

From: 'JULIE SCHNEYER' via councilgroup <AshevilleNCCouncil@ashevillenc.gov>
Sent: 2/10/2022 3:44:22 PM
To: AshevilleNCCouncil@ashevillenc.gov
Cc:
Subject: Do Racial Equity! Support a Track at Memorial Stadium!

: Asheville City Council,

Dear Elected Officials,

It's long past time to make good on promises to our East End/Valley Street neighbors and racial equity more broadly, by setting aside American Rescue Plan funds to build a track at Memorial Stadium.

This is a no-brainer, feel-good, everyone-can-get-behind-it kind of project. This city is awash in capital from business and tourism -- is it possible that the same Asheville making resolutions around reparations can't get it's act together to fund a non-controversial project like a track and recreation area for longtime residents?

This neighborhood has been organizing for more than 10 years around this project, which is just the most reasonable and modest of asks, for an unassailably positive purpose. Want to score easy points with constituents? Build the track!

I join my voice with the chorus of East End/Valley Street neighbors and call for the City to improve Memorial Stadium in ways that support neighborhood use and to set aside ARPA funds for the following purpose:

- *Build a 6 lane track around the entire field for neighbors to use for regular exercise
- *Reduce the field by 6 yards (this still being FIFA compliant)
- *Remove bleachers from the far side and only have bleachers on the side closest to McCormick Field
- *Create a parking plan for Memorial Stadium

I anticipate that your expressed commitment to racial equity will be reflected in all of your decisions and actions.

With sincerity,
Julie

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