

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE RECREATION AND PARKS  
COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN  
Resolution No.46/2006-07

WHEREAS, the Recreation and Parks Department has requested that the Mayor and Board of Aldermen review and approve the Recreation and Park Comprehensive Master Plan.

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen reviewed the master plan

NOW, THEREFORE, THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE TOWN OF CARRBORO RESOLVE

Section 1. The Board hereby approves the Recreation and Parks Comprehensive Master Plan.

Section 2. This resolution shall become effective upon adoption.

# Recreation and Parks Comprehensive Master Plan Update for the Town of Carrboro



September 1, 2006

Prepared by:  
HadenStanziale, P.A.

***HadenStanziale***

421 Penman Street  
Suite 300  
Charlotte, NC 28203  
704.373.0534

# Acknowledgments

## Citizens of Carrboro

### Board of Aldermen

Dan Coleman  
Alex Zaffron  
Randee Haven-O'Donnell

John Herrera  
Jacquelyn Gist  
Joal Hall Broun

Mark Chilton, Mayor

### Carrboro Town Manager

Steven Stewart

### Master Plan Work Group

Anita Jones-McNair - Carrboro Recreation and Parks Director  
Steven Stewart - Carrboro Town Manager  
Diana McDuffee - Master Plan Work Group Chair  
Doris Murrell - Recreation and Parks Commission Chair  
Marianne Nicholson - Recreation and Parks Commission  
Chris Van Hasselt - Carrboro Transportation Advisory Board  
Charlie Hileman - Carrboro Transportation Advisory Board  
Salli Benedict - Friends of Bolin Creek/Recreation & Parks Commission/Public Health  
Dale McKeel - Transportation Planner  
Bill Bussey - Triangle Greenways Council  
John Herrera - Board of Aldermen  
Randee Haven-O'Donnell - Board of Aldermen  
Allen Spalt - Morgan Creek Valley Alliance

### Recreation and Parks Department

Anita Jones-McNair, Director  
Dennis Joines, Recreation Administrator  
Kokeita Miller, Facilities Administrator  
Dianah Alston-Sanders, Administrative Assistant  
H. Scott Pitt, Program Support Assistant

### Master Planning Consultants

**HadenStanziale**

*planning  
landscape architecture*



# *Table of Contents*

## I. Project Information

Purpose	1
Methodology	1
Existing Parks and Facilities	3
Population and Growth	6
Current Programs, Offerings and Special Events	6
Current Administrative Structure	10

## II. Goals, Objectives & Standards

Mission Statement	11
Roles and Activities of the Recreation and Parks Department	11
Work Plan - Goals and Objectives	11
Public Involvement	12

## III. Action Plan

Action Plan	15
Prioritization / Timeline	19
Greenway Corridors and Natural Areas	20

<b><u>IV. Greenway Guidelines and Development Criteria</u></b>	
What is a Greenway?	21
Types of Greenway Facilities	21
Greenway Zones	23
Greenway Bikeway Planning and Implementation	24
A. Criteria for Prioritizing and Acquisition	25
B. Criteria for Prioritizing Trail Development	26
Overview	27
Trail Characteristics	27
Trail Design Standards	28
Trail Clearing and Thinning	30
Footpath/Hiking Trail Treads	32
Trail Appurtenances	37
<b><u>V. Alternative Funding Sources</u></b>	
Public Funding Services	39
Private Funding Services	40
Volunteer Work	40
Grants	40
Sponsorships	43
Open Space Acquisition and Dedication	44
<b><u>VI. Appendix</u></b>	
User Survey	47
Master Plan Information and Resources	49
Smith Soccer Field Usage Report	65

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# I. Project Information

## Purpose

The purpose of the Recreation and Parks Comprehensive Master Plan Update is to evaluate recreational facilities, activities and programs currently offered by the Town of Carrboro Recreation and Parks Department (CRPD), review the current comprehensive plan (completed by Woolpert in October 1994) and progress by the CRPD to date, and guide the town in providing the community's future recreational needs. The process used in compiling the information presented in this update allows the Town of Carrboro to inventory and assess all existing park facilities and programs, evaluate the community's satisfaction with those facilities and programs and recommend a clear direction for the department to develop its facilities, programs and staff to meet the future recreational needs for the people of the Town of Carrboro.

This Master Plan Update is meant to serve as a guidance tool for the CRPD and the recommendations discussed in Section III are proposed only. The plan includes a variety of recommendations in which the Town can explore and pursue if it is in the best interest of the community. All proposed recommendations may or may not be considered during future Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) and budget processes. Also, some of these recommendations can be addressed through collaborative efforts with other jurisdictions, businesses, etc., or alternate funding resources.

## Methodology

This plan identifies the current recreation facility and program offerings for Carrboro and adjacent sources and creates a strategy that allows the CRPD to determine if they are meeting the town's current and future needs. In order to compile the necessary information to determine these needs, the following process was used:

### Step 1

- Identify existing parks, recreational and educational based programs, greenways, open space, facilities, adjacent municipality and county controlled properties and facilities and geophysical site conditions for Carrboro;
- Compile this information into charts, organized text and mapping layers for evaluation;
- Analyze geographic and program data to identify key resources;
- Identify ways to incorporate these resources into the planning process.

### Step 2

- Determine a "policy" plan for Carrboro through the modification of a mission statement (if needed) and supporting goals and objectives;
- Gather facilities information from Carrboro, adjacent municipalities, and comparable communities;
- Inventory participation ratios of recreation program users to available facilities;
- Host a series of public workshops;
- Survey residents and users to determine how they feel about current programs and facilities;

- Tabulate and analyze survey results and comments made during the public input sessions;
- Gain input from CRPD employees and Master Plan Work Group members regarding existing facilities, proposed facilities and recreation issues, along with any other input they might have.

#### Step 3

- Create a set of planning criteria to be used as the basis for recreational facility and program recommendations;
- Gather and present overall and activity based recreation participation information, facility usage information and recreation/facility demand information outlining current recreational trends in Carrboro.
- Review the park classification system for Carrboro and apply the classifications, if needed, to current recreational parks and facilities in Carrboro.

#### Step 4

- Establish an Action Plan based on data and information gathered throughout Steps 1, 2 and 3.

## Existing Parks and Facilities

The following is an inventory of existing parks and properties currently owned and operated by the Town of Carrboro (See attached chart as well):

### Anderson Community Park (55.0 acres)

- Multi-purpose field<sup>1</sup> (120 yards x 60 yards)
- Basketball courts (lighted)
- 8 – Horseshoe pits
- 0.90 miles of trails
- Picnic shelter
- Restrooms
- Play equipment (2-12 years)
- 4 – Baseball/softball fields (lighted)
- 2 – Tennis courts
- Fishing pond
- Fenced dog park
- Picnic tables / grills
- Volleyball court
- Batting cage



### Baldwin Park (2.5 acres)

- Open play area
- Picnic area w/grill
- 1 – Basketball court
- Play equipment (2-12 years)



### Brewer Lane Mini Park (1.0 acre)

- Open space
- Basketball court

### Century Center (7,200 SF)

- 4 – Activity rooms
- Kitchen (fully-equipped)
- Recreation and Parks Department offices
- Carboro Cybrary (Cyber Library - A joint effort with Orange County)
- Multi-purpose room (Century Hall)
- Fixed stage (in Century Hall)

### Martin Luther King, Jr. Park (10.16 acres, undeveloped) – Anticipated Features

- Play equipment
- Multi-purpose fields<sup>2</sup>
- Trails
- Plant and sculpture gardens
- Outdoor chess/ping pong tables
- Picnic shelter with tables/restrooms
- Open play fields<sup>3</sup>
- Spray ground
- Bird sanctuary

### Simpson Street Triangle (1.0 acre)

- Picnic table
- Play equipment (2-12 years) to be installed by Summer 2006
- Open space



<sup>1</sup>Typical uses for this field include football practice, field hockey practice, rugby group rentals, ultimate frisbee rentals and general rentals for group picnics / games.

<sup>2</sup>Multi-purpose field to accommodate unstructured soccer, football, lacrosse or softball.

<sup>3</sup>Open play fields for unstructured play.



#### Smith Soccer Field

- Soccer field (town manages) (lighted)  
(See Appendix for Usage Report)

#### Town Commons Play Area (1.7 acres)

- Play equipment (2-5 yr.)
- Band/dance stand
- Open space play area
- 2 - Shelters



#### Wilson Park (8.5 acres)

- Youth baseball field (lighted)
- Picnic tables/grills
- Play equipment (2-12 years)
- Volleyball court (area next to pavillion)
- 4 – Tennis courts (lighted)
- Picnic shelter
- Restrooms

#### Adams Tract (27.0 acres, undeveloped)

- Open space
- Natural trails

#### Other Facilities

In addition to those facilities listed above, the following facilities within Carrboro are also available for public use:

#### Carrboro Elementary School Park (3.0 acres)

- Play equipment
- Picnic tables
- Track (0.16, dirt)
- Basketball court
- Youth baseball field
- Open play areas

#### Bikepaths

Francis Shetley Bike Path - 0.26 miles

Libba Cotten Bike Path - 0.39 miles (existing)

Horne Hollow Bike Path - 0.12 miles (existing)

McDougle Bike Path - 0.26 miles (existing)

PTA Bike Path - 0.08 miles (existing)



#### Lake Hogan Farms Greenway\*

- One mile Greenway Trail

#### Bolin Creek (Greenway)

- One mile dedicated greenway corridor (no trail facilities)

\* Maintained by the Lake Hogan Farms HOA, but available for public use.

## Existing Park Facilities and Amenities

Amenities	Parks												Total
	Anderson Community Park	Baldwin Park	Brewer Lane Mini Park	Century Center	Carrboro Elementary School Park*	Lake Hogan Greenway*	Martin Luther King, Jr. Park (Future)	Simpson Street Mini-Park	Smith Soccer Fields	Town Commons Play Area	Wilson Park	Adams Tract	
Acres	55	2.5	1	0.16	3		10.16	1		1.7	8.5	27	110.02
Activity Rooms				4									4
Band/Dance Stand										1			1
Ball Fields	4												4
Basketball Courts	2	1	1										4
Fenced Dog Park	1												1
Fishing Pond	1												1
Fixed Stage				1									1
Horseshoe Pits	8												8
Kitchen				1									1
Multi-Purpose Fields	1												1
Multi-Purpose Room				1									1
Open Play Areas		1	1		1			1		1	1	1	7
Picnic Shelter	1 <sup>n</sup>	1 <sup>n</sup>								2	1 <sup>n</sup>		5
Picnic Table/Grill Area	5	1			1			1			3		11
Play Equipment	2	1			1					1	2		7
Rec. and Parks Dept. Office				1									1
Restrooms	1			3							1		5
Soccer Fields									1				1
Tennis Courts	2										4		6
Track					1								1
Trails	0.9					1						1	2.9
Volleyball Courts	1										1		2
Youth Baseball Field					1						1		2

\*Not a Carrboro Recreation and Parks Facility, but available to the public for use.

<sup>n</sup>Picnic Shelter with Grill

## **Population and Growth**

According to the U.S. Census conducted in 2000, Carrboro had a total population of 16,782 residents. According to the same census information, Carrboro's population increased 38.3% since the previous U.S. Census, conducted in 1990, which reflected a population of 12,134. From 1990 – 2000, 62% of the population increase in Orange County occurred in either Carrboro or Chapel Hill. The current population estimate for the town is 18,500, an increase of 9% in the last 6 years. Further projections from the Planning Department show a steady increase in the town's population.

While the 20-24 year age group has decreased 5% since 1990, all other age groups have increased, especially the 5-19 year school age population. This school age group has increased 107% from 1,281 in 1990 to 2,653 in 2000. Likewise, families with children under the age of 18 increased by 91% with 25% of the Carrboro households now being deemed “family” households. Similarly, 25% of Carrboro's population is now in the 25-34 age group, however, the largest increases in age groups occurred in the 45-54 year range (173%) and in the over 85 year (513%) bracket.

Also, of particular note is the fact that Carrboro has the highest Latino population in Orange County with 2,062 or a 936% increase from the 199 in 1990 and now accounts for 12.3% of the Town's population. This is significant in making sure that programming and information is provided in a bilingual format for this increasing ethnic population within Carrboro.

## **Current Programs, Offerings and Special Events**

The Carrboro Recreation and Parks Department offers a wide variety of programming and activities to all ages on a year round basis. The CRPD offers a Family Assistance Program (FAP) to allow opportunities for families that cannot afford the program fees to participate. The programs and special events listed below are currently or have been offered in recent years to the residents of Carrboro and Orange County as well as non-Orange County residents:

### ***Programs and Activities***

### ***Ages***

#### **Active Sports (Youth)**

Baseball(Spring & Fall)	11-16
Basketball	15 & under
Field Hockey (Girls)	10-13
Football (Pee Wee/Mite/Midget Leagues)	10-14
Softball (Girls Fast Pitch)	10-12
Volleyball Drop-in	15 & under

#### **Active Sports (Adult)**

Softball (Co-Rec.)	16+
Ultimate Frisbee	16+

### **Classes & Programs (Youth)**

Babysitting	11+
Beginning Horsemanship	5+
Cheerleading	13+
Chess (Youth)	6-11
Chess (Teen)	9-15
C.L.A.S.S. Baseball	4-6
C.L.A.S.S. Basketball	4-6
C.L.A.S.S. Soccer	4-6
Contract Bridge	10-14
Counted Cross-Stitch	6-11
Creative Dramatics	5-10
Dance and Creative Movement	3-4
Dance (Preschool)	3-4
Dance (Youth)	5-11
Drawing	5-11
Drop in Table Tennis	8+
Extreme Acting	13-18
Guitar Lessons	11+
Hip Hop	8-12
Hip Hop Teens	13+
Introduction to Fitness	13+
Introduction to Woodworking	5+
Mind Your Manners	6-13
Piano	10-14
Salsa Class	11+
Summer Nature Art and Writing	7+
Tennis	8-17
Trail Ride Lesson	5+
Volleyball	10-14
Young Gymnast (Preschool)	3-5
Young Gymnast (Youth)	6-11
Youth Health Seminar	8+

### **Classes and Programs for Adults**

Basketry Studio	18+
Bingo	55+
Braingyms	18+
Caroleena's Tuscan Kitchen	18+

Counted Cross-Stitch	18+
Day Trips - various	18+
Ethnic Vegetarian Cooking	18+
Foot Reflexology	18+
Golden Trail Series	18+
Glutes and Abs	18+
Guitar Lessons	18+
Indian Cooking	18+
Knitting	18+
Mindful Meditation	18+
Seated Chair Massage	18+
Spanish	18+
Tennis	50+
Yoga	18+
Yoga for Men Who Aren't Flexible	18+

### **Day Camps**

Arts Safari	6-9
Eco-Adventure	9-12
Eco-Odyssey	6-10
Extreme Drama	11-16
Fishing	8-13
Kinderventures	3-5
Music Mania	6-10
Rock Band	14-18
Spence's Farm	5+
Summer Traditions	9-12
Taste of Summer	6-9
Tennis Youth	8-13

### **Senior Games**

Badminton	55+
Basketball (3 on 3)	55+
Basketball Shoot	55+
Billiards	55+
Bocce	55+
Bowling	55+
Cycling	55+
Golf	55+
Horseshoes	55+
Shuffleboard	55+
Swimming	55+
Table Tennis	55+

Track and Field	55+
<b><u>Sports Camps</u></b>	
Baseball	9-12
Cheerleading	6-10
Field Hockey	5-8
Lacrosse (Boys)	10-13
Soccer	9-12
Softball	5-7
Ultimate Frisbee	10-15

<b><u>Special Events</u></b>	
Carrboro Day	All Ages
Carrboro Music Festival	All Ages
Carrboro Poetry Festival	All Ages
Documentary Films	All Ages
Egg Hunt	2-10
Entertainment Adventures	All Ages
Fishing Rodeo	3-15
Fourth of July Celebration	All Ages
Halloween Carnival	All Ages
Hot Stub Horseshoe Tournament	All Ages
Junior Open Mic	18 & Under
Kids Bingo	4+
Kite Fly	All Ages
Lollipop Series for Children	2+
Lunchbox Concert Series	All Ages
Senior Picnic	55+
Serendipity Series	All Ages
Spring Open Horseshoe Tournament	All Ages
Toddler Preschool Playtime	2-5
Uncommon Concerts on the Commons	All Ages
We're Jammin' Jam Session Series	All Ages

The following positions represent the current administrative structure of the CRPD. This is the group that is charged with staffing, planning and programming many of Carrboro's recreational programs and events.



### **Current Administrative Structure**

There are currently ten full-time positions in the CRPD:

- Recreation & Parks Director
- Recreation Administrator
- Facilities Administrator
- 4 Recreation Supervisors
- 1 Recreation Supervisor (part-time)
- Facilities Supervisor
- Administrative Assistant
- Program Support Assistant
- Program Support Assistant II (part-time)
- 2 Recreation Specialists (part-time)

## II. Goals, Objectives and Standards

### Mission Statement

The CRPD already has a working Mission Statement (adopted in 2003) that will remain as currently written and describes the Department's purpose as follows:

"Our mission is to enrich the leisure needs and quality of life for citizens by providing accessible facilities, creative and diverse recreation opportunities, and a safe public park system."

### Roles and Activities of the Recreation and Parks Department

- Serves as the liaison to the Recreation and Parks Commission, who provide professional direction in their advisory role to the Board of Aldermen.
- Provides customer service, supervision and program support services focusing on registration, facility booking and accounting.
- Develops and distributes marketing materials and promotes activities and services using a variety of methods.
- Manages and supervises parks and recreation facilities owned and/or operated by the town.
- Coordinates youth and adult athletic activities consisting of league, team and individual participation.
- Promotes miscellaneous athletic activities that target specific user groups for leagues, camps, etc.
- Implements and supervises summer programs consisting of youth enrichment opportunities.
- Provides classes, workshops, trips and other general recreational activities to meet the varied leisure interests and needs of the community.
- Develops and implements diverse recreational opportunities for all ages, abilities, backgrounds and stages of life ranging from programs designed for specific functional levels to fully inclusive programs.
- Coordinates and promotes activities designed to meet the physical and intellectual leisure needs of older adults.
- Provides supervision and general management of reserved school and town facilities.
- Coordinates departmental and town uses of the Carrboro Century Center.

### Work Plan - Goals and Objectives

The current goals and objectives are as follows:

Goal 1: Provide a comprehensive program that offers a variety of leisure opportunities to all citizens that includes athletic, cultural and educational and community programs.

Objective: Expand opportunities for recreational activities and facility usage.

Objective: Continue to pursue cooperative agreements (with other agencies and partners) that save money or provide additional services at no cost to the town.

Objective: Increase collaborative opportunities.

Objective: Develop further a cohesive group (Recreation and Parks Commission, staff, volunteers and neighboring towns) focused on developing community programs and providing opportunities, and outlining a course of action and annual goals.

Project: Co-sponsor programs with other departments, agencies, businesses, organizations and groups.

Project: Update Recreation and Parks Comprehensive Master Plan.

Project: Meet regularly with staff and volunteers about objectives and issues, evaluating opportunities, and outlining a course of action and annual goals.

Goal II: Enhance departmental efficiency, customer service and marketing efforts.

Objective: Continue to refine departmental efficiency, customer service delivery and marketing efforts.

Project: Implement departmental staff restructuring.

Project: Cross-train staff to handle multiple functions and fill in where necessary.

Project: Increase the utilization of the CLASS listserves, the town's webpage and other resources available to promote programs and facilities.

### **Public Involvement**

Public input is the most effective and direct method available to gauge the effectiveness of the current park facilities and recreation programs. Three opportunities for public input were held at Century Center (Saturday morning, April 9, 2005), Town Hall (Wednesday evening, April 13, 2005) and during Carrboro Day (Sunday afternoon, May 1, 2005). As part of the public input process, a **Recreation Participation and Preference Survey** was created. The survey asked participants to identify some basic information, such as age, sex, whether or not they were a resident of Carrboro and how many people reside in their household within certain age groups. The survey then asked participants to list their recreation patterns, such as the types of recreation they currently participate in on a regular basis, what facilities they use when recreating and how often they recreate during the week. Survey participants were then asked to list any recreational programs or activities not currently offered by the CRPD they would like to see. Finally, survey participants were given a chance to comment on any concerns or statements regarding the present and future of recreational programs, activities and/or facilities in Carrboro. A copy of the Town of Carrboro Recreation Participation and Preference Survey can be found in the Appendix of this document. A total of 108 surveys were completed and returned.

Overall, the CRPD facilities and programs were highly rated with 62.3% rating the facilities and programs as "good" followed by 18.5% rating them as "excellent." No respondents rated the facilities as "poor."

Most of the survey respondents were female residents of Carrboro in the 31-45 yr. old age bracket. A high percentage of the respondents (86%) have used CRPD facilities or programs. The most popular responses, indicated, that the respondents use CRPD facilities (parks and greenways) rather than programs, however, there were many individual responses indicating that programs are indeed attended. The most popular recreation facilities that are used are: Anderson Community Park, Wilson Park, Carrboro Elementary School Park and Century Center with a

fairly equal amount of use across the first two facilities (Anderson Community Park, Wilson Park) and a fairly equal amount of use across the final two facilities (Carrboro Elementary School and Century Center.)

While the highest number of respondents indicated that they consider Wilson Park and Anderson Park their closest facilities, the facility with the highest number of users and one of the most popular in the area is Bolin Creek Greenway Corridor, possibly indicating that people are willing to bike or drive to access a natural area for recreational purposes and that greenway corridors satisfy their recreational needs. (NOTE: The Town of Carrboro has not built and does not maintain any facilities along Bolin Creek at this time. The respondents did not specify whether the Bolin Creek Greenway Corridor referenced is in Carrboro or Chapel Hill.)

The highest number of responses for “recreational activities participated in” and “recreational activities participated in most frequently” are the same categories; walking, biking, swimming, hiking, running/jogging. Four out of the five top responses from both questions are activities that primarily take place or can take place on bike paths, trails, and greenways. This response indicates that bike paths, trail systems and greenways are a high priority for Carrboro community members to satisfy their recreational needs. This is consistent with current national trends where walking, jogging and bicycling are the most popular forms of recreation, not only for exercise, but for a family-based form of activity.

#### TOP 5 RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN CARRBORO

1. walking
2. biking
3. swimming\*
4. hiking
5. running/jogging

\*A bond referendum was approved for a swimming pool in 1978, but the pool was never constructed.

In regards to recreation and leisure programs that are currently not provided by Carrboro that respondents would like to see, there was no overriding trend in the responses, however, the highest percentage of response was in relation to swimming or providing a swimming pool. It is significant to note that swimming was in the top 5 responses from “recreational activities participated in” and “recreational facilities participated in most frequently.” Swimming appears to be a popular activity for Carrboro community members even though there is no community pool. The survey respondents did indicate they are willing to travel from Carrboro to use other recreational facilities in Chapel Hill, either at UNC or at Orange County’s Park facilities, with 41% traveling beyond Carrboro on a weekly basis (perhaps partly for recreational swimming purposes.)

Parks and Recreation facilities and programs appear to have a strong and positive presence in the community as indicated by the highest percentage of responses (30%) stating that they have heard about the programs through “word of mouth”.

There is a high percentage of attendance at some of the Carrboro Special Events with Carrboro Day being the most popular at 24%, followed by Fourth of July (21%), Music Festival (19%) and Halloween Carnival (5.5%). While there was no overriding trend in regards to which local or regional cultural or historic sites were visited, almost half of the respondents (49%) indicated that they do indeed visit sites that fall into this category.

While not mentioned specifically in the surveys and open houses during this plan update, the soccer symposium task force for Orange County noted in their report in September 2000 a lack of suitable soccer facilities within the county. The Town of Carrboro has added the Smith Soccer Field since then and does have a multi-purpose field proposed for Martin Luther King, Jr. Park. Smith Soccer Field currently is used 65 - 75% of the time. Lights have been added. (See Appendix.)

#### CENTURY CENTER

The Carrboro Recreation and Parks Department is very limited on indoor facilities available for recreation programming. The Century Center, being the one and only recreation indoor facility in which CRPD has direct control, is heavily used. With one large room (Century Hall) and a few small rooms, the programming opportunity is very limited. The facility is heavily requested by the general public for other purposes (rentals). School facilities have been utilized from late afternoon into the evening hours, but CRPD is very dependent upon gaining access to use school facilities. Scheduling conflicts between CRPD and the school's use, and other reasons for denying CRPD access, make it difficult to schedule programs on a consistent basis. For example, the CRPD youth basketball program uses three middle schools and four elementary schools for this program. Since the middle schools have athletic programs during the winter, CRPD gains access to their gymnasium at approximately 7:30 p.m., meaning that CRPD youth participants (6 -15 years of age) may be participating in practices or games as late as 9:30 -10 p.m. CRPD tries to use the elementary schools for practices involving the youngest ages, and they usually have the earliest possible times during the week for games at the middle schools (7:30-8:30 p.m.). CRPD receives several comments each year about the lateness of the program and how it affects the youth participants. In addition, the school may use the site for meetings, band concerts, etc., thus causing CRPD to be denied some during each week. CRPD is not the only agency or group seeking indoor sites. Using the school facilities is costly. During the autumn of 2005, the cost of renting a school gymnasium per hour doubled.

Century Center programs have seen a 40% increase in enrollment and attendance in the first two years of operation. Due to limited space at the Century Center and other facilities used during the day, programming space for mornings and afternoons is very limited. The need to address

certain programming populations (i.e., teens, seniors, etc.) is sometimes hindered by the lack of available facilities.

### III. Action Plan

The current comprehensive plan, which has been in place since October 1994, has been the guiding force for the CRPD for the last 10 years. The 1994 plan has been reviewed as a part of this update and will be incorporated into the vision for CRPD.

Carrboro has been working diligently on addressing action items from the current plan. Based on the current plan, the Town of Carrboro should have 3 community parks, 5 neighborhood parks, 6 mini-parks and 10 miles of greenway by the year 2015. Carrboro currently has one community park (Anderson), one neighborhood park (Wilson), but also one proposed neighborhood park (Martin Luther King Jr.), which has been master planned and is currently projected to be under construction in 2008/2009. There are 4 mini-parks (Brewer Lane, Simpson Street, Baldwin and Town Commons). There is also one mile of public use greenway trail along Bolin Creek in Lake Hogan Farms. Several segments of public access corridors (easements and fee-simple dedication) have been acquired by the Town along Bolin, Morgan, Tom's and Jones Branch creeks. Trails may be constructed in the corridors in the future.

In summary, the following goals from the 1994 plan have been addressed as follows:

- Provide general on-going renovations to existing facilities at all community, neighborhood and mini-parks sites – *On-going.*
- Along with Chapel Hill/Carrboro School System, provide expanded recreation facilities at Carrboro Elementary School, and new facilities at the McDougale School site - *Staff provided direction and information to McDougale School in purchasing additional park equipment; an open forum was held March 22, 2005 to discuss the vision and process for improving the park and grounds at Carrboro Elementary School. The visioning process is beginning to move forward.*
- Begin acquiring land along Morgan Creek and Bolin Creek Greenway corridors and start developing facilities where possible. Accept all previous offers of dedication and easement along Morgan and Bolin Creeks for greenway system. – *A little over 32 acres of dedicated easements have been donated to the town; the Adams Tract (27 acres) has been purchased by the Town.*
- Fully develop the Morgan Creek Neighborhood Park – *No activity.*
- Acquire property for the Bolin Creek Neighborhood Park and fully develop – *No activity.*
- Fully develop Odum Mini-Park – *No activity (Property has steep terrain and may be difficult to develop as a mini-park.)*
- Acquire additional property for Pathway Drive Mini-Park and fully develop – *No activity, however, a neighborhood park on Hillsborough Road (Martin Luther King, Jr. Park) was master planned and approved in September 2004, with construction projected for 2008/*



*2009. With the development of this park, the pathway drive mini-park no longer needs to be included in the Master Plan.*

- Build the Morgan Creek Community Center – *No activity, however, Century Center was renovated and opened for community use in Downtown Carrboro in 2004, but it is already over-booked.*
- Continue to provide on-going renovations to existing facilities at all community, neighborhood and mini-park sites, and greenway corridors – *On-going; 1999-Play equipment installed at Town Commons; 2002-replaced playground equipment at Anderson and Wilson Parks; 2003-Constructed 2 horseshoe pits, dog fencing and 2 benches at Anderson Park; 2004-replacement of ball field lights for fields 2 & 3 at Anderson Park; the tennis court fence and lights for Wilson Park; 2005-replaced play equipment at Baldwin Park and will install play equipment at Simpson Street Triangle, replaced preschool play equipment at Anderson Park, replaced ball field lights at Wilson Park and installed lights at Smith Soccer Field in 2005.*
- Acquire property for North and South Community Parks – *The County has completed the master plan for Twin Creeks Park and Campus (5/3/05), but no funding or construction time table has been set yet; A concept plan has been approved for Southern Community Park and Chapel Hill has received a grant for construction of phase one. Construction is scheduled for early 2006.*
- Acquire property for Homestead Road and Union Grove Church Road Neighborhood Parks – *No activity. (Those two parks are not as critical now with future development of Twin Creeks Park.)*

The Town of Carrboro should continue to address the above goals (from the current master plan) and begin to address the following goals and recommendations:

- The Town of Carrboro should continue to seek partnerships and joint-use agreements and share in the development of future recreation and parks facilities. The Town of Chapel Hill and Orange County are already well underway with plans and funding for two regional facilities that would also serve to meet immediate needs for Carrboro. [Additional planned parks and facilities within the five jurisdictions, including Orange County are listed in the Composite Countywide Plan for Parks and Trails, prepared in February 2006.](#) Carrboro has also participated in the funding of the county facilities.

Projects currently underway that should be pursued jointly for use by Carrboro residents include:

- a. Southern Community Park – Chapel Hill / Orange County  
70-acre park located south of Southern Village and West of Highway 15-501. Phase one includes: Extension of Fan Branch Greenway Trail, restroom facilities, (3) lighted athletic/ soccer fields, children's play area, (2) picnic shelters, (2) basketball courts, slab for in-line hockey, dog park, meadow/grass play area and a disc golf course. Over 50% of the

overall concept plan will be left in a passive/natural state. Construction is anticipated in 2006.

b. Bolin Creek Trail – Chapel Hill

Phase III concepts will address the trail extension from the end of the current trail at Martin Luther King, Jr., Road to the Estes Drive Extension (part one) then follow the Norfolk Southern rail line to Seawell School Road (part two). They are also looking at a possible spur trail that would extend along a portion of Tanyard Branch to the edge of Carrboro's jurisdiction in the Northside neighborhood. This could lead to linkages to Wilson and Baldwin Parks as well as Carrboro Elementary School.

c. Homestead Park Aquatics Center – Chapel Hill

The Aquatics Center is still in the programming phase, but currently proposes two tanks (25 meter x 25 yard lap pool and 25 meter x 10 yard tank that includes zero depth entry ramp with warmer temperatures for youth, elderly and mobility challenged users)

d. Morgan Creek Trail - Chapel Hill

Current concepts envision an extension of the existing Fan Branch Trail from Culbreth Road/Highway 15-501 to Smith Level Road at the Carrboro Town Line at Frank Porter Graham School. Concept Plan should be ready in late 2006.

e. Twin Creeks Park and Educational Campus – Orange County

The current approved master plan proposes (2) softball/baseball fields, (4) multi-use fields, (4) basketball courts, roller hockey, measured walking trail, ADA trail, open/play meadows, (4) picnic shelters, (2) tot lots, (4) tennis courts, ADA playground, water playground, bocce, croquet and horseshoes and associated recreational facilities for two proposed elementary school sites. There is also a small gymnasium proposed.

- The Town of Carrboro should continue to acquire land, and design and construct Greenway Trail and Bikeway facilities. The two corridors that should continue to be focused upon are Bolin Creek and Morgan Creek, for greenway trail construction, especially with connections into the segments that Chapel Hill is currently planning. [The trail system should connect to regional systems like the Raleigh Greenways, American Tobacco Trail and Chatham County.](#)
- More programming and awareness should be made available for the increasing Latino populations. This demographic group was noticeably absent from the public involvement sessions and have not voiced opinions as part of this master plan update. CRPD should continue to make efforts to communicate to this demographic group to determine their needs and desires both for facilities and programming. There is a large contingent of Latino women playing volleyball in need of space to continue providing this activity. Likewise, the same can be said for Latino soccer needs in the region. A member of this community should be added to the Recreation and Parks Commission.
- CRPD should continue to seek recreation opportunities for middle school age teens (5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade). Current programs offered do not address some of the current teen interests such as computer games and fantasy board games. Programs to include:

#### Personal Growth

- Finances
- Public Speaking
- Dealing with Stress

#### Bowling

#### Golf

#### Flag Football

#### Teen Hang Time

- Movie Night
- Computer Games
- Fantasy Board Games

#### Teen Tutoring

#### Teen Band Night

#### Jewelry Making

- Likewise, CRPD should consider more opportunities for active sports for 13-17 year olds, especially girls. Currently, youth baseball stops at age 15 and the new girls' volleyball league stops at age 14. Tennis does extend to age 17 and beyond. CRPD should introduce an ultimate frisbee league for youth as well as golf.
- CRPD should consider extending some day camps to 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. and/or offering an "all-day" camp during the summer.
- Likewise, with the popularity of walking, jogging and biking and the community's desire to place emphasis on greenway development for these activities, CRPD should consider offering more programming to promote and educate the residents on the benefits, health and safety of these activities for all ages and abilities. In particular, the safety of using on-road bicycle facilities should be heavily promoted, especially to the Latino populations. For many, bikes are their most important source of transportation. (On several visits, Latino cyclists were observed at night riding on the wrong side of traffic, wearing dark clothing and not using proper reflective measures.)
- The Town should master plan the Adams Tract while the momentum is still there. During our open houses, participants were asked about the types of recreational facilities they envisioned for the tract. The current direction that should be considered is one of a passive nature with separate mountain bike and nature trails, ADA trail opportunities, picnicking venues and open space. Another program possibility that should be considered is an outdoor challenge course for teens and group/team development. (This could be a source of revenue generation.)
- The Town should continue to support the construction of soccer facilities in partnership with Orange County to encourage a regional system.
- The Town should continue to seek more land dedication opportunities for usable open space and future indoor and outdoor recreation expansion.
- The Town should look for opportunities to acquire land (2 acres minimum) for an outdoor pool site somewhere near Downtown Carrboro. The current recommendation would be to use the proposed aquatics center at Homestead Park, once open for year-round swimming, but have the outdoor pool for the summer months.

- There is a concern over the current “Neighborhood Park” classification label. It is recommended that the classification be changed to “Town Park”.
- CRPD should maintain consistent efforts for on-going maintenance and upkeep. Every new park or facility or expansion will add more maintenance needs.

## PRIORITIZATION / TIMELINE

This Master Plan Update is meant to serve as a guidance tool for the CRPD and the recommendations and prioritization discussed below are proposed only. All proposed recommendations and prioritizations may or may not be considered during future CIP and budget review processes.

### Ongoing

- Maintain current infrastructure.
- Continue to seek land acquisitions for Bolin Creek and Morgan Creek trails and natural areas.

### Immediate Needs

- Develop master plan for Adams Tract and review budgets for possible matching grant opportunities.
- Identify active sport opportunities for youth, especially girls, aged 13 - 17 years old.
- Increase offerings and programming for Latino populations.
- Add a member of the Latino community to the Recreation and Parks Commission.
- Identify recreation opportunities for the middle school-age teens.
- Continue to explore and implement joint-use opportunities and agreements with Orange County and Chapel Hill.
- Plan and implement Community Greenway Summit.
- Provide all-day summer camps.

### Near-Term Needs

- Complete construction documents for Martin Luther King, Jr. Park.
- Construct Martin Luther King, Jr. Park.
- Complete detailed design for 3 - 5 miles of greenway along Bolin Creek and/or Morgan Creek.
- Submit Adams Tract for grant funding.

### Long-Term Needs

- Construct 3 - 5 miles of greenway trail along Bolin Creek and/or Morgan Creek.
- Explore and/or construct facilities at Adams Tract.
- Prepare to undertake another comprehensive master plan update.

### Wish List

- Identify land/locations for the downtown pool; develop master plan.
- Complete detailed design and downtown pool.
- Develop master plan for Morgan Creek Community Center.
- Complete detailed design and construct Morgan Creek Community Center.

## **GREENWAY CORRIDORS AND NATURAL AREAS**

The people who attended the open houses and responded to the surveys are very concerned over the need to preserve open space in Carrboro. Likewise, the push for more connectivity and walking/biking opportunities via greenway trails was very evident in previous plans and both during the open houses and in comments received afterwards.

Both the Bolin Creek and Morgan Creek corridors and greenway development should be a major focus of this master plan update. The Town should consider designating portions of the Bolin Creek and Morgan Creek corridors as “Natural Areas” or “Nature Preserves”. It is recommended that further study on the development of a Nature Preserves Master Plan be undertaken. The master plan should look at establishing guidelines for the preservation and recreational development within the natural areas and greenway corridors. Classifications such as: Preservation Zones, Trail (Greenway) Development Zones, Natural Area Zones and Support Facilities Zones could be considered. Streamside, Managed-Use and Upland Zones will be discussed later under the trail development section for Greenway Zones.

The remainder of this master plan update addresses greenways and greenway trails in an effort to move the land acquisition, trail design and implementation of projects forward to link with on-going greenway trail development in Chapel Hill and the future construction of the Twin Creeks Park and Educational Campus and Carolina North projects. The Town has made a good effort, so far in acquiring land along the two corridors, especially with the purchase of the Adams tract. The momentum is there, now the greenway movement needs to expand faster and further, so that Carrboro can begin to realize the vision that was heavily emphasized in the 1994 Recreation and Parks Master Plan.

## IV. Greenway Guidelines and Development Criteria

### WHAT IS A GREENWAY?

Before identifying the different types of greenways, it is beneficial to clarify what a greenway really is. Since there is no single definition of a greenway, the following combinations of descriptions serve as a comprehensive definition. A greenway can exist in almost every environment and can be used for multiple purposes. For most, a greenway is: a recreational asset; a linear park with multiple access points, a trail system with open space, a connector between neighborhoods, parks, schools and other uses. In other locations, it can be a path through the woods that provides an alternative transportation route for pedestrians and bicyclists, separating them from the dangers of automobile traffic. A greenway can also serve as an important ecological tool for the protection of the natural environment. In downtown districts or places where off road trails are difficult to obtain, a greenway can be a network of sidewalks. Greenways can serve as educational assets like a linear corridor of land left in a natural, undeveloped state that provides public access to unique, scenic and native lands and waters.

Additionally, a greenway can be an amenity in urban areas that fosters the kind of community spirit, activism and bonding between local citizens that is presently being lost as metropolitan areas grow larger and larger. For municipalities, it can be a land use planning tool that helps to reduce the impact of flood damage by providing an alternative type of development within the floodplain, an economic asset that increases the real estate value of adjacent properties, thereby increasing municipal tax revenues. Or quite simply, a greenway can be a quiet place from which to draw strength.

### TYPES OF GREENWAY FACILITIES

There are six types of greenway trail facilities that can be developed in various corridors throughout a greenway system. A single corridor can be comprised of multiple types of facilities. Facilities can be upgraded over time as criteria may be adjusted dependent on change in use and adjacent development. The Carrboro Greenway/Bikeway System can be comprised of each of the following types of greenway/bikeway facilities:

#### I. No Facility Development

Greenway corridors that contain environmentally sensitive areas, wetlands, steep topography and/or other constraints that might make greenway trail development difficult, undesirable or even impossible. These types of corridors predominately remain in a natural state with limited trail development, if any at all.

#### II. Low Impact Uses / Limited Development

Greenway corridors that contain environmentally sensitive areas or wetlands that limit some greenway facility development to a more natural type of trail surface such as pit gravel or dirt. Trail width is typically 4-6 feet wide. These types of trails are very conducive to being enhanced with interpretive signage, so that the trail can serve as both a recreational and educational use. Boardwalks may be necessary to cross through wetlands and environmentally sensitive areas.

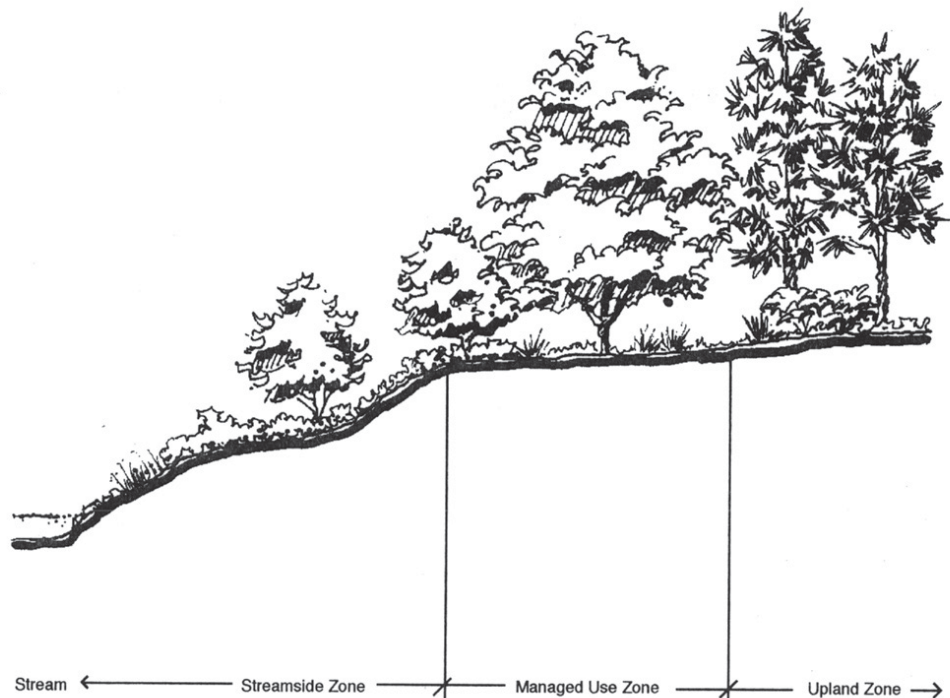


### III. Multi-Use Unpaved Trail Development

Greenway corridors located in upland or non-flood prone areas can be surfaced with compacted crushed stone or pit gravel. The trail should not be used in steep topography situations and should not exceed 3% in slope. Trail width is typically 8 feet, minimum. This type of trail would not be conducive to high use, but would be intended for some mountain biking use. The trail may have limitations during periods exhibiting wet conditions. Likewise, heavily eroded segments may need to be closed periodically to allow for natural regeneration of the facility. Benches, signage and picnic tables will be sited as needed and where appropriate.

### IV. Multi-Use Paved Trail Development

Greenway corridors that will be located in flood prone areas that anticipate and will support high use and will be surfaced with asphalt or concrete. Trail width is typically 10 feet, minimum. Asphalt is the most commonly used paving surface, but concrete will hold up better in areas prone to frequent flooding. Benches, signage, trash receptacles and picnic tables will be sited as needed and where appropriate.



**V. On-Road Facilities: Sidewalks and Bikeways**

Where off-road greenway corridors are not possible or difficult due to urban conditions, on-road trails can be used. On-road greenways are comprised of sidewalks for pedestrian use and bikeways (or bike lanes) for cyclists. Sidewalk width should be 5 feet minimum. Bikeways should be striped lanes at 4 feet minimum. Bike lanes should occur on both sides of a street.

**VI. Mountain Bike Facilities**

Where off-road unpaved corridors are possible without damage to environmentally sensitive areas, facilities can be designed specifically for mountain biking opportunities. The trail width should be minimal at a 6' width. The highest intense use of mountain biking should occur away from the main corridor of a multi-use trail system. Pedestrian use of these facilities should be minimal, however, should pedestrians use the mountain bike facilities, the mountain bikes should yield to the pedestrian user. Facilities for mountain biking should not be used during periods where conditions are wet. It may be necessary to curtail or prohibit use in areas where regeneration of eroded areas may be necessary.

**GREENWAY ZONES**

Trail facility development for types II, III, IV and VI should also be governed by the following greenway zone criteria:

A minimum corridor width of 100 feet (each side of streambank) or 100 year regulated floodplain (whichever is greater) should be established for all trails located in FEMA regulated floodplains. However, trail construction in regulated floodplains is still subject to FEMA and Town of Carrboro Regulations.

This 100+ foot width should be divided into three distinctive zones: *streamside zone*, *managed use zone*, and *upland zone*.

**Streamside Zone**

The Streamside Zone protects the physical integrity of the ecosystems that are present. Native vegetation should be preserved and existing forest canopy should remain undisturbed. This zone is very restrictive to development. Permitted uses in the zone may include flood control and bank stabilization. Other land uses that disturb the existing native vegetation and ecosystems are prohibited except for specified secondary uses when no practical alternative exists. Other mitigation efforts should be undertaken to restore the native ecology of this zone. If appropriate, boardwalk trails (Type II) may be constructed in this zone.

**Managed Use Zone**

The Managed Use Zone provides some distance between upland development and the streamside zone. The vegetation within the Managed Use Zone should consist of a managed forest, with some clearing allowed. The land use within this zone should be limited to some types of recreational activities, storm water best management practices, multi-use greenways, and all secondary uses. Within the Managed Use Zone, the majority of greenway facility development

(Type II, III, IV and VI) should occur, including asphalt and concrete surfaced trails for walking, bicycling, rollerblading and educational activities. Other greenway facilities can also be located in this zone, such as signage, trash receptacles, bench seating and safety systems.

#### Upland Zone

The Upland Zone prevents encroachment and filters backyard and adjacent property runoff. A forest canopy is encouraged within the Upland Zone, but at the very least a grass cover should be provided within this zone. The land use for this zone should be restricted to lawns, gardens, BMP's, minimal impervious cover and storage buildings. Greenway facility development (type III and IV) can also occur in this zone.

### **GREENWAY/BIKEWAY PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS**

To realize the vision laid forth in the plan, the following steps will need to be completed for each greenway corridor.

**Step One – Land Acquisition:** Before detailed master planning of an individual corridor occurs, it is necessary for the Town to have an ownership interest or control in the land that is included in this greenway system. A variety of land acquisition techniques are included in this master plan to guide both public and private interests. Criteria for prioritizing land acquisition are contained within Section A - see page 24.

**Step Two – Corridor Master Planning:** Site specific master planning for individual greenway corridors will determine the feasibility and the appropriate level of use and type for a corridor and its routing. In addition, the master planning may identify additional land to be considered (for acquisition) in order to improve the potential connectivity and/or construction of a greenway corridor. Accessibility should be considered where feasible without detriment to the ecology and environment. Each master plan for a greenway corridor or segment of a corridor should involve residents from surrounding neighborhoods, as well as adjacent property owners and businesses. In addition, design assistance should be encouraged from a consultant team composed of landscape architects, civil engineers, and environmental engineers. Criteria for prioritizing trail development are contained within Section B - see page 25.

#### **Step Three - Design Development**

Once a corridor has been finalized, the specific alignment can be determined through the design development process. Trail location can be situated via preliminary grading and slope/drainage design. During the Design Development stage, material selections for trail surfaces and preliminary amenities along the trail alignment will begin to be considered.

**Step Four – Detailed Design and Construction Documentation:** After Design Development has been completed and a specific alignment has been defined, detailed construction documents will then be produced for the project as well as a detailed cost estimation and assignment of responsibilities and costs.

**Step Five – Construction and Facility Development:** Depending on the level of use that is appropriate for a greenway corridor, actual construction of the greenway facilities, such as trails, habitat restoration, and stream-bank restoration will take place. Construction and development operations can be phased as necessary to meet budget and time constraints.

**Step Six – Maintenance and Management:** Once the greenway facilities have been completed, maintenance and management should begin immediately. CRPD shall be the lead management agency and should work in partnership with other Town and county agencies, as well as private sector groups, to effectively manage and maintain the greenway system. A Code of Conduct describing rules for trail users should be established and displayed at access points. A typical code of conduct can be found below:

- Please be courteous and share the trail. Remember to travel on the right and pass on the left.
- Yield when entering and crossing trails.
- Place litter in trash receptacles provided along the trail. Please recycle, reuse and reduce.
- The Greenway is accessible to all people.
- Never walk alone. Always bring a friend.
- Bicyclists must maintain safe traveling speeds and must yield to pedestrians. Please give audible signal before passing.
- Pets must be kept on a leash at all times.
- Park only in designated public parking lots at trail entrances.
- The Greenway is open dawn to dusk.

#### **A. Criteria for Prioritizing Land Acquisition**

The following criteria shall be used to guide the Town in prioritizing parcels of land to be acquired for the greenway system. Criteria are not provided in order of significance. The criteria are listed in alphabetical order; the ordering does not represent either priority or hierarchy.

**Cost of Acquisition** – a determination that it is financially feasible to acquire the property.

**Cultural Significance** – the property contains a unique artifact of history, or is a historically significant parcel of land.

**Environmental Significance** – the property is an important parcel of land and contains a significant environmental feature(s) that makes it worthy of acquisition (i.e. water quality, plant or animal habitat, floodplain management).

**Geographical Equity** – the property is located in an area of the Town that if acquired will provide a balance to future trail system development. The property adjacent to or near a recreation facility will encourage connectivity between neighborhoods and the facility.

**Maintenance of Property** – it has been determined that the property can be maintained in a manner that is consistent with CRPD policies.

**Opportunity for Donation** – a donor has come forward and has agreed to give the land to the Town.

**Opportunity for Trail Development** – the property is ideally suited for trail development. Issues of accessibility have been addressed and satisfied.

**Population Served** – the parcel of property is located in an area of the Town that is densely populated.

**Source of Funding** – funds have been identified and are available to purchase the property.

**Type of Trail Development** – the property can accommodate an appropriate level of trail facility development.

**Threat of Loss** – the parcel of land is in demand and may not be available for public ownership unless quick action is taken.

### ***B. Criteria for Prioritizing Trail Development***

The following criteria are provided in this master plan to guide the Town in determining greenway development. The criteria are listed in alphabetical order; the ordering does not represent either priority or hierarchy.

**Cost of Trail Facility Development** – an estimate for the project has been completed and it has been determined that it is financially feasible to build the greenway trail facility.

**Cost of Trail Facility Maintenance** – an evaluation of the project has been completed and it has been determined that the corridor can be maintained in accordance with CRPD policies. Additionally, adopt-a-greenway groups have been identified and have been enlisted to support the future operation of the greenway trail.

**Expansion of Existing System** – the proposed greenway trail facility is an extension of an existing trail or sidewalk.

## OVERVIEW

Trails should produce minimal impact on the land; a corridor that is visually pleasing, takes advantage of natural terrain and vegetation and requires minimum maintenance. In addition to terrain and vegetation, locations should take into consideration soil types, topography, drainage patterns and cultural resources.

Terrain and elevation should not be extreme. The corridor should be located for minimum maintenance while providing maximum ecological variety. Both winter and summer activities should be taken into consideration. The trail should meander to take advantage of scenic panoramas and cultural, historical and natural resources. (Where feasible, an aerial flight over a proposed trail corridor should be considered for final staking).

The following guidelines apply to new trail construction only. Unless damaged or assessed by Carrboro Recreation and Parks Department and Public Works Department to be in need of repair, existing trails shall be exempt from these guidelines. Should repairs to existing trail segments be warranted, then those trail segments shall be brought up to these design standards. Trail segments targeted for accessible use (ADA) shall be brought up to these design standards.

## TRAIL CHARACTERISTICS

### Grade

Grades should be contoured to avoid steep topography where feasible. Grades should be no steeper than 5% (3% when developing unpaved facilities). Should topography exhibit steeper slopes, the use of switchbacks should be employed to maintain a maximum slope of 10% (8% when developing ADA compliant facilities). Steps should be installed where switchbacks are not feasible. Grade should undulate gently, provide natural drainage and eliminate tiring monotonous segments.

### Soils and Subgrade

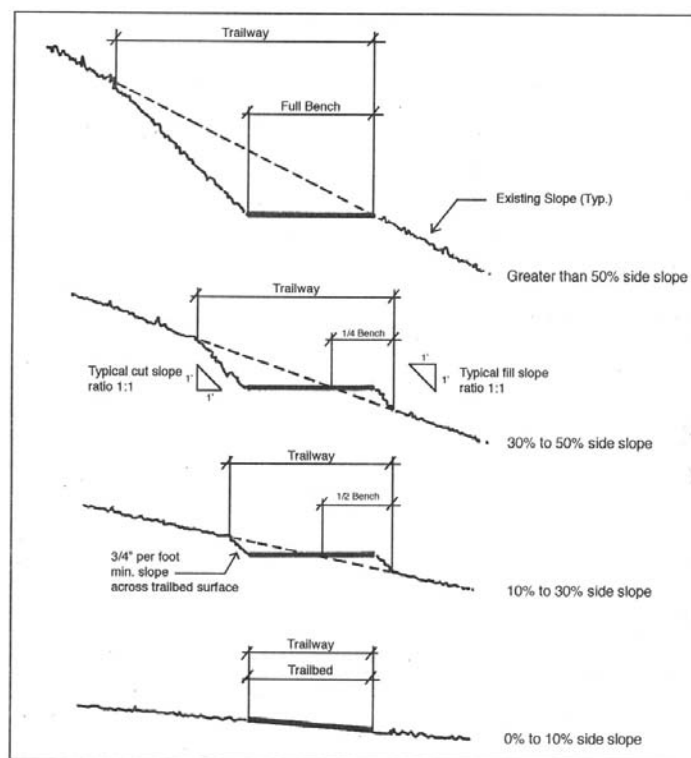


Figure 1 -- Typical Slope Cuts

Trails should be routed around exposed bedrock areas except where grade makes a potential crossing desirable. Soil maps should be referenced to determine suitable trail locations. Trail development should be avoided on poor soil types, as determined by a soil survey for Orange County. Alternative treading materials should be used where soils are unable to provide adequate trail tread. All trails should be located on stable soils unless route relocation creates adverse construction, maintenance and/or ecological impacts.

#### Alignment

Alignment should follow the existing topography and maintain shallow gentle curves. Avoid long straight segments and sharp angular turns over 50 degrees. Take advantage of natural drainage features to minimize the need for major drainage modifications.

#### Wildlife and Vegetation Habitats

Trails should have nodes that contain vistas, observation points or overlooks for observing habitats. Use vegetation to:

- channel and contain trail traffic;
- retard trail erosion;
- protect from the weather;
- buffer and insulate trail activity;
- provide building material; and
- indicate soil characteristics.

#### Trail Design Standards

All Type IV and V Trails should be designed and laid out in accordance with the “Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities” (AASHTO) and the “Bicycle Facilities Planning and Design Guidelines” (NCDOT). Trail facilities constructed with Enhancement Funds definitely need to abide by the NCDOT Guidelines. Please note the following chart for comparison between both documents, especially for bicycle design:



## DESIGN GUIDELINES AND STANDARDS

Guidelines	NCDOT	AASHTO
Minimum horizontal clearance	2 feet	2 feet
Maximum slope	3 to 1	6 to 1
Desirable horizontal clearance	3 feet	3 feet
Separation from canal	5 feet	N/A
Vertical clearance	8 feet	8 feet
Minimum design speed	20 mph	20 mph
Grade exceeds 4 percent	30 mph	30 mph
Minimum superelevation rate	2%	2%
Maximum superelevation rate	5%	3%
12 mph design speed	N/A	36' R
20 mph design speed	95' R	100' R
25 mph design speed	155' R	156' R
30 mph design speed	250' R	225' R
35 mph design speed	390' R	N/A
40 mph design speed	565' R	N/A
Maximum curve widening	4 feet	4-6 ft
Maximum grade rate (paved surfaces)	5%	5%
Maximum grade rate (unpaved surfaces)	3%	3%
Grades over 5 percent	<150'	Table*
Minimum bridge clearance	N/A	2 feet
Minimum height of railing (bridge)	54 in.	42 in.
Minimum height of vertical clearance (bridge)	N/A	10 feet
Bollard spacing	5 feet	N/A
Railing height	4-6 feet	4-6 feet

**\*Grade Note:**

Where terrain dictates, and grades are over 5% and less than 150' long are acceptable when a higher design speed is used and additional width is provided.

**Curve Note:**

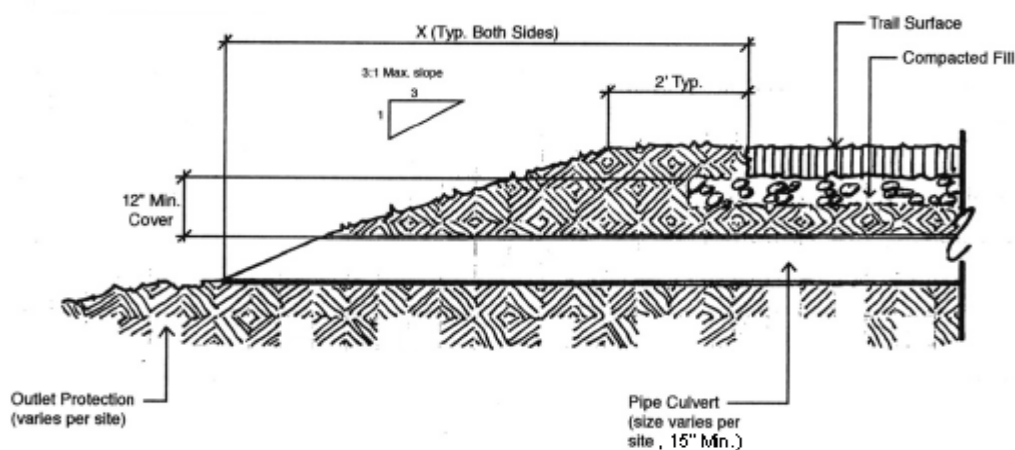
When substandard radius curve must be used because of ROW, topo, or other considerations, standard curve warning signs and supplemental pavement markings should be installed in accordance with the MUTCD. Additional pavement may be added to either side of the curve to partially offset the substandard radius. Slopes greater than 3:1 and less than 5' of separation must have a railing of 54" in height. All paved facilities shall comply with the Americans with Disability ACT (ADA) standards wherever possible.

Grade Note	
5-6%	For up to 800 feet
7%	For up to 400 feet
8%	For up to 300 feet
9%	For up to 200 feet
10%	For up to 100 feet
11+%	For up to 50 feet



## Drainage

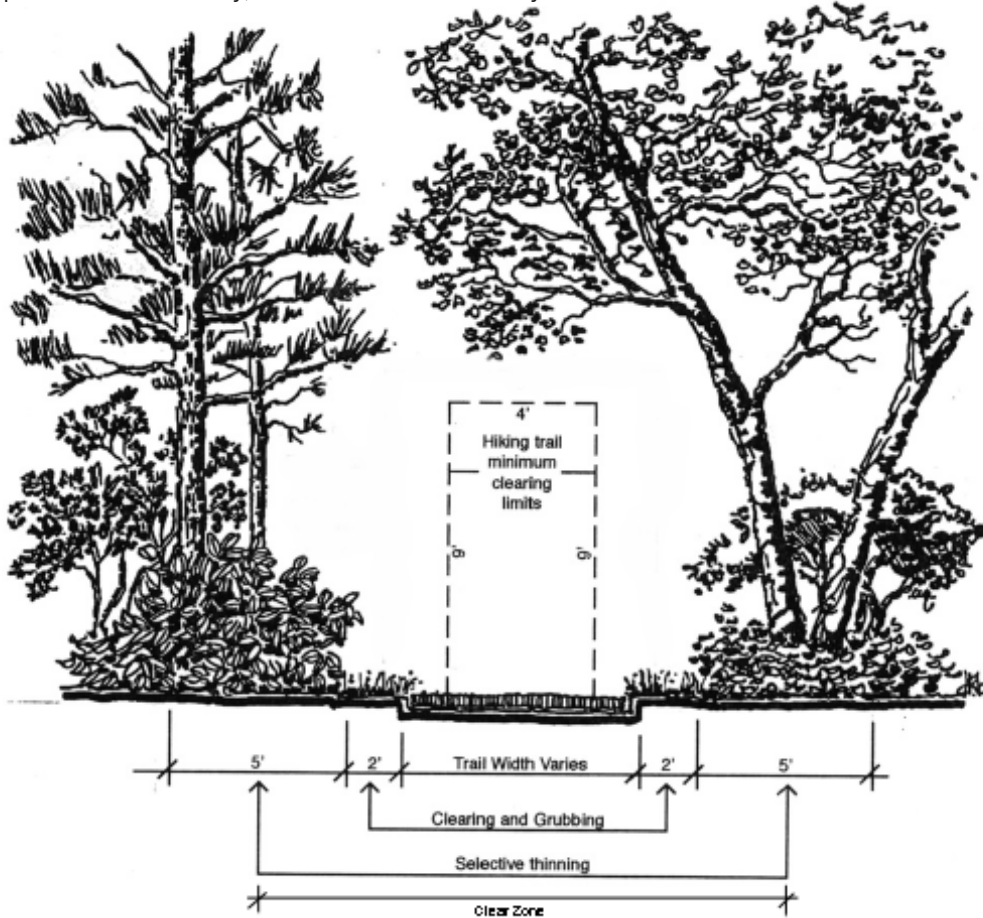
Culverts are most effective in natural drainage where minimal excavation is needed. Proper installation of trail culverts is important to ensure proper stormwater runoff drainage, trail user safety and longevity of the trail surface. Two materials typically used for trail culverts are reinforced concrete pipe (RCP) and High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) recycled plastic pipe. RCP should be used in situations where heavier than normal drainage is expected or the minimal cover cannot be attained. Outlet protection varies per site and in some cases a type of flow spreader may be required at the outlet location. Rock check dams can be placed after the outlet to slow and filter drainage. The graphic below outlines proper installation parameters for trail culverts. 2% cross slope is preferred. On curves, the cross slope should be towards the inside of the curve.



## TRAIL CLEARING AND THINNING

Trees and brush should be removed flush with the grade. Exposed stumps should be removed or covered with soil if roots do not interfere with grading. Remove leaning trees that could fall across a corridor. Tree limbs should be cut to the branch collar or in accordance with current arboriculture standards. Branches growing toward a trail should be cut back to next limb growth away from trail. Maximum height clearance should be nine (9) feet for hiking trails. Minimum width should be four (4) feet wider than the trail tread width to allow for two (2) foot shoulders on each side. Selective thinning should occur for a short distance beyond shoulders. Selective thinning includes removal of underbrush and limbs to create open pockets within a thick forest canopy. In thicker forests, selective thinning increases sight lines and distances and enhances the safety of the trail user. A clear zone should be established as Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED). There are three main tenets of CPTED relating to greenway design: access control, natural surveillance and territorial reinforcement. More information can be found at [www.cpted-watch.com](http://www.cpted-watch.com). Selective thinning does not include the removal of forest canopy.

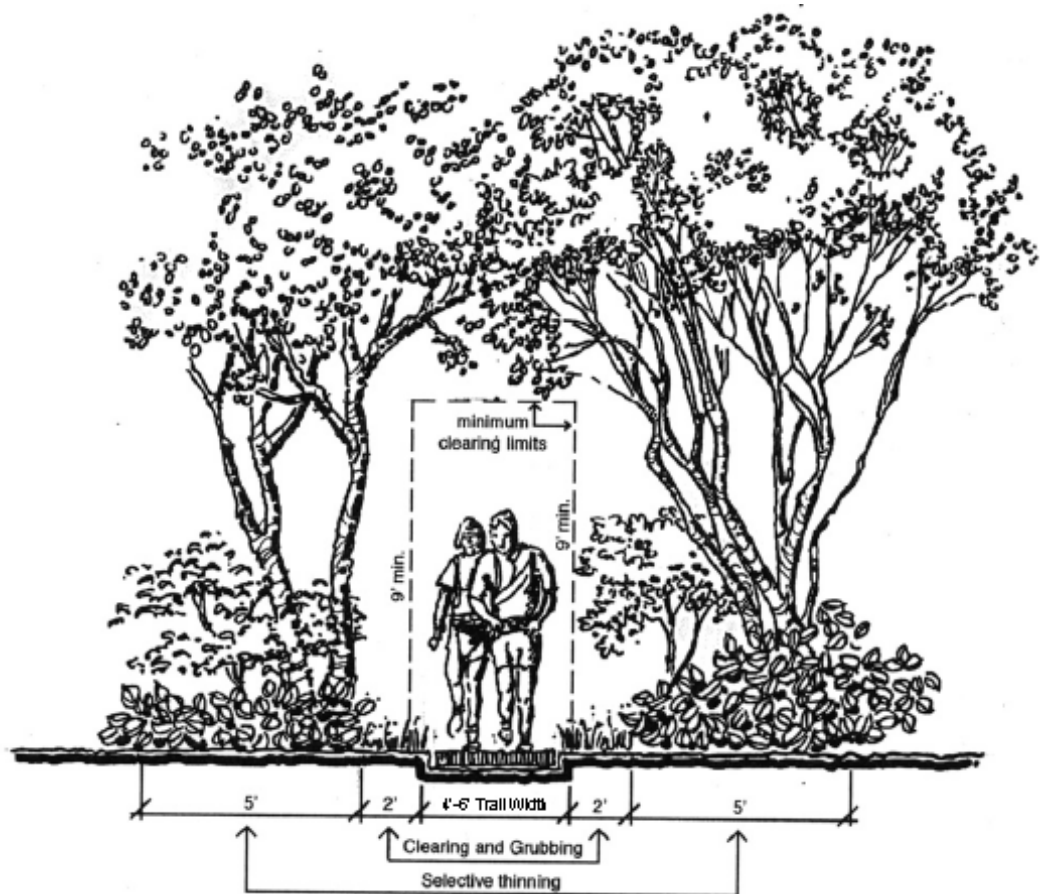
*Special Note:* The cutting of uncommon native herbs and shrubs should be avoided whenever possible. Use of herbicides for controlling vegetation is discouraged. However, if herbicide application is necessary, it should not be used beyond the two-foot wide trail shoulders.



### Footpath/Hiking Trail Tread (Type II)

Footpaths or hiking trails are designed to accommodate pedestrians and are not intended for cyclists or other wheeled users. These natural surface trails typically make use of dirt, rock, soil, forest litter, pine mulch, leaf mulch and other native materials for the trail surface. Preparation varies from machine-worked surfaces to those worn only by usage. This is the most appropriate surface for ecologically sensitive areas.

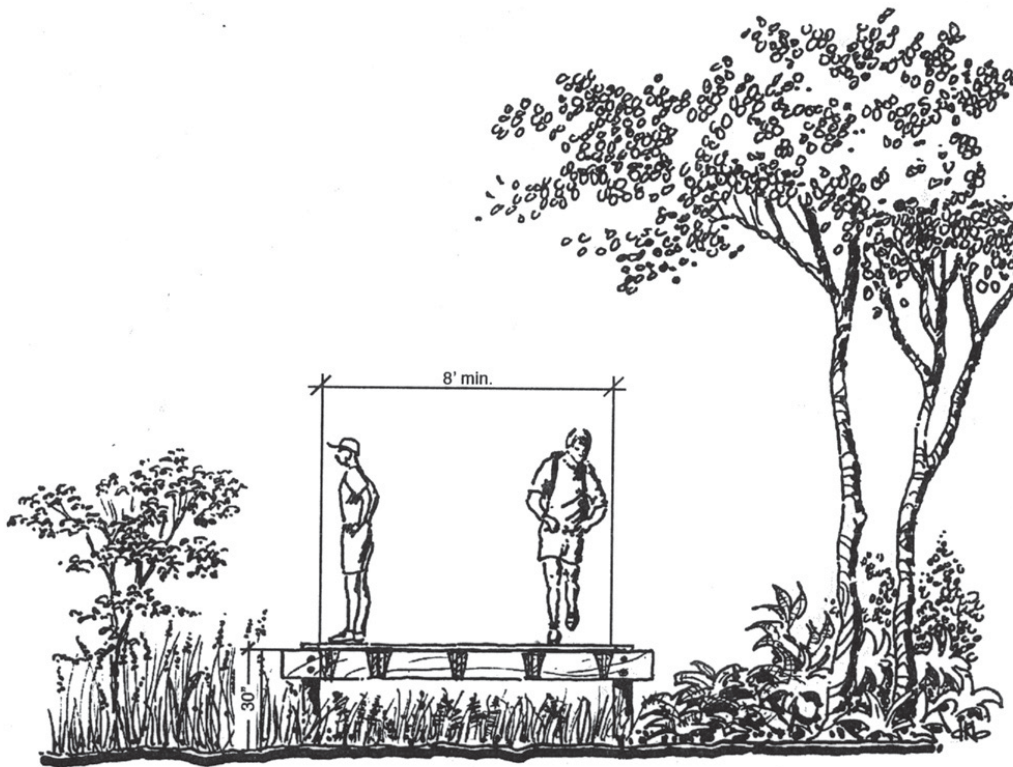
These pathways, often very narrow, sometimes follow strenuous routes and may limit access to all, but skilled users. Construction of these trails mainly consists of providing positive drainage for the trail tread and should not involve extensive removal of existing vegetation. These trails vary in width from 4' to 6'.



Boardwalk Trail Tread (Type II and III)

Boardwalks, or wood surface trails, are typically required when crossing wetlands or other poorly drained areas. While boardwalks can be considered multi-use trails, the surface tends to be slippery when wet and may not be suited for wheeled users. Boardwalk trails should be a minimum of eight (8) feet wide and should not be higher than 30" from finished grade. If the boardwalk needs to be higher than 30", then a 42" side rail will be required.

Boardwalk trails are composed of sawn wooden planks or lumber or recycled lumber that forms the top layer of a bridge, boardwalk or deck. Synthetic wood, manufactured from recycled plastics, is now available for use as a substitute in conventional outdoor wood construction. While these products are more expensive than wood lumber, recycled plastic lumber lasts much longer, does not splinter or warp and will not discolor. The most commonly used woods for trail surfacing are exposure and decay-resistant species such as pine, redwood, fir, larch, cedar, hemlock and spruce.



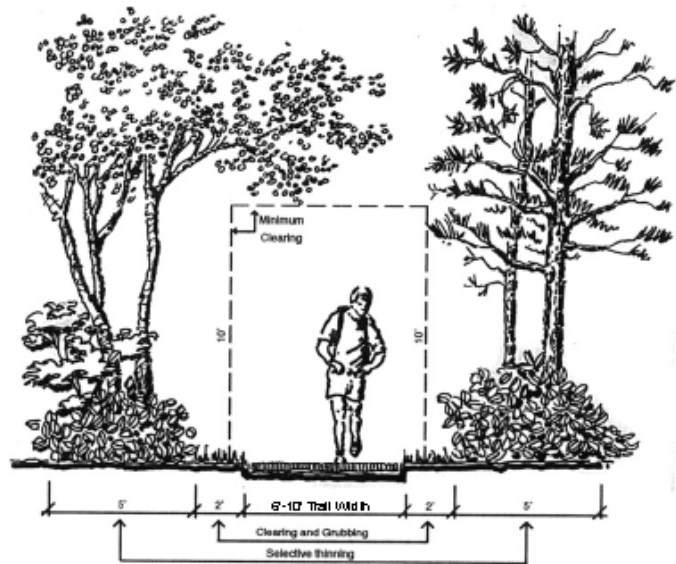


### Unpaved Multi-use Trail Tread (Type III)

The unpaved multi-use path is intended to accommodate a variety of users, including walkers, joggers and cyclists. These pathways, intended for use in upland environments, do not withstand the effects of flooding well. While less expensive to install, unpaved trails typically have higher maintenance costs than paved trails and require more frequent repairs. Careful consideration should be given to the amount of traffic the specific trail will generate, as these surfaces tend to deteriorate with excessive use. These trails vary in width from 6-10 feet, but are usually 8' minimum.

Materials that can be used to surface a trail include natural materials, soil cement, graded aggregate stone, granular stone and shredded wood fiber. The soft surface materials are less expensive to install and are compatible with the natural environment; however, they do not accommodate most wheelchairs. Side slopes greater than 5% will require edging materials.

Soil cement will support most user groups. Soil cement surfaces last longer if installed on top of a properly prepared subgrade or subbase. Graded aggregate stone material suitable for trail surfacing includes colored rock, pea gravel, river rock, blue granite screenings, washed stone, limestone, sandstone, crushed rock, pit gravel, chat, cinders, chert, sand and fine gravel. This surface should be compacted and will often need to be kept in place with wood edging. This is one of the best surface types for trails outside the floodplain because it can be densely compacted and is compatible with the natural environment. If properly constructed, granular stone can support handicapped accessible trail development. Shredded wood fiber is usually composed of mechanically shredded hardwood and softwood pulp, pine bark chips or nuggets, chipped wood pieces, or other by-products of tree trunks and limbs. This type of surface is favored by joggers and walkers because it is soft and blends with the natural environment. However, shredded wood fiber decays rapidly and must be installed on flat subgrades.



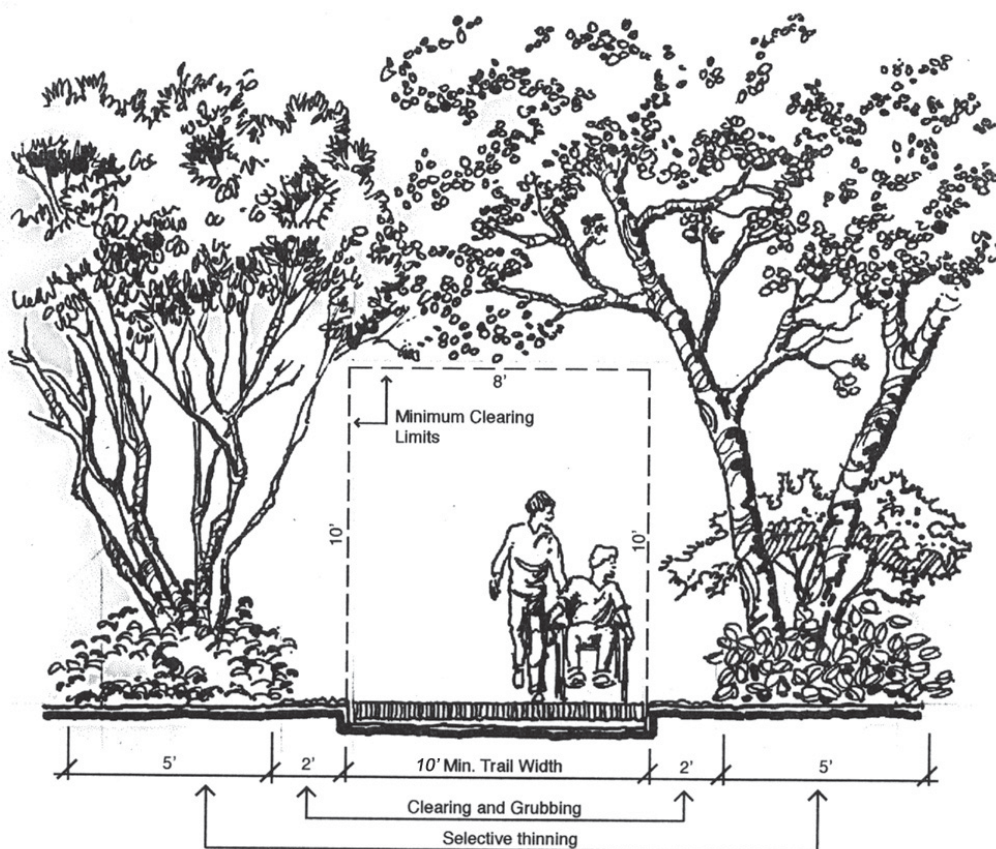
### Paved Multi-use Trail Tread (Type IV)

Typical pavement design for paved, accessible trails should be based upon the specific loading and soil conditions for each project. These trails, typically composed of asphalt or concrete, should be designed to withstand the loading requirements of occasional maintenance and emergency vehicles. In areas prone to frequent flooding, it is recommended that concrete be used for its excellent durability.

One important concern for asphalt trails is the deterioration of trail edges. Installation of a geotextile fabric beneath a layer of aggregate base course (ABC) can help to maintain the edge of a trail. It is also important to provide a 2' wide graded shoulder to prevent trail edges from crumbling.

Concrete surfaces are capable of withstanding the most powerful environmental forces. They hold up well against the erosive action of water, root intrusion and subgrade deficiencies such as soft soils. Of all surface types, it is the strongest and has the lowest maintenance requirement if it is properly installed.

The minimum width for two-directional trails is 10 feet. Please note that whatever trail application is used, Town staff will consider trail widths of 4 to 10 feet, shoulders optional and height clearance of 7 feet, thinning beyond the trail shoulders optional.



### Revegetation/Restoration

Grading slopes, trail sides and other areas where surface vegetation has been removed should be revegetated with native grasses or seedlings. Use erosion control matting on slopes (4:1 or greater) where erosion is likely during establishment period.



## ***Trail Appurtenances***

### ***Signage***

A signage system is important for users for the safe and appropriate use of all facilities. A hierarchy of signage by the Town along the system may provide reference mileage, directional information or interpretive information. NCDOT approved regulatory signage should be installed at all pedestrian crossings. Likewise, warning signage should be installed at the proper vehicular distances on both sides of a greenway/bikeway crossing. Proper bike lane or “Share the Road” signage should be used on the affected roadways. All signage should be reflective in design, making it easier to see at night. Signage should be planned and budgeted in the beginning.

### ***Furnishings***

**Benches** should be located at each access point (trail head) to allow user the opportunity to rest, congregate or contemplate.

**Trash Receptacles** should be 55 gallon containers or less and be strategically placed where users congregate and at trail heads.

**Bike Racks** or bicycle parking is an essential element in developing and promoting a bikeway program. People are usually discouraged from bicycling, if there are no parking facilities provided. Bicycle parking facilities should be located at the origination and destination points. There are generally two types of bicycle parking facilities: long-term and short-term. Long-term facilities provide a high degree of security and protection from weather. The intended use is for situations where the bicycle is planned to be left unattended for long periods of time. Facilities of this nature usually include lockers, cages or rooms in buildings.

Short-term facilities are used for locking both wheels and the frame, but do not provide additional security or weather protection, unless they are covered by a structure of some type (building or bus stop shelter).

**Collapsible Bollards or Gates** should be installed at trail heads and any trail location where vehicles could possibly enter a greenway trail system. Collapsible bollards and gates are to be locked in an upright or closed position at all times except when emergency or maintenance vehicles need to access the trail system. Emergency and maintenance personnel should have keys in order to access the trail.



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## V. Alternative Funding Sources

In addition to general revenues and funding from the county and town budgets, Carrboro should pursue a variety of funding sources for future recreation land acquisition, planning and development. The funding sources listed below represent several funding opportunities that may be useful.

### Public Funding Sources

#### **Bond Referendums**

A bond referendum can be placed on a ballot to finance land acquisition and site development costs for parks and/or greenways. Voters must approve a bond. Because of this fact, it is critical to educate the public on the mission and intent of the bond in order to gain support.

#### **Impact Fees**

Impact fees are one-time monetary charges levied by a local government on new development. The charter does allow the town to collect fees in lieu of developer provided facilities for open space and recreational facilities. (Would require modification to existing charter, as recreation facilities are not included under current impact fees for the Town of Carrboro.

#### **Partners for Recreation (Parks, Greenways, Bikeways, Open Space)**

With increasing competition for general revenues and government funds each year and less funding to spread around, many municipalities have created foundations or programs that help establish organizations that assist with raising alternate funding sources for parks and recreation systems. Such a foundation could help support Carrboro through the raising of funds to support programs and projects throughout the system, receiving of in-kind donations of materials and time to help keep parks and facilities enjoyable for the residents of Carrboro or to help receive donations of land for expansion of the recreation and parks system. Some organizations can establish and manage endowment programs or lead annual fund-raising events. The roles and responsibilities of a "Partners for Recreation" would need to be determined when establishing the program and its management board.

The Carrboro Parks project is a non-profit parks group that has been assisting the department. They have raised funds for the fence around the Anderson Dog Park, and a shade sail and landscaping at Town Commons. Currently, they are raising funds for a tennis backboard at Wilson Park.

#### **Taxation**

Communities can vote to raise tax money in support of parks, recreation, open space and greenway efforts.

### **User Fees**

Counties and municipalities typically charge a variety of user fees for recreational services and facilities within a park system. These fees are usually associated with special program participation and facility use. Carrboro should review, update and impose small user fees for the use and upkeep of these facilities and programs.

### **Private Funding Sources**

Carrboro has many local businesses, regional offices and industries located within the area. The Town should establish a list of business owners through the Chamber of Commerce to seek financial and volunteer support for local events and park improvements.

### **Volunteer Work**

Local and regional volunteers can help with park and greenway development, maintenance and monetary donations. Local organizations looking for a public service project, like Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts or conservation groups, would be ideal for this type of participation. All groups and organizations would require prior approval and would be supervised by a representative from the Carrboro Recreation and Parks Department.

### **AmeriCorp's National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC)**

One type of project these teams of volunteers participate in is trail construction. They have been involved in trail projects in 50 states and have worked in some of North Carolina's state parks. These groups have experience in trail clearing, construction to comply with federal standards and the implementation of erosion control measures.

### **Grants**

Carrboro should continue to seek, access and apply for state and federal grant programs as another method of financing land acquisition and park and greenway development. Several grant programs that should be investigated are listed below:

#### **Be Active North Carolina Grant Recipient Program**

This program grants \$2,000 or less for recreation and fitness programs that improve the overall health of a given community and work towards the mission of promotion of physical activity to reduce disease and poor health. See also: [www.beactivenc.org](http://www.beactivenc.org)

#### **Bikes Belong Coalition**

Accepts grant applications of up to \$10,000 to assist local organizations in bicycle facility development, specifically facility, capacity and education programs. They accept applications on a quarterly basis. More information can be found at: [www.bikesbelong.org](http://www.bikesbelong.org)

### Conservation Fund

Administers the American Greenways Kodak Awards Program that targets local greenway planning and offers grants of up to \$2,500. More information can be found at: [www.conservationfund.org](http://www.conservationfund.org)

### Eat Smart, Move More

A statewide initiative that promotes increased opportunities for physical activity and healthy eating through policy and environmental change. More information can be found at: [www.eatsmartmovemorenc.com](http://www.eatsmartmovemorenc.com)

### Environmental Protection Agency

Offers funding through both the Office of Transportation and Air Quality (OTAQ) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ). More information can be found at: [www.epa.gov/otaq](http://www.epa.gov/otaq)

### Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

Fund provides matching grants to local governments for the acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities. The Recreation Resources Service should be contacted for additional information (919.515.7118). Applications for this grant are usually due at the end of February. More information can be found at: <http://ils.unc.edu/parkproject/lwcf/home1.html>

### North Carolina Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF)

This funding source provides matching funds annually for land acquisition, development and renovation for parks and greenways to communities across the state. The funding source which comes from a real estate transfer tax, requires a 50% grant share with a 50% match from local government and no more than \$500,000 can be requested. The Recreation Resources Service should be contacted for additional information (919.515.7118). Applications for this grant are usually due by January 31 each year. More information can be found at: <http://ils.unc.edu/parkproject/partfund/home/>

### North Carolina's Clean Water Management Trust Fund (CWMTF)

Established by the General Assembly in 1996 (Article 13A; Chapter 113 of the North Carolina General Statutes). At the end of each fiscal year, 6.5% of the unreserved credit balance in North Carolina's General Fund (or a minimum of \$30 million) will go into the CWMTF. Revenues from the CWMTF will then be allocated in the form of grants to local governments, state agencies and conservation nonprofit groups to help finance projects that specifically address water pollution problems. CWMTF will fund projects that **(1)** enhance or restore degraded waters, **(2)** protect unpolluted waters, and/or **(3)** contribute toward a network of riparian buffers and greenways for environmental, educational, and recreational benefits. More information can be found at: [www.cwmtf.net](http://www.cwmtf.net)

### **NC DWQ Ecosystem Enhancement Program (EEP)**

Collects fees from developers for required mitigation for impacting a wetland through development. EEP uses these funds to create, restore or enhance wetlands, streams and riparian areas. See: [www.nceep.net](http://www.nceep.net)

### **The North Carolina Division of Parks and Recreation Trails Program**

DENR, has two trail grants: 1) NC Adopt-A-Trail, 2) NC Recreational Trails Program. Both provide funding assistance for acquisition and development of public trails. They offer full funding up to \$5,000, while the recreation trails grant requires 80:20 (80% grant share with 20% local match) cost share up to \$50,000. <http://ils.unc.edu/parkproject/trails/grant.html> or [www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/rtpstate.htm](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/rtpstate.htm)

### **National Heritage Trust Fund**

A supplemental funding source for state agencies to acquire and protect important natural areas, preserve the state's ecological diversity and cultural heritage, and to inventory natural heritage resources of the state. <http://ils.unc.edu/parkproject/heritage/nhtf.html>

### **National Park Foundation**

Has a competitive grants program that awards money from \$2,000 to \$50,000 for projects that promote conservation, preservation, and education in parks. NPF seeks parks that need “seed” money for a park or program.

### **Trails and Greenways Clearinghouse**

Catalogues several regional specific grant sources and offers useful technical assistance. Information can be found at: [www.trailsandgreenways.org](http://www.trailsandgreenways.org)

### **Transportation Enhancement Funds**

The North Carolina General Assembly enacted legislation (G.S. 136-71.12 Funds) that authorizes the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT), specifically the Office of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation, to spend any federal, state, local or private funds available to the Department and designated for the accomplishment of Article 4A, Bicycle and Bikeway Act of 1974. In addition, the 1998 Transportation Equity Act for the Twenty-First Century (TEA-21) requires the Department to set aside federal funds from eligible categories for the construction of bicycle and pedestrian transportation facilities. Current bill is known as the “Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU)”. [www.itre.ncsu.edu](http://www.itre.ncsu.edu)

### **The Trust for Public Land**

Is currently working with municipalities in the region to help purchase and preserve land for recreation and spiritual nourishment and to improve the health and quality of communities. [www.tpl.org](http://www.tpl.org)

### Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Program

Provides matching grants and technical assistance to economically distressed urban cities. Three types of grants are available: Rehabilitation (provides capital funding to renovate or redesign existing close-to-home facilities), Innovation (funding aimed at supporting specific activities that increase recreation programs or improve efficiency to operate existing programs), and Planning (funding for development of a recovery action program plan). [www.nps.gov/uprr/program\\_inbrief.html](http://www.nps.gov/uprr/program_inbrief.html)

### U.S. Soccer Foundation

Offers grants for project and program development as well as equipment purchases. Grants in 2003 ranged from \$5,000 to \$100,000. More information can be found at: [www.ussoccerfoundation.org](http://www.ussoccerfoundation.org)

### Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Grants

The USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) provides funding and guidance to eligible projects for the improvements of public water-based fishing and wildlife enhancements, recreation planning, along with other watershed protection projects. This grant requires a 50% local match for the above mentioned project types.

### Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation

The ZSR Grants, averaging from \$25,000 to \$50,000 with no actual limit, are awarded to organizations not affiliated with governments or tax-supported agencies. The Foundation's grants focus on projects that deal with community economic development, pre-collegiate education, the environment, issues affecting minorities and issues affecting women.

### Other Grant Programs

There is a new website that contains information about finding and applying for all federal grant programs. For more information go to: [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov)

### Sponsorships

#### "Adopt-A" Series

Carrboro can promote parks and greenways and generate interest by developing a local Adopt-A-Park, Adopt-A-Trail, Adopt-A-Greenway or Adopt-A-Playground program that identifies the organization for providing a walk through cleanup four times a year. Some local communities have constructed community playgrounds with its primary funds coming from private donations and volunteer labor. Donators are identified with plaques and recognition markers.

### Athletic Programs

Successful programs are made by donations of time, in-kind gifts and cash donations.

### **Annual Programs and Special Events**

Underwriting, in-kind gifts and financial support help keep these popular traditions going. Local, private companies partner with the Recreation and Parks Department to bring free or low-cost events to the public. This allows the Department to offer more activities and save tax dollars.

### **“Memorial” Gifts or “In Thanksgiving” Donations or Sponsorships**

#### **Greenway Days Athletic Programs:**

Communities sponsor events to celebrate the outdoors and local traditions while gaining public awareness about greenways and their benefits.

### **Open Space Acquisition and Dedication**

Parks, greenways and open space lands can be acquired by a variety of methods. Land can be donated, purchased outright, acquired through easement, and dedicated through policy such as described in Article XIII: Recreational Facilities and Open Space in the Unified Development Ordinance for the Town of Carrboro.

### **Condemnation**

Eminent domain for acquisition of open space can be exercised when property cannot be obtained through other means. This method is usually a last resort since it is exercised when a landowner is not in agreement and can involve court proceedings. If this option is exercised, the landowner shall be compensated for their land at full market value.

### **Donation**

Individuals and organizations can donate land to the town for recreational and open space purposes. In return, the donor is eligible to receive federal and state deductions on personal income tax and may be able to avoid inheritance taxes, capital gains taxes and recurring property taxes.

### **Easements**

The acquisition of an easement entitles the Town to only those rights granted in the easement agreement. Easements are typically acquired at the time of final subdivision plat approval and recordation, but can also be solicited independently. The Town does provide incentives for the dedication of trail easements as part of the development process.

### **Fee-Simple Purchase**

The Town can purchase property outright, obtaining full title to the land.

### **Obtain Additional Easements on Already Obtained Utility Easements**

Multiple use of existing easements can be pursued as a method of acquiring recreational and conservation land. Water, sewer, gas and electrical easements can be used through negotiation and landowner consent to provide space for public recreation.

## Required Dedication

The Town of Carrboro UDO requires developers of residential subdivisions and planned unit developments to set aside land (40%) for open space, however, it typically remains private property.

## Right of First Refusal

The Town can establish an agreement with a property owner to provide the right of refusal on a parcel of land, scheduled to be put on the market. This means the Town would be notified first, prior to sale to any other agency or person.

**The Town should consider the possibility of revising the ordinance, so that required land dedication should be encouraged to be given to the Town for usable Open Space.**



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# Appendix

## TOWN OF CARRBORO COMPREHENSIVE RECREATION MASTER PLAN UPDATE RECREATION PARTICIPATION AND PREFERENCE SURVEY

The Town of Carrboro Recreation and Parks Department wants to hear what its users want for quality parks and recreational opportunities. **TO DO SO, WE NEED YOUR HELP and INPUT!** Please take a few minutes from your busy schedule and help us improve your parks, recreation, and leisure opportunities by letting us know what you think! When you are finished, please return your survey immediately by placing it in the box at this open house, OR you can drop it off at the Recreation and Parks Office in Century Center, no later than 5:00 pm on Wednesday April 27, 2005. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR INPUT!** If you would like us to notify you of the survey results and/or be put on our mailing list, fill in your e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_ or call 918-7364.

- 1) Your Age: (Please circle one): 5-17    18-30    31-45    46-54    55+
- 2) Sex: M ~    F ~
- 3) Please indicate the number of individuals in the following age groups residing in your household:  
0-4 \_\_\_\_ 5-9 \_\_\_\_ 10-14 \_\_\_\_ 15-19 \_\_\_\_ 20-24 \_\_\_\_ 25-34 \_\_\_\_ 35-45 \_\_\_\_ 46-54 \_\_\_\_ 55+ \_\_\_\_
- 4) Are you currently a resident of Carrboro? YES ~    NO ~  
How long have you been a resident of Carrboro? \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) Have you (or members of your household) used Recreation and Parks facilities (including greenways) or programs within Carrboro? YES ~    NO ~    If so, which programs?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 6) If you use Carrboro Recreation and Parks Programs and/or facilities (including greenways), how did you hear about them?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 7) Which parks, recreation or other leisure facilities have you or members of your household used in Carrboro and approximately how often do you use them?
 

a. Anderson Community Park	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly
b. Baldwin Park	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly
c. Brewer's Lane Mini-Park	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly
d. Carrboro Elementary School Park	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly
e. Century Center	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly
f. Simpson Street Mini-Park	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly
g. Smith Soccer fields	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly
h. Town Commons Play Area	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly
i. Wilson Park	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly
j. Adams Tract	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly
k. Bolin Creek Greenway	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly
l. Morgan Creek Greenway	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly

What is the closest park or facility to your home? \_\_\_\_\_  
What is the estimated travel time to the closest park or facility? \_\_\_\_\_ minutes

CARRBORO RECREATION AND PARKS DEPARTMENT

- 8) Are there any recreation or leisure programs you or members of your household would like to participate in that are not currently provided within Carrboro? (Please list any activities)

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- 9) What recreational activities do you and or members of your household participate in for recreation or exercise? (Please check all that apply)

~ Swimming ~ Baseball ~ Mountain Biking ~ Aerobics ~ Football  
~ Walking ~ Soccer ~ Rollerblading ~ Bocce ~ Frisbee  
~ Skateboard ~ Horseshoes ~ Bicycling ~ Fishing ~ Volleyball  
~ Run/Jogging ~ Kayaking ~ Tennis ~ Yoga ~ Basketball  
~ Canoeing ~ Martial Arts ~ Golf ~ Picnicking ~ Playground Activities  
~ Dog Walking ~ Day Camps ~ Hiking ~ Arts/Crafts ~ Senior Games  
~ Softball-Fast Pitch ~ Softball-Slow Pitch ~ Wildlife Observation

Please list activities you participate in that are not listed above:

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- 10) Do you use any school or private facilities for recreation or leisure activities? YES ~ NO ~  
If so, which ones?

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- 11) How many days/week do you exercise? (Please Circle One): 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

- 12) What exercise activity do you (or your family members) participate in most frequently?

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- 13) Have you or members of your household attended Special events presented by Carrboro?  
YES ~ NO ~ 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Carrboro Day, Music Festival, Halloween Carnival or

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- 14) Do you visit local or regional cultural or historical sites? YES ~ NO ~  
If so, where have you visited?

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- 15) Overall, how would you rate the recreational programs and facilities offered by the Town of Carrboro? Excellent \_\_\_\_ Good \_\_\_\_ Fair \_\_\_\_ Poor \_\_\_\_ Don't Know \_\_\_\_

- 16) How much do you use Chapel Hill, UNC and Orange County parks, facilities, activities?  
\_\_\_\_ Daily \_\_\_\_ Weekly \_\_\_\_ Monthly

- 17) Additional Comments and Recreation Recommendations:

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#### CARRBORO RECREATION AND PARKS DEPARTMENT

# Master Plan Information and Resources

<b>Date</b>	<b>Report/Map/Brochure</b>
2006	<i>Composite Countywide Plan for Parks and Trails</i>
2005	<i>Carrboro Facilities Inventory Forms</i>
	<i>Acceptance of Offers of Dedication for Public Use (to date)</i>
2005	<i>2-1-05 memo on Funding for Morgan and Bolin Creek Greenways with Map</i>
2005	<i>2-1-05 memo on Multi-use Trails Extending from Pathway Drive and Tripp Farm Road</i>
2005	<i>Carrboro, NC Community Resource &amp; Visitors Guide</i>
2004/05	<i>Departmental Activity Brochure</i>
2004	<i>Carrboro Bikeways Map (dated 8-25-04)</i>
2004	<i>Map of Existing and Proposed Sidewalks, Bikepaths, and Greenway Trails in Carrboro</i>
2004	<i>Park Facilities Brochure</i>
2004	<i>Excerpt of Morgan Creek LWP Targeting of Management Report and Appendices A and B Draft</i>
2004	<i>Century Center Brochure</i>
2004	<i>Cybrary Brochure</i>
2004	<i>Fun finder Guide of Activities</i>
2004	<i>Orange County Recreation Map/Brochure</i>
2004	<i>Code of Ordinances Orange County, NC - 2/3/2004</i>
2004	<i>Carrboro Recreation and Parks Department's Athletic Activities Site Map</i>
2004	<i>The Future of the Upper Bolin Creek Corridor</i>
2004	<i>Orange County, NC Schools Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance – Annual Report 6/2/2004</i>
2004	<i>Town of Carrboro Service Report for Northeast Annexation Areas A &amp; B 7/31/04</i>
2004	<i>Master Plan – Martin Luther King Jr. Park – 9/17/04</i>
2004	<i>Chapel Hill Carrboro City Schools/ Orange Co. Student Projections Draft – 11/29/04</i>
2004	<i>Carrboro Employment Centers</i>
2004	<i>Downtown Traffic Circulation Study Draft – Carrboro – 11/04</i>
2004	<i>Palate Newsletter</i>
2004	<i>Carrboro Data for Parks and Recreation – 12/04 on CD</i>
2004	<i>Carrboro Land Use Ordinance (as amended through 2004)</i>
2003/04	<i>Twin Creeks (Moniese Nomp) Park &amp; Educational Campus – Master Plan of Work Group 2003 &amp; Alternative Scenario Map - 2004</i>
2003	<i>A Guide to Bikeways of Chapel Hill &amp; Carrboro 1/03</i>
2003	<i>Orange County Senior Populations &amp; Projections</i>
2003	<i>The Adams Tract and Bolin Creek Corridor Towards a Possible Corridor Master Plan – 6/17/03</i>
2003	<i>Greenway Planning Report – 10/28/03 Alderman Presentation</i>
2003	<i>Report to the Board of Aldermen from the Horace Williams Advisory Committee – October 28, 2003</i>
2003	<i>Friends of Bolin Creek Report and Carrboro staff follow-up (included within staff report from January 2005)</i>
2002	<i>Town of Chapel Hill Parks and Recreation Master Plan – 5/29/02</i>
2001	<i>Downtown Visioning Charrette Report – 2/01</i>
2000	<i>Carrboro Vision 2020 Report – 12/5/00</i>
2000	<i>Soccer Symposium Task Force Report</i>
2000	<i>Carrboro &amp; Orange County Census Statistics</i>
2000	<i>Basin wide Planning Program: 2000 Cape Fear River Water Quality Plan</i>
2000	<i>A Lands Legacy Program for Orange County – 4/4/00</i>
1999	<i>Report of the Master Recreation and Parks Work Group – 5/26/99</i>
1999	<i>Rating Land in Orange County by its Wildlife Value</i>
1998	<i>Chapel Hill Greenway Comprehensive Master Plan – 5/26/98</i>
1998	<i>Facilitated Small Area Plan for Carrboro's Northern Study Area – 6/8/98</i>
1997	<i>A Landscape with Wildlife for Orange County – Triangle Land Conservancy</i>
1994	<i>Recreation and Parks Comprehensive Master Plan</i>
1998	<i>Inventory of the Natural Areas and Wildlife Habitats of Orange County, NC</i>
<i>Updated 2/3/05</i>	

PROJECT  
INFORMATION

GOALS, OBJECTIVES &  
STANDARDS

ACTION  
PLAN

GREENWAY GUIDELINES &  
DEVELOPMENT CRITERIA

ALTERNATIVE  
FUNDING SOURCES

APPENDIX

Town of Carrboro Parks and Recreation Master Plan		
Public Meeting Survey Results		
Public Meeting Totals		
108 Surveys Total		
<b>1. Your Age:</b>		
5-17		24
18-30		4
31-45		38
46-54		25
55+		16
None Indicated		1
<b>2. Gender:</b>		
Male		30
Female		77
None Indicated		1
<b>3. Please indicate the number of individuals residing in your household in the following age groups:</b>		
0-4		38
5-9		46
10-14		53
15-19		21
20-24		17
25-34		18
35-45		75
46-54		52
55+		24
N/A		0
<b>4. Are you currently a resident of Carrboro?</b>		
Yes		75
No		31
None Indicated		2
<b>5. Have you or members of your household used park and recreation facilities or programs within Carrboro?</b>		
Yes		93
No		11
N/A		4
<b>If so, which programs:</b> See Comments on Attached Comments Sheet		
<b>6. If you checked "Yes" on Number 5, how did you hear about the recreation programs or facilities?</b>		
Brochures		15
Word of mouth		14
Friends		12
This represents the top three responses. For a complete list of responses, please see the Attached Comment Sheets		

**7. Are there any recreation or leisure programs you, or members of your household, would like to participate in that are not currently provided within Carrboro? (Please list any activities)**

None indicated

56

See Comments on Attached Comment Sheets

**8. Which parks, recreation, or other leisure facilities have you or members of your household used in Carrboro and approximately how often do you use them?**

	Park Name	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly
A.	Anderson Community Park	0	23	30	25
B.	Baldwin Park	0	1	0	7
C.	Brewer's Lane Mini Park	0	0	0	2
D.	Carrboro Elem. School Park	14	10	12	13
E.	Century Center	2	10	24	25
F.	Simpson Street Mini Park	0	2	3	8
G.	Smith Soccer Fields	3	5	4	6
H.	Town Commons Play Area	1	6	16	14
I.	Wilson Park	1	23	27	22
J.	Adams Tract	7	8	12	10
K.	Bolin Creek Greenway	14	14	25	10
L.	Morgan Creek Greenway	1	3	6	8

**What is the closest park or facility to your home?**

See Comments on Attached Comment Sheets

**What is the estimated travel distance to the closest park or facility?**

See Comments on Attached Comment Sheets

**9. What recreational activities do you and or members of your household participate in for recreation or exercise? (Please check all that apply)**

Walk	93
Bicycle	71
Swim	66
Hiking	52
Run/Jog	51
Wildlife Observation	48
Dog walking	43
Basketball	42
Arts/Crafts	40
Picnicking	40
Tennis	40
Playground Activities	38
Soccer	31
Yoga	31
Day Camps	30
Mountain Bike	25
Canoe/paddling	22
Fishing	22



Frisbee	22
Baseball	21
Golf	21
Aerobics	19
Rollerblade	18
Football	16
Kayak	16
Volleyball	12
Skateboard	8
Horseshoes	7
Martial Arts	7
Softball Slow-Pitch	7
Bocce	6
Senior Games	4
Softball-Fast Pitch	4
None indicated	1
<b>Please list any activities you participate in that are not listed above:</b>	
See Comments on Attached Comment Sheets	
<b>10. Do you use any school or private facilities for recreation? If so, which ones?</b>	
Yes	64
No	13
None indicated	31
<b>If so, which ones?</b>	
See Comments on Attached Comment Sheets	
<b>11. How many days/week do you exercise?</b>	
0	2
1	2
2	8
3	25
4	11
5	29
6	13
7	14
None Indicated	4
<b>12. What exercise activities do you or your family members participate in most frequently?</b>	
See Comments on Attached Comment Sheets	
<b>13. Have you or members of your household attended Special Events presented by Carrboro?</b>	
Yes	84
No	17
None Indicated	7
<b>If so, which ones?</b>	
4th of July	24
Carrboro Day	21
Music Festival	23
Halloween Carnival	8
<b>Other:</b> See Comments on Attached Comment Sheets	

<b>14. Do you visit local or regional cultural or historical sites?</b>	
Yes	53
No	39
None Indicated	16
<b>Sites visited:</b> See Comments on Attached Comment Sheets	
<b>15. Overall, how would you rate the recreational programs and facilities offered by Carrboro?</b>	
Excellent	20
Good	67
Fair	5
Poor	0
Don't Know	11
None Indicated	5
<b>16. How much do you use Chapel Hill, UNC and Orange County Parks, facilities, activities?</b>	
Daily	15
Weekly	44
Monthly	25
Never	10
N/A	14
<b>17. Additional Comment and Recreation Recommendations:</b>	
See Comments on Attached Comment Sheets	



**8ab. What is the closest park or facility to your home?**

**What is the estimated travel distance to the closest park or facility?**

Adams Tract- 100 feet	1	
Adams Tract/Wilson-.5miles	1	
Adams Tract-1/8 mile	1	
Adams-5 mins	1	
Anderson – 10 mins	2	
Anderson – 5 mins	4	
Anderson- 5 miles	1	
Anderson Comm Park (no time provided)	3	
Anderson III-2 miles	1	
Anderson Park-1 mile	1	
Anderson Park-1/4 mile	1	
Anderson Park-3 miles	1	
Anderson Park-3 min	1	
Anderson Park-6 min	1	
Anderson-1 mile	1	
Anderson-1.5 miles	1	
Anderson-3 miles	1	23
Bolin – 1 min	5	
Bolin – 4 mins	1	
Bolin – 5-10 mins	3	
Bolin Creek- .4miles	1	
Bolin Creek < 1	1	
Bolin Creek Greenway/Adams Tract-3 miles	1	
Bolin Creek Greenway-1 mile	1	
Bolin Creek Greenway-1/4 mile	1	
Bolin Creek Greenway-5 min. walk	1	
Bolin Creek Greenway-50 yards	1	
Bolin-5 mins	1	17
Carrboro Elementary	1	
Carrboro Elementary – 5 mins	1	
Carrboro Elementary-1 mile	1	
Carrboro Elementary-2 blocks	1	4
Century – 15 mins	1	
Century Center- 1/2 mile	1	2
Greenspace/Pathway- 5 mins	1	1
Homestead Park-8 min	1	
Homestead-2 miles	1	
MLK – 5 mins	2	
MLK-1/4 mile	1	
Morgan Creek Greenway-1 block	1	
Morgan Creek Greenway-1/4 mile	1	
Morgan Creek Greenway-10 mins	1	
Morgan Creek-10 min. walk	1	
Simpson Street	1	
Simpson Mini park – 1 min	2	
Smith Middle School-1.5 miles	1	
Smith Soccer Fields-1 mile	1	
Smith Soccer Fields-2 miles	1	

Town commons ~ 1 min	1	
Town Commons – 5 mins	2	
Town commons 2 mins	1	
Town Commons-5 min walking	1	
Twin Creeks Park-10 mins	1	
Wilson – 12 mins	1	
Wilson – 4 mins	1	
Wilson – 5 mins	6	
Wilson- no time provided	1	
Wilson Park – 2 blocks	1	
Wilson Park-10 mins	1	
Wilson Park-10' walk	1	
Wilson Park-3 blocks	1	
Wilson Park-3 min.	1	
Wilson Park-5 min	2	
Wilson Park-8 min	1	
Wilson-1 mile	3	
Wilson-1/2 mile	1	
Wilson-5 miles	1	
Wilson-5 miles	1	
Wilson-6 miles	1	
Wilson-less than 10 minute walking	2	26

PROJECT  
INFORMATION

GOALS, OBJECTIVES &  
STANDARDS

ACTION  
PLAN

GREENWAY GUIDELINES &  
DEVELOPMENT CRITERIA

ALTERNATIVE  
FUNDING SOURCES

APPENDIX

# HadenStanziale

planning  
landscape architecture  
civil engineering

## Town of Carrboro Parks and Recreation Master Plan Survey Results: Additional Comments

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### Additional Comments:

There needs to be additional presence of police and animal control in Bolin Creek Greenway, A model might be a ranger presence such as in the Eno River state park, rules need to be posted and enforced.

Utilize the 6 tennis courts at Smith Middle School for adult/junior leagues or classes. I would be willing to help with the process. I coach at Smith middle School, and am involved with tennis in a community.

For working parents, we need full day summer camps. There are interesting camps offered but only half-day.

Classes at Century Center – CPR, first aid, bicycle maintenance, crafts, etc, community gardens

Please preserve natural areas – Morgan Creek, Bolin creek!

Swimming pools and water play – more activities and programming for teens

Build more mini-parks so most residents have gathering space within easy walking distance. Have seating for seniors along the trails and greenways

This has been an excellent opportunity to get information and give feedback/ideas

Thanks

Love the creativity, energy, enthusiasm and professionalism of staff, the variety of programs and the quality of maintenance. It is not always perfect, but it looks like someone cares- thanks

Plan for bicycle access to rec opportunities so people do not need to drive everywhere- 2 rec's in one.

The city bus system needs to have extended hours on Saturdays and Sundays so buses need to run by all of the town parks and facilities (including Anderson Park) F bus needs to run later at night. For the Century Center the buses needs to have the lift for people with disabilities. The only facilities I can get to century center and town commons. All the pedestrian lights in town need to be extended. When I go to Wilson Park, I have to contact the police department for assistance crossing the street once I contacted the police department and no one came to assist me.

We need a pool

I use Wilson Park, Adams tract and Bolin creek greenway every single to exercise myself and my dog. The only problem I see is the severe erosion of the Bolin creek greenway. Thank you for listening and giving me a place to exercise.

Need more recreational programs for 25-45 year olds. Serve alcohol at music festival and Carrboro day.

I feel you all do a great job of helping serving and accommodating all the citizens of Carrboro and the surrounding area.

Carrboro needs to put more effort and resources into preservation of natural areas along Bolin and Morgan Creeks and tributaries and adjacent woodlands.

Carrboro, Chapel Hill, Orange Co Parks and Rec Facilities and activities are the #1 benefit of living in this fantastic community full of excellent benefits.

Please protect nature trails for walkers and increase bicycle path/sidewalk connectivity. Thank you.

Living next to The Adams Tract, we would like to see it a natural tract. Pressure of population along Bolin Creek has been hard on the land there.

Everyone in Chapel Hill/Carrboro heads to Jaycee Park or Cary Park for good sand volleyball courts—would love to see some our way!

More gyms for basketball, weightlifting, exercise, outdoor pools—more athletic fields, more dog parks.

Programs could be better if facilities were better (i.e. mark fields, parks etc.)  
Dance marathons? Board game tournaments? PS The green space in pathway was not listed as parkland on the open house map. It is used and beloved by the neighborhood for birding, walking, kids' forts.

New modern baseball facility (four fields, circular layout with central concession stand)!

Indoor climbing facility.

Gym facilities—marginally adequate at present; inadequate for the future

Carrboro Elementary Baseball field needs scoreboard for little league games

Need more and better soccer fields

You need more baseball fields—we could have had more baseball teams this year of we had more fields.

More maintenance on the baseball fields (in fields) so they drain toward the outfield. Now, some have low spots that don't drain; can't be used as often as all would want.

Please extend the paved greenway into Carrboro

I think you could get more participation from local artists to teach different types of classes if they could receive living wage.

I love the unspoiled greenways along Bolin Creek. I hope Carrboro can acquire the Horace-Williams airport lands someday and keep it undeveloped and beautiful. Having beautiful greenways is what makes Carrboro such a great place. I moved here from Chicago where it was flat and where every buildable lot was developed.

Keep the lights on later in the night.

What open house? This came in the kids school folder...you did not even enclose a mailing address. How do you expect people to do this?

Keep trail access open to all responsible users including dogs and bikers (mountain and otherwise) Thank you!

I hate that I have to make a special trip, wasting time and gas to sign up for my Spanish class and if I want to be sure to get in it has to be on one specific day. You should have on line registration and payment!!!

Love the farmer's market, Carrboro based celebrations, Bolin Creek!

As a grandparent, I'd like more indoor activities at the Century Center. When the weather's not so good, it would be nice to have a place where children could just come in and play.

The programs in the Century Center are great and affordable! I would like an indoor playground (jungle gym) accessible all year round any time of the day, how about an indoor skating rink.

Please, please improve bicycle and pedestrian connectivity to the west of University Lake, to Old Greensboro Road.

Good contact via e-mail, organized programs

My son has a development disability (autism) and I have always felt awkward about asking for assistance in him attending P&R class activities.

We need more soccer fields with lights. My kids (2 of 3) had to practice on outfield of baseball field with 3 other teams this spring.



With all of the time and effort and money being put into the greenways system, we need safe pedestrian bridge crossings. There are steps that lead from the end of Pathway Drive to Bolin Creek, but then you have to step on sometimes slippery rocks to cross! That's crazy. Last week I saw a woman with a baby in a backpack crossing a pipe while her husband stood frozen with fear on his face. I think it is extremely unfortunate that the town is not going to have a building on the MLK site. I can't believe that it is outrageously expensive to retrofit the existing ranch house to be handicapped accessible. It could be used for camps, games etc. Groups could rent the space for picnics and not worry about getting rained out. If that is too expensive, there could be a shelter like the one at faculty farm that opens and closes. To develop a park in a way that leaves it totally natural so that it can't be utilized by groups is a waste of money in my opinion, especially when we just bought the Adam's Tract which serves that very purpose (not to mention Bolin Creek). One last thought, we need better lighting on our streets so people can feel safe walking at night.

I would like to know more about Carrboro Parks and would use them if we had the info to do so.

Always in favor of more trails! And bike route!

More police/patrol on a regular basis.

What I would really love is a paved connected greenway system that you could really use to get somewhere, say Phase I from Wilson Park to Airport Road/Bolin Creek

Greenway intersection, Phase 2 from Lake Hogan Farms to Wilson Park. This would get a ton of usage.

Parks and Rec is wonderful—you've provided many years of healthy and fair sports participation for my family—it's affordable and fun (all except one year with a coach who told my son not to shoot baskets and never showed up for games).

I think county wide recreation facilities and opportunities are outstanding and all reasonably close. I don't think we need duplication in Carrboro of facilities in CH public rec system or even Hillsborough and local county programs.

Improve athletic field facilities! Especially baseball, soccer, basketball

Anderson Park feels safe because all play structures are nearby each other

Like the shaded play area in Anderson, great park with a lot of amenities, not too crowded

Linking trails would be nice

More shade needed in dog park either with a structure or more trees

Link trails and greenways

There are lots of soccer fields coming with other projects so we need to be careful not to get too many soccer fields. Need to be aware of the other projects going on and decide if there are enough coming/existing

Town of Carrboro Parks and Recreation Master Plan  
**Public Meeting Participation Board Results**  
 Public Meeting Board Result Totals

**Which Town of Carrboro recreational facilities do you use?**

---

Century Center	63
Anderson Community Park	58
Wilson Park	57
Carrboro Elementary School and Park	31
Town Commons Play Area	28
McDougle Middle School	27
McDougle Elementary School	20
Chapel Hill High School	14
Seawell Elementary School	9
Grey Culbreth Middle School	8
Mary Scroggs Elementary School	7
Simpson Street Mini-Park	6
Smith Soccer Fields	4
Frank Porter Graham Elementary School	3
Smith Middle School	3
Baldwin Park	1
Brewer's Lane Mini-Park	1
Others: added by participants	
Farmer's Market	71
Weaver Street Market Lawn	51
Bolin Creek	37
Adam's Tract	12
Bikeways	9
Greenways	8
Weaver Street Market	5
Town Commons	5
Greenspace along pathway drive	5



## What types of recreation do you participate in on a regular basis?

Walking	78
Reading	65
Bicycling	51
Running	48
Swimming	44
Playgrounds	38
Picnics	36
Soccer	18
Basketball	17
Fishing	13
Tennis	13
Golf	12
Volleyball	12
Baseball	10
Football	9
Softball	8
Field Hockey	4
Lacrosse	2
Others: (submitted by participants)	
Concerts	41
Special Events (i.e.	
Carrboro Day, Music	
Fest)	35
Speaker series	13
Ultimate Frisbee	4
Community Dinners	4
Birding	3
Boating	3
Disc Golf	2
Dance	2
Dancing	1
Cybrary	1
Nature Hiking (Flora and Fauna)	1
Carrboro Music Festival	1

PROJECT  
INFORMATION

GOALS, OBJECTIVES &  
STANDARDS

ACTION  
PLAN

GREENWAY GUIDELINES &  
DEVELOPMENT CRITERIA

ALTERNATIVE  
FUNDING SOURCES

APPENDIX

**What types of recreational facilities and programs would you like to see in Carrboro?**  
(submitted by participants)

---

**Public Meeting #1**

Community Gardens	7
Indoor/Outdoor Swimming Facilities	7
Greenways	7
Woodland Open Space/Preserved Passive Recreation	5
Community Gym	4
More indoor facilities i.e. at parks for bad weather	4
Environmental Education Programs	4
Nature Summer Camps	3
Mini-Neighborhood	
Parks like Simpson	
Street Mini Park	3
Tennis Programs	3
Nature walks	
including wildflowers,	
birding, mushrooms	3
Nature Museum	3
Fencing	2
Mountain Biking	
(Adams Tract,	
University Lake) Get	
whole Bolin Creek	
Tract!	2
Bicycle action sports--Ramps, Jumps	2
Skateboard Park	2
All day programs especially during school breaks	1
More tennis courts in	1
Outdoor swimming	
pool	1

**Public Meeting #2**

Swimming pool	
(include a ramp for	
people with	
disabilities)	10
Community Garden Space	6
Sidewalks and Bike Paths	6
Greenway along Bolin Creek	5
Bus shelters-get people out	4
Fitness assessments	3
Pocket Parks (i.e. Simpson Street)	3
Small ponds/water	3
Benches for seniors	
(boomers) along	
greenways, trail	2
Scavenger Hunts	1
Choir?	1
Outdoor challenge course i.e. climbing, ropes, etc.	1

**Carrboro Day**

Outdoor public pool	46
Indoor public lap pool	26

More bike trails	21
Outdoor movie nights	16
Teen Center	15
More adult activities and classes (non-senior) adult (20-25 yrs old)	13
More parks	10
International/ethnic festival (dance, music, foods etc.)	9
Adult team sports	8
Dog park	7
Skateboard park	6
Stargazing parties	4
Affordable studio space	2
Outdoor handball	1

## PROJECT INFORMATION

## GOALS, OBJECTIVES & STANDARDS

## ACTION PLAN

## GREENWAY GUIDELINES & DEVELOPMENT CRITERIA

## ALTERNATIVE FUNDING SOURCES

## APPENDIX

**What types of recreational facilities do you envision at the Adams Tract? (submitted by participants)**

---

**Public Meeting #1**

Nature Trails (separate and maintained)	10
Educational Trail Map	7
Bike Trails (separate and maintained)	6
Open space preservation	4
Dog walking trails separate from walkers and bikers to allow off-leash walking	4
Education - Outdoor	2
Picnic facilities (low impact)	2
Seating/Benches (especially for seniors)	2

**Public Meeting #2**

Bandstand  
 Benches for seniors along trails, ponds etc.  
 Bird blind? Yes!  
 Bulletin board (like at dog park)  
 Cool place for weddings? Gazebo/Bandstand  
 Have neighborhoods open onto the tract so it invites people to walk or bike to  
 Increase bus transportation end time to park closure time-Bus stop near park  
 Lounge chairs for daydreaming  
 Nature trail with sculptures and lables  
 Outdoor challenge stations  
 Paved/gravel greenway on the current water-sewer easement  
 Picnic space  
 Trails with interpretive information  
 Tree house/ raised birding platforms/walkways  
 Walking trail  
 Water feature, other water features throughout, Coy pond  
 Would be nice to keep it less developed, but will need to consider how much  
 Ziplines!

**Carrboro Day**

Hiking	43
Track-trails running	35
Biking	31
Picnic Areas	27
Horseback riding	20
Botanic Garden	20
Rock wall	18
Playground	16
Pool	14
Horse shoes	3
Handball	2

# SMITH SOCCER FIELD

## USAGE REPORT

### FEBRUARY 10, 2006

#### **FALL 2002: AUGUST 26<sup>TH</sup>-NOVEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup>**

NUMBER OF PRIORITY SOCCER GROUPS: 2

HOURS AVAILABLE: 384

HOURS USED: 181

PERCENTAGE OF TIME USED: 47.1%

NOTE: Rentals were available on Friday afternoons during this season. After this season, Friday afternoons were not open for reservation, only for open free play.

#### **SPRING 2003: FEBRUARY 24<sup>TH</sup>-JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup>**

NUMBER OF PRIORITY SOCCER GROUPS: 4

HOURS AVAILABLE: 387

HOURS USED: 227

PERCENTAGE OF TIME USED: 58.7%

NOTE: Rentals were not available on Friday afternoon or on Sunday mornings from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. This is the only season that Sunday morning rentals were not available. Even with the removal of this time for rental, the field was used more due to an increase in the number of groups and more time available at night after daylight savings.

#### **SUMMER 2003: MAY 31<sup>ST</sup>-AUGUST 31<sup>ST</sup>**

NUMBER OF PRIORITY SOCCER GROUPS: 3

HOURS AVAILABLE: 510

HOURS USED: 194.50

PERCENTAGE OF TIME USED: 38.1%

NOTE: This was the only time a summer season was run on the field. While the percentage of time used dropped, the actual hours booked were comparable to the two previous seasons. There is greater amount of time available since it stays light out until much later. The soccer groups do not program as much in the summer (one fall/spring group did not book any summer usage). This combination of factors led to the drop in percentage of time used.

#### **FALL 2003: SEPTEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup>-NOVEMBER 23<sup>RD</sup>**

NUMBER OF PRIORITY SOCCER GROUPS: 4

HOURS AVAILABLE: 324

HOURS USED: 241

PERCENTAGE OF TIME USED: 74.3%

NOTE: The high percentage of use during this season is due to the relatively low amount of nighttime availability and the increase in usage requests by the soccer groups. This is the first season we see Rainbow Soccer using the fields at 4:00 Monday through Thursday. Almost all of the available time is booked during this season, especially on weeknights.

PROJECT  
INFORMATION

GOALS, OBJECTIVES &  
STANDARDS

ACTION  
PLAN

GREENWAY GUIDELINES &  
DEVELOPMENT CRITERIA

ALTERNATIVE  
FUNDING SOURCES

APPENDIX

**SPRING 2004: FEBRUARY 21<sup>ST</sup>-MAY 30<sup>TH</sup>**

NUMBER OF PRIORITY SOCCER GROUPS: 5

HOURS AVAILABLE: 457

HOURS USED: 328

PERCENTAGE OF TIME USED: 71.7%

NOTE: Usage is still high this season with the addition of a new priority soccer group and more hours of availability.

**FALL 2004: AUGUST 14<sup>TH</sup>-NOVEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup>**

NUMBER OF PRIORITY SOCCER GROUPS: 5

HOURS AVAILABLE: 447

HOURS USED: 335.50

PERCENTAGE OF TIME USED: 75%

NOTE: Field usage remains consistent, slight increase may reflect more usage by non-priority group rentals.

**SPRING 2005: FEBRUARY 21<sup>ST</sup>-MAY 26<sup>TH</sup>**

NUMBER OF PRIORITY SOCCER GROUPS: 5

HOURS AVAILABLE: 394

HOURS USED: 300

PERCENTAGE USED: 76.1%

NOTE: Field usage remains high. This is the first season we begin to see groups sharing the field. This season's usage does not reflect time that was shared between groups. Time when two groups were splitting the field is not counted doubled. For example, two groups who use the field from 6-7:30 count as an hour and a half, not three hours.

**FALL 2005: AUGUST 27<sup>TH</sup>-NOVEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup>**

NUMBER OF PRIORITY SOCCER GROUPS: 6

HOURS AVAILABLE: 363

HOURS USED: 245.5

PERCENTAGE USED: 67.6%

NOTE: The decrease in time used this season is likely a result of priority soccer groups looking to other fields for space. At the priority group meeting, it was obvious that the increase in participants in local soccer was causing serious competition for space and groups had begun using alternative sites.

**SPRING 2006 (PROJECTED): FEBRUARY 20<sup>TH</sup>-MAY 28<sup>TH</sup>**

NUMBER OF PRIORITY SOCCER GROUPS: 8

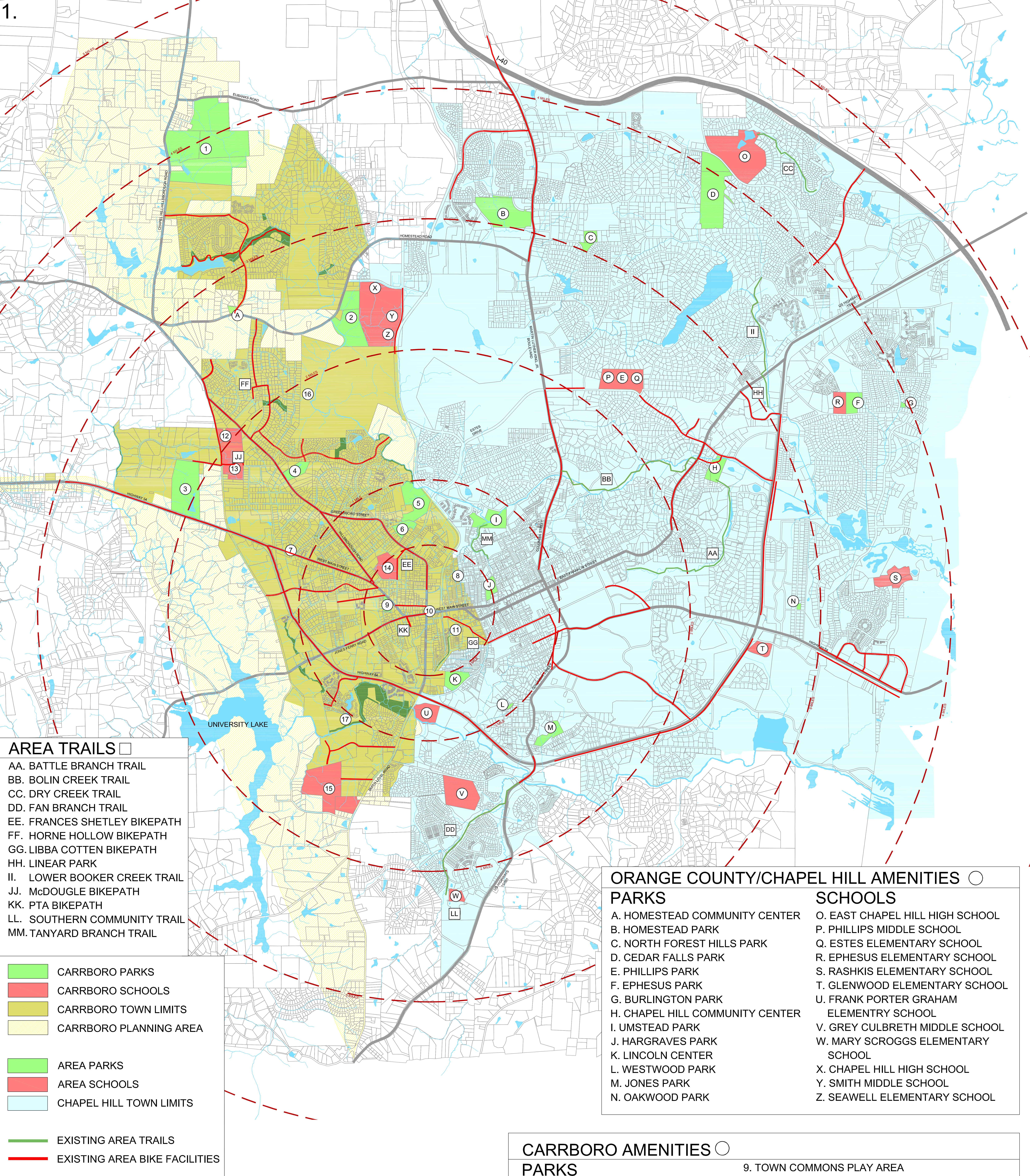
HOURS AVAILABLE: 728

HOURS BOOKED: 461

PERCENTAGE USED: 63%

NOTE: This is the first season the lights have been in operation, drastically increasing the hours of availability. Usage has increased as far as number of hours booked, but percentage of time used is down. This can be attributed to the cost associated with renting the field with lights and a larger rental window on Saturday and Sunday evenings, times that have not been rented in the past.





# RECREATION & PARKS COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN UPDATE AREA AMENITIES

CARRBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

PREPARED FOR:  
TOWN OF CARRBORO  
RECREATION & PARKS  
DEPARTMENT

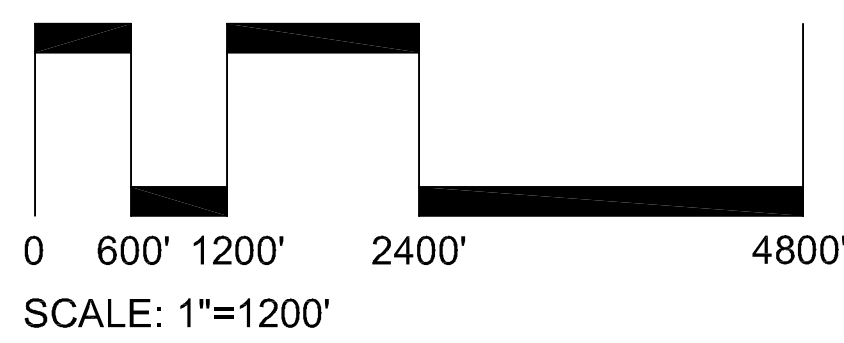
PREPARED BY:  
**HadenStanziale**  
planning  
landscape architecture

421 Potters Road  
Suite 300  
Durham, NC 27603  
734.375.0234  
734.346.0261  
www.hadenstanziale.com

AUGUST 1, 2006

DISCLAIMER:  
ALL BASE INFORMATION REPRESENTED ON THIS MAP HAS BEEN PROVIDED THROUGH THE TOWN OF CARRBORO, THE TOWN OF  
CHAPEL HILL & ORANGE COUNTY. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE USER TO VERIFY EXISTING CONDITIONS BEFORE MAKING  
DECISIONS OR PROCEEDING WITH ACTIONS BASED ON THE PROVIDED INFORMATION.

GRAPHIC SCALE



## CARRBORO AMENITIES

### PARKS

1. TWIN CREEKS PARK & EDUCATIONAL CAMPUS (PLANNED ORANGE COUNTY PARK)
2. SMITH SOCCER FIELD
3. ANDERSON COMMUNITY PARK
4. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. PARK (PLANNED TOWN OF CARRBORO PARK)
5. ADAMS TRACT (FUTURE)
6. WILSON PARK
7. SIMPSON STREET TRIANGLE
8. BALDWIN PARK

9. TOWN COMMONS PLAY AREA
10. CENTURY CENTER
11. BREWER LANE MINI-PARK

### SCHOOLS

12. McDOUGLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
13. McDOUGLE MIDDLE SCHOOL
14. CARRBORO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL & PARK
15. CARRBORO HIGH SCHOOL

## GREENWAY CORRIDORS/PRESERVES

16. BOLIN CREEK
17. MORGAN CREEK

## ORANGE COUNTY/CHAPEL HILL AMENITIES

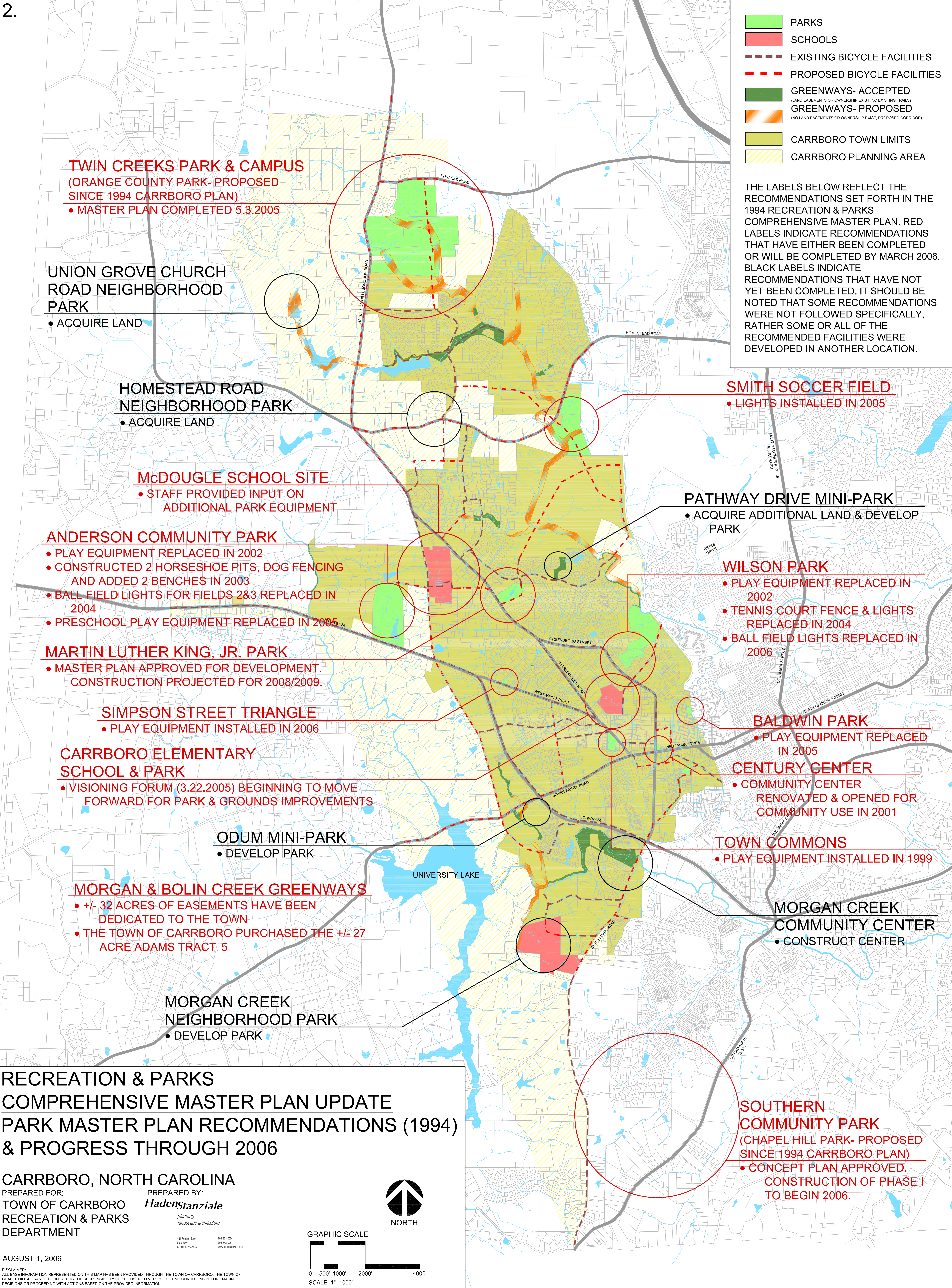
### PARKS

- A. HOMESTEAD COMMUNITY CENTER
- B. HOMESTEAD PARK
- C. NORTH FOREST HILLS PARK
- D. CEDAR FALLS PARK
- E. PHILLIPS PARK
- F. EPHEBUS PARK
- G. BURLINGTON PARK
- H. CHAPEL HILL COMMUNITY CENTER
- I. UMSTEAD PARK
- J. HARGRAVES PARK
- K. LINCOLN CENTER
- L. WESTWOOD PARK
- M. JONES PARK
- N. OAKWOOD PARK

### SCHOOLS

- O. EAST CHAPEL HILL HIGH SCHOOL
- P. PHILLIPS MIDDLE SCHOOL
- Q. ESTES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
- R. EPHEBUS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
- S. RASHKIS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
- T. GLENWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
- U. FRANK PORTER GRAHAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
- V. GREY CULBRETH MIDDLE SCHOOL
- W. MARY SCROGGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
- X. CHAPEL HILL HIGH SCHOOL
- Y. SMITH MIDDLE SCHOOL
- Z. SEAWELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL







TWIN CREEKS PARK & EDUCATIONAL CAMPUS  
PARTNERSHIP WITH ORANGE COUNTY

- (4) MULTI-USE FIELDS
- (4) BASKETBALL COURTS
- (4) TENNIS COURTS
- (4) PICNIC SHELTERS
- (2) SOFTBALL/BASEBALL FIELDS
- (2) TOT LOTS
- ROLLER HOCKEY RINK
- MEASURED WALKING TRAIL
- ADA TRAIL
- OPEN/PLAY MEADOWS
- WATER PLAYGROUND
- BOCCE
- CROQUET
- HORSESHOES
- GYMNASIUM
- ASSOCIATED RECREATIONAL FACILITIES FOR (2) PROPOSED ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS (AS SHOWN ON THE 5/3/05 MASTER PLAN)

PROPOSED NEIGHBORHOOD PARK SITES

- THE 1994 COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN UPDATE RECOMMENDED ACQUIRING LAND FOR FUTURE PARKS (UNION GROVE CHURCH ROAD NEIGHBORHOOD PARK & HOMESTEAD ROAD NEIGHBORHOOD PARK)
- THESE TWO PARKS ARE NO LONGER NEEDED WITH THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF TWIN CREEKS PARK IN THE AREA

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. PARK

- CONSTRUCT PARK

PARKS

SCHOOLS

EXISTING BICYCLE FACILITIES

PROPOSED BICYCLE FACILITIES

GREENWAYS- ACCEPTED  
(LAND EASEMENTS OR OWNERSHIP EXIST, NO EXISTING TRAILS)

GREENWAYS- PROPOSED  
(NO LAND EASEMENTS OR OWNERSHIP EXIST, PROPOSED CORRIDOR)

CARRBORO TOWN LIMITS

CARRBORO PLANNING AREA

MORGAN CREEK TRAIL

PARTNERSHIP WITH CHAPEL HILL

- WORK WITH CHAPEL HILL TO DETERMINE FUTURE TRAIL ALIGNMENTS AND CONNECTIONS TO CARRBORO

MORGAN CREEK NATURAL AREA

- ACQUIRE LAND
- DESIGN TRAIL FACILITIES
- CONSTRUCT TRAIL FACILITIES

DEPARTMENT WIDE RECOMMENDATIONS

- INCLUDE/EXPAND PROGRAMMING FOR LATINO POPULATIONS
- INCLUDE/EXPAND PROGRAMMING FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL AGE TEENS (5TH TO 8TH GRADES) AND ACTIVE SPORTS OPPORTUNITIES FOR 13 TO 17 YEAR OLDS, ESPECIALLY GIRLS.
- CREATE PROGRAMMING FOCUSED ON EDUCATING RESIDENTS ON THE BENEFITS, HEALTH & SAFETY OF PEDESTRIAN & CYCLING BASED ACTIVITIES
- CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE CONSTRUCTION OF SOCCER FACILITIES IN PARTNERSHIP W/ ORANGE COUNTY TO ENCOURAGE A REGIONAL SYSTEM
- THE TOWN SHOULD CONTINUE TO SEEK MORE LAND DEDICATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR USABLE OPEN SPACE & FUTURE RECREATION
- IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE PARK CLASSIFICATION "NEIGHBORHOOD PARK" BE CHANGED TO "TOWN PARK"
- CONTINUE CONSISTENT ON-GOING MAINTENANCE
- CONSIDER "ALL" DAY CAMPS IN THE SUMMER.

HOMESTEAD PARK AQUATIC CENTER

PARTNERSHIP WITH CHAPEL HILL & ORANGE COUNTY

BOLIN CREEK TRAIL

PARTNERSHIP WITH CHAPEL HILL

- WORK WITH CHAPEL HILL TO DETERMINE FUTURE TRAIL ALIGNMENTS AND CONNECTIONS TO CARRBORO

BOLIN CREEK NATURAL AREA

- ACQUIRE LAND
- DESIGN TRAIL FACILITIES
- CONSTRUCT TRAIL FACILITIES

PATHWAY DRIVE MINI-PARK

(NO LONGER NEEDED WITH DEVELOPMENT OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. PARK)

ADAMS TRACT

- DEVELOP MASTER PLAN
- FOCUS ON PASSIVE USES
- USE INPUT GATHERED DURING OPEN HOUSE SESSIONS

DOWNTOWN CARRBORO POOL

- ACQUIRE LAND
- DEVELOP MASTER PLAN FOR POOL & OTHER COMPLIMENTARY USES

SOUTHERN COMMUNITY PARK

PARTNERSHIP WITH CHAPEL HILL

- (3) ATHLETIC/SOCCER FIELDS
- (2) PICNIC SHELTERS
- (2) BASKETBALL COURTS
- IN-LINE HOCKEY RINK
- GREENWAY TRAIL (EXT. OF FAN BRANCH)
- RESTROOM FACILITIES
- CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA
- DOG PARK
- MEADOW/GRASS PLAY AREA
- DISC GOLF COURSE (AS PROPOSED IN THE 2005 MASTER PLAN).

NOTE:  
THIS MASTER PLAN UPDATE IS MEANT TO SERVE AS A GUIDANCE TOOL FOR CRPD AND THE RECOMMENDATIONS DISCUSSED IN SECTION III ARE PROPOSED ONLY. ALL PROPOSED RECOMMENDATIONS MAY OR MAY NOT BE CONSIDERED DURING FUTURE CIP AND BUDGET PROCESSES.

RECREATION & PARKS  
COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN UPDATE  
PROPOSED AMENITIES & RECOMMENDATIONS

CARRBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

PREPARED FOR:  
TOWN OF CARRBORO  
RECREATION & PARKS  
DEPARTMENT

PREPARED BY:  
*Haden Stanziale*  
planning  
landscape architecture

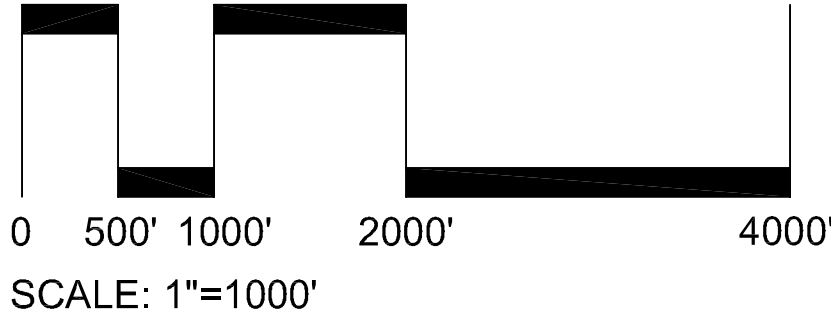
421 Potters Road  
Suite 300  
Durham, NC 28603

714.475.0254  
714.462.0251  
www.hadenstanziale.com

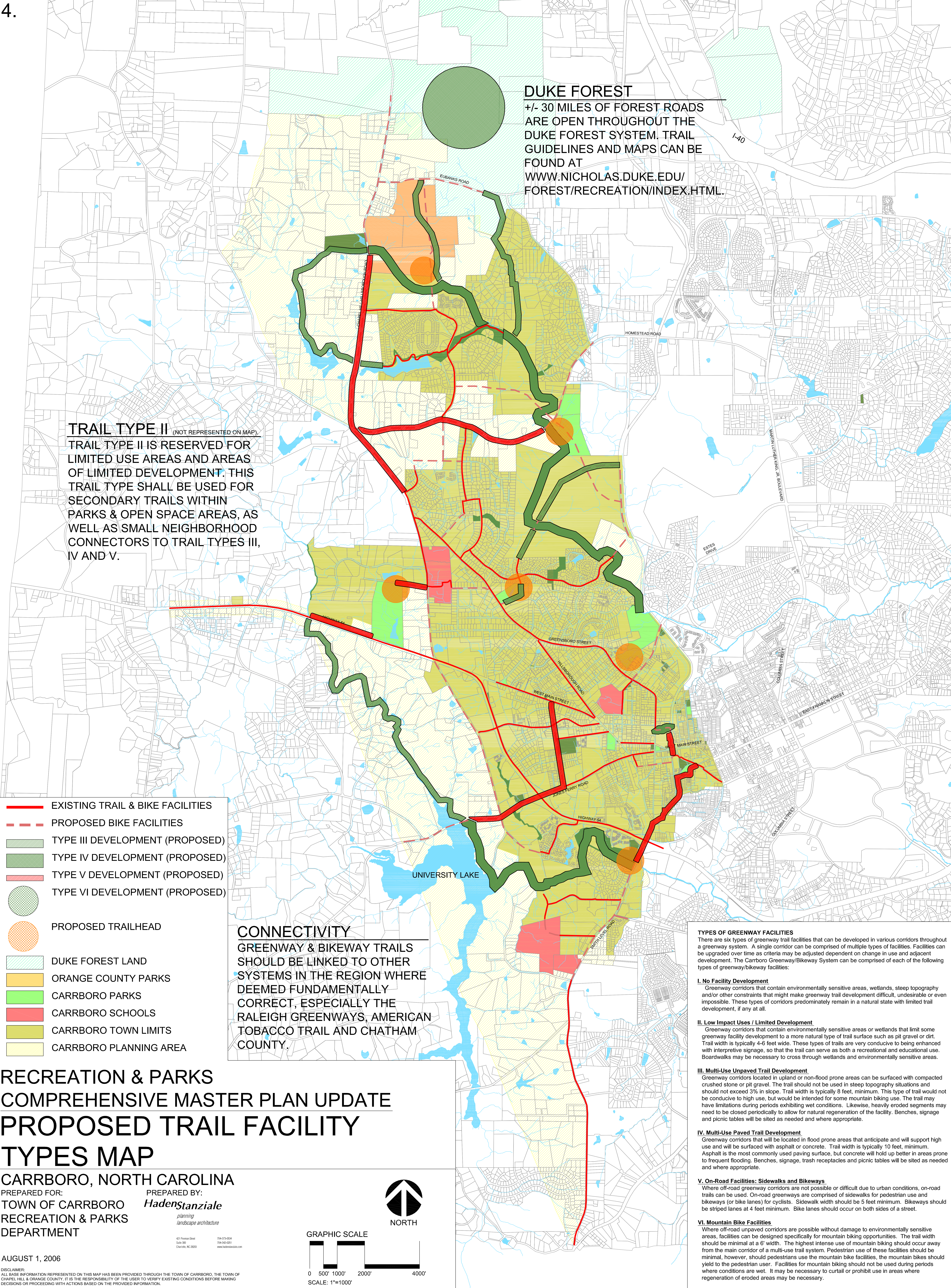
AUGUST 1, 2006

DISCLAIMER:  
ALL BASE INFORMATION REPRESENTED ON THIS MAP HAS BEEN PROVIDED THROUGH THE TOWN OF CARRBORO. THE TOWN OF CHAPEL HILL & ORANGE COUNTY IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE USER TO VERIFY EXISTING CONDITIONS BEFORE MAKING DECISIONS OR PROCEEDING WITH ACTIONS BASED ON THE PROVIDED INFORMATION.

GRAPHIC SCALE









TOWN OF CARRBORO  
CONNECTIVITY

THE GOAL OF THE TOWN OF CARRBORO IS TO IMPLEMENT A CONNECTIVITY SYSTEM COMPRISED OF EXISTING & PLANNED PEDESTRIAN & BICYCLE FACILITIES. THESE FACILITIES INCLUDE MAJOR TRAIL CORRIDORS, MINOR TRAIL CORRIDORS, SIDEWALKS & OPEN SPACE.

PROPOSED TRAIL FACILITIES

THE EXISTING CONNECTIVITY PLAN FOCUSES HEAVILY ON BICYCLE FACILITIES ON OR ALONG EXISTING ROADWAYS. THIS PLAN PROPOSES EXPANDING THAT FOCUS BY CONNECTING UNDERSERVED AND NATURAL AREAS WITH OFF ROAD TRAIL FACILITIES. THESE FACILITIES INCLUDE THE BOLIN CREEK AND MORGAN CREEK GREENWAY TRAILS, WHICH THE TOWN HAS BEEN WORKING TOWARD FOR SOME TIME. IN ADDITION, THIS PLAN PROPOSES THE WESTERN CONNECTOR GREENWAY TRAIL AND THE NORTHERN LOOP GREENWAY TRAIL, AN EXTENSION OF THE BOLIN CREEK GREENWAY TRAIL.

TRAILHEADS

TRAILHEADS SERVE AS DIRECT ACCESS POINTS TO TRAIL FACILITIES. THEY ALLOW RESIDENTS WITH SMALL CHILDREN OR OTHERS WHOSE NEIGHBORHOODS DO NOT CONNECT DIRECTLY TO THE TRAIL FACILITIES TO ACCESS FACILITIES. TRAILHEADS ARE TYPICALLY LOCATED AS DESTINATIONS SUCH AS SCHOOLS, PARKS OR OTHER TOWN FACILITIES.

NEIGHBORHOOD ACCESS

RESIDENTS FROM NEIGHBORHOODS THROUGHOUT THE TOWN SHOULD HAVE SAFE ACCESS TO TRAIL FACILITIES. NEIGHBORHOOD ROADS, WHERE SPEED LIMITS AND TRAFFIC VOLUMES ARE LOW, SERVE TO CONNECT RESIDENTS TO TRAIL FACILITIES WHERE POSSIBLE.

- BIKE LANE
- BIKE PATH
- WIDE SHOULDER
- PROPOSED BIKE FACILITIES
- PROPOSED TRAILHEAD
- GREENWAY TRAILS
- PROPOSED GREENWAY TRAILS

- ORANGE COUNTY PARKS
- CARRBORO PARKS
- CARRBORO SCHOOLS
- CARRBORO TOWN LIMITS
- CARRBORO PLANNING AREA

NAMED TRAILS

- A. CARR MILL BIKEPATH
- B. DUKE FOREST CONNECTOR
- C. FRANCES SHETLEY BIKEPATH
- D. HORNE HOLLOW BIKEPATH
- E. LIBBA COTTEN BIKEPATH
- F. McDOUGLE BIKEPATH
- G. PTA BIKEPATH
- H. ROBERSON PLACE BIKEPATH

TRAIL SURFACES

MANY FACTORS DETERMINE THE SURFACES USED TO CONSTRUCT TRAIL FACILITIES. LOCATION, NATURAL FEATURES SUCH AS TOPOGRAPHY, ANTICIPATED USE AND POTENTIAL FOR FLOODING MUST ALL BE CONSIDERED WHEN PLANNING FOR EACH SPECIFIC TRAIL FACILITY. LOCAL REGULATIONS REGARDING DEVELOPMENT IN CERTAIN AREAS MAY ALSO PLAY A ROLE IN DETERMINING A TRAIL'S SURFACE.

RECREATION & PARKS  
COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN UPDATE  
PROVIDED & PROPOSED BIKE &  
TRAIL FACILITIES MAP

CARRBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

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RECREATION & PARKS  
DEPARTMENT

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planning  
landscape architecture

421 Potters Road  
Suite 300  
Durham, NC 28603  
754-375-0254  
754-345-0251  
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GRAPHIC SCALE

