



# Chavis Park

## COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

### **Public Leadership Group Charrette**

**Tuesday, April 9, 2013 | 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm**

Chavis Park Community Center | 505 MLK Jr. Blvd, Raleigh, 27601

Charrette Purpose:

- *Confirm a draft vision statement.*
- *Gather ideas and priorities to inform preliminary scenarios for the park.*

**5:00 Preliminary Thoughts on Past and Future (Exercises) (15 min)**

- Park Features: Please visit posters and place dots to indicate top priorities for including in the Master Plan.
- Honoring the Past: Please complete the worksheet to indicate preferred approach for park features.
- Vision Statement: Please review vision statement phrases

**5:15 Debrief Chavis Walking Tour and Parks Driving Tour (15 min)**

- Share one thing that really stood out as a challenge or opportunity at the park. (round-robin)

**5:30 Vision Statement Breakout and Group Discussion\* (45 min)**

- Small group discussion around vision statement phrases and consensus vote (30 min)
- Report out and PLG discussion on vision statement and any refinements (15 min)

**6:15 Master Planning Focus Area Rotations (2+ hours, 45 min rotations)**

- Honoring the Past
  - Discuss exercise (explore differences and ideas for each element)
- Creek and Connectivity
  - Identify specific improvements in park to improve connectivity to creek, heritage trail, greenway, neighborhood and downtown
- Park Features and Amenities
  - Review and prioritize wish list of features

**8:30 Group Report Out and Discussion (30 min)**

\* Dinner will be served during the Vision Statement portion of the agenda.



## **CREEK AND CONNECTIVITY FOCUS AREA**

*Purpose: Identify desired park improvements to improve connectivity to the creek, neighborhood, proposed heritage trail, greenway and downtown.*

Good connectivity helps a park feel safe, active and accessible. PLG members, along with public input from the kickoff forum, have identified the following set of goals related to connectivity. The South Park Heritage Walk Concept Plan (by SPERNA and NC State) also offers a range of park improvements to address these goals.

- Are there any goals you want to add?
- Are there any goals you would change, or you feel is less important?
- Which of these improvements would you want to include in the master plan?
- What other connectivity improvements are important to include?

### **1. Improve circulation and access within the park**

- Connect paths and provide direct routes.
- Increase access to park core and across the creek.

### **2. Improve visibility and sight lines**

- Increase visibility through stream vegetation.
- Increase visibility between park areas.

### **3. Improve access to creek**

- Provide safe access to creek.

### **4. Improve safety and function of park entrances**

- Provide safe pedestrian access to park (tunnel and street crossings).
- Provide safe vehicular access to park along Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

### **5. Improve park connections to other destinations**

- Promote vehicular and pedestrian access from downtown.
- Enhance park edges and access points to connect with surrounding neighborhood.
- Increase connectivity with other parks and community amenities.
- Link park to heritage trail.

### **6. Other?**



# Honoring the Past: Selecting an Approach for Historic Features

Please place a check mark to indicate your preferred approach for the highest and best use for each of the park features listed below. If a feature is not listed, please include it in the space provided. Everyone will have an opportunity to see and discuss the collective choices of the PLG during the focus groups.

*\*\*please check one\*\**

	Preserve with historic designation*	Retain and upgrade or reuse	Remove / replace with contemporary version
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**Features Remaining**

1	War Mother's Memorial		
2	Picnic Shelter #1		
3	Picnic Shelter #2		
4	Original Carousel Building		
5	Stone Steps		
6	Stone Bridges		
Other Features?			

*\* National designation provides recognition, but little oversight to ensure feature is preserved. Local designation provides protection through local ordinances and review process of any future changes.*

	Restore original	Replace with contemporary version	Memorialize through public art/signage
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**Features Moved or Removed**

7	Original Pool Complex		
8	Miniature Train		
9	Airplane Slide		
10	Stadium and grandstand		
Other Features?			

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name (optional)





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### Summary of Charrette Outcomes – Draft for PLG Discussion

The following table summarizes potential areas of agreement and areas for more discussion during upcoming meetings. Does this summary accurately reflect the status of PLG discussions? If not, what's missing or needs modification?

Potential Areas for Agreement	Potential Areas for More Discussion
<b>Honoring the Past</b>	
<p>Retain all features remaining in original locations including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• War Mother's Memorial</li> <li>• Picnic shelters #1 and #2</li> <li>• Original Carousel Building</li> <li>• Stone steps and Bridges</li> </ul> <p>Replace original pool and stadium/grandstand with contemporary versions.</p>	<p>Clarify what changes or upgrades are desired for features remaining in original locations.</p> <p>Continue to learn more about designation options and limitations.</p> <p>Discuss options and determine an approach for the miniature train and airplane slide.</p> <p>Clarify recommendations for write-in features: shelter #3, community center, dance pavilion, concession stand, and bathroom.</p> <p>What programming is needed to support new stadium and grandstand?</p>
<b>Park Features and Amenities</b>	
<p>Recommendations for all basic amenities will be included in the master plan.</p> <p>Recommendations for major new improvements include a new pool, restrooms, upgraded community center and an outdoor amphitheater.</p> <p>Park-wide recommendations include adding flexible outdoor event spaces, concession areas, public art and enhanced maintenance.</p> <p>Other activity suggestions include upgraded playground, skateboard park, community garden, fitness course, outdoor camps, dance pavilion, and track improvements.</p>	<p>Discuss specific programming and design options for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a new pool</li> <li>• an upgraded community center</li> <li>• concession areas</li> </ul> <p>Evaluate restroom location options in relation to pool and community center recommendations.</p> <p>Revisit and prioritize other suggested features after discussing top priority features.</p> <p>Revisit "Amusements" to describe specific recommendations and priorities.</p> <p>Agree to definition of community garden.</p>
<b>Creek and Connectivity</b>	
<p>Incorporate circulation improvements and creek crossings as recommended in the Heritage Walk Concept Plan.</p> <p>Adopt the revised set of goals for improving connectivity to the creek, neighborhood, proposed heritage trail, greenway and downtown.</p>	<p>Clarify desired creek access: visual, physical or both.</p> <p>Continue to learn more about creek easement restrictions and identify preferred vegetation management strategies for creek buffer.</p> <p>Identify types of creek crossings (pedestrian, vehicular, cross-finding).</p>