



Community Meeting to Discuss Site Selection for New Oak Ridge Preschool

OAK RIDGE, Tenn. (March 15, 2017) – Oak Ridge City Council chose to delay the vote on a new preschool location at their regular meeting on Monday, March 13, in order to allow time for more community discussion and input. **A public meeting at the Scarboro Community Center has been set for 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 23, 2017.**

The City of Oak Ridge and Oak Ridge Schools have been working to choose a site for the new preschool for approximately two years. The preschool would relocate from the school administration building on New York Avenue. Members of a committee formed to recommend possible sites looked at city-owned properties and a multitude of factors that would impact future students, their families and the community as a whole. **Two locations were ultimately identified as possibilities: Scarboro Park and Elm Grove Park.**

Scarboro Park is across the street from the Scarboro Community Center on Carver Avenue, which was also considered as an option at one time. The Scarboro Community Center was removed from further consideration due to challenges of converting the center for active school uses. Residents living near Elm Grove Park, a site on E. Tennessee Avenue that once housed a school, came out in support of preserving the park. Much of the feedback received about the Scarboro Park site has been very positive and welcoming of the new preschool.

Members of City Council and the Oak Ridge Board of Education will be present at the meeting, along with City staff members and the Senior Project Manager at Studio Four Design, the architectural firm selected for the project. Citizens will be able to voice concerns and ask questions. City Council expects to take action during a special-called meeting at 7:00 p.m. on March 27 in the Municipal Building Courtroom. The Board of Education voted to approve the Scarboro Park site for the new preschool at a meeting on February 27.

What: Community Meeting on the Site Selection for a New Oak Ridge Preschool

When: Thursday, March 23, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

**Where: Scarboro Community Center
148 Carver Avenue, Oak Ridge, TN 37830**

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