



## MEETING SUMMARY

---

**Project:** Durham Splash & Play Project Residents Committee

**Date:** June 2, 2022; 4:00pm

**Attended By:** Naadii Salaam, Bonita Green, Vanessa Alford, Vanessa Evans, DeWarren Langley, Almira Marshall, Krista Saunders, A'lice Frazier, Clif Jackson, Joanne Andrews, members; Colleen Toomey, City of Durham; Lisa Esterrich, Andrew Harrell, Kate Collins, Jackie Turner, consultant team.

---

### **Presentation for with latest updates for the Splash & Play project engagement**

- Jackie began the meeting with an introduction of new Residents Committee member, Clif Jackson
  - Clif explained that his interest is in the Wheels Fun Park/skating rink reopening
- Jason Phelan's is leaving the City of Durham General Services Dept and will no longer be the project manager
  - Henri Prosperi will assume responsibilities for now
- Lisa Esterrich from RATIO discussed the project timeline
  - Engagement and Envisioning phases overlap
  - First phase of engagement (input phase) is coming to an end
  - Envision (concept design) – June into July
    - Will use the input to inform the design phase, prepare sketches, work the Residents Committee and the City to create design options for each park site (East End, Long Meadow, Wheels Fun Park)
    - Will present final design ideas to the community for more input

### **Engagement updates**

- 20 Events (virtual, popups, festivals, information)
  - Earth Day at Durham Central Park, Bimbé Block Party, Bimbé Teen Pool Party, Fayetteville Street LIVE!
  - Collected input from diverse participants
  - Engagement culminated with the Splash & Play Open House on May 26 – initial results from images presented:
    - A playground feature, recreational pool, spray ground and shade structure options scored high
    - Less interest in a dog park, skate (skateboard) park, and lounge seating options
- Public Engagement Plan is Final and is being used as a guidebook for the project to ensure equity
- 500+ Survey responses as of June 2
  - Participation by the resident committee is extremely important
  - Signs put up near the pools and flyers distributed to notify communities about the open house and survey
- Spanish translation, print materials, Alt text on select materials to maximize accessibility
- Wheels Fun Park – Skate park/roller skating
  - Bonita Green expressed concerns about Wheels Fun Park roller skating activity
    - She attended an event at Wellons Village and roller skating wasn't represented on the boards
    - She feels the process has not been equitable due to that



## MEETING SUMMARY

- Also feels that Olympic size pools are geared toward swim groups and tournaments. How often will a pool be used by those events versus being available to the community?
- Jackie explained that there was a “Skate Park” image but it indicated skateboarding activity rather than roller skating. The community could write additional comments on note cards at events and there were several comments for roller skating which will be tallied in the event results
- Lisa Esterrich commented that based on feedback from the popup events, that the board images for all three park sites were updated for the May 26<sup>th</sup> open house to reflect the existing activities as well as potentially new activities to determine which features the community is interested in saving and including in the conceptual designs
  - Board images included roller skating, batting cages, indoor play facility and mini golf amongst other existing features
  - A comment board allowed the community to write in elements that they were interested in keeping or adding at each site
- Demographics data was collected from participants at popup events. Andrew Harrell mapped participants by zip code and added the following:
  - Highest participation was in East Durham and northeast Durham followed by areas surrounding downtown
  - The team was intentional about where pop-up events were held and information distributed to attain equity based on early demographics analysis for race, age, income.
- Survey
  - available on the website; share the link and encourage people to take it by midnight on June 6, 2022
  - print copies can be delivered to groups
  - Early results indicate participants are from multiple zip codes with East Durham leading, racial makeup is diverse.
- DPR provided social media and website communication; shared data regarding the reach of the webpage
  - The next effort is to have a Student/Youth virtual meeting but timing is hard with graduation and school ending; we will plan for after June 10<sup>th</sup>
  - If you have are part of an organization that engages youth, we would like for them to be a part of this event. Please be in contact or keep an eye out for an email with more information.

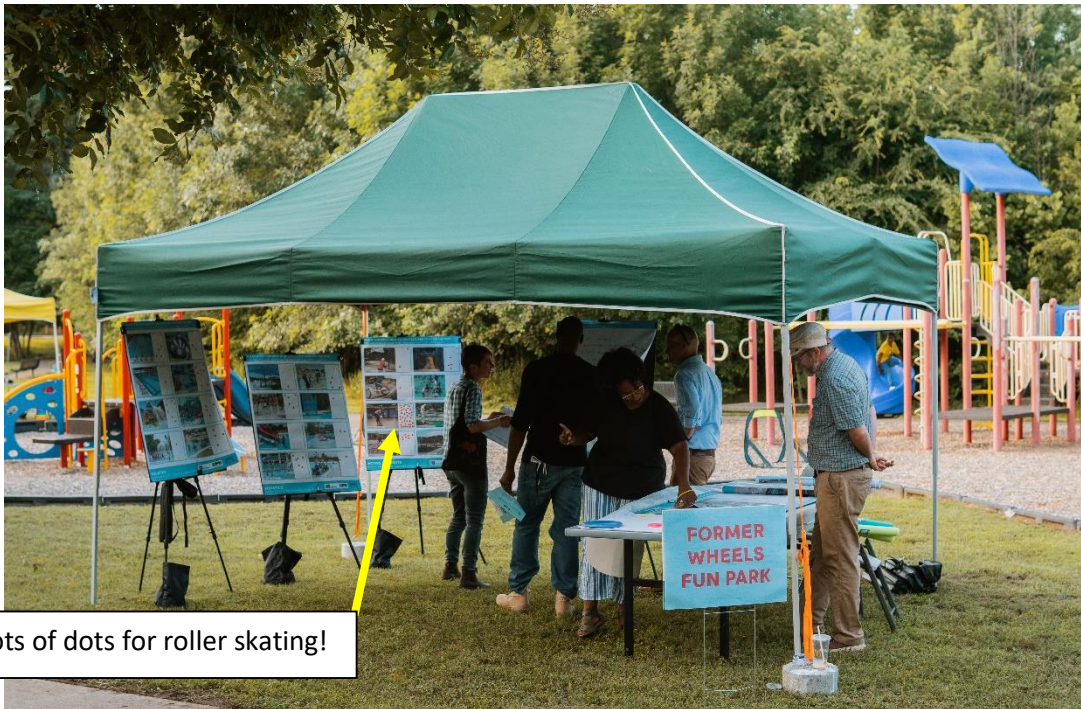
### Comments/questions

- Bonita Green
  - Did not attend the peaceful protest at Wheels Fun Park led by a group out of PAC 1
  - She’s been sharing information all along about the project; appreciates the updates on Wheels Fun Park imagery for engagement
  - Having shade in the area around Wheels is extremely important. It has been identified as a heat island several degrees warmer than other parts of the city
- Clif Jackson discussed his thoughts on Wheels Fun Park
  - Clif’s concern is getting Wheels Fun Park open soon
  - He wants to put together a document detailing what it would take to reopen wheels, that include what needs to be fixed or updated
  - Wants to determine staffing needs to reopen

- Jackie explained that the consulting team is working with Durham Parks & Recreation to prepare a master plan with concept designs based on what the community wants for the former Wheels Fun Park site, East End and Long Meadow
  - The scope of services does not include assessing or designing facilities to reopen at Wheels Fun Park in the short term
- Phase 2 Engagement
  - Where we need to place more information?
  - Don't have the budget for radio/TV ads
  - City's cable access channel
  - Bonita asked that we make it a point to highlight new information or updates so she can share
    - There are many in the community that are not connected digitally.
    - The do watch cable access
- Lisa asked what the Resident Committee thinks it the best/most effective way that we've reached out to the community
  - Bonita responded that canvassing is the best way to reach people in her community.
  - Bonita recommended printing English /Spanish flyers; Jackie responded that in April the Spanish flyers were not ready for the egg hunt but now the information is in both languages

### Next Steps

- We can drop off flyers/materials to you for events or if you want to canvass in your neighborhood.
- Next Residents Committee Meeting will be in July.



Lots of dots for roller skating!