

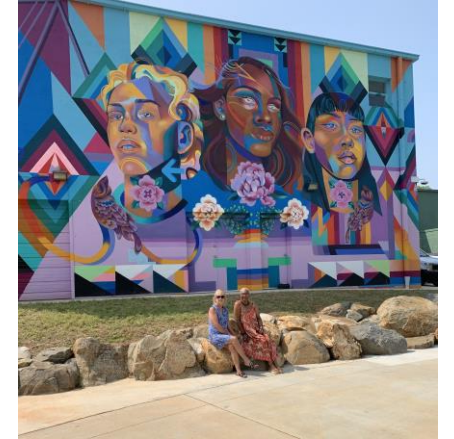


Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation Commission Annual Report 2023

October 17, 2023

INTRODUCTION

- What if you could make one investment in your community that simultaneously increased home values, generated more sales for local businesses, and attracted new jobs and employees? What if that investment also increased civic engagement, encouraged neighbors to get to know each other, and improved public health at the same time?
- Such an investment exists, and it's called a public park.
- Park and recreation facilities provide a wide range of benefits to a local community and the Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation Commission is pleased to present to you tonight a few of the contributions our parks have made to our economy as well as the health and well being of our citizens.

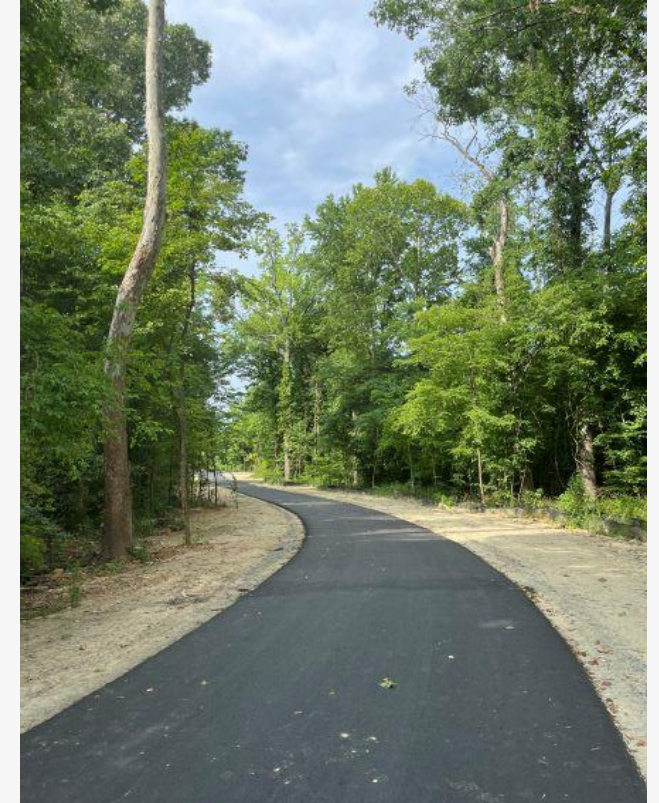


Source: hrg-inc.com: April 10, 2019



AGENDA

- Completed Capital Projects
- Capital Projects Underway
- Land Acquisition Updates
- Priorities and Focus areas
- 2029 CIP Budget Recommendations



Completed Capital Projects

Parks

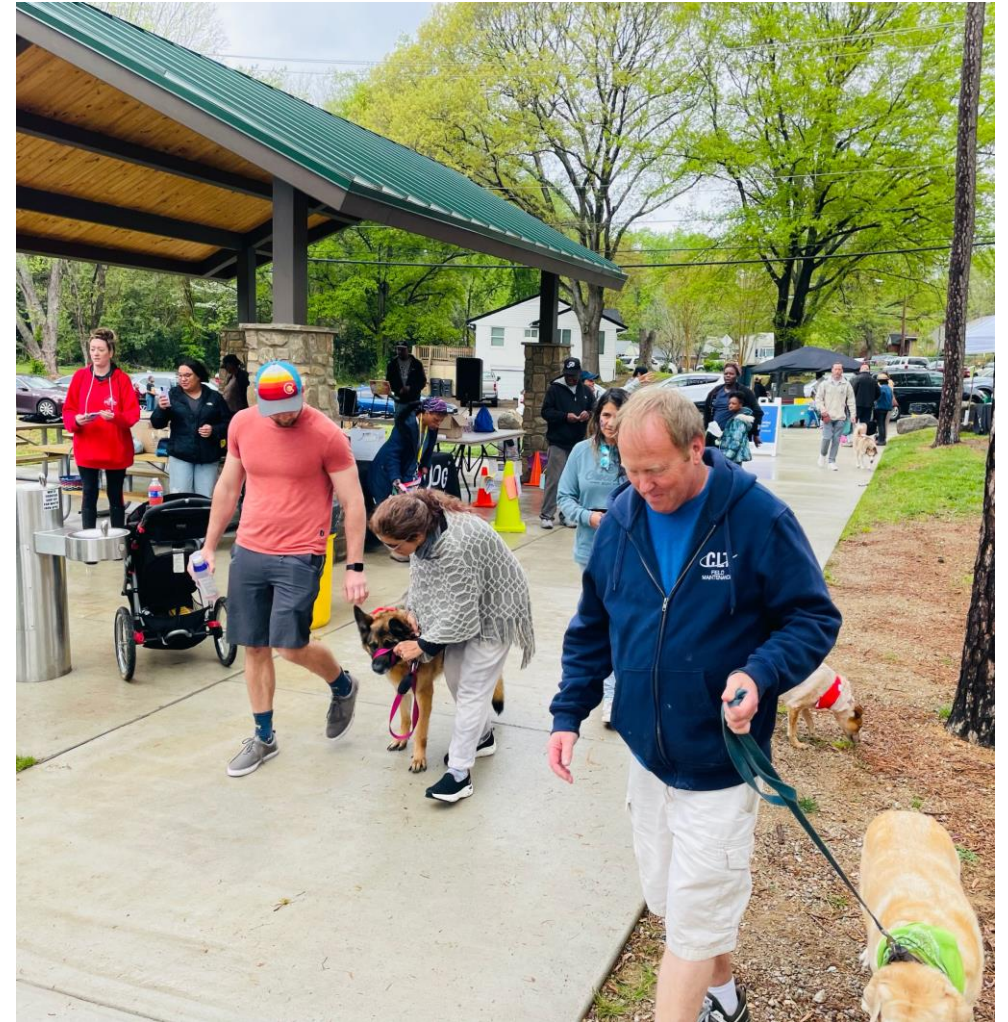
- Dowd Neighborhood
- Independence
- Wilmore Centennial Park @ South End
- Devonshire
- Enderly
- Mayerling Drive Neighborhood

Greenways

- Long Creek: 177–Treyburn
- Briar Creek
- Irwin Creek: Idlewild to Lakeview Circle
- Little Sugar Creek: Polk Historic Site to SC State Line

Facilities

- Marion Diehl/Sugaw Creek Recreation Center
- Northern Regional Center



Capital Projects In Progress

Parks

- Tryon Hills
- Druid Hills
- Fred Alexander

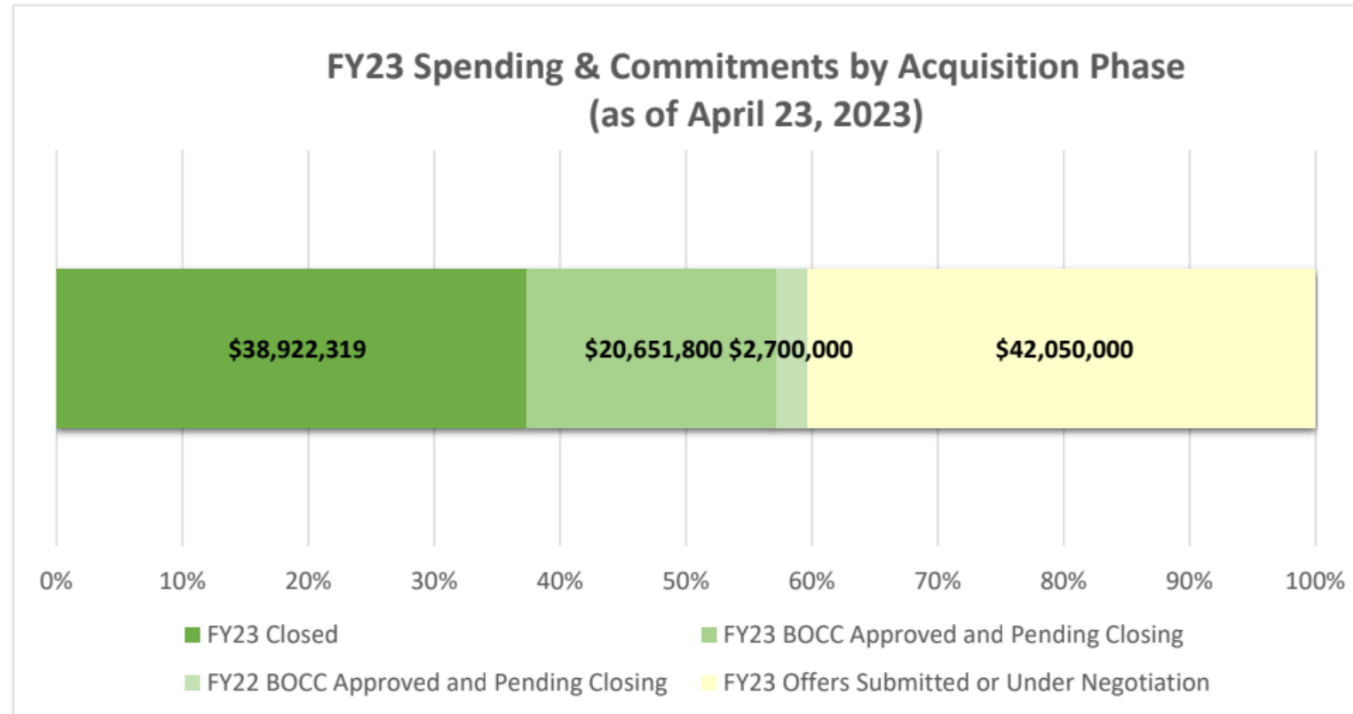
Greenways

- Stewart Creek Phase 2
- Paw Creek @ Robert L. Smith Park
- Reedy Creek
- Torrence Creek Tributary 2
- Caldwell Station Tributary
- Long Creek Phase 1 & 2



Land Acquisition Plans

Phase	# of Acquisitions
BOCC Approved and Pending Closing	13
Closed	30
Offer Submitted / Under Negotiation	13



Closed Land Acquisitions FY 2023

Summary of Acreage Acquired by Use *Does not include BOCC Approved & pending closing*

Use	Sum of Fee Simple Acres
Greenway	23.99
Nature Preserve	68.34
Park	286.48
Park & Greenway	9.55
Grand Total	388.36



Closed Land Acquisitions FY 2023: Acreage Summary



More Detailed Breakdown of Acreage Acquired by Use
Does not include BOCC Approved & pending closing



Greenway	23.99
017-142-74 Torrence Creek Trib II	3.74
025-103-08 Northwest Charlotte	0.79
027-105-90 Clarks Creek Greenway	0.74
064-10 Stewart Creek Greenway	2.4
129-041-37, 38, 40 Briar Creek Greenway	1.42
Caldwell Station Trib	1.11
Huntersville Downtown Greenway Easement	0.32
Irwins Creek Greenway	2.36
Six Mile Creek Greenway (Donation)	7.98
The Seam Trail Easement (Donation)	0.58
Torrence Creek Trib II	2.55
Nature Preserve	68.34
Coble Rd/Little Properties of Midland LLC	68.34
Park	286.48
East Mecklenburg	6.98
Northeast Charlotte	33.54
West Charlotte	34.84
045-241-13 Cedarwood Pointe Park	0.54
08303113 North Charlotte	0.76
167-191-01 Southwest Charlotte	6.73
219-124-22 Southwest Charlotte	5
East Charlotte	11.63
Mint Hill	26.96
North Charlotte	6.67
North Mecklenburg	91.61
North Mecklenburg	14.94
Northeast Charlotte	3.75
West Charlotte	15.07
East Charlotte	27.46
Park & Greenway	9.55
031-095-01 West Charlotte	9.55
Grand Total	388.36



2024 Priorities and Focus Areas

Improve Parks and Facilities in Poor Condition

- Evaluate needs and prioritize
- Assess biggest continued maintenance needs
- Allocate funding as needed

Expand Programming

- Inclusive of expanding playing fields, facilities and programs for children and seniors

Land Acquisition

- \$50M annual budget
- What are the needs or obstacles for more efficient and effective acquisitions?

Expand Parks and Facilities in Underserved Areas

- Continue to assess current locations and identify gaps and needs

Safety

- Acknowledge the need for an increase in the number of Park Rangers and other security measures to address public safety concerns



Proposed Park Projects for FY2029 CIP Budget

Parks and Nature Preserves: \$20.7M

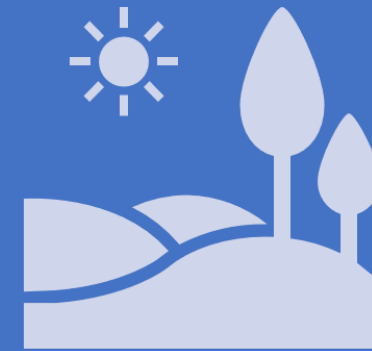
- Campbell Creek Park
- Derita Park
- Julian Underwood Park
- Wayfinding

Greenways: \$30.2M

- Little Sugar Creek Greenway (Parkwood Underpass)
- Sugar Creek Greenway (McDowell Farms Dr. to Arrowood Rd.)
- Irwin Creek Greenway (Crestridge to Sugar to Sugar Creek Greenway Yorkmont Rd)

Greenways with Partnerships: \$23.3M

- Irwin Creek Greenway (Clanton to Crestridge)
- Irwin Creek Greenway (Hamilton to Ex Irwin Creeks Greenway Rays Splash Planet)
- McDowell Creek Greenway (Catawba Avenue to Westmoreland Rd.)



Current Total: \$74.2

Subject to change based on
further recommendations



In Conclusion

- Investments made to local parks, facilities, nature preserves and greenways not only raise the standard of living in our neighborhoods but also spark activity that can ripple throughout the economy of Mecklenburg County.
- The information we have provided demonstrates how Mecklenburg County residents' tax dollars are being spent on their parks and facilities.
- We are deeply concerned that available land for parks will be substantially diminished by the year 2030.
- The rolling CIP recommendation of \$74.2m for FY2029 is subject to change.
- We greatly appreciate the BOCC's support for our FY24-28 Park Projects.

