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News Release

For Immediate Release: June 1, 2018

Rock Quarry Park Wins \$20,000 'Meet Me at the Park' Grant

Grants awarded by the National Recreation and Park Association and The Walt Disney Company including Disney Citizenship, Disney|ABC Television Group, ABC 11 Eyewitness News and ESPN

DURHAM, NC - Durham residents selected Rock Quarry Park as the winner of the national [Meet Me at the Park](#) campaign. The park will receive a \$20,000 grant from the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) and The Walt Disney Company, including Disney Citizenship, Disney|ABC Television Group, ABC 11 Eyewitness News and ESPN.

Throughout Earth Month in April, residents voted for one of the three park projects in Durham that they wanted to receive upgrades. East Durham, Long Meadow, and Rock Quarry Parks were among the projects that they could choose from.

Rock Quarry Park will soon become a play space designed to encourage all members of the family to play and learn together. Adult fitness and climbing equipment (appropriate for all ages) will be installed. There will also be designated walking areas to connect different amenities within the park. In addition, DPR will use this initiative to re-introduce native plants to local parks and develop interpretive signage to create a unique environment.

"We were thrilled to be included in this campaign again for the fourth year in a row," said Rhonda B. Parker, director of Durham Parks and Recreation. "Rock Quarry Park is a highly used park and serves as a destination for physical fitness activities, recreation and home to many of the festivals that we sponsor."

Meet Me at the Park is a national campaign and a commitment of NRPA and Disney to provide 1 million kids and families greater access to play. This on-going initiative to bring the fun of parks and recreation to children and families across the United States has been in existence since 2014.

“NRPA is proud to collaborate with The Walt Disney Company and their ESPN and ABC Television media networks on these exciting programs,” said Rebecca Wickline, NRPA senior vice president of development. “ESPN and Disney ABC Television group have the power to help us reach hundreds of millions of people and their investment supports our vision that everyone deserves a great park and will bring children and families closer together through the power of parks and play. Congratulations to the grant recipients.”

Fifteen park projects nationwide were selected by popular vote and each received a \$20,000 grant to help make improvements or expand programs. Projects that will receive funding include a traveling learn-to-ride bike trailer, an adaptive hiking program, a trail expansion, sports field furnishings and equipment, and a study-the-stars program. The voting public also nominated a 16th city, Weslaco, Texas, to receive an additional grant.

For information about this campaign click [here](#).

About Durham Parks and Recreation

Durham Parks and Recreation provides opportunities for the Durham community to Play More by connecting our whole community to wellness, the outdoors, and lifelong learning. To learn more about Durham Parks and Recreation, visit us [online](#), follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#), or call 919-560-4355.

About the National Recreation and Park Association

The National Recreation and Park Association is a national not-for-profit organization dedicated to ensuring that all Americans have access to parks and recreation for health, conservation and social equity. Through its network of 60,000 recreation and park professionals and advocates, NRPA encourages the promotion of healthy and active lifestyles, conservation initiatives and equitable access to parks and public space. For more information, visit www.nrpa.org. For digital access to NRPA’s flagship publication, *Parks & Recreation*, visit www.parksandrecreation.org.

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