

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

June 10, 2013

MEMO TO: J. Russell Allen
City Manager

FROM: Vic Lebsock, Senior Greenway Planner

CC: Diane Sauer, Parks and Recreation Director
Dick Bailey, Design Development Administrator

SUBJECT: Budget Note 29 – Neuse Crossing Connection to Neuse River Trail Options

The City Council heard from a resident of Neuse Crossing communities on May 7, 2013 requesting consideration of a connection from these communities to the Neuse River Trail. The item was forwarded to the Public Works Committee and reported out on May 21. The Council approved the following:

“Staff to prepare a budget note to provide access to the Neuse River Pedestrian Bridge which would allow residents of the Neuse Crossing development access to the Neuse River Trail and to Horseshoe Farm Park without crossing Louisburg Road, with the understanding the funds would be capped at \$40,000.”

Staff prepared an estimate of \$38,000 to make this connection. This option would involve the construction of footbridge over a small channel. This bridge would require approval from several agencies and would require up to 6 months to receive approval.

The City Council asked the Parks and Recreation Department to evaluate a second option to connect the Neuse Crossing community to the Neuse River Trail on the west side of NC401. The second option is the development of a ramp that would transition from ground elevation to the boardwalk platform elevation, a difference of approximately 30 feet.

The ramp must meet ADA Outdoor Recreation Trail slope requirements, which allows a longitudinal grade of 8.33% for a maximum distance of 250 feet. To meet these standards, the minimum length of the ramp would be approximately 360 feet. Because of the limited space in this location, the ramp will likely have two ‘switchbacks’ with three separate landings.

The estimated cost to construct this ramp is:

| <u>Unit description</u> | <u>Quantity</u> | <u>Unit Cost</u> | <u>Total Cost</u> |
|-------------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Boardwalk Platforms | 3 | \$5,000 | \$15,000 |
| Boardwalk Deck | 360 | \$84 | \$30,240 |
| Boardwalk Handrail | 720 | \$40 | \$28,800 |
| Piles | 2,640 | \$7 | <u>\$18,480</u> |
| Total | | | <u>\$92,520</u> |

This estimate exceeds the maximum of \$40,000 established by City Council. Funding is currently not available for either option.