

Open Space & Greenways Request for Projects (RFP)

Wake County Board of Commissioners

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Background for Today's Discussion

Open Space

- Purpose – to protect and conserve County land and water for current residents and future generations. Land that would...
 - ✓ Preserve natural resources, wildlife habitat, and historical and cultural properties
 - ✓ Protect forest and farm land, scenic landscapes, riparian corridors and water quality
 - ✓ Provide venues for outdoor recreation
- Protected outright or through partnership:
 - ✓ 7,672 acres;
 - ✓ Partnerships have included ten local municipalities, non-profits, the State of North Carolina, and the federal government

Greenways

- Assisted with development of:
 - ✓ 23.7 miles of greenway trail
 - ✓ Partnerships have included seven local municipalities

Background for Today's Discussion

- Since 2012 – Four Request for Projects (RFP) processes
 - ✓ 2012, 2013, 2015 & 2016
 - ✓ 25 acquisitions (2,699 acres) and 8 greenway partnerships (15.7 miles)
 - ✓ Provide venues for outdoor recreation
- Difficult to compare greenway vs. open space



Process going forward...

- Separate open space and greenway RFP's
- Initially \$10 million for greenways, \$7.3 million for open space, additional funds in subsequent bond sales
- Seeking municipal and non-profit partnerships
- Focused on acquisitions highlighted by the Open Space Model, and greenway connections defined in the Wake County Greenway System Plan
- Separate but related Funding Considerations for both Open Space and Greenways
- Open Space and Parks Advisory Committee review

Project Funding Considerations

Open Space – fee simple acquisition, or the acquisition of easements on strategic open space within Wake County

- ✓ Planning - municipality's current open space plan or other conservation-oriented planning document?
- ✓ Wake County Open Space Priority (Open Space Model Score)
- ✓ Project Description - function and allowable uses; open to the public, and in what capacity; property acreage and estimated total cost; sources of funding in place or anticipated; formal action your Board or Council has taken in support
- ✓ Partnership - Proposed partnership with the County - (not greater than the amount the municipality itself is investing in the project); Who is the primary applicant and are there other partners? County's project history with the primary applicant

Project Funding Considerations

Greenways – greenway trail projects in which all design, permitting and easements/property acquisition is in place and the project is ready to bid.

- ✓ Planning - municipality's current greenway master plan; Wake County's Greenway System Plan (in which category: Bridge the Gaps, Connect to Parks & Lakes, Connect the Communities, or Complete the System); CAMPO's 2045 Regional Active Transportation Plan; and/or CAMPO's current area study plans
- ✓ Project Description – connectivity; users served; project length and estimated total cost; importance to the municipality; project timeline; sources of funding in place or anticipated; formal action your Board or Council has taken in support
- ✓ Partnership - Proposed partnership with the County - (not greater than the amount the municipality itself is investing in the project); Who is the primary applicant and are there other partners? County's project history with the primary applicant

Continued Open Space Acq. & Greenway Dev.

