

## For Immediate Release - April 1, 2024

## City of Florence Receives Notice of Intent to be Awarded Full Funding for Levy Park Reimagination Project with the National Park Service's Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership (ORLP) Grant.

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**FLORENCE, SC** – The City of Florence is thrilled to announce that we have received notice of the intent to be awarded a grant that will bring the Levy Park Reimagination Project to full funding. This exciting development comes as a result of the Department of the Interior's announcement on March 27, 2024, designating the Levy Park Reimagination Project in Florence, SC, as one of 14 projects selected to receive grant funding through the National Park Service's Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership (ORLP). The project has been chosen to receive a total of \$8,927,097 in grant funding, bringing the project's total funding to the full estimated cost of \$17,854,195.31

The Levy Park Reimagination Project entails a comprehensive renovation and expansion, encompassing the reconfiguration of sports fields and courts, the development of multi-use walkways, ballfields, all-inclusive playgrounds, a splash pad, fitness equipment, landscaping, and parking facilities.

Due to the nature of the grant being a 1:1 matching grant, a crucial component in the project being selected as a recipient was the successful acquisition of matching funds, totaling \$8,927,097.66. This impressive achievement would not have been possible without the generous contributions and steadfast support of our valued partners.

We extend our sincere gratitude to each of these entities for their unwavering commitment to the Levy Park Reimagination Project with a special acknowledgment to Holly Beaumier from the Florence Convention and Visitor's Bureau, who discovered the grant for which the city hadn't previously qualified. Their contributions reflect a shared vision for community improvement and will have a lasting impact on the neighborhoods of East Florence and the Florence Community as a whole.

Furthermore, we extend our heartfelt appreciation to the Drs. Bruce and Lee Foundation, McLeod Health, and Florence County for their collaborative efforts and generous donation of land, which facilitated the expansion of Levy Park and laid the groundwork for its revitalization.

City Manager Scotty Davis remarked, "The Levy Park Reimagination Project represents a significant investment in the future of our city, ensuring that residents of all ages and backgrounds have access to safe, engaging recreational facilities. We eagerly anticipate the positive transformation this project will bring to our community as we remain steadfast in our commitment to creating a vibrant and inclusive environment for all."

For more information and continued updates on Levy Park, visit: www.cityofflorence.com



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