



CITY OF DURHAM
Office of Public Affairs
101 CITY HALL PLAZA
DURHAM, NC 27701

News Release

For Immediate Release: July 10, 2017

News Media Contact:

Amy Blalock
Public Affairs Manager
(919) 560-4123 x 11253
(919) 475-7735 (cell)
Amy.Blalock@DurhamNC.gov
<http://Facebook.com/CityofDurhamNC>
<http://Twitter.com/CityofDurhamNC>
<http://Instagram.com/CityofDurhamNC>
<http://YouTube.com/CityofDurhamNC>

Share! #Durham wants public input on name & design for @DurhamStormH2O restoration project at former Duke Diet & Fitness Center

Durham Seeks Stormwater Restoration Project Input

July 27 Info Session Set & Project Naming Ideas Requested by September 1

DURHAM, N.C. – Residents who want to know more about the South Ellerbe stormwater restoration project should mark their calendars now for a July 27 public information session.

The session will be held on Thursday, July 27 from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Committee Room at City Hall at 101 City Hall Plaza. The purpose of the meeting is to present the project background and current status as well as to gather input on the project name and design.

The South Ellerbe stormwater restoration project will occupy the site of the former Duke Diet and Fitness Center at 808 West Trinity Avenue. The site is a natural low point that receives rain runoff from downtown and nearby neighborhoods. The runoff flows into a branch of South Ellerbe Creek before making its way downstream to Falls Lake, a major regional drinking water source. The stormwater restoration will slow down the runoff, allowing specialized plants and soil to filter out pollution and improve aquatic life. The entire community will also benefit from added green space that allows access to nature and sequesters carbon.

According to [Sandra Wilbur](#), project manager with the [Stormwater & GIS Services Division](#) of the City's Public Works Department, the City welcomes input on what people would like to see incorporated into the final design, such as site amenities. "We hope to include seating areas and a place to access nearby trails so that this project will benefit people and the environment," Wilbur said.

To provide input before the public information session, residents can submit their suggestions for a project name by going to NameOurStormwaterProject.com and filling out the form. The deadline to submit name ideas is September 1, 2017. The City will then develop a short list and announce the final choices for a public vote.

For more information about the project visit the South Ellerbe Stormwater Restoration [Web page](#) or contact Wilbur at (919) 560-4326, extension 30286 or by [email](#). Persons who require assistance to attend the session should call (919) 560-4197, TTY (919) 560-1200, or [email](#) no later than 48 hours before the event.

About the Public Works Department Stormwater and GIS Services Division

The [Stormwater and GIS Services Division](#) with the City of Durham Public Works Department is guided by the City's [Strategic Plan](#) goals of stewardship of the City's physical and environmental assets and innovative and high-performing organization. Activities include storm drainage design and plans review; inspecting and maintaining City-owned drainage systems; enforcing stormwater ordinances and regulations; education and outreach; stream monitoring, restoration, and watershed master planning; maintaining multiple layers of the City's geographic information; and stormwater billing. To learn more visit the division's [Web page](#), like on [Facebook](#), and follow on [Twitter](#).

###