



FACT SHEET:

THIRD FORK CREEK Stream Restoration Project

INTRODUCTION

The City is planning repairs to a portion of Third Fork Creek and the adjacent trail between Martin Luther King Jr. Parkway (north) and Spreading Oak Court (south). The Third Fork Creek Stream Restoration Project is part of the City's efforts to improve stream quality in Durham, preserve the trail system, and reduce maintenance and closures that have affected the trail in the past.

WHY IS THE CITY MAKING REPAIRS TO THE STREAM?

The Third Fork Creek Stream Restoration Project will help the City identify and select stream stabilization and trail modification strategies. Routine flooding and erosion in the stream have caused debris and sediment to deposit on the trail. Instability in the channel and increased erosion will continue to shift the stream closer to the trail and continue to cause trail closures and damage to the stream.

Goals of the project include reducing sediment buildup on the trail and protecting the trail and foot bridges from damaging storm events. The project area includes Third Fork Creek and the surrounding floodplain between Martin Luther King, Jr. Parkway and Cardinal Drive. Surrey Green, Hope Valley, and Hope Valley Farms are a few of the neighborhoods bordering the project area.

HOW DO WE SOLVE THE PROBLEM?

The City is working with its consultant (Wildlands Engineering) to restore and relocate portions of Third Fork Creek away from the trail to prevent further erosion and stabilize the stream. This will reduce the amount of sand and debris on the trail pavement and improve the quality of the stream for residents downstream. A portion of the trail may be replaced with boardwalk.

WHAT IS STREAM RESTORATION?

Stream restoration includes the repair of creeks damaged by erosion, urban development, or agricultural practices to ultimately provide cleaner water, stable stream banks, and improve habitat for fish and wildlife. Nearby stable streams are used as a blueprint for the restored stream.

HOW WILL THE REPAIRS AFFECT ME?

The repairs will require closing a portion of the Third Fork trail from Martin Luther King, Jr. Parkway to Cardinal Drive, including the access point at Courtland Drive. The closure is for safety purposes while the stream and trail are under active construction. The end result will be a safer and cleaner trail that will require less maintenance.



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For additional information and project updates, visit <http://bit.ly/thirdfork> or contact **Greg Sousa** at (919) 560-4326 ext.30271 or by email at Gregory.Sousa@DurhamNC.gov.