

# **Parks, Recreation & Tourism**

## **December 2022 Monthly Report**

### Current/Ongoing Projects

#### Wards Creek Trail System

- Input gathered from the Community Meeting held in November are being reviewed and evaluated.

#### South Tyger River Greenway

- Construction documents have been submitted to the City of Greer and SCDOT for review. We expect comments to be received in the month of January. Once received, we will work with architects from Keck+Wood to update the plans as needed to address potential comments.
- PRT staff are working on revisions to the Easement Exhibits and Agreement that was submitted to Greenville County School District. They have requested several changes in regards to the portion of the trail that will effect Greer High School property.
- PRT staff has also asked the President of the HOA for Cypress Landing residential development on Gap Creek Road for consideration in allowing the City to construct a spur off of the main trail that would connect to their development. This request will be presented to the HOA Board in January. If agreed, an Easement Agreement will be entered into and signed by both parties.

#### Turner Ball Park

- Construction documents were submitted for City Review this past Friday.

#### Greer Golf - Clubhouse and Pool Area Renovation

- Staff continued participating in the bi-weekly construction meetings for the renovation at Greer Golf. The contractor met with sub-contractors onsite and we expect to have the GMP (Guaranteed Maximum Price) in January.

#### Benson Automotive Kids Planet - Century Park

- A plan and cost estimates to correct storm water and high traffic volume issues in the lower portion of Kids Planet were received and are under review by city staff. Staff will be focusing on priorities that need to be addressed first. This portion of the park reflects the area of Kids Planet that was never developed or used by the public until the renovation and reopening of the new park in 2021. Accessible sidewalks were added to this area as well as the hillside slides at the lower entrance.
- The Greer Cultural Arts Council and city staff members are finalizing designs for the “picket” art project. These pickets are from the original Kids Planet that was built and opened in 1999 that lists all of the sponsors/partners that participated in the park’s creation.

#### Needmore Recreation Center - Pickleball Courts

- The Pickleball court project is still “On Hold” due to difficulty in getting contractors.

#### Suber Road Park

- The Suber Road project has been delayed. It will resume with the completion of the Fire and Police Departments plans.

#### Cannon Centre Deck Renovation

- The project remains on-going, with an expected completion date in January.

## Division Highlights

### Athletics

- The Christmas 7s Regional Rugby Tournament hosted 20 high school teams from seven states, to compete at Country Club Park, on December 10-11. This 2-day event had 750-1,000 spectators in total attendance with our Varsity Boys finishing in 3rd Place with a record of 3-1-1.
- The Junior Sixers Rugby program officially kicked off the junior program season in Atlanta on December 10-11 with a 34-0 win.
- The All-Star Tackle Football Programs completed their seasons, with our 10U All-Stars finishing in 3rd place and 12U defeated in the second round of the playoffs.
- Our Youth Basketball Leagues are beginning their regular season games played Tuesday through Saturday at Victor Gym.
- Youth wrestling practices were held at the Cannon Centre. Also participants competed in regional wrestling tournaments around the state, claiming multiple champions in different weight classes in the first round of tournaments. We are currently planning for the upcoming Tomahawk Invitational Tournament at Greer High School, on January 28.

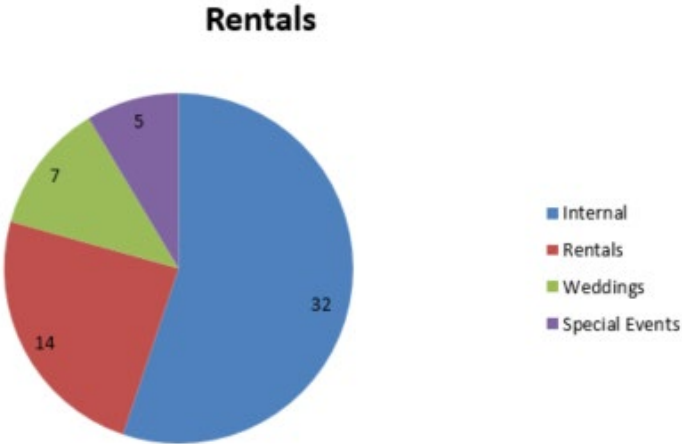
### Cultural Arts

- Robin Byouk and Sara Odom met with Edwin Hutchison of Crescent Carvers about creating an art piece using the original fence pickets from Benson Automotive's Kids Planet.
- The Greenspan Big Band performed at the Center for the Arts on December 3 for 40 guests.
- The Gingerbread House Competition began on December 6 at the Center for the Arts with 14 entries that were on public display December 9, 10 & 13.
- The City of Greer Holiday Arts Fair on December 10 included 26 artisan participants, 2 food trucks and hosted 280 guests. This is an increase from last year's attendance of 180 guests.
- Classes and programs offered at the Center for the Arts included Candle Making, Cookie Decorating, Pottery and Creative Art Adventures, which is an afterschool program introducing art to kids.
- Robin Byouk attended the Greenville Jewish Federation presentation on December 15, in preparation of our Butterfly Project. Staff worked with Ayla Fitzpatrick in our Communications Department, to record video interviews and post on social media. It has been featured on WYFF and Fox Carolina. The public was invited to the Center for the Arts to paint and glaze a ceramic butterfly in honor of a child that died during the Holocaust. Working together with the Greenville Jewish Federation the City of Greer will create a lasting memorial in the park at the Center for the Arts. Over the course of 2 days, over 300 people painted butterflies.

### Events

- Supper with Santa took place on Friday, December 2. Over 220 City of Greer employees and their families were provided an opportunity to share a meal together, have their pictures taken with Santa and enjoy free kid's crafts. This event raised \$1,816 dollars which was donated to the City of Greer Police Department Cops for Tots.
- Mayor Danner and Santa helped celebrate The Annual Christmas Tree Lighting at City Park on December 2, with live musical performances, 5 free craft stations, Christmas train rides, marshmallow roasting, and an ice carving demonstration. Over 3,500 people attended.
- Breakfast with Santa and Mrs. Claus took place on Saturday, December 3 with over 500 people in attendance. Breakfast was provided by Laurenda's Family Restaurant. Free activities included an opportunity to talk with Santa, free crafts, and letter writing to Santa.
- The Greer Farmers Market Holiday Fair took place on Saturday, December 3 and Sunday, December 4, with over 80 vendors offering holiday themed crafts and gift options.
- Our Ambassadors continued to provide excellent customer service to over 750 passengers in downtown Greer Station in the month of December and with 11,344 passengers for 2022.

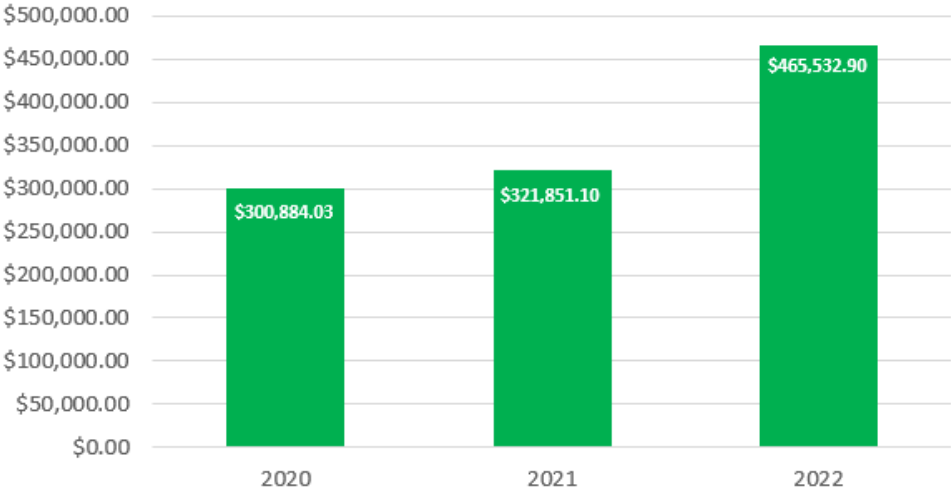
The Events Division hosted 58 total events – Internal: 32, Rentals: 14, Special Events: 7, Wedding Events. A total of 8,545 guests visited the City of Greer Events Center.



**Greer Golf**

- Revenue for the first half of the fiscal year was \$465,532.90. This is an increase of \$143,681.80 from last year’s revenue for the same period.
- Grounds staff came in on December 23 (City Holiday) and endured 20-degree weather with 25 mph winds, for nearly 10 hours, to re-secure tarps to the greens preventing permanent damage due to the extreme cold temperatures.
- Staff scheduled a meeting in January with Kari Snyder of the BMW Charity Pro-Am to discuss Greer Golf hosting youth golf clinics to promote their tournament.
- Steven Thompson has been working with Travis Durham on Cartegraph, entering equipment and materials into inventory and learning more about work orders tasks and features of the software.

**Greer Golf Revenue- July through December**



**Recreation**

- Never Alone continued meeting on Tuesdays at the Tryon Recreation Center along with the Cutlery Club on December 6 and the Artifacts Club monthly meetings.
- Archery Club met two times a week at both Victor Gym and City Stadium. This year’s annual banquet was held at Victor Gym on December 10th.
- Pickleball activities for the month included Clinics, Open Play sessions, Veterans Play, and Adaptive Pickleball at Victor Gym and Tryon Recreation Park.
- Our Afterschool programs continued at Needmore Recreation Center and Victor Park Monday through Friday from 2:45 to 6 p.m.
- Senior Action met Monday-Fridays at Needmore Recreation Center for planned activities and lunch which served 20-25 seniors daily.
- SOAR hosted two Line Dancing classes with 22 on average in attendance at the Cannon Centre, Bingo Days with 50 participants at City Hall, and a Gentle Yoga classes with an average of 8 participants at City Hall and Book Club meeting with 9 in attendance.
- Rentals:
  - Recreation Center Rentals - 5
  - Kids Planet Shelter Rental - 6

**Tourism**

- SC Biz News published an article on December 29 highlighting Downtown Greer as a wedding destination with the latest addition of Fabulous Frocks, a bridal boutique.
- The Upstate Renaissance Faire will return to Greer City Park with a two-day festival on September 8 and 9, 2023.
- International Festival, Freedom Blast, and Railfest were approved to be included in Discover South Carolina’s 2023 event schedule, at no cost.
- Lindsey Shaffer coordinated with the Greer Station Association for musicians to play throughout the downtown on Saturday, December 3, during the other planned holiday events.
- Lindsey Shaffer assisted in promoting the Greer Christmas Parade which took place on Sunday, December 4 with over 90 entries.
- Lindsey Shaffer participated in Leadership Greer- Human Services Day on Tuesday, December 6.

<u>Upcoming Events</u>	<u>Current Projects</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The Butterfly Project</b> – January 6-7, Drop In: 10am-4pm (Center for the Arts)</li> <li>• <b>MLK Jr. Celebration Luncheon</b> – January 16, (City Hall)</li> <li>• <b>Greer Farmers Market Sunday Brunch</b> – February 12, March 12, and April 2 (City Hall)</li> <li>• <b>Lion King, Jr.</b> – February 24-26 &amp; March 3-5, 7:00pm (Cannon Center)</li> <li>• <b>City of Greer Juried Arts Exhibition</b> – March 2023 (Center for the Arts)</li> <li>• <b>Food Truck Rollout</b> – March 2 - August 29, Tuesdays (Greer City Park)</li> <li>• <b>International Festival</b> – April 29 11:00am - 4:00pm (Greer City Park)</li> <li>• <b>Greer Farmers Market</b> – Tuesdays, May 3 - Aug. 30, (Greer City Park) September 20, October 18 &amp; Nov. 15 (City Park)</li> <li>• <b>Tunes in the Park</b> – May 20, June 10, July 22 &amp; August 19 (Greer City Park)</li> <li>• <b>Moonlight Movies</b> – June 8 – August 5, Thursdays 6:00PM (Greer City Park)</li> <li>• <b>Freedom Blast</b> – June 24 - 6:00pm-10:30pm (Greer City Park)</li> <li>• <b>Food Truck Rollout</b> – August 18, September 22 &amp; October 20 (Greer City Park)</li> <li>• <b>Upstate Renaissance Faire</b> – Round Table Comm. – September 8-9 (Greer City Park)</li> <li>• <b>Railfest</b> – September 30 @ 10:00am - 2:00pm (Greer City Park)</li> <li>• <b>Greer Arts &amp; Eats</b> – Greater Greer Chamber of Commerce, October 6-7 (Greer City Park)</li> <li>• <b>Artisan Makers Market</b> – October 21, 9am-2:00pm (Greer City Park)</li> <li>• <b>Greer Christmas Tree Lighting</b> – December 1, 5:00pm – 8:00pm (Greer City Park)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bensons Automotive Kids Planet</li> <li>• Cannon Centre Deck Renovation</li> <li>• Greer Golf Redesign Clubhouse &amp; Pool Area</li> <li>• H.R. Turner Park Renovation</li> <li>• South Tyger River Greenway</li> <li>• Suber Road Park</li> <li>• Wards Creek Trail System</li> </ul>

*The City of Greer Parks and Recreation Department is committed to fulfilling our mission of providing quality recreational experiences while administering the values of community image, human development, preservation of environmental resources, health and wellness, economic development, and cultural unity.*