

From: 'Deborah Scott' via councilgroup <AshevilleNCCouncil@ashevillenc.gov>
Sent: 2/10/2022 2:00:22 PM
To: AshevilleNCCouncil@ashevillenc.gov
Cc:
Subject: Do Racial Equity! Support a Track at Memorial Stadium!

: Asheville City Council,

Dear City Council and City Manager Campbell,

How great that at this time you have before you the chance to actually take a tangible and welcomed action to help with the racial disparities in Asheville!! I'm referring to committing funds from the American Rescue Plan to build a track at Memorial Stadium.

This track will make it easier for neighbors nearby to get out and safely walk, jog, run and de-stress. Health disparities in our community, in part due to systemic racism, are significant and negatively impact so many.

As we talk of reparations and racial equity, one thing the City could do to build trust and do racial equity is to keep its promises to the Black community regarding the track at Memorial Stadium. 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.

We urge you 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

Thank you for following through on your promises to our African American community. I ask that you commit to racial equity in all of your decisions.

And thank you all for your service to our community.

Deborah Scott

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