



Community Advisory Council (CAC)

June 2026 Meeting Notes

The Council received the latest updates on priority projects, including:

- The launch of the [Community Investment Program](#) to invest in festivals, events and activations that drive visitation to create [economic impact](#) and community benefits for locals
- The upcoming feasibility study of [Durham County Memorial Stadium](#) to explore the potential for upgrades that accommodate tournament and multipurpose use
- The ongoing vendor selection process for the installation of [welcome signage at RDU International Airport](#)
- The status holds on the pursuit of a new [Convention and Events Center and Headquarter Hotel](#) as Durham Next continues to explore land availability and market opportunity

The group received a presentation from Bob Klaus, General Manager of [Durham Performing Arts Center, DPAC](#), on its new partnership with Durham Next to explore the feasibility of a new [music and live events venue](#) in downtown Durham. Bob showed a [video](#) to highlight how DPAC connects and supports the community, provides programs for young people in the arts and provides opportunities for more inclusive access to the venue.

The CAC participated in a separate engagement activity on behalf of Duke Community Affairs to inform the programming and community outreach for [We the People](#), a Duke and Durham initiative inspired by America 250, a celebration of the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

The Council offered the following insights:

- Consider an alternative to the name “We the People,” which holds a historical context of being exclusionary and may not reflect the Durham identity
- Find ways to engage and uplift Durham’s histories and identities to really express all the different ways of “being American”
- Communications and outreach should be multilingual and accessible
- Consider a festival activation that will bring the community together
- Provide an invitation to the community to engage in thoughtful conversations that allow people to share what “We the People” means to them

The CAC will meet in-person in September for its next quarterly meeting.

No presentation deck available.