



Annual Report 2025

Mecklenburg County Park and
Recreation Commission

October 21, 2025

Park and Recreation



Annual Report Highlights

- Fix What is Broken First (Repair and Replace)
- Revisit Decrease of \$20.0 Million from Land Acquisitions Budget
- Renew Emphasis on Parks and Facilities in the Priority Community (Equity Funding)
- Budget Adjustments Given Financial Limitations
- Facilities Study
- Wish List (Extra Large Projects)
- Athletic Fields Middle School Projects
- Safety and Security





Repair and Replace

On several occasions the PRC has communicated to you our consensus opinion that the BOCC should first insist on **REPAIR**, **REPLACEMENT**, and **REINVESTMENT** in greenways, parks, and facilities before authorizing spending and investments in new projects.

This is the priority of the PRC.

Picture: Little Sugar Creek Greenway



Land Acquisition



Land acquisition is extremely important as land is rapidly disappearing. The PRC believes that the funds allocated to Land Acquisition is a monumental step towards funding our parks and recreation system. The PRC applauds and appreciates this funding decision by the BOCC.

Acquire land for recreation, ecosystem preservation, recycling, storm water management and to protect the quality of life in our community.



Equity Funding - Balance in Project Funding

The PRC supports the policy of a balance in types of projects funded in the CIP.

There is also a consensus on the PRC that limited progress has been made for new parks and facilities in priority communities.

In other words, **PARK DESERTS** remain.

Everyone deserves a great park.

PRC Budget Adjustment Recommendations for FY2027



BUDGET ADJUSTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Increase by \$6.0 Million/year Annual Reinvestment

(Projects < \$250,000)

Total \$10 Million Annually

Increase by \$5.0 Million/year Expanded Reinvestment

Projects

(Projects \$250,000 to \$1,000,000)

Total \$5.0 Million Annually

Increase by \$20.0 Million/year Land Acquisition

From \$30.0 Million to \$50.0 Million

Decrease by \$31.0 Million/year CIP Five Year Funding and
Institute Changes in the Rolling CIP

FACILITIES STUDY

Lack of priority for new community recreation centers, regional recreation centers and swimming pools was an obvious oversight in the current Masterplan Playbook.



Wish List Requests from Mecklenburg County Residents

- Bring all existing parks to Good or Excellent Condition
- Additional Community Recreation Centers (5 to 7 needed)
- Additional Regional Recreation Centers (2 more were originally proposed)
- Nature Preserve Completion
- New County Swimming Pools (Indoor and Outdoor)
- Greenway and Trails Completion
- Additional Parks in Underserved Areas
- Additional Sportsplexes
- Meck Aquatic Center Addition
- Grady Cole Center Replacement
- Additional Children's Athletic Fields
- Indoor Running Track
- Land Acquisition \$50 Million per year





ATHELTIC FIELDS - MIDDLE SCHOOL PROJECT

There is a serious shortage of athletic fields suitable for children's sports teams.



SAFETY AND SECURITY

The PRC has continually expressed our concerns for customer safety and our customers perception of safety in the parks, facilities and greenways.



Thank you

