

10-24-2018 Town Council Meeting Responses

ITEM #1: Justice in Action Committee Request Regarding a New Location for the Teen Center of Chapel Hill

Council Question: To my knowledge, this is not the first request, and there have been some internal discussions about this. To date, what have the conversations been on the Town's side about new space for a Teen Center?

Staff Response: *In response to the community's interest in teens, a staff team that includes representatives from Housing and Community, the Library, Police, and Parks and Recreation has been working on a Teen Engagement process. This project has four key parts:*

- 1. Gather quantitative, demographic data about teens in Chapel Hill*
- 2. Create an inventory of Town services and programs for teens*
- 3. Directly engage with teens in order to learn more about them and their lives*
- 4. Share with stakeholders and consider what we might do based on what we've learned*

To date, we have:

- Gathered initial demographic data about teens in the community from a variety of sources.*
- Assisted the Mayor and convened a meeting of teen service providers in February*
- Created an inventory of Town services and programs available to teens*
- Identified and engaged key community partner agencies*
- Held focus groups with teens in the community*

Next Steps: Our goal is to reach a variety of teens in the community. Focus groups with teens are underway to help us better understand their experiences in our community. In November, we will share our findings with community partners and the group convened by the Mayor earlier this year, and develop some initial recommendations. We plan to share our findings and recommendations with the Council in early 2019.