

Description and Justification for the Project

Volunteer Park Pleasant Garden, NC

Project Description

“Volunteer Park” is a 48.706-acre parcel donated to the Town in 2001 by one of Pleasant Garden’s founding families. The proposed development project blends recreational activities that serve multiple age demographics while creating opportunities for community economic development.

- **Nature Trail:** A 4,000 linear foot system of ADA accessible nature trails populated by 10 Fitness Stations. Connecting to the recently completed greenway, the trail encourages mobility, strength and agility training for a broad age range.
- **Disc Golf Course:** An 18-hole tournament level disc golf course designed in compliance with the Professional Golf Disc Association (PDGA) guidelines. Integrated into the natural landscape, the course will provide a competitive challenge that, in addition to open community use, will be promoted as a tournament site.
- **Dog Park:** A unique addition to the recreational inventory of the Southeast Guilford community. There are not any like facilities in this area.
- **Court Games:** A fully ADA accessible area for bocce ball, shuffleboard and horseshoe court games provides opportunities for all skill and ability levels to participate.
- **Family Playgrounds:** One playground will be located at the multi-purpose fields in order to provide a safe environment for younger children to enjoy while their older siblings play team sports. The second playground will be located near the picnic shelter to provide child-friendly activities as families gather to use existing facilities and planned recreation additions.
- **Asphalt trail:** 1,320 linear feet of ADA accessible extensions of the existing asphalt trail at the lower end of Volunteer Park and a connection paralleling the Town Hall driveway from the greenway entrance east to Alliance Church Road will provide safer pedestrian access to the upper multi-purpose fields, add connections to both entrances of the recently completed greenway, and complete a .5 mile pedestrian loop around the athletic fields and parking lot complex.
- **Rehabilitated Multi-Purpose Fields:** At this time, the fields host spring and fall soccer seasons that enroll approximately 900 children ages 4 – 17. The two larger fields in the park are uneven and have a poor stand of grass. The project calls for the fields to be upgraded to levels enhancing player safety and overall playability.

Project Justification

Due to its strategic geographical location, Pleasant Garden’s mix of recreational inventory serves the rural communities of southeast Guilford, Randolph and Alamance counties. Heeding public input, each element of the project plan answers recreational demands from a broad range of age groups.

This project adds unique recreational features (Dog Park, Disc Golf and ADA Fitness Trails) to the area and expands the recreational inventory serving the needs of the population. Through the addition of the Disc Golf and rehabilitation of the soccer fields, the project provides features that can help the economic development of the area. Both of these project deliverables are planned to be promoted as locations for tournament sites. The resulting traffic will help support the local business community.

The project skillfully blends the recreation additions in a layout that promotes further usage of existing infrastructure elements while respecting the natural landscape. The expansion of the trails and addition of fitness stations connect to the recently completed greenway. The location of the planned dog park, court games and playgrounds compliments existing athletic fields, bathroom facilities and picnic shelter.

An essential marker of any community is the ability to provide opportunities that foster family, fellowship and recreation. We believe that the deliverables from this project advance this goal and helps build added value for the area community. We thank you for your consideration of PARTF Grant funding for this project.