

# TOWN of CARY

## 2011/2012 Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources Master Plan

### Public Meeting #2 Summary October 26, 2011

On October 26, 2011, the Town of Cary held a public meeting at the Herb Young Community Center to present all of the input that had been received as part of the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources Master Plan process. Approximately 50 citizens attended. In terms of format for the meeting, a summary of the findings was presented to the public followed by an opportunity for the public to ask questions. Then participants were asked to circulate to different stations that were setup around the meeting room where more detailed information was provided. Participants were given post-it notes to write additional comments. Staff and consultants were assigned to each station to answer questions as needed. Below is a compilation of all the comments that were received.

#### Overall Comments

- Why is there disconnect between preference of travel time to facilities? Perceived contradiction in survey results
- Preference for large recreation centers
- Numerous questions regarding a future farmers market. Disagreement over the use “urban agriculture” that was used in the survey and that most of the public would not have linked that to a farmers market.
- Coordinate plans with public transportation
- Downtown
  - More places to eat
  - More Parking
  - More Parking at CAC
  - Keep it open late
  - Add public participation component to planning for the newly-purchased downtown theater. Youth band concerts etc.
  - Keep the upcoming downtown park more or less open. Don’t fill it with buildings or parking lots.
- Greenways are safer in Apex. (Apex Community Park) Recommend thinning the buffers along Cary greenways to improve visibility. Add restrooms as well.
- Farmers Market space
- Undeveloped parkland counted?
- Does current plan include a comprehensive conservation plan?
- How were one mile and half-mile areas for walkability delineated?
- “Sidewalks were not” (...represented, factored into above calculation of walk times?)
- Nature trails: limited access, no bikes
- Soft-surface trails for joint health

- White Oak: loss of habitat
- Maintain soft surface trails in Bond Park
- Protect Watersheds: Black Creek
- Use volunteers to build and maintain trails: Civilian Conservation Volunteers

### **West Cary**

- Feels isolated from facilities
- 20 min. from swimming, basketball, etc.
- Need facilities for families, children. Connect to trails.
- Community Center at Mills Park
  - Indoor Pool/Gym
  - Rec. Sports
  - Access to Cary's rec. league soccer fields (School or Park site)
- Local businesses/library/Whole Old Carpenter/Amberly Carpenter, Breckenridge, etc. really benefits from WWF Market. Concerned about losing community support and momentum of all the effort that has been put into FM. Please recognize that every move is disruptive and hurts the surrounding community that benefits from it.

### **Greenways and Trails**

- Soft surface trails: foot traffic only, similar to Hemlock Bluffs
  - For bird watching
  - Loop nature trails
  - Mountain Bike trails: can be parallel to paved trails
  - Cross Country running trails
- Ivy Lane by TAC and WakeMed soccer: already trails for mountain biking and running. Would like to see connection to WakeMed and TAC
- Make trails less dense and ideally surrounded by a lake on one side so you can see a stranger approaching. Also mark trails with color or "animal sections"? for security

### **Parks/Facilities**

- More dog park facilities
- Keep area across Cary Parkway from N. Cary Park as natural as possible to preserve Black Creek
- Look at [The Summit in Canton, MI](#) as model for an ideal community center