

# Charlotte Plan4Health: Park Access Audit

Park Name: \_\_\_\_\_

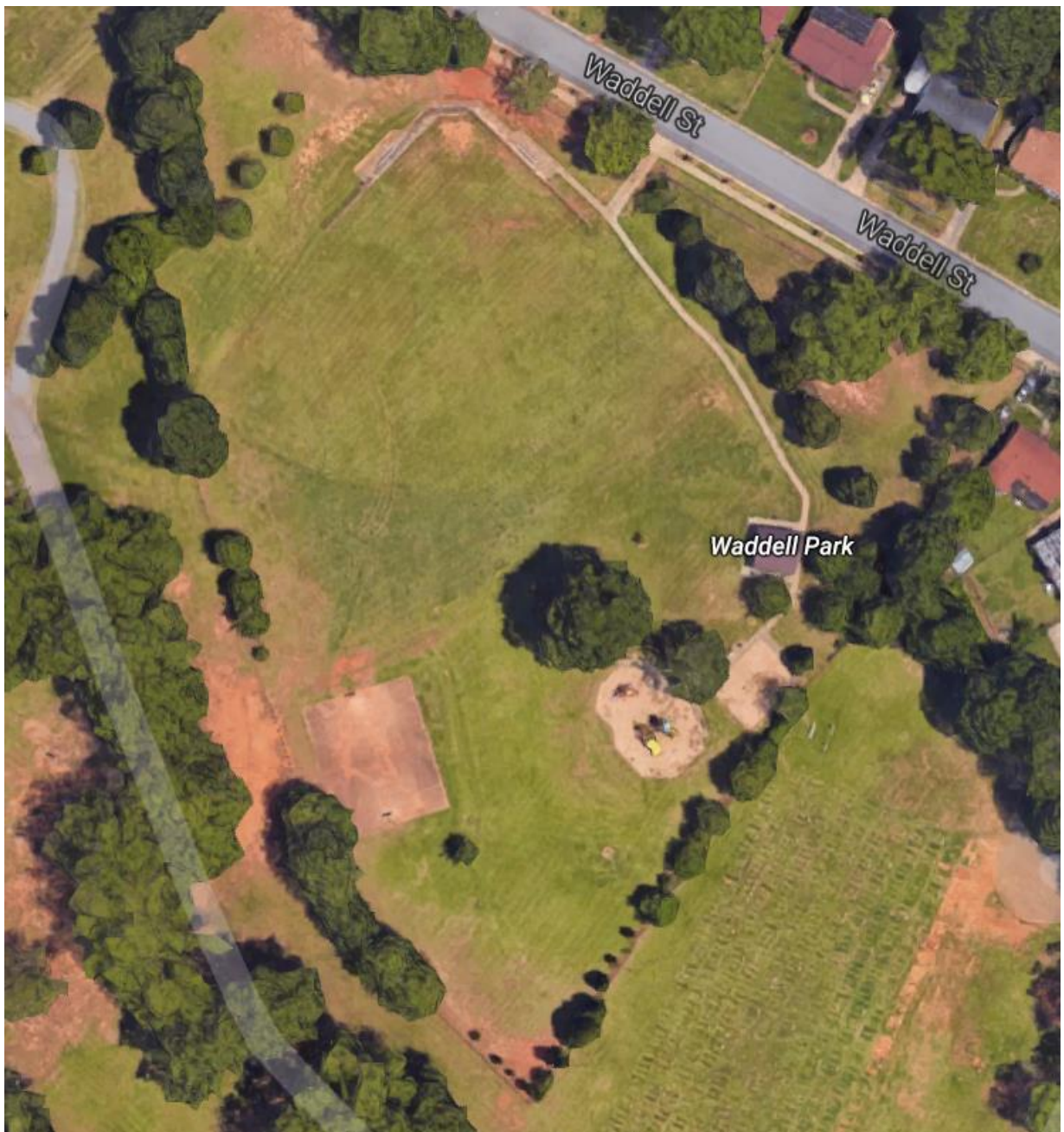
Service Area of Park: \_\_\_\_\_

Day of Week/ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time Started: \_\_\_\_\_ Time Finished \_\_\_\_\_

Participants: \_\_\_\_\_

Today's Weather Conditions (temperature, precipitation): \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Park Entrance(s): \_\_\_\_\_



## **Instructions**

- Record your observations about access to the park and features within the park on the sheets provided.
- Try to think about your experience from a variety of viewpoints - as a child, teenager, adult, parent, senior, individual with disabilities, park neighbor, law enforcement officer, etc.
- There is space for additional notes/observations at the end of the worksheet.
- Take lots of pictures to show the available facilities and their conditions.
- Be prepared to share your thoughts with the group along the way!
- Turn in your worksheet to the audit leader after the audit is finished.

## **Continue the Conversation**

- Lead your own park audit with friends and family! You can download and print the park access audit worksheet from <http://www.plan4health.us/plan4health-coalitions/>.
- Stay tuned for more updates on Mecklenburg County's Park and Recreation plans, programs, and facilities at <http://charmeck.org/mecklenburg/county/ParkandRec/Pages/Home.aspx> .
- Search the online walkshed map for a park or trail near you at <http://meckgov.maps.arcgis.com/apps/OnePane/basicviewer/index.html?appid=26410256cfa54c7ca488d3e708871899> .
- Learn more about local initiatives to promote physical activity at Charlotte Plan4Health: <http://www.plan4health.us/plan4health-coalitions/> .
- Please feel free to share your observations with the contacts below.

## **Contact Information**



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# **Information on Measuring ADA Accessibility**

Our goal is to have play spaces that are inclusive of all ages and abilities. At the minimum, parks and playgrounds should meet ADA standards and preferably they should be designed for universal use so that all users can enjoy all parts of the park.

## **Things to take into consideration include:**

### **The surface of routes within the park and play areas.**

- Are the routes relatively flat and surfaced with concrete, asphalt, or packed stone or dirt?
- Would it be easy to push a stroller or wheelchair up and down this path?
- Is it wide enough for 2 people in wheelchairs to pass by one another (60 inches wide)?

### **The play equipment and fields.**

- Is the play equipment suitable for people of varying heights, positions, and abilities?
- The height of the play equipment should be 24 inches high and at least 30 inches wide, with an overhead minimum of 80 inches tall.
- Someone in a seated position should be able to reach most play equipment and specifically designed equipment should be made available if needed.

### **Other amenities.**

- Flexible seating options around picnic tables and benches should accommodate someone in a wheelchair.
- Drinking fountains should also have an option for short people (such as children) and those in a seated position (maximum of 36 inches from the ground).

### **Informational Signage.**

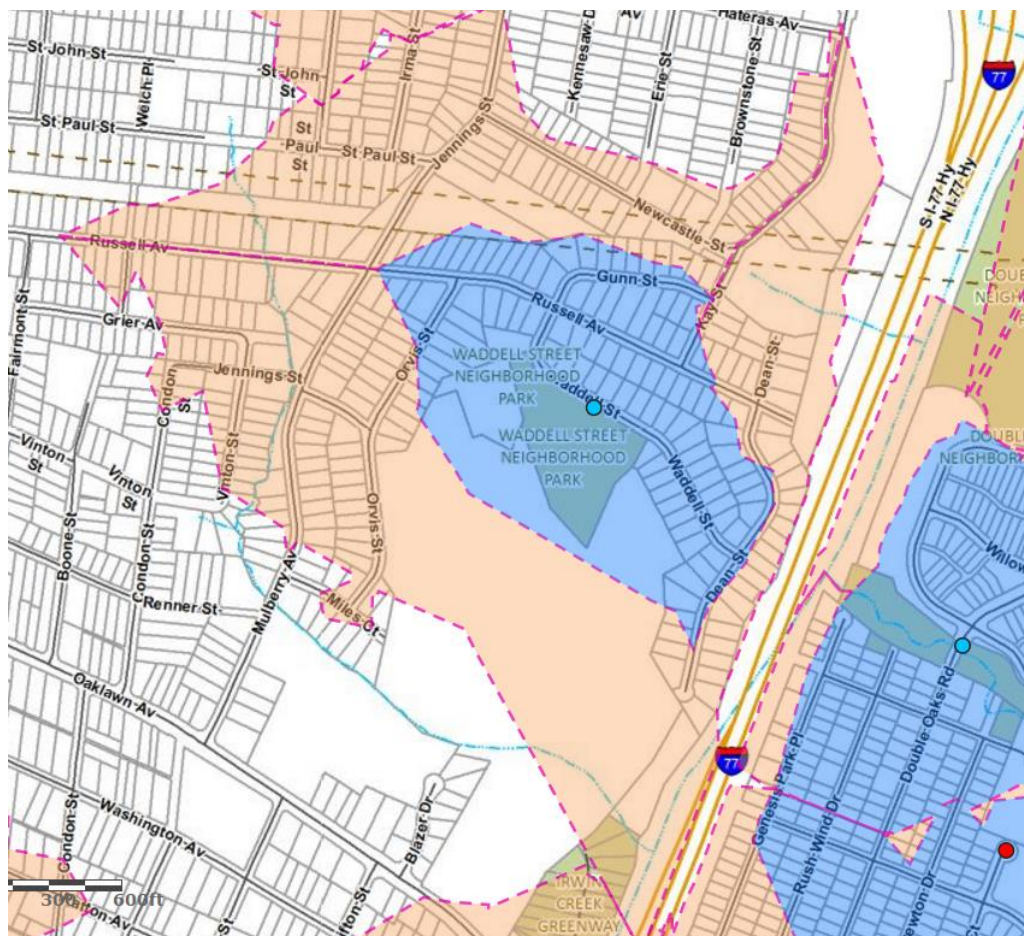
- Informational signs are a critical component of accessibility. Signs provide necessary information about where various areas and places of interest are located, as well as information about the conditions of paths between play areas.

## **Access to the Park**

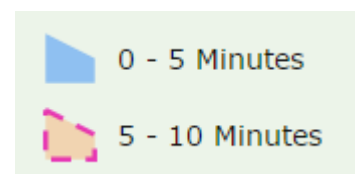
- How many entrances are there to the park?
- Are there signs leading you to the main entrance of the park through the neighborhood or off surrounding roads? **Y / N**
- Are there any sidewalks bordering the park and leading to entrances? **Y / N**
- What are the conditions of the entrances?
  - Poor (unkempt or no landscaping, no signage at the entrance, litter, graffiti, etc.)
  - Fair (marked entrance that could use some landscaping or freshening up, etc.)
  - Good (entrance is marked with signage, landscaping, easily accessible, etc.)
- Is there an hours of operation sign at the entrance? **Y / N**
- Is there tobacco free signage? **Y / N**
- Is there parking available for vehicles? **Y / N** For bicycles? **Y / N**
- Are there ADA accessible parking spot(s)? **Y / N** How many?
- Is the park gated/fenced? **Y / N**
- What condition is the gate/fence surrounding the park?
  - Poor (gate/fence is missing in sections, rusted/in need of paint, etc.)
  - Fair (gate/fence is complete but could use freshening up, etc.)
  - Good (gate/fence is complete and looks nice, etc.)
- Are there any public transit stops around the park (bus, light rail, streetcar)? **Y / N**



- What condition are the public transit stops in?
  - Poor (just a sign with nowhere to sit, safely stand, or shade)
  - Fair (a sign with a bench or paved standing area to wait)
  - Good (a shelter with places to sit and stand)
- How often does public transit pass the park? What route(s)? What days of the week?
- Is there a bike route bordering the park for bicyclist? **Y / N**
- Is there a greenway or trail within or connecting to the park? **Y / N**
- How far is the greenway/trail from the actual park (if it does not connect directly to the park now)?



**Walkshed Map**



## **Safety**

- What roads border the park?
- Are there any major intersections? **Y / N** If so, is there a cross-walk, stop light, pedestrian crossing signal, etc.?
- Are there any street lights at the entrance and within the park? **Y / N**
- If there is a parking lot, are there lights within the parking lot? **Y / N**
- Is the park monitored (cameras, paid staff, volunteer group, etc.)? **Y / N**
- Are there any emergency devices (phone, blue button, etc.)? **Y / N**
- Are there any dangerous animals (unleashed dogs, wildlife, insects)? **Y / N**
- Is there any illegal activity going on in the park (drug use, gangs, etc.)? **Y / N**
- Does the park appear clean (free of litter, graffiti, drug paraphernalia, etc.)? **Y / N**
- Are there any trash cans/recycling bins in the park? **Y / N**
- Are there any shaded areas (picnic shelter, canopies, trees, etc.)? **Y / N**
- Are there any disruptive noises in or surrounding the park (traffic, loud music, construction, etc.)? **Y / N** Please describe. Are there places for quiet play? **Y / N**
- Are there any parts of the park particularly designed or designated as being ADA accessible (signage for ADA, accessible from a seated position, special playground equipment, etc.)? Please describe. **Y / N**

## Facilities within the Park \*

Fields/courts	Conditions	ADA	Notes
<input type="checkbox"/> Baseball Field <input type="checkbox"/> Soccer Field <input type="checkbox"/> Football Field <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-purpose Field <input type="checkbox"/> Basketball Court <input type="checkbox"/> Volleyball Court <input type="checkbox"/> Tennis Court <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-purpose Court <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good	Y/N Y/N Y/N Y/N Y/N Y/N Y/N Y/N	
<b>Seating/Picnic Areas</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Benches <input type="checkbox"/> Tables <input type="checkbox"/> Shelter(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Grills <input type="checkbox"/> Vending Machines* <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good	Y/N Y/N Y/N Y/N Y/N Y/N	* Does the vending machine have healthy options (water, low calorie snacks, etc.)?
<b>Bathrooms &amp; Drinking Fountains</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Indoor Bathroom <input type="checkbox"/> Indoor Drinking Fountain <input type="checkbox"/> Portable Bathroom <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor Drinking Fountain <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good	Y/N Y/N Y/N Y/N Y/N	

<b>Playground</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Swing Set</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Slide</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Seesaw</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Merry Go Round</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Monkey Bars</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sandbox</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Climbing Apparatus</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Other</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Y/N</li> <li>Y/N</li> <li>Y/N</li> <li>Y/N</li> <li>Y/N</li> <li>Y/N</li> <li>Y/N</li> <li>Y/N</li> </ul>	
<b>Other Activity Areas</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Fitness Station</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Walking Trail/ Greenway</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Garden Plots</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Water Bodies (lakes, pond, etc.)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Murals/Public Art</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Learning Station</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Amphitheater</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Swimming Pool</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Other</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Y/N</li> <li>Y/N</li> <li>Y/N</li> <li>Y/N</li> <li>Y/N</li> <li>Y/N</li> <li>Y/N</li> <li>Y/N</li> <li>Y/N</li> </ul>	

\* Take lots of pictures to show the available facilities and their condition!



## **Use of Park**

- Is there anyone using the park? **Y / N**
- Is the person using the park a child, teenager, adult, senior, and/or an individual with a visible disability?
- How is the individual using the park?
- Are they using the playground equipment/park facilities correctly? **Y / N**

## **Other Notes**

### **OBSERVATIONS/ RECOMMENDATIONS**

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