Wooten Meadow Park Master Plan: Situational Assessment

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OCTOBER 2014

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Executive Summary

The City of Raleigh Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department, along with a design consultant led by DHM Design, is working to develop a Master Plan for the long term development of Wooten Meadow Park. This neighborhood park is located at 2801 West Millbrook Road – at the intersection of West Millbrook Road and Leesville Road in Northwest Raleigh. The first phase of the planning process is to collect and analyze information on the community context and existing conditions. It includes analysis of site conditions and data and implementation of opportunities for community involvement, including presentations, the initiation of a public webpage, distribution of a community survey, and a series of interviews with stakeholders and citizens.

The Situational Assessment summarizes this process, as well as the issues and community concerns raised as considerations for the future phases of the planning process. The key issues identified include:

- Safety and security
- Sidewalks and accessibility
- Noise and light pollution
- Preservation of the natural environment
- Preservation of unique land characteristics
- Neighborhood characteristics
- Community pride

Finally, a Citizen Planning Committee (CPC) will lead the Project Team in the decision making process and providing recommendations to City officials for the future of Wooten Meadow Park. Representatives on the CPC should be representative of the community and the diversity of community interests surrounding the park site. The design consultant conducted a series of screening interviews with potential citizen volunteers. Their third-party review of responses and recommendation for the citizen planning committee makeup are contained within this document. The Situational Assessment and CPC membership recommendations will be presented to the City of Raleigh Parks, Recreation, Greenway Advisory Board and Raleigh City Council. Once approved, the Project Team and CPC will work with the community to address the key issues with a park master plan by the end of 2015.

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Introduction of Wooten Meadow Park Master Plan

The City of Raleigh Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department, along with a design consultant led by DHM Design, is working to develop a Master Plan for the long term development of Wooten Meadow Park. The existing park is located at 2801 West Millbrook Road – at the intersection of West Millbrook Road and Leesville Road in Northwest Raleigh. Launched in September of 2014, the Wooten Meadow Park Master Plan process is expected to conclude with a park master plan approval by the end of 2015. The *Comprehensive Public Participation Program for Park Planning* (City of Raleigh Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources) outlines the process for engaging the community in the park planning process. In accordance with this process, the preparation of the Situational Assessment is done to identify the community context, needs, and issues related to Wooten Meadow Park.

Project Overview

The land for Wooten Meadow Park was donated to the City of Raleigh in 1996 by the Wooten family for the enjoyment of the citizens of Raleigh as a park and/or greenway. This park has been classified as a neighborhood park, suggesting a mile service radius with a special focus on the recreation needs within a one-half mile walkable radius to the site.

The first phase of the Master Plan process requires an evaluation of the existing conditions through documentation and public engagement. A draft System Integration Plan documents the existing site conditions and proposes interim management recommendations for the park property. It is to be finalized in the first phase of the master planning, along with this identification of key issues for full consideration in the park planning process.

Therefore, the purpose of the Situational Assessment is to: augment the draft System Integration Plan; provide an overview of the strategies taken to collect community feedback; summarize key themes identified through the ongoing communication and outreach; and, present overview of the planning process.

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Figure 1 - Parcel with Topography

Site Context

Site Conditions

Wooten Meadow Park is located at the intersection of Leesville Road and West Millbrook Road. The park has a total area of 21.1 acres and is zoned Residential-4 (R-4) (Figure 1).

Adjacent land uses include an apartment complex along the northwest corner and single family lots along the western, southern and eastern boundaries of the site. West Millbrook Road bounds the property along the northern edge.

The site is mostly undeveloped land consisting of a gravel parking lot, managed open fields, and floodplain forest. The forest consists of a variety of evergreen and hardwood trees; unfortunately, much of the understory is covered with invasive, non-native vegetation. Hare Snipe Creek, which borders the western and southern edges of the site, is a dominant landscape feature. A large portion of the site sits within the creek's floodplain which is known to flood during periods of intense or steady precipitation. Public sewer easements run along the western and eastern property boundaries and a lateral sewer easement connects the two towards the middle of the site.

The property also contains structural remains of cultural and historical significance. Some of the remains observed include an old, dry-stacked stone dam associated with the 1773 Moses Parks Mill and possible old roads and paths that may be of historical importance. Mill foundations and remains of a mill head race are located in the vicinity of neighboring properties. Further archeological study of the site and adjacent lots has been recommended in the draft System Integration Plan.

Transportation and Access

Sidewalks are present along West Millbrook Road immediately in front of the park site, although there are no sidewalks on the northern side of the street near the park. Similarly, there are currently no sidewalks through the adjacent neighborhoods.

The main access point to the park is at the signalized intersection on West Millbrook Road, with a small gravel parking lot and park sign present at this entrance point. There are several sanitary sewer easements entering the site from the east and west with a more noticeable but casual entrance into the park at the eastern end where the sanitary sewer easement leaves the park and crosses Winthrop Drive.

System Integration Plan Overview

A System Integration Plan (SIP) has been completed by City staff. The SIP is currently under review by the Parks, Recreation, and Advisory Board, set for concurrent review with this analysis at the meeting of the Park Recreation and Greenway Advisory Board (PRGAB) meeting on October 23, 2014. They will be then forwarded to the Raleigh City Council with the PRGAB recommendations.

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Information contained within the SIP relates to the natural and cultural resources site conditions, as well as management and maintenance strategies for the City to implement.

Community Context

In addition the physical conditions of the park, it is important to evaluate and understand the characteristics and context of the surrounding neighborhoods and community.

Surrounding Neighborhoods and Parks

Located in Northwest Raleigh at the intersection of West Millbrook Road and Leesville Road, Wooten Meadow Park is situated in a primarily residential neighborhood. There are several established neighborhoods near the park. The Brookhaven neighborhood surrounds the park on all sides, with the exception of the Timbers Apartment Homes along the northwestern edge of the park (Figure 2). The Brookhaven neighborhood also extends north across West Millbrook Road. There are several other apartment complexes along Pleasant Valley Road.

Wooten Meadow Park is located in an urban residential area with several parks in close proximity. Brookhaven Nature Park is located less than one-quarter mile from Wooten Meadow Park, but lacking neighborhood connections, it is over one mile between their formal access points. Lake Lynn Park is approximately 2.5 miles north of the park entrance. York Elementary, just under two miles east, has recently undergone renovations to improve playground facilities on school grounds. An existing greenway trail runs south from Lake Lynn but terminated just north of the park site at West Millbrook Road. A greenway planning corridor is shown on the adopted Capital Area Greenway plan, running south of this termination point, in order to one day make a connection to the existing Crabtree Creek greenway, south of Highway 70.

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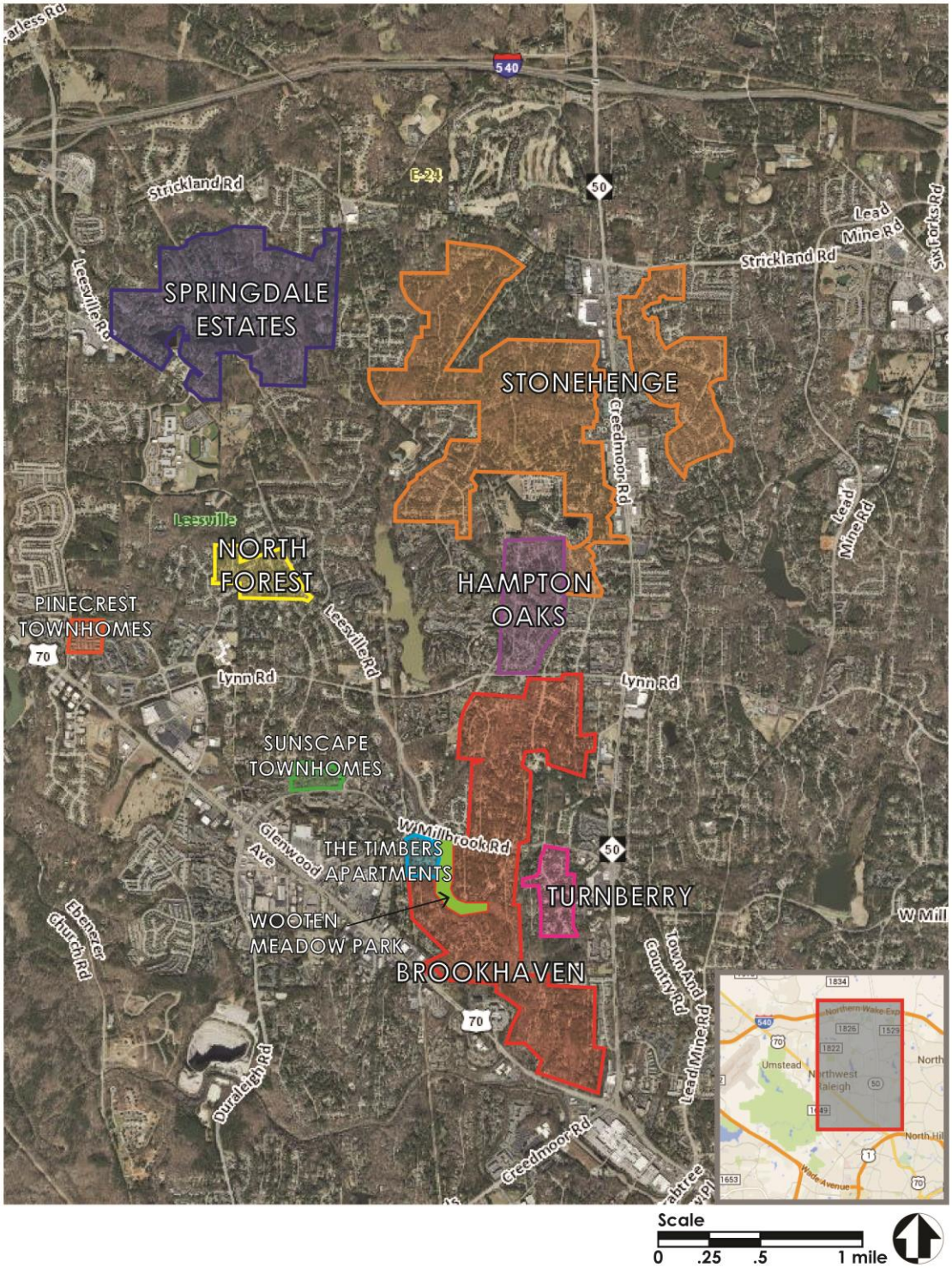

Figure 2 – Surrounding Neighborhoods

Neighborhood Demographics

Demographic information for the six US Census Block Groups within a one-half mile radius of the park site was reviewed to assist the Project Team in identifying any special populations, outreach strategies appropriate for the community, and a representative citizen committee (Figure 3).

The neighborhoods near Wooten Meadow Park are well-established with a low turnover, yet are becoming more attractive to newer and younger families. The data shows that the proportion of adults over the age of 60 (18.7 percent) is higher than that of Wake County (12.8 percent). The proportion of adults in the 20-39 age group in the study area is 5.0 percent higher when compared to that of in Wake County. Furthermore, just over half (56 percent) of the households in the project area are considered family households, but only 27 percent of households have related children under the age of 18 years living in the house. While this is significantly lower when compared to Wake County (36.5 percent with children under 18 years), it is widely reported to be on the increase.

Racial representation in the area is similar to that of Wake County, with a slightly lower rate of Hispanic individuals. Residents living around the park site are predominately English speakers. There is a slightly higher rate of residents below or at the poverty level. A full description of demographic comparisons can be found in Appendix A.

Figure 3 – Neighborhood Census Blocks

Community Outreach

Community engagement is essential to the success of the Master Plan. The primary purpose of the first phase is to collect information and data from the surrounding community on the needs and issues to be addressed throughout the planning process. The Project Team implemented several strategies to increase awareness of the project and gather comments from stakeholders and citizens. The following section summarizes the strategies completed or currently underway and the resulting key themes.

Northwest CAC

On September 9, 2014, City of Raleigh Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resource Department staff attended the Northwest Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting at Northwest Police Station to hold a kick-off meeting for the project. City staff provided an overview of the Systems Integration Plan (SIP) and the Project Team introduced the Wooten Meadow Park Master Plan project, the master planning process, and upcoming opportunities for citizens to get involved.

Attendees were provided the opportunity to review hardcopies of the SIP and copies of the informational handout and the Community Survey were distributed (Appendix B, C). The meeting was attended by 37 residents and several questions were raised regarding the planning process, involvement in the Citizen Planning Committee, and the wildlife and foliage present in the park. Concerns over previous uses of the property and recent residential break-ins were also voiced at this time.

Additional Outreach Methods

Project Webpage

A project webpage was launched on September 9, 2014 for the purpose of acting as the primary resource for updates to the public. At this time, the project webpage contained a brief summary of the Wooten Meadow Park Master Plan, a downloadable version of the Community Survey, a site map, and a proposed schedule. The webpage will be continuously updated as information becomes available. Planned updates include electronic versions of all project documents, such as the SIP and Situational Assessment, as well as announcements for upcoming public meetings and summaries from all Citizen Planning Committee meetings. Also available on the web page, individuals may sign up for email notifications regarding this project.

Social Media Outreach

Several social media outlets were used to assist with the promotion of the project and the Community Survey. First, project announcements and links to the project webpage were posted on City of Raleigh media – including Facebook and Twitter. The City's departmental Twitter account 'Raleigh Parks' posted three announcements between September 9 and September 28, 2014.

Additionally, several email notifications were sent to stakeholders to announce the project kick-off. These outreach emails also included draft messages for the organization or individual to use to help promote the project. Stakeholders on the list included individuals that were previously engaged in Wooten Meadow Park, organizations that use local parks or are entrenched in the community, and

individuals who signed up for email notifications or expressed interest in the project. Between September 9 and September 26, 2014, three email notifications were sent to 74 individuals and organizations.

Stakeholder Interviews

Several interviews were conducted with stakeholders between September 9, 2014 and October 3, 2014. Stakeholders included City of Raleigh staff, District E City Council Member, The Timbers Apartment Homes property manager, and local homeowners(Appendix E). The purpose of these interviews was to speak with individuals with special knowledge of the larger community context that could provide insight into specific community characteristics and help identify other groups or individuals to engage in the park planning process (Appendix F).

The following summary provides an overview of the key themes provided by the stakeholders:

Access and Connectivity: All of the participating stakeholders discussed concerns regarding access to the park site – specifically at the intersection of West Millbrook Road and Leesville Road. While the City of Raleigh is currently working to fill in sidewalk gaps along West Millbrook Road, the signalized intersection was noted to be very dangerous due to the angle and speed at which traffic approaches. If the park is developed to support greenway activity and use by young children, accessibility should be considered as foot traffic will certainly increase. Several interviewees suggested exploring pavement markings or signs to alert drivers of pedestrian activity.

Sense of Community: Several of the homeowners in the area said the neighborhood is welcoming and a desirable place to live but the current state of the park is not something they are proud of. They would like to see something done with the property to create an active, usable, and inviting place that will enhance the sense of community. It was suggested that creating spaces for community gatherings, such as block parties, be considered in the park planning as well.

Importance of Open Space: While it was observed that many homeowners in the area have backyards, it was also discussed that parks play an important role in providing free, outdoor spaces for individuals who live in high density housing. A representative for a nearby apartment complex said that many residents are not even aware of the adjacent park, except for when the parking lot was used during a recent winter weather event at which time their street had become inaccessible. However, a more developed park is viewed as a potential selling point for future tenants and homeowners alike.

Flooding/Water Retention: Both property owners and City of Raleigh staff noted that the park property has experienced issues with flooding. Located on a floodplain, with Hare Snipe Creek running along the western edge of the property, it appears that the land has become more saturated over time. One homeowner noted that they experienced bank failure which apparently resulted in approximately 450 square feet of lost land (including a dog house, swing set, and several trees). Therefore, many of the stakeholders emphasized the importance of addressing water management in the park planning process.

Outreach Methods: Moving forward with outreach, flyers at the apartment complexes and direct mailings to property owners were stated as the most effective methods for engaging the larger community. Additionally, several neighborhood mailing lists and groups were stated as potential opportunities for outreach. Neighborhood contacts established through the interview process helped to identify several community advocates who will help to promote the project, as well. Coordination with apartment complex property management reaffirmed that flyers were the best strategy to notify residents of upcoming public workshops, which will be implemented in the future phases of the project. In previous years, several community meetings were hosted at York Elementary School due to its close proximity to the community and its large indoor gathering space. York Elementary School has also been identified as a community stakeholder for representation and coordination in the planning process.

Community Survey

The System Integration Plan and site analysis provided an in-depth look at the physical conditions of the existing park site. However, it is also important to consider the interests and needs of the park neighbors and visitors in the master planning process. To this extent, a Community Survey was developed in an effort to gain insight into specific interests, needs, and characteristics of the people and groups using and living around Wooten Meadow Park.

The Community Survey was available from September 9, 2014 through September 28, 2014, with several different options to complete the survey. Hard copies were distributed at the September 9, 2014 Northwest CAC meeting. Additionally, an electronic version was available for download on the project webpage and through a direct link to a survey webpage supported by Constant Contact.

The survey was promoted using both the City of Raleigh Facebook and Twitter pages. Additionally, links to the both the project webpage and Constant Contact survey webpage were sent to the previously discussed distribution mailing list. In total, 128 surveys were completed. Of those, six were collected at the Northwest CAC meeting, two were sent in via mail, 10 were sent via email, and the remaining 112 were completed online. All survey results were compiled into the online database.

The following summary provides an overview of the key survey responses. A copy of the Community Survey can be found in Appendix C while additional survey results are available in Appendix D.

Household information

Survey participants were given the option to provide information about their household – including the name of their neighborhood or address, length of housing tenure, age range, and family members living in the house. Several neighborhoods were represented in the responses. Brookhaven was the most represented neighborhood, specifically neighbors living alone Hermitage Drive and Winthrop Drive. Other neighborhoods represented included Hampton Oaks, North Forest, Turnberry, and Stonehenge.

Through the follow up interview process, many stakeholders and community members noted that the surrounding neighborhoods were transitioning from older, established adults to newer, younger families. The household information collected through the survey supports this feedback. Of the

respondents that provided household information (94), 61.3 percent have lived at their address over seven years. And only a small percentage of respondents have lived at their residence for less than three years (2.5 percent).

The age breakdown of survey respondents was very representative of the demographic characteristics collected using US Census data. Adults over the age of 60 represented 15.9 percent of survey respondent, which is similar to the project area that is 18.7 percent adults 60 and above. Almost half (46.3 percent) of the survey respondents reported no children living in the household.

Current Park Usage

Next, survey respondents were asked to provide information regarding current usage of Wooten Meadow Park. The park is maintained by the City mostly for passive uses after the closure of soccer fields in 2007. The front of the park, near West Millbrook Road, is mowed regularly while the sanitary sewer easements are inspected annually and cleared approximately every three years. The remaining park land has been maintained only on an as-needed basis. With this in mind, approximately two-thirds of respondents noted that they do not visit the park site, although 15.8 percent of respondents reported visiting the park monthly.

When asked about their knowledge or understanding of the park, many comments focused on previous park usage as a horse pasture followed by the organized soccer uses with Capital Area Soccer League. Several also mentioned previous use of a swing set when it was available. Other respondents commented on the current interim usage by the City of Raleigh as a holding facility for leaf collection and knowledge of a creek on the property or issues with flooding. However, the most common response was that people's understanding or experiences at the park were limited to driving by the property and taking note that the property looked unused or abandoned.

Although many respondents reported not visiting Wooten Meadow Park, 19 respondents reported using the park for nature exploration with another 15 reported using the site for walking or exercising. Additionally, 42 respondents said they walk to the park property, compared to the 18 that bike and 26 that drive. This supports the notion that Wooten Meadow Park is a neighborhood park, and attracts individuals that can easily access the park.

Needs and Challenges

Survey respondents were then asked to identify needs and challenges for the neighborhoods surrounding Wooten Meadow Park and 60 individuals provided their thoughts. In general, the theme of the comments suggested the biggest challenge for the project is to create a space that is active while also respecting the neighbors. The following needs and challenges were listed by survey respondents, with the most frequently mentioned in bold:

- **Sidewalks and accessibility**
- **Preservation of the natural setting**
- **Security**

- Noise and light pollution
- Flooding and water retention issues related to creek overflow.

Future Park Usage

Finally, survey respondents were asked to think about the future of Wooten Meadow Park and the different activities and amenities that would be appropriate for the park site. In regards to potential amenities, the top three selections included:

- Walking or running trails (50 percent)
- Park benches (42 percent)
- Playgrounds (38 percent)

Likewise, when asked about the types of activities for the future park, the most common responses included:

- Playgrounds that are attractive for all ages and encourage active play and learning while keeping with the natural setting
- Nature paths and wetland boardwalks that encourage walking, bicycling, and nature observation
- Educational opportunities surrounding the natural setting, wildlife viewing, and historic sites
- Open space and green space that encourage different types of free play while also supporting other activities like picnics or meditation

Citizen Planning Committee Identification

A major component of the Wooten Meadow Park Master Plan process and development is community engagement through the formation of a Citizen Planning Committee (CPC). The role of the CPC is to act as a representative group of the larger community host public meetings, and to provide ongoing direction and feedback on the development of the park master plan.

Volunteers for the CPC were solicited through the Community Survey and identified by other stakeholders in the community. All individuals interested in the committee participated in a brief telephone interview to collect information on their knowledge and understanding of the community context, comfort level working in groups, and any special skills or knowledge that would be an asset to the CPC. See Appendix G for a copy of the interview guide.

The Project Team reviewed the interview results and sought to establish a CPC that was representative of the project area interests and demographics. The following criteria were used in the selection process:

- A balance of homeowners along the perimeter of the park property and homeowners living throughout the project area
- A balance in age, consistent with the project area demographics
- A balance of households with children, consistent with the project area demographics

- A balance in housing tenure

The following individuals are recommended for inclusion on the CPC for the Wooten Meadow Park Master Plan. Additionally, two representatives from the Parks, Recreation, Greenway Advisory Board will participate in the CPC and will be named at a later date.

Name	Representation
Stephanie Avett	North Forest
Maggie Barlow	Brookhaven
Eric Childs	Adjacent Property Owner
Carol Clagett	Brookhaven
Michael Durham	Adjacent Property Owner
Kevin Kurton	Turnberry
Caroline Landen	Adjacent Property Owner
Ryan Moore	Holland Park
Carole Sawicki	Adjacent Property Owner
Ralph Sherwin	Hampton Oaks
Joanna Smothers	Brookhaven
Cathy Sprankle	Brookhaven
Julie White	Brookhaven – north of Millbrook
Allison Wilkerson	Adjacent Property Owner
To be determined	*Parks, Recreation, Greenway Advisory Board*
To be determined	*Parks, Recreation, Greenway Advisory Board*

Community Needs and Issues

After all of the feedback collected through the Community Survey and interviews with Stakeholders and potential CPC members were reviewed and summarized, several community needs and issues were identified as key factors to be considered in the planning process. Throughout the development of the Wooten Meadow Park Master Plan, the Project Team and CPC will continue to refer the following issues to ensure that the park is meeting the needs of the surrounding community.

Safety and Security

Several homeowners adjacent to the park site expressed concerns over previous issues of trespassing or attempted break-ins. Several persons emphasized that while they would like to see a park that is inviting to visit, it should be designed primarily for the neighbors as opposed to becoming a destination park that draws large crowds. The general consensus among those who provided feedback is that the park should be designed in a way that encourages people to visit yet deters crime and keeps both park users and neighbors safe.

Sidewalks and Accessibility

Traffic volume and speed were noted as issues along West Millbrook Road and Leesville Road as well as on the neighborhood streets. Due to the proximity of York Elementary and the lack of sidewalks throughout the neighborhood, many community members reported safety concerns while walking or bicycling on the side streets and hoped that Wooten Meadow Park could provide a place to do these activities.

Additionally, connectivity to the neighborhood and other greenways was suggested as a strategy to support safe pedestrian activity. While City of Raleigh planning staff noted sidewalk projects to fill the gaps along West Millbrook Road, the intersection with Leesville Road was noted by several to be particularly dangerous. Crosswalks, signage, and/or other roadway design elements could be considered in the future to support safe pedestrian and bicycling traffic across the intersection. This is especially important if a greenway connection to Lake Lynn is considered in the future.

Noise and Light Pollution

Noise and light pollution is a major concern for homeowners with properties adjacent to the park property. These concerns stem from past park uses and the interest in preserving the wildlife as well as the overall topographic landform of the park, which one neighbor noted as 'acting like an amphitheater,' and another a 'sound canyon.' Some interviewees suggested that park hours combined with amenities that encourage passive park uses could act as potential solutions.

Preservation of the Natural Setting

Many interviewees noted the importance of parks to provide refuge from the urban setting, especially for people living in high density developments. Open green space and tranquil settings allow the wildlife and environment to flourish while also providing opportunities for passive park enjoyment or unorganized activity. With several parks in close proximity, specifically Brookhaven Nature Park, many survey respondents and interviewees felt it was important for the park to not duplicate the nearby parks. Instead, the park should be designed in a way that enhances the unique features of the site and acts as a passive recreation area with minimal structured play.

Preserve Unique Land Characteristics

Wooten Meadow Park has many unique natural features such as Hare Snipe Creek, many small watercourses, the open field, and collections of trees. As noted in the SIP, there are many natural micro environments with specific unique flora conditions related to their specific location within the site. The

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site also has several man-made land characteristics, most notably related the former dam and some recently uncovered historic usages. Although none of the community survey respondents were aware of the historic sites on the park property, many said they would like to see this preserved and considered in the park master plan.

Neighborhood Demographics

Many of those interviewed noted that the surrounding neighborhoods are well established, with very little homeowner turnover. However, over the past few years, the older residents have been moving out and are being replaced for younger, newer families. Therefore, there is interest from the residents in creating a space that meets the needs of diverse age groups and interests.

Community Pride

Although there is a lot of community interest in the future of Wooten Meadow Park, few people have had much experience at the park beyond seeing the park from West Millbrook Road. In fact, many stated feeling the park looked abandoned or unused which some feel may concern unwanted or illegal activity. Many interviewees said that parks are an opportunity for community pride and would like to see the current site developed into something that is an asset to the neighbors, rather than a point of contention.

Next Steps

Following appointment by the City Council, the Citizen Planning Committee (CPC) will begin meeting in late 2014. The CPC will work with the Project Team to develop a preliminary park vision, goals, and begin to develop strategies to address the issues and concerns outlined in the approved Situational Assessment.

Several Public Workshops will be held at major milestones throughout the process, with the goal of the first workshop taking place early 2015. The Park Master Plan process will end with a presentation and approval of the Wooten Park Master Plan to the Parks, Recreation, Greenway Advisory Board and City Council expected to begin in the Fall of 2015.

The Situational Assessment will continuously be referred to throughout the process to ensure that the Master Plan development incorporates the community's concerns and feedback collected through the interviews and Community Survey results. The Project Team will also continue to engage the community in the process through online notifications, targeted mailings, project webpage updates, and the use of the City of Raleigh MindMixer site for open and informal discussions. Ongoing and transparent communication with the surrounding community will be essential to the success of the Wooten Meadow Park Master Plan. The Project Team, along with the CPC, will work diligently to develop a plan that lays the groundwork for transforming this park into a community asset.

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Appendices

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Appendix A: Demographic Characteristics

Age

Geography	Total Adult Population	Age							
		0-19		20-39		40-59		60+	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
CT 525.06 BG 1	1,471	257	17.5%	343	23.3%	383	26.0%	488	33.2%
CT 525.06 BG 2	513	98	19.1%	83	16.2%	107	20.9%	225	43.9%
CT 525.07 BG 1	892	158	17.7%	408	45.7%	189	21.2%	137	15.4%
CT 525.07 BG 2	1,769	404	22.8%	507	28.7%	603	34.1%	255	14.4%
CT 537.14 BG 2	2,147	568	26.5%	708	33.0%	531	24.7%	340	15.8%
CT 537.26 BG 1	2,050	341	16.6%	1,072	52.3%	432	21.1%	205	10.0%
Study Area	**8,842**	**1,826**	**20.7%**	**3,121**	**35.3%**	**2,245**	**25.4%**	**1,650**	**18.7%**
Wake County	**879,658**	**253,993**	**28.9%**	**266,563**	**30.3%**	**246,690**	**28.0%**	**112,412**	**12.8%**

Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year Estimates (2007-2011), Table B01001, "Sex By Age."

Family Households

Family Households	Total Households	Family Households		Related Children Under 18 Years	
		#	%	#	%
CT 525.06 BG 1	644	364	56.5%	124	19.3%
CT 525.06 BG 2	320	187	58.4%	96	30.0%
CT 525.07 BG 1	464	218	47.0%	78	16.8%
CT 525.07 BG 2	763	480	62.9%	251	32.9%
CT 537.14 BG 2	854	544	63.7%	261	30.6%
CT 537.26 BG 1	1,072	514	47.9%	303	28.3%
Study Area	**4,117**	**2,307**	**56.0%**	**1,113**	**27.0%**

Source: US Census Bureau, 2010 Census, QT-P11. "Households and Families: 2010"

Ethnicity

Geography	Total Population	White		Black or African American		American Indian and Alaska Native		Asian		Native Hawaiian/Pacific		Some Other Race		Two or More Races		Total Non-White	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
CT 525.06 BG 1	1,471	1,371	93.2%	35	2.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	65	4.4%	100	6.8%
CT 525.06 BG 2	513	415	80.9%	98	19.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	98	19.1%
CT 525.07 BG 1	892	713	79.9%	44	4.9%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	79	8.9%	56	6.3%	179	20.1%
CT 525.07 BG 2	1,769	1,085	61.3%	684	38.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	684	38.7%
CT 537.14 BG 2	2,147	1,365	63.6%	574	26.7%	12	0.6%	196	9.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	782	36.4%
CT 537.26 BG 1	2,050	560	27.3%	888	43.3%	0	0.0%	50	2.4%	0	0.0%	552	26.9%	0	0.0%	1,490	72.7%
Study Area	**8,842**	**5,509**	**62.3%**	**2,323**	**26.3%**	**12**	**0.1%**	**246**	**2.8%**	**0**	**0.0%**	**631**	**7.1%**	**121**	**1.4%**	**3,333**	**37.7%**
Wake County	**879,658**	**598,722**	**68.1%**	**182,589**	**20.8%**	**2,710**	**0.3%**	**46,210**	**5.3%**	**95**	**0.0%**	**33,357**	**0.0%**	**15,975**	**1.8%**	**247,579**	**28.1%**

Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year Estimates (2007-2011), Table B02001, "Race."

Minority Status

Hispanic or Latino Origin	Total Population	Hispanic		Not Hispanic	
		#	%	#	%
CT 525.06 BG 1	1,471	0	0.0%	1,471	100.0%
CT 525.06 BG 2	513	0	0.0%	513	100.0%
CT 525.07 BG 1	892	79	8.9%	813	91.1%
CT 525.07 BG 2	1,769	11	0.6%	1,758	99.4%
CT 537.14 BG 2	2,147	0	0.0%	2,147	100.0%
CT 537.26 BG 1	2,050	573	28.0%	1,477	72.0%
Study Area	**8,842**	**663**	**7.5%**	**8,179**	**92.5%**
Wake County	**879,658**	**83,115**	**9.4%**	**796,543**	**90.6%**

Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year Estimates

Age Spoken, Adult Population

Geography	Total Adult Population, 18 years and older	Primary Language Group of Persons Who Speak English Less than Very Well							
		Spanish		Other Indo-Euro		Asian/Pacific		Other	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
CT 525.06 BG 1	836	52	6.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
CT 525.06 BG 2	238	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
CT 525.07 BG 1	648	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
CT 525.07 BG 2	1,190	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	14	1.0%
CT 537.14 BG 2	1,347	0	0.0%	0	0.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
CT 537.26 BG 1	1,558	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	9	0.5%	0	0.0%
Study Area	**5,817**	**52**	**0.9%**	**0**	**0.0%**	**9**	0.1%	**14**	0.2%

Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year Estimates (2007-2011),Table B16004, "Age by Language

Poverty Status

Poverty	Total Population for whom Poverty Status is Determined	Below Poverty Level		Very Poor: Under 50% of Poverty Level		Near Poor: Between 100% and 150% of Poverty Level	
		#	%	#	%	#	%
CT 525.06 BG 1	1,471	27	1.8%	27	1.8%	0	0.0%
CT 525.06 BG 2	513	21	4.1%	13	2.5%	0	0.0%
CT 525.07 BG 1	892	63	7.1%	21	2.4%	2	0.2%
CT 525.07 BG 2	1,769	396	22.4%	358	20.2%	91	5.1%
CT 537.14 BG 1	2,147	364	17.0%	39	1.8%	180	8.4%
CT 537.26 BG 2	2,050	306	14.9%	199	9.7%	166	8.1%
Study Area	**8,842**	**1,177**	**13.3%**	**657**	**7.4%**	**439**	**5.0%**
Wake County	**858,079**	**86,939**	**10.1%**	**39,032**	**4.5%**	**63,297**	**7.4%**

Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year Estimates (2007-2011), Table C17002,

Appendix B: Informational Handout

The following informational handout was distributed at the Northwest CAC meeting on September 9, 2014 and is available for viewing on the project webpage.

Wooten Meadow Park Master Plan

Information Handout

Overview

The City of Raleigh Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department is initiating a Master Plan process for Wooten Meadow Park. The 21.1 acre site is located at 2801 West Millbrook Road (aka 6499 Leesville Road) - at the intersection of Leesville Road and W. Millbrook Road in Northwest Raleigh. In 1996, the land was donated by the Wooten family for the use of the citizens of Raleigh as a park and/or greenway.

Wooten Meadow Park is currently mostly undeveloped, with 70 percent of the land restricted by its location within a floodplain. Existing park features include a park sign, small parking area (accessed from Millbrook), swing-set, and a multi-use open field. More information about existing conditions of the park, including its natural elements and historic usages, can be found in the draft Systems Integration Plan.

Site and project information will be available beginning *Tuesday, September 9, 2014 at*:
- The Northwest citizen Advisory Committee Meeting, 7PM, Northwest Police District, 8016 Glenwood Avenue
- Launch of the Project Webpage (Go to www.raleighnc.gov and search "Wooten Meadow Park Master Plan")

Wooten Meadow Park Master Plan Process

The project team will work with citizens to develop a Master Plan that builds on park design concepts and recommends park features and development stages. Wooten Meadow Park is classified as a neighborhood park and, as such, will fully consider recreation needs within walking distance to the site.

There are several phases in the Master Plan process:

The project is currently in the Site and Community Assessment phase, through 2014. The entire Master Plan process will take approximately 15 months to complete. A Citizen Planning Committee (CPC) will be appointed by the Raleigh City Council to represent community interests, establish community consensus, and direct the Master Plan process. In addition to the CPC meetings, several public workshops will be held throughout 2015 to further involve the community.

Funding in the amount of $115,000 has been allocated for the Master Plan phase. There is limited funding currently designated to advance the master plan into a first phase of site improvements.

www.raleighnc.gov/parkplan

Appendix C: Community Survey

Hardcopies of the Community Survey were distributed at the Northwest CAC meeting on September 9, 2014. It was also available for download on the project webpage and was also available through a link to an online version supported by Constant Contact.

Wooten Meadow Park Master Plan

Community Survey

The City of Raleigh Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department invites you to provide feedback on the future plans for Wooten Meadow Park located in Northwest Raleigh, at the intersection of West Millbrook and Leesville Roads (2801 West Millbrook Road). The City is undertaking a master planning effort for the park. The information collected from the following survey will help guide the project team in the planning process. Thank you for your time and participation.

Please fill out this survey and submit it to the email address noted at the end of the survey. If you would like to complete this survey online please go to: http://tinyurl.com/WMMPSurvey

Household Information

Name (Optional) _____

Address or Neighborhood _____

How long have you lived in your current address?	○ Less than a year	○ 1-3 years	○ 4-6 years	○ 7+years	
What is your age?	○ Under 18	○ 18-40 years	○ 40-60	○ Over 60	
How many adults in your household?	○ 1	○ 2	○ 3	○ 4+	
How many children in your household?	○ 0	○ 1	○ 2	○ 3	○ 4+
Is there a group or organization that you can represent?	○ Yes	○ No	Name of organization: _____		

Your Wooten Meadow Park Experience, Ideas, and Interests

Please summarize your knowledge level of and experience with Wooten Meadow Park. _____

How often do you visit Wooten Meadow Park?

○ *Weekly* ○ *Monthly* ○ *Annually* ○ *I do not visit Wooten Meadow*

How would you ideally get to Wooten Meadow Park?

○ *Walk* ○ *Bike* ○ *Drive* *Your preferred access point?* _____

www.raleighnc.gov/parkplan

Wooten Meadow Park Master Plan

What types of activities do you currently engage in at Wooten Meadow Park?

- ○ *Run/Walk/Exercise*
- ○ *Open Play*
- ○ *Nature Exploration*
- ○ *Other: (please describe)*

_____

What are the biggest needs and challenges that you see in the neighborhoods surrounding Wooten Meadow Park? _____

_____

What types of activities can you imagine at Wooten Meadow Park? _____

_____

Do you know of specific groups interested in Wooten Meadow Park as a space for potential use? If so, please help us identify them as potential stakeholders. _____

_____

Please indicate if you have information to share about historic uses, site conditions, or other topics that the Master Plan should explore. _____

_____

What types of issues should be addressed in the Wooten Meadow Park Master Plan?

- ○ *Safety*
- ○ *Water Retention/flooding*
- ○ *Preservation of Natural Settings*
- ○ *Children's Activities*
- ○ *Social Engagement*
- ○ *Other: (please describe)*_____

What types of amenities would you like to see at Wooten Meadow Park?

- ○ *Playground*
- ○ *Walking/Running Trails*
- ○ *Park Benches*
- ○ *Shelters*
- ○ *Multi-use Courts*
- ○ *Multi-use Fields*
- ○ *Other: (Please describe)*_____

What other comments or ideas do you have on the future of Wooten Meadow Park? _____

_____

Wooten Meadow Park Master Plan

Existing Parks/Greenway System Usage

Do you use the Capital Area Greenway System? ○ Yes ○ No

If yes, which greenway do you use most often? Where do you access it? _____

_____

When on the greenway, what types of activities do you engage in?

○ *Run/Walk* ○ *Biking* ○ *Nature Exploration*

What other City of Raleigh Parks do you visit? _____

_____

What types of activities do you engage in at other City of Raleigh parks?

○ *Run/Walk/Exercise* ○ *Play Ball Games* ○ *Community/Social Gatherings* ○ *Organized Sports*

○ *Use Playgrounds* ○ *Other: (please describe)* _____

Opportunities for Further Participation

The City of Raleigh Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department is soliciting volunteers to serve on a Citizen's Planning Committee to lead the development of the Wooten Meadow Park Master Plan. The committee will be appointed by the Raleigh City Council as early as November 2014 and is expected to meet on a bi-monthly basis through 2015. Are you interested in serving on this committee?

○ Yes ○ No

If interested, please provide your name and the best method to contact you?

Name _____

Email _____

Phone _____

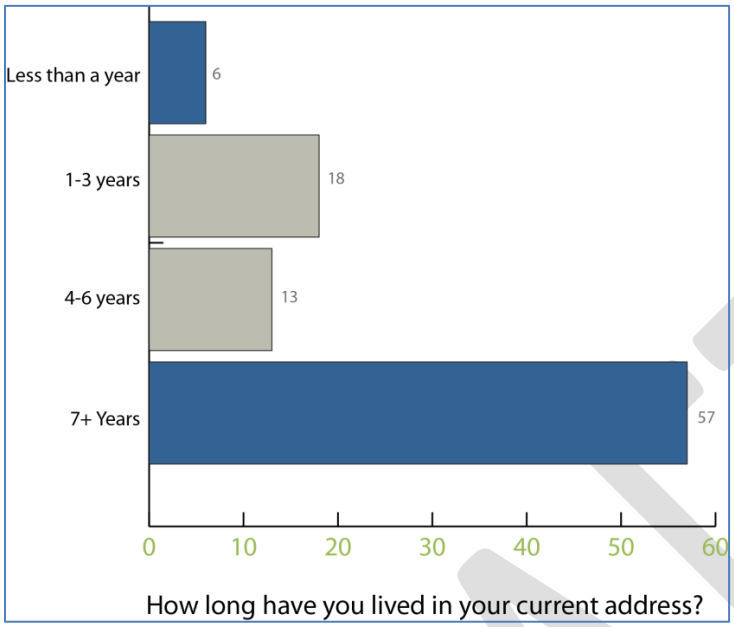
The City of Raleigh would like to ensure that the concerns of those living in the surrounding area are represented in the planning process. Please identify any additional individuals or groups/organizations you think would be interested in the Citizen's Planning Committee or should be contacted regarding the future of Wooten Meadow Park. _____

_____

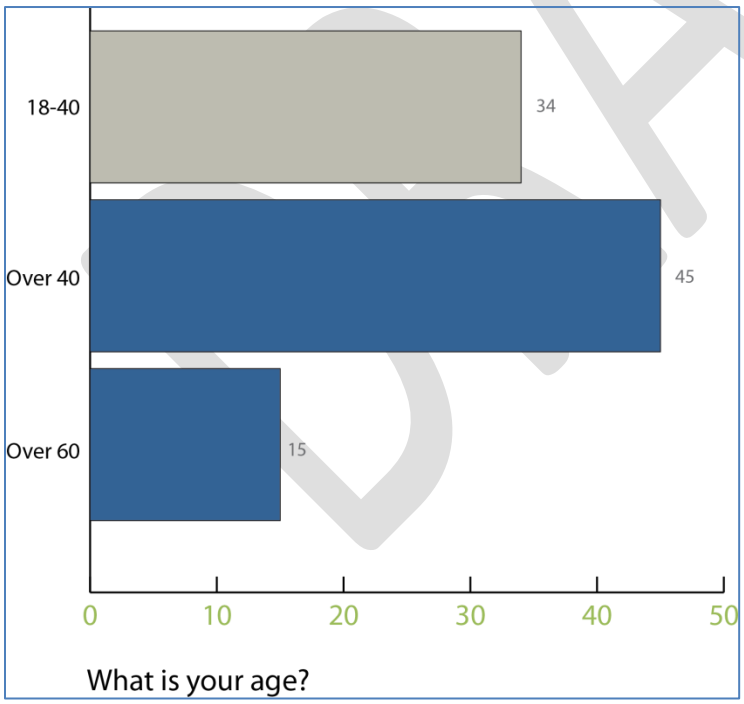
Questions or Comments? Please contact Matthew Keough, City of Raleigh Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resource, at:
Matthew.Keough@raleighnc.gov
919.996.2654

www.raleighnc.gov/parkplan

Appendix D: Community Survey Results



Question 3



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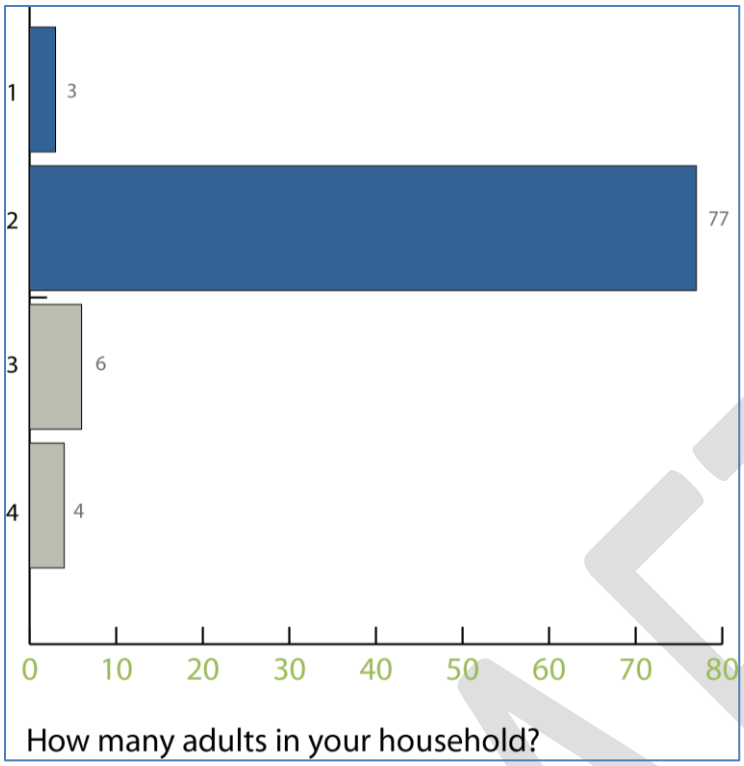

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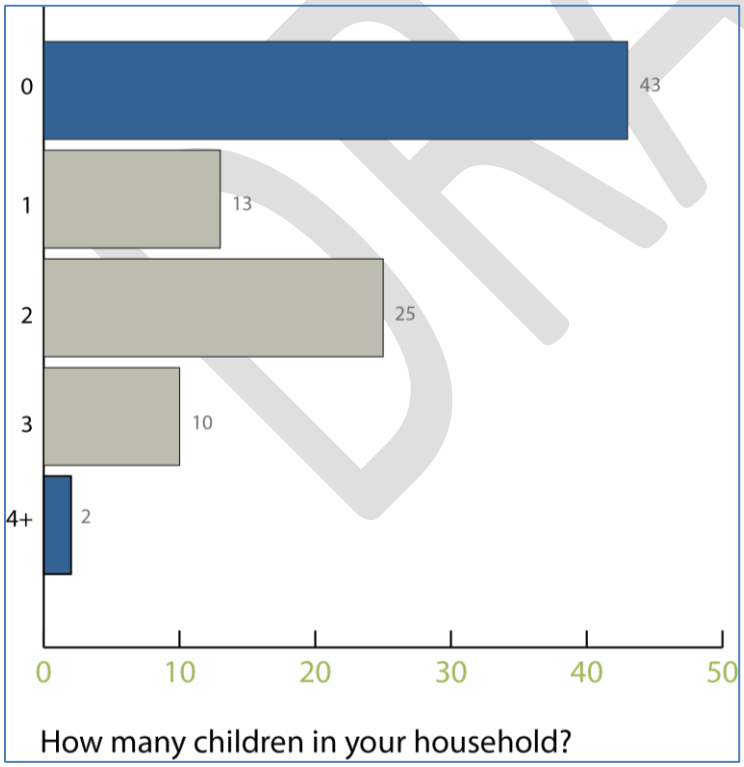

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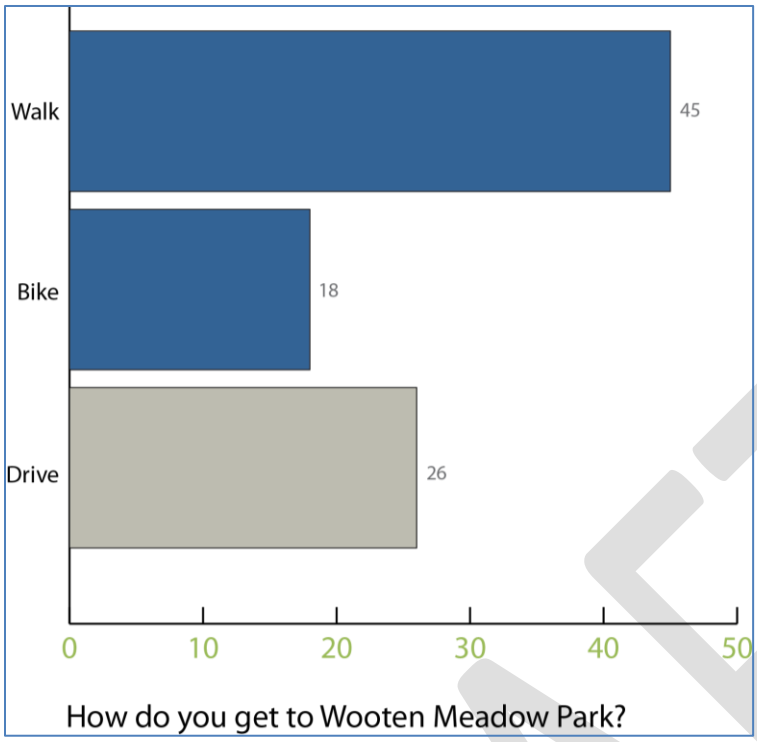

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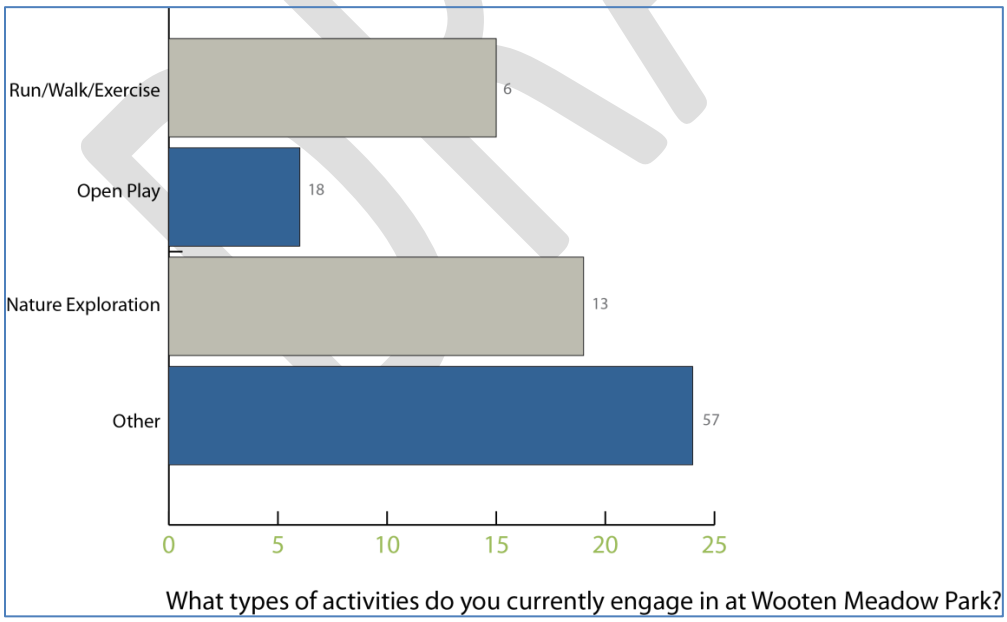

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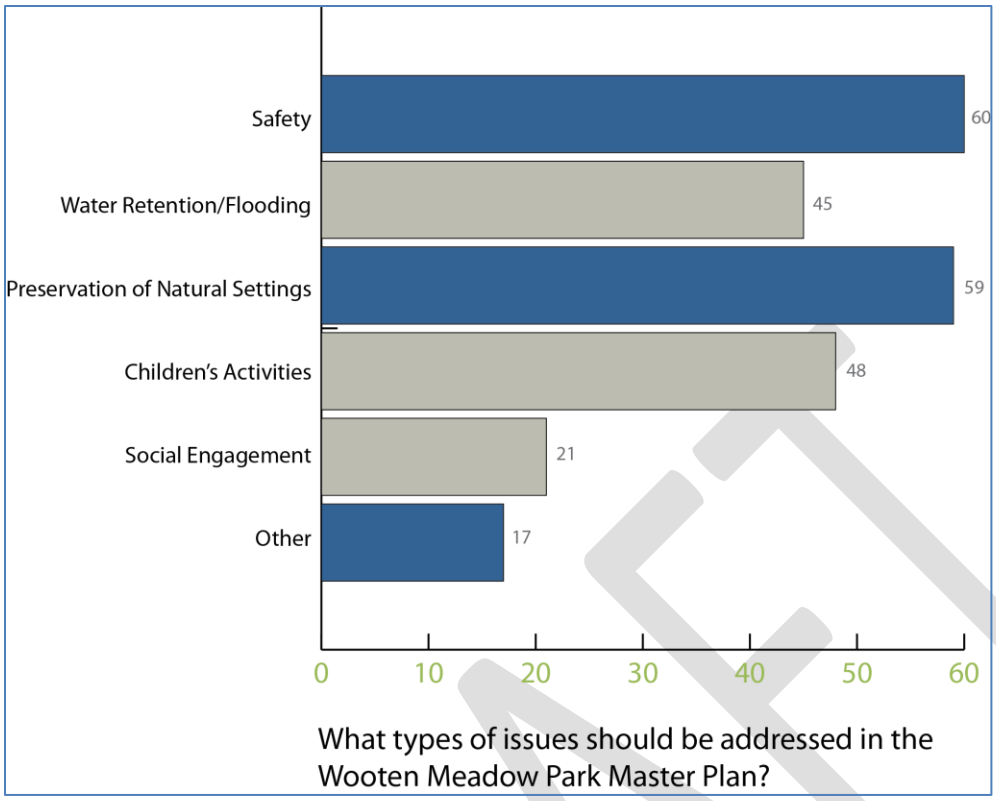

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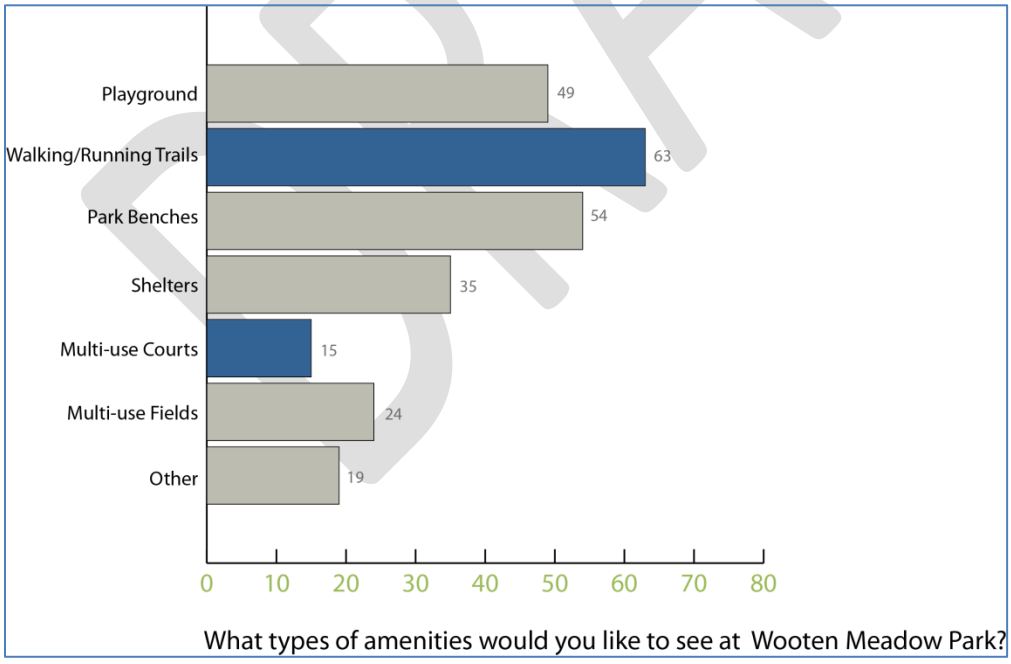
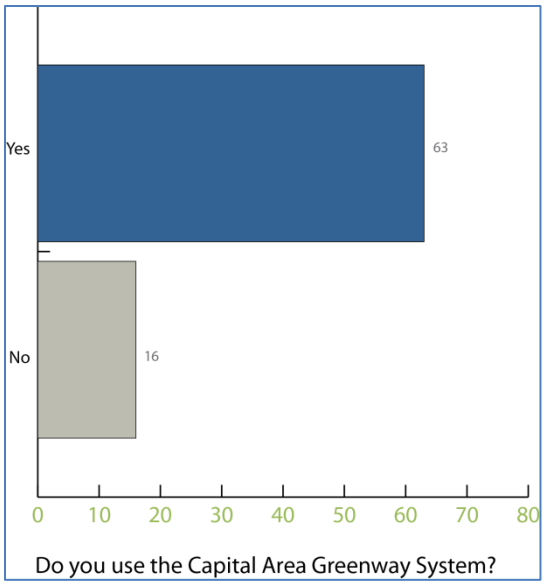


Question 17

DRAFT



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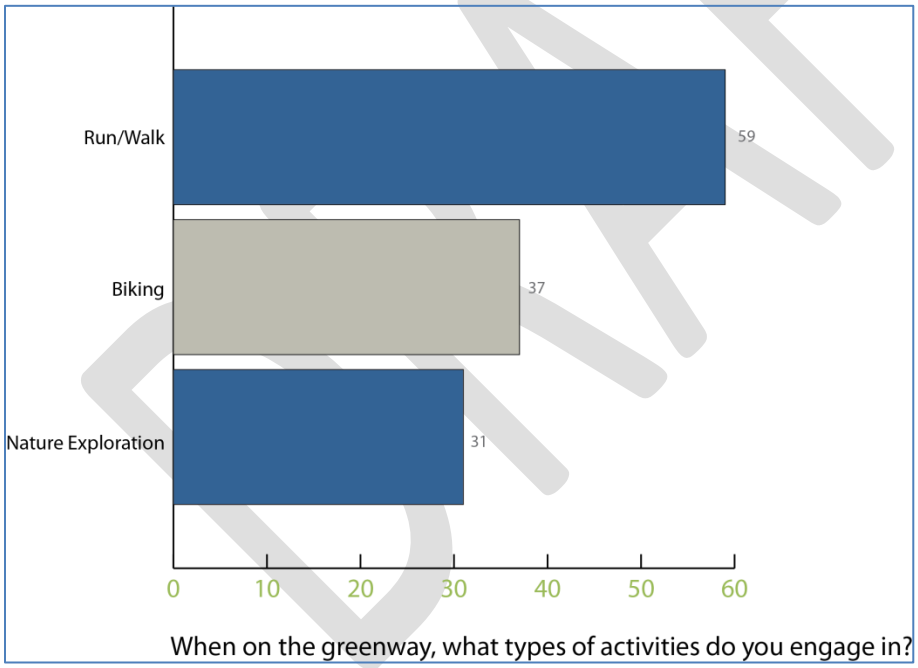

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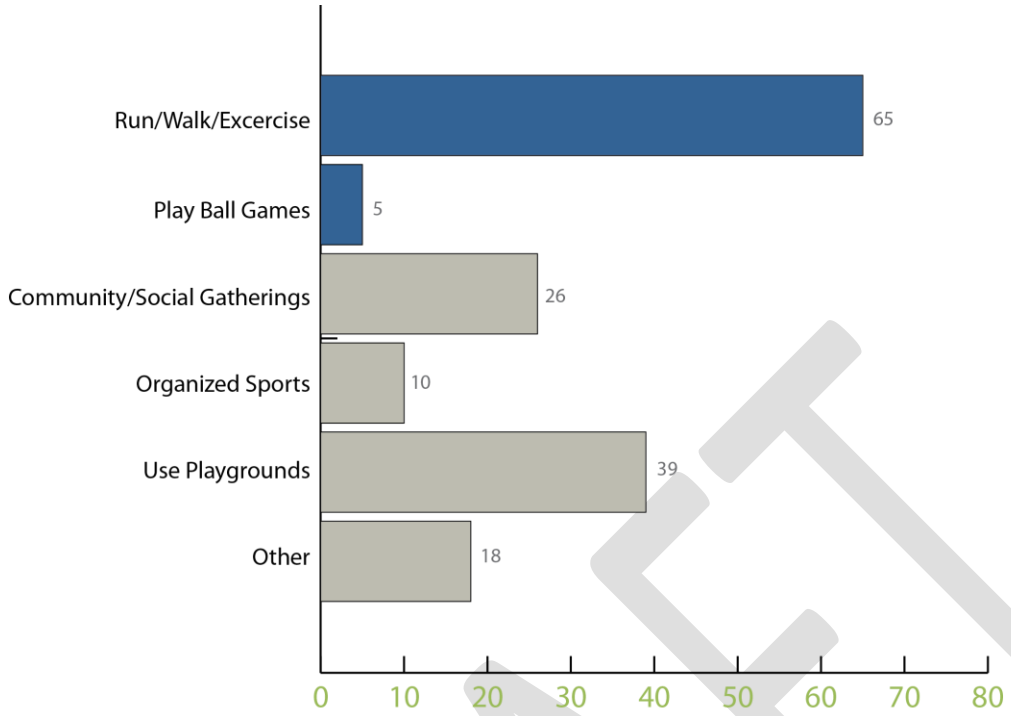

What types of activities do you engage in at other City of Raleigh Parks?

Question 23

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Appendix E: Stakeholder Interviews

Name	Organization
Ashley Davis	Brookhaven Resident, Adjacent Property Owner
Anne Clap	Brookhaven Resident, Adjacent Property Owner
William Hubbard	The Timbers Apartment Homes, Property Manager
Eric Lamb	City of Raleigh, Office of Transportation
Kelvin Morgan	City of Raleigh, Parks Department
Jason Wilkerson	Brookhaven Resident, Adjacent Property Owner
Louis Wooten	Wooten Family

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Appendix F: Community Stakeholder Interview Guide

.

Name: _____

Organization represented: _____

Have you taken the Community Survey? ☐ Yes ☐ No

1. **Please describe your familiarity or knowledge of Wooten Meadow Park?**

2. **What is your understanding of the community's interests or concerns regarding the future of Wooten Meadow Park?**

3. **Are you familiar with any historic uses at Wooten Meadow Park? Please describe.**

4. **Are you aware of any potential community concerns surrounding the project or in the area? Please describe.**

5. **Are you familiar with any future projects or initiatives that may change the community needs or concerns? This may include development, infrastructure expansion, or transportation projects.**

6. **If it were left up to you, what future would you see for the park?**

7. **Are there any individuals and groups/organizations that you think should be engaged in the Wooten Meadow Park Master Plan process?**

8. **What engagement opportunities have you experienced to be the most successful for engaging and connecting with the citizens living in this area? For example – emails, postcards, signage, etc.**

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9. **Please provide any other comments or ideas that you have for the Wooten Meadow Park.**

10. **The City of Raleigh Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department is soliciting volunteers to serve on a Citizen Planning Committee to lead in the development of the Wooten Meadow Park Master Plan. The committee will be appointed by the Raleigh City Council as early as November 2014 and is expected to meet on a bi-monthly schedule through 2015. Are you interested in serving on this committee or can you identify any individuals you believe should be considered for this committee?**

11. **The City of Raleigh would like to ensure that the concerns of those living in the surrounding area are represented in the planning process. Please identify any additional groups/organizations you think would be interested in the Citizen Planning Committee or should be contacted regarding the future of Wooten Meadow Park.**

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Appendix G: Potential CPC Member Interview Guide

Name: _____

Street/Neighborhood: _____

Organization represented: _____

Years lived in current address: Less than a year 1-3 years 4-6 years 7+ years

Age group: Under 18 18-40 years 40-60 Over 60

Adults in household: 1 2 3 4+

Children in household: 0 1 2 3 4+

1. **Please describe how you and/or your family use City of Raleigh parks and/or greenways. For example, what parks do you regularly visit? How often do you visit? What activities do you like to engage in while visiting?**

2. **What role do you believe parks play in the community?**

3. **What needs do you believe should be considered in planning a park?**

4. **Please describe your familiarity with and/or your experiences with Wooten Meadow Park?**

5. **What is your understanding of the community's interests or concerns regarding the future of Wooten Meadow Park?**

6. **What interests or concerns from the community do you feel you can well represent?**

7. **Why are you interested in serving on the Citizen Planning Committee?**

8. **What special knowledge, skills, or interests do you have that you feel would help the committee?**

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9. **What is your comfort level participating in a larger group or team setting?**

10. **What type of role do you typically play in a group setting?**

11. **Have you ever been involved in a group that worked together to resolve a problem? If yes, please describe the role you played and how the group was able to reach a decision.**

12. **It is expected that the CPC will meet several times over the course of the project. This will include up to seven CPC meetings, up to four public workshops, and one City Council meeting. These meetings are all part of the participation process and consistent attendance will be essential for your understanding of the project and feedback for the project team. What are the best days and times for you to meet?**

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
MORNING						
AFTERNOON						
EVENING						

13. **Can you anticipate any obligations that may limit your participation in the project?**

14. **What other comments do you have regarding your interest in this project?**

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