



DATE: March 1, 2016

TO: Ruffin Hall, City Manager

CC: Marchell Adams-David, Assistant City Manager
Diane Sauer, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Director

FROM: Kate Pearce, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources, Senior Planner
Stephen C. Bentley, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources, Superintendent

SUBJECT: Dorothea Dix Park Update

Staff will present an informative update on Dorothea Dix Park that includes an overview of the purchase agreement, an update on current work and a presentation of a broad framework to guide the future master planning effort.

- **Purchase Agreement Overview-** Staff will highlight components of the purchase agreement for Dorothea Dix Park including an update on the status of current leases and an explanation of the lease-back areas.
- **Current Work-** Over the past seven months, staff has been working in cooperation with the Department of Health and Human Services on a number of initiatives including:
 - Establishing a schedule for routine maintenance and cemetery care
 - Developing a plan to remediate contaminated soils in one small area on the property (Area 5N)
 - Developing guidelines for regular public access, parking and special event use
 - Coordinating special events that were previously approved by DHHS

In addition, staff has held introductory meetings with institutional neighbors including North Carolina State University, the Department of Agriculture and the Catholic Diocese of Raleigh. Staff is also conducting best practices research on a variety of topics.

- **Master Planning Process-** Staff will outline a broad framework for the master planning process. The presentation will focus on the pre-planning period which includes early park activation, public outreach and the formation of committees.