

N.H. SCOTT  
**PARK**  
Vision  
Plan

2017

Produced by  
Park Pride



233 Peachtree St., NE  
Suite 1600  
Atlanta, GA 30303







Park Pride is honored to have worked with the community that calls N.H. Scott Park 'their park.' The enthusiasm of the Steering Committee, as representatives of the larger community, was inspiring. It was this group of leaders who kept this project moving forward, through cold winter evenings, holiday commitments, and other distractions, toward the vision they knew to be possible.

## Acknowledgements

Diane Echols, Steering Committee Chair and mom to seven boys, somehow found time to organize the group, send out emails, make phone calls, get answers to questions, meet with officials and attend every meeting, festival and opportunity to tell the greater community about this shared dream for N.H. Scott Park. Always with a warm smile—she's amazing. Thank you!

Thank you also to Corlan Beasley, director of the N.H. Scott Recreation Center, whose eyes shown with pride each time he imagined a park befitting everyone from the youngest tots, to seniors, to N.H. Scott's award-winning athletes. Corlan's dedication to the recreation center and the park is boundless.

Thank you to LaQuisha "Q" Coggins, lead teacher at N.H. Scott Recreation Center and parent, who shared her dreams of a community garden where children and adults can grow and share fresh food. She is planting the seeds of healthy lifestyles for all.

Thank you to Conrad Rogers, voice of the United Beacons Cricket Club, who relentlessly championed 'The Cricket,' pushing for regulation-size fields, bleachers and a field house where sports enthusiasts of all stripes could learn to play, compete, and excel at a range of sports—but especially cricket.

Thank you to Ranette 'Rae Rae' Clark, a lifelong instructor in the art of active living. She is an inspiration and historian rolled

into one. Her stories shed light on N.H. Scott's history as Mark Trail Park and on the potential of its future.

Thank you to Rodney Daniel, who mobilized his network of connections, his enthusiastic ideas, and his wealth of memories, of not just one baseball field but five, that had once thrived at the park.

Thank you to all the neighbors who pitched-in to distribute surveys, place yard signs, and spread the word to neighbors about the visioning process, including Tywana Bailey, Jerrie Bason, Susie Davis, Antonio Daure, Annie Everhart, Jason Ferguson, Joseph A. Ivory, Justin Linder, Jennifer Murphy, Oral Simpson, LaDonna Williams, and Stephanie Zulueta. You were all invaluable.

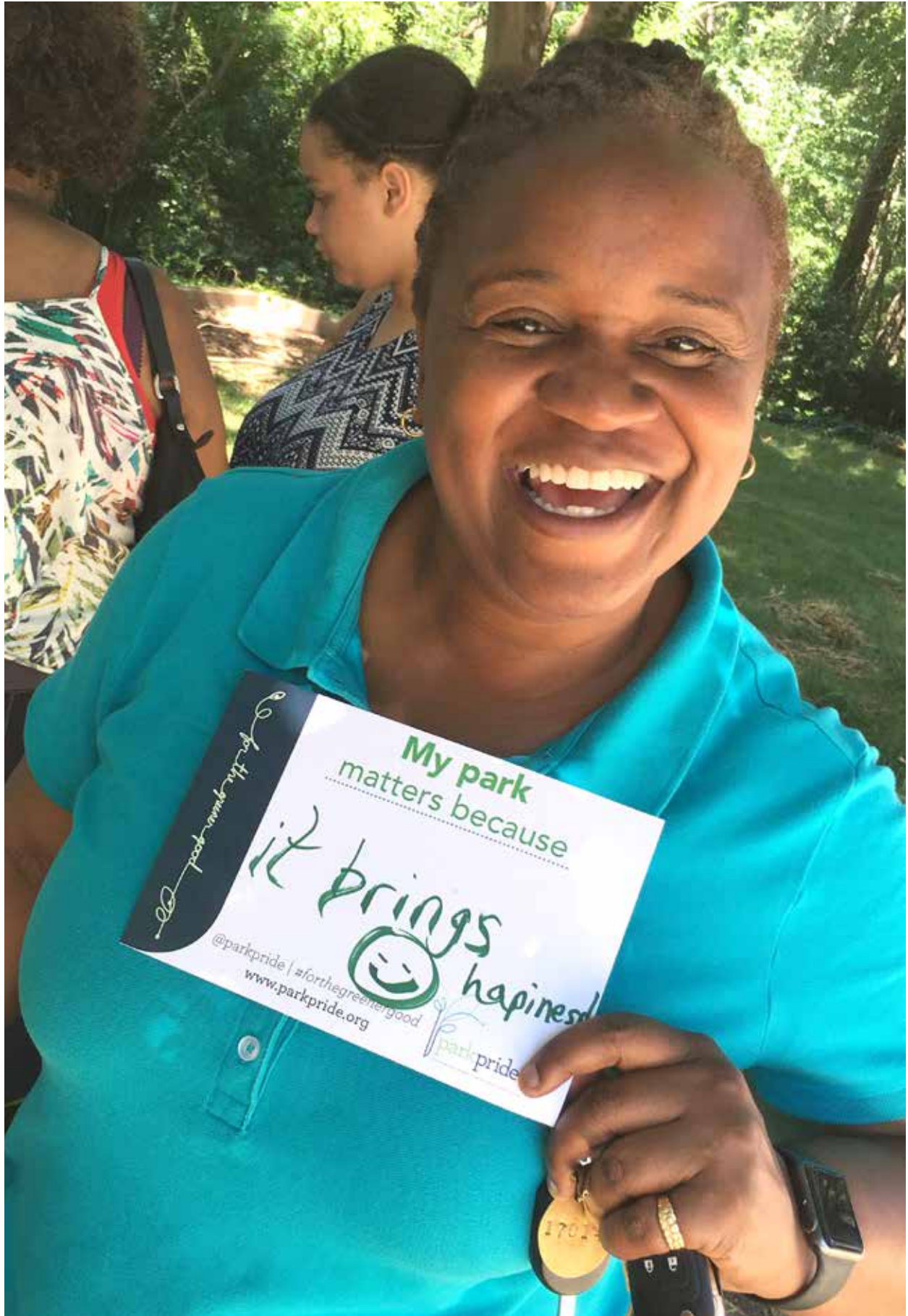
Thank you for the support and enthusiasm of the DeKalb County Department of Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs, especially Greenspace Planning Manager Revonda Cosby and Greenspace Assistant Victoria Burgos. We also appreciate the insight of Bernita Reese, Division Manager, Recreation Division, DeKalb County. Without the care and maintenance provided by the Parks & Recreation Division, the county's recreation centers could not shine.

This park is fortunate to bridge two of DeKalb County's Super Districts, garnering the attention of Super District Commissioners Kathie Gannon and Gregory Adams. N.H. Scott Park also falls into District 3 under Commissioner Larry Johnson's leadership. The continuing support of DeKalb County's commissioners is infinitely appreciated.

We also thank James L. "Jim" McMahan, Vice Chair of the DeKalb County School Board, for attending our public presentation of the preliminary conceptual plans.

Park Pride thanks you for all your efforts and the time you contributed to make this park a better place for everyone who visits. In your hands, the park is well on its way to fulfilling all your expectations.







# Contents

Executive Summary	2
Context	4
Existing Conditions	6
Community Engagement	10
Preliminary Concept Plan	16
Final Concept	19
Projects & Budget	23

Bernita Reese, DeKalb  
County Recreation Division  
Manager, documents why  
this park matters!





# Executive Summary

**Interested community** members from around N.H. Scott Park applied to Park Pride's Park Visioning Program in 2016. The grant was awarded for 2017 and N.H. Scott Park became the first official Park Visioning completed in DeKalb County by Park Pride since 2012. Vision plans were completed in 2012 for Rutledge and Zonolite Parks as special projects. Over the course of seven months in 2017, the community worked with Park Pride to develop the Vision Plan contained in this document. The goal of the project was to develop a cohesive and comprehensive plan that supports and enhances the needs and desires of the community. This document, created under the guidance of Park Pride's licensed landscape architect and landscape designer, will be a tool for the community to use in illustrating their goals, leveraging funding, and staying on course, as leadership within the community and the County evolves.

This document is a record of the outreach, engagement, activities, and decisions made throughout the park visioning process. This plan is intended to guide a phased approach to community-driven development of the park in the coming years. Although this plan is a tool for the community, it does not have weight of law, and should not be seen as a guarantee or promise. Each individual project will need to be legally permitted and vetted through the Dekalb County Parks Department and other applicable review committees.

The visioning process kicked off in April of 2017 and concluded in October of the same year. Four public meetings were convened to solicit input from community members on the program and form of proposed park improvements. A Steering Committee, composed of community members and recreation center staff, managed the project and acted as representatives of the larger community.

For N.H. Scott Park, the Visioning process was a necessary first big step to beginning the park's revitalization. The biggest need identified by the community was the restoration and reopening of the community pool, which has been closed since 2008. This plan proposes the replacement of the deteriorating outdoor pool with a facility that can be used year-round. This new aquatic center will complement the beloved and successful existing N.H. Scott Recreation Center by offering an even greater variety of programming for the community.

Other improvements identified in the plan include pedestrian entrances, an updated multi-use field with track, a community garden, walking and bicycle trails, updated playgrounds and adult fitness areas, a dog park, and an expanded picnic area with shade structures.

This plan will be archived, along with all Park Pride's Vision Plans, at the Kenan Research Center at the Atlanta History Center.

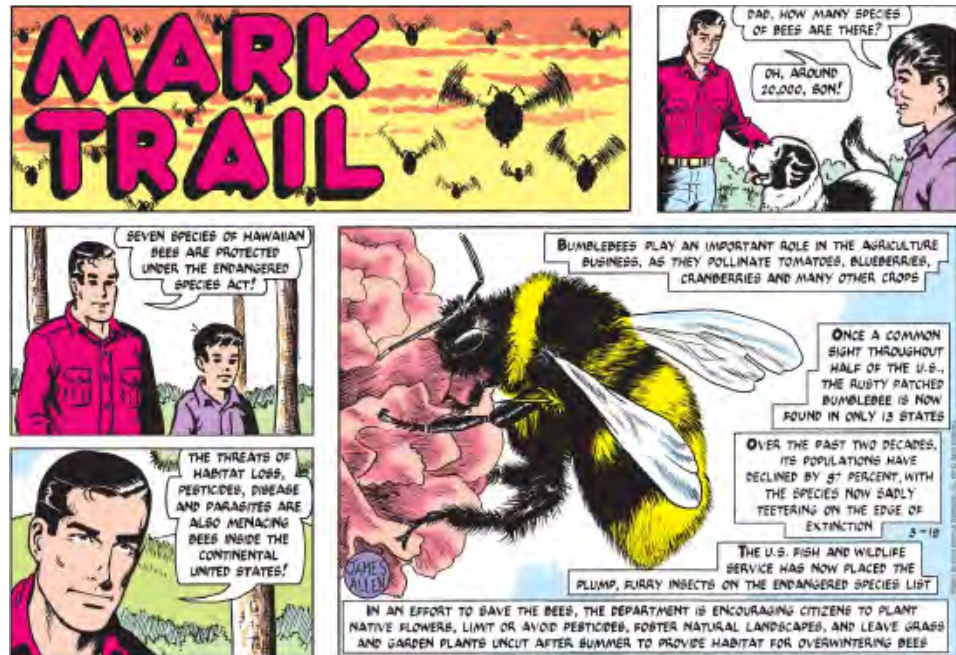






Right: A Mark Trail comic strip, originally designed by Ed Dodd and syndicated nationally, explains the importance of bees.

Facing Page: [1968] Aerial photograph of N.H. Scott Park and surrounding neighborhood



## Context

**N.H. Scott Park** sits within the Candler-McAfee neighborhood of Dekalb County, about ten miles east of Downtown Atlanta. The 46-acre property is located within District 3, currently served by Commissioner Larry Johnson. The park is across the street from McNair Middle School, a part of the Dekalb County School System, and roughly bounded to the north by Pinewood Drive, to the west by Mark Trail, to the south by Tilson Road, and to the east by Tilson Circle.

After land was acquired in 1962, the park opened in 1965 as Mark Trail Park – thought to be named after the famous comic strip created here in Atlanta. The Mark Trail comic strip, started by native Georgian, Ed Dodd, centers around an environmentalist whose mission is to preserve the American wilderness, water, and wildlife for future generations. Some of the topics covered in the comic are littering, vandalism, wildlife poaching, and respecting the environment.

The characters are nature lovers as well as advocates for the importance of greenspaces in a time of commercialism. The N.H. Scott Park is an epitome of what Mark Trail represented, conservation and preservation of the natural environment. Large, mature trees are plentiful throughout the property and Doolittle Creek, a tributary to South River, runs from northwest to southeast through the forested area of the park, making it home to a variety of wildlife.

In 2003, Mark Trail Park was renamed N.H. Scott Park in honor of Nathaniel Herbert Scott, III. Mr. Scott was a key member of the Mark Trail Community Leisure Citizens Advisory Board and actively involved in fundraising for numerous park improvements, including the swimming pool. Today, the Friends of N.H. Scott group, established in 2016, works in the spirit of Nathaniel Herbert Scott to ensure that the park remains beautiful for residents to enjoy for many years to come.







The Visioning Steering Committee guides Park Pride staff on a tour of the park early in the process.



## Existing Conditions

NH Scott Park sits within the Candler-McAfee neighborhood of Dekalb County, about ten miles east of Downtown Atlanta. The 46-acre property is located within District 3, currently served by Commissioner Larry Johnson. The park is across the street from McNair Middle School, a part of the Dekalb County School System, and roughly bounded to the north by Pinewood Drive, to the west by Mark Trail, to the south by Tilson Road, and to the east by Tilson Circle. After land was acquired in 1962, the park opened in 1965 as Mark Trail Park – thought to be named after the famous comic strip created here in Atlanta.

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The park is an epitome of what Mark Trail represented, conservation and preservation of the natural environment. Large, mature trees are

plentiful throughout the property and Doolittle Creek, a tributary to South River, runs from northwest to southeast through the forested area of the park, making it home to a variety of wildlife. In 2003, Mark Trail Park was renamed NH Scott Park in honor of Nathaniel Herbert Scott, III. This Mark Trail Community Leisure Citizens Advisory Board group member was actively involved in fundraising for numerous park improvements, including the swimming pool. Today, the Friends of the Park group, established in 2016, follows in the footsteps of NH Scott by making sure the park remains beautiful for residents to enjoy for many years to come.

The park has always had a focus on sports and active recreation from its first days. Historical aerials photos reveal 3 baseball fields and the recreation center as the park's earliest features. Today the park houses numerous sports facilities



Community members outside the deteriorating outdoor pool, once a vibrant and popular spot for families, that has been closed since 2008.

and programs. Although it occupies a large amount of land, it only has about 2,000 feet of street frontage along Tilson Road. Much of this street frontage is heavily wooded, which makes the park somewhat difficult to find unless you're looking for it.

Vehicles enter the park from a single ungated main entrance. The ease of access into the park after dark has led to safety concerns and the perception that the park hosts criminal activities at night. The rest of the perimeter of the park, with few exceptions, adjoins the backyards of 60 single-family lots along Mark Trail, Tilson Circle, Lullwood Trail, and Pinewood Drive. There is no formal pedestrian entry to the park aside from the main entrance off Tilson Road. A natural gas easement also cuts diagonally across the park. The particular features of the park may best be described by dividing it into six main parts: the pool complex, court sports area, picnic area, the Recreation Center, the multi-use field, and the woods.

The **pool complex** is located just inside the main entrance to the park on the west side of the access road. It is comprised of a small parking lot, outdoor pool and associated mechanical equipment, as well as a bathhouse with concessions and changing rooms. At the time of this writing, the pool complex has been closed for the last ten years due to a leaking pool liner and numerous failed repair attempts. Unfortunately, the complex is in an advanced state of decline from years of disuse. Weed trees have grown up amongst the fence surrounding the pool, paint is peeling, wood is rotting, and the entire facility has a patina of neglect. Its location near the entrance to the park causes some park visitors to mistake this structure for the Recreation Center, which is located further inside the park.

The **court sports area** is located just inside the main entrance on the east side of the access road. It includes a small parking lot, two small shade shelters, three tennis courts, and four basketball hoops. This area boasts the newest improvement to NH Scott Park – the newly refurbished basketball courts funded by the Atlanta Hawks in the summer of 2017. Likewise, the tennis courts are in good shape, having been recently resurfaced. The annual Back-to-School event at NH Scott is hosted in this area, and it is well-used by park enthusiasts year-round.



Community members are ecstatic about the newly renovated basketball courts made possible by the Atlanta Hawks Foundation.

The **picnic area** is located just north of the pool complex on the west side of the road. It boasts the largest picnic shelter in DeKalb County perched atop a small hill in a grassy setting. Just to the west of this structure, the second entrance to the park intersects with Mark Trail. This second entrance is gated and is used for maintenance access only.

The **Recreation Center** is at the literal and figurative “heart” of the park. Located in the park’s center, the Recreation Center houses many popular programs, including youth sports, senior programs, classes, after-school care, games, fitness, and special events. The Recreation Center includes a large gym facility with wooden floors, basketball hoops, and bleachers, restrooms, storage space, three flexible classrooms, a kitchen, a reception area, and a small office. The interior of the Recreation Center underwent renovations in recent years, and the current staff takes great pride in the quality of programs offered there. Outside the building there is a large parking area, a sizeable playground, picnic tables under a wooden pergola, and two concrete pads that used to be used as basketball courts. The



playground is relatively new and in good condition. The picnic tables and pergola are showing advanced wear and tear which require repair or replacement.

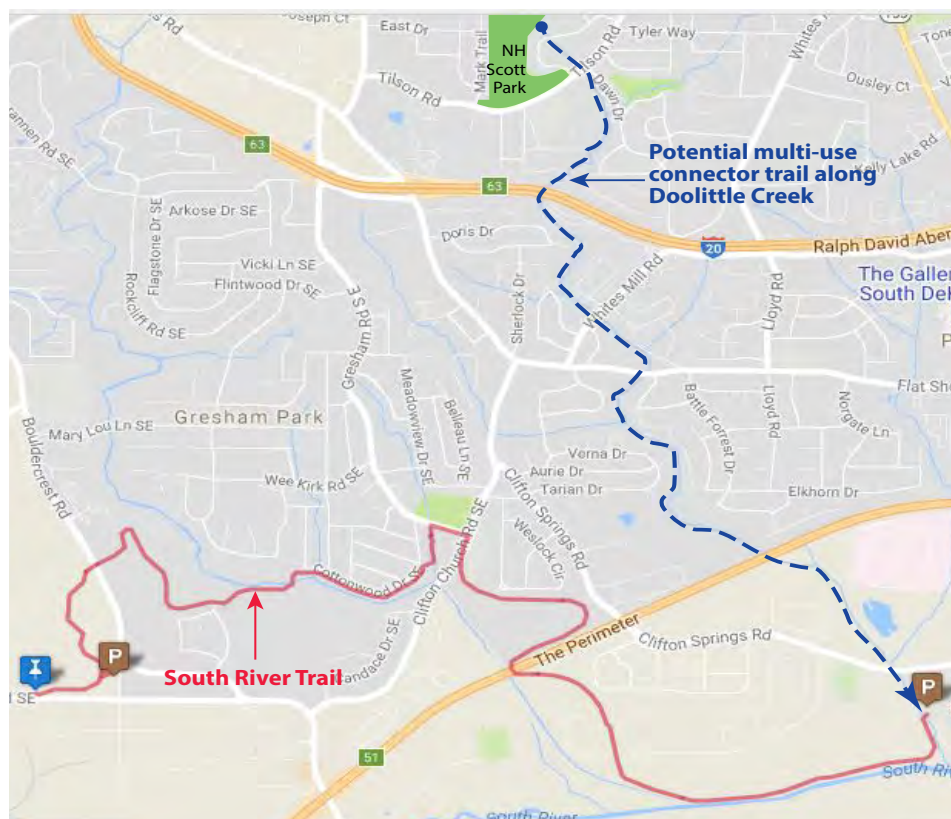
The **multi-use field** is located north of the Recreation Center and consists of a large expanse of flat turf enclosed by a 4-foot tall chain link fence. There is an informal parking area at the end of a gravel driveway where there is also a small shade shelter overlooking the woods. Adult cricket leagues host games and practices here, but the field also hosts soccer, football, kickball, and baseball games. Park goers also use the space as a dog park, though it is not designated for this purpose and leads to messy situations when the players encounter dog waste while playing sports. The remnants of a youth-sized baseball field reside north of the multi-use field, but this space has been overtaken by early forest succession.

The **woods** are located at the extreme north end of the park and comprise approximately 20 acres of land, or about 45% of the park's total

footprint. Three separate branches of Doolittle Creek converge as they flow southward through this part of the park. The topography in this area is characterized by a large floodplain with hills rising to the east and west of the creek. There is currently no programming in this part of the park, but long-time residents of the area remember that trails traversed the woods in times past.

Overall, NH Scott Park is an impressively large park with existing facilities to house a comprehensive suite of programs. However, large disparities are evident in the condition of these facilities from the pool complex, which is in an advanced state of deterioration to the basketball courts, which are brand new. Major investments are required to bring current facilities up to current standards of excellence seen elsewhere in DeKalb County, as well as construct new facilities to attract a broader base of park users. For instance, there is potential for a multi-use connector trail along Doolittle Creek that would connect NH Scott Park with the South River PATH, which will eventually link to the Atlanta Beltline and Arabia Mountain PATH.

Preliminary map showing the potential multi-use trail that would follow along Doolittle Creek and connect N.H. Scott Park with PATH's South River Trail.







Facing page: Community members of all ages took part in deciding what they wanted to see in their park at the Visioning Design Workshop.

Right: N.H. Scott's eagle mascot.



## Community Engagement

**Park Pride's mission** is to engage the community to activate the power of parks! In service of this mission, two vision plans are offered to Dekalb County parks every year through a competitive application process. The visioning program offers professional design services to community groups free-of-charge. A vision plan comprises a community engagement process that results in a conceptual master plan for the park. The plan can then be used by community groups to fundraise and advocate for improvements in their park.

In Spring of 2017, the Friends of N.H. Scott Park & Recreation Center were awarded a park visioning. The group was newly-formed, but extremely motivated to make positive changes happen in their park. The chair of the Friends group, Diane Echols, told a story of her childhood in Washington, DC where she had access to a large park and recreation center. This park and recreation center was the heart of her community. She was committed to providing that same experience for her own children here in Atlanta.

### Steering Committee

The visioning process was led by a volunteer Steering Committee of dedicated park users, park staff, neighbors, and sports enthusiasts assembled by general invitation extended to users of the Recreation Center. The Steering Committee achieved broad representation of skills and interests across the park. Members were all passionate about the power of N.H. Scott Park and its ability to bring the community together.

Between April and November of 2017, the steering committee met monthly, guiding the process, reviewing community input, preparing materials, and vetting results. They were charged with representing their constituencies and the voices of the broader communities surrounding the park.

Park visioning kicked off on April 18th with the first Steering Committee meeting, which was attended by ten community members and leaders. The park visioning scope was discussed at this meeting, and the project schedule was developed, which included four public meetings.

**N.H. SCOTT PARK VISIONING**

1. Email address \_\_\_\_\_

2. First Name \_\_\_\_\_

3. Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

4. Do you want to receive e-mail updates about the N.H. Scott Park visioning process?  
Mark only one  
☐ Yes, you can send me updates at the e-mail address listed above.  
☐ No, please do not send me e-mail updates.

5. What would you like to see in this park that isn't already here?  
 \_\_\_\_\_

6. If there are areas of the park that you don't use, what are they and why don't you use them?  
 \_\_\_\_\_

7. Considering things that you may want to see in N.H. Scott Park, rank the items listed below in order of importance from 1-7, 1 being the most important and 7 being the least.

— A quiet, calm place to experience nature	_____
— A place for active sports (tennis, or others)	_____
— A place for community gatherings, festivals, and holiday celebrations.	_____
— A place for family cookouts	_____
— A playground for kids	_____
— A place to walk my dog	_____
— A covered event space	_____

8. What do you like best about the way the park is now?  
 \_\_\_\_\_

9. Rate the following park concerns

Mark how often you see	Needs immediate attention	Medium priority, needs attention soon	Low priority, attend to as needed	Not a current concern
Accessibility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Safety (lighting, crime-prevention)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Litter Collection	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Invasive plants, Overgrowth	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ensement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maintenance and Repair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Safety (Facility hazards)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

10. If you have specific concerns about one of the above areas, please describe  
 \_\_\_\_\_

11. Would you walk to the park if there were more entrances?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

**N.H. SCOTT PARK VISIONING**

12. Tell us about yourself (Check all that apply)

☐ I have young children  
☐ I have teenage children  
☐ I have a dog(s)  
☐ I am an adult with no children (or none living with me)  
☐ I am under the age of 18  
☐ I have mobility concerns

13. What park amenities would you NOT like to see in the park?  
 \_\_\_\_\_

14. What other parks do you visit and why do you visit them?  
 \_\_\_\_\_

15. Is there anything you would like to add that hasn't been asked?  
 \_\_\_\_\_

The N.H. Scott Park survey used in the Visioning process.

In preparation for the public meetings, and to raise awareness of the visioning process, the Steering Committee created a survey to collect data from the community on potential park improvements. The survey was posted online, and hard copies were distributed at the recreation center and delivered door-to-door to each house that backs onto the park.

Park Pride also developed a logo for N.H. Scott Park based on their mascot of an eagle and their colors of burgundy and gold. Every effort was made to use these colors and the logo consistently in the materials generated for this project so as to create an easily recognizable "brand."

## Survey Results

In all, 70 people responded to the N.H. Scott Park survey. Though not statistically significant, this survey did provide some basic feedback on park uses and neighborhood priorities.

When asked what type of park N.H. Scott Park should be, 65% of survey respondents stated "a place for community gatherings, festivals, and holiday events." Other popular choices included "a place for active sports" and "a place for individual/family fitness."

Swimming ranked number one in response to the question "What sport(s) do you currently play or wish you could play at the park." The neighbors' desire to see the swimming pool restored and reopened resurfaced consistently in all of our outreach. This is not surprising considering the high visibility of the closed swimming pool facility and the strong desire among residents to see it open and available for public use.





Once again, a majority of survey respondents listed the pool as being a main park concern.

The second most popular answer was cricket. This park, along with several others in the DeKalb County parks system, host practices and games for adult cricket leagues. These players are passionate about their sport, which is popular among West Indian and South Asian communities in DeKalb. Other popular sports included soccer, football and basketball. It should be noted here that the most ardent users of the sports facilities are the youth who play organized sports through programming at the Recreation Center. Very few survey responses came from youth under the age of 18, which resulted in underrepresentation of their preferences.

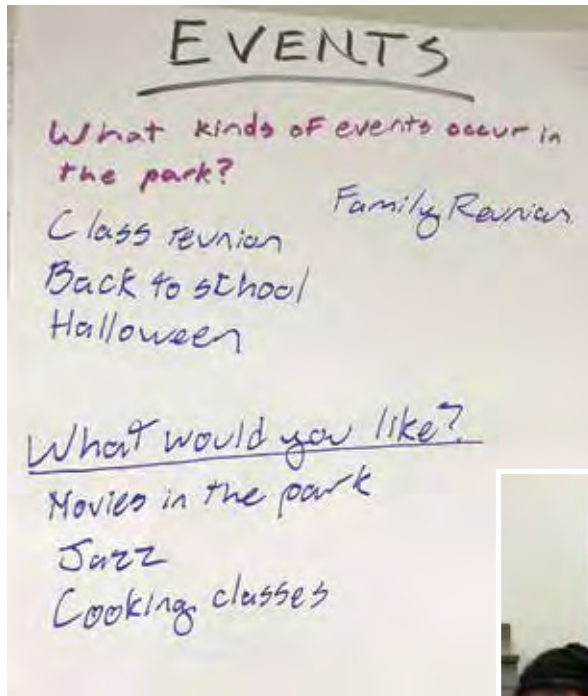
Many survey respondents also listed “watching from the bleachers” as a way in which they interact with sports programs at the park. This suggests that careful consideration needs to be given to sports spectators in providing them with comfortable places to sit.

In response to the question about top priorities for the park, renovation of the pool with a splashpad play area was far and away the most popular choice. Other priorities that emerged included dedicated sports

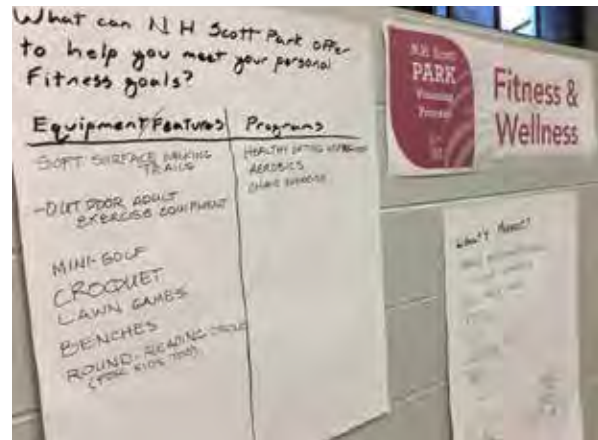
fields, better seating for watching sports, running and walking trails, and more public restrooms.

Respondents were also asked to rank concerns about the park. The perception of safety ranked highest among areas of concern, followed by maintenance and repair. Anecdotally, feelings of insecurity seem to be most pressing at night, when the park is technically closed, but remains open to vehicular traffic. Concerns over maintenance and repair seem centered on the closed pool facility, but extend to smaller features as well, including broken drinking fountains, lights, aging site furnishings, and general appearance of the park.

The survey also asked the question of whether respondents would be more likely to walk to the park if more neighborhood pedestrian entrances were added. Currently, the main road is the only route into and out of the park, so even though over 60 homes back onto the park, there are no easy ways in from the surrounding neighborhood. Almost 60% of respondents replied affirmatively that they would walk if pedestrian entrances were available.



At the first public meeting, community members brainstormed about what they would like the park to be.



## Public Meeting 1: Big Ideas

The first public meeting in the Park Visioning process is where big ideas are explored. At this stage the sky is the limit! Community members are encouraged to dream big about the sort of park they want in their neighborhood, rather than focusing on maintenance issues or current conditions. It's important that a big idea be formed and embraced by community members who will be driving the achievement of their goals for the park with public officials and potential funding sources.

The first public meeting for Visioning for N.H. Scott Park was held at the Recreation Center on June 27th, 2017. Approximately 20 community members, including a number of children, were present and gave preliminary input on the large goals and guiding principles for the park.

Posters were placed throughout the meeting room, each addressing a different focus group: Fitness & Wellness, Team Sports, Park Events, Games & Social, Teens, Kids & Pre-Teens, and Seniors. All ideas were recorded on these posters. Participants were also encouraged to draw pictures of their ideas and dreams.

Several ideas came out of this meeting. One key point of consensus was the role that active recreation and team sports play in bringing people together as a community. Meeting attendees most commonly listed active recreation and team sports as their top park activity. The recreation center already supports many youth and adult leagues for a variety of sports, such as cricket, soccer, football, track and field, basketball and dance. Renovating and reopening the pool area was the number one priority for a majority of participants.





## Public Meeting 2: Design Workshop

At the second public meeting, maps were laid out and the design process began.

The second opportunity for public input in the Visioning Process is a Design Workshop. This is where community members have a chance to think about how their big ideas might look. Park Pride's landscape architects are on hand to give advice and help translate ideas into sketches and diagrams.

On July 29th, 2017, a Visioning Design Workshop was held at the Back-to-School event at N.H. Scott Park. This meeting was structured as an open house with a series of preference exercises and an open design workshop to begin developing ideas from the first meeting and putting them into conceptual form.

Approximately 20 people participated in the Design Workshop. Several key findings emerged from the workshop, most notably, that there was a strong preference to not simply reopen the pool, but to create a place that could be used year-round.



N.H. Scott Park's Back-to-School event in August, helps students get what they need for the coming school year, including haircuts!



Corlan Beasley, Director of NH Scott Rec Center welcomes a group of 30 community members to the meeting.



Community members Jerrie Bason and Rodney Daniels discuss the preliminary concept for the park.

## Public Meeting 3: Presentation of the Preliminary Concept

The preliminary conceptual plan for the park was presented for review and comment at the N.H. Scott Recreation Center on August 29th, 2017.

Feedback from community members was largely positive, but some concerns were raised over the location of the dog park being more of a nuisance than an amenity.

Park Pride and the Steering Committee took these comments seriously and created more distance between the dogpark and the pool. An alternative location, off the current park site, was also discussed in order to meet community needs. With land acquisition, a vacant parcel adjacent to the southeastern section of the park could be another location for a dog park.

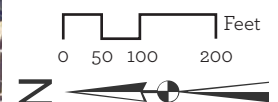


# NH Scott PARK Preliminary Vision Plan

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August 29th, 2017



# PRELIMINARY CONCEPT PLAN





# NH Scott PARK

## Preliminary Image Board

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August 29th, 2017







Community members at N.H. Scott's annual Halloween Fest set their priorities for the park's future.

## Public Meeting 4: Presentation of the Final Conceptual Plan

The final public meeting was once again held at the N.H. Scott Recreation Center at their annual Halloween Fest. On Friday, October 27th, the final version of the plan was presented, and comments were invited from the public. Community members stopped at the Park Pride booth to discuss future steps and priorities for the park.

In order to help determine which aspects of the park vision plan were top priority for the community, participants weighed-in with a prioritization exercise. Each person was given a sheet of "money" dots representing a total budget. Projects were listed according to the proportional amount each would cost. Community members could decide which projects to 'fund' using their money dots. See the results in the sidebar on the following page. A detailed list of projects and projected costs follows in the next chapter.



Above: Andrew White (in costume) of Park Pride, and Steering Committee members Rodney Daniel and Conrad Rogers are happy with the community's enthusiastic response.

# PRIORITY LIST

- 1. Natatorium
- 2. Multiuse Field with concessions and public restrooms
- 3. Picnic area and Mark Trail Entrance
- 4. Multiuse walking and bicycling trails throughout park
- 5. Repairing and adding drinking fountains throughout park
- 6. Toddler playground expansion
- 7. Baseball Field
- 8. Community Garden
- 9. Adult Fitness area
- 10. Dog Parks
- 11. New pedestrian entrances
- 12. Wayfinding signage throughout park

List of priorities determined by the community at Public Meeting 4 of the Visioning Process.





- Potential PATH connection to South River Trail via Doolittle Creek
- County-owned land
- Potential future acquisition & potential alternate location for dog park
- Existing basketball courts
- New shelters
- Existing tennis courts
- Directional signage
- Improved entry sign
- Large dog park
- Small dog park
- Expanded parking lot
- Gated secondary vehicle entrance
- Restrooms
- Paved parking lot
- Volleyball courts
- Picnic area playground
- Community garden
- Adult fitness equipment
- Directional signage
- Potential future acquisition
- Gas easement
- Waste enclosure
- Bridge
- Pedestrian entrance
- Existing shelter
- Concession building with bathrooms
- Bleachers (typ)
- Reconstituted baseball field
- Boardwalk over floodplain
- Bicycle trail around park
- Multiuse field
  - Cricket (300' diameter)
  - Football (120 yds x 53.3 yds)
  - Soccer (100 yds x 50 yds)
  - 1/4 mi track with 6 lanes
- Drainage around field
- Bridge
- Directional sign
- Pedestrian entrance
- McNair Middle School
- Tilson Circle
- Pinewood Drive
- Doolittle Trail
- Mark Trail
- East Drive
- Gas easement
- Natatorium with competition-size pool
- Picnic loading zone
- Expanded parking lot
- Directional signage
- Parallel parking
- Expanded parking lot
- Existing tennis courts
- Existing basketball courts
- New shelters
- Community garden
- Adult fitness equipment
- Directional signage
- Potential future acquisition
- Gas easement
- Waste enclosure
- Bridge
- Pedestrian entrance
- Existing shelter
- Concession building with bathrooms
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- Boardwalk over floodplain
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  - Cricket (300' diameter)
  - Football (120 yds x 53.3 yds)
  - Soccer (100 yds x 50 yds)
  - 1/4 mi track with 6 lanes
- Drainage around field
- Bridge
- Directional sign
- Pedestrian entrance









## Projects & Budget



Early conceptual rendering of the multiuse field

**This vision plan for N.H. Scott Park is intended to guide community-based development of the park, likely in a phased approach. At the final community meeting, attendees were asked to rank projects in order of priority to guide funding efforts and order of implementation.**



The list of projects and a brief description in order of priority is given below:

### **Natatorium with Competition-size Pool**

Survey results and prioritization exercises conducted in the community consistently find that the main priority for N.H. Scott Park is to reopen the pool. This project proposes building a natatorium, so residents can enjoy the pool all year round. The pool will be of competition size to support swim meets and practices. Other amenities within the renovated and revamped pool area include a splash pad and public restrooms. The parking lot will also be expanded to support the area.

### **Multiuse Field**

After the pool reopening, the next biggest priority, as found over the course of this study, is to make sure that the park supports active recreation and team sports. The recreation center hosts adult and youth leagues for cricket, football, and soccer, but the current multiuse field is not adequate for these activities. This plan proposes an artificial turf field big enough to host all three sports: cricket, football and soccer, plus baseball. A six-lane 1/4 mile track is proposed to surround the field in order to support track meets and practices. Other desired amenities include a concessions building with public restrooms, bleachers for spectators, and drinking fountains. The parking lot should also be paved and expanded to support the area and minimize erosion.

### **Picnic Area with Neighborhood Entrance**

Currently, there is only one entrance into the park. This plan proposes a second gated entrance on the west side of the park, off

Mark Trail, to allow residents easier access into the park. Expansion of the picnic area is proposed in this area, complete with two new pavilions, sand volleyball courts, a small playground, and public restrooms. A paved parking lot is added for access to this specific area as well.

### **Bicycle Trail throughout Park**

This project provides a more scenic and natural way for park-goers to get exercise. The 1.5-mile paved trail will be wide enough for both bicyclists and pedestrians to experience nature. The trail follows and even crosses Doolittle Creek in multiple sections. There is also a boardwalk section of the trail that takes trail users through the floodplain of Doolittle Creek.

### **Playground Expansion**

This plan proposes enlarging the size of the current playground area to accommodate younger-aged children plus a growing number of children in general. A new toddler area with toddler specific play equipment is needed. Shade structures are needed for both the play equipment and parents areas. A shade shelter, is proposed between the two play areas to serve these purposes. Keeping the playground in close proximity to the recreation center provides convenient parking and easy access to restroom facilities and indoor recreation opportunities.

### **Baseball Field**

Historical images of N.H. Scott Park show the existence of a baseball field in the northwestern corner of the park. This project includes reconstituting the baseball field in order to allow the recreation center to support adult and youth baseball, softball, kickball, and wiffleball leagues.

Bleachers will also be added to allow for comfortable spectating. The proposed fields is in close proximity to the multi-use field, so concessions, restrooms, and parking could be shared.

### Community Garden

Installation of a community garden in the park could provide both a place for individuals to garden if they don't have space at their homes, and a teaching place where kids could learn about growing (and eating!) fresh fruits and vegetables. Expenses for a community garden include initial bed construction materials, soil and soil amendments such as compost, and plants. Fencing is typically installed and a water source is key to maintaining plants. Community gardens require seasonal maintenance, and regular watering and weeding during the growing season.

### Adult Fitness Area

This project would supplement the recreation center by creating an adjacent outdoor adult fitness area fully stocked with new equipment. A large shade structure is

recommended to provide sun protection for users and equipment.

### Large and Small Dog Parks

Currently people are using the multi-use field as a dog park, which can cause problems when smelly surprises are left for athletes to step in. A dog park project would create two 1-acre fenced areas, one designated for small dogs and one for large dogs. Shade structures, benches, and agility equipment are scattered throughout both areas to create a more enjoyable experience for both the human and the canine. Waste receptacles and combined human/dog water fountains should be located near the entrances to the fenced areas.

In total, all of these improvements can be expected to cost about \$25.2M, using 2017 prices as a guide. These opinions of probable cost were not developed with the benefit of full construction documentation or a survey, and Park Pride makes no warranty as to their accuracy.

PROJECT	ESTIMATED COST
Natatorium and competition-size pool	\$20,474,000.00
Multiuse field and track/bleachers/concession/restrooms	\$1,739,000.00
Picnic Shelters with new entrance off Mark Trail	\$505,100.00
Bicycle trail throughout park	\$1,673,440.00
Playground expansion (tot-lot)/shade structure	\$283,00.00
Baseball field (t-ball)	\$330,000.00
Community garden with fence/water	\$13,500.00
Adult fitness zone with shade structure	\$110,000.00
Dog parks (large and small)	\$57,100.00







233 Peachtree St NE  
Suite 1600  
Atlanta, GA 30303

[parkpride.org](http://parkpride.org)