



# Chavis Park COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

## Public Leadership Group Meeting Summary Charrette on April 9, 2013

Materials from the meeting are available for download here:  
<http://chavisconversation.skeo.com/plg>. A project binder with hardcopies of all documents is located at the Chavis Community Center; please check with the front desk.

### Overview

The goals of the PLG Charrette were to confirm a draft vision statement and gather ideas and priorities to inform preliminary scenarios for the park. This work was conducted by breaking the PLG into three small groups and then reporting out to the larger group.

### Visioning Exercise

In small groups the PLG discussed and made suggestions for ordering and improving the bulleted draft vision phrases that were created from the vision words and phrases generated by the PLG at Meeting #4. Edits are in red.

### John Chavis Memorial Park....

- A [**favorite or rich or diverse or unique**] **regional destination** and **community center** that celebrates a **rich history, arts and culture**, and offers wonderful **public recreational** spaces and **programs** to support **community** life;
- A place of **pride** and profound **historic** remembrance, celebrating the life and work of John Chavis, and honoring the significance of the park to the **African American** community [**during and following segregation**];
- Pulsing with [**innovative**] **activity** – it is fresh, [**interactive**] dynamic, alive, [**and**] fun – [**Something is happening all of the time! Or Where you can make something happen**];
- Promoting fitness, health and wellness by offering a range of [**intergenerational**] **recreational** activities [**for kids and people of all ages and abilities**];
- A **safe** and **welcoming** gathering space where family and friends of all cultures come to play, relax, **learn**, and celebrate the big **events** and the small, significant moments of life; and
- A sustainable, clean, and refreshing green refuge from everyday urban life, with access to the [**creek or natural resources**] and an expansive view of the **downtown** Raleigh skyline.



# Chavis Park COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

The PLG shared these edited vision phrases with the community at the Carousel House Dedication Event on April 20, 2013 and asked the public the following questions:

1. Does this vision include what is important to you?
2. If not, what is missing?

In response to these questions citizens provided the following comments. (Note: Generally the community was comfortable with the vision phrases and their sentiments have been captured.)

- Family atmosphere (picnics)
- Encourage tolerance.
- Have 'field days' and include events that everyone can participate in.
- Safe and welcoming place for friends and family
- Community awareness
- Use every day!
- I feel the vision says it all – it is wonderful and it is all about family and this is good.
- Music for kids. Art of all kind.
- Make park more visible
- Self-respect. Self-worth. Community respect.
- Great vision statement. It encourages all the park needs to offer to enhance community awareness!!
- I'd like to see Chavis Park become all inclusive for everyone!
- Families
- No it does not. We would like Chavis Park to look like Pullen Park simple as that.
- Promoting fitness and wellness.
- Arts and crafts (ceramics)
- Likes promoting wellness
- Yes. I would make sure that educational programs integrate technology.
- It is important to remember John Chavis' sincerity and dedication to his people and commitment to uplifting the whole human family.

Additional comments received on 4/20/13 can be found in the Appendix.

## **Master Planning Focus Area Rotations**

In their small groups, the PLG brainstormed ideas and priorities on three focus areas:

- Honoring the Past
- Park Features and Amenities
- Creek and Connectivity



## Honoring the Past: Selecting an Approach for Historic Features

The PLG indicated and discussed their preferred approach for the features listed below.

**Highlighted areas** indicate the most PLG votes.

**Features Remaining:** Most PLG members voted for preserving remaining features. Clarification is needed on what changes or upgrades are possible under different historic designation options.

**Features Moved or Removed:** Most PLG members voted for replacing the original pool and stadium/grandstand with contemporary versions. Additional discussion needed on preferred approach for the train, airplane slide and "write-in" features.

	Preserve with historic designation*	Retain and upgrade or reuse	Remove / replace with contemporary version
<b>Features Remaining</b>			
1 War Mother's Memorial	10	3	
2 Picnic Shelter #1	3	8	2
3 Picnic Shelter #2	4	7	2
4 Original Carousel Building	8	6	
5 Stone Steps	6	5	1
6 Stone Bridges	7	6	
Community Center			1
Shelter #3	3		

\* National designation provides recognition, but little oversight to ensure feature is preserved.

Local designation provides protection through local ordinances and review process of any future changes.

	Restore original	Replace with contemporary version	Memorialize through public art/signage
<b>Features Moved or Removed</b>			
7 Original Pool Complex	2	9	1
8 Miniature Train	5	4	4
9 Airplane Slide	3	5	5
10 Stadium and grandstand	2	8	3
Dance Pavilion		2	
Concession Stand		3	
Bathrooms		3	



Park Features and Amenities: Dot Exercise Summary

Basic Park Amenities	PLG placed 4 dots below to indicate priority
Benches (14)	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
Shade structure (12)	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
Signage (11)	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
Trash Receptacles (11)	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
Water fountains (11)	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
Pool chairs (5)	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
Bike racks (3)	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
Pool chair storage (3)	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
Other features? (1)	<div><div></div></div>

Major New Improvements	PLG placed 3 dots below to indicate priority
New Pool (11)	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
Restrooms (10)	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
Upgraded community center (9)	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
Outdoor amphitheater (8)	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
New playground facilities (5)	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
Skateboard Park (5)	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
Outdoor basketball courts (3)	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
Expanded tennis courts (1)	<div><div></div></div>
Pipe creek (1)	<div><div></div></div>
Four-wheeler area (0)	
Off-leash dog park (0)	

Recreational Upgrades	PLG placed 2 dots below to indicate priority
Concession stand (7)	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
Outdoor event spaces (7)	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
Community gardens (5)	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
Amusements (4)	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
Obstacle/fitness course (4)	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
Outdoor camp activities (3)	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
Track improvements (3)	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
Dance pavilion (3)	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
Rock climbing wall (1)	<div><div></div></div>
Relaxation area (0)	
Rope bridge (0)	



# Chavis Park

## COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

### Draft Recommendations for Park Features and Amenities

#### Basic Amenities

- Add attractive and comfortable **seating** in convenient locations near activity centers such as the track, tennis courts and playground.
- Add fun, artistic **shade elements** near activity centers including the playground, track, amphitheatre and pool.
- Add interpretative, historical and directional **signage** for pedestrians and automobiles to locate amenities and navigate through the park. Ideas include signs for exercise stations, current and historic park entrances, Walk Raleigh, and map locators.
- Incorporate attractive and user-friendly **trash and recycling receptacles** and doggie bag stations throughout park and along greenway.
- Add **drinking fountains** near activity centers and along greenway. Ideas include fountains that are both child and adult-sized and include a lower spigot for dogs and washing dirty children.
- Provide additional basic amenities such as, pool chairs with storage area, bike racks and elements to assist those with disabilities access and navigate the park.

#### Major New Improvements

- Replace existing pool with a new **aquatic center** that provides programs and amenities not available nearby, and that compliments other aquatic centers.
- Add clean, attractive and secure **restroom facilities** in convenient locations near activity centers.
- Upgrade or replace the **community center** to accommodate a wide offering of affordable youth, adult and senior programs and amenities. Ideas include expanded fitness center and weight room; indoor theater; game room for ping-pong, billiards and foosball; incorporate museum within the center; indoor track, second story with windows to view downtown skyline; and expanded, flexible meeting spaces for small to large events, including a full service kitchen.
- Add an **outdoor amphitheater**. Suggested location is the lower lawn area by the stone steps.
- Other suggested features include: upgrade playground facilities to provide safe, comfortable and engaging spaces with activities for different age groups; incorporate other amenities throughout the park including additional play areas, a skateboard park, expanded tennis courts and outdoor basketball courts.

#### Park-wide Considerations

- Provide flexible **outdoor event spaces** that can accommodate different activities and events and supporting infrastructure, such as **concession areas** and power.
- Incorporate other activities and amenities throughout the park to provide nodes of activity and interest. Ideas include obstacle fitness course, dance pavilion, outdoor camp activities, rock climbing wall and community garden.
- Enhance appearance of park by providing a well-maintained landscape, including year-round and seasonal planting areas. Integrate public art throughout the park, including sculptures, interactive pieces, and creative designs for amenities, that share the unique history of the park.





# Chavis Park

## COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

Summary of charrette discussion and park tour comments:

<b>Basic Amenities</b>	
<b>Benches (14 dots)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>attractive, functional and comfortable (ideas included non-metal and non-wood materials)</li> <li>benches as public art (such as, Isabella Cannon Park)</li> <li>comfortable bleachers, such as plastic or composite material</li> <li>Incorporate everywhere (seat walls, boulders, raised planters) and situated so that visitors are drawn into the area</li> <li>Include seating around tennis courts and playground; around the track and built into the hill for stadium seating; built into the hill near stone steps to create stadium seating for lawn and potential outdoor theater; same treatment for hill near Shelter #3.</li> </ul>
<b>Shade Structures (12 dots)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>shade structures should be fun, draw attention, artistic</li> <li>provide shade at benches and seating areas (track, playground, pool, proposed outdoor amphitheater)</li> <li>tables with umbrellas around concession area</li> <li>shade sails and/or umbrellas at playground and pool</li> <li>pergolas and additional picnic shelters with restrooms (range in size to accommodate family and large events), locate one or two between MLK and new carousel house</li> </ul>
<b>Signage (11 dots)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>unique to John Chavis Memorial Park; bright; concise; informational; [consistent?].</li> <li>include interpretative and historical signs as well as wayfinding and directional signage for pedestrians and automobiles to locate amenities and navigate park;</li> <li>provide audible feature for visually impaired.</li> <li>highlight original park entrances on Lenoir St/Chavis Way and Worth Street (see Heritage Walk Concept Plan);</li> <li>signage to provide exercise instruction (as part of a proposed fitness course);</li> <li>directional signage with park map at key locations;</li> <li>incorporate Walk Raleigh signs in and around park, such as "Historic City Cemetery is just a 10 minute walk";</li> <li>fun creative signage at tunnel (such as RR crossing arms);</li> <li>signage outside park to locate entrances.</li> </ul>
<b>Trash Receptacles (11 dots)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>decorative, attractive, functional and user-friendly receptacles;</li> <li>designed to prevent insects from swarming;</li> <li>provide options to separate recycling from trash and clearly label ("Can you recycle it?" "Landfill" "Recycling");</li> <li>doggie bags stations will be well-stocked with green or other non-clear bags.</li> <li>incorporate trash/recycling receptacles and doggie bag stations throughout park and along greenway.</li> </ul>
<b>Drinking Fountains (11 dots)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adult and kid-sized fountains</li> <li>Spigot on bottom of fountains for dogs and washing dirty kids</li> <li>Place at major amenities. Ideas included: along greenway and track, playground, pool, shelters, tennis courts, track, baseball, former Carousel House, and new Carousel House.</li> </ul>
Pool Chairs (5 dots)	
Bike Racks (3 dots)	
Pool Chair Storage (3 dots)	
<b>Other Features</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Park needs to be universally accessible; ideas included a change in texture on pathways for visually impaired.</li> <li>Use vegetation to hide unsightly features like dumpster, electrical boxes, transformers, etc.</li> <li>Use Chavis Way stone obelisks as a design precedent to incorporate within</li> </ul>



	future park amenities.
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Major New Improvements	
<b>New Pool (11 dots)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New aquatic center could distinguish park as a unique place and provide programs and amenities not available nearby, eliminating overlap with other aquatic centers.</li> <li>Indoor aquatic center / water park could be located at the current pool location or the original pool location. Ideas included a therapy pool, hot tub/Jacuzzi, items that attract children (zero entry, slides, etc), a heated pool and areas for water aerobics and swim lessons.</li> <li>Outdoor pool could include amusements and fun activity elements</li> </ul>
<b>Restrooms (10 dots)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conveniently located, provide near track, greenway, playground, shelters</li> <li>Improve access to community center restrooms from track</li> <li>Secured (ex. Mordecai) (lights shut off at night, opened/closed by RPRD staff, opened more hours around the track—monitored by the public, use lighting around restrooms like around the carousel house)</li> </ul>
<b>Upgraded Community Center (9 dots)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Event, corporate-sized meeting room to accommodate 300 people (better larger, flexible space—a large room with foldable dividing walls)</li> <li>Full service kitchen to accommodate rentals and cooking classes</li> <li>Access to restrooms in community center from track, such as restrooms adjacent to shelters like Davie St mini-park</li> <li>2-stories with windows to view downtown</li> <li>Expand/include fitness center and larger weight room</li> <li>Indoor theater instead of outdoor amphitheater for plays, tutorial programs, movies, piano</li> <li>More senior and youth programs—more programs in general</li> <li>Keep programs and memberships affordable</li> <li>New recreation center (accommodate/entertain kids but also all ages; ping-pong, pool (billiards), and foosball), Indoor Track</li> <li>Include museum within the community center. This would mean no additional staff would need to be hired.</li> <li>Locate new center where little league field is currently</li> </ul>
<b>Outdoor Amphitheater (8 dots)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outdoor amphitheater at bottom of stone steps with ADA accessibility</li> </ul>
<b>New Playground Facilities (5 dots)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Separate ages in playground</li> <li>Smaller sand play area and engineered wood chips for playground surface</li> <li>Provide additional play areas near other features.</li> <li>Replace existing tennis courts with a new playground so that it is closer to other amenities.</li> </ul>
<b>Skateboard Park (5 dots)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Skate park centrally located (example: Asheville's skate park is small and contained)</li> <li>Host competitions</li> <li>Include skate park elements along western end of greenway</li> </ul>
<b>Outdoor Basketball Courts (3 dots)</b>	Basketball courts and tennis courts located in lower parking lot (if parking moved or removed) or in place of the existing pool if pool is relocated to original location. If located separately, basketball could be located behind community center.
<b>Expanded Tennis Courts (1 dot)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relocate and add additional tennis courts, co-locate with basketball courts in lower parking lot (if parking moved or removed) or in place of the existing pool if pool is relocated to original location, leave existing tennis courts and add more courts on the top of the hill across the stream near Cape Avenue</li> </ul>
<b>Four-wheeler Area (0 dots)</b>	
<b>Off-leash Dog Park (0 dots)</b>	
<b>Pipe Creek (1 dot)</b>	



Other Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spread major amenities throughout park</li> <li>Parking: Reclaim some/all of lower parking area by moving that parking to along the street. Or, minimize area needed for parking by replacing existing park lots with a parking deck. There is no dedicated parking (painted designated parking) along Chavis Way.</li> </ul>
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Recreational Upgrades	
<b>Concession Stand (7 dots)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Restaurant</li> <li>Convert pool house (improvements are already there)</li> <li>Areas for food trucks and vendors</li> </ul>
<b>Outdoor Event Spaces (7 dots)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use track, parking lot, current spaces for these</li> <li>Flexible spaces—multi-use</li> <li>Provide electricity in these areas</li> </ul>
Community Gardens (5 dots)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Garden—accessible to all/flowers south of MLK (links to programming: cooking and gardening classes; topiary art on parcel south of MLK; upholstery classes)</li> <li>Community garden—plots maintained by community members</li> <li>Note: Access to food was a recognized need since the grocery store closed. Access to locally grown vegetables could be an asset. However, there was concern that vegetable gardens would not be maintained (in light of a similar effort that took place on Worth St and the vegetable gardens were not maintained).</li> </ul>
Amusements (4 dots)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ice skating rink</li> <li>Roller skating rink</li> <li>Rentable bikes (red bikes in DC and yellow bikes in Portland)</li> <li>Dances hosted by local radio stations</li> <li>Hold farmer's market here, sometimes</li> <li>St. Aug/Shaw day: radio station host</li> <li>Shaw tennis</li> <li>Arts in the Park (including arts and crafts for kids, exhibits, vendors)</li> </ul>
Obstacle/Fitness Course (4 dots)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Incorporated throughout the park with stations and instructional signage</li> </ul>
Outdoor Camp Activities (3 dots)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
Track Improvements (3 dots)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stadium seating for spectators</li> <li>Shaded seating and benches around track</li> </ul>
Dance Pavilion (3 dots)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
Rock Climbing Wall (1 dot)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indoor or outdoor rock climbing wall</li> </ul>
Relaxation Area (0 dots)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
Rope Bridge (0 dots)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
Other Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Miniature Train</li> </ul>





# Chavis Park

## COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

### **CREEK AND CONNECTIVITY**

#### **Goals and Recommendations - DRAFT**

##### **1. Improve circulation and access to areas within the park**

- Connect paths and provide direct routes and access to park areas and features. Ideas include improving pedestrian connection from lower parking lot to track.
- Increase access to park core and across the creek. Ideas include: incorporating additional creek crossing, enhanced entrance points and better east-west connectivity per Heritage Walk Concept Plan.
- Align park routes to maximize space for park features and open space. Ideas include: realign greenway to edge of creek buffer to avoid fragmenting open space.

##### **2. Improve visibility and sight lines to and through park.**

- Increase visibility through stream vegetation to see the stream and through the buffer to other areas of the park.
- Increase visibility between park areas.
- Improve visibility to park from surrounding areas. Ideas include: improve visibility of park from MLK Jr. Blvd. eastbound approach.

##### **3. Improve access to creek**

- Provide safe access to creek.

##### **4. Improve safety and function of park entrances**

- Provide safe pedestrian access to park. Ideas include: addressing safety concerns in tunnel, providing alternate route to crossing MLK Jr. Blvd., connect greenway to Garner Road, improving pedestrian crossings at MLK Jr. Blvd.
- Provide safe vehicular access to park along Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Ideas include: full traffic stoplight at Chavis Way and MLK Jr. Blvd.
- Enhance park edges and access points to connect with surrounding neighborhood.

##### **5. Improve park connections to and from other destinations**

- Promote vehicular, pedestrian and public transit access from downtown.
- Increase connectivity with other parks and community amenities. Ideas include: additional directional signage to park, Walk Raleigh signs and addressing safety concerns along underutilized areas of greenway.
- Link park to proposed heritage trail.




# Chavis Park


## COMMUNITY CONVERSATION


Creek and Connectivity Goals	Flip and Walking Tour Chart Notes
<b>1. Improve circulation and access to areas within the park</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connect paths and provide direct routes.</li> <li>• Increase access to park core and across the creek.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incorporate additional creek crossings and access points, per Heritage Walk Concept Plan.</li> <li>• Provide emergency vehicle access</li> <li>• Provide vehicular access to picnic shelter #2</li> <li>• Improve pedestrian access from lower parking lot to track</li> <li>• Improve circulation through main parking lot (one-way/two way)</li> <li>• Connect Chavis Way to Worth Street (vehicular)</li> <li>• Better east-west connection through park</li> <li>• Realign Greenway to open more space on west side of park (per Heritage Walk Concept Plan).</li> <li>• Width of bridges and crossings important consideration</li> <li>• Late night access to/through the park</li> <li>• Add pathway behind pool</li> <li>• Distance between parking and facilities</li> </ul>
<b>2. Improve visibility and sight lines</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase visibility through stream vegetation.</li> <li>• Increase visibility between park areas.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve visibility of park from MLK eastbound, perhaps align creek crossing with MLK sightlines</li> <li>• Desire to see the stream and through the buffer</li> <li>• Speed up maturing of vegetation along stream</li> <li>• Better maintenance (dead limbs)</li> <li>• Safety is an issue in area west of stream</li> <li>• Park lighting to improve security</li> </ul>
<b>3. Improve access to creek</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide safe access to creek.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safe access to creek should be visible not physical (lighting, visibility, free of hazards).</li> <li>• **more discussion needed on creek access</li> </ul>
<b>4. Improve safety and function of park entrances</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide safe pedestrian access to park (tunnel and street crossings).</li> <li>• Provide safe vehicular access to park along Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Better connect entrances to neighborhood</li> <li>• Improve pedestrian access to track from Chavis Way</li> <li>• Full traffic stoplight signal at Chavis Way and MLK</li> <li>• Connect Greenway to Garner Road</li> <li>• Add steps from MLK to Greenway connection on park side</li> <li>• Address round-a-bout access points at Worth and Cape</li> <li>• Median on MLK (pedestrian refuge)</li> <li>• Pedestrian bridge across MLK to park</li> <li>• Make tunnel feel safe and inviting with good lighting and public art</li> </ul>
<b>5. Improve park connections to other destinations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote vehicular and pedestrian access from downtown.</li> <li>• Enhance park edges and access points to connect with surrounding neighborhood.</li> <li>• Increase connectivity with other parks and community amenities.</li> <li>• Link park to heritage trail.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How can access from Shaw be improved?</li> <li>• Connect to public transit/bus connections</li> <li>• Signage on MLK for park and surrounding streets</li> <li>• Walk Raleigh signs</li> <li>• Greenway at Bragg Street feels unsafe</li> <li>• Improve connection, signage and access to Top Green Center, City Cemetery, John Chavis Highway Marker, Walnut Creek Wetland Center</li> </ul>

## Creek & Connectivity








### Potential Circulation Improvements (from the *Proposed Heritage Walk Concept Plan*)

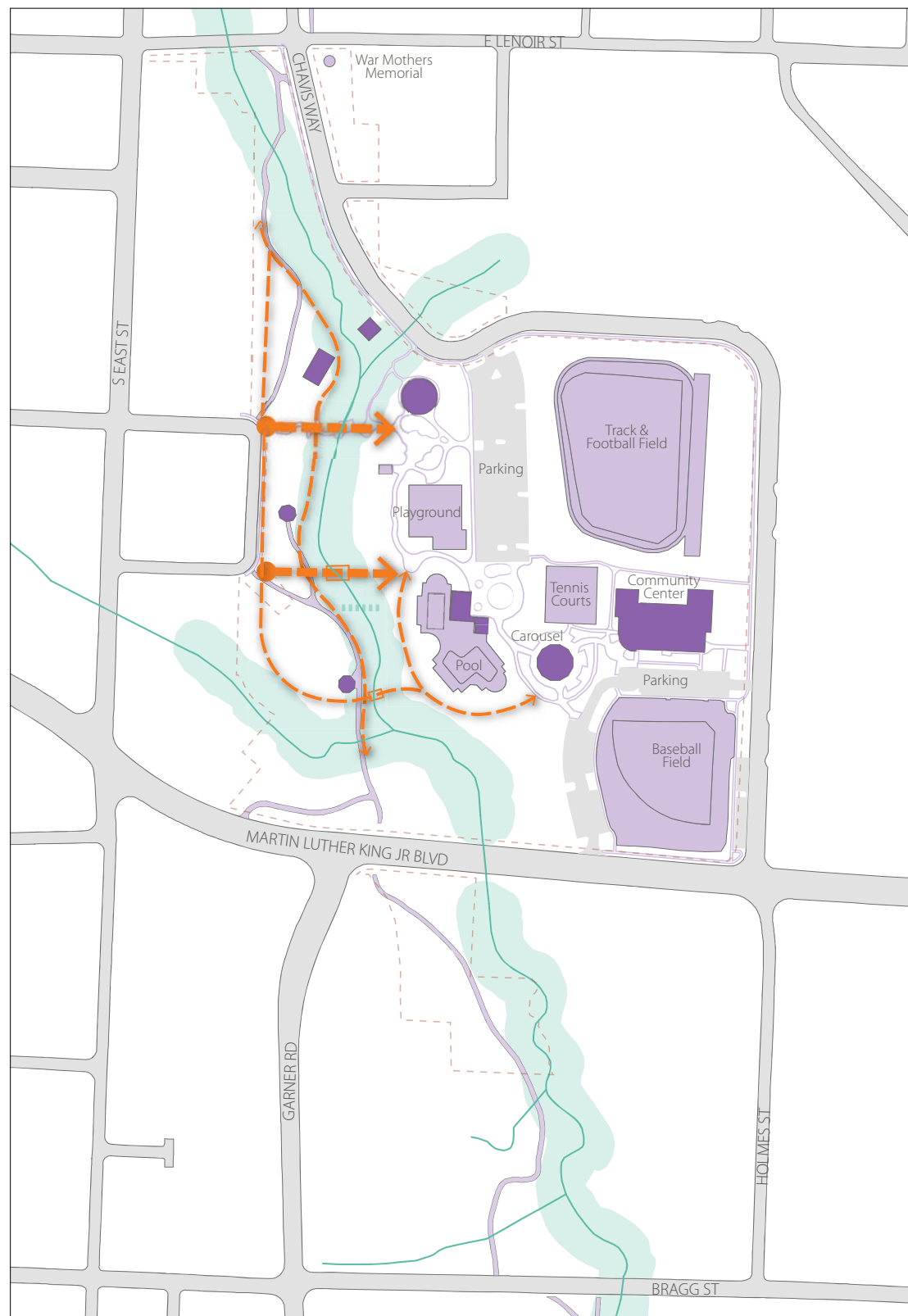
 Enhanced entry area with walkway into historic core.

 Realigned greenway & new Paths

 New creek crossings

### Existing Park Features

-  Buildings
-  Recreational Features
-  Paved Walkways
-  Parking
-  Stream Easement Buffer (approx.)
-  Sewer Line Crossing (above ground)
-  Park Boundary





# Chavis Park COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

## **Meeting Evaluation Feedback**

- Working in small groups was enjoyable and productive.
- Lots of good discussion. It was great to hear and exchange ideas among PLG members.
- The report outs after the small group discussion was beneficial to hear what the rest of the groups came up with.
- This was the most productive meeting to date.
- The dominance of ideas/discussions of what use to be and limiting the possibilities.
- The walking and driving tours and round robin sharing were helpful.
- The exercises at the beginning of the meeting provided a good starting point for the small group discussions.
- More time for discussion would have been appreciated.

## **Attendance**

**PLG Members Present:** Gretchel Carter-Hinton, Joseph Ellerbee, Jacqueline Howell, Vivian Lee, Rhonda Muhammad, Geraldine Williams, James E. Williams, F. Lonnette Williams, Rob Wylie, Cecilia Zuvic, Jonathun Muldrow, Angela Jackson-Mann, Jaquan Bennett, Richard Bostic, Margo White, Seddrick Hill, Eyvonne Dailey, Virginia Stanley Tally

**PLG Members Absent:** Bennie A. Mack, Jr., Hallie Mittleman, Lorenzo Jackson

**Staff & Guests:** Vernice Miller-Travis, Alisa Hefner, Sarah Little, Mary Lou Addor, Christy Perrin, Al Byrd, Denise Saunders, David Shouse, Emily Ander, Diane Sauer, Dick Bailey, Kim Curry-Evans, Morgan Jackson-Mann



# Chavis Park

## COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

### APPENDIX

The Public Leadership Group hosted a public meeting opportunity as part of the April 20, 2013 Carousel House Dedication Ceremony to share, listen, and receive feedback from citizens on the draft vision statement. The dedication attendees provided comments that fall into three categories 1) Vision Statement, 2) Park Elements, and 3) General, all of which are included below.

**Vision Statement** (Does this vision include what is important to you? If not, what is missing?)

- Family atmosphere (picnics)
- Encourage tolerance.
- Have 'field days' and include events that everyone can participate in.
- Safe and welcoming place for friends and family
- Community awareness
- Use every day!
- I feel the vision says it all – it is wonderful and it is all about family and this is good.
- Music for kids. Art of all kind.
- Make park more visible
- Self-respect. Self-worth. Community respect.
- Great vision statement. It encourages all the park needs to offer to enhance community awareness!!
- I'd like to see Chavis Park become all inclusive for everyone!
- Families
- No it does not. We would like Chavis Park to look like Pullen Park simple as that.
- Promoting fitness and wellness.
- Arts and crafts (ceramics)
- Likes promoting wellness
- Yes. I would make sure that educational programs integrate technology.
- It is important to remember John Chavis' sincerity and dedication to his people and commitment to uplifting the whole human family.

**Park Elements** (to consider incorporating into the Master Plan)

- Need power outlet by pool and restroom
- Would like to see food vendors in the park and more rides. Maybe you could use the old building for a food pavilion.
- Rides, food, train, bigger food, music, movie night, restroom, garden, game room.
- No dog park, Olympic pool, inside pool, bath rooms, water fountain, picnic room ground, grand stand, train and tunnel, Red tail plane and slide.
- Merchandise selling including paintings, cheap hot dogs for kids, face painting, train.
- I would like to see the park as it used to be with concessioners that reflect the attendees, more swings, outside toilets, a train, renovated community center, free in park concerts.
- Missing – train + dancing



# Chavis Park

## COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

- Diving board, snack area, outdoor jump room, toys.
- Airplane, train, nice picnic area.
- Food cart, football games, games for sports, sports, children games, help, tours, tour guides.
- Train!!
- Indoor and outdoor pool, historical, more lights (like Pullen), restrooms, concession.
- Please bring back the train; the airplane, band stand, New recreation center; programs; new playground for kids; concession stands; outside toilets; bigger swimming pool; handicap accessible entrances and exits; more seating; family picnic areas.
- We need our train back.
- I would like to have a train in Chavis Park like Pullen Park have. Shops and eating spots in Chavis Park.
- Need to have more activities to attract a diverse population of people. Would be great to have a train just like Pullen Park. Need more picnic area/shelters.
- I would like to see directional signs for the park to lead people in the proper direction and venues in the park. It will help save time and frustration in finding events and parking located closest to particular events. The trails should also be labeled according to distance and numbers. Ex. Trail 1, Trail 2, etc.
- Indoor Olympic size pool, Outdoor Olympic size pool, Airplane Red Tail, Train, Place for family picnics, Children playground like Pullen Park, Lights in park at night, Concession stand, Bath rooms.
- Olympic size pool, More picnic areas, Train, Lots of activities for kids!!, New community center.
- Multipurpose ballfield (football field)
- The track field could be developed into a football grounds for 'Pop Warner' football games. For instance, Shaw University football team uses the field for practice and goal posts could be added to complete facility. Seating stands could be added to seat 7,500-10,000 fans.
- Need power outlets.
- No dog park, Olympic pool, Inside pool, Bathrooms, Water fountain, Picnic room ground, Grand stand, Train and, Red Tail plane and slide.
- Mentoring program for children 4-8, 9-12, 13-16, 17-20; Male 4-8, 9-12, 13-16, 17-20; Female 4-8, 9-12, 13-16, 17-20; Basic fundamentals of American citizenship, community responsibility, self-respect, and respect for your neighbor.
- Need train back please, Airplane back with slide (Red Tail), New community center, New swimming pool, Band stand, Concessions stand, Big new playground for children, Soul and R&B music added to merry go round, More handicap accessibility, More seating/benches, More picnic areas and tables with grills, Outdoor entertainment, Outdoor stage.
- Lots of rides, Do what you did to Pullen Park....Why not???, Aquatics Center.
- Family size picnic shelters and grills





# Chavis Park

## COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

- Return the train, Find the airplane, Bandstand (cement), Piccolo, Music carousel, Outside bathroom facilities, Larger pool, Olympic sized, Covered seats at pool, Not enough outside seating, More kids area and more handicap accessibility, Red tail airplane, More picnic, tables to accommodate 100s & families, Outdoor entertainment, Permanent outside stage, Concessions stand.

### General Comments

- The City of Raleigh has never in my 85 years of stay done anything for Chavis Park to improve it. Chavis Park should look like Pullen Park.
- In 1970s Chavis Park had a football field. It was also used for public gatherings and concerts.
- City of Raleigh can allocate funding or seek corporate sponsors for project.
- I use the space every year- family reunion by the pool. I have live entertainment space by pool. Need power outlets. Please.
- Horses carved by immigrants – they had freedom of expression that shows in the figures.
- Advertising via 750 WAWG & social media, Facebook, twitter, etc.
- Record today's memories collected should be shared.
- SPERNA should be invited to share in vendoring to share history.