



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Town of Mayodan Partners with Rockingham County Health Collaborative and Madison-Mayodan Recreation Center on ADA Accessibility Project

New ADA-compliant sidewalk and ramp will create the first fully accessible walking route to the Recreation Center

MAYODAN, N.C. — The Town of Mayodan has partnered with the Rockingham County Health Collaborative (RCHC) and the Madison-Mayodan Recreation Center (MMRC) on a project to build the first fully accessible walking route between South 2nd Avenue and the Recreation Center — replacing the set of stairs that is currently the only way to walk in with ADA-compliant sidewalks and switchback ramps.

Today, residents who use wheelchairs, walkers, or otherwise have difficulty with stairs have no way to walk from the sidewalk on South 2nd Avenue down to the Recreation Center. This project will remove that barrier, opening the center's full range of programming — fitness and cooking classes, the computer lab, senior programming, and community events — to every resident, regardless of mobility.

"This project is about making sure every resident, no matter their age or ability, can get to the services and programs the Recreation Center offers," said Melody Shuler, Town Manager for the Town of Mayodan. "We're grateful to the Rockingham County Health Collaborative and the Madison-Mayodan Recreation Center for partnering with us to make that possible."

A Three-Way Partnership

"The RCHC represents the voice of the community and our commitment to collective impact", said Vanessa Stubbs, Program Manager for the RCHC. "This partnership with the Town of Mayodan and MMRC, focuses on accessibility and provides a link of critical infrastructure that opens programming for anyone throughout the county who desires to take part. We believe that this project helps to minimize silos and to center population health, as an 'all county's priority and not just something traditionally attributed to clinical or medical institutions for healthcare. My goal was to inform some and to remind others that the RCHC is a local organization that engages in outreach, partnership and programming that centers 'whole health' as a north star for helping people to obtain and maintain good health," Stubbs said.

The project is formalized through a signed Memorandum of Understanding between the three organizations, with each partner taking on a distinct role:

- The Town of Mayodan will design, bid, and construct the sidewalk and ramp improvements, and coordinate with project engineers and contractors.



- The Rockingham County Health Collaborative is funding the project — a \$221,800 commitment, already provided to the Town — made possible by The Duke Endowment's Healthy People Healthy Carolinas initiative, in partnership with the Moses H. Cone Health Memorial Hospital Operating Corporation.
- The Madison-Mayodan Recreation Center will maintain the new ramp and surrounding landscaping once construction is complete, ensuring it continues serving the community for years to come.

The project supports the Recreation Center's growing programming for residents of all ages and abilities — including a community garden and a twice-weekly senior walking club now in development — and reflects the partners' shared commitment to helping Rockingham County residents stay healthy, active, connected, and able to age in place. The effort builds on Rockingham County's 2023 “Livable Rockingham County” designation from AARP, which recognized the county's commitment to accessibility for aging and disabled residents.

“Accessibility has been a priority for us as we've worked to update our facility over the past several years,” said Lee Mitchell, Recreation Director for the Madison-Mayodan Recreation Center. “This ramp closes the last gap — a continuous, accessible route from Mayodan directly into our building — so that everyone in our community can take part in what we offer.” “This ramp allows all people, regardless of physical ability or transportation, the ability to enjoy our programs and events here at the Madison Mayodan Recreation Center,” Mitchell added.

Project Status and Timeline

Design and engineering for the approximately 880-linear-foot sidewalk and ramp project are about 95% complete. The Town anticipates the following tentative schedule:

- Advertise for bid: November 2026
- Award contract: February 2027
- Notice to proceed: March 2027
- Estimated completion: August 2027 — construction may finish earlier

The Town will share updates on the project's progress, including a ribbon-cutting event upon completion, through its website and social media channels.

In Partnership With



About the Town of Mayodan

The Town of Mayodan is a municipality of approximately 2,500 residents in Rockingham County, North Carolina, providing planning, public safety, public works, and parking facilities to the community.



About the Rockingham County Health Collaborative

The Rockingham County Health Collaborative (RCHC), funded through The Duke Endowment's Healthy People Healthy Carolinas initiative and operates under the fiscal umbrella of the Moses H. Cone Health Memorial Hospital Operating Corporation, brings together community partners to strengthen alignment, enhance access, and improve community health outcomes across Rockingham County.

About the Madison-Mayodan Recreation Center

The Madison-Mayodan Recreation Center (MMRC) has provided recreational opportunities to the towns of Madison and Mayodan for more than 40 years, offering youth and adult athletics, fitness classes, senior programming, and community events, and hosting the area's Senior Center.

