

# DOWNTOWN BASEBALL STADIUM PROPOSAL

## THE FACTS OF THE CURRENT PROPOSAL:

- ◆ The proposed baseball stadium would be built with private funding, not taxpayer dollars. This private financing is currently available.
- ◆ There is NO private financing currently identified to renovate War Memorial Stadium as the Aycock Neighborhood has proposed. As War Memorial is owned by the City of Greensboro, it is likely that the neighborhood's \$16 million renovation plan would require taxpayer funding.
- ◆ The county has studied the replacement of the County Social Services building for over 15 years. This building is in such poor condition that a number of the offices are unusable. The county is spending over \$100,000 per year just trying to keep the building operable.
- ◆ In exchange for the land currently occupied by Social Services and several parking lots, Action Greensboro would build the county a new office building and pay \$4.5 million of the \$9 million cost.
- ◆ The proposed baseball stadium would be located in the Central Business District, not in Fisher Park. All the adjacent properties to the proposed location are currently commercial, including North State Chevrolet dealership. Fisher Park is over ¼ mile from the proposed site.
- ◆ There are no plans to demolish War Memorial Stadium. The stadium is owned by the City of Greensboro and would be operated by the Department of Parks & Recreation. The city has stated that they have demand for the use of the field, which will also be used as the home field for both North Carolina A&T and Greensboro College.
- ◆ Parking for the proposed stadium will be very convenient with 2,800 existing public parking spaces within a 5-minute walk of the gates. All of which are located in the commercial district, so as not to be disruptive to residential neighborhoods.
- ◆ The most traffic ever generated by the stadium would be less than half of the traffic that occurs every workday at 5 PM (There are 14,700 downtown workers – the stadium will only seat 6,000).
- ◆ Only one block of Lindsay Street would be closed to accommodate the baseball stadium. This 560 feet of roadway is a lightly travel section, accounting for only 1/3 of 1% of the total downtown traffic.
- ◆ It is highly likely if this private proposal is unsuccessful, that the current owners of the Greensboro Bats will sell the team. A new owner could very likely move the team to another city that would provide new facilities. In such a case, we might not be able to bring professional baseball back to Greensboro anytime in the future.
- ◆ The proposed stadium location is one of three that were identified and studied as part of the Center City Master Plan. The proposals came out of public workshops that involved over 100 people. These proposals were presented in open public meetings over 1-year ago.

**If the Action Greensboro Stadium Proposal Succeeds:** Greensboro gets a new privately funded baseball stadium. Guilford County gets a much needed, new Social Services facility at ½ price. Greensboro residents get affordable family entertainment in its Center City.

**If the Action Greensboro Stadium Proposal Fails:** Owners of the Bats will likely sell the team. No new stadium is built. No renovation occurs at War Memorial due to lack of funding. County staff continues to try to provide services in a deteriorating building, until such time as the county does finally build a new facility that will cost the taxpayers more than twice the current proposal. Greensboro likely loses minor league baseball.