

Frequently Asked Questions

- **Why are we doing this?** In August 2013, Past President Chris White appointed a committee of the Club's past Presidents and charged them with, among other things, investigating, identifying and recommending how the Club might most appropriately commemorate and celebrate its centennial. The committee felt the commemoration should be centered on a contribution to the City of Raleigh that would be substantial, long-lasting and focused on children, consistent with our mission to improve the world one child and one community at a time.
- **Why did we pick these projects?** Both projects were chosen because of their direct connection to children – the focus of Kiwanis – and the Kiwanis Club of Raleigh. Our club entered into an agreement with the City in October 1955 to assist in development of Kiwanis Park, but it has been at least 30 years since we have been involved in anything there. Our club provided workers to assemble and install equipment for the existing All-Children's Playground at Laurel Hills Park when it was developed in 1990.
- **What other projects were considered?** Consideration was given to the club participating in the initial development of Dix Park, sponsoring and hosting an annual youth sports event (e.g., lacrosse tournament), constructing another Habitat for Humanity house, and several other possibilities. The Centennial Committee believes the projects selected are reasonably assured of completion following passage of the \$90+ million Raleigh Parks bond referendum last November, offer the opportunity for both financial and physical participation by club members, will greatly benefit the children of our city, and closely fit the objectives of both Kiwanis International and our club.
- **What level of participation is expected? Is there a minimum gift?** Our goal is 100% participation by current members of the Kiwanis Club of Raleigh and those who join us through the end of the campaign in December of 2019. A gift of any amount is welcomed and appreciated. Major individual gifts will be acknowledged at each park with appropriate, permanent signage. The details of this are currently being worked through with the City.
- **Will we be able to provide hands-on assistance?** The City enthusiastically supports our goal to provide opportunities for "sweat equity" as well as financial support. A variety of construction and assembly tasks will be set aside for club members, our friends and families under the supervision of the City.
- **Why is the goal \$250,000?** The Centennial Committee believes our goal should be one that will make a significant difference in the projects in which we participate. We considered participation in other campaigns like IDD, Victory Junction and Dillon, and factored in the participation of the Foundation. To commemorate its centennial anniversary last year, the Rotary Club of Raleigh raised that amount to develop a dental clinic at the Salvation Army center, create exhibits honoring its heritage for display in the Raleigh City Museum, and a celebratory banquet. We can do more.

- **How long will I have to pay my pledge?** Donors will have a maximum of five calendar years to fulfill their pledges by December 31, 2019 with checks payable to the Raleigh Kiwanis Foundation. Donations will be deductible for tax purposes. Pledges can be fully paid at any time prior to that date. The campaign will wrap up by our club's centennial anniversary in early 2020.
- **Is the campaign limited members of our club?** We expect that our members will come together to raise the target amount. Participation from other individuals and organizations is welcome, and will help us exceed our goal.
- **What commitments have we made to the city?** A Memorandum of Agreement specifying the terms of our club's participation in these projects is being negotiated with the Raleigh Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources Department. It will reflect an allocation of two-thirds to the new All-Children's Playground and one-third to Kiwanis Park. Presuming fund-raising surpasses our goal, our financial participation will increase in parallel.
- **What happens if we don't raise the money?** The Board of the Raleigh Kiwanis Foundation has agreed to provide \$25,000 per year for each of the years 2015-2019 based on the club's fund-raising efforts. If the club's fund-raising doesn't reach its goal, the Foundation may be expected to reduce its contribution accordingly. The City of Raleigh will proceed with both projects irrespective of our club's participation, but the projects will greatly benefit from the club's participation in the scope and quality of what is accomplished, especially at Kiwanis Park.
- **Why are we using money from the Foundation?** All of the proceeds from the club's annual Pancake Breakfast and Golf Tournament flow through to and are annually distributed by the Foundation. Thus, the centennial projects will be another beneficiary of those distributions for the years 2015-2019. By following that path, all of the club's fund-raising during those years will help support the centennial projects and individual donations will be leveraged to double the amount donated.
- **What is the schedule?** Design of the new All-Children's Playground is underway now with construction scheduled to commence in the late fall of 2015 and be completed in the late summer of 2016. Design of the Kiwanis Park improvements will begin in early 2018 with construction scheduled to commence in the fall of that year and be completed in the summer of 2019. Thus, the first project will be finished early and the second late in the five-year fund-raising period.
- **What recognition will the club and donors receive?** The Kiwanis Club of Raleigh will be recognized as a major sponsor of the new "Sassafras All-Children's Playground" with the club name prominently displayed at its entrance. In addition, names of major individual donors will be displayed in an appropriate manner near the playground's entrance. Our club's name has been associated with Kiwanis Park for nearly 60 years. The City will recognize the contributions of our club in media publicizing and informing the existence, facilities and services of the two parks and the all-children's playground.
- **What other Kiwanis initiatives will we be expected to support between now and 2020?** None. Kiwanis International and the Carolinas District have confirmed that neither plans to initiate a major fund-raising campaign (e.g., IDD, Eliminate, and Victory Junction) during the remainder of this decade. Thus, they will not be seeking funds while the club's fund-raising campaign is underway.