



LIVE.LOVE.LOWELL

SPRING 2024 NEW/LETTER

YOUR CITY COUNCIL



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CITY OF LOWELL SECURES FIRST INDOOR RECREATION FACILITY WITH CIF AND ARPA FUNDS

In early December, the City of Lowell purchased the Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club as part of the city's ongoing efforts to enhance recreational opportunities for all ages and foster a healthier, more vibrant city. The Boys & Girls Club closed its doors at the end of Summer 2023 after moving its operations to their Union Road location. The purchase has secured the City's first indoor recreation facility through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds and the City's Community Investment Fund (CIF.)

The federal government has provided the ARPA funds to aid in the recovery and revitalization of local communities impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The City's CIF Fund was created last year to help reach the goals of the Lowell City Council's Strategic Vision. With the purchase of this facility, these two funds will be instrumental in advancing the Lowell City Council's Strategic Vision to develop and update public facilities and enhance multi-generational Parks and Recreation activities.

The City worked diligently to ensure that the allocation of the CIF and the ARPA funds aligned with the community's needs. The acquisition of this recreation facility ties back to the 2021-2022 Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Master Plan and Needs Assessment Study, where the community determined an indoor recreation facility to be a priority need.

The City purchased the facility for \$500,000; 99% of the purchase was paid with ARPA funds, with the remaining 1% paid from the CIF.

The 10,664-square-foot building was built in 1973. The building has an indoor basketball gym, restrooms, and multiple rooms that could be used for a combination of staff offices and facility programming space. The new facility will house the City's Parks and Recreation Department, which consists of one full-time Director, one part-time Athletics Supervisor, and one part-time Maintenance Technician.

The City is currently conversing with the Gaston County YMCA about a potential partnership to help the City expand program offerings to the community.

The facility is located at 715 N. Main Street in Lowell, NC, within the same block as the city-owned Harold Rankin Park. Harold Rankin Park will soon be going through a revitalization project as the City was awarded a combined \$1,000,000 from the North Carolina Parks and Recreation Trust Fund and the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

The City will be working with an architectural firm on a facility needs study and the facility will be renovated before it opens to the public. The City will then host an open house once the new recreation facility is open, providing an opportunity for residents to explore the amenities and learn more about the programs and services that will be offered.

City of Lowell

**WE ARE NOW ACCEPTING
FAÇADE GRANT
APPLICATIONS**



NOW THRU FEBRUARY 28, 2024
LOWELLCOM.COM/FACADE-GRANT






CodeRed is our City-to-Resident notification system. It's free to enroll, and we encourage all Lowell residents and businesses to register.
 Stay informed regarding utility outages, events, office closings, and emergency situations.
 You can choose your notification preference(s): phone calls, texts, and/or emails.

Three ways you can sign up:

- Register on your smartphone: Text LowellNC to 24639
- Register online: www.lowellnc.com/codered
- Call City Hall at 704-824-3518, option 1 & let us know you'd like to sign up for Code Red alerts

CITY OF LOWELL PD
COMMUNITY WATCH PROGRAM
 POLICE AND CITIZENS COMING TOGETHER TO INCREASE THE SAFETY OF OUR COMMUNITY



UPCOMING COMMUNITY WATCH MEETINGS
Tuesday, February 27
 6pm at First Baptist Church of Lowell Zones 2 & 3

Tuesday, March 26
 6pm at First Baptist Church of Lowell Zone 4 & 5

Tuesday, April 23
 6pm at First Baptist Church of Lowell Zone 6 and anyone who was not able to attend the other meetings.


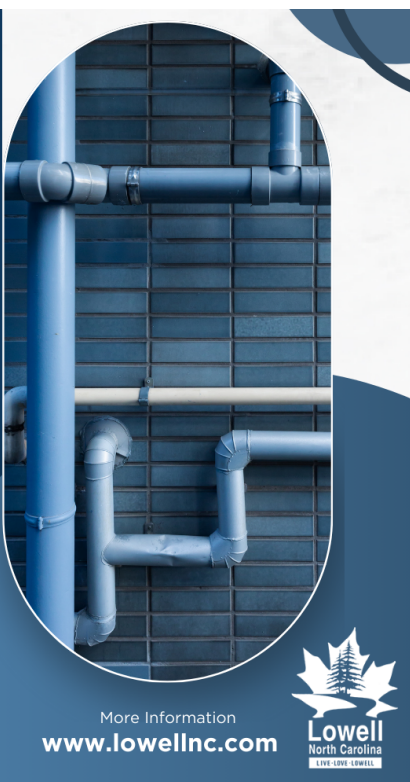
Residents, homeowners, and business owners/employees that operate in Lowell are encouraged to attend.

Zone Map: www.lowellnc.com/community-watch-program
 For questions about the Zone locations or questions/concerns to be addressed before the meeting, please contact Sgt Bowen at bowen@lowellpd.org

Was your house built before 1987?
 If so, the City of Lowell needs your help.

To comply with the EPA's Lead and Copper Rule, Lowell must gather information about the plumbing in our customers' homes.

Please take a look at the water supply pipes in your home and take our short survey.

STORMWATER SPOTLIGHT

Illicit Discharge: what is it & why do we care?

- An illicit discharge is anything that enters a municipal storm sewer system – storm drains, pipes, and ditches – not composed entirely of rainwater.
- Unlike wastewater from homes and businesses, stormwater goes directly into the South Fork River without being treated first.
- Illicit discharge is a significant source of pollution in the South Fork River, which provides over 3 million people with drinking water.

The quality of our waters depends on your actions. We can work together to protect our local waterways & keep stormwater clean by...

- Disposing of paint, motor oil, & chemicals properly. Follow Gaston County Household Hazardous Waste disposal guidelines: www.gastongov.com/567/Household-Hazardous-Waste
- Wash your car at a commercial carwash where wastewater is treated.



- Carefully store chemicals in safe locations where they cannot spill into the storm drain.
- Maintain your car or truck. A dripping oil pan is bad for your vehicle & bad for water quality!
- Ensure your garbage bins are solid & leak-free.

Pay As You Throw Bulk Program

Sanitation crews will pick up items on regular pickup days and bill the customer for the removal of those items per the fee schedule. Crews will pick up white goods, appliances, tires, and rims that do not qualify for free quarterly bulk pick-up.

These charges are for items that do not qualify for free collection or if items have been placed outside of the free collection weeks. Sanitation crews will not collect these items during free collection weeks.

Electronics Curbside Collection	\$25 per item
White Goods/Appliances Collection	\$25 per item
Tires on Rim	\$8 per tire
Tires off Rim	\$5 per tire
Excess Household Trash ≤100 lbs	\$15
Excess Household Trash >100 lbs*	\$25*

*Excess Household Trash above 300lbs will require heavy equipment removal and will be billed based off equipment costs.



The Golden Egg Contest
 Each day, March 25-28, we will hide a Golden Egg somewhere around Lowell and post a riddle on the City's Facebook and Instagram pages to reveal where that egg is hidden. If you find the Golden Egg, you'll win a prize from a sponsoring business! The contest is open to teens and adults.

CITY CALENDAR

February 2024

- 6 Planning Board & Stormwater Commission, 6pm, City Hall
- 8 Valentines Senior Lunch, 12pm, Presbyterian Church of Lowell
- 13 Council Meeting, 6pm, City Hall
- 15 Last day of leaf vacuuming for the '23-'24 season
- 19 Community Committee, 6pm, City Hall
- 27 Lowell Police Community Watch Meeting for Zones 2 & 3, 6pm
First Baptist Church of Lowell

March 2024

- 1 Council Budget Planning, 8:30am-3:30pm, City Hall
- 5 Planning Board & Stormwater Commission, 6pm, City Hall
- 12 Council Meeting, 6pm, City Hall
- 19 Council Work Session, Time TBD, City Hall
- 22 Eggs in the Park, 6pm, Harold Rankin Park
- 25 Community Committee, 6pm, City Hall
- 25-28 The Golden Egg Contest, various locations, daily clues on the City of Lowell Facebook and Instagram pages
- 26 Lowell Police Community Watch Meeting for Zones 4 & 5, 6pm
First Baptist Church of Lowell
- 28 Senior Easter Lunch, 12pm, Woodlawn Baptist Church
- 29 City offices closed for Good Friday

April 2024

- 1 Free quarterly bulk item pickup for households that have a Monday trash pickup
- 2 Planning Board & Stormwater Commission, 6pm, City Hall
- 2 Free quarterly bulk item pickup for households that have a Tuesday trash pickup
- 3 Free quarterly bulk item pickup for households that have a Wednesday trash pickup
- 9 Council Meeting, 6pm, City Hall
- 16 Optional Council Work Session, if needed, Time TBD, City Hall
- 20 Litter Sweep, 9am-12pm, register at www.lowellnc.com
- 23 Lowell Police Community Watch Meeting for Zone 6, 6pm,
First Baptist Church of Lowell
- 22 Community Committee, 6pm, City Hall
- 27 Kid's Bike Rodeo, 11am, Harold Rankin Park

CITY OF LOWELL RECYCLING CENTER



HAROLD RANKIN PARK
715 N. MAIN STREET



TUESDAY & THURSDAY 12PM - 6PM
SATURDAY 10AM - 6PM

CITY CONTACT INFORMATION

City Manager	Scott Attaway	704.824.3518	sattaway@lowellnc.com
City Clerk	Cheryl Ramsey	704.824.3518	cramsey@lowellnc.com
Planning & Zoning	Joe Gates	704.617.0141	jgates@lowellnc.com
Police Chief	Carl Moore	704.824.8540	moore@lowellpd.org
Fire Chief	Robbie Cunningham	704.824.3357	rcunningham@lowellfd.com
Parks & Recreation	Tori Dellinger	704.315.8165	tdellinger@lowellnc.com
Stormwater	Jamie Watkins	704.740.8510	jwatkins@lowellnc.com
Public Works	Thomas Shrewsbury	704.824.1072	tshrewsbury@lowellnc.com

OTHER NUMBERS

Fire Department	704.824.3357
Police Non-Emergency Dispatch	704.866-3300
Public Works After Hours	704.506.3146
Water Bill 24/7 Pay By Phone	704.879.3635

