

OPEN NORFOLK

2020



Like cities across the world, Norfolk, VA is attempting to creatively adjust how essential services can safely be offered during the COVID-19 pandemic. As part of these efforts the City engaged YARD & Company to design, build and operate two Neighborhood Spots. The purpose of these Spots is to bring neighborhood services like libraries, recreation centers and summer youth programs outdoors. The project included site selection, space design, material selection and purchase, construction, the development of an inclusive and dynamic programming schedule and operational support. The operations of the Spots includes the hiring of approximately a dozen youth from the neighborhoods and the recruitment of vendor and programming partners. Vendors and partners have included food trucks, musicians, art organizations, sports leagues and food access nonprofits. The process of designing, building and operating the Spots with the community has forged powerful outcomes related to community building, neighborhood services and community pride.

IMPACT

- » Hundreds of residents and stakeholders engaged in the activation of the spaces
- » Approximately a dozen youth hired to manage the spaces
- » Dozens of events organized and executed over six weeks

PROJECT LOCATION

Norfolk, Virginia

BUILDING BLOCKS + TOOLS

Engagement + Discovery
 Community Operations
 Smart Small Development

REFERENCE

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Phase 1: Social Distancing on the Street



Phase 2: Neighborhood Spots

