



# Memorandum

**TO:** Lee D. Garrity, City Manager  
**FROM:** Gregory M. Turner, Assistant City Manager  
**DATE:** August 15, 2017  
**SUBJECT:** Professional Engineering firm for the Whitaker Park Akron Drive Extension Feasibility Study.

Office of the  
City Manager

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The City of Winston-Salem hired Davenport in 2016 to provide professional engineering services to complete the Akron Drive Extension through Whitaker Park Feasibility Study. This feasibility study evaluates multiple alternatives for the extension of Akron Drive westward into the Whitaker Park site. This site was formerly an active facility of the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, but was closed in 2010 and subsequently donated to the non-profit Whitaker Park Development Authority (WPDA). This site now represents an opportunity to enhance both development and transportation connectivity in north-central Winston-Salem. Currently, access to the site from US 52 is indirect, and motorists must make turning movements and cross a railroad at grade. A 2012 study by the Urban Land Institute (ULI) advisory panel of development professionals identified the need for improved access to the Whitaker Park site in in order to enhance development potential.

The report generated by this study, identifies different road alignments that provide access into Whitaker Park, presenting the opportunity for redevelopment. This Feasibility Study gives an engineer's opinion of probable cost for constructing a new roadway into this site, as well identifies the impacts to the surrounding land owners. Davenport will be available to present their recommendations from this study at the August Public Works Committee meeting.

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Call 311 or 336-727-8000  
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**City Council:** Mayor Allen Joines; Vivian H. Burke, Mayor Pro Tempore, Northeast Ward; Denise D. Adams, North Ward; Dan Besse, Southwest Ward; Robert C. Clark, West Ward; Molly Leight, South Ward; Jeff MacIntosh, Northwest Ward; Derwin L. Montgomery, East Ward; James Taylor, Jr., Southeast Ward; City Manager: Lee D. Garrity