



Handy Park/Flying Frog Demolition and Retaining Wall Project:



Posted

Last Revised 02/25/14

What's happening now?

Demolition is in progress

The Handy Park/Flying Frog Property consists of approximately 3/4 of an acre located on the southern side of the intersection of Page Avenue and Haywood Street in downtown Asheville. Demolition of structures on this site, which have been vacant since 2010, is slated to begin the second week of March and be completed by the end of the month.

No blasting will take place during the demolition, and seismic sensors were installed in mid-February to gather data on ground disturbance. Work will take place between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m., Monday through Saturday. During demolition, the contractor is responsible for security at the site.

Upon completion, the open area at that location will be stabilized with retaining walls and surrounded by a safety railing.

Questions or concerns from the community can be directed to John Gavin at 259-4580 or jgavin@ashevillenc.gov.

A more detailed outline of the history of this property can be reviewed in a [report](#) provided to City Council on August 14, 2012.

Project Timeline

Date	Task	Status
2014		
March 24	Construct Retaining Wall, set permanent barriers, install safety railing, completion. (2-3 weeks)	

March 11	Begin building demolition. (2 Weeks)	
March 6-11	Work will stop and the site will be stabilized and made safe during the SOCON Basketball Tournament. The asphalt parking lot adjacent to the Flying Frog building will be cleaned and vacated during the tournament.	
Feb 24	Begin installation of project safety fence and barricades. (2-3 days)	Completed
Feb 20	Surrounding business and property owners were notified of the scope and timeline of the project	Completed
February 11	Council authorized the contract for the Handy Park Building Demolition and Retaining Wall Construction Project	Completed
2013		
December 2013	Buildings were slated for demolition	Completed
November 22, 2013 to present	City staff begin reassessing opportunities for this valuable public asset. This is a keystone property that is well positioned to create new opportunities and grow the city's tax base.	Ongoing
November 22, 2013	McKibbon Hotel Group terminated the agreement	Completed
January 22, 2013	The City entered into a Contract for Purchase and Sale of Real Property with McKibbon Hotel Group for purchase of Flying Frog/Handy Park property	Completed
2005-2012		

Spring 2010	Structure was vacated due to safety concerns	Completed
February 2008	The proposal submitted by McKibbon Hotel Group was selected for the site. The proposal was revised at the request of the City and resubmitted in September of 2008.	Completed
2007 – 2008	The City solicited proposals from developers for the development of the Flying Frog/Handy Park property.	Completed
2006/2007	City of Asheville study of property holdings completed in an effort to best manage the long-term use of city facilities and property. Council supports the sale of identified properties through a transparent, methodical process. The Flying Frog/Handy Park property was one of those identified during the study.	Completed
September 20, 2005	City Council discussed the scarcity of affordable housing for people in the service sector and asked staff to conduct a review of City-owned properties to determine if any city-owned property had potential for redevelopment that significantly adds to our base of workforce housing.	Completed