

**Legacy + Community Building Grant Application :  
Entry # 2508**

**Park Name**

Beaverbrook Park

**Name of Friends of the Park Group/Applicant Organization**

Friends of Beaverbrook Park

**Name of Person Submitting the Application**

Melanie Gilbert

**Email**

[melmhill@gmail.com](mailto:melmhill@gmail.com)

**Names of other Friends of the Park group members participating in the grant process:**

Dr. Jud Ready

**Park Location**

City of Atlanta - non-CDIA

**Project Budget**

200,000

**Grant Request**

100,000

**Demographic Information**

Buckhead: 77.5% white, 11% black, 6% Asian, 3% Other, and 2.2% two or more races. The largest and fastest growing age sector is the 20-30 age bracket. (per Livable Buckhead, 2021) Median income in Buckhead in 2015 was \$85K.

**Statement of Need**

The proposed area for development is currently covered in thick brush, poison ivy and copperhead habitats, making it unsafe and unsuitable for families to explore. However it is also filled with specimen trees, native plants and wildlife - Red Tail Hawks! Pileated Woodpeckers! River Otters! Carving a trail and including seating areas will make accessing this beautiful land safe and enjoyable for all. With Atlanta DPR's recent survey findings citing that access to nature and trails is a high priority for Atlantans, the Woods Trail will provide more opportunities for enjoyment and education in Beaverbrook Park on behalf of our neighborhood residents, visitors, scouting groups and more.

**Project Summary**

The Woods Trail at Beaverbrook Park will extend the park's existing trail through a currently undeveloped wooded area towards I-75 on the other side of a creek (tributary of Peachtree Creek). The path would include two pedestrian bridges over the creek, nature trail, seating areas, a short concrete sidewalk connecting to the existing sidewalk and two "interpretive rest

areas” along the trail that could accommodate a memorial, educational information about the park’s history, or donor recognition.

## Detailed Project Description

The proposed project is located at Beaverbrook Park, 2222 Brookview Dr. NW , City of Atlanta, NPU-C, Land Lot 018500030115. The trail would begin near the southwest corner of the park, extending via bridge across the creek to the western side , meandering through the woods and returning to the playground side of the park via a second bridge. Proposed materials include the use of two prefabricated bridges since they are sturdier, will require less maintenance, and pose less liability than a wooden boardwalk/bridge. The pervious, slatescape path planned for the western side of the creek will be a relatively inexpensive surface, easy to install and favorable during the permitting process. The trail has been designed and will be built to preserve and protect a stand of oak trees.

## Planning Documents

- [Beaverbrook-Park-Enlarged-Plan.pdf](#)
- [Concept-A-Phase-2B.pdf](#)
- [Concept-A-Phase-1.pdf](#)

## Project Value & Impact

This project will enhance the park that our community has already invested so much time and energy into. Beaverbrook is a beloved and heavily-used park, and to be able to maximize its use by making accessible a new area will add to its many features. The walking trail will also promote the park’s emphasis on physical activity (per our recently-erected exercise stations) and also seating options where visitors could commune with nature. Lastly, the Woods Trail gives our park deeper identity by allowing for designated areas in which we could honor local residents, feature public art pieces or share information/education about the park’s natural features and history.

## Community Engagement

Friends of Beaverbrook Park was formed in 1999 and we participated in the “Parks Visioning” process with Park Pride around 2008. Since then we have received two grants for playground, gazebo, exercise stations and a paved 1/3 mile walking loop. We’ve also participated in numerous NPU-C parks committee meetings and proceedings and will do so as necessary to complete this project. We have discussed plans and ideas for the park in our Wildwood neighborhood annual meetings, via our neighborhood newsgroup, and throughout our promoted fundraising efforts - and will continue to do so. The Wildwood Civic Association is currently developing an email newsletter which will include a regular update on Beaverbrook Park’s progress, proposed projects, cleanup events and donation appeal to keep neighbors informed, and the lines of communication and feedback with these stakeholders open.

## Project Timeline

2022

January - Park Pride grants awarded

February - Private & public sector fundraising efforts begin

August - Wildwood Civic Association membership drive and fundraising appeal

October - Pre-construction site clearing day, segment 1 - volunteer labor

December - Holiday fundraiser

2023

March - Fundraising complete

Pre-construction site clearing day, segment 2 - volunteer labor

April - Groundbreaking, construction begins  
July 2023 - Project completed & final report filed with Park Pride

### Application Budget Form

- [Beaverbrook-Park-Woods-Trail- -Legacy-Grant-Budget-Form-Sheet1.pdf](#)

### Cost Estimates

- [2021-10-21-Beaverbrook-Park-Phase-2B-estimate.pdf](#)
- [2021-10-21-Beaverbrook-Park-Phase-1-estimate.pdf](#)

### Public Matching Fund Commitments

- [Park-Pride-JPJim-Elgar-fund-confirm.pdf](#)

### Fundraising Plan

Our fundraising plan will include a combination of public and private funds and in-kind contributions. Organizations such as the Buckhead Coalition and nearby businesses have supported past improvements to the park and will be approached to support this project as well. Given the amount of funds required for the Woods Trail, we will also pursue platinum-level type sponsorships from larger local businesses. Given the flora and fauna present in our park, we may be eligible to also receive funding from the Georgia Audubon Society's Habitat Conservation Grant Program or similar sources.

Additionally, the Wildwood Civic Association and Wildwood residents have historically supported park improvements financially due to their potential impact on residential property values, quality of life benefits, and overall aesthetics of the neighborhood. In addition to a traditional appeal, we are also developing some creative fundraising ideas such as selling a signature neighborhood holiday decoration, possibly selling engraved pavers that will be integrated into trail rest areas, etc. And since we've held several very well-attended neighborhood cleanups over the years, we look forward to utilizing in-kind volunteer labor where it is appropriate and safe to do so.

A note on savings: We intend to find additional cost savings and efficiencies within the project as we fine-tune our plans and design. We have spoken with Atlanta Department of Parks & Recreation about funding one of the bridges since those account for the majority of the project cost; that initial conversation was promising. Also, our construction project manager believes we can reduce costs by several thousand dollars by combining phases into one execution.

### Before Photos

- [IMG\\_7913.jpg](#)
- [IMG\\_7911.jpg](#)
- [IMG\\_7903.jpg](#)
- [IMG\\_7900.jpg](#)
- [IMG\\_6543.jpg](#)
- [IMG\\_6542.jpg](#)

### Land Owner Letter of Support

- [Beaverbrook-Park-Trail-Addition-Park-Design-Review-210909.pdf](#)

## **Community Letters of Support**

- [JP-Letter-Woods-Trail-at-Beaverbrook-Park.pdf](#)
- [Beaverbrook-Wildwood-Civic-Assoc-Support-Letter.pdf](#)