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## Budget Allocates Funds for Cameron Village Study

The City of Raleigh will conduct a comprehensive planning study of the Cameron Village area.

The City's Fiscal Year (FY) 2013-14 budget, adopted by the City Council on June 18, sets aside \$200,000 for the Cameron Village Small Area Study. The study is part of the Planning Department's work plan for FY14.

The Cameron Village Small Area Study will address land use, traffic, mobility, access and safety concerns related to increases in residential and commercial development in the area. It will provide an in-depth evaluation of the overall performance of Cameron Village's roadway and multimodal network under at least three future development scenarios. The study will also produce a report containing a prioritized list of recommended transportation improvements and guidance regarding the most appropriate future land-use and zoning classifications for the area.

Input from property owners in Cameron Village and other members of the general public will be sought during the year-long study.

For more information, contact Mitchell Silver, Chief Planning and Development Officer, 919-996-2625.

## Limited Repair Program Budget Gets Boost

Raleigh City Council on July 2 approved a recommendation from the Budget and Economic Development Committee to increase the annual budget of the Limited Repair Program budget and to raise the maximum loan amounts for loans made under the program to Raleigh households with low incomes.

The program's annual budget, administered by the City of Raleigh Community Development Department, was increased from \$200,000 to \$300,000 and the maximum per-household loan was increased from \$5,000 to \$7,500.

The City's Limited Repair Program helps home owners with low incomes whose homes are located in the city limits pay for repairs required by violations of city code, or due to situations posing a health or safety risk. Examples include, but are not limited to, repairs to: damaged or leaking roofs, faulty plumbing, electrical problems, unsafe porches and decks, unsafe flooring, damaged walls and ceilings; and removal of lead paint and asbestos.

Total household income must be at or below 50 percent of the area median income for the owner to qualify for a loan. Payment of the no-interest loan can be deferred or forgiven if the homeowner meets the program's requirements. The home must be the primary residence of the owner for five full years after completion of the repairs, all insurance and taxes must be kept current, and other requirements must be met for the property owner to qualify for loan forgiveness.

The program, administered through a contract with Resources for Seniors, is funded by revenues from the 2011 bond. More than 30 home owners qualified for the program in Fiscal Year 2013.

For more information, visit [www.raleighnc.gov](http://www.raleighnc.gov) and enter "limited repair program" in the search window, or call the City of Raleigh Community Development Department at 919-996-4330.

## Mayor Nancy McFarlane's Statement Regarding the City's Audit of the RB&TC and Subsequent Actions



The Raleigh Business and Technology Center, Inc. (RBTC) is an agency that operates out of a City-owned facility located at 900 S. Wilmington Street. Although not a part of the City, for a number of years the City has contracted with RBTC, Inc. as a business incubator and the provider of other training services.

Due to its contract relationship with the RBTC, the City of Raleigh initiated and conducted an audit of the RBTC contract that brought several financial and programmatic non-compliance issued to officials' attention.

As a result of these significant issues found in the internal audit, the City is taking the following actions:

- The City is not pursuing a contract for fiscal year 2013-14 with the RBTC, Inc.;
- The City is requesting RBTC, Inc. to vacate the City-owned facility at 900 S. Wilmington Street as of July 31, 2013; and,
- The City is notifying tenants of the City-owned facility at 900 S. Wilmington Street that they may negotiate short-term lease agreements with the City for continuation of their current arrangements.

The City also will begin a review of future uses of the facility that are consistent with the original City objective for a business incubator that is of value to the overall economic development of the City as well as the stakeholder community interest.

This review will be managed through a collaborative effort of the City Manager's Office, The City of Raleigh Planning and Development Department and other appropriate areas. The City anticipates that the review will occur within six months and that, based on this review, the City will make decision on how to move forward.

The City has referred the findings of the internal audit to the Raleigh Police Department, which will refer it to the Wake County District Attorney if appropriate.

## Buck Jones Road Final Design Meeting to Be Held July 11

The City of Raleigh will hold a public meeting on the final design of Buck Jones Road improvements on Thursday, July 11, Hope Community Church, 821 Buck Jones Road.

A preliminary design meeting was held in January 2012. Based on citizen input from that meeting, the City's engineering consultant has completed the design for the project. The July 11 meeting will

be an open house with representatives from the City of Raleigh and the design consultant available for questions regarding the project.

The proposed project will widen Buck Jones Road beginning near Farm Gate Road and extending to Xebec Way. Street improvements will include two proposed roundabouts at Farm Gate Road and Bashford Road and a center turn lane at the remaining intersections along the project. The widened roadway will include marked bicycle lanes, curbs, gutters, culvert replacement near Bashford Road, and new streetlights. Sidewalks will be provided on both sides of Buck Jones Road from Farm Gate Road to Xebec Way, and transit stops will be upgraded to include marked crosswalks and pedestrian refuge islands at mid-block crossings. A sidewalk will be installed on the west side of Buck Jones Road from Farm Gate Road to the existing bridge overpass of I-40.

The existing roadway is primarily two lanes with inadequate turn-lane accommodations at some intersections. The existing traffic volume is 10,400 vehicles per day with a projected traffic of 12,800 vehicles per day by 2035.

For more information, contact Cordis Yates-Thompson, Public Works Department, 919-996-3030 or by email at [cordis.yates-thompson@raleighnc.gov](mailto:cordis.yates-thompson@raleighnc.gov).



## Parks and Recreation Gains Cultural Resources

On July 2, the City Council approved renaming the Parks and Recreation Department the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department.

The title change recognizes the expanded scope and the importance of the City's cultural resources. Several citizen driven initiatives and priorities over the last several years have seen the expansion of resources that focus on the arts and historical programs and amenities. The newly established Cultural Resources section houses the Raleigh Arts and the Historic Resource and Museum areas.

Raleigh Arts administers the programs of the City of Raleigh Arts Commission, Public Art and Design Board and the Pullen and Sertoma Art Centers. The Historical Resources and Museum section oversees operations and programs at the Mordecai Historic Park, the City of Raleigh Museum, the Raleigh Trolley program, the Pope House, the Latta property, the Tucker House, the Borden Building and the Fred Fletcher Amphitheater/Stone Circle.

The City of Raleigh Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department manages more than 9700 acres of park land and more than 100 miles of greenway. In addition, the department offers a myriad of recreation, social and educational programs and activities for all ages and abilities.

For more information, contact Diane Sauer, Director, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department, 919-996-3285.

## **Southeast Raleigh Tennis Center Plan Approved**

The Raleigh City Council, on July 2, approved the schematic design for the planned Southeast Raleigh Tennis Center, and authorized City Parks and Recreation Department staff to proceed with development of construction documents and the bidding process for the project. The new state-of-the-art tennis center will be located at 3935 Barwell Road, near the Barwell Road Community Center and the Barwell Road Elementary School.

The \$5 million project will provide approximately 20 outdoor tennis courts (the first new tennis courts to be constructed by the City in 12 years), the first public indoor tennis court in Raleigh, a 4,000-square-foot center building, parking, and other amenities on an undeveloped site of slightly less than nine acres. The funding will be provided by revenues from the two-thirds bond fund Parks and Recreation bond issue approved in April 2012 and \$1 million in private donations. The project is scheduled for completion in late 2015.

The new tennis center will join the Millbrook Exchange Tennis Center and the Cary Tennis Center as the third facility in the Raleigh area capable of hosting large tennis tournaments. Similar in scale and features to the Millbrook Exchange Tennis Center, the center will be a destination location for interscholastic and intercollegiate matches and tournament and City league play. It also will provide court space for drop-in play by community residents.

The facility plan was developed with input from tennis stakeholders, local area residents and the Wake County Public School System.

For more information, visit [www.raleighnc.gov](http://www.raleighnc.gov) and enter "Southeast Raleigh Tennis Center" in the search window, or call 919-996-3285.

## **MLK Gardens Set to Bloom**

The Raleigh City Council, on July 2, approved the schematic design for the expansion of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Gardens. City staff was authorized to proceed with construction documents and the procurement of bids necessary to carry out the design.

The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Gardens were constructed in 1990. The park includes a memorial wall of 2,500 bricks inscribed with the names of local and national supporters of the facility. The wall surrounds a life-sized bronze statue of Dr. King and a 12-ton granite water monument serves as a memorial to the area's notable pioneers in the civil rights movement.



In 2012, the City established a Public Leadership Group consisting of representatives from several local organizations and held public meetings to solicit ideas and suggestions on the expansion of the memorial gardens. The City incorporated that feedback into a master plan and subsequently a schematic design that was presented to the public at additional meetings held last month.

One highlight of the expanded gardens will be a Civil Rights Path with future educational stations offering visitors an opportunity to learn key details and history about the struggle for racial equality in the United States. Other new features will include a masonry screen wall with a memorial to local civil rights leaders, a comfort station with drinking fountains, an expansive covered patio with grills, improved signage and lighting, additional parking, and additional seating.

The City has budgeted \$100,000 for the design services for the expansion. Dependent upon future budget approval, construction will begin in 2014. The City has budgeted approximately \$850,000 for the project's construction.

For more information, contact Lora Greco, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department, 919-996-4771.

## **City of Raleigh Recognizes High School Graduates**

On Saturday, June 29, the City of Raleigh Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department's Saint Monica Teen Center and the North Central Citizens Advisory Committee recognized this year's high school graduates that participated in the Saint Monica Teen Center, Teen Outreach Program, and Raleigh Youth Council.

Kevin Daniels served as the keynote speaker. Mr. Daniels serves as the AmeriCorp program officer for Governor Pat McCrory. AmeriCorp aims to improve lives, strengthen communities, and foster civic engagement through service and volunteering. Mr. Daniels previously served as the president of the Fredrick Douglas Foundation of North Carolina where he successfully built a statewide network to educate, enhance, and empower citizens to engage in community activism.

The mission of the Saint Monica Teen Center is to provide a safe place for teens to participate in quality program, activities, and have resources available to them in a positive recreational setting that will empower, develop, and encourage productive interactions with their peers while recognizing them as important members of the Raleigh community. The Saint Monica Teen Center opened in February 2011 as the first teen center operated by the City of Raleigh. It provides a wide range of programs and opportunities for teenagers. The facility houses a state-of-the-art technology room, teen lounge, fitness/dance room, multipurpose classroom, wall of history, and homework area. Activities include dance and music classes, homework assistance, fitness programs, Digital Connectors, Teen Advisory Board, educational/life skills programs,

and more. The Saint Monica Teen Center is open to ages 13-19 that are enrolled in school. While membership is required it is free of charge.

The Saint Monica Teen Center is located at 15 North Tarboro Street. For more information, contact Saint Monica Teen Center at 919-996-4770.

## Downtown Bus Facilities Master Plan Identifies Priorities

The Raleigh City Council, on July 2, received an update on the Downtown Bus Facilities Master Plan.

The master plan has two phases --- one on the Raleigh Union Station multi-modal facility and the other on improvements to the Moore Square Transit Station. The project's lead consultant, Parsons Brinckerhoff Inc., began working with City staff two months ago on developing a draft Downtown Bus Facilities Master Plan.

While still in the early stages of the process, the master plan team has identified priorities for both the new Union Station facility and the renovated Moore Square Transit Station. The priorities require all Downtown bus transit facilities to be:

- Accessible. Stations should be well connected to transit opportunities, key destinations, and major trip generators;
- Active. Stations should be a vibrant place with uses serving transit riders, visitors, local residents and employees alike;
- Comfortable. Stations and surrounding streets and other public spaces should be in a safe and welcoming place for passengers, neighborhood residents, and local employees; and,
- Legible (recognizable). Stations should be identifiable and inviting, places that people recognize and hold an image of in their minds.

This was the City Council's first scheduled update of the Downtown Bus Facilities Master Plan process. Additional public presentations and City Council updates will be provided throughout the process.

For more information about the Downtown Bus Facilities Master Plan, visit [www.raleighnc.gov/transit](http://www.raleighnc.gov/transit) or contact Gil Johnson, project manager, at 919-744-9363 or [Gil.Johnson@raleighnc.gov](mailto:Gil.Johnson@raleighnc.gov).

## Seven Projects Designed to Improve Raleigh Communities Are Approved

The Raleigh City Council, on July 2, unanimously approved funding for seven community enhancement projects. The projects will receive a total of \$181,617 in federal Community Development Block Grants.

The purpose of community enhancement projects is to provide programs for residents with low or moderate incomes or aid in the prevention of blighted conditions. Funding is allocated to local organizations or agencies to provide the projects.

City Council members agreed to fund the following community enhancement grant projects for Fiscal Year 2013-14, which began

on July 1. Listed are the host organization/agency, the project and the funding amount:

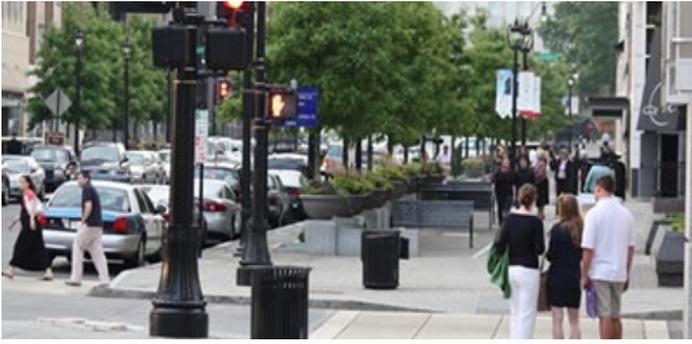
- Communities Organizing to Nurture and Celebrate East Raleigh Talent-After School Program. This program provides up to 250 students in east Raleigh schools with math, science and reading instruction to help them become grade-level proficient; \$35,000;
- SecurePath program at Lucy Daniels Center provides in-home mental health services for children from birth through age 5 (or entry into kindergarten) with demonstrable social and emotional challenges, \$35,000;
- Communities in Schools of Wake County-SMART Academy. In partnership with the Raleigh Housing Authority and the Wake County Public School System, the SMART Academy targets 500 students in grades kindergarten through 12 whose families reside in public housing. The academy offers academic remediation and acceleration through access to resources, including those online, offered in community-based learning centers, \$35,000;
- Haven House life skills classes. Two life skills classes will be offered per week with five students in each class for at least 48 weeks per year. Class topics include budgeting, job skills, and health education. Class participants will be provided a meal, transportation as needed, a pocket guide to independent living and a gift-card incentive following completion of the class; \$35,000;
- Urban Ministries-Helen Wright Center shower rehab and volunteer coordination software purchase. Software purchase and implementation will better coordinate the schedules of 1,500 program volunteers, freeing up valuable staff time for other needed activities. Also, two showers used by women at the Helen Wright Center are being rehabilitated to address cracking and leaking, \$6,867;
- Triangle Family Services-Financial Education expansion. Triangle Family Services is expanding its Financial Education program by offering "The Empowerment Zone" financial education workshop to residents of Carlton Place, an affordable rental housing development in Downtown Raleigh, and to residents in southeast Raleigh. Classroom space at Carlton Place will be used for the program, \$6,000; and,
- Southeastern Wake Adult Day Center-handicap accessibility ramp. The center plans to install a wheelchair ramp for seniors and people with disabilities who are served by center programs, \$28,750.

For more information, contact Michele Grant, Director, Community Development Department, 919-996-4330

## Input Sought on the Downtown Experience

The Downtown Raleigh Alliance and the city of Raleigh Urban Design Center are conducting four interactive listening sessions to gather impressions and perceptions of Downtown. The listening sessions are scheduled for:

- July 10 at the Millbrook Exchange Park and Community Center, 1905 Spring Forest Road, from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.;



- July 11 at the John Chavis Park and Community Center, 505 Martin Luther King Blvd, from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.;
- July 17 at the Carolina Pines Park and Community Center, 2305 Lake Wheeler Road, from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.; and,
- July 18 at the City of Raleigh Urban Design Center, 220 Fayetteville St., Suite 200, from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Rachel Freyer, a Master of Landscape Architecture candidate at the North Carolina State University College of Design, is managing the survey and listening sessions as part of her internship program with DRA.

For more information, contact Rachel.Freyer@raleighnc.gov or Trisha.Hasch@raleighnc.gov.

### Three Appointees Named To City Boards

During the City Council meeting on Tuesday, July 2, one new appointee and four reappointments were made to City of Raleigh boards and commissions.

Rodney Swink was appointed to the Raleigh Planning Commission. Candace Brown was appointed to the Human Relations Commission. Arnetta Adams-Brown was appointed to the Fair Housing Hearing Board.

Raleigh residents have the opportunity to volunteer their services to the City to serve without pay on various boards, commissions and committees. Some of these groups are established in the City Charter. Others are created by the Mayor or City Council to perform special, limited functions.

Where not specified by law, it is the City's policy to appoint citizens to serve two-year terms with a maximum of six consecutive years of service on any specific board or commission. Citizens may serve on no more than two commissions, boards or committees concurrently.

For more information, visit the City's website at [www.raleighnc.gov](http://www.raleighnc.gov) and enter "boards, commissions and committees" in the search box.

### Follow the City of Raleigh on Twitter

Looking for the most up-to-date information from the City of Raleigh? Follow your local government via Twitter! Twitter is a free services that allows you to "follow" people or subjects via short, frequent updates. The City of Raleigh now offers Twitter

users the opportunity to stay informed about the latest news and breaking events. To join in, visit [www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com).

Currently, the City maintains the following accounts:

- RaleighGov** - This feed features links to any news releases and alerts issued by the City of Raleigh;
- RaleighBPAC** - This feed features information from the City of Raleigh Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission;
- RaleighParks** - This feed features any news and information related to the City of Raleigh Parks and Recreation Department;
- RaleighPlanning** - This feed features any news and information related to the City of Raleigh Planning and Development Department;
- RalCommServices** - This feed features any news and information related to the City of Raleigh Community Services Department;
- RW911** - This feed features traffic accidents reported to the Emergency Communications Center;
- RaleighGoGreen** - This feed features news and information from the City of Raleigh Solid Waste Services Department Recycling program.
- RaleighPublicArt** - This feed features information about the City of Raleigh Arts Commission Public Art Program.

To follow any of these, simply choose "Find People" from your Twitter home page and type in the account name you are interested in and then click "follow." It's that easy.

### Follow the City of Raleigh on Facebook

- City of Raleigh** - The main City of Raleigh Facebook page keeps you informed about events, holidays and other news items.
- City of Raleigh Planning and Development** - The Raleigh Planning and Development page provides guidance for the growth, preservation and development of the City of Raleigh in order to maintain a community of lasting value.
- Community Services Department** - The Community Services Department Facebook page posts a variety of community and neighborhood news, stories, awards, classes and Citizen Advisory Council information.
- Emergency Communications** - The Raleigh-Wake County 911 Facebook page posts information on job openings, public engagement and other 911 related happenings.
- Raleigh Police Department** -The Raleigh Police Department Facebook page focuses on public safety. Posts concerning crime alerts, missing people, requests for citizen assistance and more.
- Raleigh Public Art** - Raleigh Arts Commission's Public Art program is an essential building block for the creation of engaging, imaginative spaces throughout the city.

### Traffic Alerts

For more City of Raleigh News and Updates on Road Closures, Parades and Road Races, visit the City's website at [www.raleighnc.gov](http://www.raleighnc.gov).

#### STREET CLOSINGS First Friday Closings

On First Friday of each month, from 6 p.m. to midnight, the 00 block of Hargett Street between Fayetteville Street and Wilmington Street will be closed. This closure will also include the south side sidewalk of the block.

### Wednesdays, Downtown Farmers Market

City Plaza will be closed for vehicular traffic from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. Road signs will be posted at each end of the block indicating that the road is closed ahead. Parking spaces on the block will remain open to the public.

### Kaplan Drive from Pineview Drive to Ravel Street

The 5200 block of Kaplan Drive from Pineview Drive to Ravel Street will be closed from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. for a stormwater project until September 9.

Sanderford Road will be closed from Griffin Circle to Elk Park Drive until July 17.

### Portion of Haymarket Lane to Remain Closed Through Sept. 9 Closure due to Drainage System Improvement Project

Haymarket Lane will remain closed to through traffic between Harps Mill Road and Vauxhill Drive until Monday, Sept. 9 as Moffat Pipe, Inc. continues work on the Harps Mill Road, Haymarket Lane and Favorwood Court drainage system improvement project.

The City of Raleigh's Stormwater Utility Division is coordinating the placement of new stormwater infrastructure along Haymarket Lane and behind and adjacent to private properties between Haymarket, Favorwood Court and Harps Mill Road. New 96-inch piping is being connected to the previously completed drainage project on Harps Mill Road. Also included are new storm drainage pipes and culverts, new catch basins and curb inlets to reduce street and flooding to adjacent homes. In addition to the drainage improvements, public sewer mains are being replaced as part of the project.

Area residents may use Audubon Drive, Knights Way and Vauxhill Drive to detour around the closed section of Haymarket Lane. Access to private property within the construction area will remain for those residents impacted.

Any questions regarding the project should be directed to Chris Stanley, PE, Stormwater Utility Division, 919-996-4003 or [StormwaterUtilityHelpingU@raleighnc.gov](mailto:StormwaterUtilityHelpingU@raleighnc.gov).

July 11 Fayetteville Street will be closed from Davie Street to the south end of City Plaza from 5 p.m. until 10:30 p.m.

July 13 The 2300 block of Sapphire Valley Drive will be closed from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

July 13 The 1100 block of South Saunders Street will be closed from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

July 16 The 00 block of Seaboard Avenue will be closed from Halifax Street to Seaboard Station Road from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

July 20 The cul-de-sac on Habitat Court will be closed from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

July 25 Fayetteville Street will be closed from Davie Street to the south end of City Plaza from 5 p.m. until 10:30 p.m.

July 27 A portion of North Street from Glenwood Avenue west to the parking lot entrance of Thiapoon Restaurant from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Haymarket, Favorwood Court and Harps Mill Road. New 96-inch piping is being connected to the previously completed drainage project on Harps Mill Road. Also included are new storm drainage pipes and culverts, new catch basins and curb inlets to reduce street and flooding to adjacent homes. In addition to the drainage improvements, public sewer mains are being replaced as part of the project.

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NewsCOR is also available electronically. Please contact the City of Raleigh Public Affairs Department at 919-996-3100 if you would prefer to receive NewsCOR by email.