



RATIO DESIGN  
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RALEIGH, NC 27601

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## MEETING SUMMARY

<b>PROJECT</b>	Durham Outdoor Aquatics Project
<b>RATIO PROJECT NO</b>	21410.000
<b>DATE/TIME</b>	May 16, 2022; 2:00pm
<b>PURPOSE</b>	Core Team Meeting
<b>HELD AT</b>	Microsoft Teams
<b>PARTICIPANTS</b>	<b>City of Durham</b> Jason Phelan, Stacey Poston, Jina Propst, Henri Prospero, Fallon Thompson (GSD) Thomas Dawson, Jason Jones, Almira Marshall, Wade Walcott, Rukea Womack (DPR) <b>Design Team</b> Lisa Esterrich, Andrew Harrell (RATIO) Jackie Turner (JTC) Miklos Valdez (CH)

### ENGAGEMENT

#### Planning & Logistics for 05/17 PAC 1 Town Hall

- The town hall is intended to be a question-and-answer session called by James Chavis rather than a presentation.
- RATIO will print 30x40 boards for the town hall with easels including the two floodplain exhibits, existing conditions plans (Long Meadow and East End), floodplain letter, and sticky notes.
  - RATIO will bring the East End plan, but not initially display it since the town hall is intended to be about Long Meadow.
- Lisa E, Wade W., Thomas D, Jason P, Jason J, and Rukea W will attend
- Wade W. summarized the goal of the May 26<sup>th</sup> event in response to Rukea's question. The open house is to gather input about aquatics and recreation. He shared the current budget allows for the design and construction of an aquatic's

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facility at the former Wheels Fun site and the conceptual design of facilities for East End and Long Meadow. The project timeline also was discussed.

- Wade W. also will mention the upcoming Bimbé Community Block Party at Holton as another opportunity for public input.

### **Planning & Logistics for 05/26 Long Meadow Public Workshop**

- The purpose of the event is to gather community input and stories/documents for these three sites.
- Jackie T. showed the flyer for the May 26<sup>th</sup> event.
  - Flyers and event promotional materials will be more explicit in soliciting input for all (3) sites; not just Long Meadow.
- Jackie T. summarized current planning efforts for the May 26<sup>th</sup> event including possible activities, coordination items, and logistics, and asked for comments from the group.
- Potential stations and activities:
  - Sign-In, visual preference dots, raffle or food tickets
  - Project Overview
  - Visual preference voting
  - Share your story (oral history + storytelling)
  - Site walk – to describe the history of the site and observe floodway and floodplain markers.
    - Thomas Dawson to mark floodway, floodplain, and trail alignment for the event
  - Take the survey and leave a comment – printed and/or with iPads
  - Children –DPR fun caravan
- Thomas D. requested the Fun Caravan, tents, tables, and chairs for the event.
- A press release is going out this week from the city to advertise the event.
- Does DPR have a sound system? Thomas D. will follow up.
- There will be an expanded set of visual preference boards for the May 26<sup>th</sup> event compared to the higher-level boards previously used at popup events.
- Wade W. and Rukea W. expressed concern that too grand of fanfare may suggest a bigger project than is currently budgeted.
- Jason Jones recommended taking the pool cover off for this meeting so people can see the water during the event.
- Should the event delineate public input for each of the (3) sites separately?
  - There is concern that the visual preference boards, and potentially other activities, may mislead the public about what program activities can be expected at each of the three sites.

- All the current and previous engagement activities have been structured to ask the public for their design and program preferences without regard to a specific site. A concern is that deviating too much from the ongoing engagement activities, such as separating visual preferences by site, may skew the coherence of engagement results.
- Rukea W. expressed anecdotal information that separating the sites would help the public understand the project and filter their input. Without the clear separation, visual preference choices may be biased towards Long Meadow Park since the event will be hosted at Long Meadow.
- The team will consider separating the sites by table or tent.
- The event may consider combining Long Meadow and East End input (tables) to help simplify this process.
- Filtering program elements for feasibility per site may be helpful for the public but an additional concern was noted that assessing feasibility may suggest design decisions already being made. If we do not separate public input per site, how should feasibility be factored into the activities?
- A final decision should be made as soon as possible.
  - More tents and/or tables may need to be requested.
  - Visual preference boards may need editing to filter program elements based on preliminary feasibility evaluation.
  - Rukea W. to review some content as needed to evaluate clarity in messaging.
- Jason J. suggested an additional tent or staff present to explain future project timelines and how ideas could be factored into funding. For simplicity, the group settled on not hosting this additional tent.

### **Updated Calendar of Events**

- Bimbé Community Block Party May 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Attended the Young Male Achievers banquet on 05/14.
- Hosted an engagement table at the Durham Green Flea Market on 05/15.

### **Reporting of Numbers**

- Jackie T. shared updates and preliminary results from engagement activities and social media content.
  - Sprayground, lazy river, waterslide, and shade structures are initially favorable.
  - Data will be analyzed when all engagement activities have ceased, and the online survey has concluded.

- Social media posts have reached a lot of people and the feedback is mostly positive towards the project.
- Kelly Miller will share weekly social media metrics.

### **Microsoft Teams**

- Jason P. shared the Microsoft Teams file structure on screen for the project. It was encouraged that city staff view project materials here and add to them as needed.

### **DESIGN**

#### **Review Long Meadow Memo**

- Overall positive review of revised Long Meadow memo. Minor comments may still be provided by the city.

### **NEXT STEPS**

- RATIO to send the latest set of engagement boards to the Core Team. Will be helpful to help plan the tent layout and provide other feedback.
- Schedule 30-min – 1hr. meeting to review visual preference boards for the May 26<sup>th</sup> event. Then schedule a more in-depth meeting shortly after the town hall event to discuss the overall approach to May 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Jackie T. to send an updated schedule of events to Jason P.

Any additions or corrections to these Minutes should be submitted in writing to RATIO within seven (7) days of receipt. Otherwise, these Minutes stand as correct.

Respectfully submitted,



Andrew Harrell

Landscape Architectural Graduate