



GASTONIA

VISION FOR A HEALTHY COMMUNITY

**A PLAN FOR PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN
SPACES, 2005-2020**

ADOPTED 11-15-05



**CITY OF GASTONIA, NORTH CAROLINA
PARKS, RECREATION, AND OPEN SPACE
LONG RANGE PLAN 2004-2020**

A Component of the City of Gastonia Comprehensive Plan
*REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL
FROM THE RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION AND
LONG RANGE PARKS AND
RECREATION PLANNING COMMITTEE
MARCH 2005*



JENNIFER T. STULTZ, MAYOR, CITY OF GASTONIA

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**Denote Recreation Advisory Commission members*

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DIRECTOR OF PLANNING

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GIS SPECIALIST III

CHERYL GRINER, PLANNING AND
REAL ESTATE TECH. II

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING A LONG RANGE PLAN FOR PARKS,
RECREATION AND OPEN SPACES**

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Gastonia finds that public parks, recreation facilities and programs, and open spaces for public enjoyment promote a healthier community through active living and the enjoyment of the outdoors and natural areas, reduce crime and improve morals by providing wholesome activities and life skills for youth, promote economic development by providing valuable community amenities, increase human productivity through re-creative outlets, provide for enjoyable leisure and happiness for all ages, increase the value of private property throughout the community, improve community appearance and build a positive community image, and support a healthier natural environment by protecting natural areas within an urban setting; and

WHEREAS, since the 1920's the City of Gastonia has provided parks and recreation programs for its people as a necessary public endeavor; and

WHEREAS, the City of Gastonia established a Recreation Advisory Commission or RAC in May, of 1974; and

WHEREAS, in 2002, the City Council saw the need to develop a new long-range plan for parks, recreation and open spaces and thus appointed a Citizens Committee, which included all members of the RAC, plus forty-three additional citizens representing a cross-section of the community, to work with City staff in studying Gastonia's parks, recreation and open spaces needs and to recommend a plan for meeting those needs; and

WHEREAS, the Citizens Committee, together with City staff, has prepared a plan entitled "*Gastonia: Vision for a Healthy Community – A Plan for Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces,*" and submitted the plan to City Council, for review; and

WHEREAS, the Plan sets forth a 15-year agenda for improving existing facilities, building new facilities, a Master Greenway Plan, and alternative policies and programs for promoting and protecting open spaces;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE City Council of the City of Gastonia that the report titled, *Gastonia: Vision for a Healthy Community – A Plan for Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces*, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference, is hereby approved and adopted as a vision for the future improvement of our community.

Adopted, this 15th day of November, 2005.

ATTEST:


Virginia L. Creighton, City Clerk

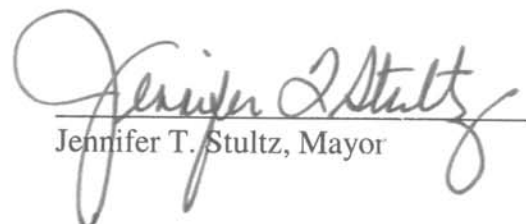

Jennifer T. Stultz, Mayor

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