

Information Item

Date: January 2nd, 2018

To: The City Manager

From: William L Royston, Recreation and Parks Director

Subject: Washington Park Master Plan Presentation

Strategic Focus Area: Livable Neighborhoods

Strategic Objective: Expand Open Space and Recreational Facilities

Strategic Plan Action Item: (6.1.1) Improve Condition of Parks and Recreation Infrastructure

Key Work Item: Yes



In September 2017, the City of Winston-Salem Recreation and Parks hired Stimmel and Associates to complete a master plan for Washington Park. Washington Park is a 77-acre park located in the South Ward and is one of the oldest parks in our park system. As part of the master planning process, Stimmel was asked to complete an inventory and analysis of existing conditions of the park, complete several public input sessions, and use the information gathered to develop a master plan for the park. Some of the findings from the inventory and analysis included deteriorated park infrastructure and park amenities, concerns with pedestrian circulation patterns and pavement, and vegetative cover and invasive plant concerns.

There were three public input sessions to engage the community and gather public input. The first meeting was to present our findings from the inventory and analysis of Washington Park and allow the community to tell us what their issues were regarding the overall health of the park and/or what they'd like to see changed, developed, or improved during this process. The second meeting was to present a schematic design of the park based on the input gathered from the public comment period. The schematic design was then further refined and presented as a final master plan for the park.

The proposed improvements for Washington Park included addressing several deferred maintenance issues, reorienting the ball fields to the more active side of the park, improved parking and lighting, and providing more areas of the park as open and preserved space to allow for more passive recreational opportunities in the areas of the park that are considered historic. The total cost for the renovations to the park are \$20,376,795. All renovations can be phased in and construction can move forward as funding becomes available.