

**Memorandum**

TO: Mayor and City Council  
FROM: Mitchell Johnson, City Manager  
DATE: March 2, 2009  
SUBJECT: IFYI

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IFYI HIGHLIGHTS

- Economic Stimulus Funding
- Fire Chief Selection
- Council E-mails
- Budget Preparation
- Park and Recreation Acting Director
- Acting Asst. CMO Econ Dev
- Day Center Announcement
- Skatepark Update
- War Memorial Stadium

**Economic Stimulus – Funding Announced**

Greensboro learned at the end of last week that it will receive \$510,817 in Community Development Block Grant funding and that the Greensboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) will receive \$7.3 million for roadway improvements as part of the Recovery Act funds. It is also anticipated that an additional \$5.4 million will soon be allocated to Greensboro for transit improvements as part of the Recovery Act funds.

The \$510,817 will be allocated to HCD. Staff will seek input from the community and approval from Council regarding which qualifying projects should be funded with these dollars.

Since Greensboro has a population of over 200,000, the Greensboro MPO will be able to direct which roadway projects the \$7.3 million will go towards. The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of the MPO will make the final decision regarding the use of these funds. Council's representatives on the TAC are the Mayor, Councilman Perkins, and Councilwoman Bellamy-Small. The Greensboro MPO staff will make recommendations to the TAC and will consider New Garden Road, Lake Jeanette Road, S. Elm-Eugene Street, Hornaday Road, and the resurfacing of various streets (all projects on the Council's Stimulus Project List). These projects should be "shovel ready" within the timeline defined in the Recovery Act.

The Recovery Act will also include an additional \$20.9 million to the NCDOT Division 7 which includes Greensboro, Burlington, High Point and Chapel Hill. It is anticipated that the \$20.9 million allocation to Division 7 will be made by the end of March which could provide additional roadway improvements to Greensboro.

Transportation projects from the Greensboro Stimulus List:

**TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT**

1	Bus Maintenance & Operations Facility	17,000,000
2	Cone and Nealtown Road Extensions	10,000,000
3	New Garden Road Improvements	5,500,000
4	Hornaday Road Extension	4,500,000
5	Hybrid Buses - purchase of four	2,500,000
6	Sidewalk Installation (multiple locations)	3,500,000
7	Corridor Improvements (High Point/Lee, Summit Ave., S. Elm-Eugene)	18,000,000*
8	Fleming Rd. – Horsepen Creek Rd. Connection	4,000,000
9	Creek Ridge Road - roadway widening and sidewalk installation	6,500,000
10	Lake Jeanette Road - roadway widening and sidewalk installation	6,000,000

**Department Total: 77,500,000**

*\*S. Elm-Eugene resurfacing represents \$2.3m of this group*

**Fire Chief Selection**

Last week City executive team conducted interviews of three finalists for the position of Fire Chief. The candidates represent wide and varied experience in the field of public safety management. The finalists were selected from the group of eight candidates that participated in the assessment center which was conducted in January. We expect to announce the final selection before the end of the month.

**Council E-mails and other on-going Media Requests**

In an effort to comply with media request to receive e-mails sent to Council, we will need to begin forwarding e-mails sent to Council’s ‘@greensboro-nc.gov’ e-mail address to all media outlets who have requested the documents. Prior to forwarding these e-mails, staff will go through Council’s e-mails to ensure we do not forward any information that is not defined as a public document (such as personnel related items). This process will not interfere with Council’s e-mails. Council will receive all of their e-mails intact and should not experience any disruption in service.

Another on-going media request is from John Hammer, who has asked, on behalf of the Rhinoceros Times, that we send a monthly data file which lists all employees’ name, position, most recent personnel action and compensation. The compensation portion will be in accordance with the new changes to the personnel law which broadens the definition of compensation to include all pay types; i.e. base pay, overtime, extra-duty, etc. Staff has worked to develop a report which can be run monthly to output this information in a format which is consistent with the state law but does not inadvertently release information which is not allowed to be released.

A copy of the final will be placed on your desk tomorrow.

### **Budget Preparation**

Currently, city Department Heads are meeting regularly to aggressively identify potential program and operation reductions while preserving the quality of city service delivery. This work is in preparation of the preliminary budget I will present to Council in early April. I hope to update Council on our efforts to manage through the budget issues at the end of your meeting on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009.

We are also making an effort to ensure that staff and the public are aware of the city's current budget circumstance and invite feedback on cost-saving ideas. Over the past month and a half I have held 26 meetings with city staff to discuss the budget. In addition, district meetings in each of the five city council districts will begin March 7. The feedback from these meetings will be incorporated into staff's assessments as part of the proposals we will make regarding cost-saving opportunities in the budget.

<p><b>Council District 1</b> Hosted by T. Dianne Bellamy-Small 10 am on Saturday, March 7 Warnersville Recreation Center, 601 Doak St.</p> <p><b>Council District 2</b> Hosted by Goldie Wells 6 pm on Thursday, March 12 Bessemer Elementary School, 918 Huffine Mill Rd.</p> <p><b>Council District 3</b> Hosted by Zack Matheny 6 pm on Monday, March 9 Natural Science Center, 4301 Lawndale Rd.</p>	<p><b>Council District 4</b> Hosted by Mike Barber 6 pm on Thursday, April 23 Lindley Recreation Center, 2907 Springwood Dr.</p> <p><b>Council District 5</b> Hosted by Trudy Wade 6 pm on Thursday, April 2 Trotter Recreation Center, 3906 Betula St.</p>
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### **Park and Recreation Acting Director Search**

We are in the process of interviewing internal candidates for the position of Interim Director for the Parks and Recreation Department. A decision will be forthcoming in the next few weeks. I will update you of the final decision at that time.

### **Acting Assistant City Manager for Economic Development**

Andy Scott will begin in the role as Interim Assistant City Manager for Economic Development on Monday, March 1. He will continue to oversee some aspects of HCD operations.

### **Community Foundation Day Center Announcement**

The Community Foundation will announce a “major gift” to the Day Center on Tuesday, March 3, 2009, at 2pm at 407 E. Washington St. (site of the former Southern Plate & Window Glass Co.). See the attached for more information.

### **Skatepark Update**

At the last meeting, Mr. Ryan Routh inquired as to the status of the state park. Attached is an update of the activities of Park and Recreation Department in this regard. Please contact Candice Bruton (433-7360) for additional information.

### **War Memorial Stadium**

A request for a federal earmark was submitted on Friday, February 27 to the office of Congressman Brad Miller in the amount of \$8.5 million for renovation at the War Memorial Stadium. This was in follow-up to Council Member Wade’s request to pursue alternative federal funding for the stadium. Staff will track this request and will continue to seek other federal funding opportunities for the stadium. Qualification for earmark funding has several layers of consideration. The outcome will not be known until the federal budget is signed for next fiscal year.



## Media Advisory

Feb. 27, 2008

**Media contact:**

Lynn Wooten  
Vice President, Marketing &  
Communications  
336.379.9100 / [LWooten@cfgg.org](mailto:LWooten@cfgg.org)

**The Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro to make important announcement regarding a new Day Center for homeless in Greensboro**

- WHAT:** A news conference to announce the details of a generous gift related to a new Day Center for the homeless in Greensboro. In addition to the gift announcement, representatives of the project will unveil next steps for making the Day Center a reality. An open house will immediately follow the news conference.
- WHO:** Representatives of The Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro, the City of Greensboro, Partners Ending Homelessness Initiative
- WHEN:** **Tuesday, March 3**  
News conference – 2-2:30 p.m.  
Open house – 2:30-4 p.m.
- WHERE:** **407 E. Washington St.** (site of the former Southern Plate & Window Glass Co.)

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**About The Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro, Inc.**

The Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro is a charitable organization dedicated to strengthening the community for present and future generations. The Community Foundation promotes philanthropy, builds and maintains a permanent collection of endowment funds and serves as a trustworthy partner and leader in shaping effective responses to community issues and opportunities.



# Memorandum

**To:** Mitchell Johnson, City Manager

**CC:** Robert Morgan, Deputy City Manager  
Tom Murphy, Management Consultant

**From:** Candice Bruton, Planning & Project Development Manager, Greensboro Parks & Recreation

**Date:** February 24, 2009

**Re:** Skatepark Update

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In 2006, as part of a \$5 million Parks & Recreation bond package, voters approved \$575,000 for the establishment of a Skatepark. Educational literature distributed to citizens regarding the bond package included the following language: “\$575,000 is targeted for the development and construction of a skate park. Skateboarding has continued to increase in popularity with community interest and requests increasing. Currently there is a city statute prohibiting skateboarders downtown or on city thoroughfares. This project would respond to the expressed interest and need articulated by young people in our community.”

Two bond sales were projected for the \$5 million Parks & Recreation bond. The anticipated funding for the Skatepark project was scheduled for FY08-09. Due to delays in these anticipated sales the \$575,000 has not been made available for the project.

As with all Parks & Recreation capital projects, to insure public input, the department will utilize a public planning process that will include at least three public meetings relative to the design of the Skatepark. Site analysis, public input and the available budget will determine the specific features and amenities of the facility. In general, it is our expectation that the Skatepark will include both a traditional “bowl” style poured concrete element as well as “street” style features.

In terms of operations, we anticipate a staffed facility for this site. Functions of staff would include monitoring the facility, collecting nominal entry fees, booking rentals and special events and coordinating the facilitation of skills clinics. Early estimations project on-going maintenance and operating expenditures to be approximately \$122,000 per year. Other options for operating the facility include privatization.

Locations for the Skatepark have and continue to be assessed. Parks & Recreation has evaluated several existing parks which may be considered as potential sites. Criteria that we believe to be important for a site include: a relatively centralized location, easy vehicular, transit and bicycle/pedestrian accessibility for young people, areas that minimize conflicting neighboring uses, and ample space for both the facility and parking. While existing parks have not been ruled out, based on the criteria we do not feel that existing park sites are ideal. Other indoor/outdoor sites throughout the community are being considered as well. We have visited a potential commercial site brought forth by a local business owner at Fanta City and we will be visiting the commercial site Mr. Ryan Routh suggested at Council's February 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. Parks & Recreation has also been contacted by a citizen and local business owner who is proposing another commercial site off of Lawndale Drive.

There is a true enthusiasm for this project among young people in our community, their parents and the Parks & Recreation Department. While we have not been able to implement the development of the project, we are collecting contact information from interested parties in this interim that will enable us to quickly mobilize our public input efforts when funding is made available. In addition, Parks & Recreation has met with the Community Foundation and others in an effort to attract additional potential funding to this project. Parks & Recreation stays in contact with interested citizens and Ryan Routh, Skatepark advocate, as sites are evaluated and funding information is received.