

MECKLENBURG COUNTY

Park and Recreation Department

MEMORANDUM

<u>SENT ELECTRONICALLY THIS DATE</u> NO HARDCOPY TO FOLLOW

TO: Michael Cataldo, Associate Planner

Charlotte Mecklenburg Planning Department

FROM: Gwen Cook, Greenway Planner

Greenway Planning & Development Services

DATE: January 24, 2012

RE: Rezoning Petition #2012-008 NorthLake Crossing Apartments (Long Creek Greenway)

Charlotte Mecklenburg Planning Commission (PID #02514191)

This is the first communication concerning this property. We encourage staff and the Planning Commission to consider Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation Department's (MCPR) comments. We suggest that these comments be incorporated into the staff review notes and written into the Pre-Hearing Staff Analysis to the fullest extent possible. These steps should ensure MCPR's notes are conveyed to and incorporated by the petitioner during plan revision.

The property is located in the North Park District south of the intersection of Reames Rd and Bayview Pkwy. Long Creek, a greenway corridor that has been approved as part of the 2008 Greenway Master Plan, is a high priority greenway to begin design in the near future. An access trail for this first section of Long Creek Greenway (PID # 02514123) is planned to connect to the greenway just after the first left-turning curve in Bayview Pkwy. Long Creek Greenway will be an asset for the local community and will connect most likely be extended up Dixon Branch to the Target at NorthLake Mall.

MCPR requests that the petitioner provide bicycle and pedestrian access by a minimum 6' wide sidewalk for their residents from the north corner parking lot to the public sidewalk on Bayview Pkwy, alignment to optimize access in the direction of the future greenway. The internal circulation of the project should compliment this access and assist in connecting people to the greenway.

We will be happy to meet with the petitioner to address any questions.

Copy to: James R. Garges, Director

W. Lee Jones, Division Director, Capital Planning Services

Greg Clemmer, Operations Manager, Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation Brian Horton, Transportation Planner, Charlotte Department of Transportation

Malisa McCreedy, Pedestrian Program Manager, Charlotte Department of Transportation