

Item Title: Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Consultants to Complete 100% Design Documents for the Wake County Section of the Swift Creek Greenway

Specific Action Requested:
That the Board of Commissioners:

- 1. Authorizes staff to proceed with a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for consultants to complete 100% design for the Wake County section of the Swift Creek Greenway; and**
- 2. Appropriates \$3.5 million of Parks, Greenways, Recreation and Open Space (PGROS) bond funding to complete 100% design for the Wake County section of the Swift Creek Greenway.**

Item Summary:

Purpose: The Board of Commissioners approves revenues and expenditures.

Background: A greenway trail along Swift Creek has been discussed and planned for many years. Wake County's involvement in the greenway trail began in 2006, when the County, Raleigh and Garner partnered on a master plan for the Swift Creek Greenway between Lake Wheeler and Lake Benson.

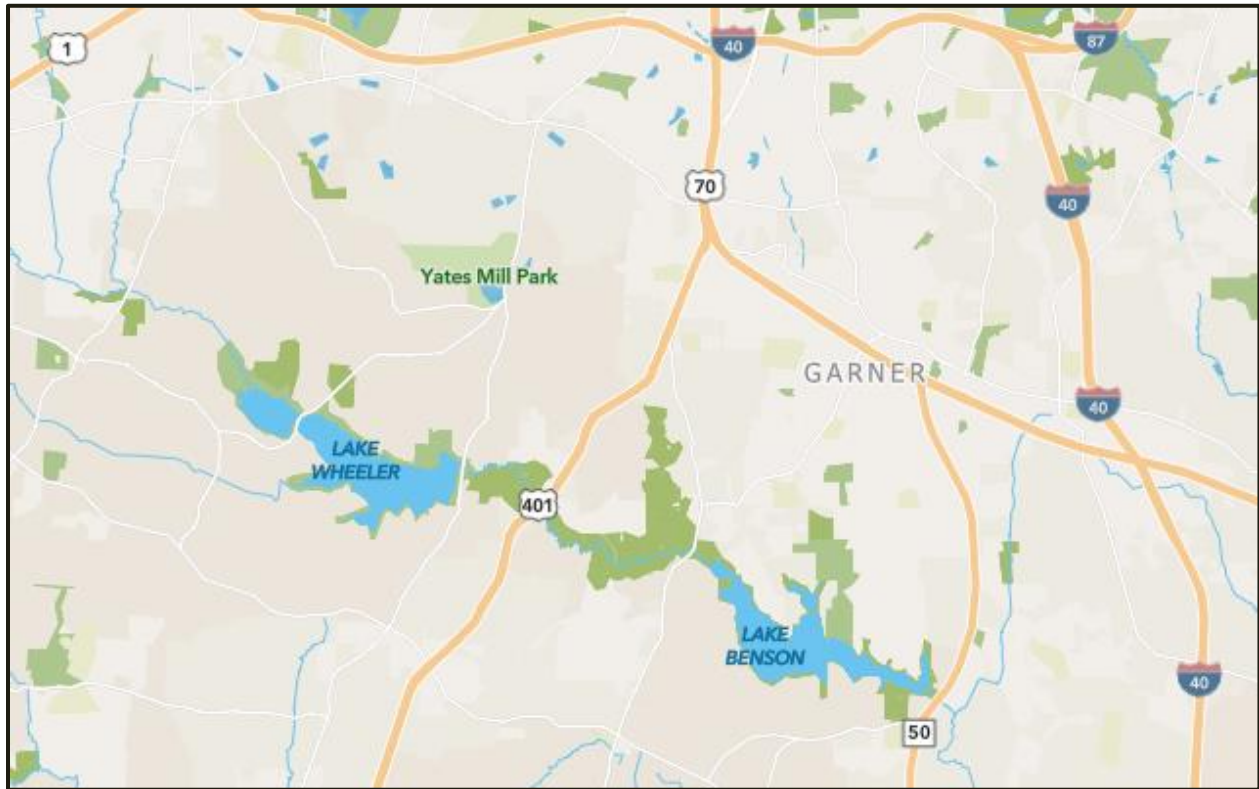
At its March 14, 2022 work session, the Board of Commissioners asked staff to prepare an item that would allow staff to move forward with 100% design documents for the Swift Creek Greenway. This Board action will appropriate \$3.5 million to complete design for this greenway.

Board Goal: This action supports Growth and Sustainability Goal 4: Preserve open space and expand access to parks, preserves, recreation resources, and greenways.

Fiscal Impact: The cost to complete design of the Wake County section of the Swift Creek Greenway is \$3.5 million and is appropriated from available PGROS bonds set aside for Future Open Space.

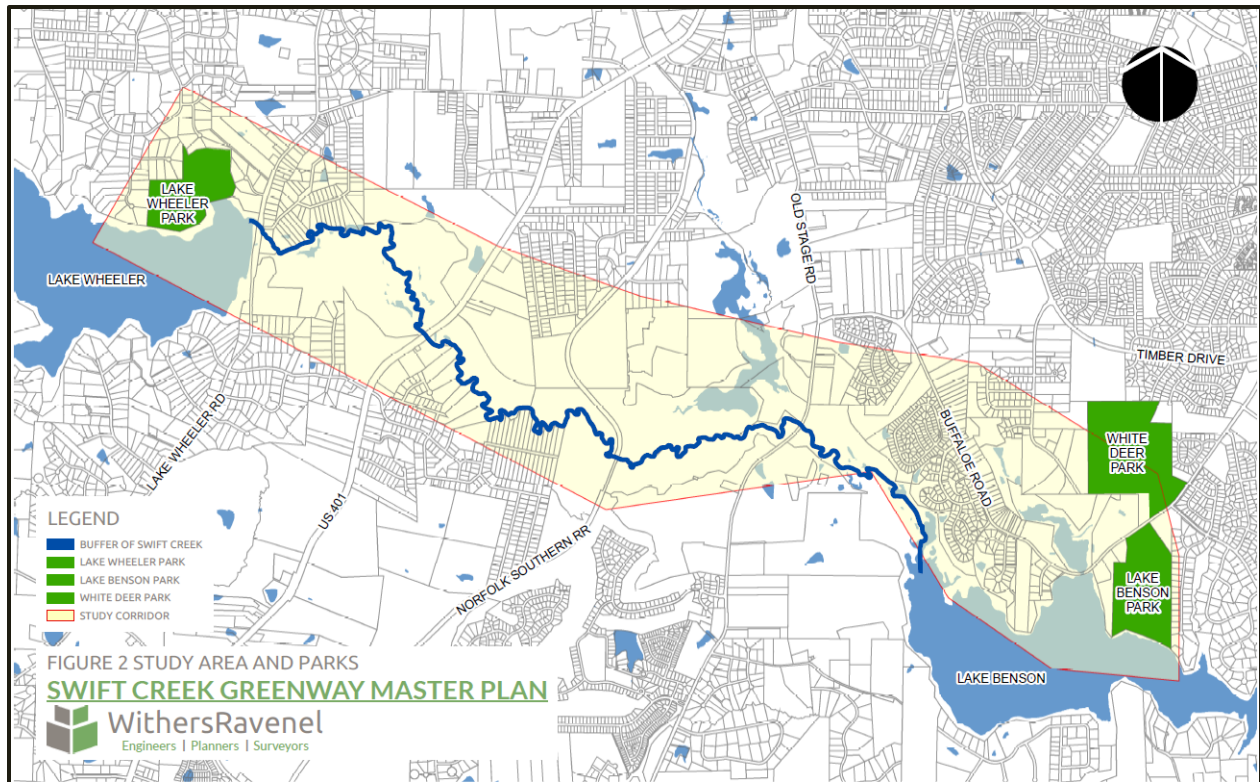
Additional Information:

The Swift Creek watershed touches several municipalities in central Wake County including portions of Apex, Cary, Garner, Raleigh and unincorporated Wake County. A greenway trail along Swift Creek has been discussed and planned for many years. Wake County's involvement in the greenway trail began in 2006, when the County, Raleigh and Garner partnered on a master plan for a 5 - 6.5-mile section of the Swift Creek Greenway between Lake Wheeler and Lake Benson.



The County updated the master plan in 2016 prior to the 2018 Parks Greenways Recreation & Open Space Bond. While the Swift Creek Greenway was not listed as project directly in the 2018 bond, greenway development was a category identified in the bond and funded at \$20 million dollars.

In an effort to make the project more “shovel-ready”, and thus more competitive in future state or federal grant funding opportunities, it was recommended the County complete 100% design for the Wake County portion of the Swift Creek Greenway



At its March 14, 2022 work session, the Board of Commissioners asked staff to prepare an item that would allow staff to move forward with completing 100% design documents for the Swift Creek Greenway; the first stage of this process being consultant selection through an RFQ process.

Until a consultant is selected and we have a specific proposal, the exact cost of design is not known; current estimates are between \$3.0 to \$3.5 million. The design process is estimated to take between 18 and 24 months.

The Open Space and Parks Advisory Committee (OSAPAC) reviewed this proposed project at its March 28, 2022 meeting and voted support for the project was unanimous.

Attachments:

1. Presentation
2. OS Bond and NC DOT Funding Tracker
3. CIP Budget Memo - FY 2022 County Capital Fund - PGROS