

Saying Goodbye to Our Friend



From Partners for Parks <info@partnersforparks.org>
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Saying Goodbye to our Friend and Colleague, Doug Youngblood

We can never fully put into words all that Doug Youngblood meant to local parks and recreation over the last 30 years, or to us at Partners for Parks. Sadly, we said goodbye to him for the last time just before Christmas. This month, we look back at

Doug's life and dedication to parks and play, and remember so much he's given us, in this memorial tribute: <https://partnersforparks.org/doug-youngblood/>



Partners for Parks Pitches Bigger Greenway Budget to Board of County Commissioners

Partners for Parks' Secretary Emily Condon made a pitch for parks and recreation on behalf of Partners for Parks to the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners at their January 19th budget hearing. She addressed County Manager Dena Diorio and Commissioners, asking, in particular, to expand greenway and open space funding for our community. Read her remarks here: <https://partnersforparks.org/bocc-remarks/>

Stay Tuned: Greenway Ride with Sustain Charlotte Coming to a Sunny Saturday Near You

Who would have thought Charlotte would have 3 weekends in a row of snow??? We sure didn't expect that historic event when we planned our "Growing Our Greenways" ride with Sustain Charlotte. We still look forward to it on a Saturday when it's warmer with *no snow* and we know you will too. Until then, get ready for the ride with a few miles on your own, using Mecklenburg County's guide to lead you to a greenway near you: <https://www.mecknc.gov/ParkandRec/Parks/Pages/default.aspx>



Partners for Parks set out in 2021 to make a very specific impact for equity and inclusion, and several events during the year brought us closer to our mission that Parks Build Community. We reached across zip codes to bring neighbors together in their neighborhood green spaces, while working with them to enrich their local parks and playgrounds. Your donations and sponsorships have made all the difference in making our mission come alive, and we need your support more than ever as we continue our momentum!

[Just click here to become an annual sponsor](#), or mail your check to the address below. Thank you!

Mark your calendars for our **Annual Sponsor Social on March 24th**. More details are coming soon.



Partners for Parks aims to improve the quality of life for the citizens of Mecklenburg County and the surrounding region by preserving, promoting and enhancing the parks, greenways, open spaces, active play and recreational opportunities within our community.

A 2020 Lehman Award Winner, Partners for Parks is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Donations are tax deductible. Please consider making a [donation](#). To make a gift by mail, please send your check made payable to "Partners for Parks" to:

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