



Johnston County Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Update to the 2015 plan

Prepared for:



April 2021



PREPARED FOR: JOHNSTON COUNTY



PREPARED BY:



NOTE: ELEMENTS OF THIS PLAN ARE FROM
THE 2015 JOHNSTON COUNTY PARKS &
RECREATION MASTER PLAN COMPLETED IN
PARTNERSHIP WITH



Overview





Introduction

Johnston County is located within the Inner Coastal Plains of North Carolina. As a community in this region, and within the Neuse River Basin, residents and visitors can explore and enjoy cultural and natural treasures from small town main streets to state forest lands. The charm and character throughout the county celebrate a history of agriculture and a future filled with ample opportunities to live, learn, and play. The cross-roads of I-95 and I-40 lies within Johnston County - connecting the nation's North and South with East and West. Its location places it only a two-hour drive from Atlantic coast beaches and a four-hour drive from the Blue Ridge Mountains. Johnston County is home to eleven towns, listed in order of size: Clayton, Smithfield, Selma, Benson, Archer Lodge, Kenly, Four Oaks, Pine Level, Princeton, Wilson's Mills, and Micro.

In 2015 the Johnston County Visitors Bureau, in partnership with the JC Sports Council and Johnston County, sought assistance to craft the first ever Johnston County Parks Master Plan. The purpose was to address the County's growth and to create a desirable place to visit, live, work, and play. This initial efforts for improved recreation within the County came in 2006 when the County adopted its first recreation initiative called the "Recreation Capital Improvement Priorities." This information and the priorities described were the basis of the passing of the first County-wide bond for recreation in 2006. The 2006 effort

and plan were met with success and the participating municipalities, athletic organizations, and non-profit groups that participated support the continuation of County recreation efforts. The 2015 plan laid the foundation for the new planning position in Johnston County, the Greenways and Open Space coordinator, and the newly formed "Friends of Johnston County Parks."

In response to these new efforts, the County wanted an update and interim review of the findings and actions presented in the 2015 plan. This update builds upon the support and success of the County's efforts thus far and presents an updated inventory of findings, input from the community, and review of the level of services presented in the 2015 plan. The result is an updated list of action items to continue the County's efforts of elevating the quality of recreation offerings throughout Johnston County.

The plan illustrates how information was gathered and layered to achieve an understanding of the existing conditions, resulting in clear action steps based on the vision and goals of the County.

OVERVIEW This section includes an overview of state guidance, the role of counties in parks and recreation, the planning process, and the plan's vision and goals.

INVENTORY Section two details an inventory of the facilities within the County.

DEMAND + SUPPLY The third section illustrates GIS modeling that was used to understand the composition of the community.

PUBLIC INPUT Fourth is a short summary of public input.

RECOMMENDATIONS A fifth section includes maps and tables with recommendations. The accompaniment of this section is GIS data provided to the county which organizes facilities by type and presents greenway connection opportunities.

PRORAGIS The sixth section is a workbook for the County to begin recording data to be entered into the National Recreation and Parks Association's (NRPA) Park and Recreation Operating Ratio and Geographic Information System (PRORAGIS) database. Three comparison communities are included to begin cross referencing budget, staffing, and resources offered.

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- Overview
 - Inventory Update (in appendix)
 - About Johnston County
 - Public Input
 - Analysis
 - Recommendations

County and Municipal Roles of Recreation within Johnston County

Johnston County is somewhat unique within the region and state of North Carolina due to their different role in county wide recreation. While typical county park systems consist of various open space lands that preserve natural resources, protect wildlife, and provide recreation opportunities and programming, Johnston County does not currently provide these services. Instead, Johnston County aims to improve community recreation facilities within the county, leaving individual municipalities responsible for the maintenance, management and operation of those facilities.

Collectively, the county supports, in some capacity, over 40 public parks and facilities within the municipalities in Johnston County. The county continues to assess recreational needs and identify gaps in service to be filled. Improving quality of life for all residents, creating desirable locations for visitors and contributing to overall prosperity within the county are priorities.

Municipal Parks within Johnston County primarily provide facilities for active or passive recreation, with scheduled and unscheduled recreation activities and programming, serving as social gathering and recreation hubs within the towns they serve. Park size, facilities, and offerings vary among the communities, and many serve their residents needs daily. Each municipality is responsible for the programming within their community parks and recreation systems, the management of their parks, open spaces and community programs, as well as the day-to-day operations of each of their towns facilities.

Understanding the recreational roles of the county versus the municipal recreational roles within the county underscores the importance of each facility and the community they serve. Each facility contributes to the quality of life of citizens, the health and wellness of the community, and the desire to attract visitors.

Process

The foundation of the plan is in existing conditions and previous planning efforts. In order to learn about residents' recreational needs and follow the vision created for the plan, a systematic planning process was set in place to identify recreational needs, to determine if the need is currently being met, and to establish a plan of action for identifying what resources are needed to meet demand and plan for the future.

VISION

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Johnston county parks and recreation master plan is to bring together Parks & Recreation Departments and county-wide sports organizations to help identify recreation facilities and to ensure there are physical and educational recreational resources available to all users. The goal is to promote and support healthy lifestyles for Johnston county residents and visitors through conservation of resources, health and wellness, and equal opportunity for all.

GOALS

Promote healthy lifestyles | Provide physical fitness and education for all regardless of socioeconomic, ages, skills, abilities
Employ recreation as economic driver while still protecting small town resources | Improve and develop facilities
Promote strengths of Johnston County: Homes- Schools- Recreation

PROCESS

discovery + data collection

Demographics

Past Plans

Existing Facilities and Programs

Where Does County recreation "fit" in a parks system? While some municipalities maintain an inventory of recreation facilities within the County, no comprehensive mapping database or inventory exists that outlines the function and amenities of each park. It was important to identify existing plans and other planning efforts, analyze comparative County data, identify parks and park features, and understand the condition of those facilities. The project team worked with the County Sports Council and project committee to create a matrix for this inventory to aid in the evaluation.

needs assessment + analysis

Committee

Interviews

Public Input

Survey

Inventory

It is critical to understand the perception of residents and visitors. This was accomplished by conducting an online survey which was posted on various websites and distributed through mass email, flyers, and hard copy throughout the County.

recommendations + cross checking

Standards: Local and National

Input Results

Future Growth

All of the above information was identified, evaluated, and analyzed. This information, along with focus group meetings and inventory items, was used to determine the overall needs for recreation. Recommendations for actions were established to reflect the findings throughout the planning process. These recommendations are presented as action items in the immediate (0-2 years); near term (5 years); and Long term (10 years).

Recommendations + Action Steps + Staff Commitment



Getting to know Johnston County



Getting to Know Johnston County

When looking at park and recreation needs, it's important to look at the demographic data of your county. The following information summarizes Johnston County, North Carolina's total population and key characteristics including the age of residents, income levels, race and ethnicity. While historical patterns typically indicate future projections, it is worth noting that projections are not always a true indicator of future patterns as there may be unforeseen variables that impact changes within the county in the future. One of the key reasons for additional evaluation of the 2015 plan is to understand the growth that has occurred, and compare updated community input to the information discovered in 2015.

Johnston County, North Carolina Population 2020

Johnston County, North Carolina's estimated population is 215,986 with a growth rate of 3.18% in the past year according to the most recent United States census data. Johnston County, North Carolina is the 13th largest county in North Carolina. The 2010 Population was 169,678 and has seen a growth of 27.29% since this time.

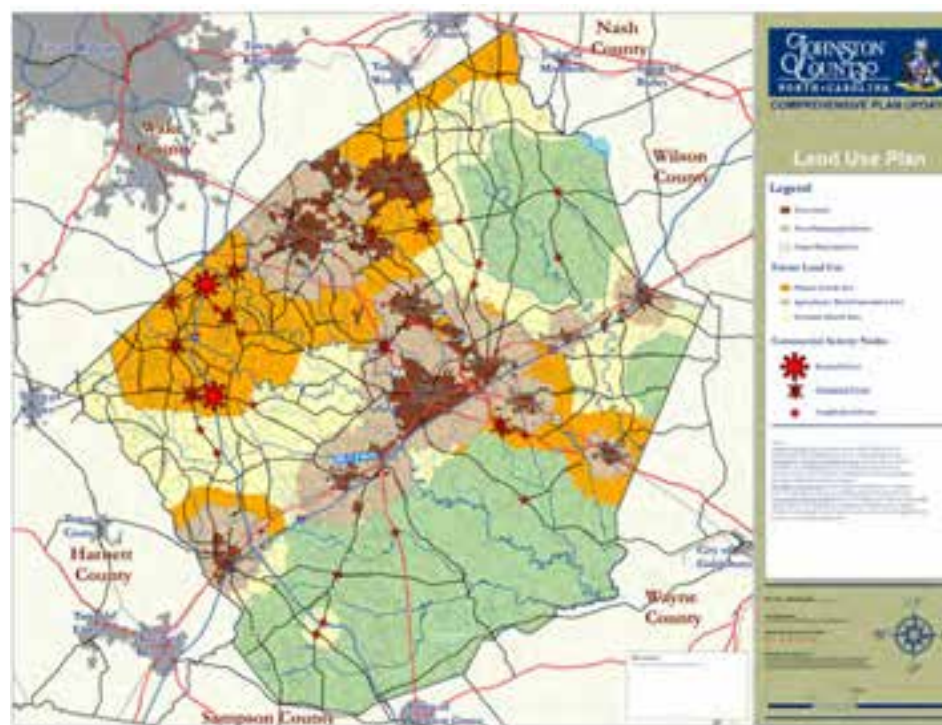
Year	Population	Growth	Growth Rate
2020	215,986	6,647	3.18%
2019	209,339	6,647	3.28%
2018	202,692	6,318	3.22%
2017	196,374	5,531	2.90%
2016	190,843	5,739	3.10%
2015	185,104	4,394	2.43%

According to the U.S. Census Bureau estimated data, dated July 1, 2019, the following is a brief synopsis of demographic information in Johnston County:

- Total population 209,339
- Total households 68,968
- Median age 38.1
- Median household income \$59,865

Johnston County has experienced significant growth during the last decade. It is estimated the population change from April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2019 has been a 24% increase, which is well above the national growth rate of 6.3% during that same time period, as well as the state of North Carolina rate of 10%. It is anticipated that Johnston county will continuing growing in the future as economic drivers seek opportunities within the county.

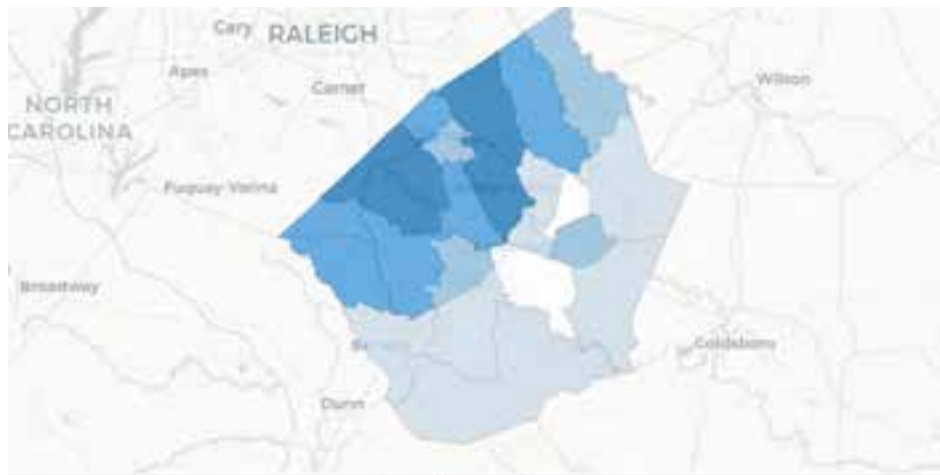
The following map depicts current land use in Johnston County, highlighting growth as well as commercial activity nodes as it pertains to populations within the county.



The total households in Johnston County is estimated at 68,968 with an average of 2.83 people per household, which is above both the state average of 2.52 and the national average of 2.62 people per household.

Johnston County has a population with a median age of 38.1 and is in line with the national average median age of 38.4. The county population is moderately diverse, with an estimated 78.8% of the population in the White Alone category. The Black or African American alone category is estimated at 17% of the total county population and the largest minority. The racial diversity within Johnston County's communities is similar to or slightly less than the national population diversity throughout the country as well as the state of North Carolina. The Hispanic/Latino ethnicity represent approximately 14.1% of the total population.

The median household income of Johnston County is \$59,865 (in 2019 dollars) which is higher than the state median but slightly lower than the national median of \$62,843. The per capita income is \$27,924, which is lower than both the state and national data. Roughly, 12.5% of Johnston County residents live in poverty, which is slightly lower than the state poverty percentage of 13.6%, but higher than the national poverty percentage of 10.5%.



Median Household Income

\$22.4k - \$37.4k	\$37.5k - \$47.4k	\$47.5k - \$55.8k	\$55.9k - \$67.5k	\$67.6k+
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2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018

Income by location and median household income

The following figure summarizes key Johnston County demographic figures in comparison to both the state of North Carolina as well as the United States population.

2019 U.S. Census Bureau Demographic Data		Johnston County	North Carolina	United States
Total Population	Population Estimate	209,339	10,488,084	328,239,523
	Population Percent Change (2010-2019)	24.00%	10.00%	6.30%
Households	Number of Households	88,968	3,965,482	120,756,048
	Persons per Household	2.83	2.52	2.62
Age Distribution	Median Age	38.1	38.9	37.9
	Ages 0-5	6.20%	5.80%	6.00%
	Ages 6-18	25.20%	21.90%	22.30%
	Ages 65 and over	13.60%	16.70%	16.50%
Race	White Alone	78.80%	70.60%	76.30%
	Black or African American alone	13.00%	22.20%	13.40%
	American Indian and Alaska Native alone	0.90%	1.60%	1.30%
	Asian alone	0.90%	3.20%	5.90%
	Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	0.10%	0.10%	0.20%
	Two or More Races	2.70%	2.30%	2.80%
Hispanic or Latino	Hispanic or Latino	14.10%	9.80%	18.50%
	All Others	7.00%	62.60%	60.10%
Income	Median Household Income	\$59,865	\$54,602	\$62,843
	Per Capita Income	\$27,924	\$30,781	\$34,101
	Person in Poverty	12.50%	13.60%	10.50%



The 2015 plan evaluated growth patterns related to land use for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, the following information outlines that process and the results of the evaluation:

Demand Introduction

The consultant team conducted a Live, Work, Play Analysis for Johnston County Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The Live, Work, Play model identifies expected demand for parks and greenways by overlaying the locations where people live, work, play, and go to school into a composite sketch of regional demand. The results can be used to help identify areas in need of improvement and where there is high demand for parks and recreation facilities.

This chapter summarizes the method and results of Live, Work, Play Analysis for the project study area. The models were tailored to Johnston County using the available data. The demand model analyzed the county with special attention paid to the municipalities located within the boundary.

DATA SOURCES

The following data inputs were incorporated into the Live, Work, Play model. Table I displays each variable, its source, and notes on limitations of the available data and assumptions that were made.

Table I: Sources of the Live, Work, Play Model Inputs

MODEL INPUT	Source	Notes
TOTAL POPULATION	2010 U.S. Census	Summarized by census block
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT	2010 U.S. Census	Summarized by census block
SCHOOL LOCATIONS	Johnston County	Includes elementary, middle, and high schools; charter schools; and colleges
PARKS	Johnston County	
COMMERCIAL DESTINATIONS	2010 U.S. Census	Commercial destinations are approximated by service sector jobs (Retail trade; arts, entertainment, recreation; accommodation and food services; other services)



Live, Work, Play Analysis Methodology

OVERVIEW

The Live, Work, Play Analysis is an objective, data-driven process to identify the demand for parks and greenways. The demand potential was measured based on the proximity and density of trip generators (such as homes and workplaces) and trip attractors (such as shopping centers and parks) to establish potential for walking and bicycling trips. The resulting models represent “heat maps” that displays hot spots based on the live, work, play and learn factors and then as a heat map showing a composite of all the factors.

DEMAND MODEL

APPROACH

The demand model identifies expected pedestrian and bicycle activity by overlaying the locations where people live, work, play, and go

to school into a composite sketch of regional demand. Figure I summarizes this approach.

SCALE OF ANALYSIS

The demand model relies on spatial consistency in order to generate logical distance and density patterns. It is for this reason that all scores are aggregated to a central location at the census block level, the census block corner. Census blocks closely represent the street network and therefore Census block corners closely represent street corners, where foot and bicycle traffic is prevalent. This method is based on the Low-Stress Bicycling and Network Connectivity report (Mineta Transportation Institute, May 2012). The report discusses the benefits of using a smaller geographic setting for pedestrian and bicycle demand analyses rather than using more traditional traffic model features such as census block groups, census tracts, or traffic analysis zones. Due to the low

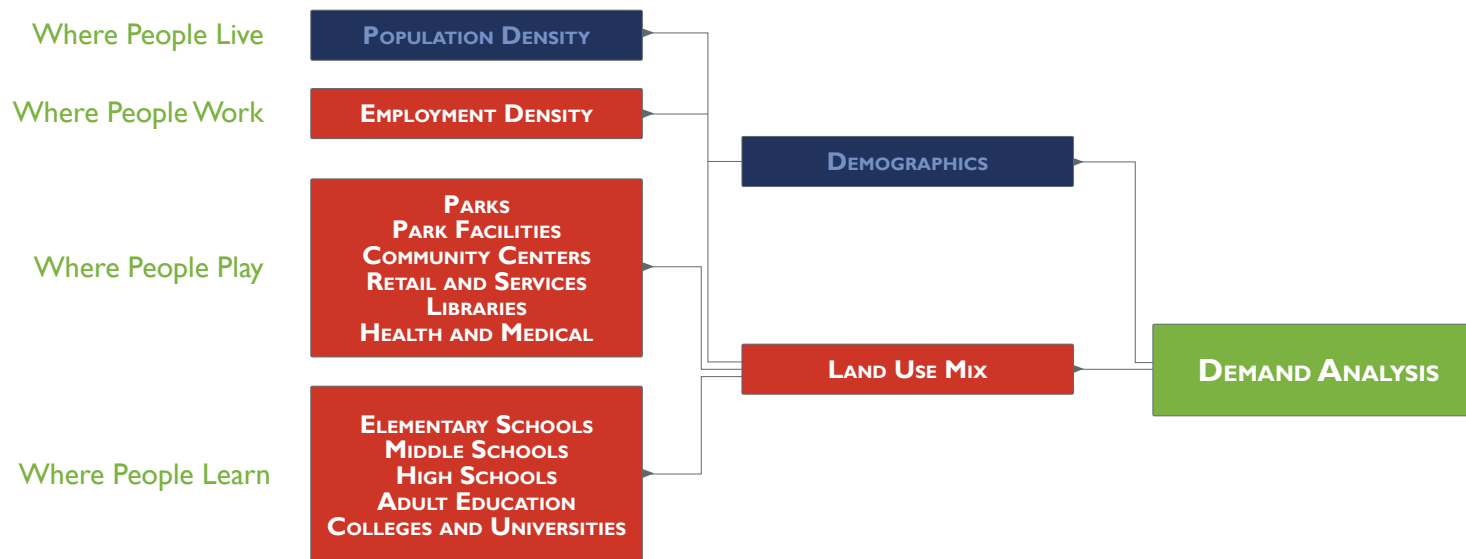
speed of pedestrian movement, a much smaller geographic unit of analysis is needed.

SCORING METHOD

The demand model’s scoring method is a function of density and proximity. Scores are a result of two complementing forces: distance decay – the effect of distance on spatial interactions yields lower scores for features farther away from other features; and spatial density – the effect of closely clustered features yields higher scores. Scores will increase in high feature density areas and if those features are close together. Scores will decrease in low feature density areas and if features are further apart.

The “learn” component of the analysis was weighted to establish the demand for parks and greenways based on the institution. The weighting of features is provided in the appendix.

Figure I: Demand Model Approach



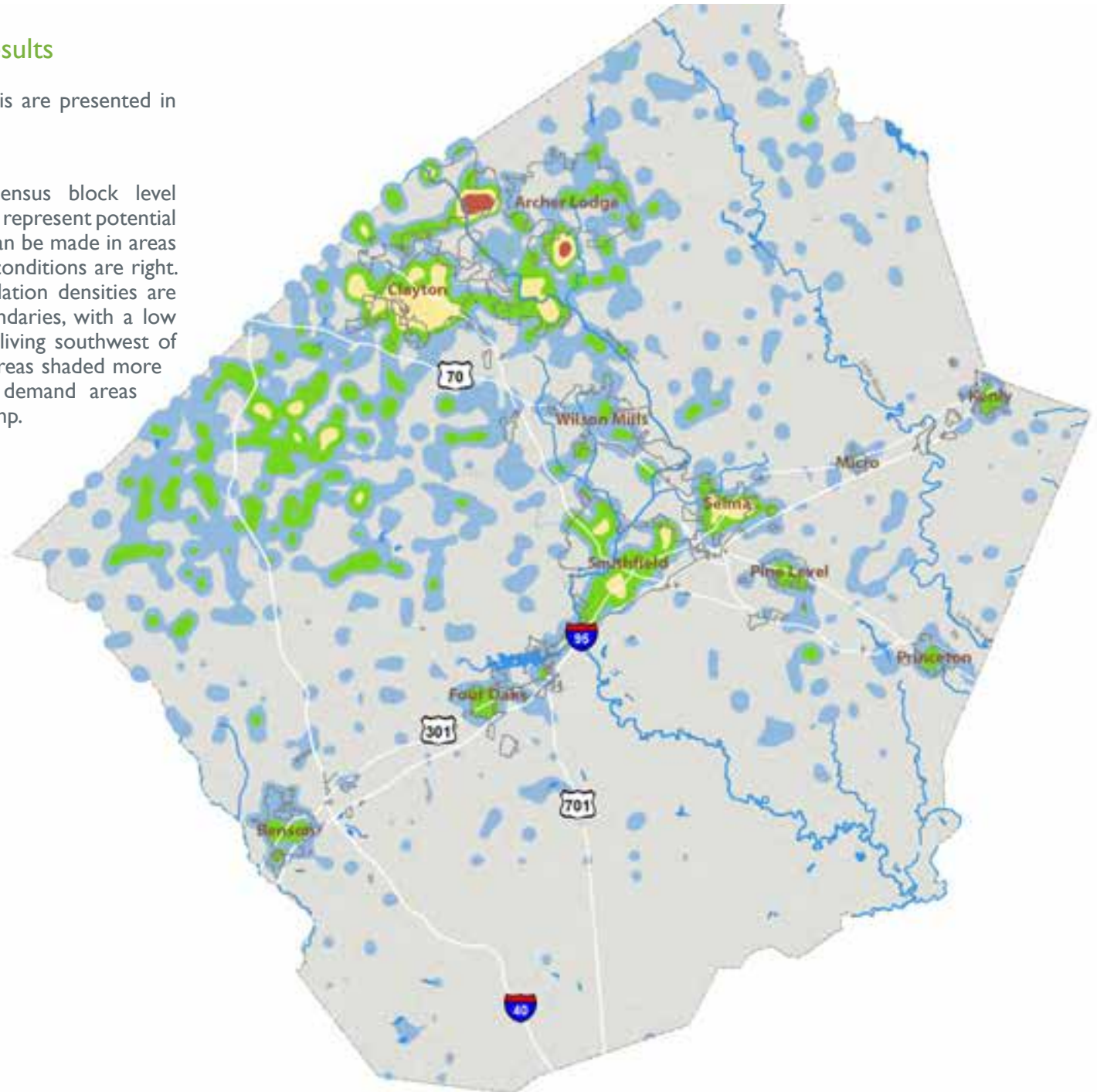
Live, Work, Play Analysis Results

DEMAND MODEL

The results of the demand analysis are presented in the following map series.

WHERE PEOPLE LIVE

This category includes 2010 census block level population density. These locations represent potential trip origin locations. More trips can be made in areas with higher population density if conditions are right. The areas with the highest population densities are within the various municipal boundaries, with a low to medium density of individuals living southwest of the Clayton. As for all maps, the areas shaded more deeply in red represent higher demand areas relative to other colors on the ramp.

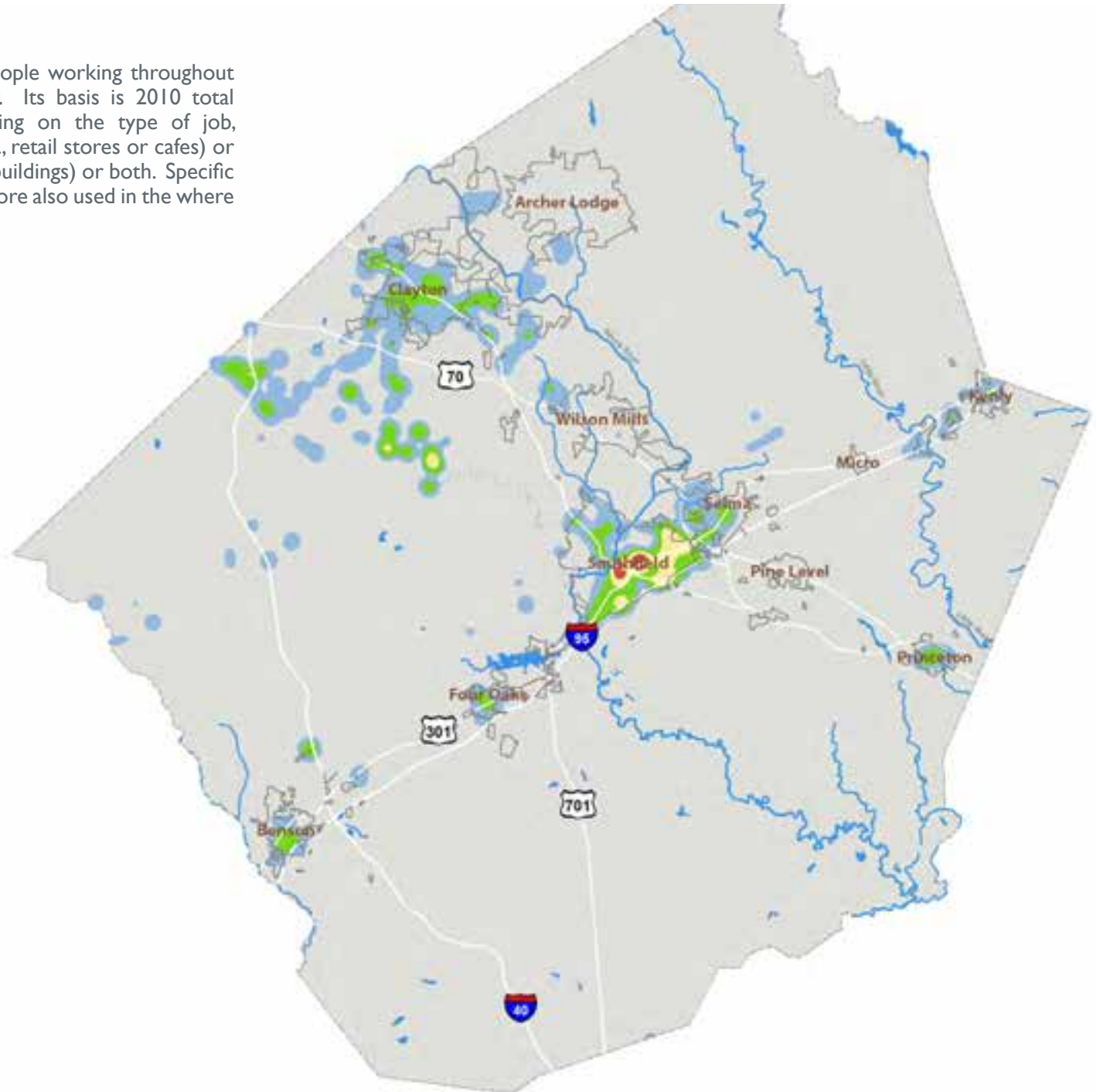


DEMAND CONCENTRATION



WHERE PEOPLE WORK

This category represents trip ends for people working throughout Johnston County regardless of residency. Its basis is 2010 total employment by census block. Depending on the type of job, employment can act as a trip attractor (i.e., retail stores or cafes) or trip generator (i.e., office parks and office buildings) or both. Specific employment types, such as retail, are therefore also used in the where people play category.



DEMAND CONCENTRATION

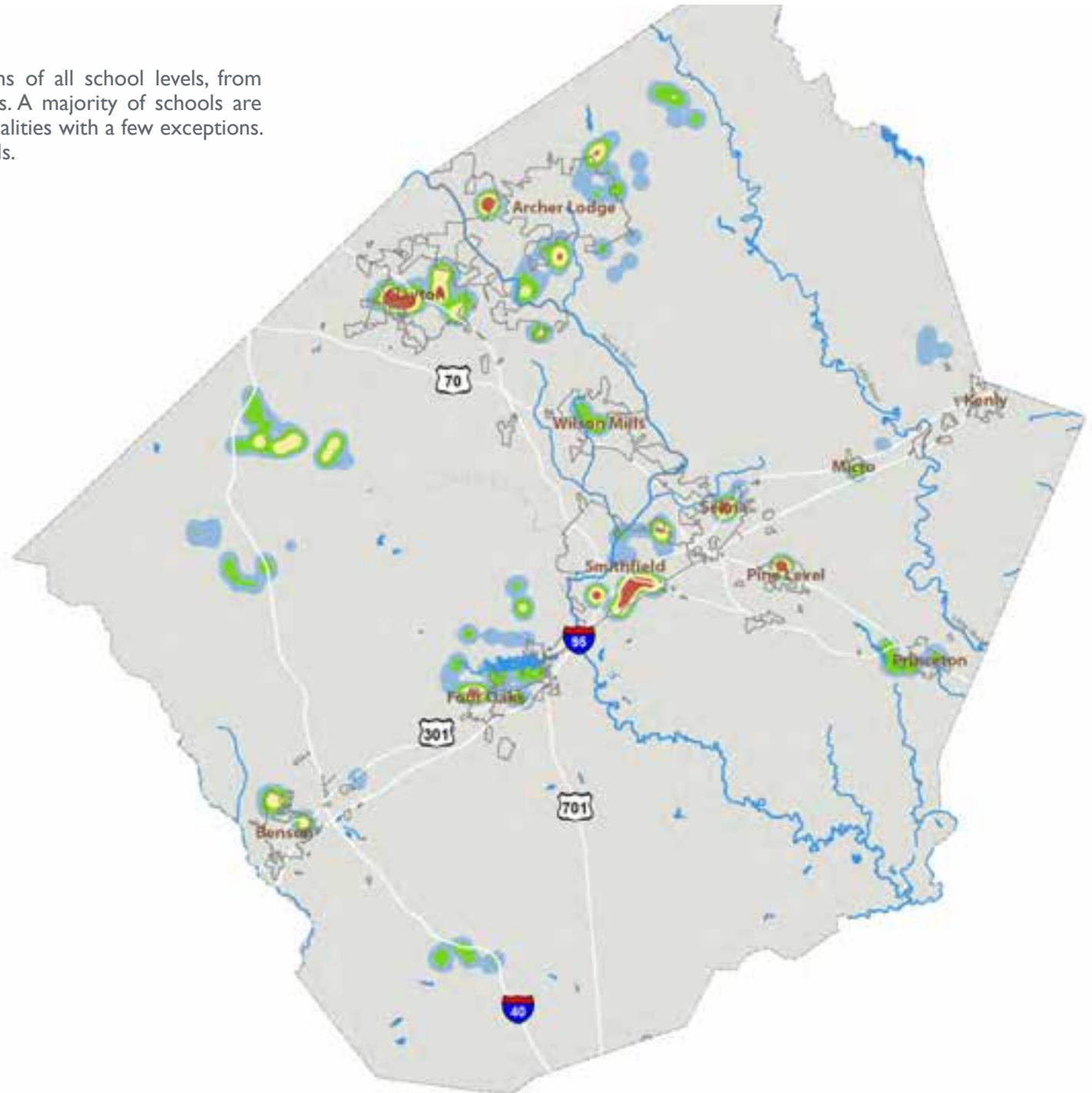


Low High

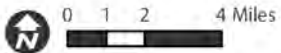


WHERE PEOPLE LEARN

This category shows the locations of all school levels, from elementary schools to universities. A majority of schools are located within the various municipalities with a few exceptions. See the appendix for scoring details.

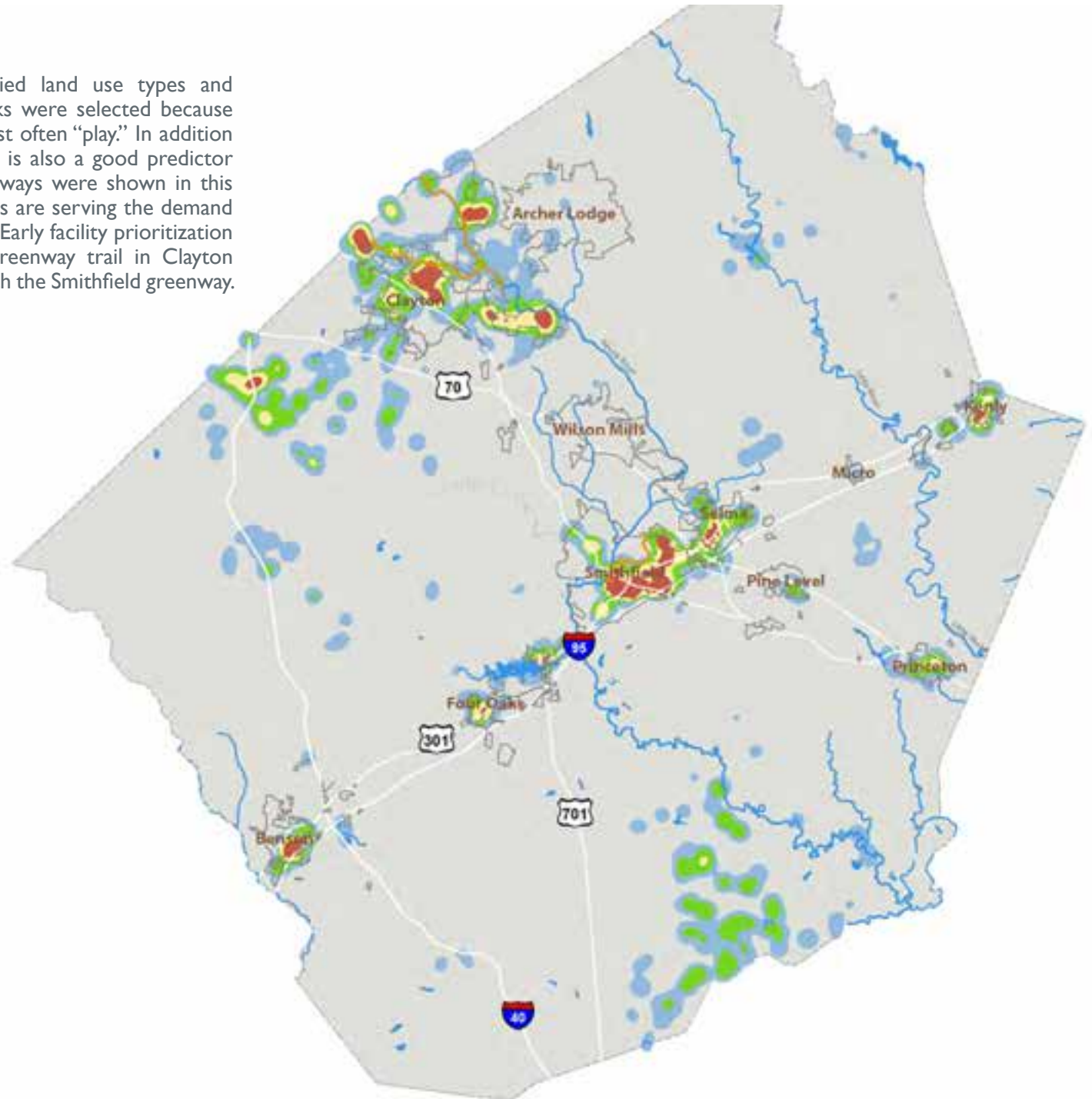
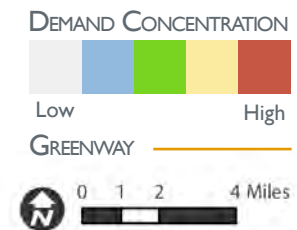


DEMAND CONCENTRATION



WHERE PEOPLE PLAY

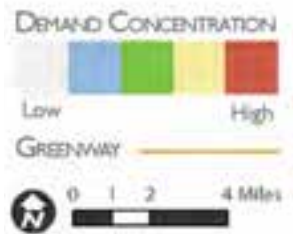
This category is a combination of varied land use types and destinations. Retail destinations and parks were selected because they are land use types where people most often “play.” In addition to where residents often “play,” this layer is also a good predictor of where tourist will be attracted. Greenways were shown in this map to illustrate how well current facilities are serving the demand and where future opportunities may exist. Early facility prioritization shows a strong need to continue the greenway trail in Clayton further south and to form a connection with the Smithfield greenway.



COMPOSITE DEMAND

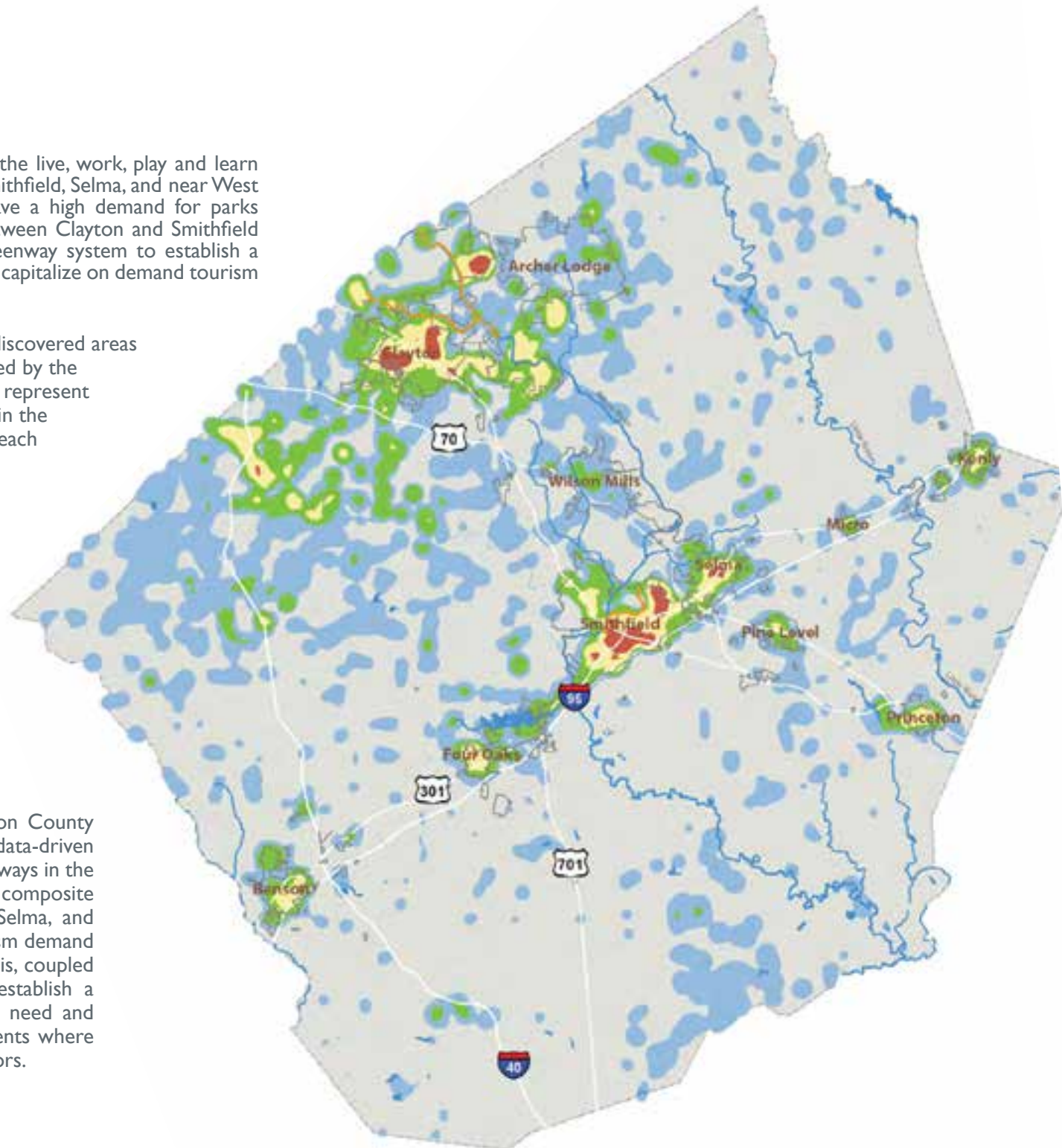
Figure 2 displays the composite demand for the live, work, play and learn factors. Large parts of downtown Clayton, Smithfield, Selma, and near West View Elementary (Southwest of Clayton) have a high demand for parks and greenways. The high level of demand between Clayton and Smithfield represent a need to expand the existing greenway system to establish a connection between the two municipalities to capitalize on demand tourism and residential demand.

It is important to note that this analysis also discovered areas of demand that are not being sufficiently served by the current park and greenway facilities. To better represent this, a service area analysis will be completed in the next iteration of this report to establish the reach of the park and greenway facilities and where the supply can be improved to match the current demand.



Conclusions

The Live, Work Play Analysis for the Johnston County Parks and Recreation Master Plan provides a data-driven illustration of the demand for parks and greenways in the study area. The results demonstrate strong composite demand in downtown Clayton, Smithfield, Selma, and near West View Elementary, with strong tourism demand existing in Clayton and Smithfield. This analysis, coupled with the future service area analysis, will establish a strong starting point for determining facility need and guide prioritization of infrastructure investments where they will be most useful to residents and visitors.



COUNTY INVENTORY

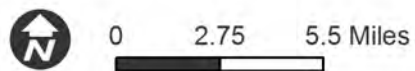
The following aggregate inventory of county facilities is based on the above facility worksheets. The inventoried quantity may vary slightly for select park assets/amenities due to human error and limited review oversight.

The complete Johnston County Updated inventory of facilities can be found within the report appendix. This is a summary of facilities and their locations. These facilities are represented on the adjacent overall park location map and the following community park pages for reference on service areas within the County.

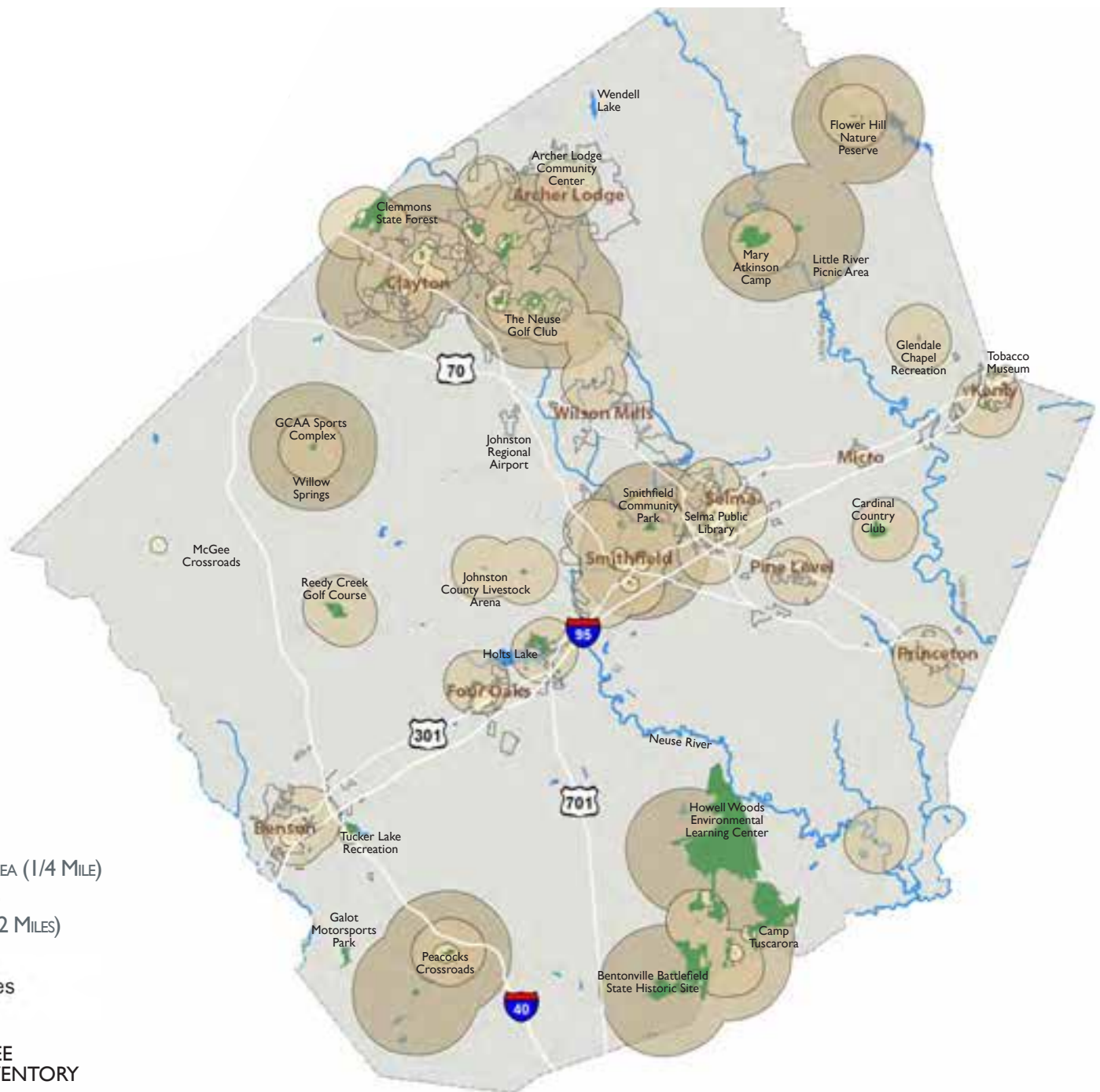
PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity
BASKETBALL COURT	11
SWING SET	26
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	149
PICNIC SHELTER	34
PLAYGROUND	24
BASEBALL	38
SOCCER	17
VOLLEYBALL	5
GYMNASIUM	2
TRACK/WALKING TRAIL/HORSEBACK RIDING	12
BOCCE	9
SHUFFLEBOARD	5
HORSESHOES	10
FISHING	2
CAMPING	1
RIVER ACCESS	2
CANOEING/KAYAKING	2
TENNIS	23
HUNTING (PROGRAM)	1
BIRD WATCHING (PROGRAM)	1
COMMUNITY CENTER	1
AMPHITHEATER	1
WATER FOUNTAIN	11
GRILL	10
DISC GOLF	1
MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL	1
FOOTBALL	1

COMPOSITE PARK SERVICE AREAS

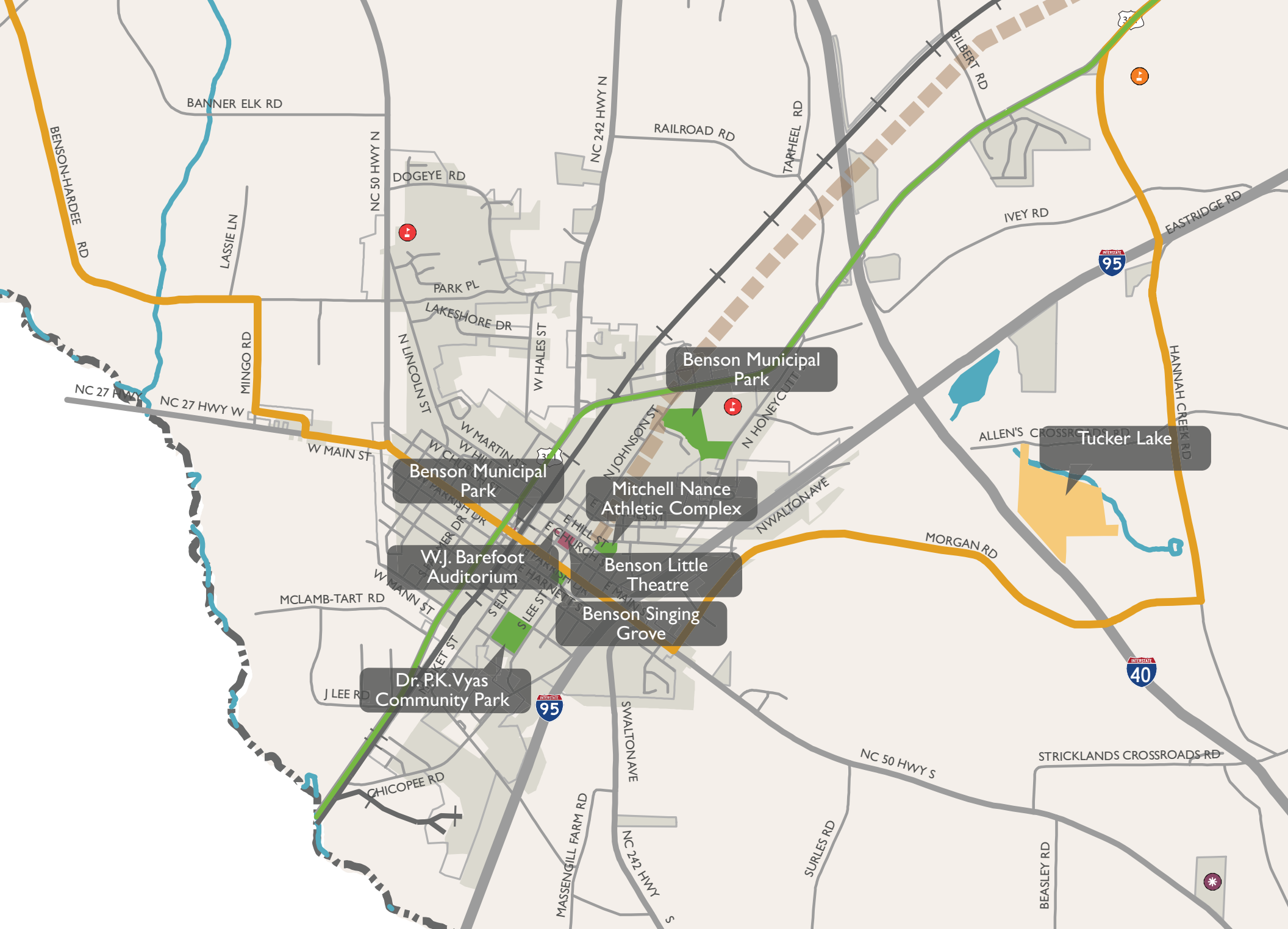
- STATE & LOCAL PARKS
- NEIGHBORHOOD PARK SERVICE AREA (1/4 MILE)
- AREA PARK SERVICE AREA (1 MILE)
- COMMUNITY PARK SERVICE AREA (2 MILES)

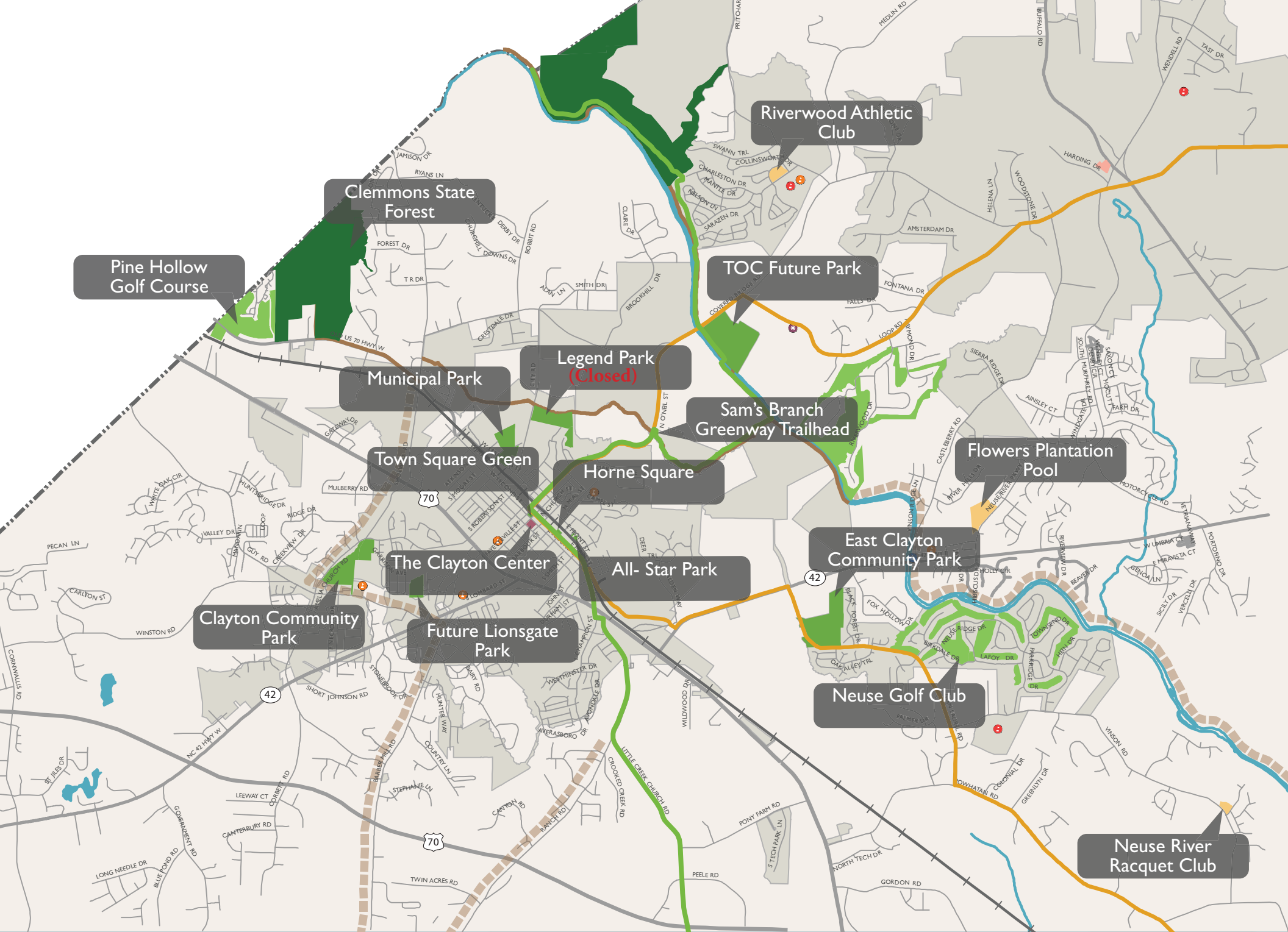


FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, SEE
COMMUNITY PARK MAPS IN INVENTORY









Clayton



Four Oaks



Glendale Chapel Park
& Community Center

Tobacco Museum

American Legion

Kenly Gospel
Music Hall

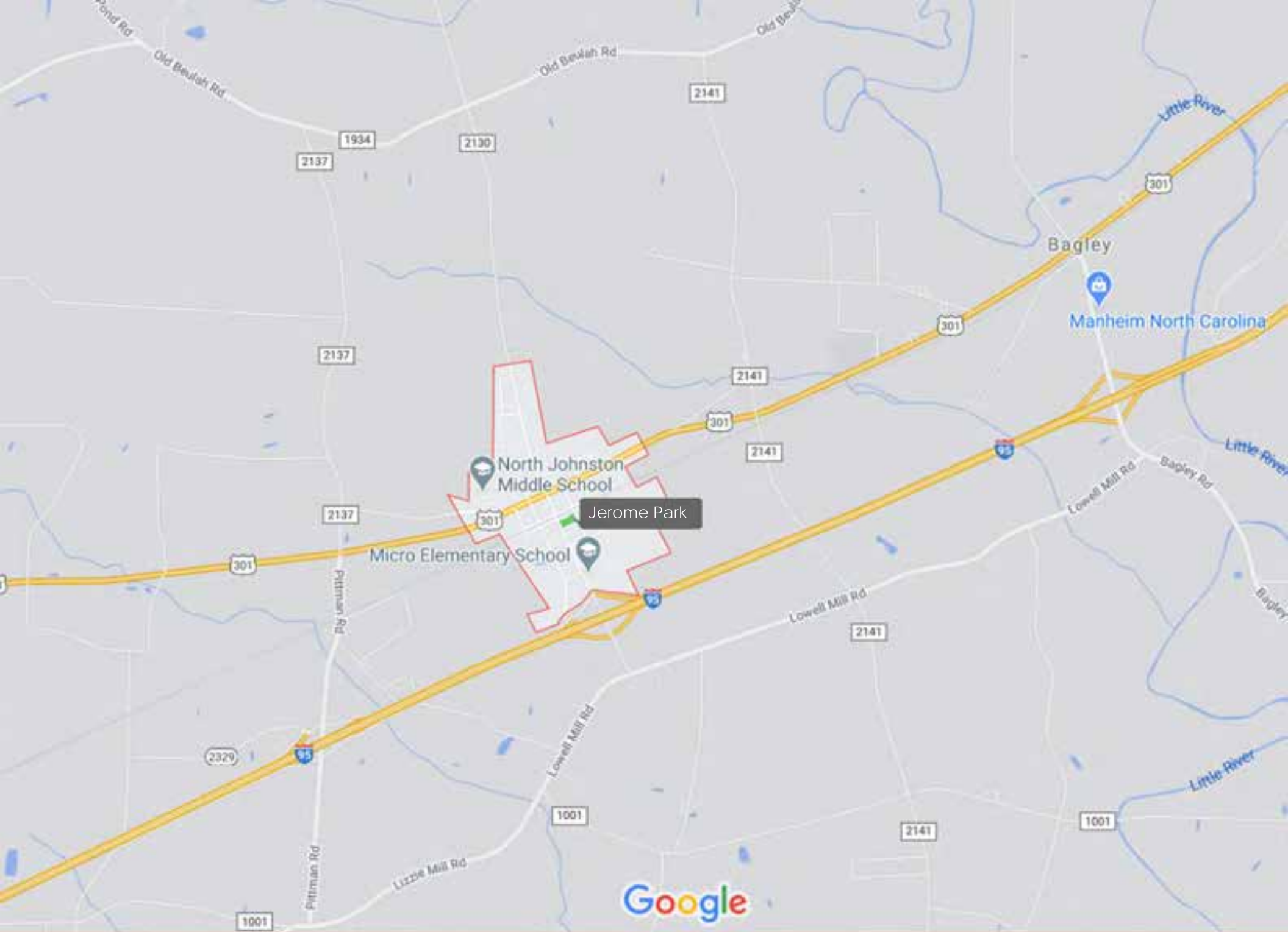
Kenly Civic Center

Grady Park

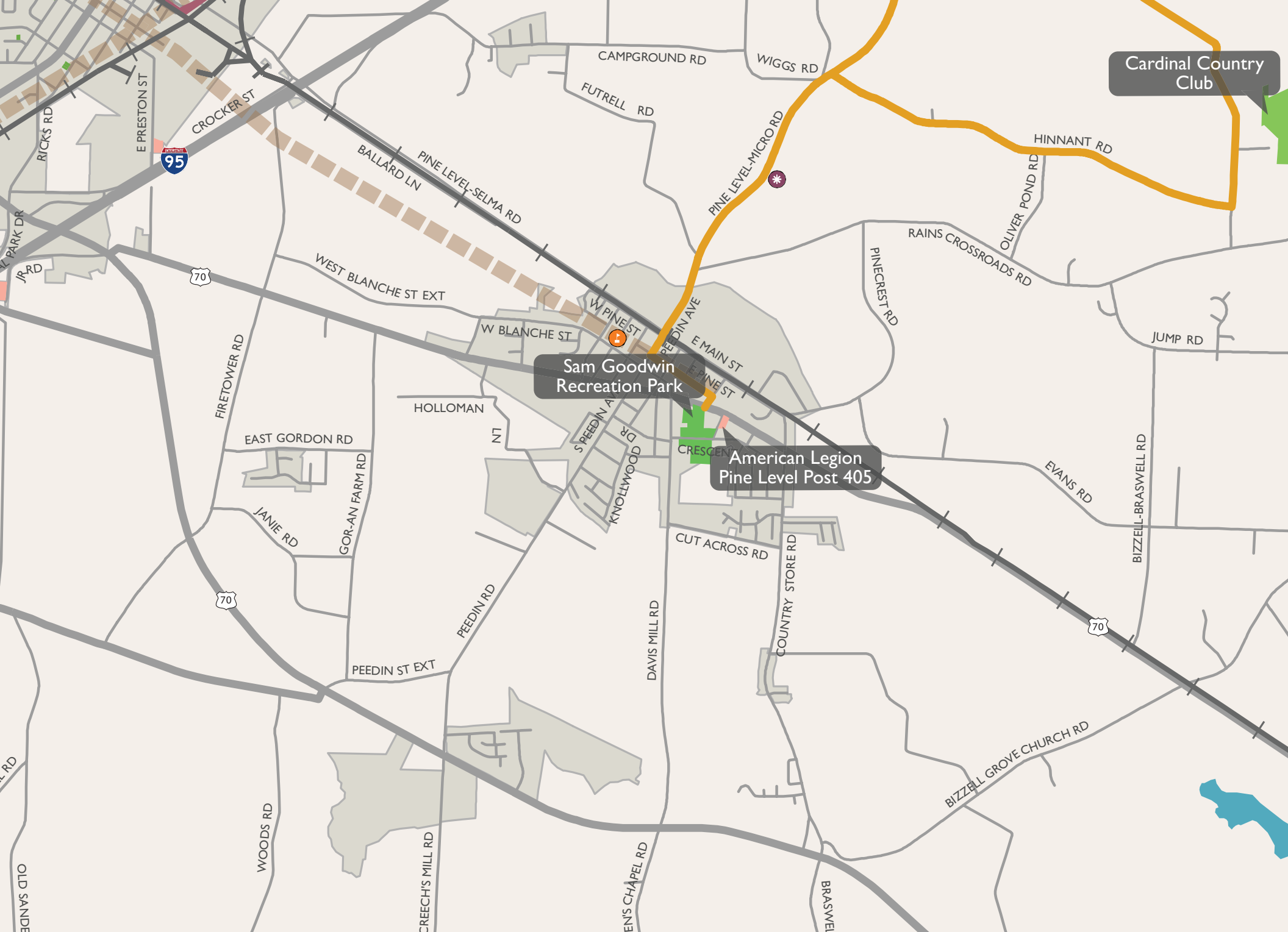
Kenly Parks and
Recreation

Kenly Pool

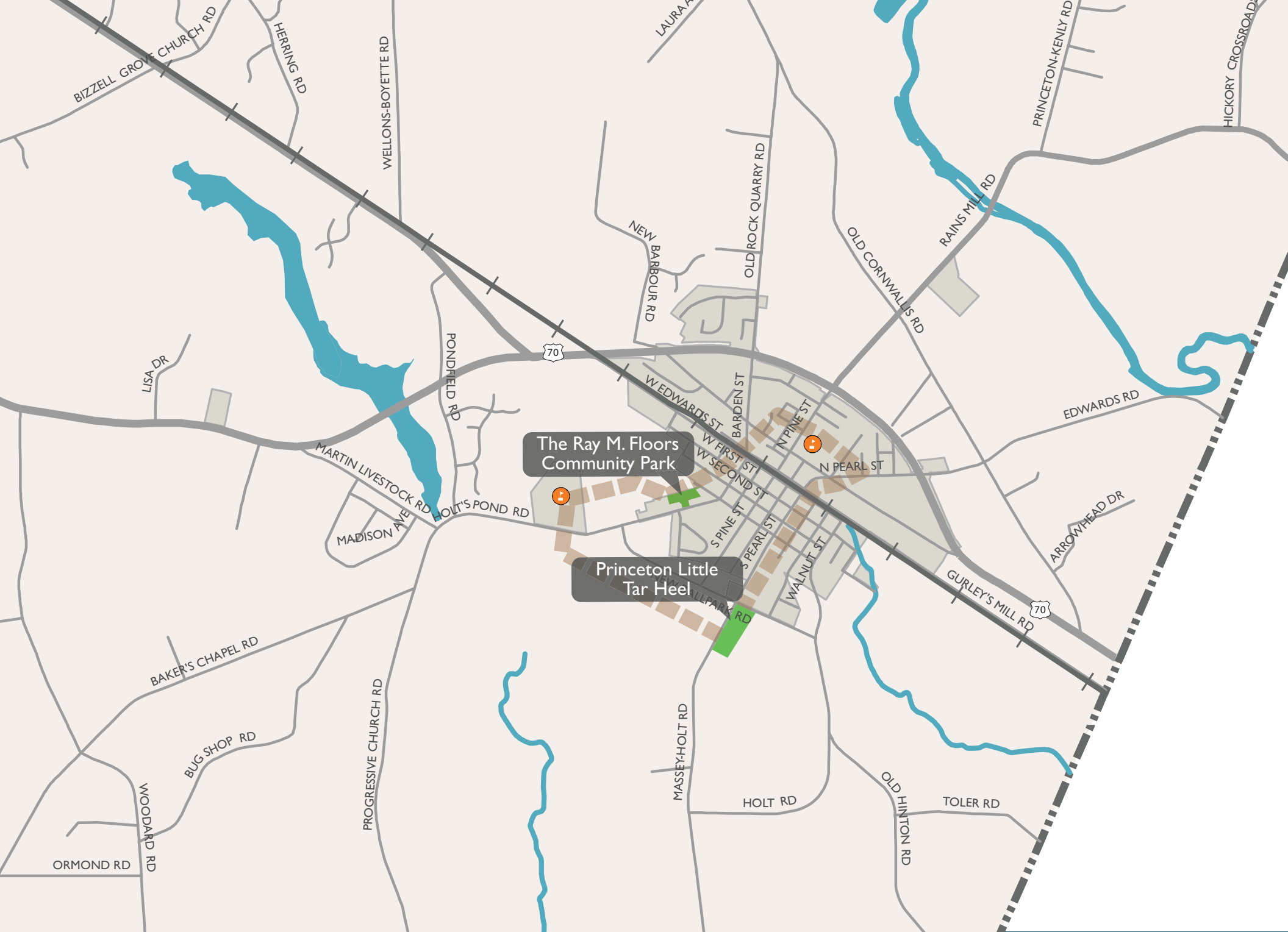
Kenly



Micro



Pine Level

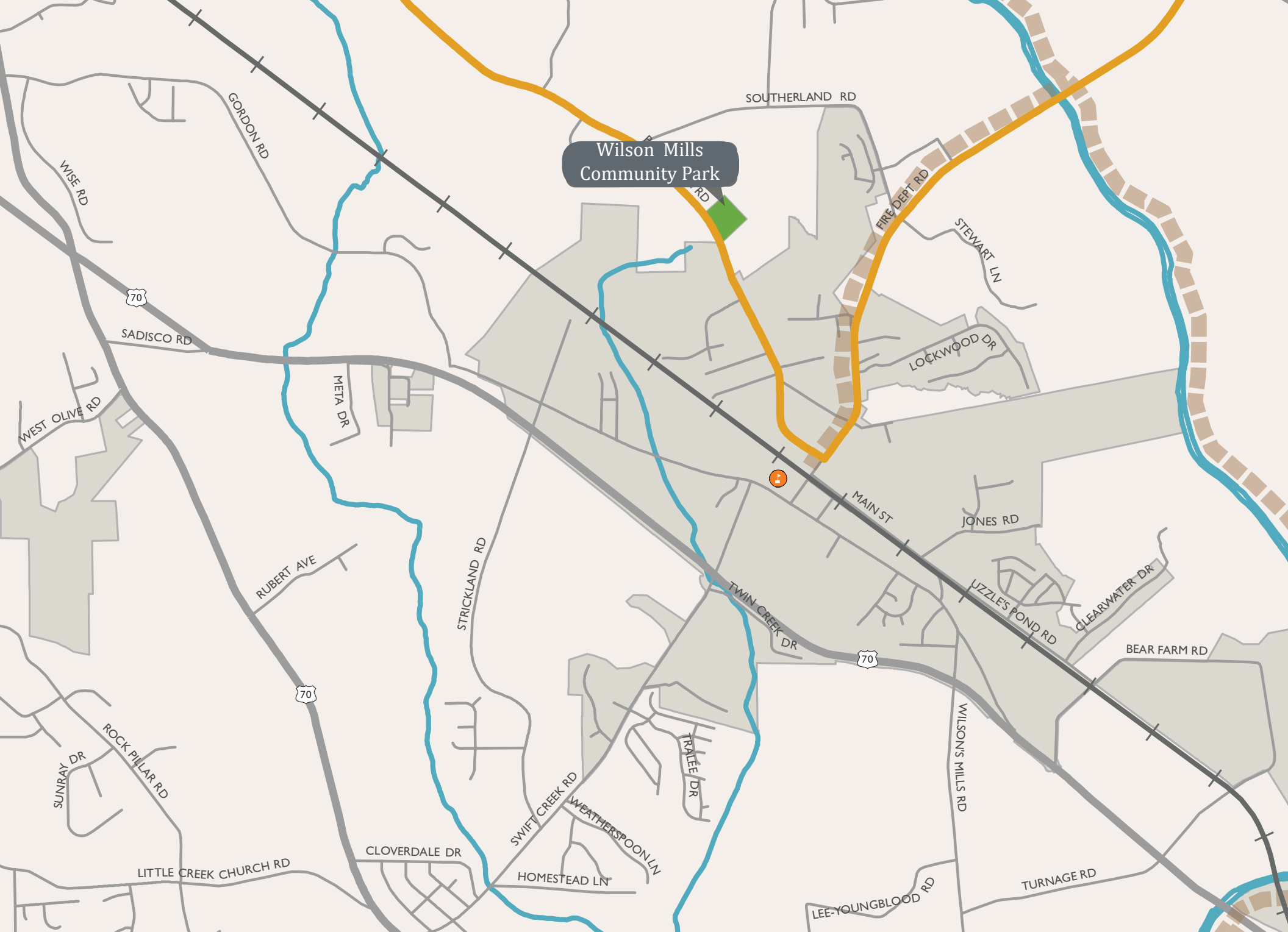


Princeton





Smithfield



Wilson Mills
Community Park

Wilson Mills

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Understanding Need- Public Input





2015 Public Input Summary

Understanding Need

In 2015 Johnston County and the Johnston County Visitors Bureau undertook an extensive input process to the Parks and Recreation master Plan seeking guidance from the project Steering Committee comprised representatives throughout the County. Since it was the County's first efforts directed toward parks and recreation, engagement involved various components to spread awareness of the project and to enable a variety of local perspectives to comment. Citizen and stakeholder input were the cornerstone for developing the Johnston County Parks and Recreation Plan. Engagement efforts included visioning sessions with the Johnston County Sports Council, project steering committee, and Johnston County Visitor Bureau Staff along with the distribution of an online survey. The steering committee was comprised of representatives throughout the County including staff and volunteers from: municipal planning and/or recreation staff, rural athletic organizations, non-profits, clubs, academic institutions, and recreation resources services. This diverse group aided in distribution to ensure county-wide participation.

Comparing Changes to guide direction

In 2020 Johnston County hired its first ever Parks and Greenways Coordinator to help move parks, greenways, and open space action items and the vision created in the initial plan forward. The coordinator wanted to understand changes in the need, growth, and features from the completion of the initial plan to supplement and compare findings from the 2015 public involvement.

The County undertook this effort in a variety of ways to reach a broad range of people and to ensure a representative comparison could be made. Input was sought from the Johnston County sports Council, the newly formed Friends of Johnston County Parks, and the Public. The following information summarizes the findings from the 2020 Public input that will be used to supplement and compare the input process from 2015.

Public Input Survey

A public survey was distributed through invitation link, open link, and hardcopy through facebook, webpages, emails, and linked to the communities within Johnston County. The input process was advertised in the newspaper, both the JOCO Report and the Johnstonian. Johnston County Public Schools also posted it on their website. The survey was conducted from October 1, 2020 and remained open until November 23, 2021 with a total of 1163 total responses. Of those responses, the invitation link sent to over 500 people yielded an 8% responses rate.

The survey instrument was coordinated with Johnston County staff and the NCSU RRS consultant for the region to ensure content and distribution were consistent with PARTF requirements and current input practices.

Survey distribution and input was conducted through a variety of ways to ensure a broad range of participants were included and that participants were representative of the population. To help solicit input the County sought assistance from the newly formed Friends of Johnston County Parks, the Johnston County Sports Council, the Johnston County Visitors Bureau, and from the many Parks and Recreation Departments located within the County. In addition to the County's outreach efforts, each of these groups help distribute and share the survey to ensure representation. Additionally, during the analysis portion age and location information (zip codes) were compared to census data to ensure participation and input received was County-wide and the ages and demographics were consistent with County demographics.

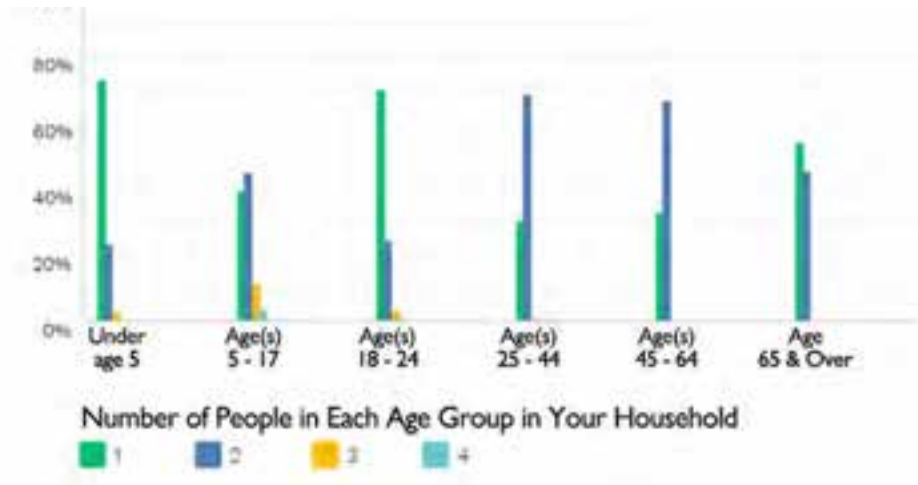
The focus of the survey was to understand what recreation activities county residents and visitors currently utilize as well as what facilities and features they would like to see in the county in the future in order to determine what, if any, changes in trends may have occurred from 2015 to 2020. Questions included user preference, open ended comments, and interests and concerns for the future of parks in Johnston County.

Findings

When asked whether or not participants were Johnston County residents, the majority were residents. The majority of residents have lived in Johnston County for over 15 years and have 2-5 people per household. The response rate was evenly distributed throughout the County and verified via zip code:



The overall response rate was higher for females versus males and the majority of the respondent's households had members between the ages of 5-17 and the ages of 25-64.

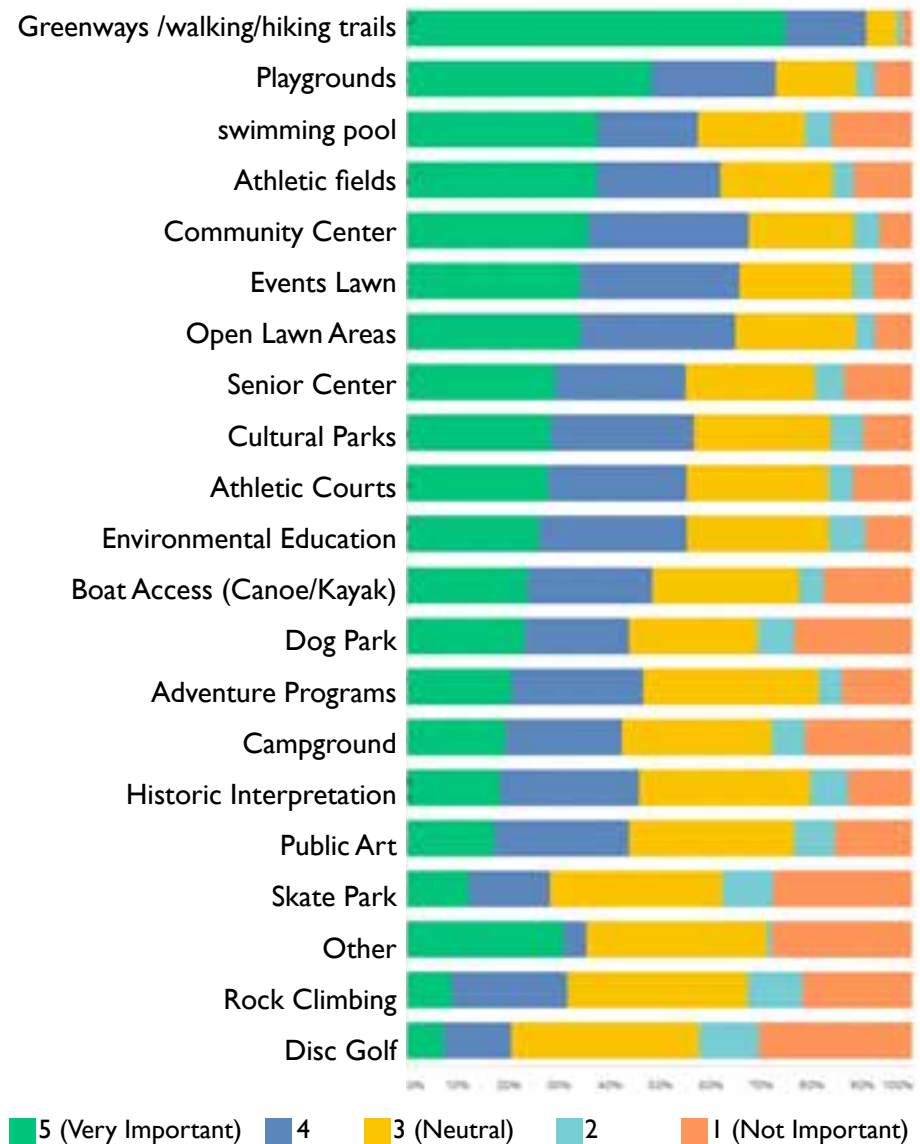


Results of Question 6: What are the ages of the members in your household? (Please indicate the number of people in each age group)

When asked how important certain recreation facilities were to participants or their family members via the weblink, the following were ranked as the Top 10 Very Important items:

1. Greenways/Walking/Hiking Trails
2. Playgrounds
3. Swimming Pools
4. Athletic Fields
5. Community Centers
6. Events Lawn
7. Open Lawn Areas
8. Senior Centers
9. Cultural Parks
10. Athletic Courts

Results of Question 7: Importance of recreation facilities to survey respondents and How important certain recreation facilities were to participants:





The following were ranked as the Top 10 Very Important items:

Direct Survey:

1. Greenways/Walking/Hiking Trails
2. Historic Interpretation
3. Events Lawn
4. Public Art
5. Environmental Education Center
6. Senior Center
7. Athletic Fields
8. Community Center
9. Swimming Pool
10. Boat Access (Canoe/Kayak)

Weblink Survey:

1. Greenway/Walking/Hiking Trails
2. Athletic Fields
3. Athletic Courts
4. Boat Access (Canoe/Kayak)
5. Dog Park
6. Events Lawn
7. Environmental Education Center
8. Senior Center
9. Campground
10. Community Center

Respondents were also asked to rank their top three priorities for recreational components that should be added or expanded by the county. The following were ranked as the Top 10 Priorities by the weblink participants:

The following were ranked as the Top 5 Priorities by the direct email participants:

Direct Survey:

1. Greenway/Walking/Hiking Trails
2. Athletic Fields
3. Athletic Courts
4. Boat Access (Canoe/Kayak)
5. Dog Park
6. Events Lawn
7. Environmental Education Center
8. Senior Center
9. Campground
10. Community Center

Weblink Survey:

1. Greenway/Walking/Hiking Trails
2. Athletic Fields
3. Playgrounds
4. Swimming Pools
5. Boat Access (Canoe/Kayak)
6. Community Center
7. Athletic Courts
8. Senior Center
9. Events Lawn
10. Other: (natural areas, bike trails, shooting ranges, splash pads and accessible/nature playgrounds)

Travel sports leagues

Travel leagues have an impact both recreationally and financially on communities and counties in which they serve and travel to for recreational events. When asked if survey participants were involved in a travel sports league, the overall majority, over 70%, were not involved in a league. Of those who responded they were in a league, the highest league participation was soccer followed by baseball. Additional travel leagues included volleyball, hockey, rugby, football, mountain biking, tennis, cross country, boxing, wrestling, gymnastics, basketball, softball swimming, dancing, cheer and lacrosse.

Outdoor resources during Covid

Participants were asked whether or not they had access to parks and open space during the Covid-19 stay-at-home period to help with their health and wellness. The majority of responses said yes (approximately 59%), however, it is important to note that the remaining respondents, about 41% said no, they did not have access to parks or open space during the stay-at-home period. When asked about the specific open space or park facilities participants utilized during the same time period, the Top 10 overall responses were the following:

1. Neuse River Greenways
2. Clayton Parks
3. Clemmons State Forest
4. Lake Benson (Wake County)
5. Walking Trails
6. White Deer Park (Wake County)
7. Archer Lodge
8. Smithfield Community Park
9. Raven Rock State Park (Harnett County)
10. Howell Woods

Using the Neuse for Recreation

Over 58% of survey respondents currently utilize the Neuse River for recreational activities. While it may be anticipated the uses are related to the river itself, the largest recreational use via the responses was greenway trails, hiking, running and walking indicating that the banks of the rivers themselves are utilized by respondents more than the water. When using the water for recreation, participants do utilize the river for kayaking, fishing, and canoeing activities.

Favorite Recreation spots in Johnston County:

Survey participants were asked to write in what their favorite park, forest or place to recreate in Johnston County was. While not all participants responded to this question, more than half did. Of the responses received, the following were the Top 10 overall places to recreate in Johnston County:

1. Clemmons State Forest
2. Neuse River Greenway Trail
3. Clayton Community Park
4. SRAC (Smithfield Recreation & Aquatics Center)
5. East Clayton Park
6. Howell Woods
7. Smithfield Community Park
8. Lake Benson (Wake County)
9. Smithfield Greenway Trail
10. Sam's Branch Greenway



Clemmons State Forest



Neuse River Greenway Trail

Ideas and Comments for Johnston County Parks and Open Space:

Participants also offered ideas regarding Johnston County Parks and Open Space as a whole. While the response rate was about one-third of the total participants, those that did respond had valuable comments and input. The item mentioned the most in the comments was to purchase more land for open space and parks, followed by parks in Cleveland, better/more accessible playgrounds throughout the county, a pool and athletic complex in Johnston County, and more and overall improvements to greenways with greater connectivity.

schools green space Splash pad awesome Cleveland people events growing public
sidewalks skate park maybe walking now town safe access indoor nice opportunities
outdoor nothing need parks children play Thank great around better Road
kids moving facilities part fields s space Joco please places
Johnston County take love recreation community
hiking trails county one need family parks N area
Cleveland community playgrounds large open space
keep trails especially Clayton many greenways fish building
development walking trails help see provide Cleveland area money
residents options sports lots love see planning make Greenway Trail open
much go creating land instead think leave activities etc use years Smithfield close pool
community center dog park mountain bike trails programs adding

In comparison

The findings in the 2020 public input survey are consistent with findings in the 2015 Public involvement process. There remains strong support for land acquisition for parks, a need for more and improved greenway and trail networks, and an overall desire to continue to strengthen and parks, greenways, and open space initiatives in Johnston County. The increased growth has only increased the demand for these features and this need will continue to expand. While the individual communities continue to serve their residents through recreation programs and facilities, the ability for the communities to serve those outside of their jurisdictions becomes more challenging as the rate of growth increases exponentially.



2015 Public Input Summary

Public Engagement Overview

Public engagement involves various components to spread awareness of a project and to enable a variety of local perspectives to comment on recommendations and improvements to existing and future park facilities. Citizen and stakeholder input were the cornerstone for developing the Johnston County Parks and Recreation Plan. Engagement efforts included visioning sessions with the Johnston County Sports Council, project steering committee, and Johnston County Visitor Bureau Staff along with the distribution of an online survey. The steering committee was comprised of representatives throughout the County including staff and volunteers from: municipal planning and/or recreation staff, rural athletic organizations, non-profits, clubs, academic institutions, and recreation resources services. This diverse group aided in online and hard copy distribution to ensure the various groups within the county had an opportunity for participation.

On-location and Web-based Survey

As a key component of the plan, the County prepared a survey to assess residents' needs and opinions related to improving parks and recreation facilities. The survey was available online through distribution initiated by each of the communities within the County as well as disseminated by the Visitors Bureau. Hard copies were also available upon request for those preferring paper format. The survey was voluntary and invited individuals to comment openly. Information captured was valuable in helping provide insight into local public opinion about county recreation facilities. Results established a framework by which priorities of the community were identified and used to formulate recommendations.

SURVEY RESULTS- (ADDITIONAL DATA)

The survey consisted of 23 questions including open-ended response opportunities that were tailored to capture needs and desires for recreation facilities and activities. There were a total of 2,501 surveys completed with the majority of the participants (95.11 percent) being Johnston County residents and a high percentage (43.91 percent) stating they had lived in Johnston County for more than 15 years. Participants were asked to provide their zip code to help ensure representation within the County. The following communities were represented by their zip code and are listed in order of highest percentage of overall response: Clayton (58%), East of Clayton (21%), Smithfield (20%), Cleveland (13%), Four Oaks (5%), Princeton, Archer Lodge, Selma, Benson, Kenly, Pine Level, Wilson's Mills, Meadow, Micro, and Other. Response percentages are consistent with community populations numbers within the County. Of the total participants, 64.65 percent of respondents were female and 35.19 percent were male. Respondent profiles indicated there was a fairly even distribution of age groups represented in each of the households with the most representation in the over 65 age group (65.52 percent) category and the least represented age category being 35-44 (16.64 percent). Other age groups represented include: participants under five (44.98 percent); ages 5-9 (28.54 percent); ages 10-14 (24.64 percent); ages 15-19 (37.07 percent); ages 20-24 (56.89 percent); ages 25-34 (39.42 percent); ages 45-54 (24.98 percent); and ages 55-64 (49.16). The following summary provides highlights of the survey results.

BICYCLING AND WALKING IN JOHNSTON COUNTY

Several questions covered the theme of bicycling and walking in Johnston County. From the pool of participants, 77.28 percent indicated they currently bike in their community noting the most common place to bike is within their own neighborhoods, followed by the Neuse River Trail. The top three areas respondents would like to see additional greenway trails are: completion of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail from Clayton to Smithfield; a trail and/or connection from the Greater Cleveland Area to Clayton and/or Smithfield; and a western trail connection from Benson and Four Oaks to Smithfield. The most requested trail links were to connect residential neighborhoods to area parks via trail, followed by a desire for residents to have trails to link residents with commercial centers (including grocery stores and shopping centers).

When respondents were asked which factors would encourage them to walk or bike, 82.55 percent stated greater access to trails and greenways, while 58.93 percent shared if they had a park or forest nearby they would be encouraged to walk or bike. Other factors that would encourage walking and biking were the development of bike lanes (44.18 percent), providing improved crossings at intersections (30.59 percent), and having these facilities in areas with slower traffic (19.86 percent). There were several open ended responses that requested the inclusion of bike support facilities such as bike racks, signage, and the inclusion of sidewalks.

Several residents currently use the Neuse River for recreation with the highest use currently being the Neuse River Trail and nearby greenways for hiking, biking, dog walking, and exercising. Fishing, kayaking, canoeing, and nature based recreation were all activities residents currently participate in along the Neuse River.

ARTS AND CULTURE

Respondents highlighted several cultural arts activities and programs they would like to participate in including movies (32.39 percent) being the highest interest, followed by musicals (25.51 percent), attending local arts festivals and vendors (26.50 percent), participating in local performing arts classes (29.15 percent), and attending drama and theater classes (31.60 percent).

FACILITY USE AND ACTIVITIES

Smithfield Community Park ranked the most frequented Park, followed by Clayton

Community Park and a variety of Greenway Trails (of which the Neuse River Trail was mentioned most). Clemmons Educational State Forest and Howell Woods were also highlighted as favorite destinations due to the availability of nature trails and variety of activities.

As an exercise in preference and personal importance, participants were asked to rate how they would spend \$100 on facilities and programs. The question allowed for any distribution of funds – from \$100 on one option to spreading the total across all categories. The most popular preference was for greenways and trails (41.8 percent), followed by a swimming pool (33 percent), an amphitheater (26 percent), playgrounds (25.5 percent), and hiking trails (25.4 percent). However, an analysis of the sums indicates further separation and a different order of preference. Greenway trails were allocated for the most funding with \$24,128. A swimming pool came in second at \$24,112, an amphitheater at third (\$14,252). The fourth highest funded facilities were baseball and softball fields (\$13,789), with playgrounds ranking fifth (\$12,263).

When respondents were asked if they participated in sports outside of the county 48.22 percent stated they did. Upon further examination of where respondents went for recreation, an overwhelming amount of the open ended responses indicated they travel to Wake County, specifically Garner, Raleigh, and Holly Springs, to participate in sports.

Respondents were presented an opportunity to give additional thoughts and comments on the

development of park facilities within the county. The majority of these comments surrounded the completion of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail, the development of greenway trails within the county, and improved connectivity for biking and walking throughout the county. Several comments highlighted the need for recreation in the unincorporated areas with support from Johnston County.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Survey participants indicated their top three types of special events were: community festivals (68 percent), community concerts (66 percent), and sporting events (44.9 percent). Additional special events highlighted were outdoor movies, community runs/walks, and parades.

PROGRAM PARTICIPATION AND USER NEED

Respondents were asked to rate the top five activities they and their family would enjoy in Johnston County. The top-ranked responses included: aquatics/swimming (46.8 percent), swimming (38.3 percent), walking and hiking (43 percent), concerts (35.3 percent), fishing (25.7 percent), and biking (25.4 percent).

To determine if residents currently have household members participating in travel sports they were asked: a) if they or household member were involved with travel sports, and b) if so, which sports. Fifty four percent of respondents currently do not have household members in travel sports. Of the 46 percent of respondents that do, soccer was the highest travel program (16.74 percent), with baseball (14.25 percent) second, followed by basketball. Other travel leagues with high participation identified in the open ended responses were swimming, football, and lacrosse.

PARKS AND RECREATION SUPPORT

In order to determine support for parks within the county, respondents were asked if they would vote 'yes' to a county-wide bond for improving recreation facilities. Of those who responded, 66.34 percent stated they would vote 'yes' in support of a recreation bond. Additionally, participants were asked if they would support the county allocating resources for the completion of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail between Clayton and Smithfield. In response, 61.35 percent indicated they would support this allocation of county resources. When asked if they thought Johnston County needed a County Parks and Recreation Director 61.9 percent answered they felt the county did need this position.

In order to determine desired park facility development and allocation of resources, participants were asked which types of county recreation facility would they support: 58.63 percent said they would support greenway and trail development, 57.06 percent would support development of a multi-sports complex, 43.78 percent would support the development of additional swimming facilities, and canoe and kayak access ranked next at 29.92 percent. Several comments in the open ended section requested skate parks, dog parks, and additional natural areas.



Analysis and Level of Service





Comparisons

To better understand the needs within a community, it is important to examine park and recreation trends regionally, within the state, and at a national level in comparison to Johnston County.

Regional Trends

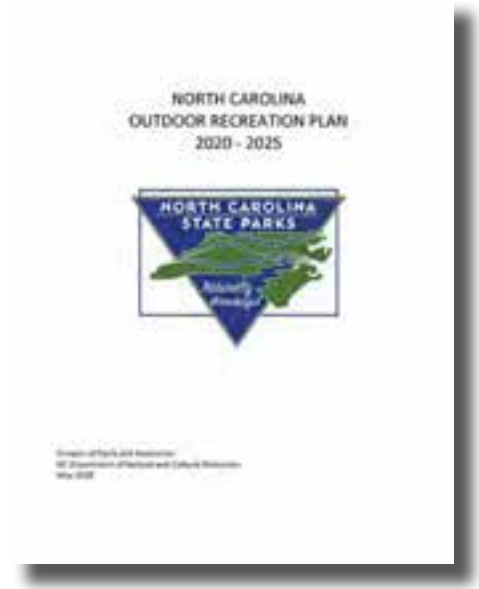
Regionally, Johnston County and the counties that surround it reflect similar goals and ideals. All of these areas are growing and safe, alternative methods of connectivity such as greenways within and between these areas is a priority. Walking and bicycling are important to residents and visitors and linking greenways to jobs, schools, destinations and adjacent communities not only serve as forms of recreation, but also as modes of transportation and economic support increasing tourism, promoting higher property values, attracting new businesses, and providing jobs.

In addition to connectivity, improved access to recreation to benefit overall community health by encouraging physical fitness, healthy lifestyles, and creating access to recreational opportunities for all ages and abilities is desired. In order to promote access to quality parks and open space for all, annual funding for maintenance, proximity to park locations, and increased participation in programs all need to be considered regularly. While it was evident prior to the Covid-19 Pandemic, it is now crucial to distribute community health and fitness options in an equitable manner among the community. The region is actively seeking better ways of filling park and open space needs within the community.

When filling recreational needs, planning and designing with nature in mind is key, including implementing green infrastructure practices, enhancing urban tree canopies, and protecting valuable land and water assets. This not only helps promote the natural beauty and environmental diversity of the region, but it helps to preserve and protect the natural, historical and cultural environments, mitigate flood damage, and prevent soil erosion which has become more prevalent due to climate change.

State Trends

The North Carolina Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) 2020-2025 is an important document for Johnston County to reference to understand the trends and goals of recreation within our state. Zooming to this state level allows individual municipalities and the county to determine where they rank within the state and how they contribute to the state recreation system as a whole. As previously indicated regionally, the population of the State of North Carolina is also growing. This growth drives a greater demand for recreational opportunities within the state, specifically targeting areas where population growth is taking place and recreational gaps exist.



In part, due to the growth North Carolina is experiencing, the State has recognized the importance of protecting and conserving high quality natural resources and landscapes due to diminishing opportunities. If these resources are not protected now, their future use will be in question. Parklands not only promote health and well-being, but they also serve to provide mitigation and resilience efforts in areas that are prone to natural occurrences that would otherwise prove to be detrimental to residents and inhabitants alike.

While expansion is critical to keep up with demand, aging recreation facilities and infrastructure is of concern as well. The ability to renovate, replace and revitalize park amenities is crucial to meet demands and provide quality recreation experiences. Public priorities are high for improved park management. Operating existing parks more efficiently, acquiring new parks, developing trails, facilities and networks and providing education programs are necessary within the system as a whole. As has been the case in the past, funding is the greatest challenge to achieving success within existing systems. Bond referendums have been trending in popularity as a means of achieving financial support for improvements and additions to park systems state wide.

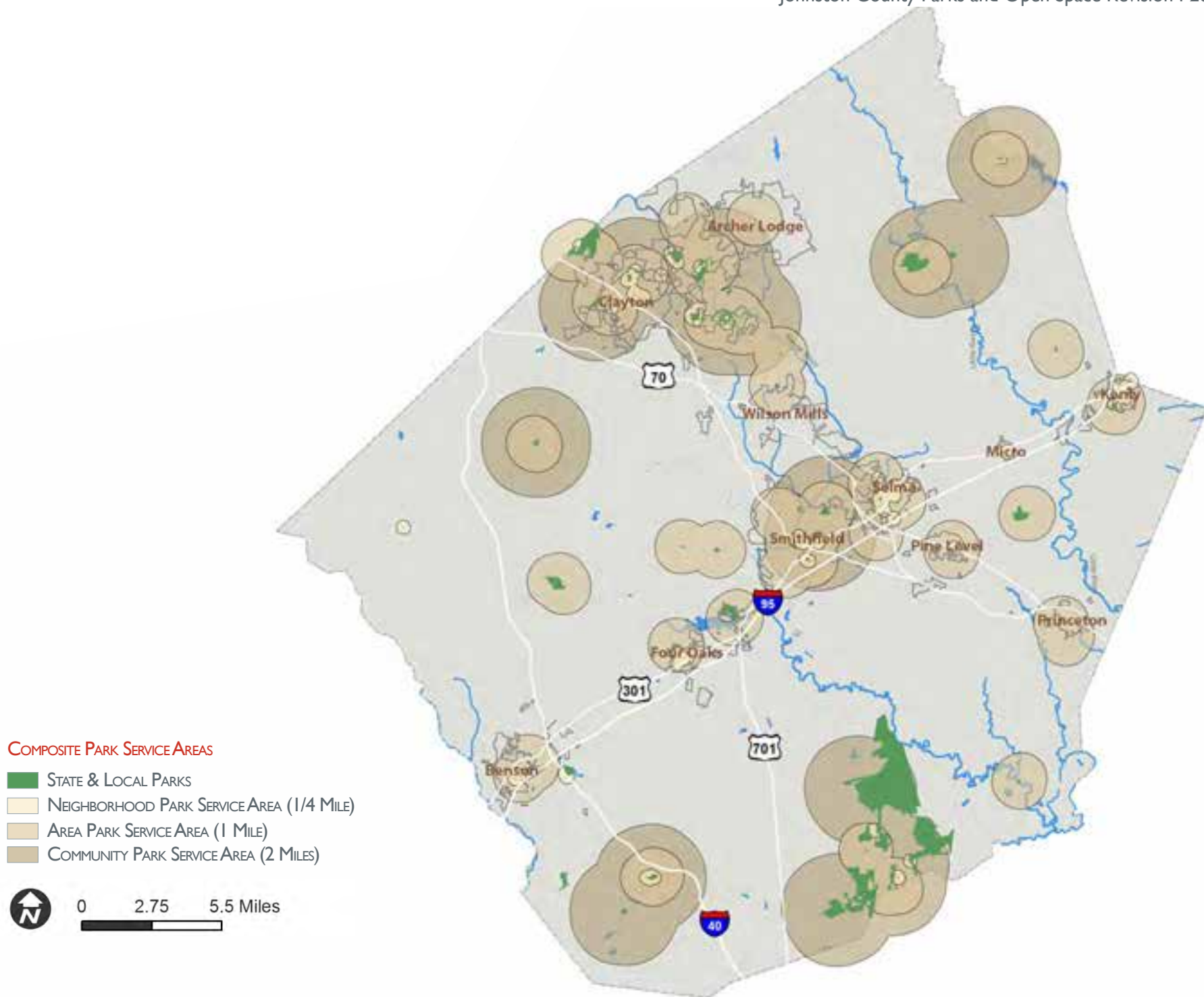
Service Area Overview

Each type of park serves a different geographic population area. Larger parks with multiple uses serve a wider geographic area as well as a larger sampling of the population. Service areas are not standardized across all communities. For Johnston County, the demographics, number of parks, typical offerings, and other contextual factors contribute to determining appropriate services areas for each park type. For the purpose of this study, service areas are defined as:

Park Type	Typical Size	Service Area
Neighborhood Park	3/4 to 3 Acres	1/4 Mile
Area Park	3 to 20 Acres	1 Mile
Community Park	20 to 50 Acres	2 Miles

The following maps illustrate service areas for each of the park type in the County. The purpose of analyzing service areas is to ascertain the need for future park sites. New facilities can be created by using existing county owned land, expanding existing parks by acquiring adjacent parcels, or acquiring new land in areas that are unveiled as underserved in this analysis. This likely also will correlate with future growth areas for the county - those experiencing new commercial and residential development.





SERVICE AREA ANALYSIS

By examining the crossover of data between service areas and demand, underserved populations begin to emerge. This map clearly indicates a concentration of residences in

the western portion of the county that are not properly served by parks. Potential solutions include creating a small number of parks with large service areas, or many smaller parks that will serve residents within 1/4 to 1 mile. The county should explore land in this area to determine if there is already county owned property that can be used as park space, or if land acquisition will be required to fulfill the recreation needs of the citizen in this area of the county. Another underserved area revealed in this analysis is Archer Lodge. There is only one park in this community, and while there are multiple uses within the site, it is not sufficient for the population east and south east of the town boundary.

COMPOSITE PARK SERVICE AREAS WITH "LIVE" DEMAND UNDERLAY

DEMAND CONCENTRATION



STATE & LOCAL PARKS

NEIGHBORHOOD PARK SERVICE AREA (1/4 MILE)

AREA PARK SERVICE AREA (1 MILE)

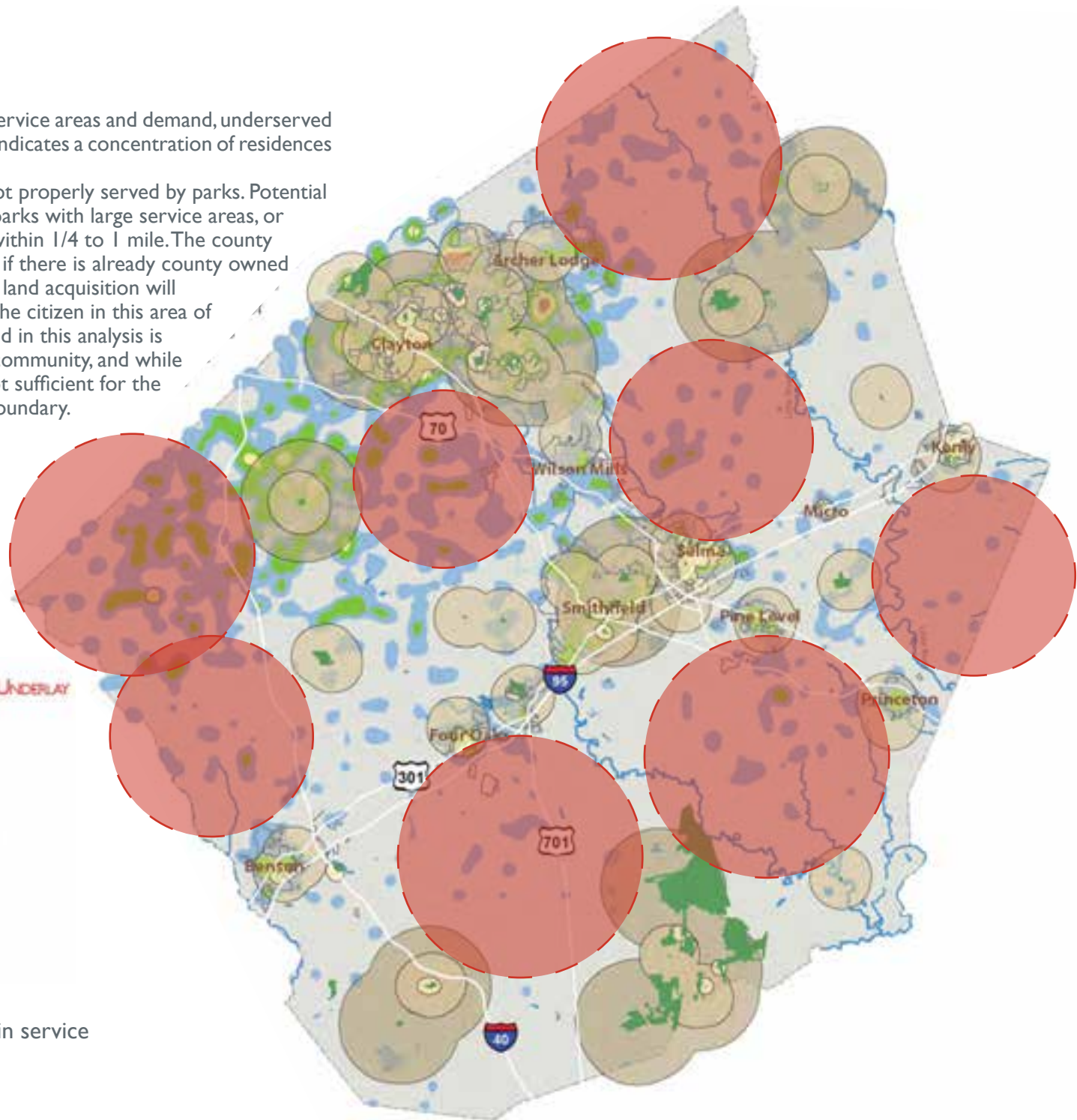
COMMUNITY PARK SERVICE AREA (2 MILES)



0 2.75 5.5 Miles





Illustrates the "County gaps" in service Areas





Johnston County Cultural and Recreational Resources


The following series of maps illustrates parks, facilities, and cultural resources throughout the County. The following legend applies to all maps.


-  School Park


 Golf Course


 Nonprofit Park


 Public Park



 Public State Forest


 Public Facility


 Private Facility


 Nonprofit Facility


 Public Historic Site


 Nonprofit Organization
-  Existing Greenway


 East Coast Greenway


 Proposed Greenway


 Proposed Mountain-to-Sea Trail
(to Goldsboro)



 Proposed State Bicycle Route

 County Bicycle Route

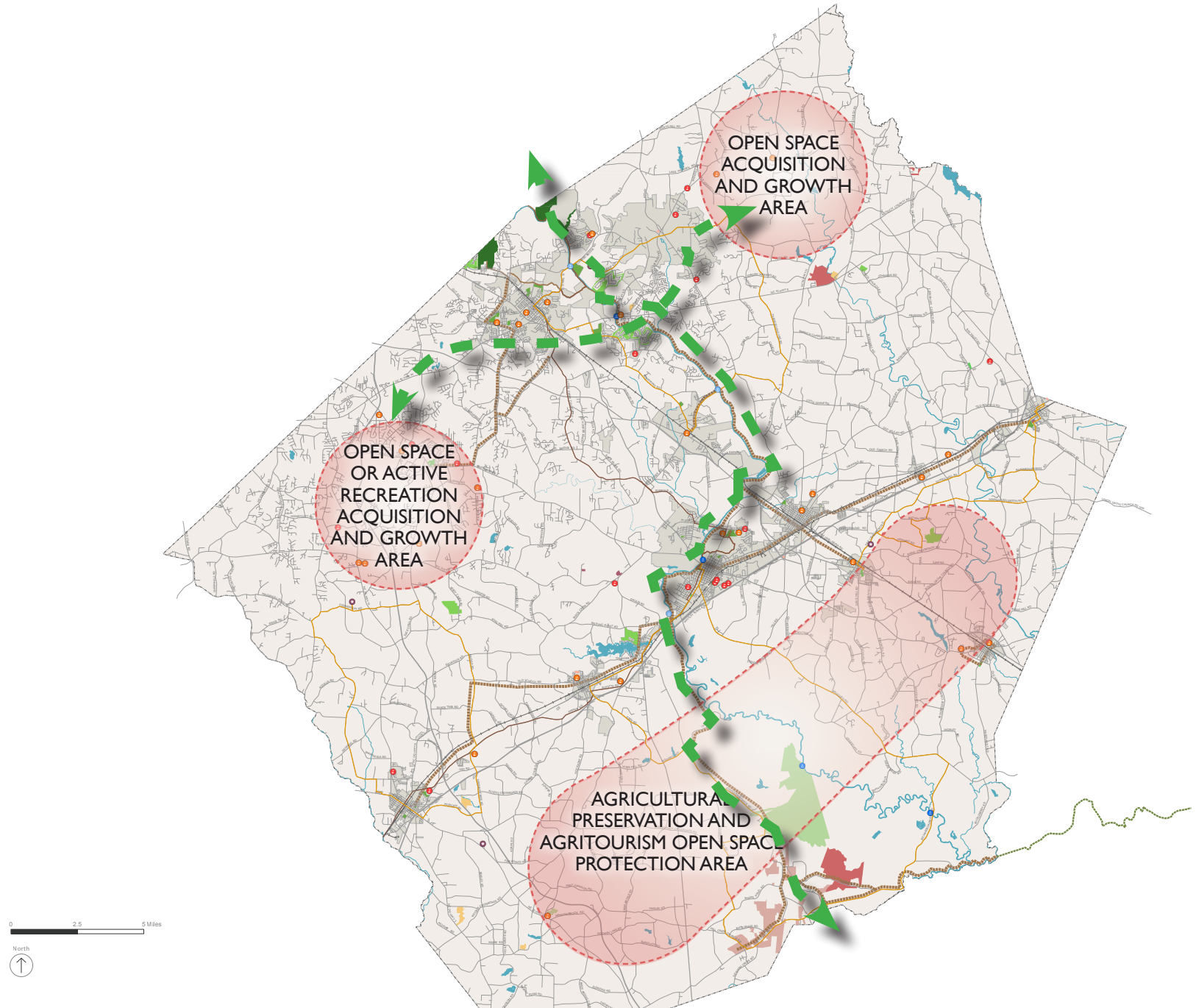
 School Rec Facility

 Winery

 School

 Water Access
-  Proposed Water Access

   **Community Greenway Connectivity**



Introduction

The recommendations of this plan are based on defining appropriate roles and actions for a county park system, key findings of the inventory and public survey, analysis of how Johnston County can contribute to statewide goals, and an understanding of how to formulate realistic action items. A few major discoveries include:

- There is no county parks and recreation department
- There is no county parks and recreation director
- The JC Sports Council is in its formative years as a forum for collaboration
- Currently, there are no parameters for reporting GIS data to a county source to track parks and recreation resources
- Conservation goals in the state have not been met
- A true “county park” does not exist
- Many residents of the county have needs and desires that can not be fulfilled locally, (or they are paying non-resident fees) as they may not be a citizen of a municipality
- The needs and desires of citizens of Johnston County align with many national trends that can be met with county parks

Three charts are included in this section to act as a workbook for the Johnston County Visitors Bureau and associated key partners. Each chart lists an action item along with parties to be included and columns for tracking progress. Since the first and most crucial recommendation of this plan is to form a County Parks and Recreation Department and hire a director, the success of the remaining action items hinge on these two items. Johnston County is one of 20 counties in the state without a Department or Director, according to Recreation Resource Services (see map to right).

Action Items presented will take coordination between the County and municipalities. The JC Sports Council has taken the lead in moving County-wide recreation initiatives forward. A primary action item presented is the allocation or acquisition of a County Park Director to help the Sports Council with these efforts. Therefore, this plan aims to outline future initiatives of the new Director and help guide all parties through critical areas of need for the next ten years while being realistic about expectations and attainable goals.



Inventory Review

Johnston County has a variety of recreational resources including the Neuse River, State Forests, and recreational assets in the Towns of Clayton, Smithfield, Selma, Kenly, Four Oaks and Benson, all offering a combination of features such as fields, playgrounds, courts, and trails. These combined systems have over 12 miles of paved multi-use greenway trails, hiking, mountain biking, horse back riding, and blueway trails found in over 3890 acres of parkland within municipal systems and State Owned resources.

The County does not own or maintain its own park property, however, it is currently working in partnership to improve access to parks, open space greenways, and recreation within the County.

So how is Johnston County doing? The County has just begun its efforts to bring Parks, Open Space, and Greenways forward and has been able to accomplish a great deal through support and partnering.

2020 NRPA Agency Performance Review Key Findings



In order to build on this success, it is important to take a look at trends and how the County is doing compared to agencies around the Country and in NC. Johnston County took an important step forward in 2015 by creating its first ever inventory and logging that data into the NRPA Park Metrics system. Continuing to update, maintain, and compare will now be a regular part of the evaluation process for the County.

The Chart below illustrates the findings in the 2020 NRPA Annual performance report. With over 209,000 residents, the County will need to compare how it is serving its community based upon comparative populations:

FIGURE 3: OUTDOOR PARK AND RECREATION FACILITIES – POPULATION PER FACILITY (BY PREVALENCE AND POPULATION PER FACILITY)

Types of Facilities	Percent of Agencies	All Agencies	Median Number of Residents per Facility				
			Population of Jurisdiction				
			Less than 10,000	10,000 to 49,999	50,000 to 99,999	100,000 to 249,999	Over 250,000
Playgrounds	91.9%	3,750	2,573	3,357	3,838	4,673	8,290
Basketball courts	86.5	7,800	4,090	7,067	8,557	8,797	11,458
Tennis courts (outdoor only)	81.7	5,004	2,922	4,347	6,242	5,589	9,224
Diamond fields: baseball - youth	78.3	6,779	3,396	5,137	7,222	12,293	19,286
Diamond fields: softball fields - adult	64.8	13,510	5,072	10,849	15,500	26,794	30,581
Rectangular fields: multi-purpose	64.5	8,150	4,683	7,287	10,467	13,233	15,527
Dog parks	62.9	45,898	10,000	28,132	58,000	98,707	135,457
Diamond fields: softball fields - youth	58.0	11,511	5,691	9,785	12,000	23,220	44,388
Diamond fields: baseball - adult	52.8	18,518	7,804	17,885	22,876	47,754	66,796
Swimming pools (outdoor only)	50.9	35,837	8,023	25,107	45,825	64,250	84,884
Tot lots	47.6	11,173	6,998	10,900	11,200	20,775	27,284
Community gardens	47.2	29,271	7,814	22,562	50,000	66,645	102,625
Rectangular fields: soccer field - youth	46.9	7,325	3,294	4,831	9,085	12,875	29,559
Multiuse courts - basketball, volleyball	43.1	18,854	7,866	20,040	22,250	34,565	66,967
Rectangular fields: soccer field - adult	40.7	12,446	7,665	10,576	16,644	20,478	22,485
Skate parks	38.2	49,500	10,318	29,481	62,587	107,773	232,287
Rectangular fields: football field	37.2	26,771	7,500	16,971	32,420	44,580	114,831
Multi-purpose synthetic fields	19.4	49,493	8,530	22,000	51,110	61,250	118,791
Ice rinks (outdoor only)	17.4	18,526	9,860	13,542	29,830	122,902	422,692
Rectangular fields: lacrosse field	11.4	27,500	4,690	14,605	29,086	60,355	144,388
Rectangular fields: cricket field	11.0	133,045	153	29,228	59,227	105,715	389,255
Overlay fields	8.0	14,887	1,771	8,468	17,774	35,348	104,684
Rectangular fields: field hockey field	3.4	27,458	150	19,135	39,514	91,341	395,067

NRPA Park Metrics Report - Figure 3: OUTDOOR PARK AND RECREATION FACILITIES — POPULATION PER FACILITY (BY PREVALENCE AND POPULATION PER FACILITY)

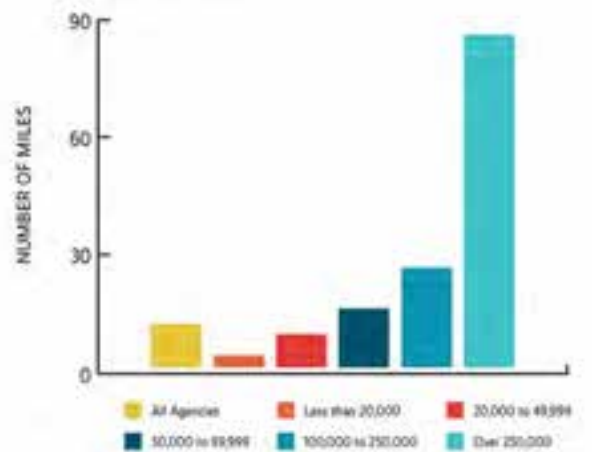
Comparison

In reviewing the 2020 Annual report, Johnston County is doing well in access to parkland acres in total, however the distribution of that access needs improvement due to the size, type, and location of park land acres.

As Johnston County moves forward with its efforts, it needs to continue to partner with agencies that provide facility and program based recreation while offering support for park land acreage in service gap areas and support for the types of recreation that are in need of updates and improvements for improved County wide access.

Additionally, when you begin to evaluate items such as access to miles of trail, playgrounds, court facilities, and fields, Johnston County falls below the Median Number of Residents per Facility. These are items the County can be working toward for improved access.

**FIGURE 4: MILES OF TRAIL
(BY JURISDICTION POPULATION)**



	All Agencies	Less than 20,000	20,000 to 49,999	50,000 to 99,999	100,000 to 249,999	Over 250,000
Median	11.0	3.0	8.5	15.0	25.0	84.5
Lower Quartile	3.0	1.5	3.4	4.1	11.0	38.0
Upper Quartile	32.0	6.8	15.0	28.5	47.0	158.2

NRPA Park Metrics Report - FIGURE 4: MILES OF TRAIL (BY JURISDICTION POPULATION)

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity
BASKETBALL COURT	11
SWING SET	26
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	149
PICNIC SHELTER	34
PLAYGROUND	24
BASEBALL	38
SOCCER	17
VOLLEYBALL	5
GYMNASIUM	2
TRACK/WALKING TRAIL/HORSEBACK RIDING	12
BOCCE	9
SHUFFLEBOARD	5
HORSESHOES	10
FISHING	2
CAMPING	1
RIVER ACCESS	2
CANOEING/KAYAKING	2
TENNIS	23
HUNTING (PROGRAM)	1
BIRD WATCHING (PROGRAM)	1
COMMUNITY CENTER	1
AMPHITHEATER	1
WATER FOUNTAIN	11
GRILL	10
DISC GOLF	1
MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL	1
FOOTBALL	1



On-Going
Immediate Term
Near Term
Long Term

Action from findings

In 2015 the County undertook implementation of the action items presented within the findings. Many of these items were dependent upon staff level coordination and guidance. That position has now been established and the action items outlined below have been completed.

COMPLETED ACTION ITEMS

Management Recommendations

ACTION STEP	RECOMMENDED TERM	KEY PLAYERS	COMPLETE		
Hire or allocate a Parks and Recreation staff member. This position can be an allocation of planning staff or a hire that oversees County level park planning efforts. This position will help coordinate efforts between municipalities, not oversee them.	Immediate	County Management	Completed		
Insert data into NRPA Park Metric database to enable Johnston County to cross compare facilities and services with other counties across the country.	Near	CPD/Recreation or Planning Intern	Completed		

On-Going
Immediate Term
Near Term
Long Term

ACTION ITEMS NOT IMPLEMENTED

Management Recommendations

ACTION STEP	RECOMMENDED TERM	KEY PLAYERS	CURRENT CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES
Clarify naming for each park facility. The New County Park Director (CPD) or staff member should coordinate with each municipality to create a master list of final park names for each facility. This should be reconciled with GIS data, park signage, municipal outreach materials, and websites.	Immediate	New County Park Director or Staff Member/Municipal Park Director or Staff Member	This needs to be revisited and a schedule established for accomplishing this update.
Reconcile new GIS data with actual park property boundaries for those sites as indicated in the attribute table given to the County as part of this plan. Updated pedestrian, bicycle, and trail GIS data should be shared with NCDOT and NCDENR Division of Parks and Recreation.	On-Going effort	County GIS Staff/CPD	On-Going
Develop a process by which each municipality updates the County GIS department with new or modified park data to include existing or new park sites, park amenities, and inventory features.	Immediate	County GIS Staff/CPD/ Municipal Park Directors or Staff Members	This is an on-going effort and a schedule should be established for submittals and updates
Expand the Johnston County Sports Council to include members from each municipality in the county to create a Johnston County Parks Advisory Council (JCPAC).	Near	CPD/Municipal Representatives	Covid Remote Meetings

On-Going
Immediate Term
Near Term
Long Term

ACTION STEP	RECOMMENDED TERM	KEY PLAYERS	CURRENT CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES
Link all Parks and Recreation offerings on the County Website.	Near	CPD	
Meet with the JCPAC and the Friends of Johnston County Parks to establish a list of initiatives and criteria to used at the close of twelve months to serve as the benchmark for the Johnston County evaluation tool.	Near	CPD/JPAC/ Friends	
Investigate alternative funding sources such as a county bond item for parks in the next voting cycle and seek citizen support. Report and coordinate bond approvals with the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP).	Long	CPD/County Managers Office/ Board of Elections	

On-Going
Immediate Term
Near Term
Long Term

ACTION ITEMS NOT IMPLEMENTED

Facility Recommendations

ACTION STEP	RECOMMENDED TERM	KEY PLAYERS	CURRENT CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES
To help meet the goals of the SCORP and County Parks and Recreation Mission Statement, research potential land acquisition areas for a County owned and operated park within the identified service gap areas.	On-Going	CPD	
From the areas identified as “gaps in service” on page 44, create a county owned and maintained park to serve the top desires of the community and celebrate and preserve the unique character of Johnston County- Potential facility and programming elements should include trails, hiking, and/or biking, agritourism, farming, camping, and athletics.	Immediate - Long Term	CPD	
Establish a land conservation goal that protects County cultural and natural resources that aligns with the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) initiative.	Immediate	CPD/County Planning/Land Conservation Partners/ NCDENR	
As County school facilities expand, seek partnership opportunities to create school parks and shared use facilities specifically starting with the middle school facilities.	On-Going	County/County Schools	
Identify partnerships and opportunities to create a mutli-sports complex and/or partnership use for increased access for athletics. Creating an opportunity for active sports ranked highly after greenways and trails. Considerations to maintenance, equipment, operations. staff, hotel availability, and economic feasibility should be conducted as part of the planning process for an active sports complex.	Long Term	CPD/JCVB	

GREENWAY FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS

On-Going
Immediate Term
Near Term
Long Term

ACTION STEP	RECOMMENDED TERM	KEY PLAYERS	CURRENT CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES
Complete a County-Wide Greenway, bikeway, and blueway master plan to help link the communities within the county and celebrate the regional the Mountains-to-Sea Trail.	Immediate	NCDOT/County/ Clayton/Smithfield	
Evaluate existing water access points to add and improve access, amenities, and support facilities. Future water access points should allow for fishing, canoeing, and kayaking for a comprehensive blueway system. Provide and update wayfinding, safety information, route details, and map brochures as the blueway system expands.	Near	NCDOT/County/ municipalities	
Complete the Mountains-to-Sea Trail from Clayton to Smithfield. Seek to improve coordination with regional municipalities expanding the Mountains-to-Sea Trail and other regional trails.	On-going		
Develop an Agritourism Trail Map indicating agritourism sites, bike routes, camping sites, and (consider a donation to include) restaurants, hotels, bike shops, and support facilities.	On-going	Johnston County VB/Private Partners	
Develop Beer,Wine,and Shine Trail Map indicating locations of breweries and vinyards, bike routes, camping sites, and (consider a donation to include) restaurants, hotels, bike shops, and access to support facilities.	Immediate	Johnston County VB/Private Partners	Completed JC VB
Outdoor Movies and Arts Festivals ranked very high amongst desired special events and activities. Coordinate a rotation in the County for these events; if they already exist coordinate and advertise locations together.	On-going	Johnston County VB/Private Partners/ municipalities	

On-Going
Immediate Term
Near Term
Long Term

ACTION ITEMS NOT IMPLEMENTED

Facility Recommendations

ACTION STEP	RECOMMENDED TERM	KEY PLAYERS	CURRENT CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES
Playgrounds ranked high as a desired facility. Work with the Recreation Resource Services (RRS) to build on inventory findings and create a playground audit to determine improvements, upfits, and accessibility needs. Equipment updates, safety surfacing, shade, and accessibility are all improvements that can be made to existing playgrounds in addition to creating new ones.	Near and On-Going	CPD/RRS/AA and Non-profits/Coordination with municipalities	

ACTION STEP	RECOMMENDED TERM	KEY PLAYERS	CURRENT CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES
Work cooperatively with municipalities to evaluate fee structures that may consider including a new fee category for "County Residents"	Immediate	CPD/Municipal Park Director or Staff Member	

On-Going
Immediate Term
Near Term
Long Term

MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS				
ACTION STEP	RECOMMENDED TERM	KEY PLAYERS	ADJUSTED TERM	RATIONALE FOR CHANGE
Create and maintain a list of on-going capital projects for Country-wide parks and recreation efforts.	Immediate	CPD		expanded funding opportunities
FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS				
Connectivity to schools ranked in the top three destinations as places residents would like to be able to walk or bike to; Partner with County Schools to identify projects and grant opportunities that improve walking and connectivity (sidewalks, bike racks, and cross walks); Princeton and Benson are communities that could greatly benefit from improved connectivity between schools; residential areas; and parks.	Immediate	CPD/Johnston County Schools/ Princeton		Opportunity to do this is becoming more challenging ; should be addressed in immediate term
Greenways, hiking, and biking all ranked high as desired facilities. After the MST connection the most requested connections were: (1) Connecting Benson to Four Oaks, Four Oaks to Smithfield; (2) Connecting Selma to Smithfield [note connections from Selma to MTS should be sought]; (3) Connecting Pine Level to Selma; (4) Connecting Pine Level to Selma; (5) Connection between Greater Cleveland area and Clayton.	Immediate	CPD/Individual Municipalities/ JCVB		Opportunities

Inventory Appendix



COMPOSITE PARK SERVICE AREAS WITH "LIVE" DEMAND UNDERLAY

DEMAND CONCENTRATION



Low High

STATE & LOCAL PARKS

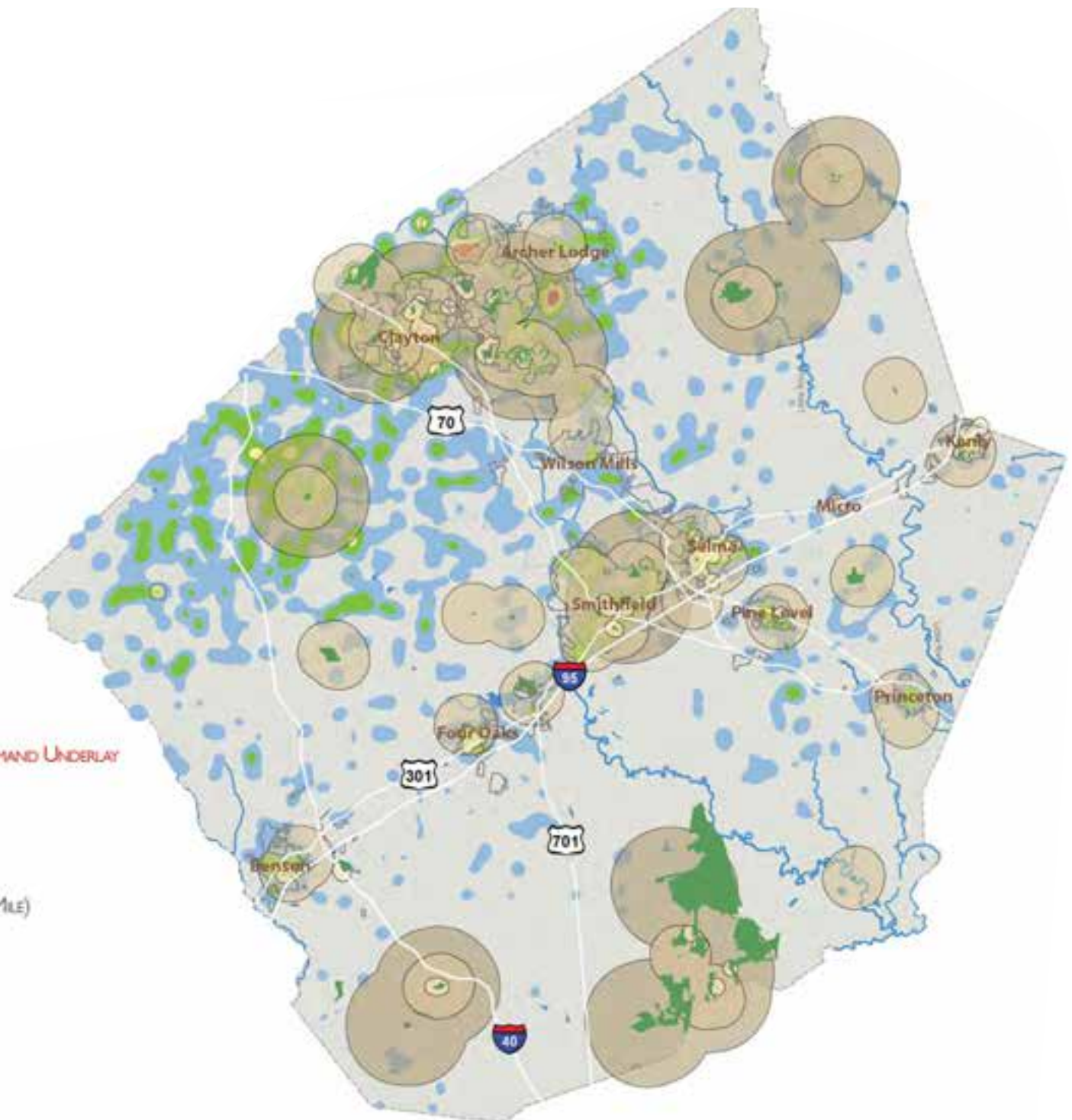
NEIGHBORHOOD PARK SERVICE AREA (1/4 MILE)

AREA PARK SERVICE AREA (1 MILE)

COMMUNITY PARK SERVICE AREA (2 MILES)



0 2.75 5.5 Miles

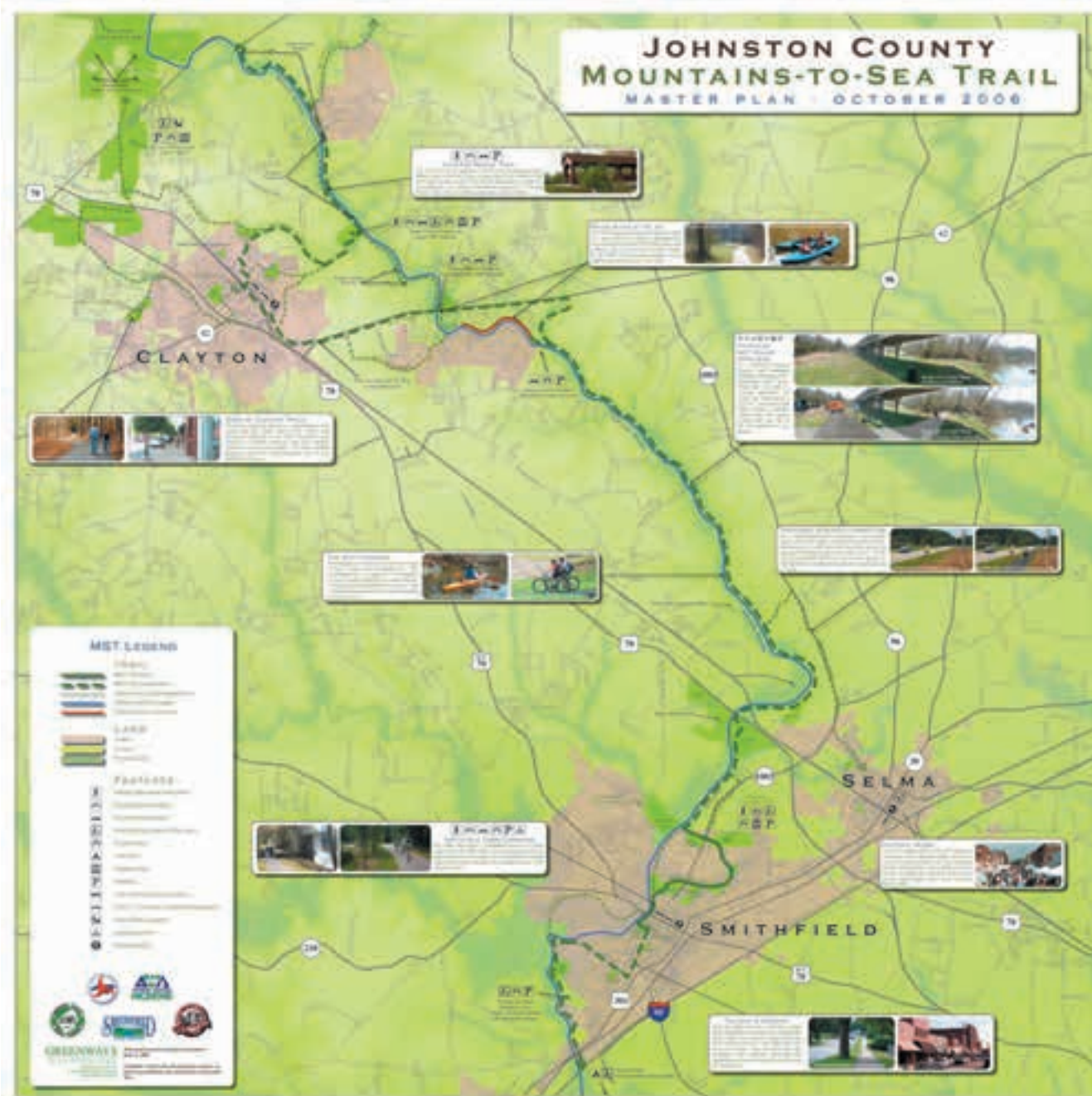




Johnston County Schools - Middle School Recreational Resources

JOHNSTON COUNTY MASTER PLAN UPDATE											
School Inventory			Facilities								
School	Type of School	Location	Baseball Field **with lighting	Gymnasium	Multi-use Court **with lighting	Multi-use Field **with lighting	Multi-use Path	Playground	Softball Field **with lighting	Track lighting	**with
Archer Lodge	Middle School	752 Wendell Road, Wendell, NC 27591	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓		
Benson	Middle School	1600 North Wall Street, Benson, NC 27504	✓	✓		✓			✓		
Clayton	Middle School	490 Guy Road, Clayton, NC 27520	✓	✓		✓			✓		
Cleveland	Middle School	2323 Cornwallis Road, Garner, NC 27529	✓	✓		✓			✓		
Four Oaks	Middle School	1475 Boyette Road, Four Oaks, NC 27524	✓	✓		2	✓		✓		
Innovation Academy at South Campus	Middle School	521 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Smithfield, NC 27577			2						
McGee's Crossroads	Middle School	13353 NC-210, Benson, NC 27504	✓**	✓		✓	✓		✓**		
Meadow	Middle School	7507 NC-50 South, Benson, NC 27504	✓**	✓		✓		2	✓**		
Micro	Elementary School	301 East Main Street, Micro, NC 27555	✓**	✓		✓	✓	2	✓**		
North Johnston	Middle School	435 Oil Company Road, Micro, NC 27555	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓		
Princeton	Middle School	101 Dr. Donnie H Jones Jr. Blvd West, Princeton, NC 27569	2**	✓		2			✓	✓**	
Riverwood	Middle School	204 Athletic Club Blvd, Clayton, NC 27527	✓	✓		2			✓		
Selma	Middle School	1533 US-301, Selma, NC 27576	✓**	✓		✓			✓**		
Smithfield	Middle School	1455 Buffalo Road, Smithfield, NC 27577	✓	✓		✓			✓		
Swift Creek	Middle School	325 Norris Road, Clayton, NC 27520	✓**	✓		✓	✓		✓**		
West View	Elementary School	11755 Cleveland Road, Garner, NC 27529	✓	✓	✓	2	✓	3	✓		

Johnston County Mountains-to-Sea Segment





ARCHER LODGE | Archer Lodge Community Center

LOCATION	14009 Buffalo Road, Archer Lodge, NC 27527
SIZE (ACREAGE)	5 AC
PREDOMINANT USE	Mixed Use; Active
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	DAWN
<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	DUSK

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING	Ample	S	Paved lot with 24 spaces. Gravel lot belongs to White Oak Baptist (church functions have priority use)
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS		N	No sidewalks surrounding the site. Roads are too heavily traveled for safe walking. Internal path is effective
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING		N	No bicycle facilities surround park and road volumes and widths do not provide an immediate opportunity for improvement
PARK ID SIGNAGE		N	Temporary marquee sign could be updated to a permanent well branded sign.
SUN/SHADE		N	Not much shade within the park and the trees lining the street are too close to the roadway to use for seating
RESTROOMS	Portable and Concession	S	Community Center restrooms available when building is open
BASKETBALL COURT (SPECIFY INDOOR/ OUTDOOR)	1 outdoor	S (L - not operational)	
SWING SET	2 tots/3 belts	S	
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	Ample	S	
PICNIC SHELTER	1	S	Picnic Shelter/Concessions combined with many picnic tables
PLAYGROUND		S	Large unit, climbing dome, vertical climber, tubes and swings.
BASEBALL	1 baseball (shared with soccer)/1 tee-ball	S (L)	Great condition with covered dugouts and spectator seating (partially shaded). Batting cage
SOCCER	1 + 1 (shared with baseball)	S (L - on field shared with baseball)	Total of two small fields, one is shared with the baseball field
TRACK/WALKING TRAIL/ HORSEBACK RIDING	10' wide asphalt	S (A)	Walking trail is 1/3 mile loop.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
HORSESHOES	3	S	
TENNIS	1	S (L - not operational)	
OTHER: AMPHITHEATER	1	S (L)	Covered stage with bleachers.
OTHER: COMMUNITY CENTER	1	S	Not accessible at time of site visit. Staffed part-time by volunteers. Celebrated 50 years in 2013 (established in 1963).

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- Many uses are packed into a tight space, but it works well.
- Well maintained and serves the community well as there are no other parks in the vicinity.
- Community Center serves groups up to 100 for meetings and community functions.

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- Roads surrounding the park are high volume, need pedestrian and bicycle access improvements.
- Baseball/Soccer scheduling conflicts.
- Limited acreage.

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARK

- Signage and wayfinding would improve visitor navigation.
- Proposed redevelopment project: removing basketball and tennis courts to allow regrading along back of property to fit three soccer fields. The baseball field will be regraded and a permanent 200' outfield fence installed, irrigation added, new backstop aligned with the dugouts to remove them from the field of play. Additional walking trails will be added for access through the center of the property. The basketball court will be relocated, lighting will also be relocated or additional installed to properly light fields. A new scoreboard will be installed.







BENSON | Benson Parks & Recreation Department/Municipal Park & Civic Center

LOCATION	1204 Johnson Street, Benson, NC 27504
SIZE (ACREAGE)	18.5 AC
PREDOMINANT USE	Mixture of uses; athletics, indoor assembly, senior center, open space
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	N/A
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	N/A

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING	Ample	S	Large lot
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS		N	No sidewalks leading into the site or connecting users within the site
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING		N	Access could be improved along the road with facilities to create comfort for visitors. No bicycle parking was observed
PARK ID SIGNAGE		S	Clearly marked but does not include senior center. Signage leading to senior center should be more clear. Inconsistency with use of senior center and Center for Active Aging
SUN/SHADE		N	Overall very exposed. Each use could use trees and shelters for users and spectators
RESTROOMS	Yes	S	Inside center and near ball fields.
SWING SET	2 belts/2 toddlers	S	
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	Throughout		
PICNIC SHELTER	1		4 picnic tables with no accessible path
PLAYGROUND	Yes	N/L	Sand surface and not ADA accessibility. No shade and no benches for guardians
BASEBALL	2	S/L	Both are lighted with covered dugouts, concessions/maintenance, and bleachers. Shade could be improved for spectators. There is also a single batting cage
VOLLEYBALL	1 Sand Court	N/L	Needs maintenance, grass growing through sand
GYMNASIUM			
SHUFFLEBOARD	4/L	C	Courts are in good condition with benches on both sides, but could use shade. (Gazebo nearby provides some shade for spectators)
HORSESHOES	8/L	S	
TENNIS	2	N/L	Nets are in good shape but the courts are cracked and need to be resurfaced
OTHER: BUILDING			Newly improved landscaping outside entrance of building



STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- Playground near to ball fields to entertain smaller children.
- Multiple uses to serve multiple generations.
- Ample parking.
- Well maintained.

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- This location has uses for seniors, however there are no paths connecting uses, nor is there ADA accessibility.
- Signage communicating where to go - especially for seniors.
- Accessible parking is not actually accessible.



POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARK

- Add accessibility throughout for pedestrians and ADA compliance.
- Post regulatory signage to provide consistent messaging across all parks. Posting hours of operation can reduce liability.





BENSON | Benson Singing Grove

LOCATION	400 East Main Street, Benson, NC 27504
SIZE (ACREAGE)	2.05 AC
PREDOMINANT USE	Community Gathering Space
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	6AM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	9PM

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING	Unknown	S	Parking: on-street or in adjacent lots if allowed
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS		S/A	Sidewalks border park outside of fenced area. Interior sidewalk
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING		N	No parking observed. Low volume streets surrounding site
PARK ID SIGNAGE		N	Banner should be improved to standardized park sign
SUN/SHADE		C	
RESTROOMS	Yes	S	
BASKETBALL COURT (SPECIFY INDOOR/ OUTDOOR)			
SWING SET	2 belts/2 toddler	S	
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	11	S	No ADA accessible tables
PICNIC SHELTER	1	S	
PLAYGROUND	1	N	Sand surface is not accessible. Surface needs to be improved per ADA standards
OTHER:			

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- Unique use and offering for the county wide system.
- Great shade within a well designed urban open space.
- Regulatory signage is in English and Spanish.

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- No bicycle parking.
- Access from Parish is a challenge, no sidewalks.
- Plaque on house is a challenge to read.
- Park ID signage is not identifiable from the road.

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARK

- Creating an accessible playground will expand the spectrum of users.
- An additional sidewalk on Parish will improve pedestrian access.
- Interpretive signage located near the historic structure will enhance the intent of the space as an interpretive site.
- Standardization of regulatory signage will communicate a consistent message across the county or town.





BENSON | Dr. PK Vyas MD Community Park

LOCATION	304 S. Lee St., Benson, NC 27504
SIZE (ACREAGE)	9 AC
PREDOMINANT USE	Athletics, Picnic Shelters, Open space, playground, walking track with equipment
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	NOT LISTED
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	
<input type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING	Ample	N	Large lot. Needs to be resurfaced.
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS		N	No sidewalks
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING		N	Access could be improved along road
PARK ID SIGNAGE		S	Clearly marked
SUN/SHADE		N	Exposed, newly planted trees haven't fully grown.
RESTROOMS		S	Near ball fields and playground
SWING SET	2 belt / 2 toddler		
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	Yes	S	
PICNIC SHELTER	2	S	Eight picnic tables with accessible path
PLAYGROUND	Yes	N	Yes, ADA accessible surface, no shade
BASEBALL	2	S/L	Both are lighted with covered dug outs. Two batting cages.
FOOTBALL / MULTIUSE	Yes	S	Lighted field, no concession stand (concessions are planned for; funding was unknown at the time of this report)
GYMNASIUM	Yes	S	Middle school sized gymnasium, good shape needs some improvements
WALKING TRAIL	.45 miles	S	Asphalt walking trail
EXERCISE EQUIPMENT	Yes	C	Nine pieces of equipment placed along walking trail

Note: This park was not evaluated during the site assessment. Photos and inventory were provided by Town staff. The below comments were crafted by reviewing the photos and speaking with Town staff.

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

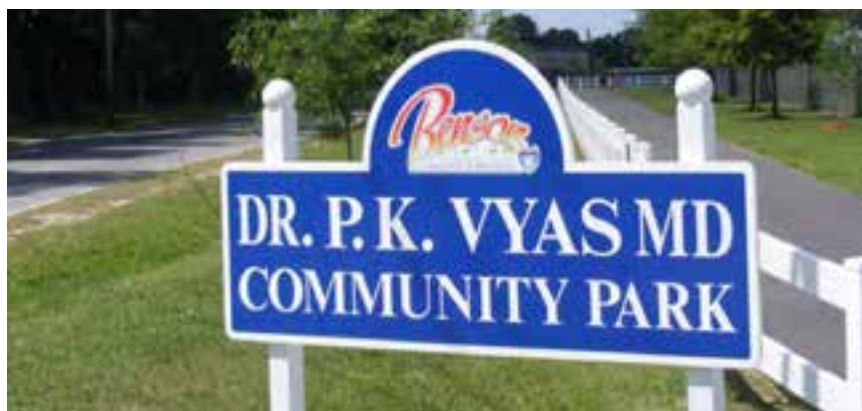
- As a new addition to the park system in Benson, the facility and grounds appear to be in excellent condition.
- A path is available throughout the park connected uses.
- Ample shade is provided near the playground for guardians.
- The walking track and fitness equipment extend the usage of the park beyond organized sports and activates the space as a multi-seasonal daily use park.

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- Access to the park via bicycle and foot paths is limited due to the lack of sidewalks connecting adjacent residences with the park.
- The current parking lot, while large, is in need of resurfacing. Accessible parking spaces should be included when resurfacing occurs.
- Spectators are not shaded by trees or a structure.
- There are no concession stands to service spectators and players.

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARK

- The addition of a concession stand will improve the comfort of users and could increase demand on the facility.
- As the trees mature, the walking path will become shaded and more pleasant to use during summer months.
- Removing a section of edging from the playground and providing a manageable slope of mulch will provide ADA access (from the photos it is not clear if there is an access point).





BENSON | Mitchell Nance Athletic Complex

LOCATION	300 N Lee Street, Benson, NC 27504
SIZE (ACREAGE)	2.9 AC
PREDOMINANT USE	Ball fields
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	DUSK
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	DAWN

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING	Unknown	S	On-street
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS		N	No sidewalks on adjacent streets or within park
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING		S	Surrounding streets are low volume and safe for bicyclists but no bicycle parking is available
PARK ID SIGNAGE		N	Regulatory sign and naming signage is present but could be improved to brand parks
SUN/SHADE		N	No shade for spectators
RESTROOMS	Portable	S	
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	4 picnic/3 bleachers	S	Under shelter, scattered, and bleachers for spectators
PICNIC SHELTER	I	S	
PLAYGROUND	I	N	Sand surface, needs improvement to meet ADA
BASEBALL	I	C/L	Field is well maintained with covered dugouts and bleachers
SOCCER	I (Small)	S/L	One small practice or youth field

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- Well maintained.
- Great neighborhood park and open to public for multipurpose use.

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- Lack of shade.
- ADA and pedestrian access.
- Sidewalks surrounding park.

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARK

- The addition of shade, with structures or trees, will improve visitor experience.
- Bicycle parking would increase the potential to serve as a neighborhood park and provide security during larger events.





CLAYTON | All Star Park and Pavilion

LOCATION	400 Front Street, Clayton, NC 27520
SIZE (ACREAGE)	
PREDOMINANT USE	
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP

☐ PRIVATE

☒ PUBLIC

☐ NON-PROFIT

HOURS

-UNTIL-

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING	9 / 1 HC	S	Gravel
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS		S	
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING		S	
PARK ID SIGNAGE		S	No park sign - could use a sign consistent with parks and recreation facilities
SUN/SHADE		S	Pavilion and trees in playground area
RESTROOMS			Locked due to repairs
BASKETBALL COURT (SPECIFY INDOOR/ OUTDOOR)		C	Not lighted
SWING SET			
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	5 picnic / 2 benches	C	
PICNIC SHELTER		C	
PLAYGROUND		C	Mulch surface
OTHER: WATER FOUNTAIN	2	C	
OTHER: GRILL	2	S	

OVERVIEW

All Star Park and Pavilion is on Front Street and Cooper Street in the downtown area. The Pavilion features a restroom structure with attached picnic shelter and a playground for young children. The park also features a fenced basketball court with steep slopes surrounding the court.

STRENGTHS

The basketball court, pavilion, and playground equipment are all relatively new and in good condition. The bathroom facility allows families to spend an afternoon at the playground and enjoy a lunch picnic or cookout. Both facilities are easily accessible by walking via sidewalks surrounding the block. Residents north of the park can also bike on low vehicle volume streets, but inexperienced cyclists and children should not use Front Street as this is a main route into Town.

CHALLENGES

Currently the playground is only suitable for small children. By adding more swings and climbing activities, older children could gain better use of the site. There is no path connecting the basketball court with the pavilion, and the building between the two areas does not allow parents and guardians to observe children in both areas.

OPPORTUNITIES

Park signage should be added to both locations to be consistent with an overall park signage master plan. Illuminating the playground area with pedestrian scale lighting will improve visibility at night and discourage any loitering. Lights would also provide extended hourly use to the basketball court - especially during winter months.





CLAYTON | Clemmons Educational State Forest

LOCATION	2411 Old U.S. 70 West, Clayton, NC 27520
SIZE (ACREAGE)	
PREDOMINANT USE	
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	T-F 9AM / SS 11AM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	T-F 5PM / SS 8PM

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING			Not observed
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS		S	Access within the park is satisfactory and connections exist between Wake and Johnston Counties (No sidewalks on State Road 1004)
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING			No bicycle facilities on State Road 1004, no bicycle parking observed
PARK ID SIGNAGE		S	Very visible entrance from road
SUN/SHADE		C	Mostly forest
RESTROOMS		S	Present, not observed
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	25	S	Rest stations on all trails; 25 table picnic area
PICNIC SHELTER		S	Available for rent
WALKING TRAIL		C	10+ miles of easy to arduous trails; all trails are foot travel only
OTHER: EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS		C	Several workshops are offered and ranger classes are free of charge; workshops are for groups of 10 or more participants

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- Wide variety of free classes.
- Education is found throughout the park in talking trees, talking rocks, signs, and classes.

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- Several websites and blogs have information about the park, but the main page for the forest does not have comprehensive maps and details.

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARK

- Great opportunity to further promote agrotourism in the county and state.
- A more defined trail rating system will help users of all ages and abilities understand which trails are suitable for their needs (this should be displayed online to enable users to research before entering the forest).





CLAYTON | Community Park

LOCATION	1075 Amelia Church Road, Clayton, NC 27520
SIZE (ACREAGE)	
PREDOMINANT USE	
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING	78 regular/2 HC by tennis courts 57 regular/2 HC leading up to baseball fields	C	With lighting - check ADA balance
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS		N	Connection should be made to community center; no sidewalk along Amelia Church
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING		N	No bike lanes or side paths
PARK ID SIGNAGE		C	Well placed with landscape surrounding - should be larger
SUN/SHADE		S	Will be excellent when trees mature along trail Baseball spectators are well shaded Bocce spectators are not well shaded. Could use additional shade structures or vegetation/trees to provide shade
RESTROOMS		S	
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	Ample	C	
PICNIC SHELTER			
PLAYGROUND		C	Connect playground to parking area with sidewalk; improve access for users Maintenance required on playground barrier edge to contain sand in play area
BASEBALL	3 fields (2 adult and 1 youth)	C	Fenced with lighting
VOLLEYBALL	(Beach) 2 courts	S	

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
TRACK/WALKING TRAIL/ HORSEBACK RIDING	Walking trail	S	Asphalt / Dog Waste Stations (5)
BOCCE	8 courts	S	2 benches per court/4 spectator stands (2 big/2 small)
TENNIS	6	C	With lighting and fenced
OTHER: WATER FOUNTAINS	2	C	

OVERVIEW

Community Park is one of the largest parks in the system. It is located near the Community Center and was filled with families during field observations. The park contains a playground, tennis courts, ball fields, volleyball courts, bocce courts, and a walking trail.

STRENGTHS

Community Park is new and well maintained. The location near the Community Center creates excellent exposure for both facilities. The park is also located near many residences and offers activities for the entire family. With multiple ball fields, and tennis courts, the Town is positioned to host tournaments at this location.

CHALLENGES

The biggest challenge to the park is access by foot and bike. Although the park is surrounded by many neighborhoods, there are no crosswalks, sidewalks, or bicycle facilities available to provide safe access.

OPPORTUNITIES

The walking trails around the park could be a bigger draw for users if the trails had mile markers, and were better featured through signage, mapping, the Town website, and through Parks and Recreation outreach materials. Completing an ADA accessible trail from the Community Center to the park will provide a convenient connection and expand the vehicular parking potential for larger events held at the park.



CLAYTON | East Clayton Community Park

LOCATION	1774 Glen Laurel Road, Clayton, NC 27520
SIZE (ACREAGE)	
PREDOMINANT USE	
PARCEL NUMBER	



OVERVIEW

East Clayton Community Park was under construction at the time of this evaluation. This park provides the following recreational elements:

- (1) Baseball field
- (1) Soccer field
- 4 AC of Multi-Use field Space
- One-mile walking trail
- Youth playground
- Picnic pavilion and restrooms
- Woodland areas
- Wetland areas
- Future disc golf





CLAYTON | East Clayton Dog Park

LOCATION	2027 Glen Laurel Road, Clayton, NC 27520
SIZE (ACREAGE)	
PREDOMINANT USE	
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP

☐ PRIVATE

☒ PUBLIC

☐ NON-PROFIT

HOURS

-UNTIL-

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING	13 curbstops/1 HC signed, not paved	S	Gravel
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS		N	Connect neighborhood greenway to park, and provide sidewalk connection to park
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING		S	
PARK ID SIGNAGE		C	Excellent condition - visibility could be improved
SUN/SHADE	Ample	C	
RESTROOMS	1 Port-O-John	S	
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	3 picnic / 6 benches	C	
OTHER: WATER STATION	2	C	
OTHER: WASH STATION	1	C	





OVERVIEW

East Clayton Dog Park is a specialty park located in a growing area of Clayton. This new facility is well maintained and provides a large, shaded space for dogs and dog owners to socialize with fellow residents of Clayton.

STRENGTHS

This park is great for both small and large dogs. The separate areas allow any dogs in the community to enjoy playing in a comfortable environment. Facilities for humans, including benches and picnic tables, are well placed. Overall, the ample shade in the area provides comfort for humans as well as dogs - especially in summer months. The inclusion of a washing station is a great amenity as it helps cool pups and prevents them from tracking mud and dirt in vehicles and homes.

CHALLENGES

Currently, the private neighborhood greenway adjacent to the park doesn't connect to the sidewalks within the site. This connection will provide better pedestrian access for nearby families who would like to walk their dogs to the park. Bicycle parking should also be available.

OPPORTUNITIES

Connectivity is the greatest opportunity for this park. The Town should complete sidewalk and bicycle connections between the park and area neighborhoods as well as provide safe crossings in between the dog park and East Clayton Community Park. Programming for dog families will also increase participation and thereby increase the sense of ownership among residents. This tends to correlate with more residents assisting with upkeep of the park.



CLAYTON | Future Park at Neuse River and Covered Bridge Road

LOCATION	2686 Covered Bridge Road, Clayton, NC 27520
SIZE (ACREAGE)	
PREDOMINANT USE	
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT

HOURS
-UNTIL-

In Notes: Place an “L” if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and “A” if the facility is Accessible.





OVERVIEW

A Master Plan for this location is currently underway. Some of the passive recreation features discussed for the site are:

- Benches and resting areas for seniors and as places to view activities
- Opportunity to watch and be in nature
- Variety of play spaces for all ages (natural areas and play spaces for young children)
- Inclusive playground
- Multiple programmed activities
- Accessible by car, walking, or cycling
- Nature and Education Center
- Dog park
- Event space (flexible gathering space with potential for become the host site for “Festival on the Neuse!”)
- Opportunities for “Art in the Park”

- Community gardens
- Group and individual camping opportunities
- Picnic pavilions, picnic tables, grills
- Access to the water, kayak/canoe launch create a “blueway” on the Neuse
- Disc golf
- Fishing
- Multi-use, nature, and hiking trails
- Ropes course with zip line, team building elements, and obstacle course

A master plan focus group has been established and is comprised of staff, elected officials, community leaders, school representatives, and scout group members.





CLAYTON | Horne Square - Urban Public Space

LOCATION	348 E Main Street, Clayton, NC 27520
SIZE (ACREAGE)	
PREDOMINANT USE	
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING	28 / 1 HC	C	
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS		C	
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING		C	
PARK ID SIGNAGE		C	
SUN/SHADE		N	Should provide more opportunities for shade
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	8	C	





OVERVIEW

Horne Square is a combination parking lot and plaza located on Main Street in downtown. This square adds to the urban character of the downtown. While it is not managed by the Parks and Recreation Department, it is considered a downtown public resource for residents.

STRENGTHS

The Square contributes to the identity of Clayton's downtown area by setting the tone with material selection and streetscape elements. This plaza provides another flexible use area. The parking lot is used daily, yet during special events can be used to set up vendor tents. Historic markers in the Square enhance the identity of the Town and provide a reason for people to pause in the space.

CHALLENGES

The open plaza area along the street is a bit small and broken up. Different tree species would have provided better shade and relief from the heat radiating off the brick surface.

OPPORTUNITIES

This square has the potential to become a draw for the Town. By programming small events for the space, and using the Square as a main focus during street festivals, the Town will benefit economically and socially.





CLAYTON | Legend Park

LOCATION	550 City Road, Clayton, NC 27520
SIZE (ACREAGE)	Legend Park is currently closed for an unknown time frame and all facilities listed below are not in current operation
PREDOMINANT USE	
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	-UNTIL-
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	
<input type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING		S	Gravel/grass
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS		N	No connectivity for pedestrians
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING		N	City Road does not accommodate bicycles
PARK ID SIGNAGE		N	To improve Park visibility; sign should be larger and relocated. (Vegetation covering sign)
SUN/SHADE		S	Shade should be provided for spectators
RESTROOMS		S	Locked during evaluation
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	2 picnic / 2 bleachers	S	
BASEBALL	1	C	Fenced and lit - well graded and maintained
OTHER: MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAILS	1	S	Wood training facilities and trails. Some wood structures could use repair both at training facility and in woods





OVERVIEW

Legend Park is located just north of the downtown area off City Road. The park features a ball field and over seven miles of mountain biking trails, including single track. Several challenging structures are located outside of the trail entrance for practice, as well as inside the woods along the trails.

STRENGTHS

With the exception of Umstead State Park in Raleigh, not many challenging and long mountain biking trails are located in the area. This is a unique feature for Clayton and the region.

CHALLENGES

One of the greatest challenges of this park is that not many people know it exists. Without an outreach program, residents do not know they have this resource in their area. Also, when driving by the park, the ball field is visible, but it is not clear there is an extensive system of trails.

OPPORTUNITIES

Legend Park offers an amenity that could draw people from all over the region. By creating awareness of the park, nonresidents are likely to not only use the park, but use other services in the Town contributing to the tourism economy. The entrance and title sign should be improved to create a visible and attractive entrance. Vegetation should be cut back and the area can be landscaped to draw attention to the sign. In addition to the mountain biking trails, walking trails could also be added to this park to increase use.





CLAYTON | Municipal Park

LOCATION	325 McCullers Drive, Clayton, NC 27520
SIZE (ACREAGE)	
PREDOMINANT USE	
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING	41 parking/1 HC - near basketball; 104 parking space/2 HC - near lower baseball fields; 35 parking/3 HC/6 member spaces	S	All parking is lighted
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS		N	No clear pedestrian paths or sidewalks leading to the park
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING		N	
PARK ID SIGNAGE		S	Sign is in good condition - but placement could be better. Add additional signage on Stallings at Kilg
SUN/SHADE		N	Not many shade structures or trees
RESTROOMS	1 at upper baseball field 1 restroom at middle field		Locked during evaluation
BASKETBALL	1	S	Fenced and lighted
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	Ample	N	Benches and tables should be evaluated and repaired or upgraded
PICNIC SHELTER	2	N	Shelters need improvement
PLAYGROUND		N	2 swing sets; 2 tire swings; Slides and climbing; Monkey bars; Zip Line (Replace surfacing for improved access. Play set wood planks are rotting and loose. Monkey bars should be replaced. Remove or repair zipline)
BASEBALL	3	S	All fenced and lit. Lower fields had some grass growing in the sand area

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
TENNIS	1	N	Court needs repair and/or resurfaced
OTHER: WATER FOUNTAINS	2	N	Concrete fountain in playground area and water pump in playground area

OVERVIEW

Municipal Park is located near the heart of historic downtown Clayton. This location creates a potentially walkable destination for residents living north of Highway 70 near the downtown area. With three baseball facilities, one tennis court, one basketball court, and a playground, there is potential to serve a wide range of ages and interests.

STRENGTHS

The proximity to downtown coupled with multiple fields creates an ideal environment for a small tournament. Easy access to downtown allows attendees to leave their cars parked by the fields and walk to a nearby restaurant. This programming also benefits the economic development of the Town.

CHALLENGES

The tennis court and playground are in need of repair and redesign. The tennis court playing surface is cracked and should be replaced as there is a demand for tennis facilities overall, and this is one of two courts on the northern side of Highway 70. A lack of open space also prevents “free play” for family members who may not be involved directly in basketball, tennis, or baseball.

OPPORTUNITIES

Redesigning the playground to be a more attractive area for play and to meet current industry standards for safety can increase the use of Municipal Park. This playground has the potential to serve many families living within walking and biking distance. Pedestrian and bicycle access and facilities should be examined to create safe routes to the park and encourage non-vehicular travel. As seen by the presence of soccer nets, there appears to be a demand for at least a soccer practice facility at this location. Reconfiguring the site to allow for additional use of open space could help meet some of the current recreational needs.





CLAYTON | Town Square Green - Urban Public Space

LOCATION	111 E Second Street, Clayton, NC 27520
SIZE (ACREAGE)	
PREDOMINANT USE	
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING	32/ 2 HC / plus on street	C	
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS		C	
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING		S	
PARK ID SIGNAGE		N	Add title signage
SUN/SHADE		S	Trees well spaced to allow for some shade and programmed events
RESTROOMS	1 Port-O-John	S	Not permanent, used for events





OVERVIEW

The Town Square Green is located in the heart of Clayton's historic downtown on Main Street. This lawn is a perfect flex space for the town, allowing for daily unprogrammed use and providing enough area to hold small events. While it is not managed by the Parks and Recreation Department, it is considered a downtown public resource for residents.

STRENGTHS

The location of the Green in the downtown creates a perfect space for public events. It is easily accessible by walking, biking, or driving. The area is an appropriate size to hold the concert series with room to support a stage, blanket and chair audience seating, and a few food and beverage vendors. The few parking spaces located on the south side of the park provide easy access for families wishing to use the space to picnic, fly kites, throw a frisbee, or other unprogrammed activities. The proximity to shopping and restaurants coupled with event flexibility provides an economic driver for the Town.

CHALLENGES

One challenge of the Green is to maintain programming with appropriately sized events. In the future, current activities may become more popular and outgrow the space.

OPPORTUNITIES

The Green has the potential to drive more citizens to the downtown area. Creating a more diverse offering of programs and activities for the space - and advertising them well - will increase use of restaurant and retail vendors within the downtown area. These types of activities also help to create a sense of community among residents.





CLEVELAND | Greater Cleveland Athletic Association Park

LOCATION	8994 Cleveland Road, Clayton, NC 27520
SIZE (ACREAGE)	
PREDOMINANT USE	
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	
<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING	Ample	S	Gravel
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS		N	Not accessible from the road and is not easily modified. Driving destination. There are no trails or sidewalks to connect each of the fields
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING		N/A	No bicycle access and the roadway is not likely to be modified to accommodate bicycle access. No bicycle parking
PARK ID SIGNAGE		N	Not easily identified with a naming sign
SUN/SHADE		N	Very exposed
RESTROOMS	Yes	N	Facility appeared to be locked during active park use time
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES			
PICNIC SHELTER	Yes	S	Concession and shelter
PLAYGROUND			
BASEBALL	5 Baseball	S (L)	Covered dugouts, fields in good condition, bleachers do not have shade
SOCCER	4 full/2 youth	S (L)	

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- Multiple uses, lighted, and in an area of the County that does not have a lot of existing parks

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- Only accessed by vehicle
- Not easy to get to via walking or biking

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARK

- Additional shade coverage
- Improved walking between park uses; park was heavily used at time of visit and internal walking would offer another option for parents with kids in multiple sports and exercise activity.





EAST JOHNSTON COUNTY | Glendale Chapel Community Center

LOCATION	1600 Glendale Road, Kenly, NC 27542
SIZE (ACREAGE)	12.38 AC
PREDOMINANT USE	Active Recreation
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	
<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING			
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS			
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING			
PARK ID SIGNAGE			
SUN/SHADE			
RESTROOMS	Yes	S	Bathrooms were inaccessible
BASKETBALL COURT (SPECIFY INDOOR/ OUTDOOR)			
SWING SET			
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES			
PICNIC SHELTER			
BASEBALL	2	N/S (L)	Ball fields need maintenance, dugouts are covered but spectator seating is not. Concessions, scoring box, and restrooms.

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- Well maintained ball fields

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- Access to the park is limited to vehicular

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARK

- Improved signage and access around the site to the buildings and tennis courts at the back of the property.
- Incorporate shade between fields and for spectators through trees or structures.





FOUR OAKS | Barbour's Grove Park

LOCATION	204 N Baker Street, Four Oaks, NC 27524
SIZE (ACREAGE)	0.5 AC
PREDOMINANT USE	Community Gathering
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	AM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	PM

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING	Ample	C	On-street angled paved parking with wheel stops
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS		N/L	No sidewalk access on narrow road. Circulation throughout the park is brick paths
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING		N	Bicycles and skateboards are not allowed in the park. Narrow roads adjacent to the park would be difficult to improve for safe and comfortable access but traffic seems to be low
PARK ID SIGNAGE		S	Small sign indicating name of park and large sign indicating activities/events in the park.
SUN/SHADE		C/L	Large oak trees and large gazebo.
RESTROOMS			
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	12 benches/2 picnic	C	
PICNIC SHELTER	Gazebo	C/L	
OTHER:			

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- Well lighted and well maintained with an urban/neighborhood feel.
- Great character with pedestrian scale globe lights.

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- Sidewalks are brick and not level. May be a challenge for seniors and strollers.
- Access is tough for bicycles and pedestrians.

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARK

- Improvements for universal design will open opportunities for multigenerational enjoyment.





FOUR OAKS | Four Oaks Civitan Club

LOCATION	190 W Hatcher Street, Four Oaks, NC 27524
SIZE (ACREAGE)	8.1 AC
PREDOMINANT USE	Ball fields/athletics
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	AM
<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	PM

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING			
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS			
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING			
PARK ID SIGNAGE			
SUN/SHADE		N	Bleacher areas seem exposed. Shelters or trees could be added to improve comfort
RESTROOMS			
BASKETBALL COURT (SPECIFY INDOOR/ OUTDOOR)			
SWING SET			
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES			
PICNIC SHELTER			
PLAYGROUND			
BASEBALL	3 fields	C/L	Well maintained with shaded dugouts, concessions, restrooms, and bleachers
SOCCER			
TRACK/WALKING TRAIL/ HORSEBACK RIDING			
BOCCE			
OTHER:			
OTHER:			



STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- Very well maintained.

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- Property lines are unclear between the park and school. GIS data should be reconciled to show accurate parcel data.

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARK

- Add shading to bleachers to improve spectator experience.





FOUR OAKS | Holt Park

LOCATION	106 Smith Street, Four Oaks, NC 27524
SIZE (ACREAGE)	0.76 AC
PREDOMINANT USE	Playground and small open space
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	6AM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	9PM

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING	Ample	S	Grass parking with wheel stops
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS		N	Quiet low volume street but the grade is difficult and not ADA accessible
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING		S	Low volume street with toaster bike rack
PARK ID SIGNAGE		S	Signage could be improved to be more visible from the road
SUN/SHADE		S	Could be improved to shade play equipment
RESTROOMS	Portable	S	
BASKETBALL COURT (SPECIFY INDOOR/ OUTDOOR)	1	N	Hoop with no surface and no net. Should be removed or improved
SWING SET	6 belts/2 toddler	S	
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	2 benches/4 picnic	S	Could add more benches with backs
PICNIC SHELTER	1	S	
PLAYGROUND	1	N/L	Playground should be evaluated for safety due to age of equipment

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- Great neighborhood park with benches in well shaded areas.
- Well maintained and Freshly mulched.
- Perfect size for intended use.

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- Playground should be evaluated for safety due to age of equipment and safety surfacing.
- Access is a challenge due to the steep sloping driveway.

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARK

- Add sidewalk or path that allows for ADA accessibility into and around the park.
- Signage can be added along the road and on 301 to create awareness for the park.





FOUR OAKS | Howell Woods Environmental Learning Center

LOCATION	6601 Devil's Racetrack Road, Four Oaks, NC 27524
SIZE (ACREAGE)	2,800+ AC
PREDOMINANT USE	Natural Learning Center
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING	Ample	S	
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS		S	Trails throughout, no access from the road into the park
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING		N	No bicycle facilities on the road leading to the entrance of the site
PARK ID SIGNAGE		S	
SUN/SHADE		C	
RESTROOMS		C	
PICNIC SHELTER			Not observed, available for rent
TRACK/WALKING TRAIL/ HORSEBACK RIDING			Not observed, trails for horses, biking, and hiking
FISHING			Available
CAMPING			Available
RIVER ACCESS			Available, a guide is recommended to reach the access
CANOEING/KAYAKING			Available, no rentals, programs are available and vessels are provided
HUNTING (PROGRAM)			Available in season
BIRD WATCHING (PROGRAM)			Available

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- Great asset for the county with multiple educational programs.
- Well maintained facility.
- Diverse offering of uses.

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARK

- Work with the Visitor's Bureau to promote programs and raise funds to support operations and management.

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- Awareness throughout the County of offerings.





FOUR OAKS | Johnson-Strickland Kiddie Park

LOCATION	604 N Main Street, Four Oaks, NC 27524
SIZE (ACREAGE)	0.36 AC
PREDOMINANT USE	Playground
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	8AM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	SUNSET

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING	Ample	N	Entrance needs to be widened, but conditions and space are fine
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS		S	Sidewalks connect to park along street.
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING		S	Bicycles have room to ride along the shoulders of the road.
PARK ID SIGNAGE		S	Signs are in good condition but there is too much sign clutter. Could be consolidated into one or fewer signs
SUN/SHADE		S	Could plant additional trees to shade equipment.
RESTROOMS	Portable		
SWING SET	3 belt/ 1HC	C	Great to see an accessible swing
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	4 benches/ 3 picnic	S	
PICNIC SHELTER	1	S	
PLAYGROUND	1	S/L	The entire park is a playground with mulch surface

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- Great accessibility connected with a sidewalk and shoulder for bicycles.
- Lots of variety for children of the same age group.

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- Not much variety for multiple age groups.

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARK

- Additional shade would make the space more pleasant for guardians.





KENLY | Grady Park

LOCATION	East Second Street and Wilson Street, Kenly, NC 27542
SIZE (ACREAGE)	0.9 AC
PREDOMINANT USE	Playground
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING	Ample	S	Pull off road side parking
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS		N	No sidewalks or paths leading into the park
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING		S	No bicycle parking.
PARK ID SIGNAGE		S	One sign with the park name and some regulatory signage.
SUN/SHADE		S	Good balance of shaded and sunny areas
RESTROOMS	N/A		
SWING SET	3 belts	S	
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	Ample	S	
PICNIC SHELTER	2 Shelters/1 gazebo	S	Gazebo in need of maintenance
PLAYGROUND		S	Tot lot (fenced), monkey bars, dome, fire truck, teeter totter. Could modify play surface for improved access and safety

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- Makes use of otherwise unusable space.
- Old oak trees provide nice shade.

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- The location is on the edge of town and it is unclear if it is serving the surrounding community well.
- Surfaces could be upgraded for safety and improved access.

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARK

- Improved access around the park, walking trails, improved playground surfacing.
- Survey of surrounding residents could determine new and/or additional uses for this site.





KENLY | Parks and Recreation Department/Gym/Civic Center

LOCATION	College Avenue, Kenly, NC 27542
SIZE (ACREAGE)	30.47 AC
PREDOMINANT USE	Active
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING			
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS			
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING			
PARK ID SIGNAGE			
SUN/SHADE		N	Needs more overall shade
RESTROOMS	Yes	S	Unable to access restrooms
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES			
PICNIC SHELTER			
BASEBALL	3	S	Fields are well maintained with covered dugouts and one concession building with score keepers box. The bleachers for spectators are exposed and could use shelters and trees to improve comfort. Ball fields also have batting cages. Second concession building has no restrooms or scoring box
SOCCER	1	S (L)	Looks well maintained, bleaches but are exposed with no shade
TRACK/WALKING TRAIL/ HORSEBACK RIDING		S	Trail tread is nearing maintenance/resurfacing/widening in the next 2-5 years. Length of the trail is usable as a fitness amenity
TENNIS	2	N (L)	Grass growing through surface

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

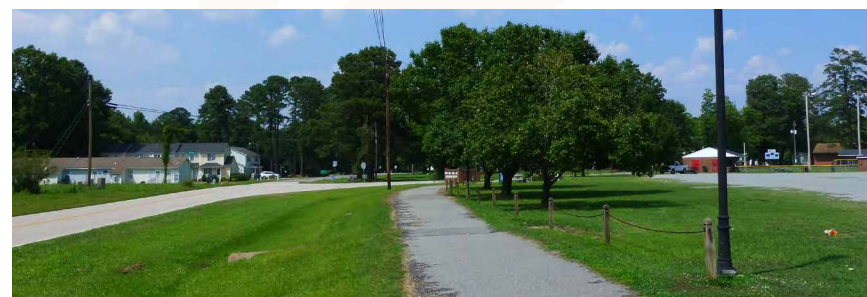
- Perimeter trail serves multiple ages and has lighting.
- Ball fields are well maintained with great lighting.

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- Several elements exposed to sun.

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARK

- Parts of the park could be redeveloped for other uses based on community input and need.





MICRO | Jerome Park

LOCATION	S Railroad Street, Micro, NC 27555
SIZE (ACREAGE)	0.96 AC
PREDOMINANT USE	Mixed use; passive and active
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	
<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING		S	On-street
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS		N	Sidewalk on one side of the park, all remaining access is via the street. Several middle aged children were observed walking to and playing in the park
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING		S	No bicycle parking. Streets do not have facilities but appear to be low volume
PARK ID SIGNAGE		S	Regulatory signs are not placed at both entrances. Naming signage is not visible from the road traveling northbound
SUN/SHADE		S	Good balance of sun and shade
RESTROOMS	N/A		
BASKETBALL COURT (SPECIFY INDOOR/ OUTDOOR)	I	S	
SWING SET	4 belts/2 toddler	S	
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	Ample	S	Tightly packed under shelter
PICNIC SHELTER	I	S	
PLAYGROUND		S	Tot lot, swings, and teeter totters. Merry-go-round
TENNIS	I	S (L)	

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- Great balance of shaded and sun exposed play areas.
- Play areas for multiple ages with ample seating for guardians.
- Mulch surface is sufficient.

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- Some equipment is older.
- Continuous PVC pipe prevents ADA access.

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARK

- With improved playground equipment the park could serve a wider range of ages.





PINE LEVEL | Sam Godwin Recreation Park

LOCATION	Highway 70A, Pine Level, NC
SIZE (ACREAGE)	15.08 AC
PREDOMINANT USE	Active Recreation
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	DUSK
<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	DAWN

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING	Ample	S	Multiple paved lots
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS		S	There does not appear to be pedestrian access to the park (none on 70A) but circulation throughout the park is satisfactory with concrete paths connecting uses
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING		N	No bicycle access along 70A and no bicycle parking
PARK ID SIGNAGE		N	Entry signage could be improved to be more visible from 70A but the frontage of the park is very clear from the road
SUN/SHADE		S	Trees along outer edge of the ball field provide shaded areas for benches, however, each of the uses within the park could use additional trees and shade structures for spectators and users.
RESTROOMS	Portable and RR	Y	Portable on north side and RR near ball fields on south side
BASKETBALL COURT (SPECIFY INDOOR/ OUTDOOR)		S	Provides opportunity for shooting baskets but is not a full court (may be due to proximity to adjacent residents)
SWING SET	2 Sofa swings/2 belt	S	
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	Ample	S	Could provide additional benches in the shade outside the ball field fence
PICNIC SHELTER	4	S	
PLAYGROUND	2 units (near 70)	S (near 70)	(near 70) New equipment, however shade is needed. Playground area is accessible with a break in the edging and smooth transition from the sidewalk to the mulch area
	Multiple types (near Crescent Street)	N	Swings, Jail, Slides, Sofa Swings, Climbers. The area is very exposed and should have additional trees for shade

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
BASEBALL	4 (1 shared soccer/baseball)	C	
SOCCER	2 (1 shared soccer/baseball)	C	
TENNIS	2	N (L)	In disrepair/unusable
OTHER: GRILLS			
OTHER:			
OTHER:			

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- Sidewalk connection throughout the park is good.
- Multiple uses serve multiply generations.
- Open space provides flexible space.
- The use of space as a multipurpose soccer field and baseball field is efficient use of acreage.

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- Bicycle and pedestrian access is a challenge and unsafe, especially when there is a large concentration of housing on the opposite side of 70A.
- Shade and access to water should be provided.
- Should remove/replace areas in disrepair (tennis and potentially shelter).

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARK

- A high visibility crosswalk and multiuse sidepath along 70A would provide safe access to the park for daily use.









PRINCETON | Princeton Little Tar Heel

LOCATION	2127 Massey Holt Road, Princeton, NC 27569
SIZE (ACREAGE)	11.42 AC
PREDOMINANT USE	Active Recreation; ball fields
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	AM
<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	PM

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING	Ample	S	Gravel parking
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS		N	No access via the road from other destinations in the community and no paths within the park to connect different uses or provide ADA access for spectators
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING		S	Not a park that is easily accessed via bicycle.
PARK ID SIGNAGE		S	
SUN/SHADE		N	Very exposed. Shade should be incorporated for spectators
RESTROOMS		Y	
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	4 picnic	S	
PICNIC SHELTER	1	S	
BASEBALL	3; 3 tee-ball	C(L)	
SOCCER			
VOLLEYBALL	1	Sand	

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- The park has three well maintained, lighted baseball fields with restrooms, concessions, sand volleyball, and batting cages.

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- The site could have more shade for spectators with improved walking and access on site.

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARK

- The site could use shade trees (with focus on spectator areas), potential space for small playground between ball fields, and perimeter walking trail.





PRINCETON | The Ray M. Floors Community Park

LOCATION	116 Holts Pond Road, Princeton, NC 27569
SIZE (ACREAGE)	3.84 AC
PREDOMINANT USE	Passive
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	AM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	PM

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING	Ample		Asphalt Parking Lot
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS		S	Pedestrian circulation is great, no access to the park
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING			No facilities along the adjacent road and no bicycle parking
PARK ID SIGNAGE		S	Large entrance sign with name and address
SUN/SHADE		N	Very exposed, trail and playground areas need shade
RESTROOMS	Yes	S	Locked
SWING SET	4 belts/2 toddler	S	
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	Ample	S	Scattered throughout
PICNIC SHELTER			
PLAYGROUND	2 large areas	S	New equipment but the area does not have any large shade trees
TRACK/WALKING TRAIL/ HORSEBACK RIDING		C	Great loop trail with crushed stone
OTHER: DRINKING FOUNTAINS	4		
OTHER: GRILLS	5		

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- The walking trail is well constructed and the adjacency to the senior center is perfect.

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- One of the main challenges of the park is shade. Large canopy trees will improve the comfort level of this park.

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARK

- More senior related activities would work well with the adjacent senior center.





SELMA | Brack Wilson Park

LOCATION	1118 W Oak Street, Selma, NC 27576
SIZE (ACREAGE)	13 AC
PREDOMINANT USE	Mixed; ball field, playground, and picnicking
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	AM Dawn
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	PM Dusk

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING	Ample	S	Large paved lot
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS	I	N	Approach to the park is along a road lacking sidewalks and the area is surrounded by fencing, preventing adjacent neighbors from accessing the park
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING		N	Approach to the park is along a road where young and less experienced bicyclists may feel uncomfortable riding. No bicycle parking observed. I bike rack at building
PARK ID SIGNAGE		S	
SUN/SHADE		S	Ample shade via structures and trees in the area adjacent to the parking lot. Bleachers at baseball field also appear to have shade
RESTROOMS	Yes	S	
BASKETBALL COURT (SPECIFY INDOOR/ OUTDOOR)	I Outdoor; Fullsize	S	Court, backboards, and nets appear to be in good condition
SWING SET	2 belts	S	
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	10	S	New Picnic tables
PICNIC SHELTER	1 Shelter/I Gazebo	S	
PLAYGROUND	2 units	S (L)	Play unit is good condition (new) but is exposed to the sun .A security camera is present
BASEBALL	I	S (L)	Not a playable field due to wet conditions

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- Great space with multiple complimentary uses.
- Ample shade for picnicking and congregating.
- The playground area is accessible with a path leading directly into the mulch area.

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- Heavy programmed use areas do not have shade.
- There are no connections with the adjacent neighborhoods; challenge for both pedestrians and bicyclists.

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARK

- If tournaments or larger events are not programmed for this site, the parking and size of the facility could support this use.
- There is an opportunity to make a future greenway connection along Mill Creek which would provide access for the community to the Neuse River Greenway. There appears to be a sewer easement along the creek.





SELMA | Edgebrook Park

LOCATION	1100 Dixie Drive, Selma, NC 27576
SIZE (ACREAGE)	1.36 AC
PREDOMINANT USE	Mixed; neighborhood play space and Tennis
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	AM Dawn
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	PM Dusk

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING		S	No lot, ample space on the street to park
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS		S	The setting of the park is subdivision. There are no sidewalks but the park is located on a dead end street with very low volume
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING		S	Low volume street access. 1 bike rack
PARK ID SIGNAGE		S	Small naming sign, but no regulatory signage
SUN/SHADE		N	Very exposed play area.
SWING SET	4 belt	N	Swing clearance area and surface could be improved
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	3 picnic 4 benches	N	New Backed Benches in 2019
PICNIC SHELTER	1	S	
PLAYGROUND		N (L)	Climbing dome, metal slide , monkey bars, swings, animal riders , turtle climber, sea saw . Equipment is old. The metal slide is too hot to use as it is exposed to the sun. Overall all the equipment is very exposed to sun
TENNIS	2	S (L)	Appear to be in good condition
OTHER: DRINKING FOUNTAIN	1	N	Inoperable

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- Great setting with ample open space that allows for multiple uses.
- Tennis courts expand the user profile of the park.

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- The play surface (sand) could be replaced with different material for improved safety and access.
- The lack of shade may be preventing citizens from using the park.
- The placement of the park within the neighborhood seems to limit the ability to serve additional users. NOTE: this entire community (for the most part) lacks sidewalks - people were observed walking in the roadway in many places to get to destination).



POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARK

- The location of the park near to the Moccasin Creek (although channelized) may be an opportunity for a greenway trail.





SELMA | Harrison School Property/Richard Harrison Recreation Center

LOCATION	605 W Noble Street, Selma, NC 27576
SIZE (ACREAGE)	8.3 AC
PREDOMINANT USE	Mixed Use; ball field, senior center, gymnasium, basketball
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	AM Dawn
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	PM Dusk

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING	Ample	C	Large parking lot
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS		S/L	Some sidewalk exists, but there are some gaps. The park could be improved by enhancing the loop trail, closing gaps, and adding trees
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING		S	Surrounded by low volume streets but there is no bicycle parking
PARK ID SIGNAGE		N	Signage does not indicate the name or uses clearly; park is referenced with several different names in community information
SUN/SHADE		N	The site would benefit by the addition of many trees to provide shade and create a sense of place
RESTROOMS	Yes	C	In the buildings
BASKETBALL COURT (SPECIFY INDOOR/ OUTDOOR)	Yes	N	Outdoor, no lights Surface repair needed
SWING SET	2 kiddie swings	N	Need improvement and the addition of more swings higher than the existing structure
PLAYGROUND		N	Associated with after school building (Selma Head Start Center) with fenced, sanded area - but needs improvement and shade
BASEBALL	I	S	In good condition
SOCCER	Map references use of field		New Multi-Purpose Field has been added
GYMNASIUM	Yes	S	Basketball, Volleyball, Pickleball
TRACK/WALKING TRAIL/ HORSEBACK RIDING		N	Walking trail exists with indicating path and recreational uses, however the sign needs to be replaced and some of the uses aren't accurate. Completing gaps in the trail will increase use of the park

New Tennis Courts have been added to this park site

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- Great location within the community with access to several neighborhoods.
- Large site with the opportunity to add additional uses.
- Well maintained with interior and exterior spaces to serve a variety of programs and age groups.

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- Sidewalks surrounding the park are segmented.
- The site is overwhelmingly exposed to the sun.



POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARK

- Adding trees and a walking path would provide health benefits for multiple age groups.
- Additional green space could be used for soccer fields, community gardens, or other unique uses.
- This appears to be a relatively new conversion from a school to a park and has the potential to serve a large segment of the Selma population.





SELMA | Raiford Street Park

LOCATION	806 South Raiford Street, Selma, NC
SIZE (ACREAGE)	0.48 AC
PREDOMINANT USE	Playground and picnic
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	AM Dawn
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	PM Dusk

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING	Ample	S	Two small notched off-road lots and on-street parking. No accessible parking (no curb ramps to sidewalk from parking spaces).
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS		S	Sidewalks along Raiford Road are well connected to the neighborhood
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING		S	Low volume neighborhood street, no bicycle parking
PARK ID SIGNAGE		N	Does not face direction of traffic; improved for better visibility
SUN/SHADE		C	Good shade
RESTROOMS	N/A		
SWING SET	N/A		
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	4 picnic/4 benches	S	
PICNIC SHELTER	1	S	
PLAYGROUND	2 lard units	C	Two newer units, one well placed in the shade. Could easily be accessible if edging was expanded and ramp included to play areas
OTHER: GRILLS	2	S	In good shape and shows use. They also have concrete walks to grills

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- Great neighborhood park with access via sidewalk.
- New equipment with ample shade.
- Very clean and well maintained.

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- The naming signage could be updated.
- There are no regulatory signs to note the rules and operations times.

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARK

- This park could easily become an accessible park with modifications to include curb ramps and small breaks in the edging.





SELMA | Reid Circle Park

LOCATION	412 Reid Circle, Selma, NC 27576
SIZE (ACREAGE)	0.23 AC
PREDOMINANT USE	Playground; passive neighborhood space
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	SUNRISE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	SUNSET

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING			
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS		N	There are no curb cuts in the cul-de-sac to provide ADA access and no paths from the street to the park or throughout the park
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING		S	At the end of a cul-de-sac on a low volume road. No bicycle parking
PARK ID SIGNAGE		N	No sign indicated the name of the park and one sign indicating rules
SUN/SHADE		N	The swings and slide are exposed to the sun and too hot to use in summer months. Only one large pine tree provides shade
SWING SET	2 belts/2 belts missing	N	Belt swings need to be replaced, play surface is sand. This should be replaced to improve safety and access
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	2 picnic	S	
PICNIC SHELTER	1	S	
PLAYGROUND		N	Metal slide, swings, one climber, two animal riders. (too hot to use - all metal in full sun)
OTHER: GRILLS	1	S	In good condition

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- Location of the park serves the neighborhood well.
- Great open space for flexible use.
- NOTE: This park has vintage equipment.

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARK

- An easement or access between private property may increase use with an increase in ease of access.
- Park signage will enhance the awareness of the space being public.

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- Access for pedestrians and physically challenged people is a problem.
- PVC edging does not allow for access to play area and the surface could be improved.
- The park is bound by private property, creating long circuitous routes for access.





SELMA | Sumner Street Park

LOCATION	500 South Summer Street, Selma, NC 27576
SIZE (ACREAGE)	0.24 AC
PREDOMINANT USE	Playground
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	AM Dawn
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	PM Dusk

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING	Ample	S	Parking is on-street
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS		N	The neighborhood does not have sidewalks and there are no curb cuts or paths leading into the park
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING		S	The park is surrounded by low volume neighborhood streets however there is no bicycle parking
PARK ID SIGNAGE		N	The naming signage should be updated. One regulatory sign
SUN/SHADE		N	Very exposed, no shade
SWING SET	2 belts 2 baby	N	New in 2019
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES		N	No seating.
PLAYGROUND		C/N	One unit is new, but exposed with no shade. Additional structures include swings in disrepair, and geodesic climbing dome, and two vertical climbers. The surface is sand and could be replaced for access and safety New rope climber and new swing set

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- The location of the park is a key component of the parks and recreation sites serving the surrounding neighborhood.

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARK

- ~~Replace or repair old equipment.~~
- Provide shade to the existing equipment (trees or structures).

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- Completely exposed to the sun (citizen commented they need something in the park they can use, elements are too hot).
- Older equipment could be repaired.
- Surface is hard compacted sand.





SMITHFIELD | Bob Wallace Jaycee Kiddie Park

LOCATION	South Second Street, Smithfield, NC 27577
SIZE (ACREAGE)	7.2 AC
PREDOMINANT USE	Playground; passive space
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	SUNRISE
<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	10:30

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING	Ample	S	Parking is adequate for the size of this park Added ADA parking
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS		S	Pedestrian access to the park should be improved with pathways that lead into the park from the adjacent sidewalk
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING		S	No bicycle parking was observed. The park seems to be on a low volume street that could be easily accessed via bicycle
PARK ID SIGNAGE		S	Could be upgraded to match a county-wide sign system
SUN/SHADE		S	Good shade and placement of benches underneath trees
SWING SET	6 Belt	S	
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	5 picnic/ 1 bench		
PLAYGROUND		S (L)	Small, family playground area Added new playground equipment
TRACK/WALKING TRAIL/ HORSEBACK RIDING		C	Access to greenway - well marked from the road
OTHER: GIRL SCOUT HUT			

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- Great balance of shaded and sun exposed play areas.
- Serves as a trailhead to the greenway system.

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARK

- Include bicycle parking and wayfinding to town.

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- Could be connected to surrounding sidewalk system.
- Ending trailhead for the Neuse River Trail; could improve wayfinding for key features into town from here.





SMITHFIELD | Burlington Park

LOCATION	1001 Hancock Street, Smithfield, NC 27577
SIZE (ACREAGE)	2 AC
PREDOMINANT USE	playground; passive
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING		S	Parking is on the grass shoulder but seems adequate for the park
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS		S	No sidewalks on adjacent street but the traffic volume seems low
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING		S	No facilities but seems to be a street where biking is safe for multiple ages without improvement. No bicycle parking
PARK ID SIGNAGE		N	Signage is needed to identify this park
SUN/SHADE		S	
SWING SET	4 belts		
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	1 bench	N	Additional benches could be added
PLAYGROUND		N	Mulch replacement would improve safety and access to play areas

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- Nice small space for the use that can serve the immediate neighbors.

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- Equipment and surface could be updated.

Decommissioned park with the exception of the swings.

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARK

- Improving the playground and creating an accessible play space could help provide a gap in the current park offerings.





SMITHFIELD | Civitan Field/Roberts & Wellons

LOCATION	U.S. 301, Smithfield, NC 27577
SIZE (ACREAGE)	
PREDOMINANT USE	
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	
<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING			
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS			
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING			
PARK ID SIGNAGE			
SUN/SHADE			
RESTROOMS			
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES			
PICNIC SHELTER			
PLAYGROUND			
BASEBALL	I	C	
TRACK/WALKING TRAIL/ HORSEBACK RIDING			

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- Baseball field is well maintained and in great condition.

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- Minimal shade over bleachers

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARK

- Formalize pedestrian circulation that is ADA accessible.
- Add age appropriate activities for family members not participating in field play.

Added 2nd Street Dog Park (Corner of 2nd Street and Wilson Street, located on the backside of Civitan Field)





SMITHFIELD | Gertrude Brady Johnson Memorial Park

LOCATION	1222 West Market Street, Smithfield, NC 27577
SIZE (ACREAGE)	
PREDOMINANT USE	
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	SUN UP
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	SUN DOWN

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING		N	Driveway could use improvement Added ADA parking
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS		N	There is no pedestrian access to this park and it is located along a high volume roadway
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING		N	Since this park is along a road that bicyclists would likely not travel on - access could be explored via the back of the park
PARK ID SIGNAGE		N	The sign is not positioned in the direction of vehicular traffic making the park difficult to locate
SUN/SHADE		N	The playground is overexposed to sun
SWING SET	6 belts/2 toddler	N	Looks like two swings are missing
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	2 picnic/1 bench	S	
PICNIC SHELTER		S	Renovated shelter
SOCCER FIELD	1	S	Youth soccer field
PLAYGROUND		S (L)	Added new playground equipment

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- Ample open space to serve multiple purposes.

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- Access to the park is difficult for pedestrians, bicyclists, and even cars. By changing signage and improving the driveway, motorists will be able to better see the entrance.
- Complete a safety evaluation of playground elements.

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARK

- The addition of a path from adjacent land uses may provide better access to the park and increase usage.
- Improving the playground may create a more use of space.





SMITHFIELD | Neuse Little Theatre

LOCATION	104 South Front Street, Smithfield, NC 27577
SIZE (ACREAGE)	
PREDOMINANT USE	
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	
<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING		S	Appears that parking is on-street
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS		S	
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING		N	This type of use may benefit from the addition of bicycle parking to reduce the dependence on car travel to the site and since the site is located along a greenway
PARK ID SIGNAGE		N	A sign visible from the street and greenway indicating the name of the facility would improve navigation
SUN/SHADE		S	
RESTROOMS		S	
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	Ample	C	Great seating built into the land
TRACK/WALKING TRAIL/ HORSEBACK RIDING		C	Located along the greenway
RIVER ACCESS			(Access nearby)
CANOEING/KAYAKING			(Access nearby)

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- Great access via the greenway.
- Circulation throughout the space is well designed.
- The building is accessible.

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- Signage is not visible from the road until visitors are directly in front of the building.

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARK

- This venue can serve as the gateway into Smithfield for other local shops and restaurants contributing to economic development.





SMITHFIELD | Neuse Riverwalk / Buffalo Creek Greenway

LOCATION	
SIZE (ACREAGE)	
PREDOMINANT USE	
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING	Ample	S	
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS		S	
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING		S	
PARK ID SIGNAGE		S	The vertical signs posted at parks and other spaces to indicated access to the greenway are highly visible. Informational signage is well branded and informative but not overwhelming Added "Oakie" the talking tree
SUN/SHADE		S	
TRACK/WALKING TRAIL/ HORSEBACK RIDING		S	The tread appears to be in good condition but should be examined and scheduled for regular maintenance. In the future, widening the path will better accommodate multiple users
FISHING		S	Multiple access points seem to be available for fishing
RIVER ACCESS		S	Access should be regularly checked and maintained
CANOEING/KAYAKING		S	

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- The greenway provides an important connection for locals and likely will become an integral component of the Mountains-to-Seas Trail (MST). This segment is currently applying for designation.

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- Creating wayfinding in town that draws people to and from the trail to key links from the trail.

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARK

- As the tread becomes worn and needs to be repaired, widening the path will accommodate a variety of users more comfortably.
- Expansion of the trail for future phases and regional connection
- Eventual connections to Clayton and Goldsboro as the alignment of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail is finalized.





SMITHFIELD | Smith Collins Park and Eva Ennis Pool and Sarah Yard Community Center

LOCATION	909 E Lee Street, Smithfield, NC 27577
SIZE (ACREAGE)	
PREDOMINANT USE	
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING	Ample	S	Added ADA parking
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS		N	There are no sidewalks surrounding the park and there are no direct paths linking the uses. If the pool or parcel with the pool were to be used in the future, a crossing would be needed to create awareness of pedestrian (and bicycle) circulation between the two parcels
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING		S	The streets seem to be low volume. There is no bicycle parking
PARK ID SIGNAGE		N	Signage should be improved to more clearly indicated where the parking is from multiple directions. Also, it is not clear if the building adjacent to the playground is a component of the park or a separate entity
SUN/SHADE		N	Very exposed
RESTROOMS			
BASKETBALL COURT (SPECIFY INDOOR/ OUTDOOR)	I		
SWING SET	4 belts	S	
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES		S	
PICNIC SHELTER		S	
PLAYGROUND		N	The surface is mulch but should be improved to provide access
BASEBALL	I	S (L)	Added new playground equipment
TENNIS	I	N	

Added indoor community recreation center



STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- The park has ample room to serve as a multi-purpose flex space.

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- The pool is in disrepair and could become a safety hazard.
- It is not clear if the building is a component of the park.

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARK

- The space within the park and context makes this parcel suitable for a loop walking trail.





SMITHFIELD | Smithfield Community Park and Aquatic Center

LOCATION	600 East Booker Dairy Road, Smithfield, NC 27577 /600 M. Durwood Stephenson
SIZE (ACREAGE)	Parkway, Smithfield, NC 27577
PREDOMINANT USE	
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING	Ample	C	
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS		C/N	Circulation throughout the park is well linked with paths connecting different uses. However, there are no cross walks or pedestrian paths throughout the parking area or roadways within the park
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING		S	The trails throughout the park and the greenway path could be widened to provide comfortable access for multiple users (including bicyclists)
PARK ID SIGNAGE		C	
SUN/SHADE		S	
RESTROOMS	Ample	S	
BASKETBALL COURT (SPECIFY INDOOR/ OUTDOOR)	2	S	
SWING SET		S	Within playgrounds
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	Ample	S	
PICNIC SHELTER	3		
PLAYGROUND	2	C	Added Partnership for Children Park (2 acre inclusive playground)
BASEBALL	1		Added Miracle League Field (ADA, adaptive rubberized surface)
SOFTBALL	3		
SOCCER	2		
VOLLEYBALL			
GYMNASIUM			
TRACK/WALKING TRAIL/ HORSEBACK RIDING		S	Walking trail with fitness stations as well as access to the Riverwalk/Buffalo Creek Greenway Added DAV Fitness Station and Trail (ADA, inclusive outdoor fitness area and trail)

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
BOCCE	1	N	
SHUFFLEBOARD	1	S	
FOOTBALL	1	S	
TENNIS	4	S	
OTHER: DISC GOLF		N	Appears to be difficult to follow the flow of the course and could use additional signage and a map of the course in relation to other elements in the park

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- The park has multiple uses for multiple generations of the family.
- This park also serves as a true community center - a hub of activity for all seasons.

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- The connection to the greeway is not well marked. This is a challenge for visitors wishing to use the park as a trailhead.

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARK

- Adding high visibility crosswalks and/or pedestrian warning signage will improve the safety of this high use facility.
- This park can be marketed as a greenway hub - a place where travelers can shower, use the restroom, and gather information about the area.





SMITHFIELD | Talton Park

LOCATION	500 North Street, Smithfield, NC 27577
SIZE (ACREAGE)	
PREDOMINANT USE	
PARCEL NUMBER	

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING	Ample	S	Sand and grass parking - no delineated spaces. Seems adequate for this use Added ADA parking
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS		N	There is no pedestrian access to the park and it is not clear how to circulate through the park
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING		N	There is no bicycle parking. The adjacent roadways seem to be low volume and can support bicycle use without improvement
PARK ID SIGNAGE		N	Signage was only present on one corner and should be available to indicate the name of the park from several approaches. Also, there is no signage to indicate how to appropriately park within the site
SUN/SHADE		C/N	Some trees are present on the periphery, but additional trees or shade structures would contribute to a more pleasant spectator experience
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES		N	
PICNIC SHELTER		S	
SOCCER	I	S (L)	

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- Great open space with ample shading outside of the field area.

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- Spectator seating is limited and the bleachers and tables within the field area are very exposed to sun.

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARK

- Additional signage will help visitors locate the park who may be arriving from multiple directions.
- Indicating where parking is appropriate will help avoid confusion, inefficient parking patterns in periods of high use, and may help maintenance staff control damage to grass areas.





WILSON'S MILLS | Future Wilson's Mills Athletics Complex

LOCATION	988 Powhatan Road, Clayton, NC 27527
SIZE (ACREAGE)	~ 15 Acres
PREDOMINANT USE	Public recreation and sports complex
PARCEL NUMBER	17J06017J

OWNERSHIP	HOURS
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	8AM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	-UNTIL-
<input type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	10PM

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	Quantity	Condition <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	Notes
PARKING	Ample		Planned: 200 +/- with 50 overflow (L)
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS			TBD
BICYCLE ACCESS/ PARKING	1 rack		TBD
PARK ID SIGNAGE			TBD (L)
SUN/SHADE			TBD
RESTROOMS	2		TBD
SWING SET	1		TBD
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	2 +		TBD
PICNIC SHELTER	2		TBD
PLAYGROUND	1		TBD
BASEBALL	2		TBD (L)
SOCCER	1		TBD (L)
VOLLEYBALL	1		TBD
GYMNASIUM	1		TBD (L)
BASKETBALL INDOOR	1		TBD (L)
WALKING TRAIL	1		TBD
HORSESHOES			TBD
TENNIS	4		TBD (L)
MULTI-USE FIELD	1		TBD (L)



STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- The park will provide much needed recreational, athletic, and family facilities within the Wilson's Mills Community.

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- Maintaining a balance between the ever-changing trends and needs of new residents from other states and/or large cities compared with the needs of existing residents with generational heritage.

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARK

- Upon completion, the ability to host athletic tournaments and other community and/or regional events that will drive commercial interest and economic stimulus in and around Wilson's Mills.