



for the greener good

Media Contact: Rachel Whyte Park Pride 404-546-7969 rachel@parkpride.org

COMMUNITY INPUT SOUGHT FOR N.H. SCOTT PARK PLAN

The Friends of N.H. Scott Park Work with Park Pride to Create Conceptual Master Plan for Park

September 13, Atlanta, GA – The Friends of N.H. Scott Park & Recreation Center are working with <u>Park Pride</u>, the Atlanta-based nonprofit that engages communities to activate the power of parks, to create a new, community-supported park plan. Park Pride's park visioning process offers a means for understanding a community's current needs and desires for their neighborhood park, and results in a conceptual plan that articulates those needs and desires.

"The N.H. Scott Friends of the Park group hopes to gain a community-driven plan focused on projects that will complement the growth occurring in the surrounding neighborhood," explained Diane Echols, the Chair of the Friends of N.H. Scott Park. "N.H. Scott resides in a location within DeKalb County that is experiencing a rebirth, and we are excited to utilize Park Pride's visioning process to help us be an integral part of that rebirth."

A Park Pride "vision plan" is a tool that can be used by communities to fundraise and advocate for positive change in their parks. They demonstrate broad community support for the proposed improvements, a fundamental component of attracting investment and initiating successful park redevelopment.

To date, two public meetings have been held to understand the goals and general park preferences of the community around N.H. Scott Park, and a draft concept plan was presented to the public on August 29th. Park Pride and the Friends group are now working toward a final vision plan to be presented at the park's Annual Halloween Festival on October 27th.

The N.H. Scott Park preliminary concept plan includes improvements such as: reopening the 8-lane swimming pool; a splash pad; redevelopment of the sports field and restoration of the baseball field; volleyball courts; fitness equipment; 1.5-mile trail around the park; a playground expansion; more picnic shelters; a community garden; separate small and large dog parks, and more.

The Friends group is thrilled about the engagement seen through the planning process thus far and are optimistic for the future of their park. "Each one of us believe that a vibrant, engaging park within our community will help strengthen the community and foster community pride," said Echols. "This belief is at the core of why we volunteer."

Park Pride and the Friends of N.H. Scott Park seek feedback from community members on the preliminary concept plan. <u>View the plan</u> on Park Pride's website, and then take <u>the short survey</u>. All community members are invited to attend the final vision presentation on October 27th at the <u>N.H. Scott Annual Halloween Festival</u>.

About Park Pride:

Park Pride is the Atlanta-based nonprofit that engages communities to activate the power of parks. Working with more than 100 local Friends of the Park groups, Park Pride provides leadership and services to help communities realize their dreams for neighborhood parks that support healthy people, strong neighborhoods, vibrant business districts, a robust economy and a healthy environment. Park Pride is active in greenspace advocacy and educating both civic leaders and the general public about the benefits of parks, and annually hosts the Parks and Greenspace Conference. <u>parkpride.org</u>.