

STAFF REPORT

Town of Apex Master Plan for Parks, Recreation, Cultural Resources, Greenways and Open Space

January 28, 2025 Town Council Meeting



In 2021, The Town of Apex, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources staff began an update to the Parks, Recreation, Greenways and Open Space Master Plan (PRGOS Master Plan). The PRGOS Master Plan was adopted in 2014. The newly-titled Master Plan for Parks, Recreation, Cultural Resources, Greenways and Open Space (Master Plan) was prepared for the Town by McAdams Co. to span the 2023-2033 timeframe. The purpose of the public hearing is to consider adoption of the proposed Master Plan.

The Master Plan serves as the guide for the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resource (PRCR) Department for the 10-year planning horizon. On May 9, 2023, Master Plan Map amendments adding two new categories for the identification and acquisition of property for future parks and indoor recreation facilities and Transportation Plan amendments related to public greenways and street-side greenways were adopted by Town Council. While the Master Plan was presented and discussed, the advertisement for the Public Hearing did not appropriately identify the adoption of the Master Plan for Parks, Recreation, Cultural Resources, Greenways and Open Space. This public hearing is to formally adopt the Master Plan pursuant to the provisions of North Carolina General Statutes §160A-601 and to the Town of Apex Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) Section 2.2.11.

The planning process for the Master Plan began in late 2021 with data collection and analysis of existing conditions. The process included establishing goals, developing guiding principles and recommendations, and developing an action plan. It was guided by Town staff; Apex residents; Town Council; the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Advisory Commission (Advisory Commission); County staff; and adjacent municipality staff, among others.

The Apex community was engaged through social media posts, signage, direct mail invitations, and the project webpage, along with numerous opportunities for public input including the following:

Type of Event	Number of Events held
Focus Group Meetings	4
Asset Mapping Sessions	3
Visioning Workshops	3
Draft Recommendations Sessions	3
Open Houses	2
Special Events	2
Online Questionnaire Survey	1
Scientific Survey	1
West Street Park Community Engagement	1

The resulting draft Master Plan for Parks, Recreation, Cultural Resources, Greenways and Open Space (Executive Summary and Implementation + Action Plan) is attached for review and consideration.

STAFF REPORT

Town of Apex Master Plan for Parks, Recreation, Cultural Resources, Greenways and Open Space

January 28, 2025 Town Council Meeting



Staff Recommendation:

Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources Department staff recommend approval of the proposed Master Plan.

Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources Advisory Commission Recommendation:

The Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources Advisory Commission considered and unanimously recommended approval of the proposed Master Plan at their November 30, 2022 meeting.

Planning Board Input: The Planning Board heard this item at their January 13, 2025 meeting and unanimously recommended approval.

Attachments:

Attachment 1 - Master Plan for Parks, Recreation, Cultural Resources, Greenways and Open Space- Executive Summary

Attachment 2 - Master Plan for Parks, Recreation, Cultural Resources, Greenways and Open Space- Implementation + Action Plan