



City of High Point

Meeting Agenda

Prosperity, Livability, & Safety Committee

Municipal Office Building
211 S. Hamilton Street
High Point, NC 27260

Monica Peters, Chair
Dr. Patrick Harman
Tyrone Johnson
Vickie M. McKiver
Cyril Jefferson, Mayor (Alternate)
Britt Moore, Mayor Pro Tem (Alternate)

Thursday, September 11, 2025

9:00 AM

Council Chambers

Prosperity and Livability Committee - Council Member Monica Peters, Chair

CALL TO ORDER

PRESENTATION OF ITEMS

2025-369

High Point University Rowing Operations and Boathouse Update

Staff will provide an update on the High Point University Rowing Operations and Boathouse at Oak Hollow Lake.

ADJOURNMENT

CITY OF HIGH POINT

AGENDA ITEM



TITLE: High Point University Rowing Operations and Boathouse Update

FROM:
Lee Tillery
Parks and Recreation Director

MEETING DATE:
September 11, 2025

PUBLIC HEARING:
No

ADVERTISED DATE/BY:
N/A

ATTACHMENTS:
1. Presentation

PURPOSE: To provide an update to the Prosperity, Livability and Safety Committee on the High Point University Rowing operations and Boathouse at Oak Hollow Lake.

BACKGROUND: The City of High Point has been in discussions with High Point University since 2023 concerning the newly established women's rowing program and operations at Oak Hollow Lake. This includes rowing practices on the lake, future regattas, infrastructure improvements and the location of a boathouse at Sailboat Point Park to support their program.

BUDGET IMPACT: N/A

RECOMMENDED ACTION REQUESTED: For Information Only.

HIGH POINT UNIVERSITY ROWING

High Point Parks & Recreation

Sailboat Point Park, 3701 Waterview Road



TIMELINE OF DISCUSSIONS

- **Lease for Approx 26,000 Square Feet of City property scheduled for September 22nd City Council Meeting**
 - Lease publicly noticed prompting some questions from residents
- **HPU Club Rowing operates out of Festival Park**
 - Moved to Festival Park in Spring 2020
 - Visit High Point and CoHP partnered to install new launch dock (\$63k)
 - Equipment stored outside year-round at the launch area
 - Experienced \$60k+ in damages to equipment during storms in October 2020
- **Fall 2021**
 - HPU announced new NCAA D1 Women's Rowing program, launching in June 2023
 - HPU approached the Parks & Recreation Department about the possibility of adding a boathouse at Oak Hollow Lake
 - "Oak Hollow Lake is a perfect facility for competitive rowing. The lake conditions, course set-up and spectator views are ideal for rowing events."





TIMELINE OF DISCUSSIONS

- **Spring 2024**

- Visit High Point and CoHP partner to purchase materials for a buoyed race course to support economic impact from rowing events in High Point
- Initial benefit is primarily Triad United Rowing annual regattas
- Future benefits for HPU Rowing program if they host events, scrimmages, etc

- **Fall 2024**

- Inaugural season for NCAA D1 Women's Rowing
- Oak Hollow Lake serves as home base, with Sailboat Point as primary practice location
- CoHP staff continue discussions with HPU on potential boathouse scenarios/options

- **Current**

- Fall Season: late-August to early-November
- Spring Season: mid-February to mid-May
- HPU pays for a temporary tent at Sailboat Point for storage of equipment and operations hub during rowing season; Tent is removed between seasons
- Will likely host rowing events in the future, but not currently



SIMILAR AGREEMENTS IN THE STATE

University of North Carolina

Boat house on University Lake (OWASA)
Orange Water And Sewer Authority



Duke University

Boat house on Lake Michie (Durham County)



Wake Forest University

Boat house on Salem Lake (City of Winston-Salem)



POTENTIAL SITES FOR BOATHOUSE

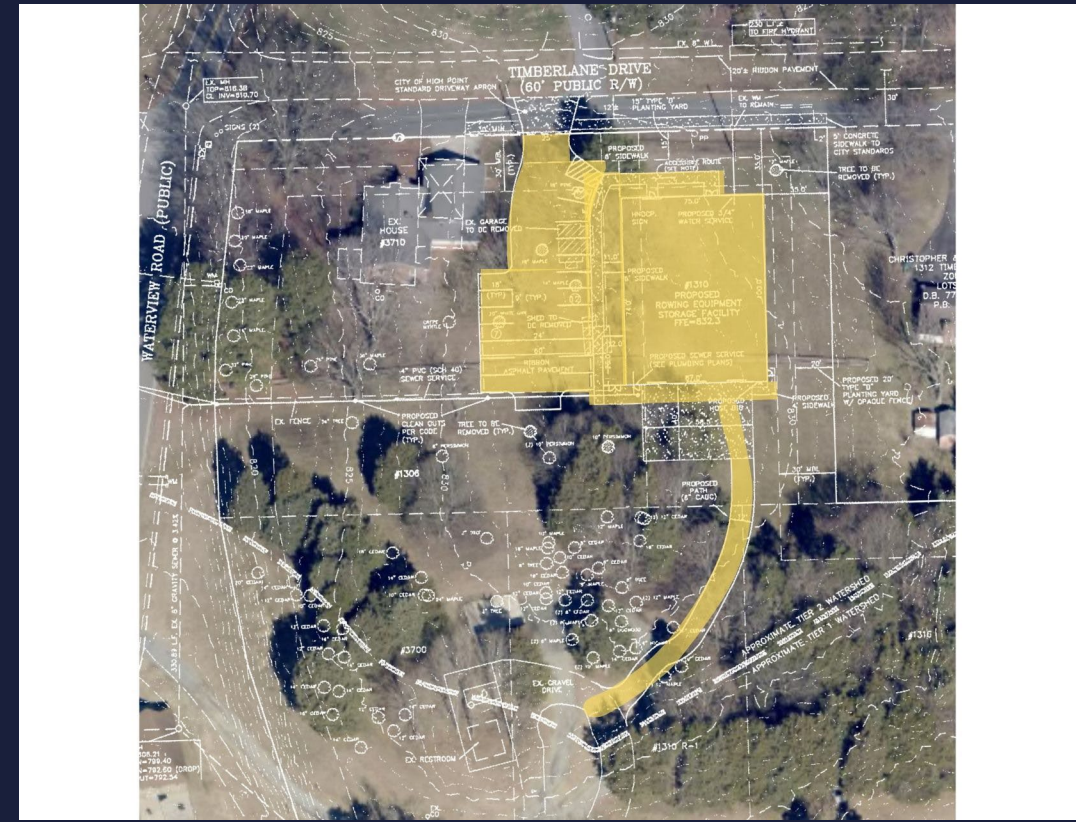
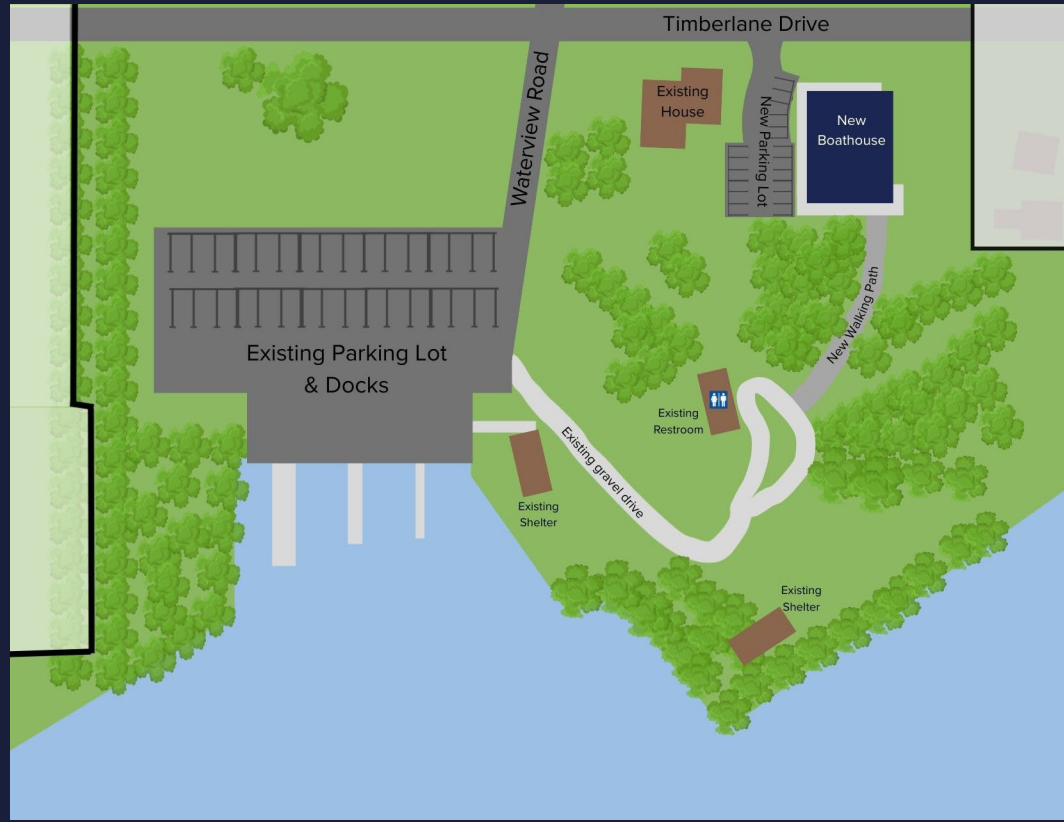
- **Initially targeted Oak Hollow Festival Park**

- Concerns: Proximity to dam and Public Services operations onsite, impact on footprint to existing large scale special events (Uncle Sam Jam, Coltrane Jazz Festival, etc)





SAILBOAT POINT





SAILBOAT POINT USER GROUPS

• **Triad United Rowing**

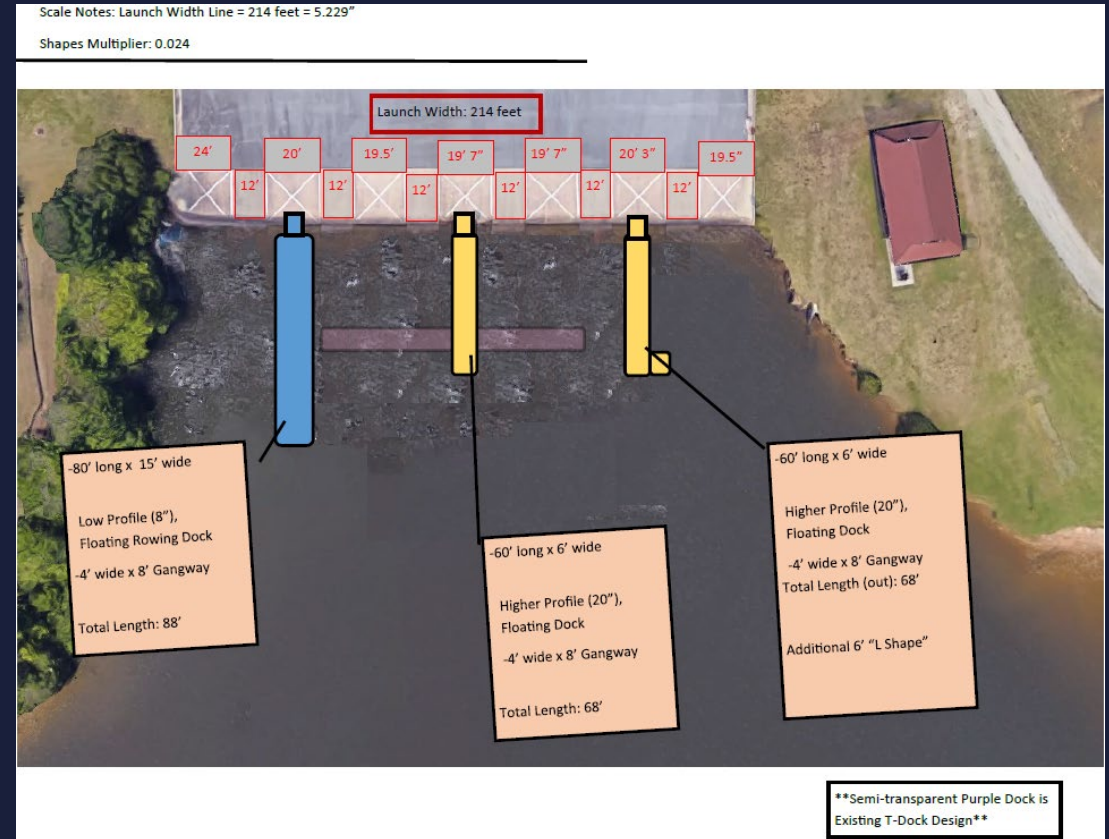
- Operate essentially year-round; When weather is too cold, they have an indoor practice facility in Jamestown
- No charge for storage of equipment, etc. at Sailboat Point
- Must purchase 6 annual launch passes each year (\$75 each)
- Operates two annual regattas on Oak Hollow Lake (April, October)

• **Oak Hollow Sailing Club**

- No charge from CoHP for boat storage; members must purchase an annual launch pass each year (\$75 each)
- Pay annual club dues to OHSC
- Boats must be kept in “trailerable and sailing condition”, including any NC Wildlife requirements for registration, etc.

DOCK ADJUSTMENTS AT SAILBOAT POINT

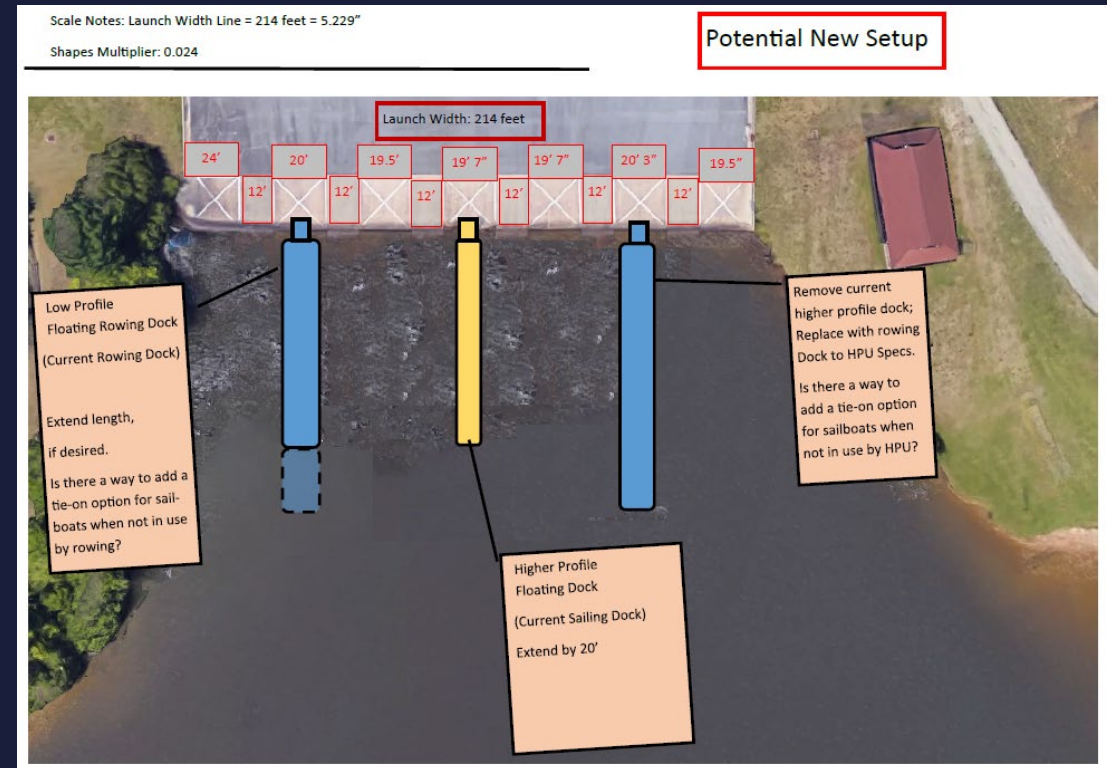
- **Prior to 2019**
 - Wooden "T" dock
- **Spring 2019**
 - Connect NC Bond Grant (2017)
 - Met with various user groups to determine preferred setup
 - Old dock replaced with three new floating docks
 - 1 low-profile – kayaks, rowing, standup paddleboards, etc
 - 2 traditional – powered boats, sailboats, etc



DOCK ADJUSTMENTS AT SAILBOAT POINT

• Spring 2024

- CoHP staff met with Triad United Rowing and Oak Hollow Sailing Club regarding preferred layouts
 - Triad United Rowing requested extending current rowing dock and felt existing rowing dock would not be sufficient for both rowing groups to use concurrently
 - Oak Hollow Sailing Club requested to keep the middle dock as high-profile and extend it by 20'; keeping the total at 3 docks, instead of trying to add a 4th dock for HPU Rowing
 - Multi-hull boats, such as catamarans, can launch from beach access so OHSC requested that the beach launch be untouched



NEW ROWING DOCK





HPU ROWING INVESTMENTS

- **Paid for purchase and installation of:**

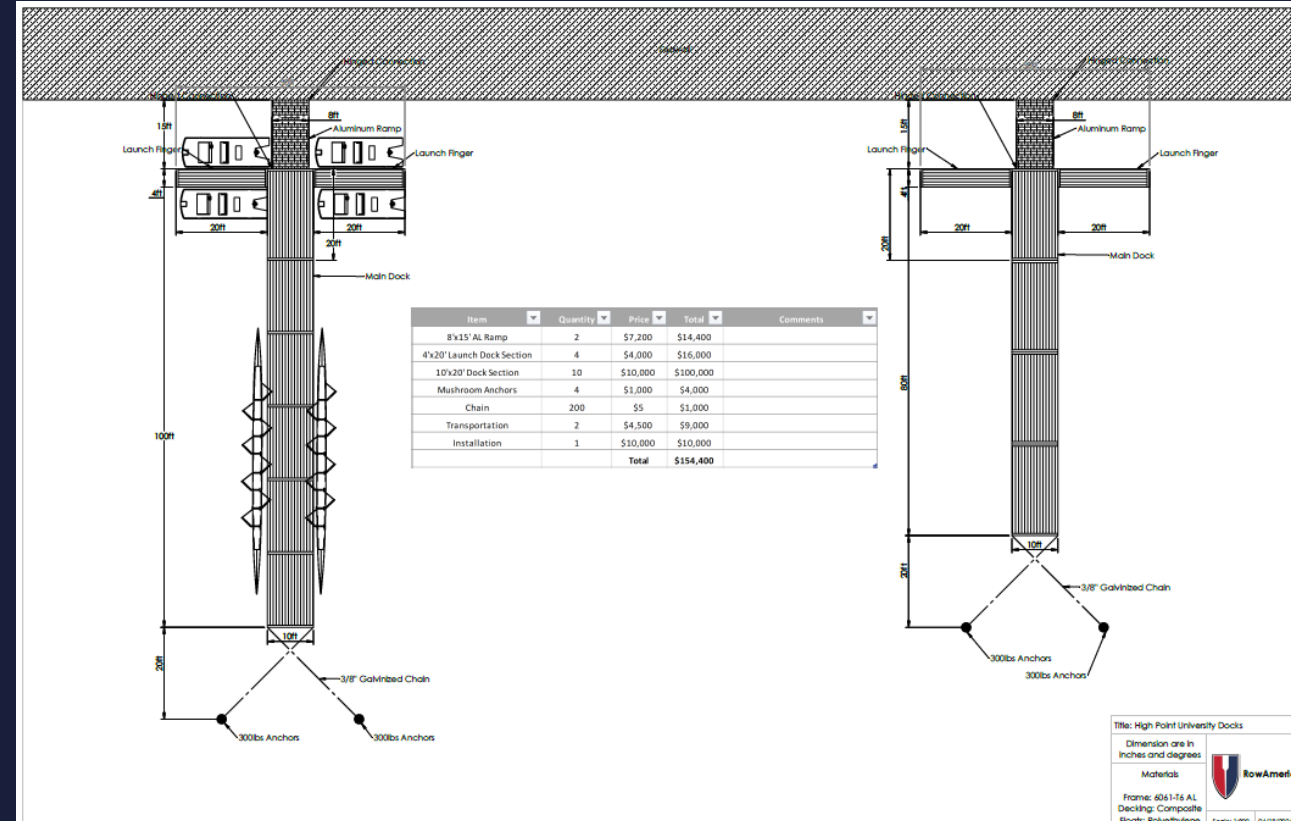
- Additional dock at Festival Park – ‘Return Dock’
 - \$104k; Installed in Fall 2024 in time for Triad United Rowing regatta
- Dock replacement at Sailboat Point
 - Approx. \$160k; Installed in Summer 2024
 - CoHP kept existing dock materials for use at Oak Hollow Campground

- **Planned investment in the boathouse and surrounding infrastructure**

- Boathouse will include storage space for buoyed race course materials and related CoHP items

OAK HOLLOW SAILING CLUB CONCERNS

- **20' dock sections parallel with shoreline – “Launch Fingers”**
 - Used for storing flat-bottom coaches' boats during HPU season
 - Removes ability to back a trailer down either side to launch boats
- **Reduced # of high-profile docks from two to one**
 - OHSC also utilizes the beach launch area for multi-hull boats and other smaller boats
- **Reduced # of vehicle launch ramps that are feasible for their use from six to four**





MARINA OPERATIONS COMPARISON

• **Oak Hollow Marina**

- Powered and non-powered boat launches, watercraft rentals, bank fishing, marina point-of-sale operations, staff offices, and public restrooms
- Two traditional high-profile docks for boat launches, ADA accessible kayak launch, beach launch area
 - Primary boat launch area includes four (4) vehicular launch ramps
- Approximately 85% of public launches happen from this locations

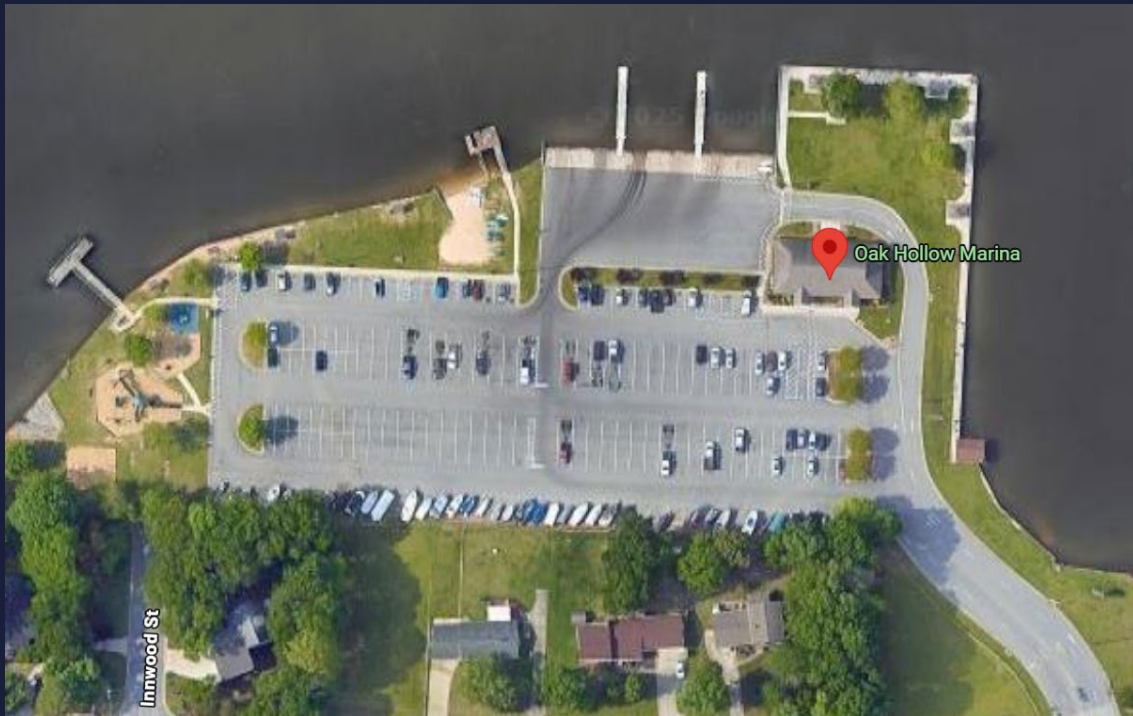
• **Sailboat Point**

- Primarily non-powered launches, park shelter, public restrooms
- Home to Triad United Rowing and Oak Hollow Sailing Club
- CoHP Park Ranger patrol boat storage
- One traditional high-profile dock, two low-profile docks, beach launch area
 - Includes four (4) vehicular launch ramps

MARINA OPERATIONS COMPARISON

- Oak Hollow Marina

- Sailboat Point





CITY OF
high
point.