

SIERRA/LINEBERRY DRIVE PARK MASTER PLAN

SITUATION ASSESSMENT

DRAFT – SEPTEMBER 9, 2013



Contents

Executive Summary..... 2

Introduction 3

 Project Overview 3

 Purpose 4

 Methodology 4

Community Context..... 5

 Community Characteristics..... 5

 Development and Neighborhoods 5

 Transportation Infrastructure..... 5

 Site Characteristics..... 6

Community Engagement 6

 Stakeholder Interviews 6

 Community Survey..... 9

 Public Meetings 11

 Citizen Planning Committee 12

Stakeholder Issues and Recommendations..... 13

Conclusion / Next Steps 16

Appendix A: Demographic Data..... 17

Appendix B: Stakeholder Interviews List 19

Appendix C: Stakeholder Interview Questions 20

Appendix D: Community Survey 21

Appendix E: Community Survey Results 22

Appendix F: Citizen Planning Committee Interview Questions 27

References 30



Public Meeting announcement at park project location

Executive Summary

The City of Raleigh Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department and a consultant team are working to develop a Master Plan for the future park at the corner of Sierra Drive and Lineberry Drive. The first step of this process is to conduct a Situation Assessment, which includes research and data collection, presentations at the Southwest Citizen's Advisory Council (SWCAC), a community survey and stakeholder interviews. This phase culminates with the recommendation of a Citizen Planning Committee (CPC), a committee comprised of community members and neighborhood leaders that will assist the Project Team in determining the park name and branding, choosing the park amenities, promote the park development and providing recommendations for the Sierra/Lineberry Drive Park Master Plan. The Situation Assessment and list of recommended CPC members will be reviewed by the Parks, Recreation and Greenway Advisory Board (PRGAB) with final approval by the City Council.



Intersection of Sierra Drive and Lineberry Drive

Stakeholder Issues and Recommendations

The information gathered through the stakeholder interviews and community surveys covered a wide range of topics. The key issues that arose through these conversations include:

- Consensus on the park
- Park process and amenities
- Pedestrian safety and access
- Community safety
- Vandalism
- Community ownership
- Providing alternative youth activities
- Adequate representation of the community

In completion of the Situation Assessment, the Project Team identified the following preliminary recommendations for the Master Plan process to address those issues:

- ***Develop the vision for the park.***
- ***Ensure inclusion of all residents in the study area.***
- ***Establish a strong and representative CPC.***
- ***Include safety concerns as a priority to address in the park development and design.***
- ***Build community ownership throughout the park development.***
- ***Communicate to stakeholders about construction timeline and funding.***

Moving forward in the development of the Sierra/Lineberry Drive Park Master Plan, the issues and recommendations identified in the Situation Assessment will guide the Project Team and the CPC in creating a park design that represents this community.

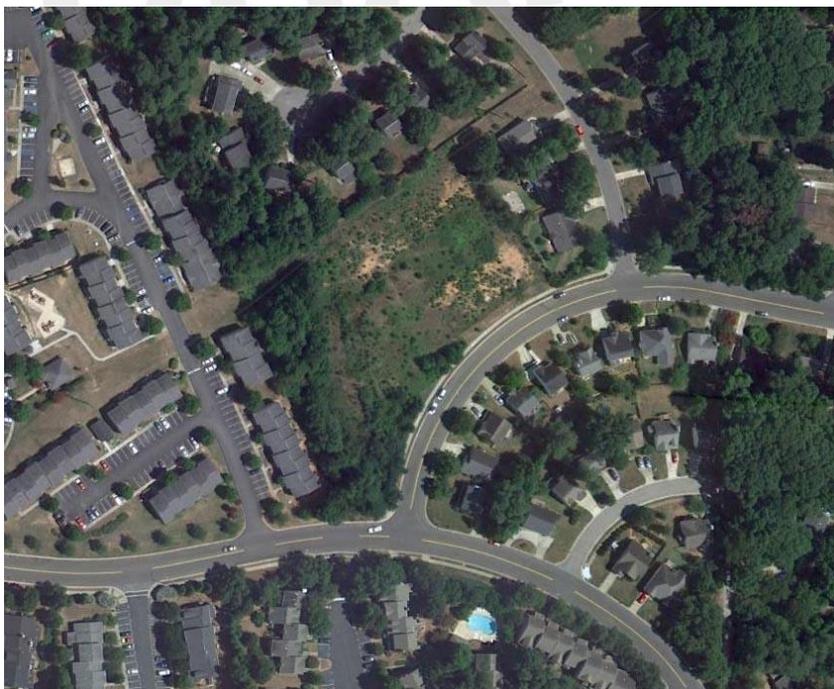
Introduction

The City of Raleigh Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department and a consultant team are working to prepare a Master Plan for development of a neighborhood park on the corner of Sierra Drive and Lineberry Drive in Southwest Raleigh. The Master Plan process will follow the Consensus Seeking pathway as outlined in the City of Raleigh Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources *Comprehensive Public Participation Program for Park Planning*. To support this process, the Project Team has completed a Situation Assessment. The purpose of the Situation Assessment is to collect information on the context, needs, and stated interests of the communities surrounding the proposed park at Sierra Drive and Lineberry Drive.

Project Overview

The proposed park is located at 2640 Sierra Drive, on the northwest corner of Lineberry Drive and Sierra Drive. The property is 2.42 acres and was cleared for development in 2005. The City purchased and has managed the parcel since 2009. The property is zoned as Residential and according to the *2004 Raleigh Parks Plan*, this parcel is classified as a neighborhood park.

In the Spring of 2013, the City of Raleigh prepared a System Integration Plan (SIP) for the Sierra-Lineberry property. This document provides an overview of the condition of the property (vegetation, lot size and drainage), addresses safety, environmental and property issues and site recommendations. The SIP will provide background information for the Master Plan process, which kicked off in the Summer of 2013.



Sierra/Lineberry Project Vicinity Map

Purpose

The purpose of the Situation Assessment is to collect information on the context, needs, and stated interests of the communities surrounding the proposed park at Sierra Drive and Lineberry Drive. Various methods of public participation, research and observation have been employed in developing this report.

The objectives of the Situation Assessment include:

- Describing the project area and community characteristics.
- Identifying potential issues connecting the project and the community.
- Collecting information on community needs that may inform concepts for park development and amenities.
- Identifying a full range of park stakeholders.
- Recommending members for a Citizen Planning Committee.
- Outlining strategies for outreach and a collaborative planning process.



Sierra Drive looking east from the park site

Methodology

To complete the Situation Assessment, the Project Team reviewed the study area characteristics, neighborhood demographics and completed a field review. Additionally, community engagement strategies were established for the project to include public meetings, a community survey and interviews with community stakeholders and leaders.

Several data sources were reviewed for this Situation Assessment to provide additional insight for the context of this project. The United States Census Bureau was used to collect demographic information for the residents living within this area including population trends and resident demographics, such as race, ethnicity, age and economic status. In addition to Census information, GIS data was used to identify community features such as nearby community centers and parks, sidewalks and other community resources such as churches and schools. City of Raleigh's comprehensive plans, park plans and *Public Participation for Park Planning* were also reviewed.

A site visit was conducted in August 2013 to collect additional information on the park site as well as the surrounding neighborhoods. Information on community characteristics were collected, including the location of Capital Area Transit bus stops; the presence and condition of pedestrian amenities; neighborhood activity; and identification of the surrounding neighborhoods. Photographs, video and notes were all used to record the information collected during the field review.

The information and input collected informed the key issues and recommendations of the Situation Assessment that will help move forward the Master Plan development. A summary of this information is provided in the Community Context and Community Engagement sections that follow.

Community Context

In providing an overall understanding of the project area, the Project Team has completed an analysis of the existing community. The information obtained includes community characteristics, development and neighborhood types, transportation infrastructure and site characteristics.

Community Characteristics

Demographic and economic information can help the Project Team better understand community needs and consider how effective certain amenities will be in the project area, as well as assisting the Project Team in developing outreach to the broadest range of area stakeholders. U.S. Census data shows that nearly half of the population in this area falls below the poverty line. This community characteristic is consistent with the housing types in the area, as there are many apartment complexes close to the project site. The population make-up is predominately white, non-Hispanic, with one-third minority. This is slightly lower than the population diversity of Wake County.

The population in the surrounding area is younger when compared to that of Wake County. While the population under 18 is half that of the County, the proportion of the population between the ages of 18 and 25 is nearly five times the proportion that of the County (51.3 percent compared to 9.6 percent). This number may reflect a large student population in the area due to the close proximity to North Carolina State University. Further, this characteristic may also contribute to the number of apartment complexes and the number of households below the poverty line. The 25 to 40 age group is relatively similar, but the population is significantly less than Wake County.

Please see Appendix A for more detailed information on demographics.

Development and Neighborhoods

The area surrounding the proposed park is residential. Adjacent properties include multifamily and single family residences. There are 14 neighborhoods along Lineberry Drive and the surrounding area. These include townhomes (Broad Oaks, Sterling Townhomes, Trailwood Valley and Whitehurst Townhomes), apartment complexes (Orchard Pointe, Camden Crossings, Trailwood Heights and Trailwood Knoll) and single family residential neighborhoods (Evergreen Avenue, Trailwood Commons, Trailwood Drive Community, Trailwood Hills and Trailwood Springs). Pleasant Ridge and Ramsgate communities are located off of Sierra Drive. The Orchard Pointe apartment complex is abutting the northwest edge of the property and the property owners on the northern edges of the vacant lot have installed fences.

Transportation Infrastructure

The project area is served by a range of multimodal transportation assets. A Raleigh Bike Route (#6) sign was present at Lineberry Drive and Broad Oaks. This is a route that runs from east to west across the south side of Raleigh and follows Lineberry Drive. This route eventually connects with Bike Route 11, farther to the east. Sidewalks are present on the south side of Lineberry Drive and on the west side of Sierra Drive. The Capital Area Transit (CAT) 7L-Carolina Pines and 11-Avent Ferry routes provide service to Lineberry Drive and there are bus stops along Lineberry Drive at Sterling Park Drive and Broad Oaks

Place and on Sierra Drive at Shenandoah Drive. A school bus was observed driving along Lineberry Drive during the August 2013 site visit.

During the site visit, people were observed engaging in a variety of activities such as running for exercise and waiting at the CAT bus stop. A stop sign is located at Sierra Drive entering onto Lineberry Drive. Lineberry Drive appeared to be busier than Sierra Drive, with more frequent car trips observed, and vehicles traveling at higher speeds. Several cars were parked along Sierra Drive in front of the future park property.

Site Characteristics

The site is described in greater detail in the February 2013 *System Integration Plan: Sierra Drive Property*. In general, the project area is flat with a sharp incline on the western border along Lineberry Drive. The parcel contains a large electrical transformer in the southwestern portion with an overhead power line easement along the northern portion of the property. Several butterflies and other pollinators have been observed within this easement. This parcel contains both native vegetation and non-native invasive vegetation. The vegetation includes weeds and tree seedlings that have become established since the parcel area had been cleared. Several mature trees are present along the western portion of the property along Lineberry Drive. The only wooded area of note is along the property boundary shared with the apartment complex where there is also a small draw that runs along the property boundary. No known protected animal or plant resources have been identified.

Community Engagement

The development of the park at Sierra Drive and Lineberry Drive provides an opportunity for the community to participate in the decision-making process. Community input is necessary to ensure the proper selection of amenities to maximize public usage of the neighborhood park and community support for the project. The Master Plan process will include multiple opportunities for public input and participation. The following sections summarize the results of community outreach that has been completed or is underway, including:

- Stakeholder interviews
- A community survey
- Public meetings
- A proposed Citizen Planning Committee

Stakeholder Interviews

A series of stakeholder interviews were conducted between August 1 and August 31, 2013 in an effort to gather insight into the specific needs of the community and identify other stakeholders, organizations and individuals to be engaged in the planning phase. Stakeholder interview questions ranged from the key issues to be addressed during the planning phase to potential community controversy. Questions were adjusted based on whether an interviewee was a community leader or a local resident. Appendix C contains the interview questions provided to the stakeholders.

The Project Team leveraged existing social media organizations, citizen groups and City of Raleigh staff to identify potential stakeholders as well as specific organizations and interested individuals for interviews. The Project Team’s goal was to identify stakeholders from as many different demographics, backgrounds and interests as possible, in order to ensure that the future park amenities fit the surrounding neighborhoods’ needs and desired uses. The resulting list included City of Raleigh staff familiar with the parks system and the local community, community members and community leaders who had been previously engaged in the project or similar projects.

Stakeholders from the following categories were invited to take part in the interview process:

- City of Raleigh staff
- Neighbors and surrounding community members
- Southwest Citizen Advisory Council members
- Pleasant Ridge & Ramsgate Community Watch
- Homeowners associations
- Schools
- Students

A total of 21 community leaders and stakeholders were interviewed during this phase of the project. Appendix B provides a complete listing of the interviewed stakeholders. All interviewees were provided the opportunity to give general comments, ask questions, raise concerns or recommend other interviewees or potential members for the CPC. The following summary of responses provided by the stakeholders is organized by topic area.



Current site conditions

Amenities/Community Needs

- In response to a list of potential issues, safety was the number one issue identified by stakeholders, followed by park amenities, children’s activities and health and fitness.
- Equity, social engagement and adult recreation were also mentioned.
- Amenities suggested by interviewees include: parking spaces, connections to the greenway system, an area for dogs and a community garden to increase patronage.
- Additional ideas included a soccer field and a playground or additional amenities that would fill in the gaps from resources available at Carolina Pines.
- It was noted that Lineberry Drive is very popular for dog walking. One interviewee mentioned that Carolina Pines Park has a dog park and suggested that a similar use at this property would provide a location closer to home for residents and would draw more users throughout the day; potentially enhancing safety.
- Lighting was mentioned several times as a measure to help visitors feel safe as well as a strategy to discourage negative behaviors on the park property.

- Several interviewees said that safety considerations should be addressed through the design of the park, including short and pruned shrubbery, installation of a fence between private properties and the park and consideration of sight lines to eliminate or reduce places where people can hide.
- Interviewees mentioned that people living in the area walk to destinations and therefore, pedestrian accommodations and traffic calming measures would help increase the safety of the park users and the surrounding area.
- The design should consider the diverse age population living in the area that ranges from children in strollers to senior adults.
- A lot of discussion was around basketball courts and if this amenity would be appropriate for the park. Some viewed a basketball court as an area that people will congregate, with the possibility for negative outcomes. However, it was also mentioned that some residents of the adjacent apartment complex have been using privately owned facilities and several interviewees said this would be an opportunity to provide a space that is open to all people. These interviewees also noted that this could also reduce the number of children who have to cross Lake Wheeler Road to access the basketball courts Carolina Pines Community Center.

Nearby Development

- The new sidewalks on Lake Wheeler Road were mentioned by several interviewees.
- Mention was also made of several new housing developments outside of the project area but in Southwest Raleigh.
- The upcoming playground improvements at Peach Road Park were discussed as these efforts will feature a community design day as well as a community build day. It was suggested that these ideas could be replicated with the Sierra/Lineberry Drive future park development.
- Future growth management, land use and transportation plans occurring in the area were also discussed by interviewees.



Sidewalk development on Lake Wheeler Road

Access

- One community leader noted that it is naturally divided by busy roads on all four sides: Lake Wheeler, Trailwood Drive, I-40 and Tryon Road. Therefore, this park may only attract the people living within the area.
- General safety and connectivity issues were discussed because of the high number of pedestrians in the area.

Other Community Concerns/Issues

- There is community controversy around the use of private facilities by some neighborhood residents from the surrounding neighbors, specifically residents from the apartments at Orchard Pointe.
- There have been instances of vandalism at the private facilities and damaged amenities, such as torn down basketball hoops.
- Two stakeholders noted that structures such as bathroom facilities and picnic shelters are prone to tagging and vandalism and said this should be considered when choosing the amenities and also the paint or finish on the structures to allow for easy cleaning.
- There are existing issues between the students and permanent residents of the area in terms of noise violations and complaints.
- Racial and economic tensions were mentioned as potential issues that occurred in the past, although the interviewee was uncertain how relevant these issues are now.
- Several of the stakeholders interviewed are excited about the planning and development of a future park, but are concerned about how long it will be before park is physically improved.

Community Involvement

- Stakeholders suggested that youths living in the area should be engaged in the planning phase since the park would be attracting young children and adults.
- Interviewees recommended additional community leaders, stakeholders and potential CPC members to contact. The Project Team followed up with those individuals identified for further discussions and interviews.

Community Survey

To assess community needs and interest in the development process for the Sierra/Lineberry Drive Park and engage a wider audience, the Project Team developed an online community survey that was available from July 8, 2013 through August 31, 2013. The survey was promoted via the City of Raleigh's emails, webpage and social media outlets such as Advocates for Health in Action and the Lineberry Alliance. The survey was promoted at the SWCAC meeting on July 8, 2013 and a hardcopy was available at the SWCAC and Master Plan kick-off meeting on August 12, 2013.

In total, 80 surveys were completed. Survey questions were designed to collect information on respondents' household makeup, current park behaviors and usage and interest in amenities and the future park. The information gathered from this survey has been used to inform the park planning process and to identify several individuals interested in the CPC.

Please refer to Appendix D and E for a copy of the survey and a summary of the responses. Key findings of the survey are highlighted in the following sections.

Demographics/Household Information

- The majority of respondents were from Pleasant Ridge, Ramsgate, Sierra Drive, Trailwood Springs and Trailwood Hills neighborhoods.
- Nearly half of the respondents have resided at their current location seven or more years.

- Approximately 60 percent of survey respondents were between the ages of 23 and 40.
- One-third of the respondents reported children in their households.

Current Park Usage

- Respondents were generally frequent park users, with nearly half visiting City of Raleigh parks weekly or more often.
- The majority of the respondents visit Lake Johnson Metro Park, Carolina Pines Park and Lake Wheeler.
- Many respondents reported visiting parks for health and wellness activities, including walking, running, bicycling, yoga, hiking and swimming.
- Sports such as baseball, football and disc golf were all reported as activities engaged by many respondents.
- Several respondents also reported interest in water sports, such as kayaking, fishing and paddle boarding.
- Picnic areas and playgrounds were most commonly noted as attractive amenities at parks.
- Almost half of the respondents stated that someone in the household participates in programs or activities offered by City of Raleigh, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department. Respondents most commonly listed sports and general exercise and wellness programming. Children's programming, such as swimming lessons and art and music programs, were the next most common responses.



Carolina Pines Park and Community Center

Park Planning and Amenities

- Approximately two-thirds of respondents stated they would be likely to use a picnic shelter, restroom and/or playground.
- Just over half indicated they would use a multi-use open space.
- Just fewer than 30 percent of respondents indicated they would use multi-use courts, while 22 percent indicated they would use basketball courts.
- Other amenities suggested by respondents included a walking trail, dog park, learning center, shaded areas, natural features, a flower and vegetable garden and aesthetic features.

Stakeholders

Survey respondents were allowed an opportunity to suggest groups, organizations or individuals that should be engaged in the planning process. The following is the suggested list:

- Pleasant Ridge & Ramsgate Community Watch
- Residents and nearby property owners
- Youth
- Schools
- Churches

- Local horticulture and nature organizations
- Arts councils
- North Carolina State University
- Miracle League

Other Comments

- Provide a space for both adults and children as there are many adults living in the area without children.
- General safety measures and traffic calming were noted as important to ensure the safety of visitors.
- A community garden could serve residents in need and provide educational opportunities for the children in the neighborhood.
- Concerns were expressed over any potential wildlife displacement.
- Avoid overlapping services with nearby facilities and programming, such as Carolina Pines.
- Ensure the park process is inclusive and representative of the neighborhood.

Opportunities for Further Participation

The final section of the survey offered respondents the opportunity to volunteer for the CPC and provide their contact information in order to receive updates on the project. A total of 15 people expressed interest in making a commitment to serve on the committee. These individuals were contacted and 14 were interviewed in further detail. Those interviews have been included in the preceding Stakeholder Interviews section.

Public Meetings

The Project Team attended two Southwest Citizen Advisory Committee (SWCAC) meetings in advance of the public engagement process. The first meeting was on July 8, 2013 at the Carolina Pines Community Center to introduce the upcoming project. This included an informal presentation announcing the project kick-off at the August SWCAC meeting and promoting the community survey. The Project Team also distributed information about the project website and encouraged community participation in the process.

August 12, 2013 Southwest CAC Meeting/Master Plan Kick-Off

On August 12, 2013, the Project Team was on the agenda of the SWCAC to provide a formal presentation on the project and officially kick-off the project. The meeting was held at Carolina Pines Community Center and was attended by community members, neighboring property owners and the City Council member representing the area.

City staff presented information on the System Integration Plan and Project Team members introduced the master plan phase of the project. Meeting participants were given the opportunity to pick up an informational handout, complete a hard copy of the community survey, fill out a general comment card and ask questions following the formal presentation.

Comments made by meeting attendees included:

- People in the neighborhood jump fences to use private facilities like pools and basketball courts.
- Police presence was recommended to mitigate current security concerns.
- Park lighting and cameras were all discussed as possible future security measures.
- Sight lines were mentioned as important design considerations. Additionally, due to the sharp curve on Sierra Drive, traffic calming measures were brought up to help reduce the speed of traffic and making walking to the park safer.
- Parking demands were discussed with both onsite and on-street parking being mentioned.
- Consider including community gardens in park development.
- Post the meeting handout and other materials on the website.
- Install a sign at the current site announcing the future park to raise local awareness.
- Involve the community and surrounding neighborhoods in park construction, similar to the Peach Road Park project.

Citizen Planning Committee

One goal of the Situation Assessment is to use the information gathered from the research, data collection, field review, stakeholder interviews and survey to identify and recommend members to a CPC. In accordance with the *Public Participation Guidelines for Park Planning*, the committee will work with the Project Team to provide feedback and consultation throughout the planning process. Tasks will include determining the park name and branding, assist with choosing the park amenities, help promote the park development and provide recommendations for the Sierra/Lineberry Drive Park Master Plan. The committee will meet approximately four times throughout the planning phase.

CPC Screening/Interviews

To ensure the CPC members are representative of the neighborhood that the park will serve, the Project Team conducted interviews with citizens that noted interest in engaging with the planning process via the community survey, as well as individuals recommended for the CPC during Stakeholder Interviews. Additionally, some CPC members were recommended through the interviews with stakeholders and community leaders. The purpose of the screening interview was to review the community survey with the potential CPC members, have them describe their knowledge or experience with the Sierra/Lineberry Drive property, explain their interest in the CPC and provide specific skills, knowledge or background experiences that could support the planning process. Interviewees were also asked specific topic areas they would be able to provide perspective on and what type of role they play in group settings.

The Project Team screened the interviewees for the following selection criteria:

- **Minimum Requirements:** Members of the CPC should meet the minimum requirements of residency in Raleigh, with a strong preference for living within the study area. CPC members should represent a variety of both long-term and recent arrivals to the area, be willing and able to commit to participation throughout the entirety of the master plan process, be willing and able to attend at least three regular meetings and show an interest in the CPC and the project.

Additionally, the CPC must collectively represent diverse interest and demographics, agree to follow the ground rules and work collaboratively in a team and be willing to take on an active role in meetings.

- **Perspectives and Interests:** CPC members should have interest or provide an effective perspective in one or more of the following areas:
 - Amenities
 - Children’s activities
 - Social engagement
 - Safety
 - Adult recreation
 - Cultural activities
 - Economic development
 - Health/fitness
 - Equity
 - Park access
 - Aesthetics
- **Attitudes:** Members of the CPC should be flexible, collaborative and interested in learning about the park planning process. Positive attitude, open-mindedness, a willingness to work with others with different points of views and a willingness to accept the group’s decision to achieve consensus are other desirable attitudes.
- **Knowledge:** CPC members should have some knowledge of the project, past community involvement or knowledge of the project area. Additionally, they should have established connections with individuals, groups or organizations within the community.
- **Skills:** Members should have the ability to work collaboratively and work within a community arena. CPC members should have the ability to listen and communicate effectively, both in public and private and have the ability to follow through with assignments or tasks given to the CPC.

The proposed CPC members will be reviewed by the Parks, Recreation and Greenway Advisory Board (PRGAB) with final approval by the City Council.

Stakeholder Issues and Recommendations

The information gathered through the stakeholder interviews and community surveys covered a wide range of topics. The key issues that arose through these conversations and recommendations to consider for the parking planning process are summarized in the following sections.

Issues

Stakeholders and community survey respondents noted specific interests, concerns and issues for consideration in park planning. Some issues address current issues for the neighborhoods surrounding the park, while others are thoughts for the future.

Consensus on the park process and amenities. There are differing opinions on the purpose of the park, whether it should serve more as passive open space or as an active gathering place with a range of ideas on the amenities that should be provided. The Master Plan process will need to address these issues in working with the community to achieve consensus.

Pedestrian safety and access: There is a concern with the conflict between the high number of pedestrians and the speed of vehicles that are on Lineberry Drive. There are also a high number of children in the area that may cross the street to access the park. Several commenters referred to traffic calming strategies as tools for enhancing pedestrian safety and increasing access to the future park.

Community safety. Lighting, placement of some amenities closer to the street and trimming the shrubs were all pointed out as possible strategies for reducing the opportunity for crime and increasing the feeling of safety at the park.

Vandalism. Many interviewees and survey respondents expressed concerns over graffiti, tagging and littering at the park.

Community ownership. It was suggested that the Master Plan build in strategies for community members and neighbors to have ownership of the park, beyond the visioning and master plan phase. A community build day similar to the Peach Road Park efforts was brought up as one way to develop community ownership and suggestions were made to incorporate visibility into design of the park.

Providing alternative youth activities. Several respondents expressed that amenities such as a basketball court might create a space for young people that could encourage negative behavior, while others view the park as an opportunity to address current trespassing concerns and provide a space for young people to gather to engage in healthy physical activity.

Adequate representation of the community. Many participants state the park should be representative of the people in the community. Some pointed to the residents of the Orchard Pointe as the reasons for the concerns over safety and community ownership. Most importantly, this residential complex is adjacent to the property and therefore, should be involved in the decision making process.

Preliminary Recommendations

In completion of the Situation Assessment, the Project Team has identified the following preliminary recommendations for the Master Plan process of the future park at Sierra Drive and Lineberry Drive:

Develop the vision for the park. With the diverse perspectives and interests expressed, building consensus regarding the amenities in the park will be essential to its ultimate success. The first step will be a visioning process to develop the park purpose in a manner that reflects and resolves differing views on the park's function. It is recommended that the CPC take a strong role in informing the vision and that the vision be shaped through the broader public input to ensure the community needs are met through this process.

Ensure inclusion of all residents in the study area. As previously noted, the Project Team should work to ensure that all residents are represented in the park development. The neighborhood represents a diverse group of people which was factored into the selection of the CPC and should be addressed through strategies to promote the public workshops, project website and other outreach opportunities. Project communication strategies should include creative ideas beyond the traditional social media and City of Raleigh postings in order to engage underrepresented populations. The Project Team can work with Carolina Pines Community Center to open the public workshops earlier in the afternoon or share project materials to allow for youth in the after school programs to provide their input into the project. The Project Team will continue to identify strategies to encourage underrepresented groups to attend public meetings or provide feedback outside of the meetings, including reaching out to residents of Orchard Pointe.

Establish a strong and representative CPC. The Project Team as part of the Situation Assessment has established a list of potential CPC members for approval. The CPC will work with the Project Team to advance the Master Plan towards completion by Fall 2014. A detailed facilitation plan will be developed for the CPC meetings and will include the purpose, outcomes and facilitation exercises for each meeting, as well as identification of key points to inform Master Plan decision-making.

Include safety concerns as a priority to address in the park development and design. Safety was the one community issue brought up by nearly every stakeholder and community survey respondent. Safety concerns ranged from pedestrian safety to ensuring the park is not used during the evening hours in order to limit impacts to adjacent properties. The consensus pathway process is designed to ensure those issues critical to successful park development are identified, prioritized and translated into Master Plan elements. Topics will be taken into careful consideration when developing the specific design and placement of amenities during the master planning process.

Build community ownership throughout the park development. Stakeholders cited building community ownership of the park as an important strategy. The consensus building process of the CPC meetings and public workshops will recognize and continue the community's involvement in advancing the development of this park and build on their commitment to the project. An early element that will foster a sense of ownership is involving the CPC in the branding and identity for the park. In addition, identifying strategies through public input such as the suggested community build day will provide further opportunity to ensure community ownership as the project moves to implementation.

Communicate to stakeholders about construction timeline and funding. Several of the stakeholders interviewed for the Situation Assessment noted involvement in this park dating back to the 1980s, well before the City of Raleigh purchased the land. These stakeholders have spent years advocating for the development of the park on that property and have worked with other City staff to acquire the land and begin the planning process. In general, community members are excited about the planning and

development of a future park. It will be important for the Project Team to sustain the momentum behind the park but also set reasonable expectations for the project timeline, especially in terms of funding for construction. It is recommended that the Project Team continue open communication while also developing a transparent plan to identify the efforts needed to secure funding.

Next Steps

Following the adoption of the Situation Assessment and approval of CPC members by the City of Raleigh's Parks, Recreation, Greenway Advisory Board and the Raleigh City Council, the Project Team will convene the first CPC meeting in late Fall 2013. At that time, the CPC will begin to work together as a team and provide input on the vision, identity and development concepts for the park. The first Public Workshop will be held following that meeting and will involve community feedback on the vision for the park and input on potential park amenities and development. Additional CPC meetings and Public Workshops will take place in Winter and Spring 2014, leading up to the presentation of the Master Plan to the PRGAB and City Council in early Fall 2014. Project updates will continue to be shared on the website and through social media channels throughout the process.

Data collected and comments received during the Situation Assessment will be used throughout the planning process to inform decision-making. The CPC will be provided with this information to consider when providing recommendations and assisting the Project Team in making decisions about the park design and amenities. The Situation Assessment will be made available on the project website and key findings will be shared at the first Public Workshop. The understanding of community issues contained in this report have provided the City and the Project Team with a strong foundation for creating a Master Plan for the development of a neighborhood park at Sierra Drive and Lineberry Drive that reflects and is supported by the surrounding community.

Appendix A: Demographic Data

Two Census Blocks were identified as including residents living within the one half-mile zone as defined by the City of Raleigh. The United States Census Bureau was used to collect demographic information for the residents living within this area.

Total Population

| Geography 2000 | Geography 2010 | 2000 | 2010 | Difference | Percent Change | Annualized Growth Rate |
|-----------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------------|
| CT 523.02, BG 2 | CT 523.02, BG 2 | 4,418 | 2,530 | -1,888 | -42.7% | -5.4% |
| N/A | CT 523.02, BG 3 | | 1,792 | 1,792 | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Study Area | | 4,418 | 4,322 | -96 | -2.2% | -0.2% |
| Wake County | | 627,846 | 879,658 | 251,812 | 40.1% | 3.4% |
| North Carolina | | 8,049,313 | 9,535,483 | 1,486,170 | 18.5% | 1.7% |

Source: US Census Bureau, Census 2010 and Census 2000, Summary File 1 100% Data, Table P1 and P001 "Total Population."

Race

| Geography | Total Population | White | | Black or African American | | American Indian and Alaska Native Alone | | Asian | | Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander | | Some Other Race | | Two or More Races | |
|--------------------|------------------|----------------|--------------|---------------------------|--------------|---|-------------|---------------|-------------|----------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|
| | | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % |
| CT 523.02, BG 2 | 2,530 | 1,950 | 77.1% | 466 | 18.4% | 0 | 0.0% | 120 | 4.7% | 0 | 0.0% | 104 | 4.1% | 10 | 0.4% |
| CT 523.02, BG 3 | 1,792 | 1,029 | 57.4% | 389 | 21.7% | 0 | 0.0% | 0 | 0.0% | 0 | 0.0% | 179 | 10.0% | 75 | 4.2% |
| Study Area | 4,322 | 2,979 | 68.9% | 855 | 19.8% | 0 | 0.0% | 120 | 2.8% | 0 | 0.0% | 283 | 6.5% | 85 | 2.0% |
| Wake County | 879,658 | 598,722 | 68.1% | 182,589 | 20.8% | 2,710 | 0.3% | 46,210 | 5.3% | 95 | 0.0% | | 0.0% | 15,975 | 1.8% |

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

Ethnicity

| Geography | Total Population | White | | Black or African American | | American Indian and Alaska Native Alone | | Asian | | Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander | | Some Other Race | | Two or More Races | |
|--------------------|------------------|----------------|--------------|---------------------------|--------------|---|-------------|---------------|-------------|----------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|
| | | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % |
| CT 523.02, BG 2 | 2,530 | 1,950 | 77.1% | 466 | 18.4% | 0 | 0.0% | 120 | 4.7% | 0 | 0.0% | 104 | 4.1% | 10 | 0.4% |
| CT 523.02, BG 3 | 1,792 | 1,029 | 57.4% | 389 | 21.7% | 0 | 0.0% | 0 | 0.0% | 0 | 0.0% | 179 | 10.0% | 75 | 4.2% |
| Study Area | 4,322 | 2,979 | 68.9% | 855 | 19.8% | 0 | 0.0% | 120 | 2.8% | 0 | 0.0% | 283 | 6.5% | 85 | 2.0% |
| Wake County | 879,658 | 598,722 | 68.1% | 182,589 | 20.8% | 2,710 | 0.3% | 46,210 | 5.3% | 95 | 0.0% | | 0.0% | 15,975 | 1.8% |

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

Minority Status

| Geography | Total Population | White, Non-Hispanic | | Minority Population* | |
|--------------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------|----------------------|--------------|
| | | # | % | # | % |
| CT 523.02, BG 2 | 2,530 | 1,820 | 71.9% | 710 | 28.1% |
| CT 523.02, BG 3 | 1,792 | 999 | 55.7% | 793 | 44.3% |
| Study Area | 4,322 | 2,819 | 65.2% | 1,503 | 34.8% |
| Wake County | 879,658 | 551,677 | 62.7% | 327,981 | 37.3% |

* Minority population includes all races that are non-white and Hispanic populations that are also White.

Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year Estimates (2007-2011), Table B03002, "Hispanic or Latino Origin by Race."

Language 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 523.02, BG 2 | 2,310 | 51 | 2.2% | 13 | 0.6% | 0 | 0.0% | 0 | 0.0% |
| CT 523.02, BG 3 | 1,552 | 0 | 0.0% | 32 | 2.1% | 0 | 0.0% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Study Area | 3,862 | 51 | 1.3% | 45 | 1.2% | 0 | 0.0% | 0 | 0.0% |

Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year Estimates (2007-2011), Table B16004, "Age by Language Spoken at Home by Ability to Speak English for the Population 5 Years and Over."

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 523.02, BG 2 | 2,472 | 1197 | 48.4% | 1028 | 41.6% | 227 | 9.2% |
| CT 523.02, BG 3 | 1,792 | 788 | 44.0% | 623 | 34.8% | 118 | 6.6% |
| Study Area | 4,264 | 1,985 | 46.6% | 1,651 | 38.7% | 345 | 8.1% |
| Wake County | 858,079 | 86,939 | 10.1% | 39,032 | 4.5% | 63,297 | 7.4% |

Age

| Geography | Total Population | Age Breakdown of Study Area | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| | | Under 18 | | 18-24 | | 25-39 | | 40-64 | | 65+ | |
| | | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % |
| CT 523.02, BG 2 | 2,530 | 220 | 8.7% | 1360 | 53.8% | 316 | 12.4% | 471 | 18.6% | 163 | 6.5% |
| CT 523.02, BG 3 | 1,792 | 240 | 13.4% | 858 | 47.9% | 457 | 25.5% | 231 | 12.9% | 6 | 0.3% |
| Study Area | 4,322 | 460 | 10.6% | 2218 | 51.3% | 773 | 17.8% | 702 | 16.2% | 169 | 4.1% |
| Wake County | 879,658 | 229,321 | 26.1% | 84,319 | 9.6% | 206,916 | 23.5% | 285,594 | 32.5% | 73,508 | 8.3% |

Appendix B: Stakeholder Interviews List

The following stakeholders were identified and interviewed through coordination between the City and the Project Team and research on existing community organizations and services. Interviews lasted approximately 30 minutes and were conducted over the phone. Questions were designed for community leaders and potential CPC members to provide insight from their experience in the community.

| Organization/Affiliations | Interviewee | Leadership Interview | CPC |
|--|--------------------|----------------------|-----|
| Resident | Brian Ayers | | X |
| Resident | Lisa Barr | | X |
| Resident | Mohamed Bourham | | X |
| Former Principal, Dillard Drive Middle School | Nolan Bryant | X | |
| Resident | Barbara Brenny | | X |
| City Council Member, City of Raleigh | Thomas Crowder | X | |
| Resident | Martha Crowley | | X |
| Member, Lineberry Alliance | Jason Hibbets | X | X |
| Resident | Reid Huntley | | X |
| Community Police Officer, City of Raleigh Police Department | Julie Little | X | |
| Assistant Principal, Dillard Drive Middle School | Colin Lowry | | X |
| Student, North Carolina State University | Keith Lukowski | | X |
| Co-Chair, SWCAC | Anthony McLeod | X | |
| Director, Carolina Pines Community Center | Tonya McNeil | X | |
| Director, Peach Road Park and Neighborhood Center | Christy Murray | X | |
| Member, SWCAC | Mary Belle Pate | X | X |
| Public Works, City of Raleigh | Sylvester Percival | X | |
| Resident | Shawna Schnorr | | X |
| Community Services, City of Raleigh | Kevin Smith | X | |
| Resident | Gracey Vaughn | | X |
| Resident | Lauren Williams | | X |
| Resident | Lori Winkelstein | | X |

Appendix C: Stakeholder Interview Questions

A series of interviews was conducted between August 1 and August 31, 2013. In an effort to gather insight into the specific needs of the community and identify other stakeholders, organizations and individuals to be engaged in the planning phase. Questions ranged from the key issues to be addressed during the planning phase to potential community controversy. All interviewees were provided the opportunity to give general comments, ask questions, raise concerns or recommend other interviewees or potential members for the CPC.

DRAFT

Sierra/Lineberry Drive Park Master Plan: Leadership Stakeholder Interview Guide

The City of Raleigh Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department is seeking community input on the **Sierra/Lineberry Drive Park Master Plan**, which will present recommendations for the property located at the northwest corner of Lineberry Drive and Sierra Drive (2640 Sierra Drive). This 2.42 acre vacant property was acquired by City of Raleigh Parks and Recreation in 2009 in anticipation of developing a neighborhood park. We are currently in the process of collecting information about the surrounding community, gathering ideas about potential park features, and gauging interest in opportunities for participation in the planning process. This survey should take approximately 20-30 minutes. Thank you for taking the time to provide your input!

Household Information

Name: _____

What organization do you represent? _____

Have you taken the Community Survey? Yes No

Community Context and Understanding

1. What are the key issues that should be addressed in planning for the Sierra/Lineberry Drive Park?
- | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amenities | <input type="checkbox"/> Safety | <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics | <input type="checkbox"/> Economic development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children's activities | <input type="checkbox"/> Adult recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> Health/Fitness | <input type="checkbox"/> Equity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social engagement | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural activities | <input type="checkbox"/> Park access | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____ | | | |

Please describe the considerations that should be made in each of the selected areas.

2. Are you familiar with any other development occurring in the vicinity of the project?
3. Are there any growth management, land use, and/or transportation plans in the works that would affect the project or be affected by the project?
4. Are there any planned infrastructure expansions (water/sewer, schools, and public facilities) in the vicinity of the project?

- 5. Are you aware of any access issues in the community?

- 6. Are you aware of any potential community controversy surrounding the project or in the area?

- 7. Are there any individuals and groups/organizations that you think should be engaged in the Sierra/Lineberry Drive Park Master Plan process?

- 8. Please provide any other comments or ideas that you have for the Sierra/Lineberry Drive Park.

Future Participation Opportunities

The City of Raleigh Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department is soliciting volunteers to serve on a Citizen’s Planning Committee for this project. The Department is looking for stakeholders who represent the broad interests of the community. Do you have any recommendations for community members or leaders that may a good fit for this committee? Yes No

Name: _____ Organization: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Would you like to subscribe to a newsletter that would keep you informed about the progress of the project?

Yes No

What is the best method to contact you?

Telephone (home) _____ (work) _____

Email address _____

Thank you for your interest in the Sierra/Lineberry Drive Park Master Plan!

Appendix D: Community Survey

The community survey was available online July 8 through August 31, 2013. Hardcopies of the surveys were distributed at the August 13, 2013 SWCAC, Carolina Pines Community Center and Orchard Pointe Apartments and were available through August.

In total, 80 surveys were collected. Ten hard copies of the survey were collected at the Southwest CAC meeting, one survey was returned via mail and 69 electronic surveys were completed. All hardcopies of the surveys were then converted into electronic copies. Data analysis was then conducted using the tools available through Survey Monkey. The information gathered from this survey was used to further inform the park planning process and identify several individuals interested in the CPC.

DRAFT

Sierra/Lineberry Drive Park Master Plan: Community Survey

The City of Raleigh Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department is seeking community input on the **Sierra/Lineberry Drive Park Master Plan**, which will present recommendations for the property located at the northwest corner of Lineberry Drive and Sierra Drive (2640 Sierra Drive). This 2.42 acre vacant property was acquired by Raleigh Parks and Recreation in 2009 in anticipation of developing a Neighborhood Park. The following survey is designed to collect information about the surrounding community, gather ideas on potential park features, and gauge interest in opportunities for participation in the planning process. Thank you for your time and interest!

Household Information

1. Are you a Raleigh resident? Yes No
2. Neighborhood (if applicable). _____
3. How long have you lived at your current address?
 Less than a year 1-3 years 4-6 years 7+ years
4. What is your age? Under 23 23-40 Over 40
5. How many adults (18+) are in your household? 1-2 3-4 5+
6. How many children (under 18) are in your household? No 1-2 3-4 5+

Household Park Usage and Amenity Preferences

7. Which of the following parks in the area do you or members of your household visit regularly?
 Carolina Pines Park Peach Road Park Hertford Village Park
 Lake Wheeler Eliza Pool Park Caraleigh Park
 Lake Johnson Metro Park Other _____
8. Please select how often you or your household members visit local parks.
 Less than 2 times/month 2-3 times/month 1-2 times/week 3 or more times/week
9. What types of activities do you engage in while at local parks?
10. Do you or members of your household register for activities or programs offered by the Raleigh Parks and Recreation Department or with other groups that use Raleigh Parks? Yes No
11. If yes, please describe the types of programs or activities.
12. Which types of amenities would you and your household members be likely to use at the Sierra/Lineberry Park?
Please select your top three.
 Playground Basketball court Volleyball court Picnic shelter
 Tennis court Multi-use open space Multi-use courts Restroom
 Other (please specify) _____

13. How often would you and your household members visit the Sierra/Lineberry Drive Park?
 Less than 2 times/month 2-3 times/month 1-2 times/week 3 or more times/week
14. How would you/your family get to the park at Sierra Drive and Lineberry Drive?
 Walking Driving Biking Other
15. What are the key issues that should be addressed in planning for the Sierra/Lineberry Drive Park? *Please select your top three issues.*
 Amenities Safety Economic development Park access
 Children's activities Adult recreation Health/Fitness Aesthetics
 Social engagement Cultural activities Equity
 Other (*please specify*) _____
16. Please provide any other comments or ideas that you have for the Sierra/Lineberry Drive Park.
17. Please identify any individuals and groups/organizations that you think should be engaged in the planning process for the park at Sierra Drive and Lineberry Drive.

Opportunities for Further Participation

18. The City of Raleigh Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department is soliciting volunteers to serve on a Citizen's Planning Committee for this project. The Department is looking for stakeholders who represent the broad interests of the community. Are you interested in making a commitment to serve on this committee to guide the park development process? Yes No
19. What is the best method to contact you to provide further information on this project?
 Name: _____ Email: _____
 Street: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____
20. In order to ensure that the Planning Committee engages the broad interests of the community, the Department is collecting information on local groups and organizations. Do you represent a group or organization? If yes, please check your affiliation below.
 Resident Business Local Official Interest Group Other: _____
21. What is the name of the group or organization you represent?
22. What is the best method to contact you to provide further information on this project?
 Email Text message Phone call

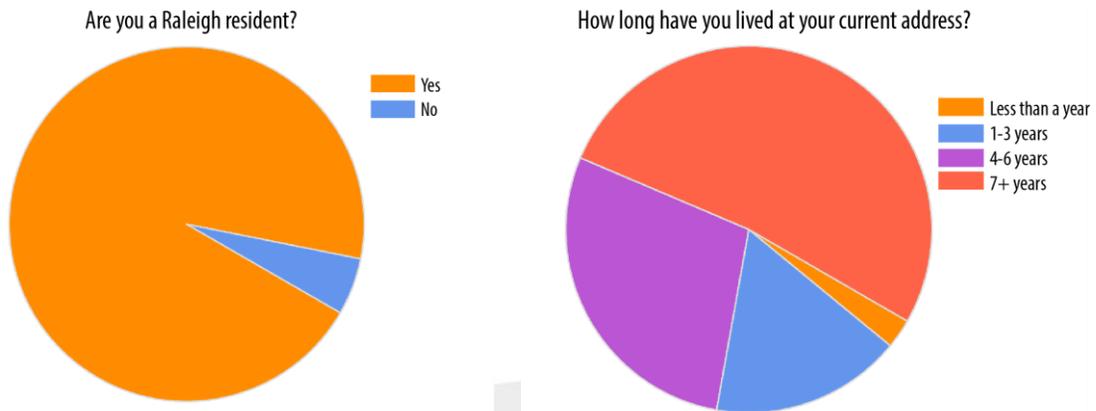
Thank you for your interest in the Sierra/Lineberry Drive Park Master Plan!

Please submit your comments at this meeting, by mail, or by email to the address below by August 31.

David M. Shouse, City of Raleigh Parks and Recreation Department
 PO Box 590, Raleigh, NC 27602-0590
 919-996-4788, parkplan@raleighnc.gov

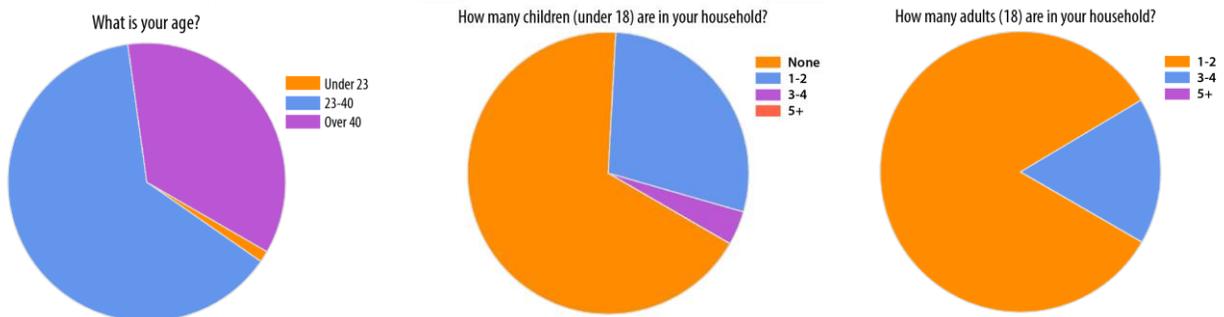
Appendix E: Community Survey Results

The Community Survey was the first strategy used by the Project Team to engage community members and neighbors of the future Sierra/Lineberry Drive Park. Survey questions were developed to collect information on respondent’s household makeup, current park behaviors and usage, interest in future amenities and interest in the future park and to solicit volunteers for the CPC. Question formats ranged from multiple choice with one answer, multiple choice with multiple answers, text boxes for additional thoughts on multiple choice questions and short answer/open ended questions.



Demographic/Household Information

The first six questions of the survey were designed to collect household information of the respondents. The purpose of this section was to understand the general community context. Later, the information was compared to the previously collected demographic information to ensure the survey responses were representative of the project study area.

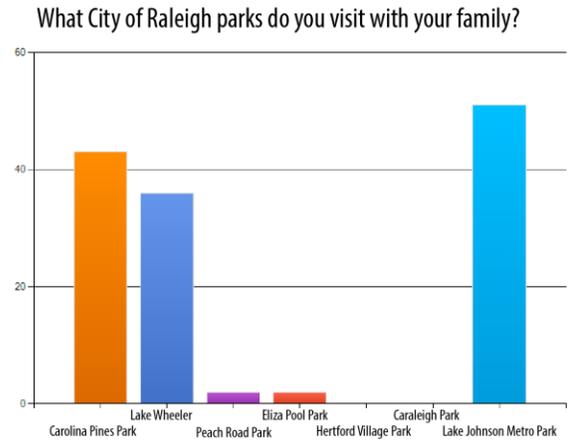


Of the 73 respondents, 94.8 percent were Raleigh residents and represented 36 different neighborhoods. Pleasant Ridge, Ramsgate, Sierra Drive, Trailwood Springs and Trailwood Hills were the most commonly identified neighborhoods. Additionally, the household tenure of the respondents was primarily four years or more with 51.9 percent living in their place of residence seven or more years and

another 28.6 percent living in their place of residence between four and six years. Sixty three percent of the survey respondents were between the ages of 23 and 40, with an additional 35.5 percent over 40 and only one respondent was under the age of 23. Additionally, 83.1 percent have one to two adults in their household. Similarly, two-thirds of the respondents reported no kids in their household.

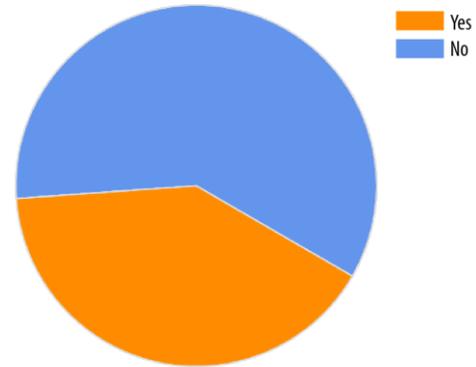
Current Park Usage

Survey respondents were then asked five questions about their current park behaviors including the parks they prefer and what activities they typically engage in those parks. Respondents were allowed to select the City of Raleigh parks they visit from a list of seven parks located in Southwest Raleigh. A space was also provided for additional ‘other’ parks not listed. Of the options provided, Lake Johnson Metro Park (75.0 percent), Carolina Pines Park (63.2 percent) and Lake Wheeler (52.9 percent) were the most commonly noted parks. An additional 20 parks were written in and Pullen Park was the most commonly selected park from that list.



The frequency of park visits was fairly close, with 26.4 percent of people visiting City of Raleigh parks one to two times a week, 30.6 percent visit parks two to three times a month and 27.8 percent visit parks less than two times a month. Finally, 15.3 percent frequent parks three or more times a week. Respondents provided a wide range of activities they engage in while visiting the parks. Many people reported visiting parks for health and wellness activities, including walking, running, bicycling, yoga, hiking and swimming. Sports and activities such as baseball, football and disc golf were all reported. Different water sports of interest included kayaking, fishing and paddle boarding. Picnic areas and playgrounds were also noted as attractive amenities at the parks.

Do you or members of your household register for activities or programs offered by the City of Raleigh Parks and Recreation Department or when other groups that use City of Raleigh parks?

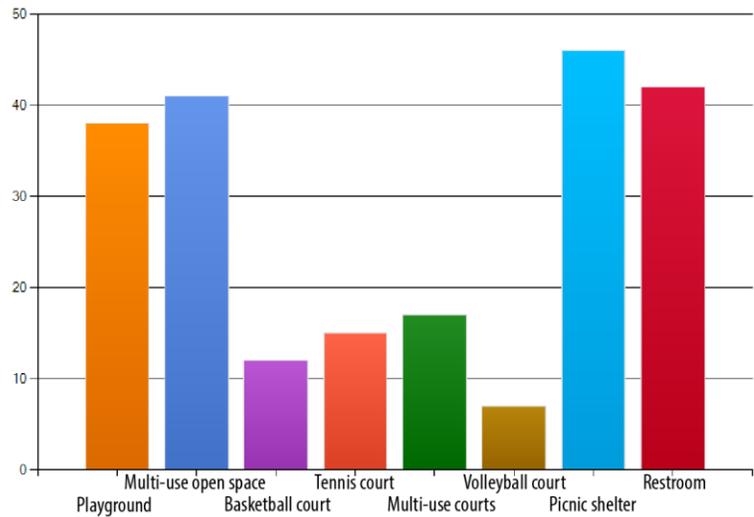


Almost half (40.5 percent) of the respondents stated that someone in the household participates in programs or activities offered by City of Raleigh Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department. Respondents most commonly listed sports and general exercise and wellness programming as the activities they engage in with the City of Raleigh. Children’s programming, such as swimming lessons and art and music programs, were the next common responses. Other activities listed included general nature programming and senior programming.

Park Planning and Amenities

The purpose of the next six questions was to understand how the community would want to use the future Sierra/Lineberry Drive Park. Respondents were asked to select three amenities they would be likely to use from a list of eight different options. A space was also provided for write in answers. The four most frequently selected amenities were as follows: picnic shelter (70.8 percent), restroom (64.6 percent), multi-use open space (63.1 percent) and playground (58.5 percent). Multi-use courts and tennis court were the next common, with 26.2 percent and 23.1 percent respectively.

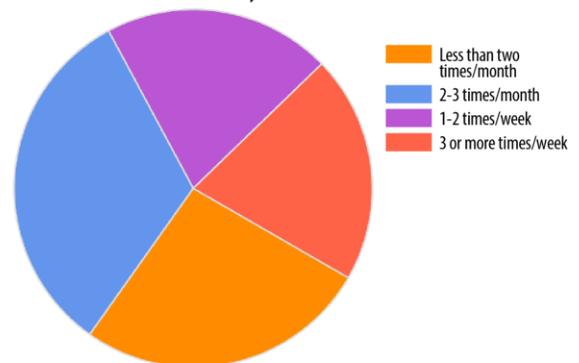
Which types of amenities would you and your household members be likely to use at the Sierra/Lineberry Drive Park? Please check your top three.



Twenty nine people provided suggestions for amenities beyond the list provided. Two people suggested a dog park and five expressed interest in a walking trail. Basketball and multi-use courts were also noted, although one respondent stated that they did not want basketball courts installed. Several people wrote that a learning center, either indoors or outdoors, would be used. Other design features noted include shade and places to sit and general natural features like trees, gardens (flower and vegetable) and general aesthetics. Several respondents suggested activities such as, water park, mountain bike trails and a swimming pool. It should be noted that these types of amenities would not be appropriate for this park due to the size of the property and park classification.

One fifth of the households stated they would visit the park three or more times a week and another 20.6 percent would visit one to two times a week. The remaining respondents stated they would likely visit the park 2-3 times a month (32.4 percent) or less than two times a month (26.5 percent). Finally, respondents were asked what methods they would use to travel to the park. Many noted they would use more than one mode of transportation, with nearly two-thirds said they would walk to the park, with another 44.3 percent driving and 21.4 percent biking. Additionally, several respondents wrote in comments

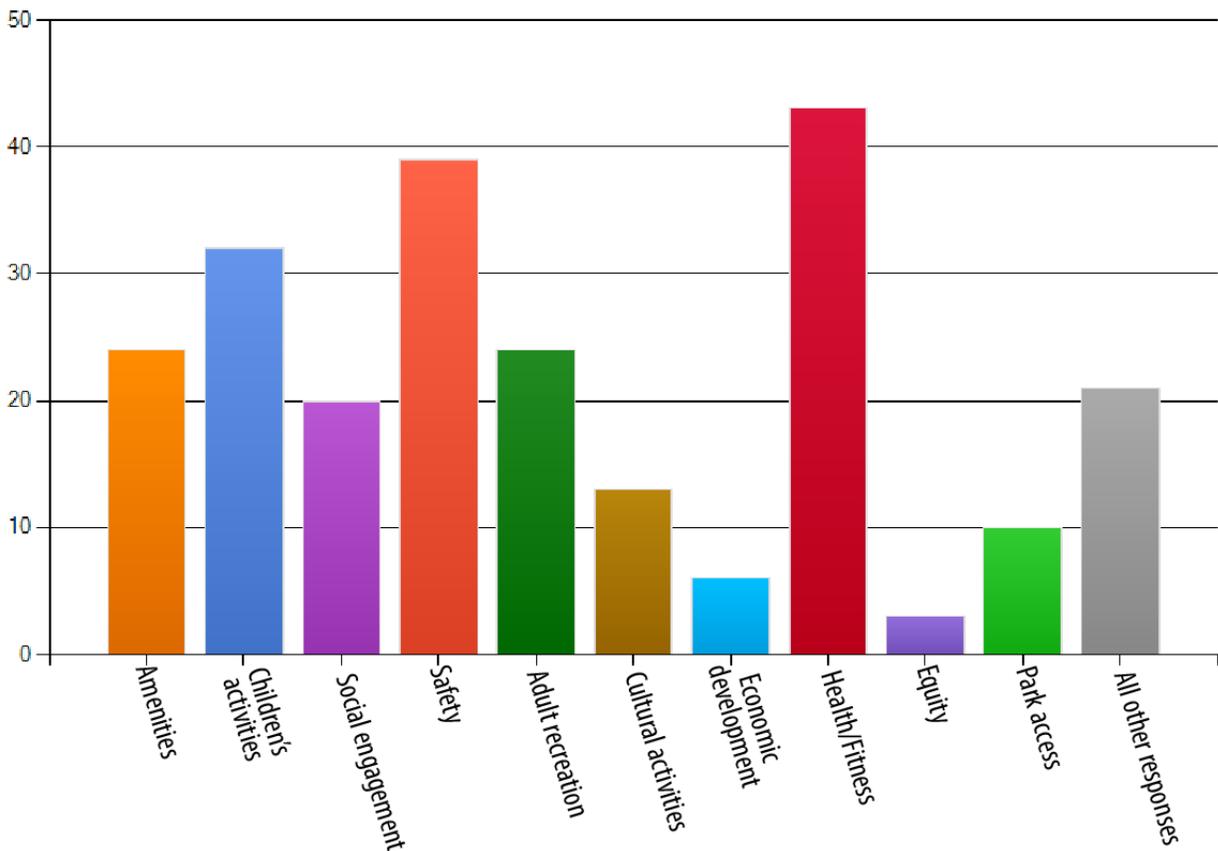
How often would you and your household members visit the Sierra/Lineberry Drive Park?



that the presence of bathrooms would determine if they walked or drove to the park. Connecting to the greenway system or installation of a bike lane would also be likely to increase biking to the park for several respondents.

When asked to select the top three key issues that should be addressed in planning for the Sierra/Lineberry Drive Park, health and fitness was the number one issue selected from the list of eleven options (61.4 percent). Safety (55.7 percent) and children’s activities (45.7 percent) were the next highest selections. Adult recreation and amenities tied with 34.3 percent. Survey respondents were also given the opportunity to write in responses. A community garden was the most commonly written in response, followed by issues related to security (such as lighting). Several respondents also suggested creating a natural environment that supports horticulture and nature. Educational activities were also mentioned, along with one suggestion for a water fountain.

What are the key issues that should be addressed in planning for the Sierra/Lineberry Drive Park?
Please check your top three issues.



Next, survey respondents were allowed an opportunity to write in suggested groups, organizations or individuals that should be engaged in the planning process. The following list is a summary of the responses:

- Neighborhood Homeowner Associations
- Youth
- Residents and nearby property owners
- Schools
- Churches
- Local horticulture and nature organizations
- North Carolina State University
- Miracle League
- Arts councils
- Pleasant Ridge & Ramsgate community watch

The final question in this section of the survey asked respondents to provide any other comments or ideas for the future park at Sierra Drive and Lineberry Drive. Several respondents wrote general concerns such as displacement of wildlife, overlapping services with nearby parks like Carolina Pines Community Center and ensuring the park process is inclusive and representative of the neighborhood. Safety issues were also discussed, like traffic calming measures, bike lanes and general concerns that had previously been stated throughout the survey. Finally, community gardens were mentioned and it was noted that a garden this size could be used to feed many people. Some of the comments include:

Community Contacts/Outreach

The final section of the survey offered respondents the opportunity to volunteer for the CPC and provide their contact information in order to receive updates on the project. A total of 15 people were interested in making a commitment to serve on the committee. All of these individuals were contacted and 14 were interviewed in further detail. Those interviews are discussed in greater detail in the following section.

Other Comments

The final question of the survey provided respondents an opportunity to write additional comments. Respondents expressed the following comments and concerns:

- Provide a space for both adults and children as there are many adults living in the area without children
- General safety measures and traffic calming measures were noted as important to ensure the safety of visitors
- A community garden could serve residents in need and provide educational opportunities for the children in the neighborhood
- Concerns over current wildlife displacement
- Ensure the new park is not overlapping services with nearby facilities and programming, such as Carolina Pines

Appendix F: Citizen Planning Committee Interview Questions

Sierra/Lineberry Drive Park Master Plan: CPC Screening Questionnaire

The City of Raleigh Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department is soliciting volunteers to serve on a Citizen’s Planning Committee (CPC) for the **Sierra/Lineberry Drive Park Master Plan**. The CPC will review project information and materials, guide project decision making, and work with the Parks and Recreation Department to develop master plan recommendations. The following information will assist in forming a committee that represents the potential users of this neighborhood park. Appointment to this Committee involves a commitment to attend approximately five meetings through the development of a master plan (October 2013-November 2014).

Name: _____ Organization: _____

Years Lived in Area: _____

Have you completed the Community Survey? Yes No

If yes, please review the feedback from the Community Survey. What additional feedback or questions do you have at this time?

DRAFT

If no, please go over the Community Survey with the interviewee.

1. What is your knowledge of/experience with the Sierra/Lineberry Drive property?

2. What is your understanding of the community’s interest with this project?

3. Why do you want to serve on the Citizen’s Planning Committee (CPC)?

4. Do you have special knowledge or experience in park/site planning or recreation programming, or special skills, interests or background that you feel would help the Committee? If so, please describe.

5. What key topics will you provide perspective on during the planning process? Please check all that apply.

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amenities | <input type="checkbox"/> Safety | <input type="checkbox"/> Economic development | <input type="checkbox"/> Park access |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children’s activities | <input type="checkbox"/> Adult recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> Health/Fitness | <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social engagement | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural activities | <input type="checkbox"/> Equity | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>please specify</i>) | | | |

6. Are you comfortable participating in larger group or team settings? Yes No

7. What type of role(s) do you typically play in a group setting?

Very active: *I read all the meeting materials, listen and learn from others during meetings; speak up when something is important to me; respond to questions posed in emails; share the project outside of meetings with friends, neighbors, and community members. I will also spend my time outside of the meetings to learn more about the topics discussed.*

Active: *I attend as many meetings, respond to as many emails and read as much of the backup material as possible. I will share what we are talking about with other community members. I feel more comfortable in smaller groups and will speak up more.*

Passive: *I feel more comfortable listening in large groups and responding or sharing ideas in writing or in one-on-one or small group settings.*

Participate if interested: *I attend meetings and read materials that are interest to me. I only speak up if my interests are not being met. I likely will not spend time outside meetings working on this project.*

Usually prefer to not participate in group settings

8. Please give an example of a successful project you were part of or a time where you worked with others in a group to successfully resolve a problem. What was your role?

9. The CPC will sometimes be tasked with making challenging decisions; resolving different and sometimes competing interests; and addressing community concerns. Are you comfortable in this type of setting?

Yes No

What role can you play in these types of situations?

10. It is expected that the CPC will meet several times over the course of the project, and may also meet by special arrangement. This will include: four CPC meetings, three workshops, two PRGAB meetings, and one City Council meetings where attendance is optional, but encouraged. These meetings are all part of the participation process that is planned and the project team will do everything to respect the donation of your time and energy. What are the best days and times for you to meet?

| | MON | TUES | WED | THU | FRI | SAT | SUN |
|-----------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| MORNING | | | | | | | |
| AFTERNOON | | | | | | | |
| EVENING | | | | | | | |

11. Please share any additional comments, suggestions or any questions you may have

References

- City of Raleigh. (2011, 2013 and 2013). *2030 Comprehensive Plan*. Retrieved from <http://www.raleighnc.gov/business/content/PlanLongRange/Articles/2030ComprehensivePlan.html>.
- City of Raleigh Department of Parks and Recreation. (2004). *Raleigh Park Plan*. Retrieved from <http://www.raleighnc.gov/arts/content/PRecDesignDevelop/Articles/ParkandGreenwayPlanningandDevelopmentWhoWeAre.html>.
- City of Raleigh Department of Parks and Recreation. (2012). *Public Participation Guidelines for Park Planning*. Retrieved from <http://www.raleighnc.gov/arts/content/PRecDesignDevelop/Articles/ParkandGreenwayPlanningandDevelopmentWhoWeAre.html>.
- City of Raleigh Department of Parks and Recreation. (2012). *Public Participation Policy for Park Planning*. Retrieved from <http://www.raleighnc.gov/arts/content/PRecDesignDevelop/Articles/ParkandGreenwayPlanningandDevelopmentWhoWeAre.html>.
- Raleigh Parks and Recreation Land Stewardship. (2013). *System Integration Plan: Sierra Drive Property, Raleigh, North Carolina*. Retrieved from <http://www.raleighnc.gov/arts/content/PRecDesignDevelop/Articles/SIERRALINEBERRY PARKMASTERPLAN.html>.
- United States Census Bureau. 2000 and 2010. US Census Data. Retrieved from <http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>.