

# Pender County Planning and Community Development

## Parks and Recreation Division

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### MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 27, 2016  
TO: Ron Meredith, Current Planner  
FROM: Dee Turner, Parks and Recreation Supervisor  
RE: Pender Land Greenway Park

The proposed donation of property to Pender County from the Pender Land Greenway Park subdivision (Property PIN 4204-61-5445-0000) will help alleviate park acreage and facilities deficiencies and promote interconnectivity to Hampstead Kiwanis Park with surrounding neighborhoods.

According to Table 2.2 in the 2010 Pender County Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan (Parks Plan), the population in the 28443 zip code, which incorporates the Hampstead area, was 11,594<sup>1</sup>. The current population of that zip code area, according to zip-codes.com, is now 19,861<sup>2</sup>. Pender County is already deficient in total park acreage and most recreation facilities using the National Recreation and Park Association recommended levels of service guidelines in regards to the 2000 Census numbers. Park improvements have been made since then but have not compared to the growth rate realized in this area.

This property appears to contain environmental restrictions which would prevent typical active recreational facilities such as football/soccer fields to be constructed. However, a walking trail, which was the number one activity requested per the Public Input Survey Results for the Parks Plan, could be constructed on the donated land.

The existing walking trail within Hampstead Kiwanis Park could be extended into the donated land as well as connected to the proposed pedestrian access paths within the Pender Land Greenway Park master plan and back to Azalea Drive. This connectivity will make it possible and hopefully encourage residents of adjacent communities to walk or bike to the park rather than driving.

If the land is ultimately dedicated to the County, the Parks and Recreation Division, alongside the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will work with the landowner to obtain necessary approvals and agreements with the Pender County Board of Commissioners prior to improvements being made.

<sup>1</sup> NC HomeTownLocator (<http://northcarolina.hometownlocator.com/nc/pender/>) (2000)

<sup>2</sup> NC HomeTownLocator (<http://northcarolina.hometownlocator.com/zip-codes/data.zipcode,28443.cfm>) (July 1, 2016)