

Policy Briefing Summary

City Council



Regarding:	Resolution authorizing a Lease Agreement Extension for Carver Recreation Center
Staff Contact(s):	Riaan Anthony, Director of Parks & Recreation
Presenter:	Riaan Anthony, Director of Parks & Recreation
Date of Proposed Action:	November 17, 2025

Issue

The current fifteen (15)-year Lease Agreement between the City of Charlottesville, Virginia ("City"), and the Jefferson School Foundation ("JSF") for operation of the Carver Recreation Center ("Carver") is set to expire in March 2026. Because the City operates on a fiscal year cycle of July 1 – June 30, the existing Lease Agreement's Term does not align with the City's financial and budget management practices. To maintain the uninterrupted operation of Carver and ensure proper fiscal alignment, the City must extend the current Lease Agreement's Term through June 30, 2026, while the City's Parks and Recreation Staff, with assistance from the City Attorney's Office, finalize negotiations for a new long-term Lease Agreement. For City Council's review and consideration, attached is a Carver Lease Agreement Amendment and a Resolution authorizing the execution of the same.

Background / Rule

The City, through its Parks and Recreation Department, has maintained a fifteen (15)-year Lease Agreement with JSF—a Virginia nonprofit, nonstock corporation, and successor in interest to the Jefferson School Community Partnership, L.L.L.P.—for the operation of Carver, located within the Jefferson School City Center.

Carver is a cornerstone of the community, offering accessible recreation, fitness, and cultural programs for residents of all ages. Beyond its role as a recreation center, Carver honors the historic legacy of the Jefferson School as a center of African American education and community life. It remains a symbol of resilience and inclusion, fostering wellness, learning, and social connection across the City.

Analysis

Carver continues to serve as a vital community hub offering fitness, wellness, and recreational programming for residents of all ages. The current Lease Agreement is set to expire in March 2026. To ensure continuity of operations and alignment with the City's fiscal year cycle of July 1 – June 30, Parks and Recreation Staff, in consultation with the City Attorney's Office, recommends extending the existing Lease Agreement through June 30, 2026. This short-term extension will allow Parks and Recreation Staff and the City Attorney's Office adequate time to negotiate a new long-term Lease Agreement that reflects current operational needs, fiscal responsibility, and community use priorities.

Financial Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action, as operational funding for Carver has already been budgeted within the Parks and Recreation Department's FY2026 Operating Budget.

Recommendation

City Parks and Recreation Staff recommends that City Council adopt the attached Resolution authorizing the execution of the attached Lease Agreement Extension through June 30, 2026, and authorize Parks and Recreation Staff to finalize the long-term Lease Agreement with the JSF.

Recommended Motion (if Applicable)

"I move adoption of the Resolution authorizing the execution of the attached Lease Agreement Extension through June 30, 2026, and authorize Parks and Recreation staff to finalize the long-term Lease Agreement with the Jefferson School Foundation."

Attachments

1. 2025.10.16 Carver Amendment
2. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXTENSION OF THE CARVER RECREATION CENTER LEASE AGREEMENT