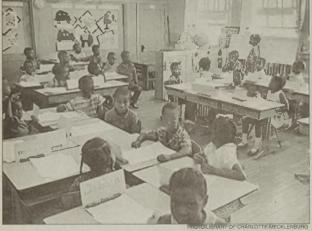
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Brooklyn revival plan honors history



HIDDULINARY OF CHARLOTTE MECKLENDURG Sixth-graders at Myers Street Elementary School in 1969. When the Brooklyn neighborhood was torn down as part of Charlotte's urban renewal push, the Second Ward campus was razed as well.

Continued from page 1A urban core, is pushing for a stadium uptown. At issue is \$7.8 million City Council has been asked to contribute in been asked to contribute in infrastructure for a \$35 mil-lion, privately-funded Knights stadium. If the city, county and school board vote

to approve the swap by the end of the year, Second Ward's transformation - built with private financing -would start next springs. "The only (public) money spent would be on streets and sidewalks - the infrastruc-ture," said Michael Smith,

executive director of Center City Partners. "The return is \$2.2 million in property tax (annually) on the baseball stadium and the Second Ward development." A complex land swap between the county, Charlotte-Mecklenburg

grow and it is important that a part of Charlotte's history remain as such," Wilson said in a statement. "It doesn't do

Schools and Mass Mutual would put a stadium on the site of the former Third Ward park. Mass Mutual would make land available for a new 5.2-acre park bounded by Mint, Graham, Second and Fourth streets. CMS would get a new headquar-ters in Second Ward, while Marshall Park and CMS's current headquarters. Brooklyn Village combines elements of Brooklyn's histo-ry as well as condeminiums and apartments that work-ing-class families can afford. Shops would also be recruited to the proposed mixed-use, mixed-income community, as well as a community center.

mixed-income community, as well as a community center. "It's a chance to embrace that history and build a diverse community that peo-ple can be proud of," said Jim Dulin, Spectrum's chairman. "We can only do this plan if we can do the land swap." Black-owned businesses would stand to benefit from Brooklyn Village. Dulin said Spectrum is committed to a 20 percent participation plan for minority vendors. "We're going to go a step

from construction to market-ing, You've just have to decide that's something you want to do. We're being respectful of the vision plan and the histo-try of Second Ward. "We're be resolved is a pro-posed Second Ward high school. Project backers – and African American advocates – are pushing for a magnet school near the site of the for-mer all-black campus that was razed after the 1968-69 academic year. CMS had originally promised a replace-ment in the 1960s, but reneged when the district moved toward desgregation. Today's school board hasn't made a commitment to Second Ward, either. While Gantt wouldn't label a new school as CMS's chance

to finally make good on a 40-year-old promise, he acknowl-edges the possibility. "The alignment of stars could produce a high school in Second Ward, which I think would excite a lot of people," he said. "If I was sitting there, it would be a slam dunk." Smith is more succinct. call-

dunk." Smith is more succinct, call-ing Second Ward "an incredi-ble opportunity" to acknowl-edge part of the city's history and make good on promises deferred.

deferred. "If you think Charlotte has social capital issues, Second Ward is the lightning rod for that," he said. "This is a great opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate our history, and I think we should do more of it".

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE



"We're going to go a step further," he said. "We're going to develop the project with a diverse team in every aspect the building off-limits to Beazer. "Charlotte is continuing to

before federal public accomo-dation laws were passed in the 1960s. As a result, Wilson and restaurant supporters say, the Cup has significant historical importance to Checkette Charlotte The landmarks commiss

is expected to vote on the Coffee Cup's fate at its Nov. 13 meeting.



Coffee Cup campaign seeks supporters

By Herbert L. White

The owner of the Coffee Cup restaurant is stepping up the grassroots campaign to save the eatery from demo-

lition. Coffee Cup owner Gardine Wilson said more than 9,000 supporters have signed a petition demanding the restaurant be spared from the wrecking ball. Beazer Homes, which owns the