



RESOLUTION 2016-18

SUPPORT FOR THE PROVISION OF NORTH MECKLENBURG REGIONAL RECREATION CENTER

WHEREAS, voters approved the 2008 Mecklenburg County General Obligation Park Bond Referendum, which included the construction of the North Mecklenburg Regional Recreation Center, and with the understanding that the North Mecklenburg Regional Recreation Center would be the first regional recreation center constructed; and

WHEREAS, although lakefront and greenway initiatives are in progress, County citizens have ranked the need for a new recreation center as a top priority based upon a recent survey; and

WHEREAS, Mecklenburg County has not built any recreation centers or indoor aquatic facilities anywhere north of I-485; and

WHEREAS, the Towns of Cornelius, Davidson and Huntersville support active and passive recreation and healthy living; and

WHEREAS, the northern end of Mecklenburg County has experienced explosive growth in population since 2000, with the 2014 population of Town of Cornelius up by 129.6%, Town of Davidson up by 67.8%, and Town of Huntersville up by 106.6% ; and

WHEREAS, growth in indoor athletic and recreation participation has pushed demand for existing venues beyond capacity and future delays will result in many more Mecklenburg County residents not being served; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Davidson cannot continue to carry the responsibility to provide for the needs in our budget as well as grow our Parks, Arts, Recreation and Culture Department, in order to handle the demand resulting from our explosive growth; and

WHEREAS, Mecklenburg County has established the North Mecklenburg Regional Recreation Center as a top priority since 2008; and

WHEREAS, in a news release in October 2008, Charlotte and Mecklenburg County Mayors pledged support for the General Obligation Park Bond to construct a North Mecklenburg Regional Recreation Center; and

WHEREAS, at a joint meeting of the Mecklenburg County North Park Region Advisory Council; Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation officials; the Town of Cornelius Parks, Arts, Recreation and Culture Commission; the Town of Davidson Livability Board; and the Town of Huntersville



Parks and Recreation Commission held on February 7, 2013, the North Mecklenburg Regional Recreation Center was named as a top priority; and

WHEREAS, Mecklenburg County, in collaboration with the Towns of Cornelius, Davidson, and Huntersville, acquired land in 2013 for the North Mecklenburg Regional Recreation Center at 18121 Statesville Road in Cornelius; and

WHEREAS, the FY 2015 Mecklenburg County Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan documents a \$28M (later \$40M) allocation for a North Mecklenburg Regional Recreation Center; and

WHEREAS, the Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation Commission affirmed their Park and Recreation Department's capital prioritization process at its March 8, 2016, meeting by a vote of 11-1; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Cornelius Parks, Arts, Recreation and Culture Commission; the Town of Davidson Livability Board; and the Town of Huntersville Parks and Recreation Commission have separately and jointly agreed that the North Mecklenburg Regional Recreation Center is a top priority for northern Mecklenburg County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Davidson Board of Commissioners agrees that the North Mecklenburg Regional Recreation Center is a top priority for northern Mecklenburg County and supports Mecklenburg County in the development of a regional recreation center as approved by voters in the 2008 general obligation park bond referendum and as identified in the FY 2015 Mecklenburg County capital improvement plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Town of Davidson Board of Commissioners respectfully requests Mecklenburg County appropriate \$1,000,000 (one million dollars) in funds to initiate the planning and design process for the North Mecklenburg Regional Recreation Center no later than their FY18 budget.

Adopted this 13th day of September, 2016.

John M. Woods, Mayor

ATTESTED:

Heather B. James, Town Clerk