to understand it doesn't take hours to enjoy a park – it can take minutes.</p>		No current access to public transit		No nearby access to public transit
Parking				Not a clear identifiable entry or starting point; clearly articulate arrival to the park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School drop off can be dangerous, consider a carpool lane or drop off sequence.</li> <li>• Paved parking lot to give users a more professional appeal when coming to Go Ape</li> </ul>	
Connections via Walking and Biking				Mountain to Sea trail should be promoted	Users Appreciate fact that there are not mountain bike trails.	Plans are progressing to link the park with some of the University Field Laboratories including constructing a greenway trail from the Dairy Museum to the park. The plans exist conceptually and are not currently funded.
Walking and Hiking		<p>Why are they using:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Walking/hiking/dog walking</li> <li>2. Cycling/mountain biking</li> <li>3. Viewing nature/wildlife</li> <li>4. Use of Playground</li> <li>5. Attending a program</li> </ol> <p>What does this mean: First – this identifies the demand for these activities in all of the parks. Second, it illustrates what is currently successful. And third, it may indicate that people are unaware of the other types of activities in the park system.</p>		Need to rate trails based upon difficulty.	There should be a hierarchy of trails so that walking and hiking are accessible to all abilities of users.	

Topic	Steering Committee and Staff Workshop	Public Input	Recommendations	Remove	Modify	Now	Staff Comment
Non Categorical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individual marketing, survey shows driving by</li> <li>Located in dense area of County; well-loved park, high usage</li> <li>YMCA of Triangle close by, potential program partnership</li> </ul>	<p>Note: between on-site surveys and the survey monkey respondents there were approximately 180 total responses (responses varied by question) to the public input survey. Percentages highlighted are from these results.</p>	<p>Practices</p> <p>Trails, Shelters, Observation Platforms</p> <p>Open Play, restroom, Little Free Library, Volleyball Playground</p>			<p>Create a Mission Statement for this Park. It is unique in that it is solely owned by the County and serves as a large neighborhood park for its users. It is completely unique in its offerings and provides education through its gardens and environmental programs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Boardwalk enhancement/deck replacement – potential new boardwalk to Back Porch</li> <li>Consider placing the electric lines underground</li> <li>Enhance / create "front porch" to the office</li> <li>Connections to public utilities – is there water and sewer on Ten-Ten Rd.? Eliminate well and septic to free up additional space.</li> <li>Park office and maintenance enhancement/expansion; parking expansion at office</li> <li>Add additional covered, door secured maintenance storage area</li> <li>Communicate with NCDOT regarding future improvements to Ten-Ten Rd.</li> <li>Consider adjacent property acquisition</li> <li>Security issues/social trails</li> <li>Back porch being talked about more like a park office – office may change location ??? (likely just improvements/additions to the existing office)</li> <li>See spreadsheet comments</li> </ul>
Mission and Education Expansion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential for additional land acquisition (would double acreage) for green space/natural area</li> </ul>		Camps and Programming			<p>Add new environmental education/water testing/monitoring stations (fly pads in water to walk on)</p> <p>Seek to acquire nearby and/or adjacent property to expand offerings at this site. It is heavily used and provides a valuable neighborhood open space resource to nearby residents.</p>	
ADA Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expand programming offered to people with disabilities</li> <li>Provide paved accessible routes to all park features.</li> </ul>						
Connections To Transit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ten-Ten Road, high traffic volume and high speed; could provide bike/ped access if improved</li> </ul>					<p>There is not currently a transit stop nearby. With the nearby YMCA and increase in development advocate for additional transit in this area of the County. There is an opportunity to provide sidewalks, crosswalks, and pedestrian activated signals at nearby intersections, and link to nearby trail systems.</p>	
Parking	<p>Parking will need to be repaved and tree islands protected.</p>						
Connections via Walking and Biking	<p>Connect with regional trails; connect park entrance to sidewalks and trail into the park trails.</p>	<p>87% of Survey participants would like to see additional trail and sidewalk connections to and from the park.</p>				<p>This park could connect to nearby sidewalks and future gateway connections to the north.</p>	<p>STAFF SUPPORTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Crosswalks; sidewalks; transit connections</li> <li>Left-turn lane</li> <li>Signage on Ten-Ten Rd.</li> <li>Possible gateway connection to the north for future</li> </ul>
Walking and Hiking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Walking, hiking, and dog walking are top activities for the county. Provide maps, distance tracking, and timing for the trail system. Continue to maintain the dog waste receptacles.</li> </ul>		Users like the exis				



Topic	MOUs and Existing Plans	Past Community Survey	LWP	Steering Committee Ideas	Focus Group	Site Analysis
Outreach and Awareness		Sources of information 1. Email Newsletter 2. Website 3. Brochure/Fliers 4. Friends 5. Conversations with Staff What does this mean: Keep up the good work on the newsletter and consider increasing frequency. Make sure the newsletter is archived on the website. Nationally, Facebook is the number one source for learning about parks and recreation programs so the County should increase the Facebook and social media presence.			Make the website more interactive Better marketing to get the word out	Blue Jay Point Park provides an incredible setting for experiencing nature, learning about your surroundings, and serving as a fantastic setting for improved health and wellness for residence by being active outside. This site is difficult to find, and not easy to navigate once in the park.
Health and Wellness						
Wayfinding					There needs to be consistent signage throughout the park.	
Fishing				Fishing platforms and overlooks need to be rebuilt.		
Youth Attractors				Provide a new playground		
"The Back Porch"/Additional Shelter					Provide more gathering space.	
Park Office						Modify the Park office to have a "front/side Porch" or entry plaza so that it is more visible to park users and serves as a point of entry and gathering place for park visitors.
Programs						
Gardens						
Marketing						
Dog park				This is a heavily used park with lots of dog walkers, add a dog park or off leash area.	Concerned about Dog park taking up valuable play space that is flexible	The area is heavily programmed, this may take up needed flex space

Topic	Steering Committee and Staff Workshop	Public Input	Recommendations				New	Staff Comment
			Preserve	Remove	Modify			
Outreach and Awareness								
Health and Wellness		75% of survey participants support the idea of including health and wellness activities, stations, and equipment within the park.				Provide Adult fitness stations and outdoor workout equipment near the playground area to promote health and wellness of adult and senior users. Provide Fitness markers/Stations along existing park loop trail.	o STAFF SUPPORTS o New expanded playground proposed for 2016 include greater variety of play opportunities and will have ADA access to features o Add adult play area/fitness stations along the trail and in playground vicinity	
Wayfinding	The volume of traffic on Ten Ten Road is high making it difficult to see the park entry until you are past the park; provide Park Signage at each property corner ahead of park entry.				Improve connection and signage to outdoor classroom/amphitheater space.			
Fishing								
Youth Attractors	Playgrounds need to be updated based upon what is popular, trending, and promotes activity.	95% of respondents supported the idea of adding a nature based play area in the park.				Provide a Nature Themed and Nature based Play area in new shelter on the north side of the park.	o STAFF SUPPORTS, BUT...with an addition o Add nature play concept to the existing large playground area (this will be replaced in 2016. Consideration has been given to incorporating some nature play on the periphery of this playground area). o Option of changing out lower playgrounds to nature play as they are replaced where nature play is currently shown on the plan	
"The Back Porch"/Additional Shelter	There are several buildings on site that are in corect loactions but not necessarily designed for how they are used. The upper pavillon needs to be redesigned in the same location.	78% of respondents supported the idea of having this area at the park.				Provide an outdoor screened in shelter that serves groups and camps on the northwest side of the lake.	Staff Supports: o Needs to be conditioned space for year round use o Classroom / Office space / storage? o If opened up to the public for use will likely require additional parking? So, is this rentable space? Or just for staff park programming use o Connect access to the existing boardwalk	
Park Office	The current park office is not conducive for public use and/or gathering.					Provide a front Porch or arrival space;		
Programs			The little gree library is a great additoin to this park.			Provide a "Frog Walk" similar to a Where's Waldo throughout the park to promote users reaching all areas of the park and cross-promoting Frog Events.		
Gardens		90% of survey respondents supported the idea of expanding the parks garden themes and offerings				Truly expand this park to be a garden park with themed gardens throughout the trail system. The "health and wellness garden" will be a place for all ages to focus on being fit and learning about healthy living; a butterfly garden will have appropriate plants to attract butterflies; a zen garden will include a yoga platform, (actual gardens may vary through the course of the design process).	o STAFF SUPPORTS, BUT only for ENHANCEMENT of existing gardens o See mark up for general locations of existing gardens. o Idea is good, but rather than relocate existing garden themes, we should enhance / improve the existing themed gardens; butterfly, bird and rain gardens. o Proposed Edible Garden too close to neighbors... already social trails in this area – this is also the current Prairie Garden that should be kept o Proposed Healing Garden is flex space now – hate to lose it... could it be relocated to near the Outdoor Classroom area? Use as healing/soiltude garden. Outdoor classroom not heavily used. Need flex space for park user activities o See Eric's notes on plan as to where gardens actually are o Enhance existing gardens o Delete/revise new trails per the mark up.	
Marketing								
Dog park	Staff concerned about maintaining a dog park. Staff would like to enhance Trails and support features and facilities along the trails rather than a separate park space for dogs.	63% supported the idea of expanding dog features and support facilities within the park.					o STAFF SUPPORTS enhanced dog features, not a dog park. o Minimal features proposed are OK – no big features – frost-free fountains and mutt mitt stations	



# Harris Lake County Park

Topic	MOUs and Existing Plans	Past Community Survey	LWP	Steering Committee Ideas	Focus Group / Staff Interviews	Site Analysis	Steering Committee and Staff Workshop
Non Categorical	The park land was leased from CP&L (now Duke Energy) to Wake County for use as a park beginning in 1986 for a period of 25 years and has subsequently been amended to 40 years (2026). Restriction include any septic and/or drain fields must be set above Elevation 243. Duke Energy may possibly expand their facilities in the future which would raise the elevation of the water level in Harris Lake and impact about 50 percent of the park site. Careful consideration should be give to the development below the anticipated flood line.	Most important Service 1. Acquiring Open Space 2. Expanding Greenway System 3. Developing Large Regional Parks Nature 4. Maintaining Improving Services 5. Providing environmental Cultural Historic education What does this mean: The citizens show support for acquiring open space. The County should remain vigilant about opportunities to acquire lands to meet their conservation goal as well as to preserve and educate the community about the importance of open space. The greenways system is critical for livability in the county (the greenway plan is already being executed).	Focus on Youth				
Mission and Education						This park offers a cell phone tour, which can offer educational access to people who enjoy technology. This can reduce staff needs - but can also be seen as counterproductive to some users goals of being "disconnected" in the wilderness. While the cell phone tour may be great for some users, not everyone wants to be "connected" while outdoors and some educational and interpretive signage would aid in expanding the experience of day users who do not wish to hike with a cell phone. There are misconceptions about Duke Energy, this needs to be acknowledged and addressed; there is an opportunity to celebrate energy and educated the community about power and consumption.	Car charging stations could help promote a new mission of energy consciousness. Opportunity to power education. Explore solar and wind power.
Expansion ADA Accessibility		Most used parks in last 12 months 1. Lake Crabtree (70.6) 2. Harris Lake (66.5) 3. American Tobacco Trail (55.1) 4. Historic Yates Mill (53.2) 5. Crowder (40.4) 6. Blue Jay (35.9) 7. Historic Oak View (32.5) 8. N. Wake Landfill (24.2) What does this mean: Crabtree, Harris Lake, ATT, and Yates are a priority for addressing challenges like <b>ADA accessibility or maintenance issues</b> . Blue Jay, Oak View, and Landfill need outreach campaigns to increase use. Blue Jay is a bit of an outlier, Oak View now is special use - this can be changed with the recommendations, Landfill could use a PR campaign and additional comfort/uses to activate.		Concern about the water level rise			Make this park accessible!
Connections To Transit	There is not currently access to Harris Lake County Park by public transit. This park is only reachable by personal vehicles and serves primarily as a "drive to" park. The park is currently accessed from New Hill Holleman Road. The only other accessible points from outside the park are from the water off Harris Lake. There is potential to expand the trails and multiuse connections to the park to make it more user friendly. Added docks for boats can also create improved access.	Why are they not using parks: 1. Prefer to use City or State Parks 2. Too far/don't have transportation 3. Not convenient 4. Hours not convenient 5. Time Constraints/Personal issues 6. Didn't know  What does this mean: We need to advocate for connections to transit. The public needs to be informed of how to get to parks via transit and greenways. People need to understand it doesn't take hours to enjoy a park - it can take minutes.					
Parking					Not enough to accommodate a busy weekend, they are pulling off on the shoulders		
Connections via Walking and Biking	This site could greatly benefit from regional trail and greenway connectivity. There may opportunities for this to occur at the north end of Harris Lake County Park.			Opportunity to provide strong greenway connections from the park			ATT link through Duke property

Topic	Public Input	Recommendations	Remove	Modify	New	Staff Comments
Non Categorical		<p><b>Preserve</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>natural areas</li> <li>disc golf</li> <li>mountain bike skills area</li> <li>boat launch</li> <li>park office</li> <li>shelters</li> <li>managed forest area</li> <li>amphitheater</li> <li>restrooms</li> </ul>			<p><b>New</b></p> <p>With the focus on families and youth - expand programming to include more youth education. Redesign the play area to include nature play and multigenerational activities. Create more loop trails that are family friendly.</p>	<p><b>Staff Comments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Expand Natural play area</li> <li>o Incorporated into the "Tree-top" trail</li> <li>o Improvements to existing natural play vs. something purchased like Kampen's Robbinsia</li> <li>o Alternative energy (solar) on the new Welcome center</li> <li>o Overall ADA accessibility</li> <li>o Expanded parking in general throughout park</li> <li>o Overlook points OK - not sure about piers... think about location - clearly visible and easy to maintain-See mark up locations on map</li> <li>o Improve mountain biking trails</li> <li>o Add recycling bins with trash cans</li> <li>o Emergency access to remote areas</li> <li>o Front entrance reworked - turn-lane - make more appealing and improve safety</li> <li>o Provide improved signage to welcome center and entry map/kiosk</li> <li>o Playground replacement</li> <li>o Add junior disc golf course</li> <li>o See spreadsheets</li> </ul>
Mission and Education					<p>Expand the cell phone tours to include in-field signage for those who wish to disconnect while in the park. Explore the potential of education and application of renewable energy sources - car charging stations, solar power, wind power. Relate power to human power also and use this park as a means to educate about human powered transportation, food as energy, and calorie burn.</p>	
Expansion ADA Accessibility	<p>The boat launch will be improved to provide an ADA accessible dock for personal water crafts and rental vessels (142 like / 6 do not like / 22 not sure). 84% Support.</p>				<p>Open access to the front half of the park for new features listed.</p> <p>Priority park for ADA access improvements and maintenance repairs.</p> <p>Create paths to link all of the uses in the park with a focus on ADA accessibility. Create outlooks and piers with outlooks that preserve views for those in wheelchairs.</p>	
Connections To Transit						
Parking					<p>As uses expand - add parking to accommodate visitor volume.</p>	
Connections via Walking and Biking					<p>Use the Countywide Greenway Plan to connect park to park and expand the transportation options from transit to greenway to park to homes, work, and places for entertainment.</p> <p>A link to the ATT and Holly Springs would expand the use of Harris Lake Park as a trailhead and destination.</p>	



Topic	MOUs and Existing Plans	Past Community Survey	LWP	Steering Committee Ideas	Focus Group / Staff Interviews	Site Analysis	Steering Committee and Staff Workshop
Walking and Hiking		<p>Why are they using:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Walking/hiking/dog walking</li> <li>2. Cycling/mountain biking</li> <li>3. Viewing nature/wildlife</li> <li>4. Use of Playground</li> <li>5. Attending a program</li> </ol> <p>What does this mean: First – this identifies the demand for these activities in all of the parks. Second, it illustrates what is currently successful. And third, it may indicate that people are unaware of the other types of activities in the park system.</p>			It would be nice to offer more easy access hiking trails that are official and marked throughout the park. I feel like these 1-2 mile trails would be something users would appreciate – or make the bike trails hiker friendly instead of just for bikers	There is frequent off leash dog use on trails; there is an opportunity to address this by providing a facility or place where dogs are permitted to be off leash.	Add more trails. Particularly to shorten the distance to the point.
Mountain Biking						A maintenance schedule should be created to monitor wear on trails from mountain bike use.	
Outreach and Awareness		<p>Sources of information</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Email Newsletter</li> <li>2. Website</li> <li>3. Brochure/Fliers</li> <li>4. Friends</li> <li>5. Conversations with Staff</li> </ol> <p>What does this mean: Keep up the good work on the newsletter and consider increasing frequency. Make sure the newsletter is archived on the website. Nationally, Facebook is the number one source for learning about parks and recreation programs so the County should increase the Facebook and social media presence.</p>				The information accessible to the public for Harris Lake County Park is extensive and easy to get. The brochure clearly displays the offerings of the park. However, the map does not accurately portray trail alignments and can be confusing if using this as a tool to navigate in the park. Both the website and the brochure communicate the variety of trails available. Partnerships for events bring in people to the park that might not otherwise visit: triathlons, cross-country meets, mountain bike races, adventure races, Longleaf Festival, Haunting at Harris, 5k and 6k races, swim events, Raven Rock Road Bike Ride, and others.	
Health and Wellness							Fitness, fitness tracking, and activity cards would be a great way to promote health and help people understand what to do in the park.

Topic	Public Input	Recommendations			New	Staff Comments
		Preserve	Remove	Modify		
Walking and Hiking	<p>An elevated trail through the tree canopy will provide an iconic destination. Ramps, overlooks, hammocks, and educational opportunities will be included (161 like / 19 do not like / 16 not sure). 82% Support.</p> <p>A central loop trail will be created to extend access throughout the park and provide a path for family walking and biking (133 like / 15 do not like / 19 not sure). 80% Support.</p>				<p>Walking, hiking, and dog walking are top activities for the county. Enable all users to understand where this is permissible, what skill level is required, how long it takes to complete a route, and the rules pertaining to dog walking.</p> <p><b>GPS each of the trail in the park to provide accurate maps and trail wayfinding.</b> Providing bags and trash receptacles at each trailhead with a message alerting users to bag and carry out to the receptacle will promote compliance and protect the environment.</p> <p>Create a central loop that is ADA accessible and grants easier access to the point.</p> <p>Create cut through on the long 5 mile lake trail to short the trip for those who can not complete the whole loop.</p> <p>Create a series of trails appropriate for family hiking.</p> <p>Add paved trail for family bicycle rides around the paved wilderness vehicle trail</p> <p>Add boardwalks along the shore line to vary the experience and provide more interaction with the water.</p> <p>Design a tree canopy trail. This will become an attractive, unique feature of the park and components of it can be ADA accessible.</p> <p>Create a pier at the end of the point that projects out into the water.</p>	<p><b>STAFF COMMENTS</b></p> <p><b>TREE TOP TRAIL</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o STAFF SUPPORTS</li> <li>o Managed by an outside vendor – like Go Ape, or is this something that we'd do?</li> <li>o Museum of Life and Science in Durham – tree houses – learning environment</li> <li>o Should be self-guided use and not like Go Ape. This would be better and easier to operate</li> <li>o Would make Harris unique</li> <li>o Too much liability – monthly inspections required? – arborist required? May be operated by independent contractor and those would be their responsibility.</li> <li>o Don't make it too close to Disc Golf area</li> <li>o If remote in park, may need to provide parking.</li> <li>o Locate for lake views ??</li> <li>o Possibly locate close to Welcome center, could be better managed / accessed by staff, share parking facilities</li> <li>o Lower on the priority list</li> </ul> <p><b>LOOP TRAIL</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o STAFF SUPPORTS</li> <li>o Park lacking in multi-use trails – think about more multi-use trails – provide additional experiences vs. single-use trails</li> <li>o Add intermediate distance trails</li> <li>o Consider hierarchy of trails, widths and lengths vary</li> <li>o Consider pedestrian only</li> <li>o Slightly wider / flatter / layout for 5k distance</li> <li>o ADA accessibility but consider alternative materials (reduce hard paving; keep it natural)</li> </ul>
Mountain Biking				Create and maintain a maintenance schedule for the mountain bike trails.		
Outreach and Awareness					<p>Keep up the good work on the newsletter and consider increasing frequency. Make sure the newsletter is archived on the website. Nationally, Facebook is the number one source for learning about parks and recreation programs so the County should increase the Facebook and social media presence.</p> <p>Outreach and awareness should be addressed for each park and for the system as a whole. Each park should be used to cross promote the offerings and locations of each of the county parks. A map for each park should be displayed in the parks as well as a map illustrating all parks in the county. This map should also include transit routes and greenways that connect the parks with neighborhoods, "town centers", and large places of employment. Transit routes and greenways should be illustrated on a map on the County website, as well as in a published brochure for all of the parks.</p> <p>The County may also choose to partner with health based organizations or non-profits to create an "Access to Health" campaign by which illustrations and messaging are used on buses, in downtowns, and via media outlets (traditional and social) to help education the public about how they can access the park system.</p> <p>Facebook and social media are easy and inexpensive avenues for reaching families across the County. Increase the County's presence by having a dedicated Wake County Parks and Recreation Page and consider a page for each park (some parks have a dedicated page). In addition to posting events and activities on the County pages, assign a staff member to monitor other groups, events, and municipal sites for cross posting, promotion, and support.</p> <p>Create a more interactive County Park Website and update the page twice monthly to become a better clearing house of information for park activities, events, rules, and trip planning information.</p>	
Health and Wellness					<p>The County should work with municipal and state parks and recreation departments to connect with doctors and encourage them to begin a Park Rx Program. In this program, doctors will prescribe patients with time spent in parks. To coincide with the development of Park Rx Program, Wake County Parks should identify activities that can be accomplished by individuals in 10, 20, 30, 40, and 60 minute increments. These cards should be available in each of the park in a display about time and health. The cards should be crafted of sturdy material to enable return and reuse. A marketing campaign should accompany this program and all cards should be visible for trip planning on the County website.</p> <p>In addition to the cards, Wake County should enact a "Health and Energy" program. <b>This program would have several components. Private partnerships should be explored with Duke Energy to fund personal health tracking devices in parks. These devices could be borrowed (or purchased) at each park to track activity while in the park. Harris should be the pilot project location to initiate this program that can be expanded across the County.</b> These would overcome barriers to health tracking devices for economically challenged individuals. Every person would have the ability to enter a personal number or pin to activate the device and continue to build their personal profile of activity. The County would facility personal login credentials through a health portal on the website where each individual could monitor their steps, calories burned, miles walk/biked/hiked, etc. The park system can become a part of a Countywide media campaign "eye on health" where the county, in real time, tracks human power, calories burned, etc. as a way to monitor the need to increase physical activity and combat the obesity epidemic, cardio vascular health issues, and inactivity.</p>	



Topic	MOUs and Existing Plans	Past Community Survey	LWP	Steering Committee Ideas	Focus Group / Staff Interviews	Site Analysis	Steering Committee and Staff Workshop
Wayfinding					Communicating the rules of the park is a challenge	The park map does not accurately reflect trail alignments. An example is the Peninsula Trail. The Womble House, primitive camping, etc. do not appear on site where they were indicated on the map. This can confuse trail users and cause anxiety - especially for visitors who are not well acclimated with navigating through woods. An updated trail map with improved way finding would improve site access and encourage repeat use. There are many small ponds along the trails that should be named and properly located on maps to aid in navigation. The trail system needs to have improved identification, wayfinding, and naming for use and safety. There are a few kiosks that identify routes and safety, but they are not situated at all access points nor are they represented on the brochure.	Wayfinding is needed - particularly to help people understand the time investment in hiking some of the trails. Entrance signage should be improved.
Fishing and Canoeing				Need to provide an opportunity to interact with the water (fishing and canoeing)		Because it is situated on Harris Lake, there is an opportunity to provide boat rentals and additional dock space.	Blueway rest stops are needed along the shoreline. A boat vendor is needed. Improve boat launch and access to water.
Rental Space For Groups				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>West side of the property could be activated</li> <li>Corporate retreat center?</li> </ul>			Add a retreat center with overnight stays in addition to camping. Hire an on-site staff person - build a residence.
Additional Shelter						Larger shelters would be an appropriate addition to the park to accommodate some of the larger events.	
Camping					Individual camping—if added, there would need to be a ranger residence or park staff to ensure there is someone present at the park through the night; reservation process.	The site is very large and could serve as a place for family camping/individual camping/special event camping.	Camping would be great with the appropriate staff.
Programs (Touch, Play, Do)					Swimming, horseback riding, individual camping and boat rentals Ropes Course, Raptor Center, Environmental Education Center, Climbing rock		
Playground						The park has been in use since 1999 and some of the facilities need to be upgraded.	Redesign

Topic	Public Input	Recommendations	Remove	Modify	New	Staff Comments
		Preserve				
Wayfinding					Signage for each of the parks should be evaluated. Currently, the parks, recycling centers, and other county facilities all use the same sign creative. This strengthens the brand, but prevents the parks from standing out as recreations public spaces. The county should consider adding an additional flag, symbol, or logo to identify park facilities as special. Also, the arrival sequence to each park should be examined for additional wayfinding sign (MUTCD or Wake County) to alert people of the proximity to the park and build confidence for those navigating to each of the facilities. Letter sizing should also be examined. MUTCD standards for vehicular signage are four inches – any monument signs that do not have this size lettering should be vetted for clarity and visibility. Pedestrian circulation and area maps should be clearly displayed throughout the park to aid in navigation and understanding the features of the park. Skill level of trails and time commitments should be posted. All parks should have a rating system to educate all ages about the surface type, difficulty, and hike time. This is particularly important in Harris where there are multiple types of trails of multiple lengths. Advising visitors of the time it takes to hike the trails and recommending water is critical with the longer trails in the park.	
Fishing and Canoeing	Beach rentals of kayaks, canoes, and stand up paddleboards will provide an opportunity for visitors who do not own boats to be able to interact with the water (172 like / 4 do not like / 5 not sure). 95% Support.				Expand offering of water related activities. Create blueway rest stops along the shore line. Provide the opportunity for the rental of canoes, kayaks, and paddleboards. Add additional fishing piers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o STAFF SUPPORTS Boat Launch Improvements</li> <li>o STAFF SUPPORTS Boat Rentals, BUT outside rental contractor would be best.</li> <li>o Popular in surveys – 94% and 80% respectively</li> <li>o Improve launching area for canoes/kayaks/paddleboards – not motorized craft,</li> <li>o Needs to be ADA accessible</li> <li>o Revise text from “personal water crafts” to canoe, kayak, paddleboard (want to be sure personal water craft does not include motorized boats).</li> <li>o Boat rental – lower priority, need staff, hard to manage – Harris Lake is big, lots of boats, safety, etc. If park responsibility, it would require additional parking, and boat storage facilities. Possibly use an outside contractor for rentals</li> <li>o Boat launch location – possibly at the Cypress shelter cove sounding like two</li> <li>o Contract boat rental – possibly in the “swim start” area separate areas</li> </ul>
Rental Space For Groups	A new welcome center will serve as the heart of the park. Visitors will have a place to begin their journey and collect information (132 like / 16 do not like / 25 not sure). 76% Support.				Create a retreat center / visitor center / education center on high ground to accommodate programming, corporate retreats, and become the starting point for the park.	
Additional Shelter					Redesign the playground area to provide a larger shelter.	
Camping	Group and personal camping along the shore will provide an experience for those arriving by vehicle or boat. Personal water craft may be launched at the boat launch and used to travel to the campsites (140 like / 17 do not like / 22 not sure). 78% Support.				Create a space for camping near the shoreline. Allow for boat access to the camp sites. This will require additional staffing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o STAFF DOES NOT SUPPORT NEW CAMPING</li> <li>o BUT IMPROVEMENTS TO EXISTING primitive group camping would be supported – lessen impact to the land</li> <li>o Remain primitive group camping or staff led camping programs</li> <li>o Provide ADA access to site(s); provide tent deck platforms; provide trailer parking</li> <li>o New camping would encourage people to come in off the water after hours; lots of hunters</li> <li>o See demand for camping when Jordan is full – busy weekends/holiday weekends</li> <li>o Family camping - how to handle on-call, no law-enforcement authority,</li> </ul>
Programs (Touch, Play, Do)						
Playground					Redesign the playground as a nature playscape.	



Topic	MOUs and Existing Plans	Past Community Survey	LWP	Steering Committee Ideas	Focus Group / Staff Interviews	Site Analysis	Steering Committee and Staff Workshop
Park Office and Access to Staff					Education Center with indoor program space and restrooms to conduct programs anytime but in particular in winter, and bad weather.	The park office is removed from the main use areas of the park and is not currently serving as a visitor resource. This could be corrected with wayfinding signage and an arrival sequence for new visitors. The Park office could be expanded to serve as a Nature center/Visitor/Environmental Education Center with classrooms; the park office does not experience much visitor interaction.	
Disc Golf					Disc rental for golf course, problem with returning discs. Users often ask but don't currently provide.	Providing Disc rental for the Disc Golf Course would encourage beginner users. This could be a function of the improved Visitor Center.	Add disc golf for kids. Add comfort station near disc golf.
Maintenance					Expand park office maintenance yard to accommodate additional equip for storage Maintenance shop would be nice to have a work area for storage and staff office		
Staff Priorities							

Topic	Public Input	Recommendations Preserve	Remove	Modify	New	Staff Comments
Park Office and Access to Staff					Create a new building to serve as the visitor center.	<p><b>WELCOME CENTER</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o STAFF SUPPORTS.</li> <li>o Location options need to be considered in addition to one on plan (see marked up plan)</li> <li>o Outgrowing current office space</li> <li>o Will have additional parking needs – capped on parking at certain times – especially w/ all three shelters full</li> <li>o Visitor orientation – “a welcoming experience” – visibility – where does this welcoming experience begin? improve signage and orientation for folks to get to the new welcome center.</li> <li>o Location – closer to where people are... but not in the hub of activity – on the right, across from the entrance to day-use (but be careful as this is near the controlled burn area)</li> <li>o Location - another suggestion – Hog Run Trail parking field (already has parking and clearing and visibility.</li> <li>o Maintenance storage – not needed – adequate now for what we have</li> <li>o Need: Office space/classrooms separate from public space, minimum of one classroom – max of two, similar size to BJP, separate areas like Hemlock (separated by breezeway), offices – four in current model, break-room – something like Yates kitchen, work area/layout space, exhibit space – hands-on. Review Annie Louise Wilkerson model.</li> </ul>
Disc Golf					Create a children's disc golf course and ADA accessible disc golf course. Provide a kiosk for disc rental.	
Maintenance					Provide a maintenance area to accommodate the new uses proposed for the park.	
Staff Priorities						<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Welcome center / additional parking</li> <li>2. Boat launch improvements</li> <li>3. Loop trail</li> <li>4. Camping improvements</li> <li>5. Tree-top trail</li> <li>6. Boat rental</li> </ol>



# Historic Oak View County Park

Topic	MOUs and Existing Plans	Past Community Survey	LWP	Steering Committee Ideas	Focus Group	Site Analysis	Steering Committee and Staff Workshop
Non Categorical	Historic Oak View County Park is owned entirely by the County, however, it falls within an area designated as a Historic Landmark. The City of Raleigh has written an ordinance as it falls within their planning jurisdiction outlining the process for plan review and approval. Any alterations to site or structure must obtain a Certificate of Appropriateness from the Wake County Historic Preservation Commission.	Most important Service 1. Acquiring Open Space 2. Expanding Greenway System 3. Developing Large Regional Parks Nature 4. Maintaining Improving Services 5. Providing environmental Cultural Historic education What does this mean: The citizens show support for acquiring open space. The County should remain vigilant about opportunities to acquire lands to meet their conservation goal as well as to preserve and educate the community about the importance of open space. The greenways system is critical for livability in the county (the greenway plan is already being executed).	Address Special needs (ADA accessible trails and sensory sensitivity), ethnic diversity, youth	Surrounding land property; a lot of County owned property but not connected to the park.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Playground, animals, staff - increasing visitation</li> <li>Means more responsibility for part time staff on weekends</li> <li>Finish permanent exhibits in buildings and each house. Redo exhibits in visitor building</li> <li>Already have concepts and plans for new exhibits, just need funding</li> </ul>		
Mission and Education						The site is a historic farm providing education and interpretation on history and evolution of agriculture in NC.	
Park Expansion Area					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More out buildings - chicken coup, well house, smoke house, farm related buildings, working cotton gin house</li> </ul>		
ADA Accessibility		Most used parks in last 12 months 1. Lake Crabtree (70.6) 2. Harris Lake (66.5) 3. American Tobacco Trail (55.1) 4. Historic Yates Mill (53.2) 5. Crowder (40.4) 6. Blue Jay (35.9) 7. Historic Oak View (32.5) 8. N. Wake Landfill (24.2) What does this mean: Crabtree, Harris Lake, ATT, and Yates are a priority for addressing challenges like ADA accessibility or maintenance issues. Blue Jay, Oak View, and Landfill need outreach campaigns to increase use. Blue Jay is a bit of an outlier, Oak View now is special use - this can be changed with the recommendations, Landfill could use a PR campaign and additional comfort/uses to activate.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ADA access could be improved</li> </ul>			Provide ADA accessible loop, specifically to the cotton gun
Connections To Transit		Why are they not using parks: 1. Prefer to use City or State Parks 2. Too far/don't have transportation 3. Not convenient 4. Hours not convenient 5. Time Constraints/Personal issues 6. Didn't know What does this mean: We need to advocate for connections to transit. The public needs to be informed of how to get to parks via transit and greenways. People need to understand it doesn't take hours to enjoy a park - it can take minutes.				The number 18 CAT bus provides public transit access to the park via a stop at Poole Road and Cary Drive. Pedestrian actuated signals exist to aid in crossing Poole Road, high visibility crosswalks would increase visibility of the presence of pedestrian across this wide road. While Cary Drive has a sidewalk connecting to the bus stop, the connectivity is fragmented throughout Wake County Office Park. Additional pedestrian wayfinding could indicate how to access the park through the entrance by the Library as well as the main entrance.	
Parking							
Connections via Walking and Biking					Add trail connectors into office park	The Mountains to Sea Trail is 1 mile south of this park site and accessible via sidewalk.	
Pedestrian Pathways		Why are they using: 1. Walking/hiking/dog walking 2. Cycling/mountain biking 3. Viewing nature/wildlife 4. Use of Playground 5. Attending a program What does this mean: First - this identifies the demand for these activities in all of the parks. Second, it illustrates what is currently successful. And third, it may indicate that people are unaware of the other types of activities in the park system.					

Topic	Public Input	Recommendations	Reimort	Modify	New	Staff Comments
Non Categorical	There were approximately 145 respondents through park on site surveys and online survey monkey response. Responses varied for each question and percentages shown reflect responses for each question.	Pecan Grove Keep existing history center, barn, cotton gin, water tower, tenant house, etc. Cemetery Gazebo Goats Shelters Fruit Orchard	Remove Picnic Pad along walking trail.		Update and revise mission statement (find the mission).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Add tenant house to plan (and associated gardens)</li> <li>o Improve signage and visibility / access into the Office Park, Commons and Ag Services buildings</li> <li>o Investigate relocating the main park entrance sign (out on fence at Poole and I-440)</li> <li>o Create a path from Library parking lot (SW part of site) to Poole Road (transit connection)</li> <li>o Investigate connection to Neuse River Greenway (pretty far but any greenway connection would be good)</li> <li>o Staff is investigating ADA accessibility in the kitchen garden</li> <li>o Improve / Enhance / Replace exhibits in the house / carriage house / tenant house / refresh exhibits in FHC</li> <li>o Expand and fence maintenance yard (shop yard behind the Farm History Center); add electricity, water</li> <li>o Expand / enhance garden areas – potentially a new garden</li> <li>o Add additional parking – in addition to new playground area, add additional spaces along park entrance near the shelter (add to existing 6 or so spaces)</li> <li>o Add benches along pathway and other locations</li> <li>o See spreadsheet comment</li> </ul>
Mission and Education						
Park Expansion Area	89% of Survey respondents support the idea of expanding this park to the unused area to include walking, fishing, hiking, and outdoor education			Provide Access to the additional acreage available on the property.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o STAFF SUPPORTS</li> <li>o Already working on some of this: playground, parking...</li> <li>o Playground is a priority – would get a lot of use</li> <li>o What are GSA's plans for the opposite side of the creek (Office Park-side)-condemned gazebo</li> </ul>
ADA Accessibility						
Connections To Transit					Provide wayfinding from bus stop Poole Rd/Cary Dr, Route 18	
Parking						
Connections via Walking and Biking					Sidewalk/trail connections w/in wake county office park. Make sidewalk, wayfinding, and crosswalk improvements to make a direct link from this site to the Mountains to Sea Trail.	
Pedestrian Pathways	96% of survey respondents would like to see a primary loop trail that is ADA accessible and links to each of the site features.			Re-align circulation for arrival at the main house (remove some paths).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Create pedestrian connection to future playground.</li> <li>o Connect north end trails of park to outside locations. Walking, hiking, and dog walking are top activities for the county.</li> <li>o Create path through pecan grove.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o STAFF SUPPORTS. Like it</li> <li>o Definitely have people who walk</li> <li>o On our original master plan</li> <li>o Provides added visibility from the street</li> <li>o Get folks out in the grove at other times (other than Pecan pick'in)</li> <li>o Trail in front of the house – question about how this will be constructed/used; show large beech tree in front of house and work around with walks</li> <li>o Do not remove the path/walk in the back – staff and additional access</li> <li>o Ensure connection to the Office Park</li> </ul>



Topic	MOUs and Existing Plans	Past Community Survey	LWP	Steering Committee Ideas	Focus Group	Site Analysis	Steering Committee and Staff Workshop
Outreach and Awareness		Sources of Information 1. Email Newsletter 2. Website 3. Brochure/Fliers 4. Friends 5. Conversations with Staff What does this mean: Keep up the good work on the newsletter and consider increasing frequency. Make sure the newsletter is archived on the website. Nationally, Facebook is the number one source for learning about parks and recreation programs so the County should increase the Facebook and social media presence.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cross promotion between two historic parks? If you like Oak View, check out Yates Mill</li> <li>• Branding/PR/Uniformity in signage and brochures (survey doesn't show heavy website usage for marketing) Social Media!</li> <li>• Is it appealing to non-school users? How to attract other daily users; least visited according to user survey, but annual visitors were really high</li> </ul>	Website is static, not that informative, maybe move info from brochure onto website to make more dynamic		
Health and Wellness							
Wayfinding					No front entrance sign, doesn't say park name, needs better wayfinding		
Fishing Access				Need to provide an opportunity to interact with the water (fishing )			
Farm to Table							
Touch Play				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Structured Play, highlight historic element; how people played in the periods could represented; Things kids can touch</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Playground with a farm theme; creates an all day experience</li> </ul>		
Real Animals					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Already have the barn, stalls in paddock,</li> <li>• Find a mule that's good with goats and children</li> <li>• Become a working farm – add mule and chickens</li> <li>• More animals and staff: Park Technician for Operation</li> <li>• Goats are working well – want to add more animals, living working farm</li> <li>• Mules, chickens, more goats, feasible chicken run</li> </ul>		
Programs (Touch, Play, Do)							Farm pond - story of horticulture and irrigation with large bench swings
Operations							
Priorities							

Topic	Public Input	Recommendations			New	Staff Comments
		Preserve	Remove	Modify		
Outreach and Awareness				Provide improved visual access and identification to and from 1-40/Poole Rd and Poole Rd (Park)	Coordinate all website, brochure, school programs, etc so that information is consistent. Use Social Media specifically for this park.	
Health and Wellness					Add Benches/Swings along pond near library connection.	
Wayfinding				Improve Park entry and arrival sequence/connection to county complex (More grand of and entrance). Highlight Connection to nearby history Library.	Provide Wayfinding from Neuse River Trail/Poole Rd. Park. Provide sidewalk and wayfinding from walnut creek softball complex	
Fishing Access				Improve Fishing Access at Primary Farm lake and Lake on the eastern side of the property.	Provide a fishing pier at the North Lake and make improvements of primary farm pond so that fishing is more accessible.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o STAFF SUPPORTS</li> <li>o Structure in the lower pond – a platform as opposed to a pier</li> <li>o Upper pond – thinking bank fishing – incorporate ADA access; may need platform.</li> <li>o Investigate health/population of fish populations</li> <li>o Maybe remove jarebo and create a platform at upper pond</li> <li>o STAFF GENERALLY SUPPORTS, BUT this is more of a programmatic enhancement</li> <li>o Incorporate into programming, not a physical structure; reinforce existing programming</li> <li>o Wayside programs with the raised bed crops starting this spring; add to existing gardens</li> <li>o Would not generate enough traffic to support farmers market or café.</li> </ul>
Farm to Table	93% of survey respondents support the idea of offering a farm to table course, vending, and programs on site to teach about food that is grown in the area and may have been grown at Oak View.				Create an accessible kitchen garden (seniors/wheel chairs).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o STAFF DOES NOT SUPPORT in this format or location. There are already touch play elements throughout the park – inside the buildings as well as programs.</li> <li>o Tractor image etc, would be planned to incorporated into the playground</li> <li>o Need to keep the historic setting around the buildings. Less of a priority. Keep the grounds open.</li> <li>o Redundant – don't like where it is (in area where raised beds are)</li> <li>o Want to expand raised beds program of the facility</li> <li>o Current touch play is spread out, most are in buildings – leave the grounds open</li> <li>o Have "educational backpacks" – loan out with activities in them</li> <li>o Recommend expansion of existing touch play facilities and programming</li> </ul>
Touch Play	90% of survey respondents would like to see an additional play space near the education building and user activities that simulate life on a farm.				Provide an interactive play environment that allows children to experience farm activities in a playful setting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o STAFF SUPPORTS. Like this!</li> <li>o Goal of staff is to make OV more of a "living, breathing farm"</li> <li>o Goats are one of the most popular activities</li> <li>o Working on building a chicken coop this winter; but no additional significant structures needed</li> <li>o Can accomplish this with existing barn facilities; may expand the pasture.</li> <li>o More of a staffing and program expansion</li> </ul>
Real Animals	90% of survey respondents support the idea of adding more live animals to this site.				Add real animals (mule, chicken coop), possibly partner with wake county animal control or adoption centers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o STAFF SUPPORTS. Like this!</li> <li>o Goal of staff is to make OV more of a "living, breathing farm"</li> <li>o Goats are one of the most popular activities</li> <li>o Working on building a chicken coop this winter; but no additional significant structures needed</li> <li>o Can accomplish this with existing barn facilities; may expand the pasture.</li> <li>o More of a staffing and program expansion</li> </ul>
Programs (Touch, Play, Do)		Keep classroom programming partnership with Wake County Schools			Provide a Farms Market to bring people to the site for a different reason. Expand Special Events: Pop up beer garden, wine tasting (history with modern agricultural practices, Easter egg hunt, pumpkin patch. Low use is likely due to the perception that there is a singular use at the park. To encourage day-use, the additional of loop trails will help this park serve as a fitness destination, walking meeting destination, or quiet respite for the employees in the County office park. Creating an open lawn in front of the main house and expanding ADA accessible paths will increase the potential of the park to host events (wine tastings, craft fairs, beer festivals, concerts, pumpkin picking, cider festivals, etc.) and activate the park for multiple generations. The ample parking surrounding the park is an opportunity for hosting larger events. A hayride or trolley can be used to circulate throughout the parking lots to prevent the perception of an inability to park near the festivities.	
Operations						
Priorities						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Playground (park expansion area) w/ parking</li> <li>2. Expanded / Improved exhibits</li> <li>3. Pedestrian pathways and outside connections</li> <li>4. Real animals</li> <li>5. Expanded parking</li> <li>6. Maintenance yard</li> <li>7. Garden</li> <li>8. Fishing access</li> <li>9. Touch play (see above)</li> <li>10. Farm to table (see above)</li> </ul>



# Historic Yates Mill County Park

Topic	MOUs and Existing Plans	Past Community Survey	LWP	Steering Committee Ideas	Focus Group	Site Analysis
Non Categorical	A Lease exists between the State of NC and Wake County for the property referred to as the "Ground Lease" which outlines what is permitted on the general property. An agreement exists between Wake County and Yates Mill Associates (with approval from the State) for the management, maintenance, upkeep, and operations of the historic Mill building.	<p>Most important Service</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Acquiring Open Space</li> <li>2. Expanding Greenway System</li> <li>3. Developing Large Regional Parks Nature</li> <li>4. Maintaining Improving Services</li> <li>5. Providing environmental Cultural Historic education</li> </ol> <p>What does this mean: The citizens show support for acquiring open space. The County should remain vigilant about opportunities to acquire lands to meet their conservation goal as well as to preserve and educate the community about the importance of open space. The greenways system is critical for livability in the county (the greenway plan is already being executed).</p>	Need to focus on diversity and youth		<p>If you had an unlimited budget and the political will, what would you change to the physical layout of the park?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add more land</li> <li>• Preservation, refuge, do more for the trail system</li> <li>• Better marketing to get the word out</li> <li>• A way to add shelters for reunions and meetings, brings different types of visitors to the park</li> <li>• Will need to address parking issues</li> <li>• Need more volunteers for the mill, all programs should include a tour (for school groups)</li> <li>• Mill Tour Hours: people need to know the hours, are often turned away</li> <li>• Can't have an open door policy—it's a protected, historic property</li> <li>• Mill handicap ramp to provide access for visitors of all abilities</li> <li>• Is there a way to do this without impacting the historical integrity?</li> <li>• Make professional photographers register and pay a fee</li> </ul>	
Mission and Education						
Expansion					Add more land	The park could expand by acquiring the property adjacent to the park and just downstream on Steep Hill Creek. This land would connect to the Phares Yates House.
ADA Accessibility		<p>Most used parks in last 12 months</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Lake Crabtree (70.6)</li> <li>2. Harris Lake (66.5)</li> <li>3. American Tobacco Trail (55.1)</li> <li>4. Historic Yates Mill (53.2)</li> <li>5. Crowder (40.4)</li> <li>6. Blue Jay (35.9)</li> <li>7. Historic Oak View (32.5)</li> <li>8. N. Wake Landfill (24.2)</li> </ol> <p>What does this mean: Crabtree, Harris Lake, ATT, and Yates are a priority for addressing challenges like ADA accessibility or maintenance issues. Blue Jay, Oak View, and Landfill need outreach campaigns to increase use. Blue Jay is a bit of an outlier, Oak View now is special use – this can be changed with the recommendations, Landfill could use a PR campaign and additional comfort/uses to activate.</p>	Need to focus on deaf programming and provide ADA access to the mill.	Mill handicap ramp to provide access for visitors of all abilities	Access to the Mill is not ADA accessible and can be disappointing and embarrassing for physically challenged visitors, especially those in groups.	
Connections To Transit		<p>Why are they not using parks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Prefer to use City or State Parks</li> <li>2. Too Far/don't have transportation</li> <li>3. Not convenient</li> <li>4. Hours not convenient</li> <li>5. Time Constraints/Personal issues</li> <li>6. Didn't know</li> </ol> <p>What does this mean: We need to advocate for connections to transit: The public needs to be informed of how to get to parks via transit and greenways. People need to understand it doesn't take hours to enjoy a park – it can take minutes.</p>		Challenge noted: public transit access.		There is currently no access to Historic Yates Mill County Park by public transit. Access via walking and biking is also difficult as the park is located in a rural environment with no connecting greenways, sidewalks, or on-road facilities. Currently, this park is a "drive to park." However, the location near North Carolina State University's research property primes the park for future connectivity via campus or City transit. The site is situated within and adjacent to several NC State University agricultural buildings. Yates Mill County Park could partner with those facilities to support and/or fund trails and public transit to enhance local and regional access. There also may be an opportunity to connect to the Cary and Raleigh greenway system through the north west side of the park.
Parking				Challenge noted: parking. Solution: overflow in eastern field.	Add additional parking.	
Connections via Walking and Biking						Plans are progressing to link the park with some of the University Field Laboratories including constructing a greenway trail from the Dairy Museum to the park. The plans exist conceptually and are not currently funded.

Topic	Steering Committee and Staff Workshop	Public Input	Recommendations	Remove	Modify	New	Staff Comments
Non-Categorical			<p>Water-powered gristmill park center for education and research</p> <p>20 ac pond with boardwalk</p> <p>wildlife refuge</p> <p>picnic areas</p> <p>field classroom</p> <p>research site for NCSU</p> <p>hiking</p> <p>fishing</p> <p>wetland</p>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Improve energy efficiency / solar panels on roof</li> <li>o Add additional land – pasture on Lake Wheeler Road</li> <li>o Better access around the Mill – Coordinate with NCDOT to utilize Lake Wheeler bridge when new bridge is installed</li> <li>o Accessible loop trail around the lake</li> <li>o Play spaces vs. playground; consider adding play elements along the main trail and other areas rather than a formal playground area; provide interpretive play opportunities</li> <li>o Condition the “maintenance area” pole barn shed; water and electric</li> <li>o Show Mussel propagation facility on plan</li> <li>o Main park ingress/egress – traffic safety; consider turn lane</li> <li>o Formalize over-flowing parking; indicate on plan</li> <li>o Enhance / improve existing exhibits</li> <li>o Provide connection to the wolfline</li> <li>o ADA accessibility to the mill</li> <li>o Gift shop / Storage inside existing Finley Center</li> <li>o Spreadsheet comments</li> </ul>
Mission and Education	<p>Watershed restoration story</p> <p>Link art, history, and agriculture</p> <p>Add wind power or solar power</p> <p>Make a connection from the mill to the farmers market</p>	<p>Too close to State Farmers Market for another farmers market</p>				<p>Explore the potential of adding wind and solar power at Yates Mill. Programs are available to lease solar panels. This would contribute to the mission of the park and serve as an additional educational component. New shelters will include green roof components to aid in the awareness of stormwater education. Rain barrels can be added near the shelter to water nearby planting areas.</p> <p>Add additional interpretive signage to the trails along the creeks to tell the story of water quality importance and tactics used to improve water quality through methods used at the park.</p>	
Expansion							
ADA Accessibility						<p>Create a hardpack ADA accessible loop around the lake with ADA accessible outlooks. This would also provide easy access for seniors, youth, and strollers.</p> <p>Work with the Yates Mill Associates to design temporary ADA access to the Mill building that would preserve the historic integrity of the architecture while providing equitable access.</p> <p>Add an ADA accessible fishing pier outside of the view of the Mill.</p>	
Connections To Transit	<p>Wolfline to nearby research center “express”</p>					<p>Establish a connection with the Wolfline and support a greenway/trail link to NCSU sites with Wolfline stops. (wolf line link to nearby research center “express”)</p>	
Parking						<p>Acknowledge the need for overflow parking and mark an area on the east side of the park for overflow parking that will not be designed and built until the park expands or there is a satellite parking agreement with NCSU for large capacity events.</p>	
Connections via Walking and Biking	<p>Connect with regional trails</p>					<p>Use the Countywide Greenway Plan to connect park to park and expand the transportation options from transit to greenway to park to homes, work, and places for entertainment.</p> <p>Expand the trail system within the park to connect to the regional greenways. When a regional connection is made, consider modifying the surface of the trail to be permeable and ADA accessible.</p>	



Topic	MOUs and Existing Plans	Past Community Survey	LWP	Steering Committee Ideas	Focus Group	Site Analysis
Walking and Hiking		<p>Why are they using:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Walking/hiking/dog walking</li> <li>2. Cycling/mountain biking</li> <li>3. Viewing nature/wildlife</li> <li>4. Use of Playground</li> <li>5. Attending a program</li> </ol> <p>What does this mean: First – this identifies the demand for these activities in all of the parks. Second, it illustrates what is currently successful. And third, it may indicate that people are unaware of the other types of activities in the park system.</p>		Need to provide ADA access to mill.	<p>People should come to the park center before going to the mill. This would require changes to the trail system to funnel people through the center first and not seem like the passage to the mill is the first step when visiting the park.</p> <p>Do more for the trail system.</p>	<p>Self-designated as a wildlife preserve, the park does not allow pets (such as dogs) except service animals. This is a difficult rule to enforce because many people assume dogs are permitted in parks. Historic Yates Mill County Park is the only park in the system that does not allow dogs. Additional commentary on the purpose of this rule will help visitors understand the importance of respecting this limitation.</p>
Outreach and Awareness		<p>Sources of Information</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Email Newsletter</li> <li>2. Website</li> <li>3. Brochure/Fliers</li> <li>4. Friends</li> <li>5. Conversations with Staff</li> </ol> <p>What does this mean: Keep up the good work on the newsletter and consider increasing frequency. Make sure the newsletter is archived on the website. Nationally, Facebook is the number one source for learning about parks and recreation programs so the County should increase the Facebook and social media presence.</p>			<p>Make the website more interactive</p> <p>better marketing to get the word out</p>	<p>Historic Yates Mill County Park offers unique features that make it a valuable addition to Wake County's Park System. Both the website and brochure clearly demonstrate why the park is unique and what the site offers. The Park is known for its public programs and the website effectively communicates these events. The brochure more clearly details trail uses and skill levels.</p> <p>Historic Yates Mill County Park's signature event, the Annual Harvest Celebration (September) and the Mill As Muse Art and Photography event bring people to the site who may not otherwise visit.</p> <p>Marketing the educational and recreation opportunities to schools will increase weekday use and expose the park to more families in Wake County.</p>
Health and Wellness						
Wayfinding						<p>The investment in time to hike a trail should be posted for users - particularly those who may not be able to double back on the Creekside Trail.</p>

Topic	Steering Committee and Staff Workshop	Public Input	Recommendations Preserve	Remove	Modify	New	Staff Comments
Walking and Hiking	Add steep hill creek hiking trail Remove trail connection to bypass visitor center Add hardpack primary loop	Add additional trails throughout the park with interpretive signage and create connections to regional greenways. (81 support / 11 do not like / not sure 7 / 91% support) Add benches				Post educational signs to help visitors understand WHY dogs are not allowed in the park. Tell the story in the visitor center and interpretive signage. Educate the staff on how to direct visitors to nearby facilities where they can walk their dogs and other Wake County parks where dogs are welcome. Create an ADA accessible path to the mill. Narrow the trail access from the parking lot directly to the Mill. Use vegetation to pinch the access point and add wayfinding signage at the trail entrance to direct new users to the Visitor Center while preserving access for day users.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o STAFF SUPPORTS – BUT need to balance YMA / NCSU concerns</li> <li>o Plan layout to be revised – staff will realign for greenway alignments</li> <li>o NCSU has plans to connect research farms with trails – but in the past, bio-security seemed to be an issue</li> <li>o Creekside trail is great</li> <li>o Connection to future NCSU Dairy Museum</li> <li>o YMA concern – protect the mill</li> </ul>
Outreach and Awareness	Need to make people aware of photography policy, mill hours, dog restrictions.					Keep up the good work on the newsletter and consider increasing frequency. Make sure the newsletter is archived on the website. Nationally, Facebook is the number one source for learning about parks and recreation programs so the County should increase the Facebook and social media presence. Outreach and awareness should be addressed for each park and for the system as a whole. Each park should be used to cross promote the offerings and locations of each of the county parks. A map for each park should be displayed in the parks as well as a map illustrating all parks in the county. This map should also include transit routes and greenways that connect the parks with neighborhoods, "town centers", and large places of employment. Transit routes and greenways should be illustrated on a map on the County website, as well as in a published brochure for all of the parks. The County may also choose to partner with health based organizations or non-profits to create an "Access to Health" campaign by which illustrations and messaging are used on buses, in downtowns, and via media outlets (traditional and social) to help education the public about how they can access the park system. Facebook and social media are easy and inexpensive avenues for reaching families across the County. Increase the County's presence by having a dedicated Wake County Parks and Recreation Page and consider a page for each park (some parks have a dedicated page). In addition to posting events and activities on the County pages, assign a staff member to monitor other groups, events, and municipal sites for cross posting, promotion, and support. Create a more interactive County Park Website and update the page twice monthly to become a better clearing house of information for park activities, events, rules, and trip planning information.	
Health and Wellness						The County should work with municipal and state parks and recreation departments to connect with doctors and encourage them to begin a Park Rx Program. In this program, doctors will prescribe patients with time spent in parks. To coincide with the development of Park Rx Program, Wake County Parks should identify activities that can be accomplished by individuals in 10, 20, 30, 40, and 60 minute increments. These cards should be available in each of the park in a display about time and health. The cards should be crafted of sturdy material to enable return and reuse. A marketing campaign should accompany this program and all cards should be visible for trip planning on the County website. In addition to the cards, Wake County should enact a "Health and Energy" program. This program would have several components. Private partnerships should be explored with Duke Energy to fund personal health tracking devices in parks. These devices could be borrowed (or purchased) at each park to track activity while in the park. These would overcome barriers to health tracking devices for economically challenged individuals. Every person would have the ability to enter a personal number or pin to activate the device and continue to build their personal profile of activity. The County would facility personal login credentials through a health portal on the website where each individual could monitor their steps, calories burned, miles walk/biked/hiked, etc. The park system can become a part of a Countywide media campaign "eye on health" where the county, in real time, tracks human power, calories burned, etc. as a way to monitor the need to increase physical activity and combat the obesity epidemic, cardio vascular health issues, and inactivity.	
Wayfinding						Signage for each of the parks should be evaluated. Currently, the parks, recycling centers, and other county facilities all use the same sign creative. This strengthens the brand, but prevents the parks from standing out as recreations public spaces. The county should consider adding an additional flag, symbol, or logo to identify park facilities as special. Also, the arrival sequence to each park should be examined for additional wayfinding sign (MUTCD or Wake County) to alert people of the proximity to the park and build confidence for those navigating to each of the facilities. Letter sizing should also be examined. MUTCD standards for vehicular signage are four inches – any monument signs that do not have this size lettering should be vetted for clarity and visibility. Pedestrian circulation and area maps should be clearly displayed throughout the park to aid in navigation and understanding the features of the park. Skill level of trails and time commitments should be posted. Currently, visitors may not understand they have to double back on the Creekside Trail. All parks should have a rating system to educate all ages about the surface type, difficulty, and hike time.	



Topic	MOUs and Existing Plans	Past Community Survey	LWP	Steering Committee Ideas	Focus Group	Site Analysis
Fishing and Canoeing				Need to provide an opportunity to interact with the water (fishing and canoeing)		There is a restriction on shoreline fishing, additional opportunities may need to be explored to meet fishing demands.
NCSU Cross Promotion and Youth Attractors			Cross promote in a manner that provides educational opportunities geared toward the youth population.	Cross promote with farm animal education and work at NCSU facilities	Provide ways to attract kids without adding a playground.	The park lacks traditional park facilities such as a playgrounds and picnic shelters that some visitors identify with a park facility. Adjacency with NC State University Agricultural Field Laboratories provide partnerships for trails and transit connections.
Rental Space For Groups				The current internal policy is to rent the space only to those focused on the mission of the park. While the staff isn't set up for corporate retreats, consider expanding the rental policy to include a diverse array of groups in order to use the funding to support park development.	• A way to add shelters for reunions and meetings, brings different types of visitors to the park	
On-Site Store					Add a store.	The park could expand interpretation through the preservation of the Phares Yates House located off park property (1/2 mile from the park).
Additional Shelter						
Mill Access and Tours					Need more volunteers for the mill, all programs should include a tour (for school groups) Mill Tour Hours: people need to know the hours, are often turned away	Mill tours are limited to specific days and times. This can be frustrating for visitors and staff.

Topic	Steering Committee and Staff Workshop	Public Input	Recommendations Preserve	Remove	Modify	New	Staff Comments
Fishing and Canoeing	Open up the waterfront Add more boats Add an accessible fishing pier	Improve access to water with stepping stones, vegetation, and an ADA accessible trail. (166 like, 15 do not like, 20 not sure / 83% support) Consider impact to water quality			Move the maintenance facilities or modify them to provide more access to the waterfront.	Modify the waterfront to expand access for users. Move as many maintenance functions as possible to the area between the Visitor Center and road.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o STAFF SUPPORTS, BUT location on plan needs to shift and made smaller</li> <li>o Broad location shown is dedicated to NCSU research area. Locate in section just beyond the building – see mark ups</li> <li>o Need to show conceptually the mussel project behind the building</li> <li>o Launching boats currently for programs is an odd area – isolated</li> <li>o Protect view of mill from back porch</li> <li>o Areas and comments noted on plan</li> <li>o Investigate berms – hard surface allowing pond studies (original intent was for them to be walked on; but has the potential to block views to the mill)</li> <li>o Need to consider a relocated boat launch area as well as water access area.</li> </ul>
NCSU Cross Promotion and Youth Attractors	NCSU connection via trail Add nature play	Create a space with large art and patches of crops that can serve as an event space and open play area. (114 like, 34 do not like, 40 not sure / 61% support) Link to nearby animals and views				Create a trail along the tree line and near the NCSU facilities east of the park to tell the story of agriculture in North Carolina and the innovations explored by NCSU. Use the space on the east side of the park for sculptural, education signs that define spaces which can serve as a new event space of “rooms” for seasonal activities and to activate the space for young visitors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o STAFF SUPPORTS PARTIAL</li> <li>o This area is critical overflow parking area space; so permanent art in this area would be better in other locations around the site. (in front of building, etc.). Smaller installations in various locations.</li> <li>o Need to keep this space flexible. Maybe can still introduce some art installation in this area</li> <li>o Art needs to be inspired by nature and agriculture</li> <li>o Natural art area needs to be “toned down”. This is the septic field and septic reserve field. While some art may be OK, the plan graphic needs to change and not have water features and large art installation. Likely small, light “natural” art installations would be acceptable on the septic field</li> <li>o Keep art out of overflow parking area</li> <li>o Art partnership w/ NCSU School of Design or other groups – installation changes annually</li> <li>o Issue is that the area designated is the most flexible space the park has and concerned with tying it up with something permanent</li> <li>o Keep amphitheater; it is used for some programming</li> <li>o Adding a small shelter would be good for some programming, but it will likely require immediate parking expansion; provide movable picnic tables</li> <li>o Existing amphitheater vs. permanent structure (shelter) in the same area</li> </ul>
Rental Space For Groups						Change the rental policy to include groups outside the mission of the park. Begin the program by setting parameters for set up, clean up, catering, etc. to not overburden the staff. Increase by one staff member (or hire a staff member as an overarching event coordinator for all parks) to facilitate rental agreements, questions about rentals, and support during events.	
On-Site Store	Add a store - add the creamery	Add additional buildings in the same architectural style as the mill to provide spaces for historic activities (example: blacksmith) or to house concessions or a gift shop. (146 like / 19 do not like / 28 not sure / 76% support)				Add a structure that fits into the “village” style of the mill architecture to serve as an on-site store with concessions, a place to sell ice cream from the creamery, and gift shop.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o STAFF SUPPORTS</li> <li>o Keep historical context for any “new” or relocated structures</li> <li>o Consider YMA’s County Store plan</li> <li>o Show the Phears Yates house at the Millers residence area</li> <li>o Log cabin renovations</li> <li>o Wagon shed; blacksmith shop</li> </ul>
Additional Shelter				Remove amphitheater to allow space for an additional shelter and picnic area		Create a picnic and shelter area in the existing amphitheater area. As noted above, install a green roof, cistern, and interpretive signage to coincide with the mission of the park.	
Mill Access and Tours	Add more replica structures Make mill accessible					Coordinate with Yates Mill Associates to consider extending hours for the Mill. In the interim, display hours of Mill Tours prominently on the County Website and on signage at the park. Improve communication with YMA to coordinate school programs that incorporate history with the natural and agricultural features of the park.	



Topic	MOUs and Existing Plans	Past Community Survey	LWP	Steering Committee Ideas	Focus Group	Site Analysis
Photography						Park photography is very popular, specifically professional session photography. The park recently instituted a permitting process for session photography to monitor professional activity. This rule (posted on signs throughout the park) should be clarified to not dissuade visitors from taking non-professional photos.
Programs (Touch, Play, Do)						There is a need for more interactive elements within the park to offset the "No" signs posted throughout the park - specifically near the Mill.
Operations						
Staff Priorities						

Topic	Steering Committee and Staff Workshop	Public Input	Recommendations Preserve	Remove	Modify	New	Staff Comments
Photography	Add a variety of view/overlooks	Add additional outlooks using materials that complement the mill. Position each so they do not interfere with the view from the mill. (129 like, 17 do not like, 36 not sure / 71% support)				Continue to have a program where professional photographers are required to register and seek permission to use the sight. Remove the existing signage and install signs that more clearly state the restriction is for professional photographers and not for leisure photographers. Built additional outlooks on the lake using similar rock material to the Mill but remaining outside of the viewshed from the Mill to preserve existing natural views.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o STAFF SUPPORTS</li> <li>o Specific locations need to be determined; YMA has some suggestions</li> <li>o Build platform parallel to the shoreline, rather than protruding into the lake</li> <li>o Need to maintain view shed from Mill</li> <li>o Staff will mark up plan for preliminary locations</li> </ul>
Programs (Touch, Play, Do)	Tell the story of the park	Add camping by Creekside trail Add playground similar to prairie ridge				Add interpretive signage or seasonal "lantern tours" that tell the story of the owners of the mill and passage of the property. Host market days in the space between the park and NCSU to highlight seasonal produce and local art.	
Operations	Add storage Move dumpsters Need designated maintenance shop/storage					Move the maintenance area to the space between the Visitor Center and road. Expand the area to include added storage. Use vegetation to screen this area.	
Staff Priorities							<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. ADA access – especially to the Mill</li> <li>2. .</li> <li>3. .</li> <li>4. .</li> <li>5. .</li> <li>6. .</li> <li>7. ... Staff to provide Eric priorities after discussion</li> </ol>



# Lake Crabtree County Park

Topic	MOUs and Existing Plans	Past Community Survey	LWP	Steering Committee Ideas	Focus Group	Site Analysis	Steering Committee and Staff Workshop
Non Categorical	Lake Crabtree County Park leases the land from the Raleigh Durham Airport Authority. Wake County owns the Flood Control Structure on the property. The lease stipulates that mountain bike trails and other special recreation areas be provided within the park and maintained by TORC4. RDU recently hired a firm to evaluate all of their property leases, including Lake Crabtree County Park, with a focus on land use policy and revenue.	Most important Service 1. Acquiring Open Space 2. Expanding Greenway System 3. Developing Large Regional Parks Nature 4. Maintaining Improving Services 5. Providing environmental Cultural Historic education What does this mean: The citizens show support for acquiring open space. The County should remain vigilant about opportunities to acquire lands to meet their conservation goal as well as to preserve and educate the community about the importance of open space. The greenways system is critical for livability in the county (the greenway plan is already being executed).	Ethnic diversity and English as a second language	• Well-loved park by the community! Appeals to a huge spectrum of ages and abilities			
Mission and Education				education programs seem low on the spectrum of user survey • Need to use this park as an opportunity to expand awareness about the importance of water quality • PCB issues and liability—prohibits swimming		Public perception of the lake contamination may be preventing use of the park. Displays and kiosks educating users may reduce these concerns.	
Expansion					• Protect the park and surrounding areas, make area bigger and easier to use freely • Expand area closer to parkway entrance, share docks		
ADA Accessibility		Most used parks in last 12 months 1. Lake Crabtree (70.6) 2. Harris Lake (66.5) 3. American Tobacco Trail (55.1) 4. Historic Yates Mill (53.2) 5. Crowder (40.4) 6. Blue Jay (35.9) 7. Historic Oak View (32.5) 8. N. Wake Landfill (24.2) What does this mean: Crabtree, Harris Lake, ATT, and Yates are a priority for addressing challenges like <b>ADA accessibility or maintenance issues</b> . Blue Jay, Oak View, and Landfill need outreach campaigns to increase use. Blue Jay is a bit of an outlier, Oak View now is special use—this can be changed with the recommendations, Landfill could use a PR campaign and additional comfort/uses to activate.			• Assuming we have an accessible dock – add an accessible tree house to make it truly A family friendly park	ADA improvements are need to ensure that users of all abilities can enjoy the various programming and recreational opportunities in the park.	ADA for paths and boating Unfit all trails to uses throughout the park
Connections To Transit	Lake Crabtree does not currently have direct access to public transit. The closest bus stop is located at the intersection of Weston Parkway and Norwell Boulevard. Connectivity could be provided through Black Creek Greenway and supported by wayfinding signage.	Why are they not using parks: 1. Prefer to use City or State Parks 2. Too far/don't have transportation 3. Not convenient 4. Hours not convenient 5. Time Constraints/Personal issues 6. Didn't know What does this mean: We need to advocate for connections to transit. The public needs to be informed of how to get to parks via transit and greenways. People need to understand it doesn't take hours to enjoy a park – it can take minutes.					Connect to nearby bus stops and provide signage.
Parking						Parking can be a challenge for large events as there is not a designated overflow parking area.	Expand parking!

Topic	Public Input	Recommendations	Remove	Modify	New	Staff Comments
Non-Categorical		<p>Mountain Bike Trails</p> <p>Restrooms currently being updated to incorporate ADA accessibility</p> <p>Group gathering spaces</p> <p>Wetlands</p> <p>Fishing Piers</p> <p>Water wise Garden</p> <p>Boating / Canoeing</p> <p>Maintenance and Managers Office</p> <p>Historic Home Site</p> <p>Amphitheater</p>			<p>Signage should be in English and Spanish and programming / handouts / marketing materials should be provided in two languages.</p>	<p>o (need to include new ADA access to new boat dock in the final graphic. Wake will provide CAD/pdf as necessary). This will be an existing feature not a new feature.</p> <p>o New floating docks: lower the freeboard; improve access</p> <p>o New Playground equipment</p> <p>o Ongoing ADA study and required improvements ??? TBD</p> <p>o Keep the informal volleyball courts</p> <p>o Pet amenities (fountains, etc)</p> <p>o Lease set up and continuation</p> <p>o Sedimentation and evaluation study of continued recreational opportunities (limited use of sailboats throughout the entire lake due to increased sediment deposits)</p>
Mission and Education					<p>Use water quality as more than a warning in the park. Provide signage and marketing that places ownership on visitors of the park to change behavior to improve the environment. Make sure warnings are in English and Spanish.</p>	
Expansion					<p>Use the expansion area for soft surface hiking trails.</p>	
ADA Accessibility					<p>Priority park for ADA access improvements and maintenance repairs</p> <p>This park needs to have a complete ADA overhaul and has the opportunity to showcase equity in parks. Each activity, node, and building should provide access for all. Activities should provide access for those with special needs. Water access via an accessible boat launch should be implemented for visitors and used to support water programs for special needs populations.</p>	
Connections To Transit					<p>Provide direction on the park website and brochures that the park is accessible via transit (once critical connections are created). Expand the greenway system to connect with Cary/Morrisville greenways and provide signage to and from transit stops.</p>	
Parking					<p>Expand parking near the picnic area and boat launches to accommodate large events. Formalize parking near the new mountain (multituse trail) trail head within the park.</p>	



Topic	MOUs and Existing Plans	Past Community Survey	LWP	Steering Committee Ideas	Focus Group	Site Analysis	Steering Committee and Staff Workshop
Connectors via Walking and Biking	The park is situated in a highly populated area of Wake County in proximity to several key destinations such as the Raleigh Durham International Airport, William B. Umstead State Park, and the Research Triangle Park. The Black Creek Greenway provides bicycle and pedestrian access into the park, connecting the park with the Town of Cary's greenway system. Interstate 40 provides easy vehicular access for residents across the County. The opportunity to connect to Umstead State Park exists with improvements to Old Reedy Creek Road which would also connect the park to the City of Raleigh's extensive greenway trail network. Improvements to Aviation Parkway could also provide better multimodal access.			• Connect to Umstead Park and the Black Creek Greenway in Cary; soon to be connected to Morrisville		The park has the potential to be the most well-linked County Park, and yet several of the streets bordering the park lack multimodal accommodations.	Improve road intersection to accommodate safe pedestrian crossings. Connect greenways to Cary/Morrisville.
Walking and Hiking		Why are they using: <b>1. Walking/hiking/dog walking</b> 2. Cycling/mountain biking 3. Viewing nature/wildlife 4. Use of Playground 5. Attending a program  What does this mean: First – this identifies the demand for these activities in all of the parks. Second, it illustrates what is currently successful. And third, it may indicate that people are unaware of the other types of activities in the park system.			• Trails: add more terrain and a beginners area - but be careful not to add too many beginner facilities and remove the opportunity to challenge hikers and mountain bikers • Would be great to add at least a short beginner loop, within larger intermediate park – better signage to make people aware of where to go for which experience	There are many visitors that allow their dogs off leash even though it is prohibited.	Add a new boardwalk to complete a loop around the park. Rest stops needed along the lake trail.
Mountain Biking							Add a shelter and changing station to serve as a mountain biking trailhead.
Outreach and Awareness		Sources of information 1. Email Newsletter 2. Website 3. Brochure/Fliers 4. Friends 5. Conversations with Staff  What does this mean: Keep up the good work on the newsletter and consider increasing frequency. Make sure the newsletter is archived on the website. Nationally, Facebook is the number one source for learning about parks and recreation programs so the County should increase the Facebook and social media presence.		• Uniformity in marketing—brochures should have a color coded message that applies system wide		The website and brochure are both valuable marketing tools and provide users with a clear understanding of the amenities the park has to offer. The brochure map makes it easy for visitors to differentiate between types of trails and the skill levels needed.	Need Facebook and text updates on trail closings.

Topic	Public Input	Recommendations			New	Staff Comments
		Preserve	Remove	Modify		
Connections via Walking and Biking	Improve connectivity with crosswalks, links to existing greenways, and coordination with area transit for stop locations and wayfinding. Extend trails across Aviation Parkway to increase total trail length (339 like / 11 do not like / 20 not sure). 82% Support.				<p>Use the Countywide Greenway Plan to connect park to park and expand the transportation options from transit to greenway to park to homes, work, and places for entertainment.</p> <p>Improve the park entrance to accommodate pedestrian access.</p> <p>Expand the trail system to connect with Black Creek Greenway and other regional greenways adjacent to the park.</p> <p>Explore the possibility of connecting via a ferry or other watercraft across the water from the office park.</p>	<p>Staff Comments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o STAFF SUPPORTS</li> <li>o To Airport Blvd through marsh</li> <li>o Provides access to folks from North Cary to RTP / Airport</li> <li>o Add Connection to park entrance from proposed connection</li> <li>o Part of Old Beech Nature Trail – boardwalk – provides connection to entrance and also make OBNT accessible. (see marked up plan).</li> <li>o Connection to transit</li> </ul>
Walking and Hiking	Create a multi-use loop trail around the entire lake. The route would improve the existing park lake shore trail and provide new connections to the Cary and Morrisville greenway systems (174 like / 8 do not like / 7 not sure). 66% Support.				<p>Walking, hiking, and dog walking are top activities for the county. Enable all users to understand where this is permissible, what skill level is required, how long it takes to complete a route, and the rules pertaining to dog walking.</p> <p>Providing bags and trash receptacles at each trailhead with a message alerting users to bag and carry out to the receptacle will promote compliance and protect the environment.</p> <p>Create an ADA accessible lake loop trail.</p> <p>Clearly mark all trails throughout the park and provide loop maps where trails intersect.</p> <p>Provide bags and trash receptacles for pet waste and educate visitors on the importance of picking up after their pets in the wooded areas.</p>	<p>LOOP TRAIL AROUND LAKE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o STAFF SUPPORTS, BUT... Need to consider trail material and impact on existing mountain bike trails</li> <li>o If all paved – could be a harsh transition to the single track trails... double track serves as a filter... (on east side)</li> <li>o Operations – 24/7? How do we handle? Change mindset...</li> <li>o Keep some single track along with paved; create options for dual surfaces</li> <li>o Accessible and natural trails</li> </ul>
Mountain Biking	Provide a trailhead near the Multi-use trails that has a shelter, bike "fix it" station, restrooms, first aid station, and changing area (156 like / 10 do not like / 15 not sure). 88% Support.				<p>Improve the mountain biking experience with a comfort station, changing area, and first aid station. Continue to use wayfinding that alerts users of the level of difficulty of the trails.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o STAFF SUPPORTS</li> <li>o Like concept especially additional restrooms</li> <li>o Like list of features provided in concept</li> </ul>
Outreach and Awareness					<p>Keep up the good work on the newsletter and consider increasing frequency. Make sure the newsletter is archived on the website. Nationally, Facebook is the number one source for learning about parks and recreation programs so the County should increase the Facebook and social media presence.</p> <p>Outreach and awareness should be addressed for each park and for the system as a whole. Each park should be used to cross promote the offerings and locations of each of the county parks. A map for each park should be displayed in the parks as well as a map illustrating all parks in the county. This map should also include transit routes and greenways that connect the parks with neighborhoods, "town centers", and large places of employment. Transit routes and greenways should be illustrated on a map on the County website, as well as in a published brochure for all of the parks.</p> <p>The County may also choose to partner with health based organizations or non-profits to create an "Access to Health" campaign by which illustrations and messaging are used on buses, in downtowns, and via media outlets (traditional and social) to help education the public about how they can access the park system.</p> <p>Facebook and social media are easy and inexpensive avenues for reaching families across the County. Increase the County's presence by having a dedicated Wake County Parks and Recreation Page and consider a page for each park (some parks have a dedicated page). In addition to posting events and activities on the County pages, assign a staff member to monitor other groups, events, and municipal sites for cross posting, promotion, and support.</p> <p>Create a more interactive County Park Website and update the page twice monthly to become a better clearing house of information for park activities, events, rules, and trip planning information.</p> <p>Consolidate some of the brochures at Crabtree. There are so many brochures with a small amount of information. By categorizing the information presented, one area of the park can promote use in another area.</p> <p>Create a texting and Facebook system for announcing trail closers and condition of trails.</p>	



Topic	MOUs and Existing Plans	Past Community Survey	LWP	Steering Committee Ideas	Focus Group	Site Analysis	Steering Committee and Staff Workshop
Health and Wellness							Add emergency locators on trails
Wayfinding						Pedestrian wayfinding signs are needed to connect users to all of the features of the park - not just the trail system.	
Fishing, Canoeing, Water Interaction				Need to provide an opportunity to interact with the water (fishing and canoeing) • Paddle board rental new addition!	• Wind, something to do to make other areas of the lake easier to sail model boats – current location makes it difficult • Dredging (bird island) to provide better access for long stretches of rowing • Love that there are no motorboats on lake – please don't change that!		Add kayak / paddle course with mile markers. Connect to development across the lake.
Rental Space For Groups							

Topic	Public Input	Recommendations	Remove	Modify	New	Staff Comments
Health and Wellness		Preserve			<p>The County should work with municipal and state parks and recreation departments to connect with doctors and encourage them to begin a Park Rx Program. In this program, doctors will prescribe patients with time spent in parks. To coincide with the development of Park Rx Program, Wake County Parks should identify activities that can be accomplished by individuals in 10, 20, 30, 40, and 60 minute increments. These cards should be available in each of the park in a display about time and health. The cards should be crafted of sturdy material to enable return and reuse. A marketing campaign should accompany this program and all cards should be visible for trip planning on the County website.</p> <p>In addition to the cards, Wake County should enact a "Health and Energy" program. This program would have several components. Private partnerships should be explored with Duke Energy to fund personal health tracking devices in parks. These devices could be borrowed (or purchased) at each park to track activity while in the park. These would overcome barriers to health tracking devices for economically challenged individuals. Every person would have the ability to enter a personal number or pin to activate the device and continue to build their personal profile of activity. The County would facility personal login credentials through a health portal on the website where each individual could monitor their steps, calories burned, miles walk/biked/hiked, etc. The park system can become a part of a Countywide media campaign "eye on health" where the county, in real time, tracks human power, calories burned, etc. as a way to monitor the need to increase physical activity and combat the obesity epidemic, cardio vascular health issues, and inactivity.</p>	
Wayfinding	Desire for additional signage				<p>Signage for each of the parks should be evaluated. Currently, the parks, recycling centers, and other county facilities all use the same sign creative. This strengthens the brand, but prevents the parks from standing out as recreations public spaces. The county should consider adding an additional flag, symbol, or logo to identify park facilities as special. Also, the arrival sequence to each park should be examined for additional wayfinding sign (MUTCD or Wake County) to alert people of the proximity to the park and build confidence for those navigating to each of the facilities. Letter sizing should also be examined. MUTCD standards for vehicular signage are four inches – any monument signs that do not have this size lettering should be vetted for clarity and visibility.</p> <p>Pedestrian circulation and area maps should be clearly displayed throughout the park to aid in navigation and understanding the features of the park.</p> <p>Skill level of trails and time commitments should be posted.</p> <p>All parks should have a rating system to educate all ages about the surface type, difficulty, and hike time.</p> <p>Post signs about user conflict and the importance of appropriate yielding.</p>	
Fishing, Canoeing, Water Interaction					<p>The rental season could be expanded to meet the current user demand for water activities.</p> <p>Expand the offering of water crafts to include paddle boards and ADA accessible docks / watercraft. Create a blueway trail within the lake with mileage for people to track fitness.</p>	
Rental Space For Groups					<p>Expand the main building on the lake to include indoor space that can serve as classrooms and rental space for retreats.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o STAFF SUPPORTS, BUT...</li> <li>o Location has options. Definitely need a classroom for educational programs</li> <li>o Classroom – very busy space already, adding a classroom may be too much – possibility of another location</li> <li>o Tower – not accessible now, can't be retrofitted, so does it go away? It is an icon of the park, used to orientate folks – hate to lose it...</li> <li>o Other possible areas for this: Day use storage building conversion? But may be too noisy being adjacent to the shelter and play-ground.</li> <li>o Expansion of current boat rental/tower area? There is a decent space along entry walk adjacent to existing restrooms that would overlook the lake and could be a nice entry / visual amenity feature to this area.</li> <li>o Existing Office area? Waterfront? All new area? Drew to think and discuss with staff – use, congestion, noise, visitor/staff interactions, etc... where is the best site or two?</li> <li>o Needs – Office/Storage/Classroom</li> <li>o Second floor on current boat storage? Unconditioned space</li> <li>o This one needs some more careful consideration. Definite need for this, but location and form needs to be resolved.</li> </ul>



Topic	MOUs and Existing Plans	Past Community Survey	LWP	Steering Committee Ideas	Focus Group	Site Analysis	Steering Committee and Staff Workshop
Additional Shelter							
Playground							Add adventure play
Disc Golf				User feedback highlights the demand for a disc golf course in the area.			
Sound Attenuation						While I-40 provides regional access, sound impacts of the interstate affect user experience along the Lake Trail.	
Flooding						Due to flooding issues, the trail system can have several closures during wet periods, therefore limiting access to one of the most popular facilities in the park.	
User Conflict						Due to the designed use of the trails, user conflicts exist. The trails are heavily used by cyclists, therefore there seems to be an unspoken expectation for pedestrians to yield to cyclists.	
User Groups / Partnerships				• Staff has trouble understanding cross cultural recreation needs			
Indoor Classrooms and Main Visitor Center							Don't take the tower away. Add a café. Need a larger indoor meeting space. Need conference space.
Volleyball						Courts are isolated	
Staff Priorities							

Topic	Public Input	Recommendations				New	Staff Comments
		Preserve	Remove	Modify			
Additional Shelter	Provide a new picnic shelter for large groups (over 100 people), new playground, and multi-generational park activities suitable for varied ages and abilities (119 like / 18 do not like / 89 not sure). 68% Support.				Improve the shelter / playground area to be ADA accessible, accommodate larger groups, and provide group activities such as horseshoes, bocce, etc.	<p>o STAFF SUPPORTS SOME COMPONENTS...</p> <p>o Don't need a large shelter, but will need additional parking at existing shelter</p> <p>o Re-working of day-use? Some of the proposal is unclear.</p> <p>o Larger shelter will require additional parking – and don't think there is a need for a fourth shelter</p> <p>o Would like to see improved amenities/activities (playground/courts/etc.) and improved access at shelters</p> <p>o Expanded parking and different locations – especially Beech lot, boat rental and office</p> <p>o Dogwood and White Oak Shelters seem to be OK with parking, but we should investigate what expanded parking may look like.</p>	
Playground					Add adventure/nature play and remove any old playground equipment that needs to be replaced.		
Disc Golf							
Sound Attenuation					Create a policy that trees will not be removed from the side of the park that buffers US 40.		
Flooding					Installing boardwalks along the Old Beech Trail would make it accessible to all users and also limit the number of trail closures due to flooding.		
User Conflict					Create trail etiquette signs in English and Spanish.		
User Groups / Partnerships					The park currently serves many specialty groups, such as the Triangle Model Yacht Club and can continue to attract these niche groups by developing a formal process for using the property. Hire staff members who speak English and Spanish. Consider hiring a county-level staff member who can work with Spanish speaking members of the community to gain insight into their recreational and health needs as well as create a run program geared toward this population.		
Indoor Classrooms and Main Visitor Center	Create a new Park Center with an iconic building that provides an educational setting, a place for rest and relaxation, observation of the waterfront, and park support facilities (127 like / 21 do not like / 31 not sure). 71% Support.				With the addition of an educational classroom, users would have the opportunity to participate in expanded programming focusing on water quality, environmental protection, and wetland conservation.		
Volleyball					Relocate volleyball courts to consolidate uses.		
Staff Priorities						<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Additional/ overflow parking</li> <li>2. Fishing Pier repairs (listing issue over time- we did not discuss this, but it merits monitoring for accessibility/ structural integrity) (should this be CIPP?)</li> <li>3. Park Center w/ classroom</li> <li>4. Trailhead parking /restroom</li> <li>5. Gathering Space (not including additional shelter)</li> <li>6. Boat Ramp dock improvements/ freeboard accessibility</li> <li>7. Connectivity needs</li> <li>8. ADA Loop trail around lake</li> </ol>	



# North Wake Landfill County Park

Topic	MOUs and Existing Plans	Past Community Survey	LWP	Steering Committee Ideas	Focus Group	Site Analysis	Steering Committee and Staff Workshop
Non-Categorical	This is a Wake County owned facility	<p>Most important Service</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Acquiring Open Space</li> <li>2. Expanding Greenway System</li> <li>3. Developing Large Regional Parks Nature</li> <li>4. Maintaining Improving Services</li> <li>5. Providing environmental Cultural Historic education</li> </ol> <p>What does this mean: The citizens show support for acquiring open space. The County should remain vigilant about opportunities to acquire lands to meet their conservation goal as well as to preserve and educate the community about the importance of open space. The greenways system is critical for livability in the county (the greenway plan is already being executed).</p>	Need to serve youth and over 65				
Mission and Education				School will provide a lot of programming opportunity and park exposure—recycling, environmental, waste management, community project example	Education & interpretive info (& benches!) along trail going uphill to views Signage that leads people up the hill from the parking area	This park has the unique opportunity to educate and challenge citizens and visitors to contemplate their consumptive behavior and personal effects on the environment. The mission and educational opportunities can be linked to those of Harris Lake providing a deeper understanding of how our lifestyles impact the earth and reveal some of the more difficult visual reminders of how our society defines livability. The proximity of the recycling center provides educational opportunities within the park and can promote Wake County's 8Eers campaign.	Add interpretive signage Use as an opportunity to showcase recycled art Feature "decorative dumpsters" use local artists Add solar and wind power to education about renewable energy HUGE opportunity for education
Name / Perception				Name doesn't give a good impression of the park or represent what is there; name was dictated by County board		Many residents still consider the site a landfill and do not recognize the transformation as a county park. There are no interpretive signs or public art to link the transition from a dangerous, waste-filled site to a well-functioning park with opportunities to educate young generations about our behavioral impacts on the environment. Installing interpretive signage and educational kiosks throughout the park would highlight the history of the park and educate users on solid waste management and recycling. Currently, the name of the park is creating a barrier to use. By modifying the name, it may remove the negative connotation of being a landfill and promote the site as a park - not a brownfield.	Change the name Name the mountain Reclamation Station
Expansion							
ADA Accessibility		<p>Most used parks in last 12 months</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Lake Crabtree (70.6)</li> <li>2. Harris Lake (65.5)</li> <li>3. American Tobacco Trail (55.1)</li> <li>4. Historic Yates Mill (53.2)</li> <li>5. Crowder (40.4)</li> <li>6. Blue Jay (35.9)</li> <li>7. Historic Oak View (32.5)</li> <li>8. N. Wake Landfill (24.2)</li> </ol> <p>What does this mean: Crabtree, Harris Lake, ATT, and Yates are a priority for addressing challenges like ADA accessibility or maintenance issues. Blue Jay, Oak View, and Landfill need outreach campaigns to increase use. Blue Jay is a bit of an outlier, Oak View now is special use – this can be changed with the recommendations, Landfill could use a PR campaign and additional comfort/uses to activate.</p>			ADA access is needed so all people of all abilities can enjoy view		Make sure there are easy trails too - for walking and mountain biking Make the large hill ADA accessible
Connections To Transit		<p>Why are they not using parks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Prefer to use City or State Parks</li> <li>2. Too Far/Don't have transportation</li> <li>3. Not convenient</li> <li>4. Hours not convenient</li> <li>5. Time Constraints/Personal issues</li> <li>6. Didn't know</li> </ol> <p>What does this mean: We need to advocate for connections to transit. The public needs to be informed of how to get to parks via transit and greenways. People need to understand it doesn't take hours to enjoy a park – it can take minutes.</p>		There is an opportunity to create transit stop near the park.		The park is served by the City of Raleigh's transit system, with a bus stop located near the park entrance on Durant Road. Sidewalk connectivity on Deponie Drive coupled with wayfinding would improve the safety and experience of arriving at the Park. Adding more stops along Durant Road will provide better access to the park from surrounding neighborhoods.	Add bus stop at Durant
Parking					Depending on new uses, may need to add parking.		Pedestrian link needed from parking lot to the top of the hill
Connections via Walking and Biking						The Abbotts Creek Trail connects the park to surrounding neighborhoods. Providing safe crossings of Durant Road would increase the bicycle and pedestrian access to the park. The addition of an elementary school and community center provides the opportunity for increased park usage.	Provide additional connections to Abbotts Creek Trail

Topic	Public Input	Recommendations	Remove	Modify	New	Question	Answer	Staff Comments
Non Categorical		<p> paved trails                      hiking trails                      mountain biking trails                      picnic areas                      playground                      shelter                      restroom</p>			Main circulation in this park should accommodate multiple users of all ages. Mileage should be posted for seniors wishing to use the park as a walking track. Benches should also be included periodically for resting places. Paths should also accommodate strollers as parents with young children will be using the trails and park to access the playground.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Seating and shade at existing playground</li> <li>o Seating and shade at the top of the hill</li> <li>o Improved signage and education opportunities</li> <li>o Existing Mountain Bike Skills course – how much is it used??? TORC buy in??? Possibility to expand.</li> <li>o FTE??? – future staffing??? Utilize existing mobile trailer</li> <li>o Add Nature play elements or area (just west of playground??)</li> <li>o Expanded mountain bike trails along western edge– meeting with GSA soon</li> <li>o Connect paved greenway system around whole site</li> <li>o Pedestrian Connection to Durant Road?? (Review with new school sidewalk connection and relocation of traffic signal)</li> <li>o Pedestrian connection to School / Community Center (in process)</li> <li>o See spreadsheet comments</li> </ul>
Mission and Education					Interpretive signage should be added throughout the park. Energy, consumption, renewal resources, health, and human impact on the planet are potential topics. A scale model of the county or east coast could be created for the top of the hill to illustrate this distance from where waste came from - the model can also show other landfills. As each is converted to a park the model could be updated to reflect the conversion. Programming can be implemented to challenge users to change their behavior. Contests can be implemented using a Facebook page or Instagram to take photos of community clean up efforts, changes in waste, or creating recycling programs in schools, neighborhoods, and businesses.			
Name / Perception	Do you think we should change the name of the park? Please use the comments section below for your ideas. (174 like / 10 do not like / 4 maybe / 93% support)				Conduct a competition or initiate a public process to change the name of the park.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o STAFF SUPPORTS. Yes!</li> <li>o Take landfill out of the name but keep some connection to the nature of the park. North Wake Eco Park.</li> <li>o Have a competition for name</li> <li>o Consider naming it a County Park??</li> </ul>
Expansion								
ADA Accessibility	A new ADA accessible trail will wrap around the large hill from the existing playground. Up-cycled art and bands of colored vegetation will mark the year at which the mound grew to the height of the traveler. (194 like / 24 do not like / 38 not sure / 76% support)				Add a new trail connecting the playground to the top of the hill. Wrap this path around the mound using public art dumpsters to serve as shade and indicated the year the mound grew to that level. Include bands of vegetation around the mound that also signify the years the mound grew.			
Connections To Transit					Work with the City to add a transit stop near the park. Improve pedestrian access to the park to create safe crossings and clear paths.			
Parking					Add additional parking areas to correspond with new use areas.			
Connections via Walking and Biking	Provide a greenway connection to Abbotts Creek Trail around the bottom of the northern mound. A fence with art and interpretive signage will tell the story of the park. (216 like / 20 do not like / 31 not sure / 81% support)			improve the intersection at Durant Road - provide crosswalks, sidewalks, and wayfinding to direct pedestrians to the park.	Provide additional connections to Abbotts Creek trail (particularly around the smaller mound - provide decorative educational fencing to prevent access to the mound and an educational experience).			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o STAFF SUPPORTS</li> <li>o Already have connections – improve wayfinding and visibility</li> <li>o Tie art to landfill for education purposes – art along trail</li> </ul>



Topic	MOUs and Existing Plans	Past Community Survey	LWP	Steering Committee Ideas	Focus Group	Site Analysis	Steering Committee and Staff Workshop
Walking and Hiking		<p>Why are they using:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Walking/hiking/dog walking</li> <li>2. Cycling/mountain biking</li> <li>3. Viewing nature/wildlife</li> <li>4. Use of Playground</li> <li>5. Attending a program</li> </ol> <p>What does this mean: First – this identifies the demand for these activities in all of the parks. Second, it illustrates what is currently successful. And third, it may indicate that people are unaware of the other types of activities in the park system.</p>			<p>Access up back side of hill close to playground- issues with drainage berms built into hill but would be great since people go up that side anyway; could be limited to foot traffic only that isn't paved—would need to avoid well placements</p>	<p>There is no separation for cars and pedestrians along the road leading to the top of the hill trail.</p>	<p>Add a path from the playground to the top of the "big hill" Use vegetation or art to illustrate and education people about the mound and how it grew</p>
Mountain Biking					<p>Eliminate skills course due to lack of use &amp; repurpose the space? Not a lot of space, and not sure what else could go there besides trail; maybe people would use fitness equipment/fitness trail there (ask public)</p>		
Outreach and Awareness		<p>Sources of information</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Email Newsletter</li> <li>2. Website</li> <li>3. Brochure/Fliers</li> <li>4. Friends</li> <li>5. Conversations with Staff</li> </ol> <p>What does this mean: Keep up the good work on the newsletter and consider increasing frequency. Make sure the newsletter is archived on the website. Nationally, Facebook is the number one source for learning about parks and recreation programs so the County should increase the Facebook and social media presence.</p>		<p>Best view in Wake County, great marketing opportunity</p>	<p>Many people who live near park don't know it's here b/c you have to look for it to find it. Perhaps the link to the school with access and programming will increase awareness. Connections from the greenway (and homes) through to the school may increase awareness as well. This should be used as a safe route to school.</p>		
Health and Wellness							
Wayfinding					<p>It is hard to find the entrance to the park. People do not see the signs as they are driving by- too small. Uniformity of the Wake County signs makes this look like it is a waste facility and not a park. Modify the entrance and make it look like a park. Signage that leads people up the hill from the parking area</p>	<p>There is no signage leading pedestrians from the parking lot to the top of the hill trail.</p>	<p>Create an arrival sequence with signage and add a kiosk to help visitors understand what is available at the park.</p>
Programs (Touch, Play, Do)				<p>Challenge: No permanent staff present, no significant programming.</p>	<p>Being able to host SKs/events! Potential to develop a joint use agreement with WPS for parking access. Picnic shelter perfect gathering point. Many requests for events. Need parking that doesn't use trails/event space as ingress/egress. Would need additional staff.</p>	<p>The interior road network provide opportunities to host events such as a criterion, looped running races and distance markers.</p>	<p>Add programs that educate people about waste and energy</p>
Operations					<p>Park staff &amp; a permanent space/office/reception area for greeting public on site- currently in trailer that's inaccessible from 7pm – 9pm (last 2 hours of park's open day) when waste services has to close their gate</p>		
Youth Play					<p>Shade is needed at the playground. Trees and shade structures. Water is needed at the playground.</p>		

Topic	Public Input	Recommendations				Question	Answer	Staff Comments
		Preserve	Remove	Modify	News			
Walking and Hiking				Complete and connect the greenway system to link each of the uses in the park. Modify the current master plan to fit new uses in the current master plan.	Add paths to connect new uses. Include mile markers for seniors to track progress and distance.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o SUMMIT TRAIL</li> <li>o STAFF SUPPORTS</li> <li>o Needs to come from playground side...</li> <li>o ADA accessibility</li> <li>o Provide additional parking near the bottom of "top of the hill" road on Convenience Center side</li> <li>o Bumpster or other "dressing up" of the trail – years of trash... Good that art along trail is educational</li> </ul>
Mountain Biking					Maintain existing mountain biking trails and skills area. Provide signage to ensure visitors understand the routes and levels of difficulty.			
Outreach and Awareness					<p>The North Wake Landfill County Park is unique in the fact that it was once a landfill. The story behind this conversion is made clear in the brochure, but is missing on the website and within the park itself. The mountain bike skills trails is a great asset to the park and should be highlighted on the website and brochure.</p> <p>Outreach and awareness should be addressed for each park and for the system as a whole. Each park should be used to cross promote the offerings and locations of each of the county parks. A map for each park should be displayed in the parks as well as a map illustrating all parks in the county. This map should also include transit routes and greenways that connect the parks with neighborhoods, "town centers", and large places of employment. Transit routes and greenways should be illustrated on a map on the County website, as well as in a published brochure for all of the parks. The County may also choose to partner with health based organizations or non-profits to create an "Access to Health" campaign by which illustrations and messaging are used on buses, in downtowns, and via media outlets (traditional and social) to help education the public about how they can access the park system.</p> <p>Facebook and social media are easy and inexpensive avenues for reaching families across the County. Increase the County's presence by having a dedicated Wake County Parks and Recreation Page and consider a page for each park (some parks have a dedicated page). In addition to posting events and activities on the County pages, assign a staff member to monitor other groups, events, and municipal sites for cross posting, promotion, and support.</p> <p>Create a more interactive County Park Website and update the page twice monthly to become a better clearing house of information for park activities, events, rules, and trip planning information.</p>			
Health and Wellness					<p>The County should work with municipal and state parks and recreation departments to connect with doctors and encourage them to begin a Park Rx Program. In this program, doctors will prescribe patients with time spent in parks. To coincide with the development of Park Rx Program, Wake County Parks should identify activities that can be accomplished by individuals in 10, 20, 30, 40, and 60 minute increments. These cards should be available in each of the park in a display about time and health. The cards should be crafted of sturdy material to enable return and reuse. A marketing campaign should accompany this program and all cards should be visible for trip planning on the County website.</p> <p>In addition to the cards, Wake County should enact a "Health and Energy" program. This program would have several components. Private partnerships should be explored with Duke Energy to fund personal health tracking devices in parks. These devices could be borrowed (or purchased) at each park to track activity while in the park. These would overcome barriers to health tracking devices for economically challenged individuals. Every person would have the ability to enter a personal number or pin to activate the device and continue to build their personal profile of activity. The County would facility personal login credentials through a health portal on the website where each individual could monitor their steps, calories burned, miles walk/biked/hiked, etc. The park system can become a part of a Countywide media campaign "Eye on health" where the county, in real time, tracks human power, calories burned, etc. as a way to monitor the need to increase physical activity and combat the obesity epidemic, cardio vascular health issues, and inactivity.</p>			
Wayfinding	Add a welcome kiosk that allows drive up access to a map of the park, board with park event details, and park rules. Use this kiosk as a check in point for events. (218 like / 15 do not like / 27 not sure / 84% support)				<p>Signage for each of the parks should be evaluated. Currently, the parks, recycling centers, and other county facilities all use the same sign creative. This strengthens the brand, but prevents the parks from standing out as recreations public spaces. The county should consider adding an additional flag, symbol, or logo to identify park facilities as special. Also, the arrival sequence to each park should be examined for additional wayfinding sign (MUTCD or Wake County) to alert people of the proximity to the park and build confidence for those navigating to each of the facilities. Letter sizing should also be examined. MUTCD standards for vehicular signage are four inches – any monument signs that do not have this size lettering should be vetted for clarity and visibility.</p> <p>Pedestrian circulation and area maps should be clearly displayed throughout the park to aid in navigation and understanding the features of the park.</p> <p>Skill level of trails and time commitments should be posted.</p> <p>As uses are added - include maps at access points and near parking areas.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o STAFF SUPPORTS. Yes!</li> <li>o Also need one at the playground area</li> </ul>	
Programs (Touch, Play, Do)					Explore opportunities to add a permanent office in this park with staff. Implement programs focused on education and recycled art. Provide a shelter / building for making/doing/building art.			
Operations					Add staff as the uses increase.			
Youth Play	Build a ribbon of skate skill areas that acts like a trail, rather than a skate park. The trail will have areas carved out of the ground as well as obstacles above ground that weave into a plaza area with an adjacent greenway. (208 like / 32 do not like / 33 not sure / 76% support)				Public support shows support for the skate trail. Implement this use and provide appropriate signage for rules and etiquette.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o SKATE TRAIL</li> <li>o STAFF SUPPORTS. Cool idea – good location</li> <li>o Liability – same as mtn bike skill area; Managing trail use conflicts (mtn bike/ skaters)</li> <li>o Make sure to provide a parallel trail for walkers etc in the same area</li> </ul>	



Topic	MOUs and Existing Plans	Past Community Survey	LWP	Steering Committee Ideas	Focus Group	Site Analysis	Steering Committee and Staff Workshop
Restricted Areas					Use public art as fence structures that are visually appealing and exciting. Use barriers as an educational opportunity. This may be a potential project with the adjacent school or NCSU School of Design.		
Connections To School					Trail access/system between school/community center could draw in parents & such waiting for kids practicing on fields at school- need something that draws them in & explains what park is- interpretive trail?		Provide a connection to the school
Top of The Hill					Shade at top of hill would help- people use picnic tables; soil is 6' deep before hitting landfill liner, but small shelters for individual tables could work	The view of the Raleigh skyline is a unique asset to the park and an accessible trail from the playground to the top of the hill would help to highlight this feature.	Use native plants to wrap the mound and signify the years the mound grew
Restrooms					Toilet seats would make restrooms more user friendly		
Shade					Shade is a concern in several areas.	There is limited shading in the park, especially around the park loop road and the playground area. Adding shade trees to the Peak Trail would improve the user's experience.	Add shade to the top of the mound and the playground area.
Site Furnishings							
Staff Priorities							

Topic	Public Input	Recommendations				Question	Answer	Staff Comments
		Preserve	Remove	Modify	New			
Restricted Areas	Large art will be placed on the northern mound. These oversized statement pieces will create interest, be visible from afar, and integrate with the theme of the park. (184 like / 47 do not like / 36 not sure / 69% support)		Remove the vegetative buffer between the recycling center and the park. Add interpretive signage and shade trees - but do not use vegetation as a buffer; this connection can be an educational asset should not create barrier between uses			Use large public art to draw people into the park. This large art can be placed on the mounds that are not accessible to the public. Use restricted areas as opportunities to create educational cavasses.		<p>LARGE ART</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o STAFF SUPPORTS, BUT would be better elsewhere on site not on this hill; want to get close to it; interact with it (like the photos)</li> <li>o It bland out there...</li> <li>o Along trails and in public areas – not necessarily on top of hill; consider on top of west hill that is accessible to the public.</li> <li>o Some comments about public money being used...look at opportunity for student art, competitions, etc to have alternative funding for the art.</li> </ul>
Connections To School					Create a trail connection to the school.			
Top of The Hill					Improve the space on the top of the hill with shade structures and seating. Ensure that shade structures do not block views. Incorporate education and public art that doesn't restrict views. Add view finders to allow visitors to explore their surroundings.			
Restrooms								
Shade					Add shade structures and additional trees to the playground area.			
Site Furnishings					To respond to the request for benches throughout the park - select a furnishing package that complements the mission of the park. Provide the opportunity for a few key seating opportunities to be crafted by local artists.			
Staff Priorities								<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Summit trail AND Naming the park (tie)</li> <li>2. Playground seating and shade</li> <li>3. Kiosk</li> <li>4. Greenway connections</li> <li>5. Art</li> <li>6. Skate trail</li> <li>7. Natural play area</li> </ol>