



2023 PARK VISION PLAN

FOR FOUR CORNERS PARK



FACILITATED AND PREPARED
BY PARK PRIDE WITH
THE PEOPLETOWN COMMUNITY





This portrait of Mr. Rick McDevitt honors his commitment to the neighborhood. As does intergenerational commitment by current and future community leaders—pictured on the front cover—(top) the next generation of leaders and current leaders (bottom row, L to R) CJ Jones, Columbus Ward, Ms. Sherise Brown, and Mr. George Epps, and so many others not pictured.

Acknowledgements

This vision plan would not have been possible without the concerted effort of a devoted group of people with a deep love of their community. We were humbled and inspired by this community's forward-thinking initiatives that encompass all generations. As the current President of the **Peoplestown Revitalization Corporation**, **Mr. Columbus Ward** has been a community organizer and Peoplestown resident for decades. He generously shared his encyclopedic knowledge of the park and community with the group. He, along with **Mr. George Epps**, opened the Rick McDevitt Youth Center for our meetings. This modest building has offered vital programming and support to the community for decades. **Ms. Sherise Brown** steadfastly showed up to advocate for green building technologies and to make sure that all residents were heard. **Ms. May Johnson's** thoughtful ideas, community outreach, and big heart were instrumental in shaping this report. All provided vital insight into the role and needs of the youth center and park, that together form the heart of this community.

Also based at the park's community center, a pair of young men, **Mr. Czyz "CJ" Jones** and **Mr. Darrell "Jay" Johnson** run the self-funded youth program, **Dream Builders of Atlanta**, with a "leave the ladder down" philosophy. They graciously invited us to engage with the program's summer camp participants, where we learned what the next generation of leaders would like to see in the future of their park.

Current President of the **Peoplestown Neighborhood Association (PNA)**, **Mr. Donald Shockey** submitted the application for visioning and brought his professional planning expertise to the table, making sure we were considering larger contextual issues.

Mr. James Collins also provided input as an elected officer of both the PNA and NPU-V. Former President of the PNA and manager of the Four Corners Park community garden, **Mr. Chris Lemons** shared his perspective on the proposed garden expansion. As a local developer with projects near the park, **Ms. Fawn Sheffield** offered constructive and well-considered feedback on proposed park uses and plans. **Mr. Hike Nunnaki** showed up in the pouring rain to help engage residents at the Peoplestown Neighborhood Reunion and offered a gentle spiritual perspective to the group.

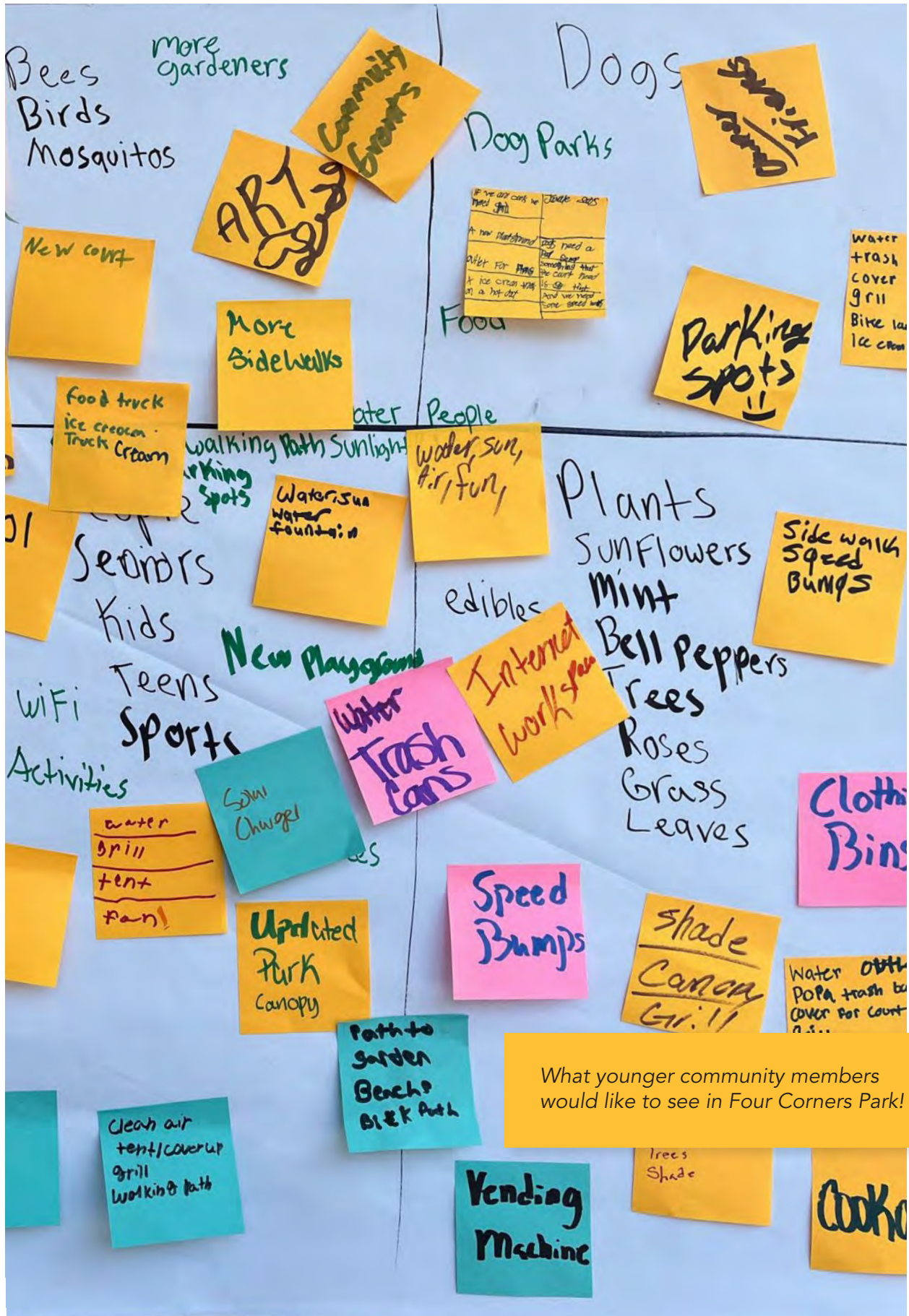
City staff members, **Ms. Tara Buckner** of the Department of Parks & Recreation and **Mr. Stephen Brooks** of the Department of Watershed Management, offered perspectives from their respective departments and helped engage in creative problem solving, particularly related to localized flooding and stormwater management.

We'd also like to thank City of Atlanta **Councilmember Jason Winston** for his support of Four Corner Park, for attending the second public meeting and listening to the ideas of the community.

Lastly, we'd be remiss not to mention the efforts of our two 2023 summer interns, **Ms. Nadya Pramaputri** and **Ms. Ornela Gjoni** whose production work and photographs show up throughout this document. We see great things ahead for both of you!

We thank you from the bottom of our hearts,
Andrew White,
Director of Park Visioning

Teri Nye,
Senior Designer, Park Visioning



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Rain did not dampen the enthusiasm of the Carver Marching Panthers at the September 2023 Peoplestown Reunion

In summer of 2022, the **Friends of Peoplestown Parks** applied for and were awarded a Park Pride visioning grant to create a vision plan for Four Corners Park. The public engagement process began in May 2023 and was completed in November 2023. A Steering Committee of ten community residents led the effort, guided by two City of Atlanta staff and Park Pride. The process followed the key steps below.

Park Name: Four Corners Park

Acreage: 4.8

Year founded: 1970

Address: 1040 Crew St SW, Atlanta, GA 30315

Classification: Community Park

Property Owner: City of Atlanta, Department of Parks & Recreation

Council District: District 4

Neighborhood Planning Unit: NPU V

Executive Summary

1 Ask the Community

The Visioning team studied the existing conditions of the park and its context through a **site analysis**, a review of historical records, and informal interviews.

An online **survey** was used to document the community's needs and desires for the park. Paper versions of the survey were distributed door-to-door to households within a 10-minute walk of the park as well as to park users.

To provide a central location for information, community input, announcements, survey results, and the public review of concepts and plans, Park Pride designed a **website** to support the park visioning process.

Three **public meetings** were held at the Rick McDevitt Youth Center in the park. The first, on August 30, 2023, included a virtual attendance option. The second and third meetings were held on September 27, 2023 and October 25, 2023, respectively.

Polling questions during the meetings and post-meeting online surveys were used to encourage participation and feedback. After each meeting, ideas and/or plans were displayed on the visioning website for a minimum two-week **public comment** period.

2 Establish Guiding Principles

During the first public meeting participants engaged in live electronic polling questions to establish their primary concerns and goals for the park. Based on this feedback plus survey data, the Steering Committee created a set of **Guiding Principles** for the park's future.

3 Review and Feedback of Draft Concepts

At the second public meeting **two preliminary concepts** for the park were shared and discussed. Community preferences were recorded through feedback forms distributed at the meeting, as well as an online survey distributed through email and the visioning website.

4 Agree on a Final Vision Plan

Based on community feedback, the preferred elements from each preliminary concept were combined into the **vision plan**. The vision plan was then reviewed by the community at the third public meeting, where project priorities were discussed and feedback was collected through both paper and online forms.

Vision Plan Key Features, Priorities, and Cost Estimates

The vision plan emphasizes the following key features.

**Costs are based on 2023 pricing for guidance only. More detail can be found in the Projects and Budget chapter. All projects subject to approval by City of Atlanta Department of Parks & Recreation.*

Four Corners Park	Est. cost
Expand & renovate Rick McDevitt Youth Center & surroundings	\$3,972,056
Relocate and cover basketball courts	\$902,360
Relocate and expand playground	\$1,282,046
Large pavilion & chess tables	\$405,720
Walking trail	\$340,584
Legacy garden	\$160,908
Community garden expansion	\$195,960
Green infrastructure	\$414,000
Miscellaneous projects	\$260,000
TOTAL	\$7,933,635

Guiding Principles

The following principles represent a strategic framework for the improvement and on-going stewardship of Four Corners Park. **All design-decisions should align with and support these guiding principles**, which were developed by the Peoplestown community during the park visioning process. These principles support the core values that are fundamental to Peoplestown.

1. Provide a purposeful space that **supports community events and fosters community, family, and individuals of all generations to build connections** that will last a lifetime.
2. Apply green building best practices (permeable pavement, green infrastructure, clean energy, and recycled materials) to **be a leader in sustainability in Atlanta**.
3. Provide a supportive space for community members to **improve mental and physical health and to enjoy nature** near their homes.
4. Provide a place that uplifts and supports community members to **pursue their purpose and dreams**.



Context

Property Description

Four Corners Park comprises 4.8 acres of land in the Peoplestown neighborhood in the City of Atlanta, Georgia. It is situated within City of Atlanta Council District 4, Neighborhood Planning Unit V, and Fulton County Commission District 4. The property includes almost the entire city block bound by Haygood Avenue to the north, Crew Street to the west, Weyman Avenue to the south, and Hank Aaron Drive to the east. Because it is bordered by streets on all sides, the park offers excellent visibility along its borders and multiple opportunities for access.

There is one privately-owned parcel remaining on the block, a small convenience store, on 0.1 acres of land. The business was in operation at the time of the visioning process but has since changed hands.

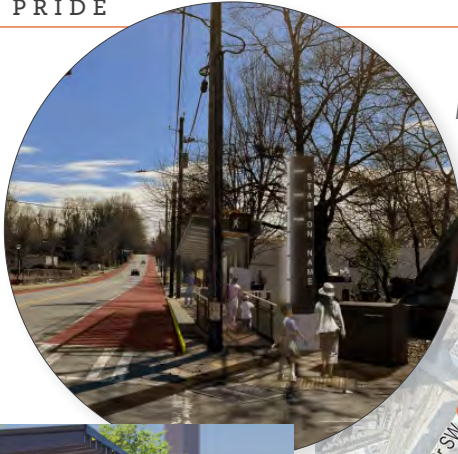
Below: The former McGruder's Grocery operated until recently on the only privately-owned lot within the block that includes Four Corners Park

Streets, Trails, and Transit

Hank Aaron Drive is a four-lane connector street with a posted speed limit of 35 mph. Running north-south in a straight line, the street connects the Peoplestown and Summerhill neighborhoods to I-20, I-85, and I-75; as well as downtown Atlanta, Georgia State University, the Georgia State Capitol and other points north. The street's name changes to Capital Ave, then Piedmont Ave north of Fulton St). The park's other three bordering streets (Haygood, Weyman, and Crew) are residential streets with posted speed limits of 25 mph. However, residents observe that the speed limit is routinely exceeded, particularly along Crew Street, which is a north-bound one-way street. Both Crew Street and Weyman Ave include a parking lane abutting the park.

At the time of this writing, MARTA provides four nearby bus stops, which are served by two bus lines: the #55, which stops at the park on Weyman Ave and connects downtown Forest Park to downtown Atlanta; Bus #155 (later rerouted) also runs along

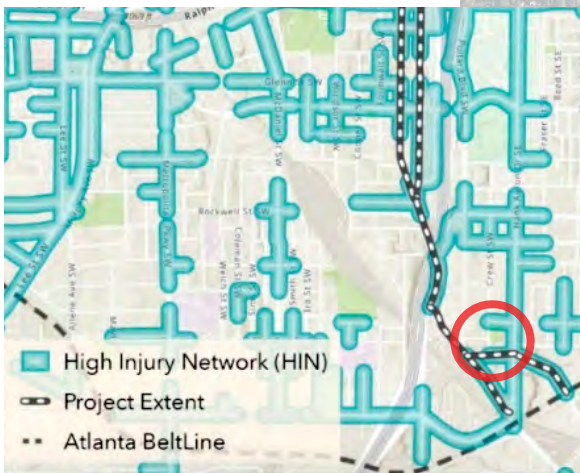




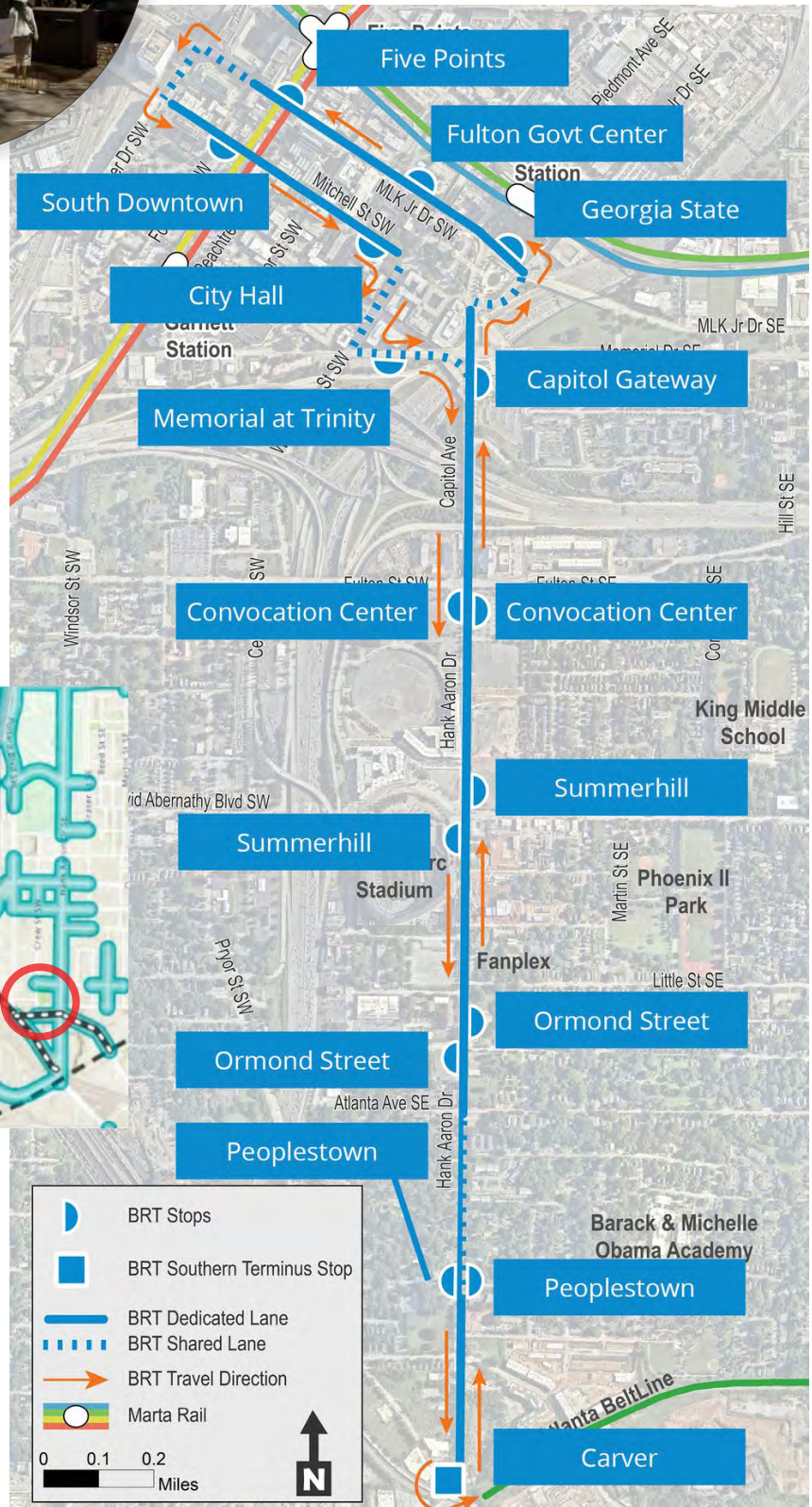
Left/left below: BRT shelter renderings (2022) provided for illustration purposes via itsmarta.com depict a stops at Haygood on Hank Aaron Drive, southbound and northbound. For additional details, see <https://itsmarta.com/rapid-a-line-overview.aspx>



Below: A complete streets plan (2023), funded by the federal government, will bring a complete street along the park's southern edge (circled in red below).



Right: The planning document shown here (dated 2022-03-10) can be found at <https://itsmarta.com/project-planning.aspx> under Project Planning Documents, Project Map with Station Names. This diagram does not reflect temporary, or ultimately, the permanent locations of the stops.



Weyman Ave and connects the West End MARTA train station to the Lakewood Heights community. MARTA is constructing a new **Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)** line along Hank Aaron Drive that will connect the Peoplestown neighborhood to downtown Atlanta. BRT is a robust bus line that offers a rail-like experience with dedicated bus-only lanes, level platform boarding, larger buses, and arrival information displays. The Peoplestown stop on this new BRT line is being constructed directly adjacent to the park at the corner of Hank Aaron Drive and Haygood Avenue. Refer to itsmarta.com for current routes and schedules.

There is currently no multiuse trail connectivity to the park, but the Atlanta BeltLine lies just 0.25 miles away. At the time of this writing, the Southside segment of the BeltLine was in different stages of completion, with some portions fully finished, others under construction, and others unpaved but shovel-ready, waiting only for sufficient funds to commence construction. The BeltLine has been a major driver of investment and redevelopment along its length and has a mixed legacy as that reinvestment and redevelopment has also displaced many families. In Peoplestown, the promise of the BeltLine is driving redevelopment of large tracts along its length, which forms Peoplestown's southern border.

In February of 2023, the City of Atlanta received a \$30M federal grant to fund a **complete street** connection between downtown Atlanta and the Southside BeltLine along Pryor Street and Central Avenue. This area includes Weyman Ave along the park's southern edge. At the time of this writing, there was no timeline for the construction of this project.

Neighborhood

The surrounding area is primarily composed of single-family and multifamily homes with some smaller businesses like McGruder

Grocery also gaining toehold in the community. For the last several decades, Peoplestown has been an intown community for Atlanta's workforce, providing affordable places to live in close proximity to jobs in downtown and midtown Atlanta.

In more recent years, development pressures have begun to influence the neighborhood as more affluent families are attracted to the lifestyle of intown living. Large multifamily complexes and multiuse developments have been constructed or are planned for construction in the near future. In neighboring Summerhill, an explosion of new development centered around Center Parc Stadium (formerly Turner Field), has brought a new Publix grocery store, student housing, and several restaurants along Georgia Avenue, just a short distance from the park.

These pressures are not unique to Peoplestown and can be seen in many historic neighborhoods in Atlanta. Demand for housing in Atlanta is leading to rapid redevelopment and price increases, with older modest homes and vacant lots being redeveloped into homes with larger footprints, often without consideration for the architectural scale or historical character of the neighborhood. These trends can be characterized as gentrification and lead to justified fears held by legacy residents, largely Black, who worry they will be priced out of their neighborhoods. Without policies and protections in place for these residents, it can be expected that these trends will continue, driven by market forces.

An important landmark in the neighborhood—and a source of hope and comfort for many—is **Emmaus House**. Founded in 1967 by Rev. Austin Ford and located at Haygood Avenue and Hank Aaron Boulevard, the Emmaus House has played a significant role in shaping the history of the neighborhood through programs and advocacy that address food insecurity, poverty, substandard housing, education, and other social justice challenges.



Barack and Michelle Obama Academy is the only school in Peoplestown.

Photo credit: Atlanta Public Schools

Schools

Barack and Michelle Obama Academy, formerly known as D.H. Stanton Elementary School, is the only school in the Peoplestown neighborhood. The school has an enrollment of just over 250 students. It feeds into Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School and Maynard Holbrook Jackson High School. The school, scheduled for closing in 2012, was saved by the Board of Education after Peoplestown residents showed up and spoke out strongly against the closing.

Parks

There is one additional public park in the Peoplestown neighborhood, D. H. Stanton Park, which is located east of Four Corners Park and adjacent to the Southside BeltLine trail at the corner of Boynton Ave and Martin Street. D. H. Stanton Park totals 7.6 acres and is named after Daniel Hector Stanton, a minister and source of spiritual inspiration for the community. It was renovated and expanded in 2011 with funding from the Atlanta BeltLine. The park includes solar panels that power the lights and the splash pad. Other amenities include a large playground, Little League-sized baseball field, pavilion, and a walking trail.

Watershed

Peoplestown is located almost entirely within the Intrenchment Creek watershed, which feeds into the South River. Flowing

across south Atlanta, the South River joins the Alcovy and the Yellow rivers 60 miles downstream to form the Ocmulgee River. In turn, the Ocmulgee River flows to Macon, Georgia where it meets the Oconee and becomes the Altamaha River – Georgia's largest river, which drains into the Atlantic Ocean near Little Saint Simon's Island on Georgia's coast.

The headwaters of this vast river network lie beneath the streets of Peoplestown, which is served by the Custer combined sewer area. Having a **combined sewer system** means that stormwater flows into sanitary sewers rather than directly into creeks. Combined sewer areas are the legacy of historic models of wastewater design typical in older cities. Periods of intense rain, can overwhelm system causing localized flooding. Such an event occurred in July 2012, which spurred the City to invest almost \$20M in the Southeast Atlanta Green Infrastructure Initiative. This project, completed in 2019, entailed repaving approximately six miles of streets with permeable pavers in Peoplestown, Summerhill, and Mechanicsville.

At the time of this writing, the Custer Avenue Multi-Benefit Capacity Relief Project was also in development to provide a community greenspace that doubles as flood reduction and prevention.

History

Peoplestown is rich in history and legacy. While it is beyond the scope of this report to offer an exhaustive history, we do offer a brief outline of some of the major events and people who helped shaped the neighborhood and Four Corners Park. The source for much of this information comes from Larry Keating's excellent history of the community "Peoplestown: Resilience and Tenacity Versus Institutional Hostility," published in 1999 and available for viewing at the Kenan Research Center at the Atlanta History Center. Following is a written summary along with a **graphic timeline** on pages 12 and 13.

In 1619, Africans were brought by ship to the colony of Virginia and sold to white colonists. This year is used to mark the beginning of slavery in America.³

In 1732, James Oglethorpe established Georgia as the 13th, and last, British colony in North America. Initially, from 1735-1751, slavery is prohibited as the colony is intended to provide work for unemployed Britons and to serve as a buffer from Spanish encroachment from the south. In 1742, Spain was defeated on St. Simon's Island and no longer a threat to wealthy planters of colonial South Carolina. Georgia's Trustees were eventually convinced that slavery would be more profitable than paying poor white labor. Subsequently, slavery was legalized in the colony of Georgia.

Pre-Colonial and Colonial, as European colonization spread inland, groups of Muscogee-speaking people organized into a loose confederacy for the purposes of negotiation and joint defense. For generations, the Muscogee (Creek) people inhabited all the land that would become Atlanta as well as vast lands south and east

of the Chattahoochee River. This territory was lost through territorial cessions to the United States and State of Georgia, lastly by a Muscogee leader named William McIntosh. McIntosh, son of a Scottish immigrant, claimed to speak for the whole tribe in negotiations, and accepted personal payments of land and currency in exchange for releasing Muscogee claims to much of what is now Georgia. Although McIntosh was later executed by a contingent of Muscogee for his actions, the Muscogee people were forcibly removed to Oklahoma in 1836 during a series of events commonly known as the Trail of Tears.

Between 1805 and 1833, land taken from the Muscogee and Cherokee peoples was redistributed to European colonists through a series of eight land lotteries. The land where Four Corners Park now stands was **allotted in 1821 in District 14, lot 74** of what was then Henry County. Land lot 74 was 202.5 acres large and was sold to the "fortunate drawer" for a total of \$19.00.

Peoplestown is named for the Peeples family, a prominent Atlanta family of lawyers and judges, who owned much of the land in the area. Cincinnatus Peeples (1817-1899), the patriarch of the family, was a Colonel during the Civil War and later became a judge.

During the **Victorian era**, Peoplestown grew around the streetcar system, which extended radially out from downtown Atlanta and down Capitol Avenue. There were several major paved, tree-lined streets, along which wealthier families were concentrated. Poorer Black families were distributed at the rear of the lots, accessed via alleys. In its beginnings, Peoplestown was occupied by white families, with Black communities segregated within it.

Continued on page 14



1921 map of Land Lot 74. The current location of Four Corners Park is marked with an orange star.

Source: Kauffman's Map of the City of Atlanta and Suburbs, 1921, VIS 290,001.032.011, location: Cart 1. Map collection, ahc. VIS290. Kenan Research Center at Atlanta History Center.



Remnants of one of the Etowah Mounds in North Georgia, Wikimedia Commons, by Kåre Thor Olsen, 2007

People have inhabited the North American continent for thousands of years, well before European colonization. Early humans were nomadic but began to cultivate crops. Eventually complex civilizations and cities were organized. “Mound building” cultures spanned approximately 5000 years, from as early as 3500 BCE (Before Common Era) to 1600 CE (Common Era) across central and southeastern North America. **The years shown on this timeline are all in the Common Era (CE).**

1619 The earliest record of enslaved Africans arriving in colonial Virginia and being sold to colonists. The year has been used to mark the beginning of chattel slavery in America.¹

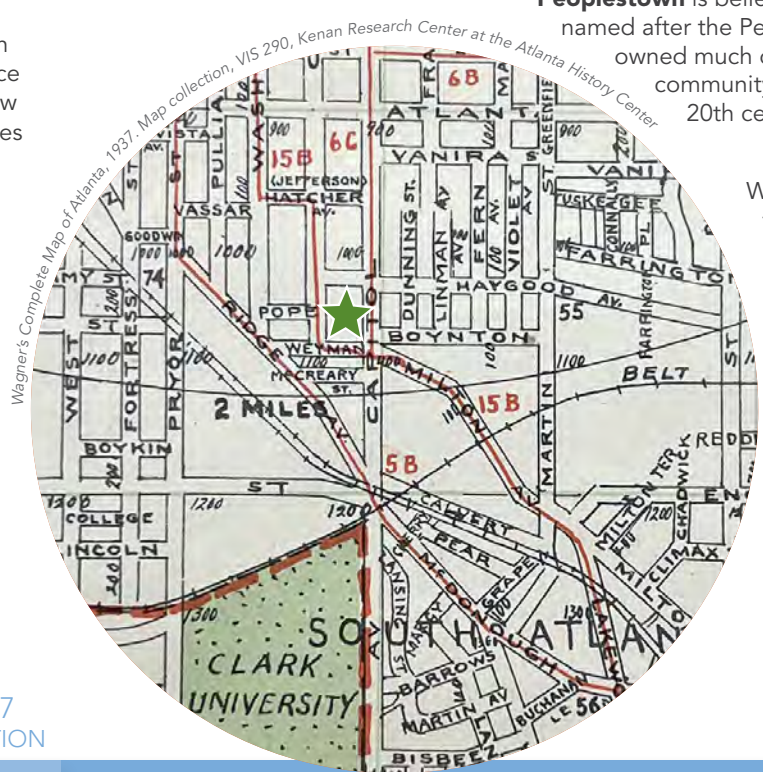
1732 James Oglethorpe established Georgia as the 13th, and last, British colony in North America. From 1735-1751, slavery is prohibited in the colony. In **1742**, Spain is defeated on St. Simon’s Island and no longer a threat. Colonial Georgia’s Trustees decided that slavery would be legalized in the Georgia colony.

1821 The federal government forced Native American people to leave their land in Georgia through the Indian Removal Act

1805 - 1833 LAND LOTTERIES

The land that Four Corners Park now occupies was taken from the Muscogee (Creek) people and allotted to white settlers as part of the **1821** land lottery.

1865 President Abraham Lincoln assassinated; Vice President Andrew Johnson becomes president of the United States



Wagner's Complete Map of Atlanta, 1937. Map collection, VIS 290, Kenan Research Center at the Atlanta History Center

Peoplestown is believed to be named after the Peebles family who owned much of the land in the community at the turn of the 20th century.

When the first streetcar traversed the neighborhood in **1885**, Peoplestown became a streetcar suburb of Atlanta. Wagner’s map from **1937** (pictured) shows a well-developed network for streetcars, shown in red, serving the neighborhood. The present location of Four Corners Park is indicated with a green star.

1936-1946 John Wesley Dobbs, voter registration and civil rights advocate, increased registered Black voters in Atlanta from 600 to 20,000

1948 the first Black police officers (8) were hired by the Atlanta Police Department, the “Atlanta 8”



Photo, Atlanta Police Department, https://x.com/Atlanta_Police/status/98127914352548249

1959 Dr. Irene Dobbs Jackson (daughter of John Wesley Dobbs and mother of future Mayor Maynard H. Jackson Jr.) challenged Atlanta’s segregated public library system and was the first Black person in Atlanta to receive a library card from the formerly all-white Central Library

ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS

1700

1800

1850

1860



Established counties and American Indian territories as of 1814. Carey's General Atlas of Georgia

1853 Fulton County is established from the western part of DeKalb County. After the Great Depression, Milton and Campbell Counties became part of Fulton County in 1932.

1837 “Terminus” was founded where the Western & Atlantic Railroad ended. In 1842, it was renamed “Marthasville, and incorporated as “Atlanta” in **1847**

1861 - 1865 CIVIL WAR

1865-1877 RECONSTRUCTION

1870

1880

1890

1900

1920

1930

1940

1950

1960

JIM CROW ERA

1877 Reconstruction ends with the withdrawal of federal troops from the South

1865 Atlanta University is founded; it is first to grant graduate degrees to Black students.

1867 Augusta institute is founded and moves to Atlanta in **1879** to become **Morehouse College**

In **1869** Clark College is founded in a church in Summerhill.

In **1877** it is chartered as **Clark University** and in **1883** moves into a stately 450-acre campus in South Atlanta (now Lucius D Simon Sr. Memorial Park and Carver STEAM Academy). Source: <https://www.cau.edu/about/history>

1897 W.E.B. Du Bois joins the faculty at Atlanta University as a professor of history and economics



1907 Warren Hall, Clark University, in South Atlanta (now the site of Lucius B. Simon Park)

1908 The first female-led Black social advocacy organization in Atlanta, the **Neighborhood Union** was formed by **Lugenia Burns Hope** to fight inequity in Black neighborhoods.



Neighborhood Union Collection, AUC Robert W. Woodruff Library

1919 Washington Park is established as the first public park for Black people in Atlanta. At the time it opened, it was the only public park available to Black Atlantans. In 1922, Washington Park’s initial pool became the first in Atlanta open to Black residents. Prior to Washington Park’s pool opening, Black residents were only allowed to swim in Lakewood Park one day per year.²

1952 faced with a decline in white voters due to **white flight**, Atlanta annexes 82 square miles and increases the white population by 100,000 people.³

Additional Timeline Sources

1. The New York Times Magazine. “The 1619 Project.” August 08, 2019. Retrieved from <https://nyti.ms/37JLWkZ>.
2. Every Park Tells a Story, Future Places Project. 2020. City of Atlanta, Department of Natural Resources Historic Preservation Division. <https://atlfutureplaces.atlantaga.gov/every-park-tells-a-story>
3. Kruse, Kevin. White Flight: Atlanta and the Making of Modern Conservatism. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2005
4. Lands, LeeAnn. “Emmaus House and Atlanta’s Anti-Poverty Movements.” Atlanta Studies. April 2, 2015. <https://doi.org/10.18737/atls20150402>

Photos:

Etowah Mound B, by Kåre Thor Olsen, https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:USA-Georgia-Etowah_Indian_Mounds-Mound_B.jpg

Warren Hall, Clark University, 1907. <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/ppmsca.31162>

Mrs. Lugenia Burns Hope, 1908. Neighborhood Union Collection. Atlanta University Center, Robert W. Woodruff Library. <http://hdl.handle.net/20.500.12322/auc.050:1000>.

The Atlanta 8, April 3, 1948, https://x.com/Atlanta_Police/status/98127914352548249

1960s URBAN RENEWAL

Clearing of "blight" (Black neighborhoods) was used to enforce racial segregation via urban planning and design. The practice led to the demolition of large portions of Peoplestown, Mechanicsville, and Summerhill for highway and stadium construction.⁴

1965-69 After ongoing empty promises and inaction, Black communities across the country erupted in anger, resorting to more aggressive strategies to improve living conditions in Black neighborhoods. **1966 Riots in Summerhill** (also known as the **Atlanta Rebellion**) lead to short-term action within the city but little to no lasting change.

1967 Emmaus House is established in the Peoplestown neighborhood by the Episcopal Diocese.

1968 FAIR HOUSING ACT



Public Domain

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/ppmsca.42048>

1972 Shirley Chisholm (D) runs to be the Democratic Party's presidential nominee. One of her **campaign stops is the Peoplestown neighborhood**. She was the first Black woman to be elected to the United States Congress, representing the 12th District of New York.

Photo: Rough Draft Atlanta, July 14, 2011



1980 (below): As a child, Ms. Rakia Reeves, enjoying the 'spray pool' at Four Corners Park



Photo used with permission from Ms. Rakia Reeves

Mr. Richard **'Rick' McDevitt** (d. 2021) was a dedicated advocate for juvenile justice reform. The **Youth Center reopened in 1990** bearing his name with a mission to keep kids out of jail. Mr. Columbus Ward has been running community programs out of the center since its early days.

1990s REINVESTMENT

Long before the current interchange at I-20 and the 75/85 Connector was built, an affluent Jewish community existed in this location (1890s-1930s). By the 1940s, the neighborhood fell into decline as the city strategized to keep separate Black communities from the central business district. Urban renewal and freeway building were two of those strategies.

In the **1950s**, the area was cleared to make way for construction of I-20 and the 75/85 Connector, and in **1964-65**, for the Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium. The Model Cities Program moved quickly to demolish homes but proposed relocation support for displaced families did not materialize. Peoplestown absorbed many families.⁴

1970-1973 FOUR CORNERS PARK ESTABLISHED & YOUTH CENTER CONSTRUCTED



Atlanta History Center, Kenan Research Center

1980s DISINVESTMENT

1982 Lack of funding leads to the **closure** of Peoplestown Youth Center until 1990.

COMMUNITY CHAMPION

Ms. Ethel Mae Matthews (1933-2005) was a pillar of Peoplestown. In the 1980s, she put her body between the bulldozers and the community center in Four Corners Park, **saving the building that would become the Rick McDevitt Youth Center**. Ms. Matthews also founded the Atlanta Welfare Rights Organization.

Photo credit: Lewis, Boyd, 1944-. "Ethel Matthews." Atlanta History Center. 1969/1989, <https://album.atlantahistorycenter.com/digital/collection/byd/id/1081>.

1994 Construction of the Olympic Stadium



1996 Sculpture, "Spirit, Family, Community" by Ayokunle Odeleye is installed in Four Corners Park

We Still Say NO to the Olympic Stadium!

We **DO NOT** want our grandchildren to pay for
...the cancer of more surface parking lots
...our neighborhoods to be further destroyed
...any further suppression of working and poor people's needs and aspirations for equality, freedom and social justice!

We **DO** want a New and Different Quality of Life!

We are going to build a Poor People's Village prior to the Olympic Stadium Groundbreaking Ceremony on Saturday, July 10th.
We know that you are concerned about the future of the central city and want to begin to change it! Let's start with Tent City!!

1996 OLYMPICS

1999 "In Search of Awe" by Eleanor Hand is installed at Four Corners Park



Photo: 1994, Olympic Stadium Construction, Kenan Research Center Atlanta History Center

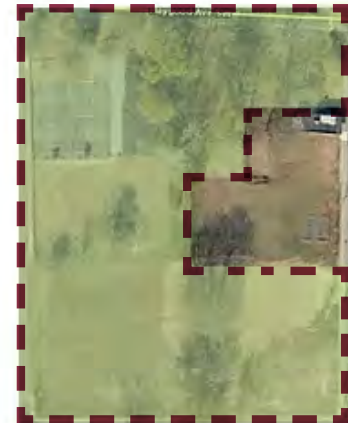
2000s PARK EXPANSION

Between 2006-2008 the Trust for Public Land acquired most of the block and conveyed the land to the City for park expansion. Shortly afterward a community garden was founded along the east side of the park just south of McGruder's Grocery, which supplied water for the garden. The Friends of Peoplestown Parks also completed a combined park vision plan with Park Pride for D. H. Stanton and Four Corners Park in 2006. D. H. Stanton Park was completely renovated in 2011.

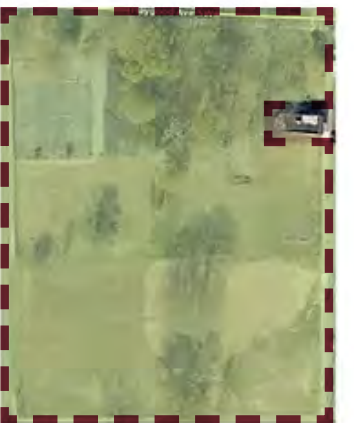
1970



2006



2008



Future
Coming soon!



Four Corners Park
PEOPLESTOWN • ATLANTA

2023 Four Corners Park undertakes **vision planning** with Park Pride

2025 Friends of Four Corners Park applies for and is awarded a Park Pride **Legacy Grant** awarded for improvements to Four Corners Park. Pictured, left to right, CJ Jones, Columbus Ward, Sherise Brown, and George Epps.



Photo: 2025 Park Pride

Continued from page 11

The late 1920s brought a substantial change in the composition of the neighborhood. It was then that the upper classes started to commute in automobiles and moved north along Peachtree Street. The voids were filled by Jewish and Eastern European residents. Eventually, the east side of the neighborhood shifted from having several segregated Black communities to being almost 100 percent Black residents.

In the 1960s, several local, state, national government, and private business initiatives brought disruption into the neighborhood. The construction of **Interstate 75/85** sliced off the west side of the neighborhood and caused many homes to be demolished. Other outside influences such as the Washington-Rawson urban renewal project and efforts to build a stadium were crucial factors that would alter the geographic pattern of the neighborhood.

One key feature of Peoplestown residents is their resiliency and zeal to fight for the betterment of their neighborhood. One of the more notable figures of commitment to social change and fighting poverty is Rev. Austin Ford. In **1967, Ford founded the Emmaus House**, a community center sponsored by the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta, which would soon turn into an engine of fostering development through educational, cultural, social, and transportation programs.

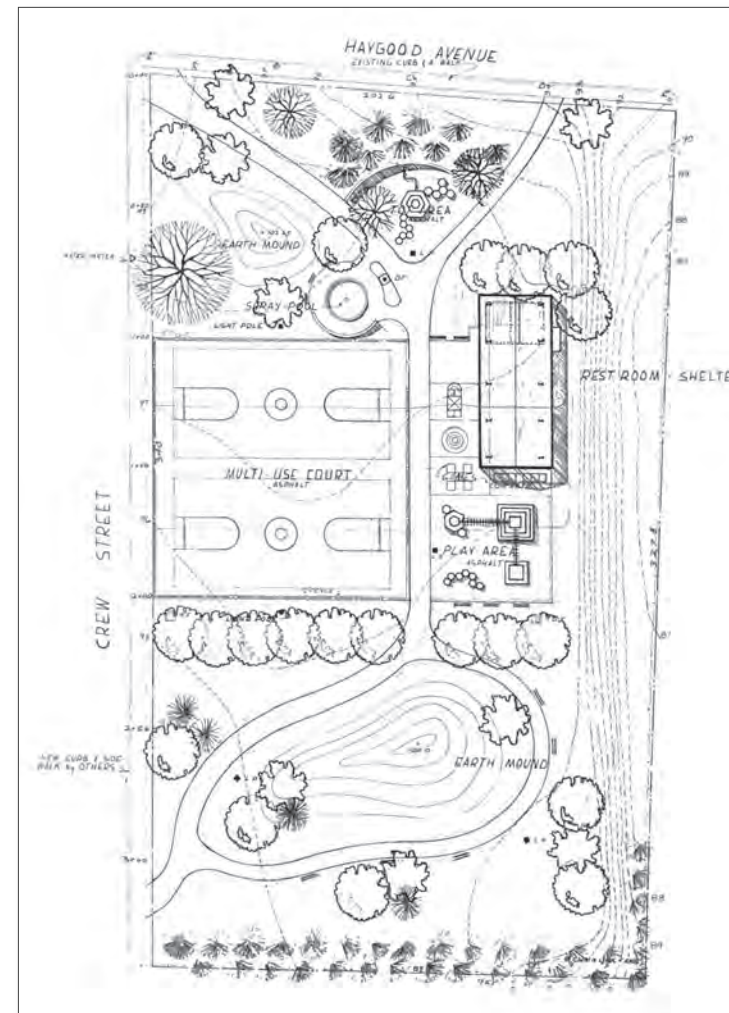
Four Corners Park opened in 1970 at the corner of Haygood Avenue and Crew Street. At just under 1.5 acres, the new park included a spray pool, two basketball courts, a playground, and a shelter with restrooms. According to Columbus Ward, Executive Director at Peoplestown Revitalization Corporation, the name "Four Corners" comes from Dennis Goldstein (a local resident and volunteer at Emmaus House), and his favorite passtime of the "funky four corners" dance step. It is, as far as we know, the only park in the region named

after a dance craze, also commemorated by musician Lee Dorsey's song "Funky Four Corners," released in **1968**.

In **1973**, the Model Cities Program (a program of the Department of Housing and Urban Development) funded construction of the recreation center by retrofitting the picnic shelter as an enclosed building for the cost of \$27,000. Nine years later, in **1982**, the recreation center was closed due to staffing cuts made to the Department of Parks and Recreation. Shortly afterwards, efforts to bulldoze the center were thwarted by residents, especially **Ms. Ethel Mae Matthews**, founder of the Atlanta Welfare Rights Organization. She stood in front of the bulldozers until they were called off.

The center finally reopened in its current iteration as the Rick McDevitt Youth Center in **1990** through the combined efforts of private and public dollars. The center's namesake, **Mr. Rick McDevitt** was a tireless proponent of juvenile justice reform in Georgia, and one of the principle purposes of the refurbished center was to provide afterschool programming and juvenile justice diversion and counseling programs. **Mr. Columbus Ward** was among the center's very first counselors.

During the 1990s, two art pieces were commissioned to be placed at Four Corners Park. The first, a bronze monument titled **"Spirit, Family, Community"** (aka The Peoplestown Monument), was made by local artist Ayokunle Odeleye. The monument was erected in **1996**, which prompted the community to use it as a representation of Mechanicsville and Peoplestown in various media. The second art piece, completed in **1999**, is titled **"In Search of Awe,"** a blue-and-yellow playhouse by sculptor Eleanor Hand. Hand involved local children, neighbors, artists, and other benefactors in the process of creating the art piece.



Previous Plans

This park vision plan follows decades of planning in the Peoplestown community. Following are concepts for the park that have been developed in the last 50+ years.

1970

The original plan for Four Corners Park (left) shows a spray pool, two play areas, restroom shelter, and earthen mounds. The "restroom – shelter" would later be enclosed to create the Peoplestown Youth Center. Courtesy of City of Atlanta Department of Parks & Recreation. This plan was partially implemented.

1996

Peoplestown Community Redevelopment Plan (below) created for Four Corners Park as part of a mixed-use area as shown in the 1996 Peoplestown Community Redevelopment Plan (updated in 2005). Four Corners Park is called out as part of West Civic Square. Linkages are shown between the block and the Atlanta BeltLine, as well as sidewalks around the entire perimeter. It is referred to as the "civic and recreational center of Peoplestown." This plan was not implemented.





2006

Park Pride Vision Plan (left) Completed for both Four Corners and D. H. Stanton Park, this plan proposed a massive acquisition of vacant industrial land to connect both parks to the BeltLine, this acquisition did not materialize. The vision plan extolled the “vibrancy” of Four Corners Park as a genuine place of community congregation. In 2011, D. H. Stanton was completely renovated, Four Corners Park was not.



2009

Atlanta BeltLine Plan (left) proposed a reorganization of Four Corners Park partially inspired by the 2006 Vision Plan. The plan emphasized spacial unification of the park through regrading, preservation of tree canopy, and provision of space for active and passive recreation. This is the only plan for the park that removed the community center altogether. It was not implemented.

2016

Livable Center Initiative plan (above) focused on redevelopment of Turner Field after the Atlanta Braves relocated to Cobb County in 2013, however, mentions Four Corners Park as “unquestionably... the center of the neighborhood,” along with Emmaus House. The LCI plan called for park improvements and strengthening Hank Aaron Drive as the community’s “signature street.” and proposed a connection between Four Corners Park and D. H. Stanton Park via a greenspace along Boynton Ave. This did not happen.



2017

Watershed Improvement Plan

(left) prepared by the City of Atlanta Department of Watershed Management, identified three green infrastructure projects in and around Four Corners Park. These projects were identified because of their potential to “improve the water quality, biotic integrity, and habitat of streams and watersheds.”



The Rick McDevitt Youth Center displays positive messaging through its series of murals

Existing Conditions

Four Corners Park encompasses almost an entire city block, measuring just under five acres. The original extent of the park in the northwest quadrant of the block contains most of the built amenities, including the Rick McDevitt Youth Center, two basketball courts, a playground with playable art, a picnic shelter, and a small playing field lined with wooden benches. The rest of the park is mostly passive greenspace, with a mixture of open turf fields and clusters of trees.

Rick McDevitt Youth Center

The Rick McDevitt Youth Center was originally constructed as an open-air picnic shelter in 1970, and shortly thereafter was retrofitted with exterior walls and an addition, giving the building its current footprint. The structure is set back 125' from Crew Street behind two rows of chain link fences, which enclose the basketball courts. The one-story building is clad in simple vertical board siding with two narrow windows facing the court, but otherwise

no natural light inside the building. Four exterior doors (without glass) are spaced along the west façade, and a hipped shingle roof with a deep roof overhang provides a covered walkway along the front. The building is mostly painted a light shade of sage green, but also includes three murals relaying messages about community, positive thinking, and collaboration. The building does not have a dumpster or formal waste management area beyond the standard plastic herby-curbies, which are stationed along the building's north façade in front of one of the murals.

The interior of the building includes spaces for different activities, a small computer lab, recording studio, office space, storage, community meeting room, and cinderblock restrooms (an artifact of the building's previous life as a picnic shelter). Fluorescent lighting is set within low drop ceilings over floors finished with vinyl tile or bare concrete. Most rooms serve multiple purposes.



The mural on the north facade of the Rick McDevitt Youth Center is partially obscured by waste receptacles

The building's humble architectural appearance belies its importance to the community as a vital hub of education, engagement, and mentorship. The neighborhood groups who steward and use the space have made do with the building in its present condition, but the current facilities are inadequate to match the needs of the groups who call Four Corners Park home.

Recreational Facilities

Two full-size basketball courts are situated between the youth center and Crew Street. The courts, enclosed with 10' tall galvanized chain link fence, are surfaced with asphalt, and include four double-rim hoops. The courts are very active and get almost constant use from neighborhood youth and young adults. The basketball court is in fair condition with cracking asphalt and fading striping. Though serviceable, there are many examples of superior basketball facilities in the City of Atlanta park system.

A small playing field is located south of the basketball courts. This open space can host pick-up lawn games, small soccer matches,

and other informal play. The field also has a tall, galvanized fence along its border with Crew Street. Several wooden benches line the southern edge of the field but are in poor condition with missing or warped members, splintering timber, and exposed hardware.

Below: The wooden benches along the south side of the playing field are in poor condition.

Bottom: The basketball courts are popular and receive almost constant use for play and events.



Playground & Picnic Shelter

The children's playground area consists of two pieces of play equipment between the basketball courts at the corner of Crew Street and Haygood Avenue. The play equipment is in good condition but limited in play value, consisting only of climbing apparatuses. The safety surface is engineered wood fiber (mulch). Four-foot-high galvanized chain link fencing separates the play area from the street.

Directly adjacent to the playground is a small picnic shelter with a single picnic table. This area also includes a half dozen mature shade trees that are much beloved by the community.



Public Art

There are two sculptures in Four Corners Park that are part of the City's permanent art collection: **In Search of Awe** by Eleanor Hand (1993) and **Spirit, Family, Community** by Ayokunle Odeleye (1996).

In Search of Awe is a unique sculptural playhouse that is located within the playground as one of the two pieces of climbing equipment. It was designed and constructed collaboratively with neighborhood youth.

Spirit, Family, Community is a bronze monument commissioned by the City of Atlanta Bureau of Cultural Affairs and the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games. It is located at the corner of Hank Aaron Drive and Haygood Avenue. The sculpture is well known in the community, and its likeness is sometimes used to represent Mechanicsville and Peoplestown in newsletters, calendars, and brochures.

Above: "Spirit, Family, Community" is prominently displayed on the west side of Hank Aaron Drive at Haygood Avenue.

Left: The playground includes two pieces of play equipment, including a net climber (above left) and a unique playhouse structure entitled "In Search of Awe" by artist Eleanor Hand (left, bottom).



Above: The main park entrance at the corner of Crew St and Haygood Ave is also used by vehicles due to the lack of ADA parking.

Below: the community garden is popular with residents but located in an area of possible CSO contamination. Raised beds are essential.

Bottom: A sinkhole has formed near the community garden

Community Garden

The community garden along Hank Aaron Drive has had different iterations of form and management since it was founded in 2010. It consists of a wooden fence surrounding several food-producing plots, a compost area, and pollinator garden. It includes a cast iron hydrant that supplies water as well as other supportive site furnishings. The garden lacks a formal entrance or loading area.

Stormwater

The southeast corner of the park and Hank Aaron Drive nearby, is a low point in the area and prone to flooding during events when the underground stormwater system is overwhelmed. In the park, a cluster of mature and new trees define an isolated wetland where stormwater collects after heavy rain events. Though inadvertent, this unintentional stormwater feature is effective at preventing some degree of flooding in homes surrounding the park.

A sinkhole has also opened near the community garden, which is speculated to be the result of old drainage infrastructure associated with historic development on site.



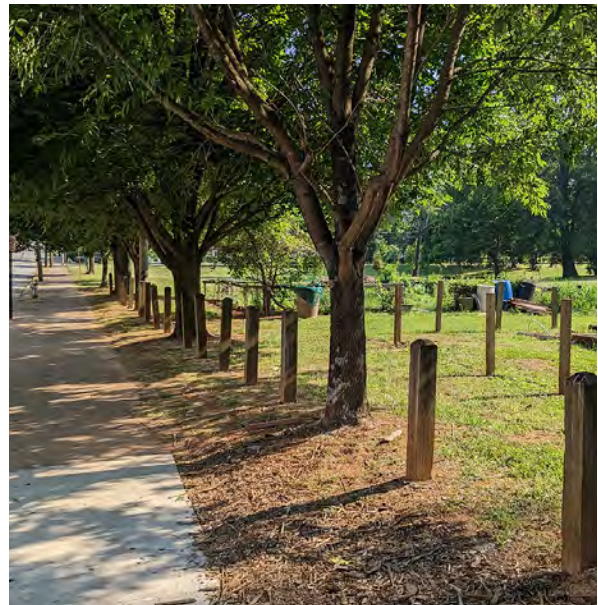
Access and Parking

There are neither formal vehicular entrances into Four Corners Park nor any sanctioned surface parking inside the park. However, there are three locations where vehicles customarily access the interior of the park. First, the concrete plaza outside the Rick McDevitt Youth Center is frequently used as informal parking for seniors to access the building. Second, a remnant curb cut offers access to the community garden from Hank Aaron Drive directly across from Boynton Ave. Third, a small remnant driveway apron and gravel pad remain on Haygood Avenue. Motor vehicles are discouraged from entering other parts of the park using wooden bollards spaced along the perimeter. Despite the absence of formal surface parking, ample parallel parking is available along Weyman Avenue, Crew Street, and Haygood Avenue.

Above: Timber bollards extend partway around the edge of the park to discourage vehicular intrusion

Below: Mature and new trees thrive in the low-lying wetland in the southeaster quadrant part of the park

Paved pedestrian access to the park is limited to the northwest quadrant, where three sidewalk connections exist, offering access to the pavilion, playground, basketball courts, and youth center. The only park identification sign is located on the corner of Crew Street and Haygood Avenue, which is regularly planted with annual flowers by park maintenance crews.





Youth from the Dream Builders Summer Camp participated in a design charrette for Four Corners Park.

Community Engagement

Park Pride's mission is to engage communities to **activate the power of parks**. In service of this mission, Park Pride offers visioning grants to parks in the City of Atlanta through an application process.

The visioning staff at Park Pride facilitates a public engagement process for parks awarded a park visioning grant, while community feedback informs and guides the creation of the vision plan. The plan balances community input with applicable laws, regulations, and accepted best practices to arrive at a realistic park plan and comprehensive report, produced to professional standards. This plan is intended to be used by community groups to raise funds and advocate for their desired improvements in the park. It may also be used by municipal partners to guide publicly-funded investments.

Steering Committee

The steering committee for this visioning process included people who have been a vital part of the Peoplestown community for many years as well as newcomers interested in investing time in their new community. Longtime community organizations, such as the Peoplestown Revitalization Corporation,

Peoplestown Neighborhood Association, and Neighborhood Planning Unit V, all had representation on the committee. Additionally, organizations that are housed in the Rick McDevitt Youth Center, such as Dream Builders of Atlanta, were involved at every stage. The committee also included members of 555 Seniors, Community Information Champion, and representatives from the City of Atlanta Departments of Parks & Recreation and Watershed Management. The steering committee met monthly at the Rick McDevitt Youth Center from May 1 to November 6, 2023.

*Below: The steering committee met for the first time on May 1, 2023. Pictured left to right are Chris Lemons - longtime resident and urban farm advocate and grower, Ms. Sherise Brown - longtime resident and community advocate, Columbus Ward - chair of Peoplestown Revitalization Corps, Czyz "CJ" Jones - co-founder of Dream Builders of Atlanta, Fawn Sheffield - real estate developer, Teri Nye and Andrew White of Park Pride (standing behind), Stephen Brooks of the DWM, Tara Buckner of DPR, and Donald Shockey - president of Peoplestown Neighborhood Association. **Not pictured:** George Epps - Director of Community Corps at The Rick McDevitt Youth Center, legacy resident May Johnson, new resident Hike Nunnaki, and Darrell "Jay" Johnson co-founder of Dream Builders of Atlanta.*



Community Involvement

The Steering Committee needed no assistance getting the community involved, the Peoplestown community *is* involved—and has been for decades—with Four Corners Park as the hub of this superpower. Park Pride hitched our Park Visioning wagon to their wide range of events and collected the second highest amount of feedback, hopes, and dreams for this 5-acre park in the history of the Park Visioning program. All ages and stations of life contributed written and informal input.

Youth Design Charrette

In the summer of 2023, Park Pride teamed up with **Dream Builders of Atlanta**, a self-funded organization founded by Cxyz (CJ) Jones and Darrell (Jay) Johnson of Peoplestown, to provide area youth with a place to learn life skills and to build a lifelong support system. Each summer, the

organization facilitates a summer camp at Rick McDevitt Youth Center for kids ages 10-18. They graciously invited Park Pride's Visioning team to conduct a focus group with the participants. We learned what kids love about the park and what they'd like to see in its future. They were introduced to potential careers in landscape architecture, architecture, planning, urban design, and construction, while participating in a design charrette where their voices were heard.



Photos on this spread: Park Pride



Peoplestown Reunion 2023

Each year Peoplestown organizes a reunion on the grounds of Four Corners Park for current and former residents of the neighborhood to celebrate, reconnect, and make new friends. The reunion of 2023 was a bit challenging with nearly constant rain, but that didn't deter the crowd or the Carver High School Mighty Marching Panthers. Park Pride joined the fun by offering reunion-goers a place to have their say about the park's vision plan. Steering committee members pitched-in to explain the process and its goals to participants.

A little rain did not deter community members from attending the Peoplestown Reunion and enthusiastically contributing to the park visioning process



Photos this page by Omela Gioni for Park Pride 2023



Steering committee member, Darrell "Jay" Johnson





2023 VISION PLAN FOR

Four Corners Park

PEOPLESTOWN • ATLANTA



* Point your phone's camera at this code and click the link

Scan* the QR code to go to the
Four Corners Park visioning website

From there, you can:

- Take the **Park Visioning Survey** and let us know what YOU want the park to be
- Find the public meeting schedule** for opportunities to learn more and chat with your neighbors
- Find out more about the park and its history



PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULE

Wednesday, Aug 30, 6:30pm – 7:30pm
Rick McDevitt Youth Center - 1040 Crew St SW
(virtual option available on website)

Wednesday, Sept 27, 6:30pm – 7:30pm
Rick McDevitt Youth Center - 1040 Crew St SW

Wednesday, Oct 25, 6:30pm – 7:30pm
Rick McDevitt Youth Center - 1040 Crew St SW

parkvisioning.wixsite.com/fourcornerspark



Photo by Ornela Gjoni for Park Pride 2022

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Sign-up to distribute surveys, flyers, and yard signs!!

See below where help is needed and let everyone know what area you will be covering. Surveys and yard signs are available at the Rick McDevitt Youth Center. There are **15 yard signs** (with H-stakes) to place in strategic locations **1-week prior to public meetings** with **date and time**. Let everyone know if you take one and where it will be. Take it down immediately after the meeting. Post flyers as recommended below.



Four Corners Park



Four Corners Park

PEOPLESTOWN
ATLANTA

TAKE PART
in creating a
VISION PLAN!



Scan me to
learn more!

Public meeting on _____
at the **Rick McDevitt Youth Center**
1040 Crew St., SW, Atlanta, GA 30315

parkvisioning.wixsite.com/fourcornerspark

This page: flyers and yard signs were created to advertise public events and included QR codes that linked to the visioning website. Right: A strategy for survey distribution, which was managed by the community.

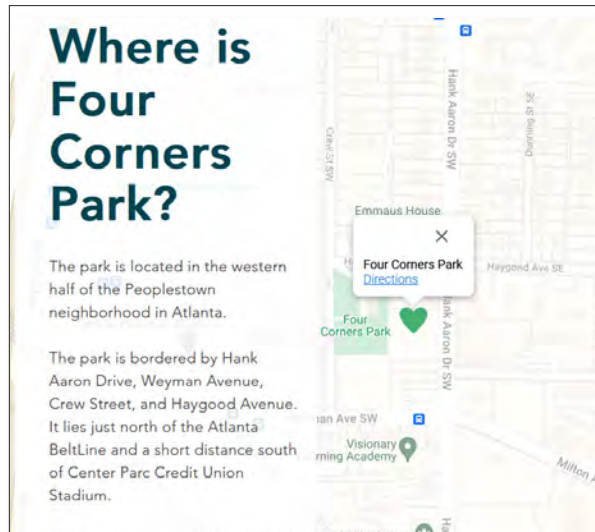
Opposite page: Paper surveys were distributed to the community through a variety of neighborhood events and communications channels.

Vision Branding and Website

To clearly identify the public materials and events related to the park visioning process, Park Pride created a system of consistent visual graphics, including a website that hosted the survey, progress updates, site inventory and analysis information, a timeline of the park and neighborhood development, meeting presentations, and survey results throughout the process.



Four Corners Park PEOPLSTOWN ■ ATLANTA



Park Pride's student intern, Nadya Pramaputri, contributed a logo design and branding for the visioning process. Ornela Gjoni, also an intern from Georgia Tech, contributed on-site photography and additional graphics for the effort.





2023 VISION PLAN FOR

Four Corners Park

PEOPLESTOWN ■ ATLANTA



Home

History

Vision Plan

We are pleased to share the vision plan for Four Corners Park and the Rick McDevitt Youth Center below, based on community feedback. It is important to note that there is currently no funding for any of the projects shown in the plans. This is normal. The visioning process is the first step in establishing community needs and is crucial for planning future funding available through a multiple resources, including both public and private.

Guiding Principles

The plan revolves around these four guiding principles that serve as the main goals for the park design.

1. Provide a purposeful space that supports community events and fosters community, family, and individuals of all generations to build connections that last a lifetime.
2. Apply green building best practices (permeable pavement, green infrastructure, clean energy, and recycled materials) to be a leader in sustainability in Atlanta.
3. Provide a supportive space for community members to improve mental and physical health and enjoy nature near their homes.
4. Provide a place that uplifts and supports community members to pursue their purpose and dreams.

Click the image below to download a PDF version of the vision plan.

NOTE: You will need Adobe Acrobat Reader to view the files, which is free for download here:

<https://get.adobe.com/reader/>

The file is large, so we recommend you use a computer or tablet rather than your phone.

Four Corners Park Vision Plan



Images on these two facing pages are screenshots from the park visioning website created for the process.

Park Visioning Public Meeting Schedule

Big Ideas Meeting

August 30, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Concept Plan Review

September 27, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Final Plan Presentation

October 25, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Tear off and save this schedule!

All meetings will be at
Rick McDevitt Youth Center
(1040 Crew Street, SW)

To take this survey online, scan the QR
code on the opposite side or go to
<https://bit.ly/VisioningFourCornersPark>

Where is Four Corners Park?



How do you usually get to Four Corners Park? (select one)

- ☐ Walk ☐ Car ☐ Other _____
☐ Bike ☐ Public Transportation _____

How often do you go to Four Corners Park?

- ☐ Daily ☐ Only on weekends ☐ Rarely
☐ Few times/week ☐ Few times/month ☐ Don't go

What neighborhood do you live in?

- ☐ Peoplestown ☐ Summerhill ☐ Other (write below) _____
☐ Pittsburgh ☐ Mechanicsville _____

How long have you lived in the neighborhood? (circle one)

Less than a year 1-5 years 6-10 years More than 10 years

Tell us who lives your household (check all that apply)

- ☐ infant-5 yrs ☐ 6-12 yrs ☐ teenagers ☐ no children
☐ Seniors
☐ Person with mobility challenges
☐ I have dog(s) that I walk (or would like to walk) in the park

Are you interested in volunteering to improve Four Corners Park?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure/Depends

Contact Information (identity of survey-takers will remain confidential), fill
this out if you would like to be emailed about the park visioning process or
volunteer opportunities with Four Corners Park.

First & Last Name _____

Email _____

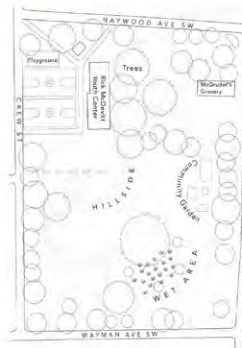
Return surveys to the dropbox outside the
Rick McDevitt Youth Center or complete online at
<https://bit.ly/VisioningFourCornersPark>

Survey closes on September 20, 2023



**Four
Corners
Park**
PEOPLESTOWN
ATLANTA

Take part in the Visioning Process!



SHARE YOUR IDEAS HERE!

Be part of designing
a vision plan for Four
Corners Park! Let us
know your ideas by
taking this survey,
and by drawing your
dream park too!



Why do you visit Four Corners Park? (select all that apply)

- ☐ to go to the playground
☐ to participate in a program at the youth center
☐ to relax/be in nature
☐ to exercise outdoors
☐ to play/practice/watch basketball
☐ to spend time with friends/family
☐ to walk/play with my dog
☐ to play another sport
☐ Other _____

What do you like most about Four Corners Park?

What are the TOP 3 challenges facing Four Corners Park? (select the three most urgent challenges)

- ☐ Deferred/overdue maintenance issues
☐ Difficulty accessing the park
☐ Invasive plant overgrowth
☐ Litter/illegal dumping
☐ Not enough parking/illegal parking in the park
☐ Not enough places to sit/gather with friends or family
☐ Not enough to do
☐ Lack of investment in facilities
☐ Safety and security
☐ Standing water after rain (mosquitoes)
☐ Other: _____

Tell us more about the challenges you identified above (where or when they occur)

What are the TOP 5 amenities you would like to see added or improved in Four Corners Park? (select ONLY 5, share more about your answers in the box below, more space is available online)

- ☐ Amphitheater/hillside seating facing field
☐ Beautification/art
☐ Information about local history, ecology, or culture
☐ New benches and trashcans
☐ Community garden improvements
☐ Community kiosk for information
☐ Basketball court improvements
☐ Stormwater management with rain garden/green infrastructure
☐ Improve existing indoor event/meeting facilities
☐ More gathering places (grilling/outdoor picnic areas)
☐ Playground improvements
☐ Outdoor fitness equipment
☐ Walking circuit with distance markers
☐ Restrooms, accessible when recreation center is closed
☐ Restrict parking in park, provide dedicated parking area
☐ Security measures: lighting, cameras, eliminate overgrowth
☐ Off-leash dog play area
☐ Other: _____

Tell us more about the amenities you identified above

Is there anything else you'd like us to know about the park?



Four Corners Park
PEOPLESTOWN • ATLANTA

Four Corners Park is already an
important asset to the Peoplestown
community. **Park Pride**, together
with the **Friends of Peoplestown
Parks**, and Atlanta's Department of
Parks & Recreation, want to know
what could make it even better!

Each person in your household can
complete this survey one time. If
you'd like to complete the survey
online, scan the **QR code below**.

The QR code links to the park's
visioning website where you can
learn more about the process, find
meeting schedules, dip into the
park's history, and offer feedback
online. We look
forward to hearing
from you!

**Survey closes
Sep 20, 2023**



Above are reduced-size images of the
paper version of the community survey.
This survey was also available online via
a QR code.

The Community Survey

Park Visioning is a community-driven endeavor. One of the most important tools we use to learn about and transparently record public opinion is the community survey. The survey, along with in-person feedback at meetings and events, identifies major hurdles facing the park and how the park is, or is not, meeting the needs of its community. The survey is produced in paper and digital formats (online using the "Alchemer" app), to capture feedback from as many people as possible.

In all, there were 232 responses to the community survey. The survey was open from July 8 until September 20, 2023.

Survey Distribution

Steering Committee members worked door-to-door to get the word out and distribute surveys. As teams, they took responsibility for blocks or clusters of homes within walking distance of the park. Flyers and paper surveys with QR codes were delivered to single-family homes and multifamily complexes, as well as to schools, small businesses, and other community gathering spots. Responses were submitted on paper or digitally via a QR code link on the survey, flyers, and yard signs. A dropbox was placed at the Rick McDevitt Youth Center for completed surveys and blank paper copies. Data from the paper surveys were input into the online survey and merged with the digitally collected feedback.

COMMUNITY OPINION SURVEY RESULTS

Four Corners Park

FULL RESULTS IN THE APPENDIX

Question 1 (Q1): Why do you visit Four Corners Park



"OTHER" RESPONSES:

555 Senior Meeting (9)
Community meetings (4)
Outdoor/Social events (3)
Use the computers (2)
Volunteer (1)
Community garden (1)
Game/movie/date night (1)
Walk/play with my cat (1)
Rest (1)

Q2: What do you like most about Four Corners Park?

*Full list of answers can be read in the Appendix

"The family atmosphere no matter your race, religion or sexual preference you are **welcomed** and **loved** at Four Corners Park"

"Having a gathering spot for **all ages** to enjoy"

"I spent **my youth** here and it's a great park"

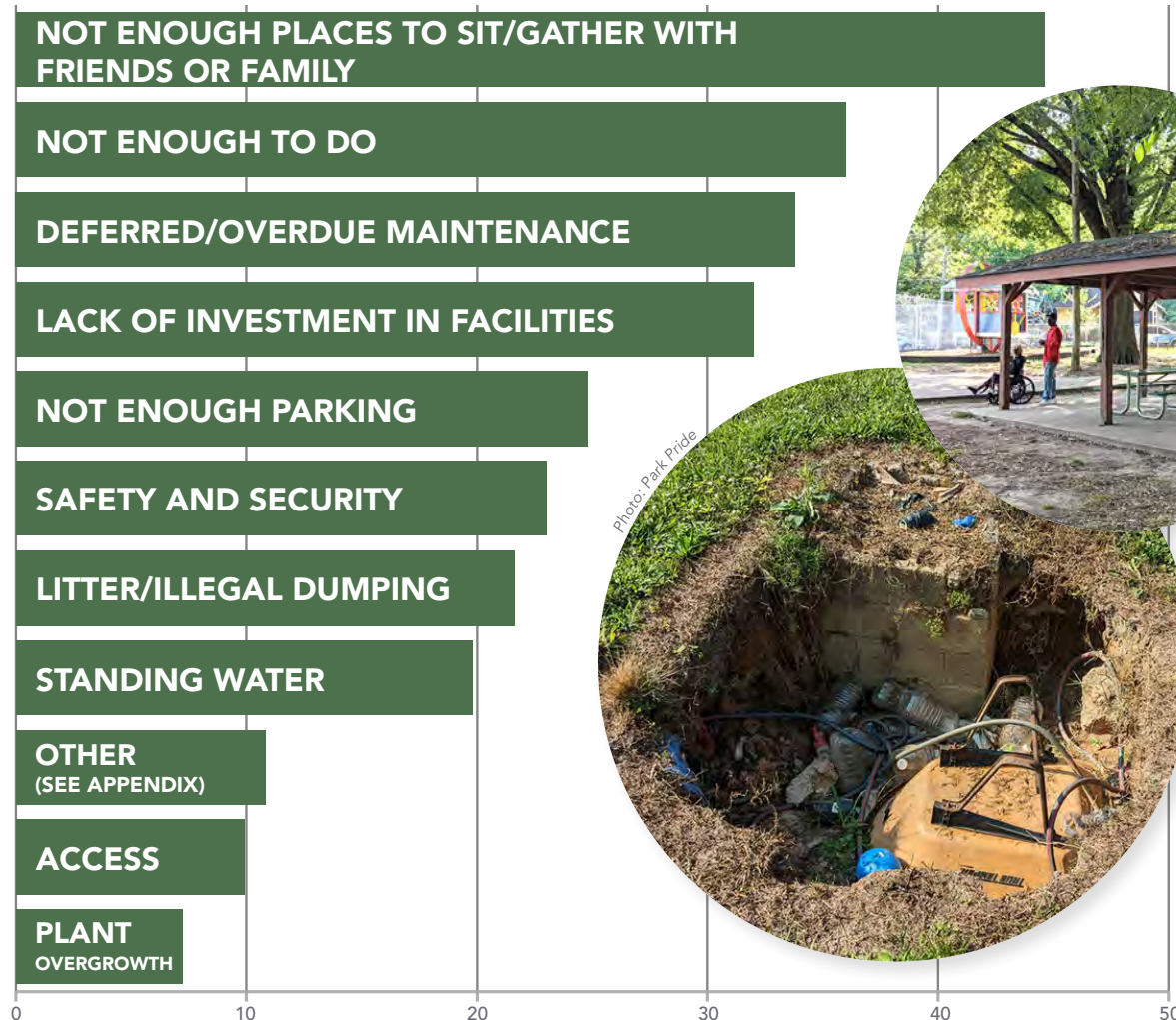
"I like the **open space**, the **pavilion** where the community can gather, and the **basketball courts/playground** for the kids"

"A **loving** and **living** place to **enjoy nature** and **relax**. A comfortable place for programming **community-driven** activities"



Q3: What are the top 3 challenges facing Four Corners Park?

*Full list of answers can be read in the Appendix



Q4: Tell us more about the challenges you identified in question 3.

*Full list of answers can be read in the Appendix

"The park feels very unwelcoming, feels unsafe, and the park **feels unmaintained**."

"A lot of parks in Atlanta have seen many renovations and investment, and it **feels** like Four Corners is very **behind in new amenities** being added and **maintenance** for the youth center."

"The park has continuously gone through planning sessions, however, I **do not see change**. There's no reason why the children in the area should have to go to another park instead of the one in their neighborhood."

"There is **only one small covered outdoor seating area** next to the playground."

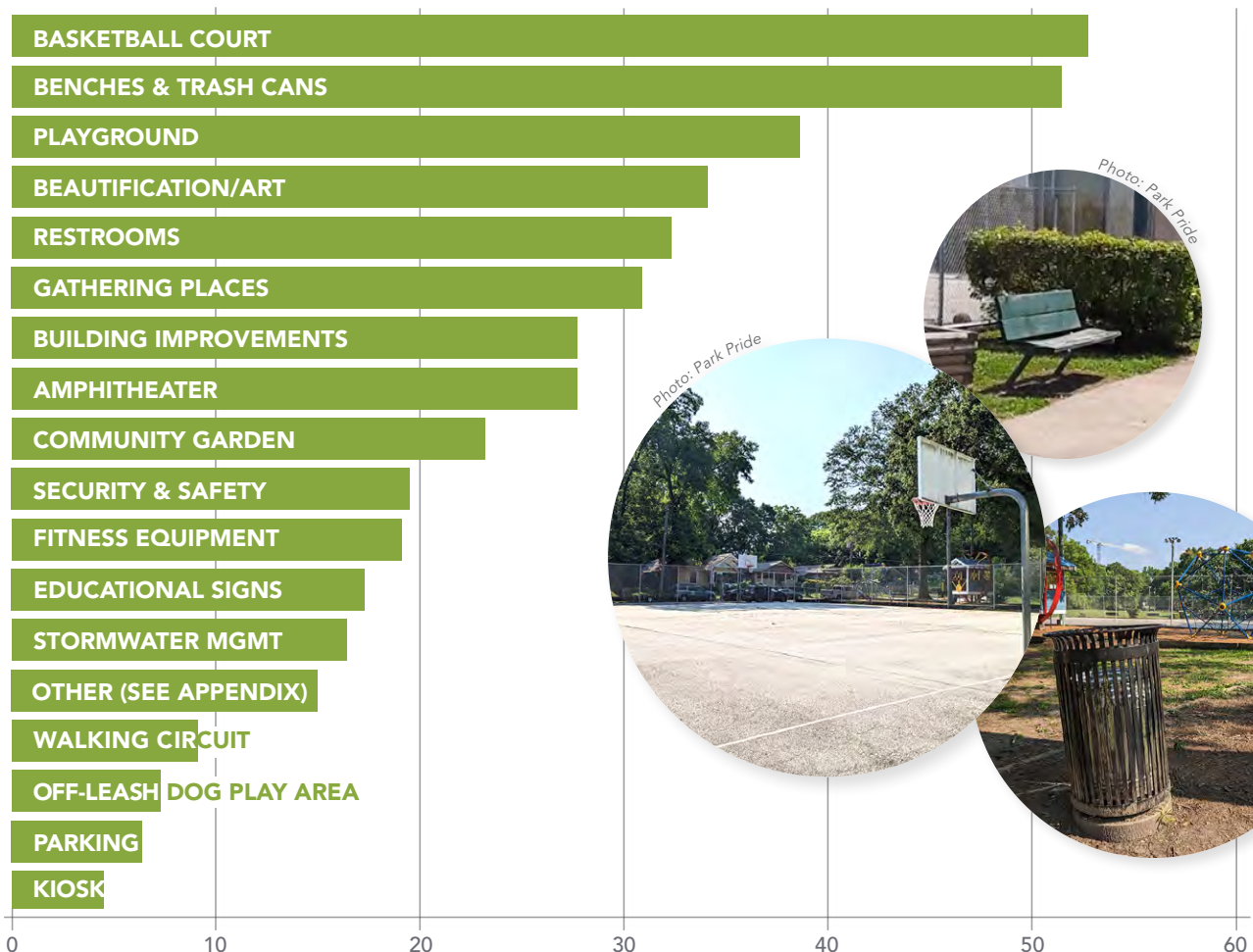
"The park had **maintenance issues** that have been ignored for years, particularly flooding and overgrowth. **Littering** is an issue with no real trash collection infrastructure."

"The center needs to be pressure washed; it **needs more space** so you can have more than one group of kids at a time. The gazebos **could use some upkeep** as well—pressure washing for ants and spiders."

"There's **no extra activities** to do like walking a track, swimming, or events."

Q4: What are the TOP 5 amenities you would like to see added or improved?

*Full list of answers can be read in the Appendix



COMMUNITY OPINION SURVEY RESULTS (CONTINUED)

Q6: Tell us more about the amenities you identified in question 5.

"Everything I mention is outdated or neglected by the city. We need outside plugs for events, solar panels. It's way overdue for an upgrade"

"There are no amenities aside from the playground, one picnic shelter, and basketball court all located near the building. Virtually the rest of the site is unused."

"The basketball courts are a prime amenity and used by the youth. Better/more courts would expand access. There also needs to be public restrooms and more gathering and rest areas throughout the park as infrastructure is concentrated in the NW corner."

"The priorities for park maintenance are not the same in South Atlanta as they are in North Atlanta."

"A lot of parks in Atlanta have seen many renovations and investment, and it feels like Four Corners is very behind in new amenities being added and maintenance for the youth center."

"It deserves proper lighting and cameras."

"I would like to see improvements to what they currently have in place, as well as new construction."

**Full list of answers can be read in the Appendix*

Q7: Is there anything else you'd like us to know about the park?

"This park is not just a place for family and friends to gather. It's where the community gathers, our seniors gather, and our community events happen. This park is dear to a lot of people, old and young."

"Need a shed over the basketball court so when it rains we can still play."

"The park has been in the neighborhood for years, and no upgrades have been made to help the community."

"The park has a lot of potential to be better and more accessible. It is long overdue for a makeover to draw more neighbors and make it friendly for everybody."

"The park is great but needs investment to modernize it."

"The park has always been a pillar in the neighborhood where families come together to spend time and fellowship."

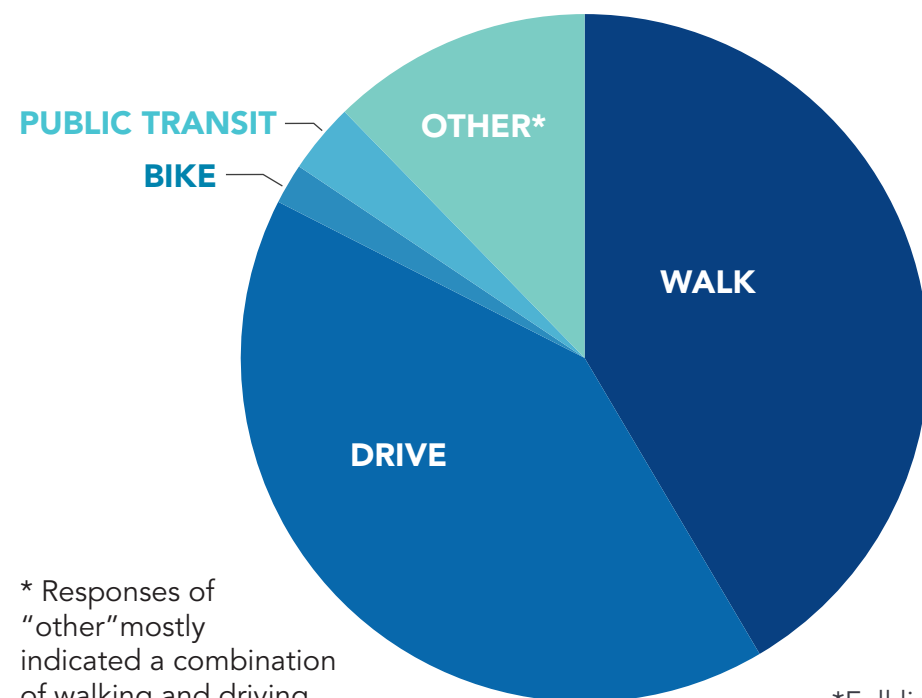
"Keep it for the community."

"It would be nice to have a path going from Crew Street to Hank Aaron/Milton Ave to serve residents and showcase Peoplestown to visitors."

"More programs for children in Mechanicsville—football, basketball, arts and crafts, etc."

**Full list of answers can be read in the Appendix*

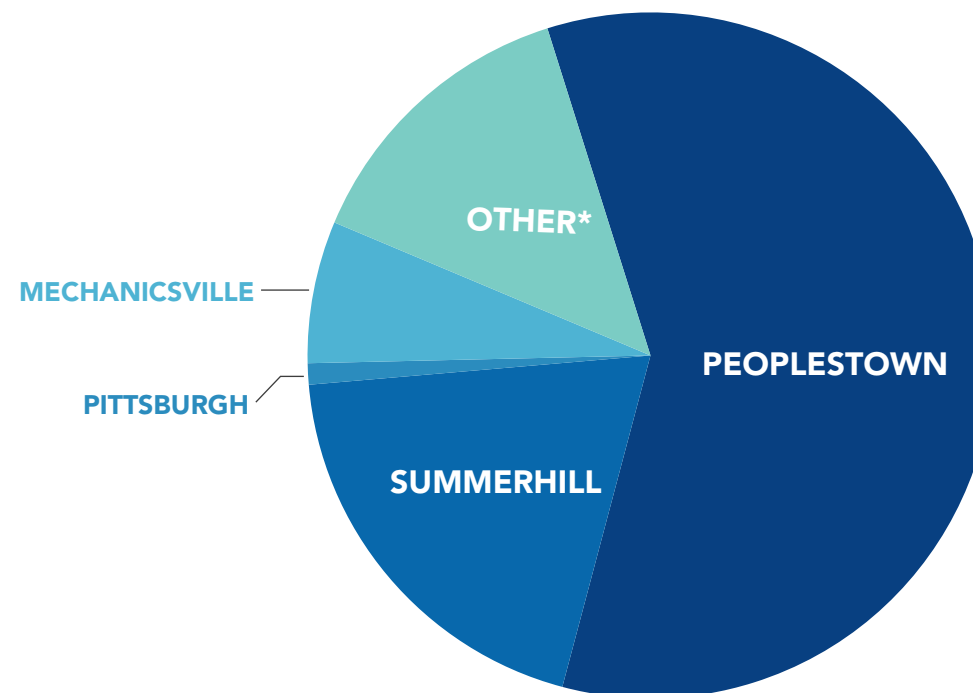
Q8: How do you usually get to Four Corners Park?



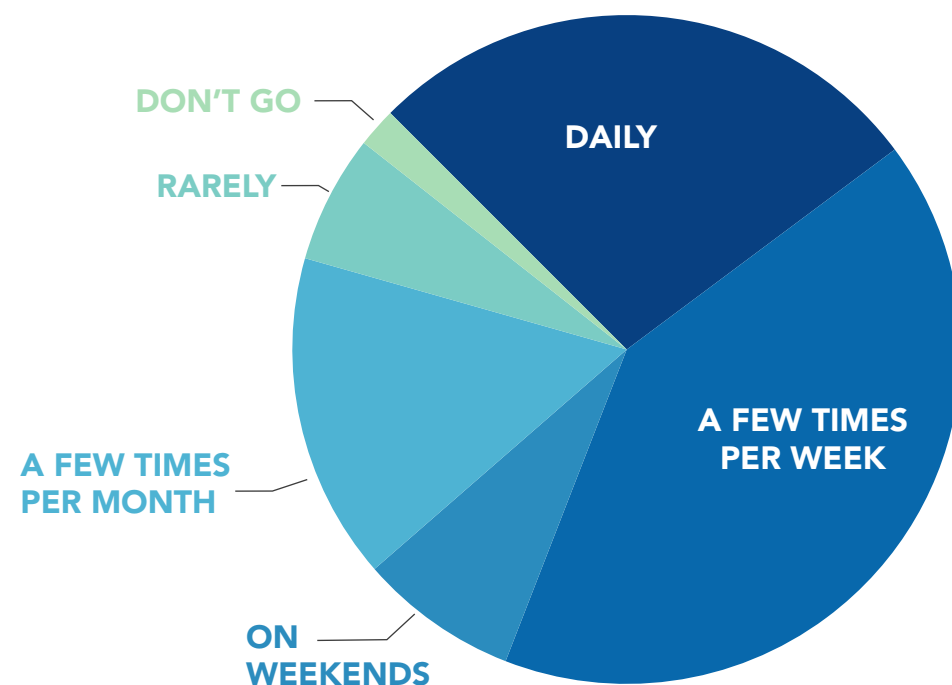
* Responses of "other" mostly indicated a combination of walking and driving

*Full list of answers can be read in the Appendix

Q10: What neighborhood do you live in?

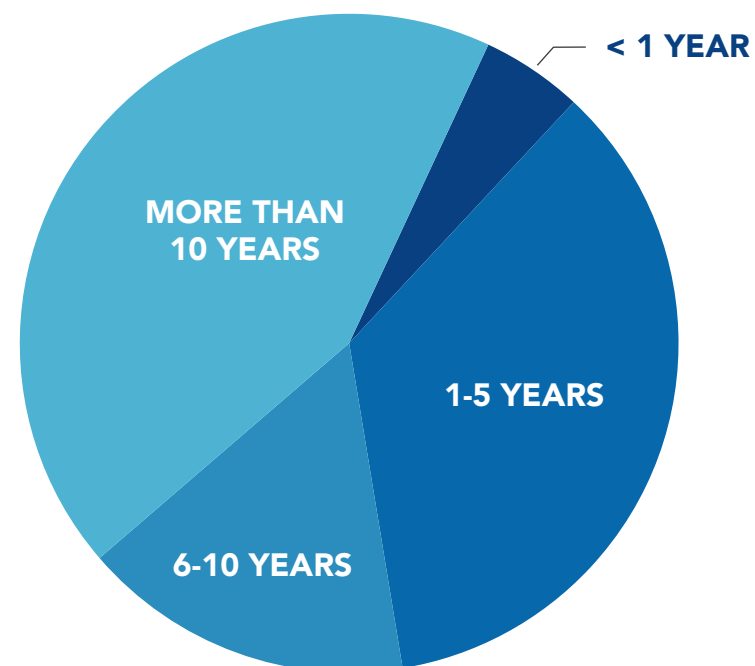


Q9: How often do you go to Four Corners Park?



*Full list of answers can be read in the Appendix

Q11: How long have you lived in the neighborhood?



Public Meetings

Each public meeting and community engagement event moves the visioning process along in stages: the **first public meeting** is a brainstorming session where 'Big Ideas' about the park are established. Participants decide what kind of park they need and want, and what functions are most important for the park to fulfill. Based on the feedback gathered in this meeting, plus survey data, a set of guiding principles is created. All future designs and elements must support these principles in order to be included in the preliminary and final conceptual plans.

With the community's input in hand, the visioning team begins drawing draft concepts. These concepts are reviewed by the steering committee, then presented for review and feedback by the community at the **second public meeting**. Supplied with feedback, Park Pride's visioning team develops a final conceptual vision plan. This plan is presented for review at the final public meeting. The community provides feedback on this plan as well, which is incorporated as this report is prepared.



Preliminary Concepts

The two preliminary concepts shown here were collaboratively designed with the steering committee's input and presented for public review and comment during the second public meeting, on September 27, 2023, at The Rick McDevitt Youth Center. Community members selected the features they preferred from either Concept 1 or Concept 2, with the goal of forming a hybrid plan that best fulfills the Guiding Principles.

The steering committee answered questions, described the visioning process to new participants, and explained the features of each concept. Feedback forms were provided for both concepts, so that attendees could review and comment on each design. After the meeting, the plans were available online via the for the visioning process website.

Concept 1 - Features

- Proposed expansion of Rick McDevitt Youth Center on site of existing court, with additional classroom space, kitchen, restroom, and storage facilities
- Dedicated on-site parking (15 spaces including ADA-compliant spaces) on site of existing court
- Bike maintenance station and multiple bike racks
- Multiple gathering points throughout the park including three small pavilions, a large multi-family pavilion, outdoor chess tables, hillside seating overlooking the basketball court and playground, and a legacy/memorial garden.
- Two playgrounds, one for children up to 5 years adjacent to the Youth Center; a second playground for 5 to 12-year-old children, centrally located
- New covered basketball courts (2) relocated to the southwest corner of the park, including solar panels, water catchment on roof, on-street parking, bike racks, new benches, and drinking fountain
- Expansion and enhancement of the Community Garden
- Enhanced stormwater management on-site, via rain gardens, bioswales, and cisterns, to provide irrigation and pollination of the production gardens
- Paved walking circuit for fitness connecting all points of the park
- Legacy Walk and Garden between playground and sculpture in NE quadrant
- Multipurpose lawn at southeast corner



Features included in BOTH Preliminary Concepts 1 and 2

- Expansion and enhancement of the Community Garden with small pavilion, shed, and parking area
- Paved walking paths
- Stormwater management on-site, via rain gardens, bioswales, and cisterns
- Chess tables in open-air gathering space along Crew street.
- Trash cans, benches, bike racks and drinking fountains
- Trees preserved but overgrowth eliminated, sightlines maintained
- Spirit, Family, and Community sculpture featured in a small plaza at the new Bus Rapid Transit stop.

The large open space is repurposed for **BASEBALL, SOFTBALL, AND KICKBALL** to provide more options for active sports. **WALKING PATHS AND OUTDOOR FITNESS EQUIPMENT** provide light to moderate exercise for park users of all ages.

The slope is repurposed as a **RAMP AND AMPHITHEATER** to facilitate access to the lower parts of the park from the youth center and provide spectator seating for events. **CHESS TABLES** are added near Crew Street to provide a small gathering space and multigenerational activity area.

RELOCATED AND RESURFACED BASKETBALL COURTS make room for an expanded **PLAYGROUND** with swings and slides alongside the existing **PLAYHOUSE** sculpture by Eleanor Hand. There are also small seating areas nearby for caregivers to supervise play.

RENOVATIONS AND A NEW ADDITION TO THE COMMUNITY CENTER including classrooms with natural light, a computer lab, multiple options for storage, a community multipurpose room, offices, and an **EXTERIOR RESTROOM**. The building will be powered with solar and built of sustainable materials. (Addition shown in yellow)

A MULTI-FAMILY PAVILION WITH OUTDOOR KITCHEN is shown on the far end of the community center, overlooking the park. The pavilion will be equipped with power outlets.

Several small **PICNIC AREAS** are placed strategically in this quieter corner of the park, which is dominated by preserved trees. The **SPIRIT, FAMILY, AND COMMUNITY** sculpture by Ayokunle Odeleye is surrounded with a small corner plaza, and the new **MARTA BUS RAPID TRANSIT (BRT) STATION** will be built on the corner of Hank Aaron and Haygood.

Opportunities to work with the land to **STORE STORMWATER** during and after rain events are used throughout this plan to keep flooding from impacting adjacent homes and businesses. **GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE** is shown throughout the park, and even becomes a featured element with a **BOARDWALK** bridging over a temporary holding pond.

This plan includes **PERMEABLE PAVING** in the parking lots at the community center and community garden, along with other best practices for sustainable design and construction.

This plan imagines a **SKATE PARK** along Hank Aaron Drive to bring another active use to the park for adults, teenagers, and youth.

HEALTHY & HOMEGROWN Rain gardens and bioswales mean more pollinators for the already thriving community garden. The garden can supply organic produce, compost, herbs, and even cut flowers with a pavilion, rain water cistern, storage shed, and small parking lot to facilitate community access.

CREW ST SW
WYMAN AVE SW
HANK AARON DRIVE SW
HAYGOOD AVE SW

Four Corners Park
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Preliminary Concept 2

CONCEPT 2 FEATURES

- Proposed expansion of Rick McDevitt Youth Center southward from its current footprint, including a large multi-family pavilion with outdoor kitchen, restroom with an exterior entrance, and new classroom space.
- Dedicated skate park and baseball field introduce two new sports to the park.
- Dedicated on-site parking is limited to (4) ADA spaces with permeable pavement. Stormwater curb inlets flank new striped parallel parking along Crew Street.
- Outdoor fitness/exercise equipment
- Multiple gathering points throughout the park including a small pavilion, the multi-family pavilion attached to the center, outdoor chess tables, and dedicated picnic tables with grills.
- Existing playground expanded. Swings, slides, and other new equipment added to the existing climbing structure and playhouse sculpture.
- Basketball courts shifted southward and are resurfaced with murals.
- Expansion and enhancement of the Community Garden with dedicated parking
- Enhanced stormwater management on-site, via rain gardens and bioswales
- Paved walking paths throughout park with a boardwalk over a stormwater catchment area.

Facilitated by **parkpride**

September 27, 2023

Concept 2 - Features

- Proposed expansion of Rick McDevitt Youth Center southward from its current footprint, including a large multi-family pavilion with outdoor kitchen, restroom with an exterior entrance, and new classroom space.
- Dedicated skate park and baseball field introduce two new recreational activities to the park.
- Dedicated on-site parking is limited to four (4) ADA spaces with permeable pavement. Stormwater curb inlets flank newly striped parallel parking along Crew Street.
- Outdoor fitness/exercise equipment, clustered together

- Multiple gathering points throughout the park including a small pavilion, the multi-family pavilion attached to the center, outdoor chess tables, and uncovered picnic tables with grills.
- Expansion of existing playground. Swings, slides, and other new equipment added to the existing climbing structure and playhouse sculpture.
- Basketball courts shifted southward and resurfaced with murals.
- Expansion and enhancement of the Community Garden with dedicated parking
- Enhanced stormwater management on-site, via rain gardens and bioswales

- Paved walking paths throughout park with a boardwalk over a stormwater catchment area.
- One new small pavilion at Community garden area plus multiple picnic areas scattered throughout park
- Boardwalk trail over stormwater basin

2023 VISION PLAN FOR
Four Corners Park
PEOPLETOWN • ATLANTA

September 27, 2023 Public Meeting 2

CONCEPT FEEDBACK

Select your preferences on the back of this page and find your favorite plan!

Feel free to make notes/draw on this page.

FEATURES, CONCEPT 1

- Expansion of Rick McDevitt Youth Center with additional classroom, kitchen, restroom, and storage facilities
- Parking lot with 15 spaces
- Bike maintenance station
- Multiple gathering points including 3 small pavilions, a large multi-family pavilion, outdoor chess tables, lifelike seating overlooking the basketball court and playground, and a legacy/ memorial garden
- Two playgrounds, one for children under 5, and one for 5-12 year-olds, both centrally located away from traffic
- Relocated covered basketball courts (2), with solar panels/water catchment on roof, on-street parking, bike racks, new benches, and drinking fountain
- Paved walking circuit for fitness connecting all points of the park

FEATURES, CONCEPT 2

- Expansion of Youth Center southward from its current footprint, with a multifamily pavilion with outdoor kitchen, restroom with an exterior entrance, and new classroom.
- Skate park and baseball field
- Parking lot for ADA only (4), expanded on-street parking
- Outdoor workout equipment
- Multiple gathering points including one small pavilion, the multi-family pavilion attached to the center, outdoor chess tables, and picnic tables with grills
- Existing playground and expanded basketball courts shifted southward/murals added
- Paved walking paths with a boardwalk over a stormwater detention basin

BOTH CONCEPTS INCLUDE

- Expansion and enhancement of the Community Garden with small pavilion, shed, and parking area
- Paved walking paths
- Stormwater management on-site, via rain gardens, bioswales, and cisterns
- Cheese tables in open-air gathering space
- Trash cans, benches, bike racks and drinking fountains

Over for additional details →

Feedback forms (the front shown left, and back, below) were used at the second public meeting to record community input. The 8.5" x 14" form allowed participants to make notes during the meeting while studying enlarged paper drawings on display, and to take a copy of the concepts as they departed the meeting.

Some chose to submit their form during the meeting, others submitted feedback via an online survey with the same comparative format. Participants were encourage to photograph their written responses for reference.



Photo by Omela Gioni for Park Pride, 2023

See full Concepts 1 & 2 on opposite

CONCEPT FEEDBACK

Overall, which concept do you prefer?

☐ Concept 1 ☐ Concept 2

The following are primary differences between the Concepts 1 & 2. Check the options and features you prefer. Options are interchangeable!

Big differences

CONCEPT 1

- More expansive update to existing court, OR
- New parking lot with 15 spaces OR
- New covered basketball courts - SW field, OR
- Two connected playgrounds located away from streets, OR
- Freestanding multi-family pavilion adjacent to Youth Center indoor kitchen, OR

ADDITIONAL FEATURES

- Legacy Walk and Garden between playground and sculpture in NE quadrant
- Bike repair station
- Three separate small pavilions located throughout the park
- Multipurpose lawn

CONCEPT 2

- More economical update to the Youth Center over existing field
- New parking lot with a ADA-compliant ramp
- Resurfaced basketball courts relocated to enlarge playground
- Expanded playground in current location
- Attached multi-family pavilion with outdoor kitchen

ADDITIONAL FEATURES

- Multisuse field (baseball, softball, kickball)
- Skatepark in SE corner of the park
- One new small pavilion at Community Garden plus multiple picnic areas
- Boardwalk trail over stormwater basin
- Outdoor workout equipment
- Exterior restroom at Center

Guiding Principles

Below are guiding principles that will guide the park's design. These were created from public feedback received during the first public meeting. Please review and comment below if desired.

- Provide a purposeful space to foster community, family, and individuals of all generations to build connections that last a lifetime.
- Apply green building best practices (permeable pavement, green infrastructure, clean energy, and recycled materials) to be a leader in sustainability in Atlanta.

Additional comments or preferences _____

Name _____ Email _____

- Provide a supportive space for community members to improve mental and physical health near their homes.
- Provide a place that uplifts and supports community members to pursue their purpose and dreams.



BASKETBALL COURTS UNDER AN OPEN-SIDED COVER, powered by solar panels on roof, rainwater from the canopy is captured and guided to the wetland area.

SKATEPARK adds another activity for teens and adults in the park's SW corner.

A **WALKING CIRCUIT** with flexible surfacing makes a 1/6th-mile loop around the southern half of the park. Along the way are outdoor fitness stations and benches.

SAFE STREETS AND ROADS

FOR ALL program plans to fund safety upgrades to Ridge, Weyman, and Milton Avenues as part of safer connections between downtown and the BeltLine.



TERRACED SEATING designed into the hillside, offers views of the courts, stage, and playground

An upper **PLAYGROUND FOR TODDLERS** (under 5 years) with bucket swings, face to face swings, and basket swings, plus elements that develop young minds and bodies, like simple mounds for tumbling. Safely surrounded by a seatwall and benches for care-givers.

THE PLAYHOUSE by Eleanor Hand also has pride of place here, in a new location.



BIG KIDS PLAY

At the center of the park is the larger playground for children 5 - 12-years-old (and for kids of all ages). There are more swings for plus play structures that make a playground really great—with high heights to climb, places to (safely) hone climbing and balance skills, and places that inspire "WOOHOO!"



PARKS PROTECT NEIGHBORHOODS

The southeast quarter of the park and along Hank Aaron Drive frequently have standing water. This plan proposes working with rather than against natural drainage patterns by encouraging stormwater into rain gardens, bioswales, and temporary ponds within the park. Stormwater can be guided and absorbed efficiently while still providing an open lawn for unprogrammed enjoyment. By keeping stormwater in the park, floodwaters will be kept away from homes and streets, and the local groundwater supply will be replenished. As a bonus, installing plants that attract native insects and birds will naturally keep mosquitoes in check.

CHESS TABLES

designed and made by a local artist, in a shaded area overlooking the courts and skatepark



LIGHTING will ensure safe use of the park during evening hours.

BOLLARDS will restrict vehicular access to maintenance-only.

SIGHTLINES will be improved by eliminating overgrowth and low-hanging tree limbs.

MULTI-FAMILY PAVILION adjacent to the Youth Center with its kitchen facility, faces an **OPEN LAWN** for lawn games, dancing, yoga, or small concerts, and is near on-street parking for easy loading and unloading.



BUS RAPID TRANSPORT

New BRT route will provide transit access throughout the area.

HEALTHY & HOMEGROWN

Rain gardens and bioswales attract more pollinators for the already thriving community garden. The garden can offer organic produce, compost, herbs, with a pavilion, rain water cistern, and a shipping contain-storage shed. **DRINKING FOUNTAIN/BOTTLE-FILLERS** provide fresh drinking water.



EXPANSION AND UPDATES for the **RICK McDEVITT YOUTH CENTER** including classrooms with natural light, a computer lab, multiple options for storage, a kitchen, a multi-purpose community room, offices, and restrooms. The exterior will feature a restored and updated splashpad, a covered porch with **COOLING FANS** and an open lawn with shade trees. The facility and exterior lighting/fans will be powered by roof-top solar.



Four PARKING SPACES

will be dedicated to those with mobility limitations creating ADA-compliant access with ramped access points and low-barrier design. The provision of **SHADE SHOULD BE PRIORITIZED** by adding new trees and preserving and enhancing existing trees with regular pruning, fertilization, and protection from vehicular traffic. The existing **SMALL PAVILION** will be replaced and reoriented with ADA-compliant access and cooling fans; perimeter chain-link fencing removed.



Facing Haygood Avenue, is a large **MURAL** that tells the story of Peopletown.

Currently obscured by trash cans and overgrowth, it can instead become a feature wall highlighting the Center's youth cycling program and a dedicated space for **BIKE RACKS AND A BIKE REPAIR STATION**. A dedicated area for trash bins is located at the street inside a screened area.



LEGACY GARDEN

The northeast corner of the park is home to **SPIRIT, FAMILY, AND COMMUNITY**, a sculpture by Ayokunie Odeleye. Otherwise this part of the park is largely unused.

The addition of a path connecting the sculpture to the playground pavilion, would help this area come to life as a **LEGACY WALK AND GARDEN** with interpretive information about the history of the park and of Peopletown.



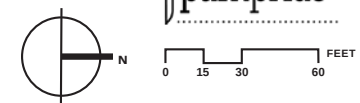
Four Corners Park
PEOPLESTOWN • ATLANTA

Vision Plan 2023

FEATURES

- Proposed expansion and renovation of Rick McDevitt Youth Center on site of existing court, with additional classroom space, kitchen, restroom, and storage facilities
- Four ADA-compliant spaces are added on site of existing courts. On-street parking is organized and striped for park users.
- Bike maintenance station and bike racks
- Multiple gathering points throughout the park including three small pavilions, a large multi-family pavilion, outdoor chess tables, terraced seating overlooking the basketball court and playground, plus a legacy/memorial garden.
- Two playgrounds, one for children under 5 years adjacent to the Youth Center; a second playground for 5- to 12-year-old children, centrally located within seatwalls.
- New covered basketball courts (2) relocated to the SW corner of the park, including solar panels, water catchment on roof, on-street parking, bike racks, new benches, and drinking fountain
- Expansion and enhancement of the Community Garden with a shade structure and tool shed
- Enhanced stormwater management on-site, via rain gardens, bioswales, and cisterns, to provide irrigation and pollination of the community garden
- Paved walking circuit for fitness connecting all points of the park

Facilitated by



October 25, 2023

Vision Plan

If you are reading this document because you are involved with the proposed improvements to Four Corners Park, don't skip the box at the right. The Vision for Four Corners Park is based upon four core values that are embodied in these **Guiding Principles**. These principles were developed by the community to guide the park's future development. The unanimous, unambiguous purpose that this park must continue to serve is **the community**. All decisions and modifications must support that purpose above all others.

The term "community" in this document means the existing community—the people who have called Peoplestown home for generations—as well as newcomers. That means the park must deftly support community events such as the annual **Peoplestown Reunion** and other large gatherings full of food, music, and families. It must support **families and individuals in need** with facilities for food distribution and pickup.

It must support **seniors** by providing accessible spaces to hold meetings of groups like **555** that nurture social connections; it must offer seniors activities to achieve and maintain good mental and physical health, and—through facilities that are shared across generations—give elders a chance to share their years of knowledge and wisdom.

The park must continue to support the community's **youth** by providing clean, modern facilities to house park-based programs, such as the **Community Care Program** and **Dream Builders of Atlanta**, that have already nurtured and fledged

Guiding Principles

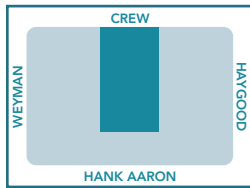
The following principles represent a strategic framework for the improvement and on-going stewardship of Four Corners Park. All design-decisions should align with and support these guiding principles, which were developed by the Peoplestown community during the park visioning process. These principles support the core values that are fundamental to Peoplestown.

1. *Provide a purposeful space that **supports community events and fosters community, family, and individuals** of all generations to build connections that last a lifetime.*
2. *Apply **green building best practices** (permeable pavement, green infrastructure, clean energy, and recycled materials) to be a leader in sustainability in Atlanta.*
3. *Provide a supportive space for community members to **improve mental and physical health and enjoy nature** near their homes.*
4. *Provide a place that uplifts and supports community members to pursue **their purpose and dreams**.*

generations of thriving young men and women. This park should inspire and connect, it should represent the people who have shaped Peoplestown into a tight-knit, self-reliant neighborhood that flourishes despite all that Atlanta has thrown at it. Any improvements in the park must respect this journey and **ask those who know** the traditions, the practices, the pitfalls, and the politics—**"Is this what you'd like future Four Corners Park to be?"**

Vision Plan Recommendations

To minimize disruption to the community and allow time for fundraising, major park improvements are often undertaken in phases. The following phases are suggested:



PHASE I

Play Areas

The current play area is a small zone with two play structures in the northwest corner of the park adjacent to Crew St. and Haygood Ave. Informally, the basketball courts are also used for play. The gathering areas for adults and older youth include a small pavilion adjacent to Haygood, the basketball courts, and inside the Rick McDevitt Youth Center, which offers no views onto the play areas.

The community expressed a need for a larger play area that is safe and accessible. This plan proposes that **the play area be relocated** away from adjacent streets, to a place where it is protected by adult activity areas—such as the multi-family pavilion, the recreation center, the basketball court, and community gardens—each of which can **provide a protective buffer between children and streets**. Also recommended are separate playgrounds by age—one for preschool children and one for 5–12 year olds.

The playground for younger children should include structures that allow **parent-child interaction, seating areas for care-givers, and shade for all**. This area

would be within closest proximity of the multi-family pavilion and recreation center with family-friendly restrooms.

The play area for older children (5–12 yrs) should provide places to **build child-to-child friendships and safely gain independence**. This area still provides seating for care-givers, but perhaps at a greater distance, such as from a small pavilion. Both play areas should be **visible from inside the recreation center building**.

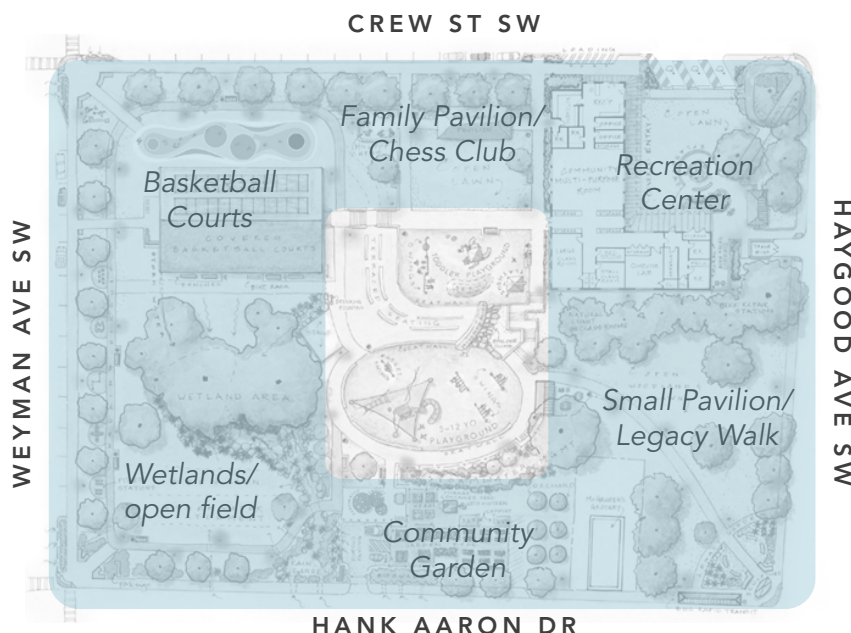
Multi-family Pavilion

A large covered outdoor gathering space is ideally situated adjacent to Crew Street to **enable easy loading and unloading of food and supplies**

needed for events and gatherings, and **accessibility** for those with mobility challenges. This pavilion should be adjacent to the recreation center for access to a kitchen, water, waste disposal, and restroom facilities.



Photo by www.magnific.com



Left: Activities for adults and teens surround the play areas, providing a buffer zone from busy streets and a community of eyes to watch over younger children at play.

CREW ST SW

Loading/
unloading
from Crew St.
to pavilion and
community
center

Community
center

Views of play
areas from
community
center

VISION PLAN

Photo by www.magnific.com

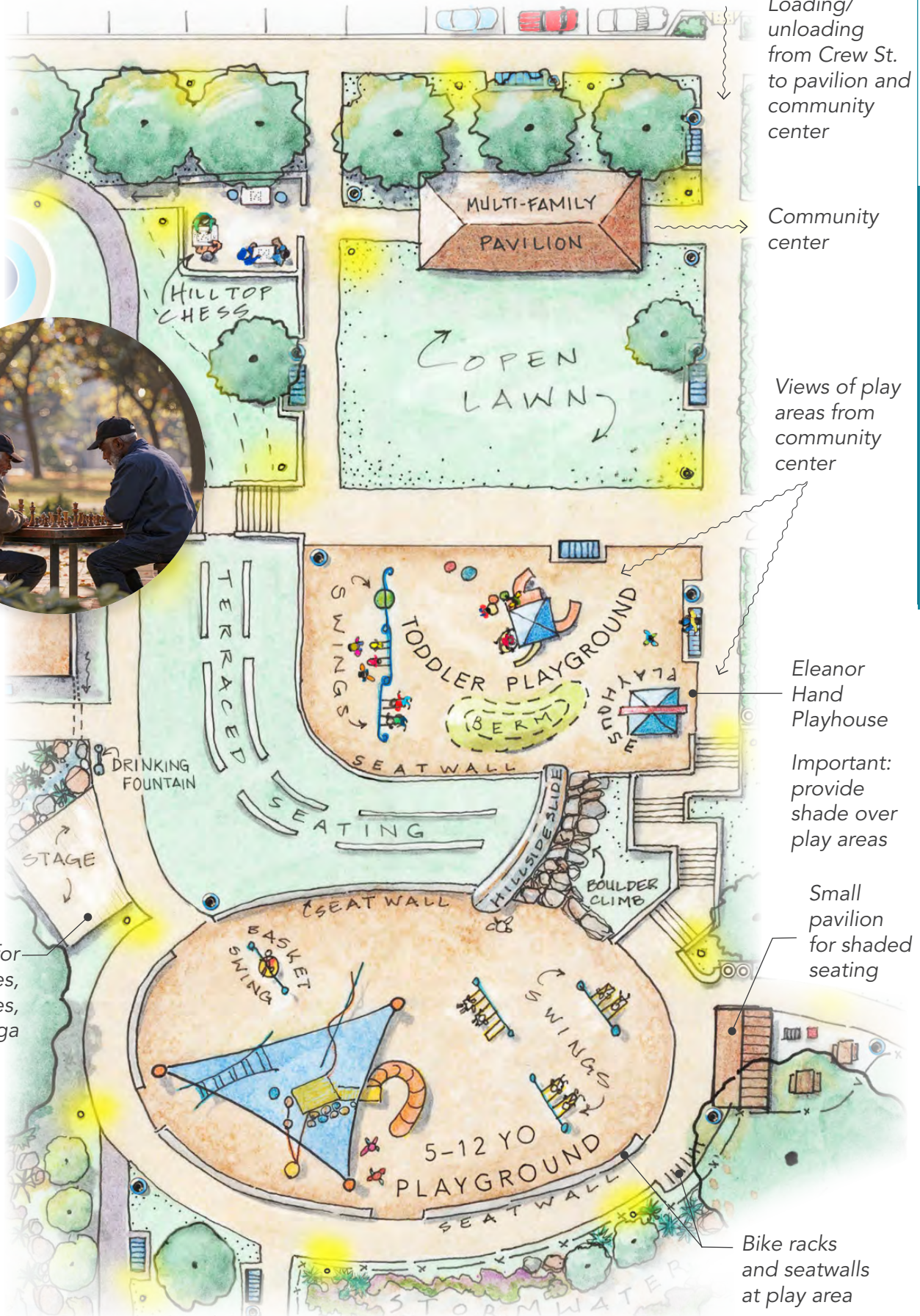
Platform for
performances,
movies,
or yoga

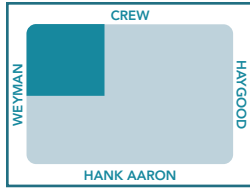
Eleanor
Hand
Playhouse

Important:
provide
shade over
play areas

Small
pavilion
for shaded
seating

Bike racks
and seatwalls
at play area





PHASE II

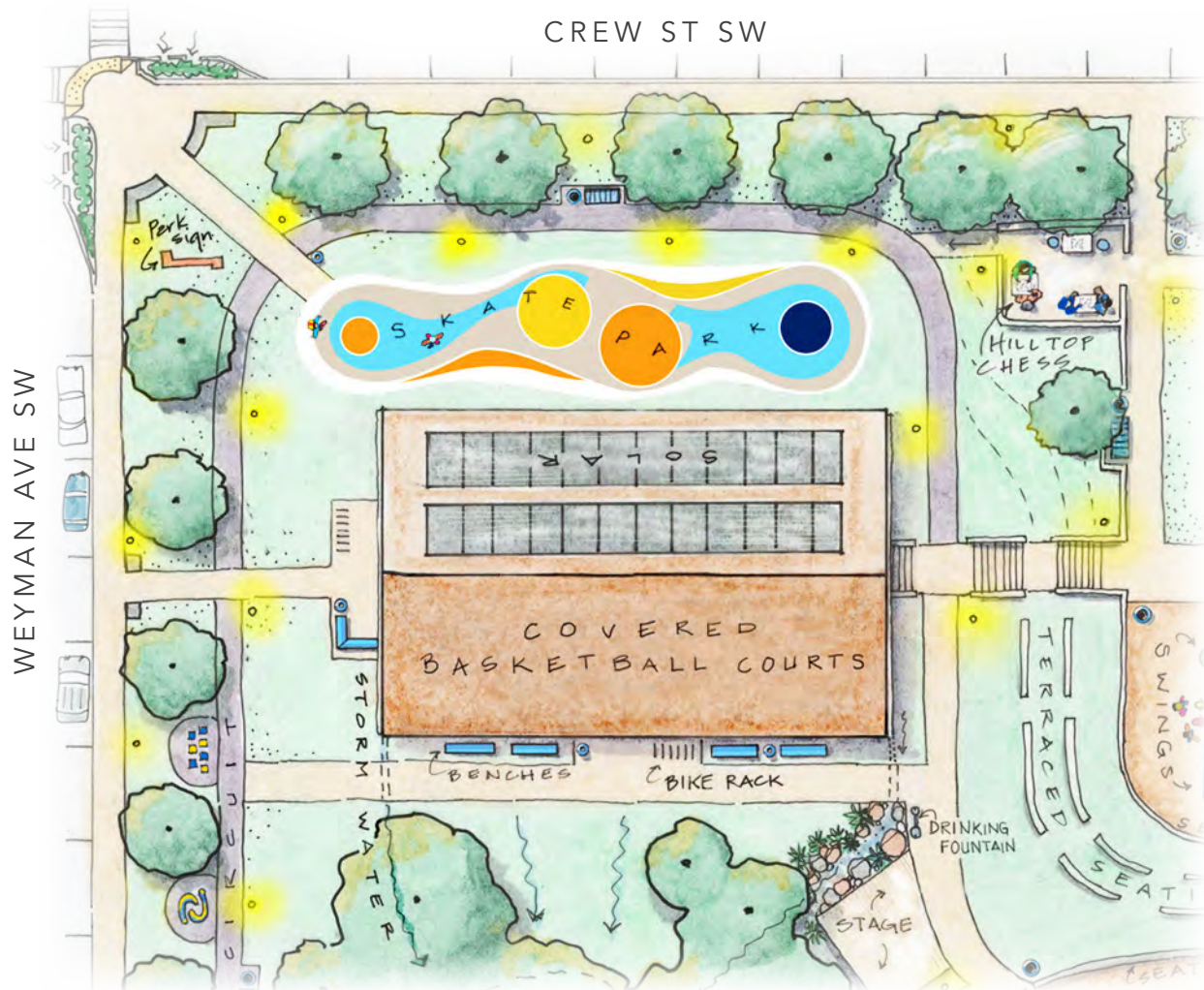
Basketball Court Relocation

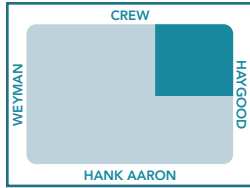
Although the park's footprint has been expanded since 2002 (see diagram on page 13), the park's amenities have generally remained in its original NW corner footprint. This vision plan proposes expansion into to **ALL four corners** of the park.

A major change would be the **relocation of the basketball courts** to the SW field. Along with this relocation, is the addition of a canopy over the court to provide much needed shade and the opportunity for **evening use** during the shorter days of winter. Plus, a covered court would act as an additional **event space**.

A consistent goal of the community is to embrace and integrate renewable energy solutions, green infrastructure, and technology in the park. Solar panels could be incorporated on the court canopy for greater **energy independence and community resilience**, e.g., powering park lighting as well as charging stations in the event of power outages. The SW quadrant of the park also offers opportunities to incorporate a linear skatepark, court murals, space for chess club meetups, and performances or movies from the outdoor stage platform facing hillside seating—all of which **make inter-generational activities possible**.

Stormwater from the court canopy and other impervious surfaces should be directed to the naturally wet area in the SE quadrant of the park to **replenish the local groundwater**.





PHASE III

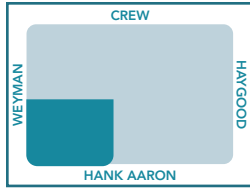
Youth Center Expansion and Renovation

The Rick McDevitt Youth Center has been the **heart of this park** and community since its earliest days, but the facility is bursting at the seams. The diagram below depicts some of the improvements that would allow current programming to continue and grow.

The building should offer welcoming flow from outside to inside, providing access to restrooms, storage, classrooms, and kitchen facilities. By bringing the building up to Crew Street, **convenient loading/unloading and ADA accessible parking** can be integrated without the need for an interior parking lot,

which the community does not want. The facility's interior walls should be maximized for **storage** and lockers, leaving exterior walls available for windows overlooking the playgrounds (**eyes-on-the-park**), while filling interior spaces with **natural light**. There is a need for a **community meeting hall and classrooms** that can facilitate presentations, a computer lab, a recording studio, office space, a warming kitchen, and importantly, **restrooms that can be accessed** when the facility is closed. Designs should maximize shade and cooling airflow through the building. Careful thought should be put into lifelong accessibility, sustainable design, clean and convenient waste disposal and pickup, EV charging, bike parking and repair, and providing **welcoming places for gathering, people-watching, and socializing**.



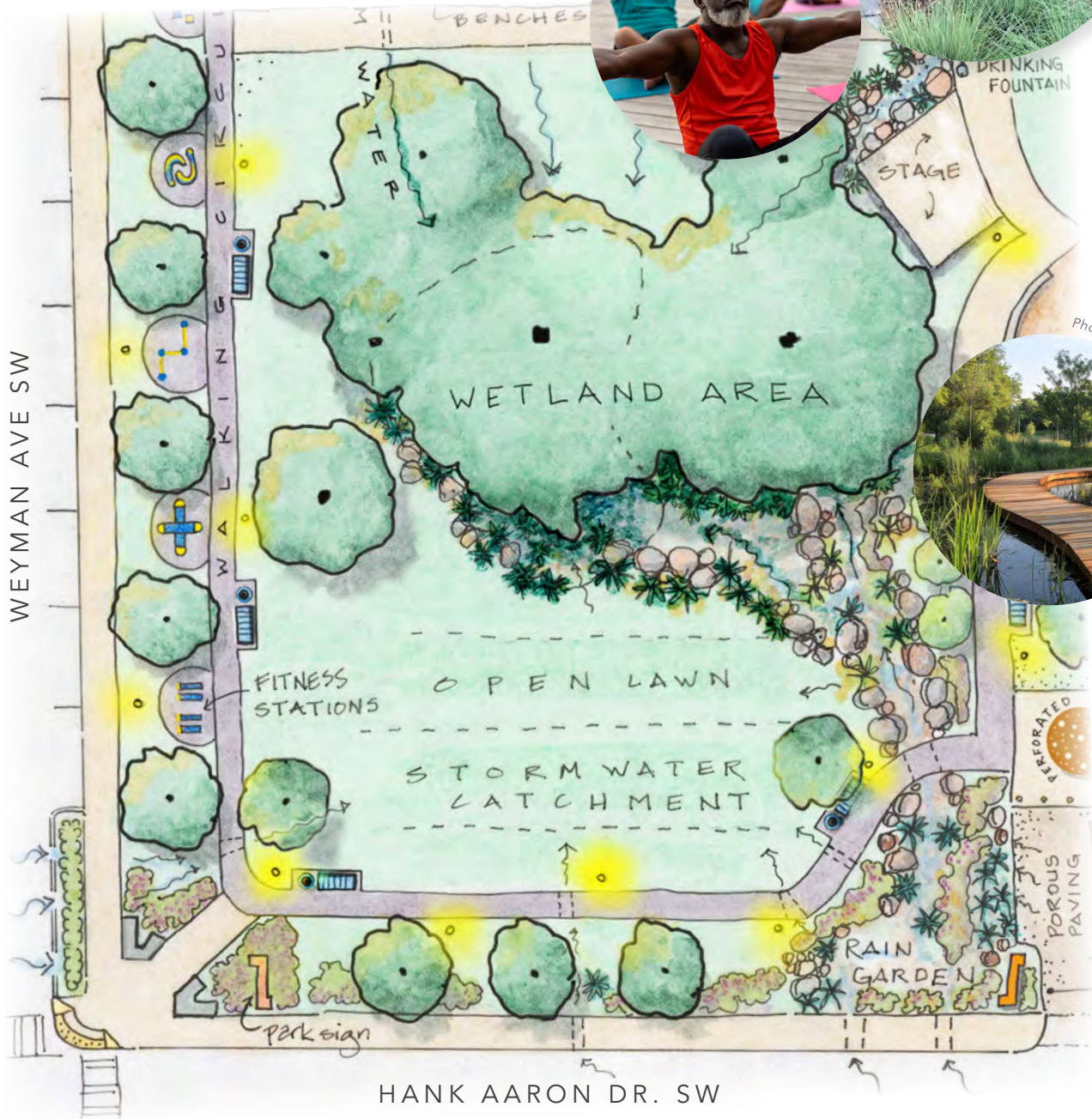


ADDITIONAL PROJECTS

Natural Wetland

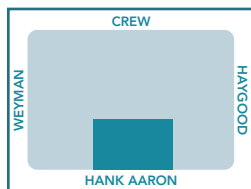
The southwest corner of Four Corners Park frequently detains stormwater from Hank Aaron Drive and the surrounding area. Rather than fight this tendency, this could be highlighted as a natural feature of the park, with measures put in place to intentionally direct stormwater from the street into the

park. Additionally, this area could serve as a reservoir for rainwater falling onto the covered basketball courts. A walkway around the wetland would offer shaded spots to rest, watch birds that frequent the area, or maintain wellness at shaded fitness stations along a cushioned walking circuit.





HANK AARON DR SW



Community Garden

The community garden has been a long-standing feature of Four Corners Park

and has potential to also make use of the stormwater harvested, filtered through bioswales, along the low-lying eastern side of the park. This plan recommends additional structure to the garden area

including a designated **loading zone** (gated) for delivery of mulch and/or accessible parking; a **gathering space** to facilitate demonstrations and workshops with a perforated shade canopy, outdoor tables, and a bike rack, a shipping-container-storage shed for tools

and equipment. Potential expansion could include beds dedicated to cooking herbs, climbing plants such as beans, squash, or grapes, individual **plots of various heights** for accessibility, a **composting** area, a berry patch, and **orchard**.



Photo generated by Adobe Firefly

Because the community garden currently does not have walkways

connecting it to the rest of the park, it can feel somewhat isolated. Most of the park's activities are concentrated closer to the Youth Center. This plan recommends **walkable connections** throughout the park. The proximity of amenities, such as the playground, offer children a place to play while their caregivers garden.

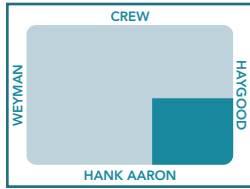
The orientation of shade structures, tree plantings, and other vertical structures, should consider the **timing and direction of shadows** to provide shade to people using the park, while also maintaining full sun throughout the day for the growing fruits and vegetables.



Photo: R. Maher, Park Pride



Brown's Mill Food Forest, Photo: R. Maher, Park Pride



Legacy Garden (NE Quadrant) and BRT Connection

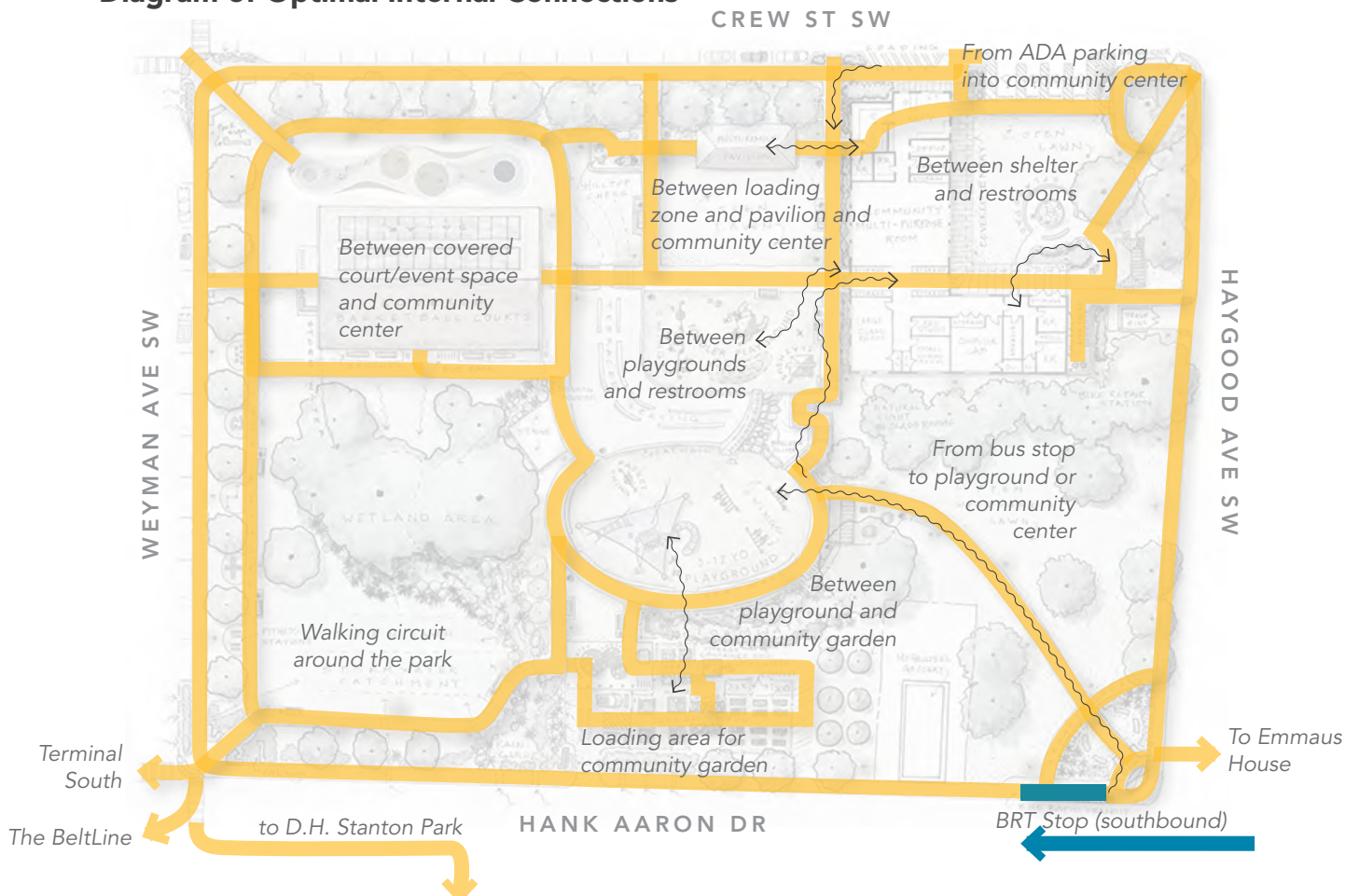
The NE quadrant of the park comprises nearly 1/4 of the park's acreage, a new Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) stop, and the *Spirit, Family, Community* sculpture by Ayokunle Odeleye (1996). This area offers additional opportunities for park programming in the future, keeping in mind that not all programming has to involve active recreation. A balance of active and passive opportunities **provides a greater variety of options** for park users, from seniors to youth, families to individuals.

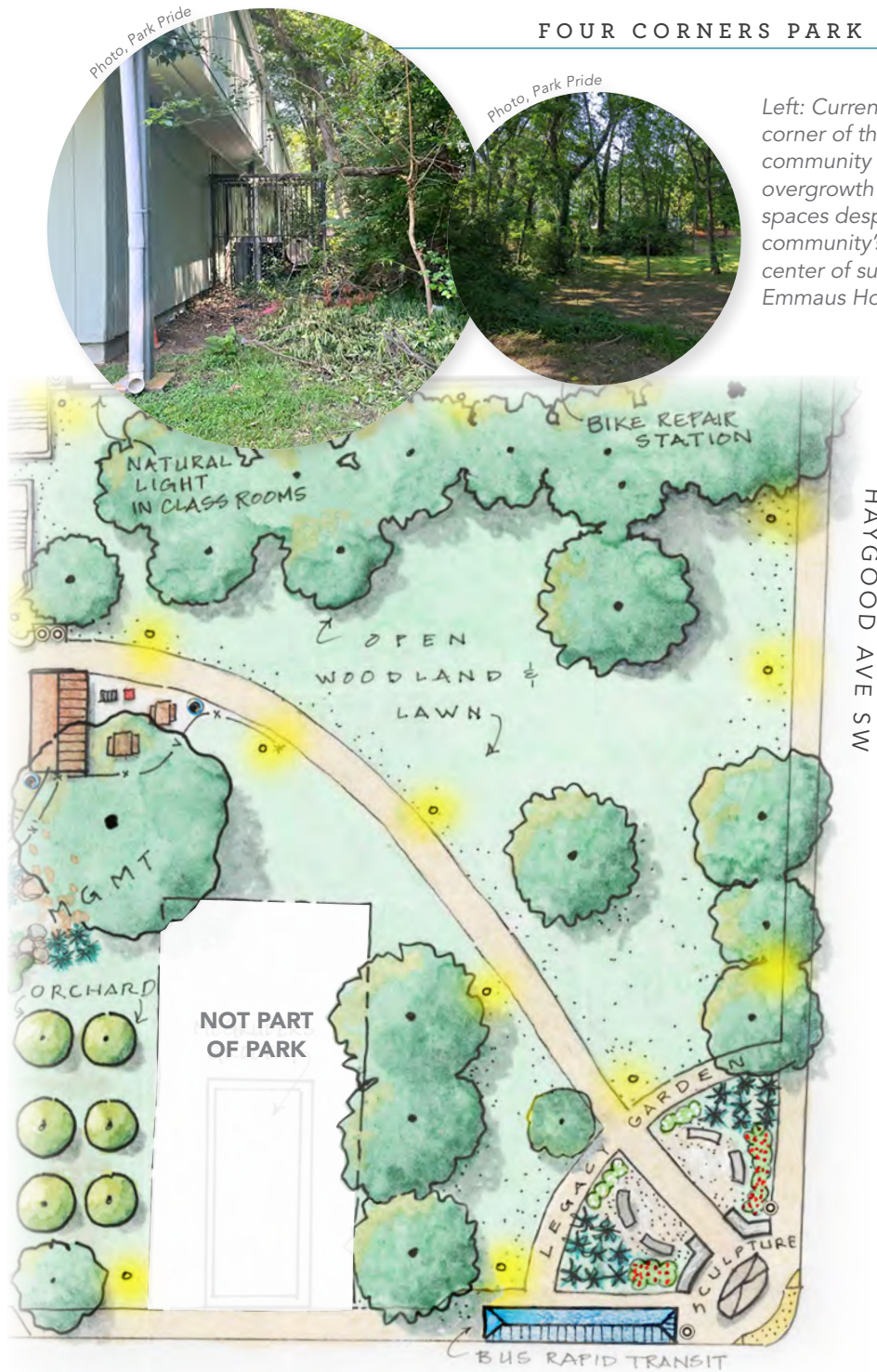
One of the ideas that emerged during the park visioning process was to create a **Legacy Garden** in the area surrounding the *Spirit, Family, Community* sculpture.

This would not only provide a place to display **neighborhood history** on a series of signs, but would also provide additional seating while waiting for the bus—away from the traffic on Hank Aaron Drive. Along with seating and educational information, the area could feature native plantings to continue the plant palette from the wetland area. Strategically planted **canopy trees** to shade the BRT Stop would make waiting for transit more comfortable during the spring, summer, and fall months of high heat.

Connectivity within the park is also important in welcoming transit riders into the park and encouraging the use of public transportation, rather than cars, to reach the park and adjacent services. The **diagram below** shows the optimal degree of connectivity throughout the park.

Diagram of Optimal Internal Connections





HANK AARON DR SW

Left: Current conditions in the northeast corner of the park and behind the community center are prone to overgrowth and do not feel like safe spaces despite being adjacent to the community's longtime center of support: Emmaus House



**EMMAUS
HOUSE MURIEL
LOKEY CENTER**

**EMMAUS
HOUSE**



Emmaus House, Photo by Park Pride

Right: Shaded areas are needed while waiting for bus service at and around the new BRT Stop on Hank Aaron Dr at Haygood Avenue.



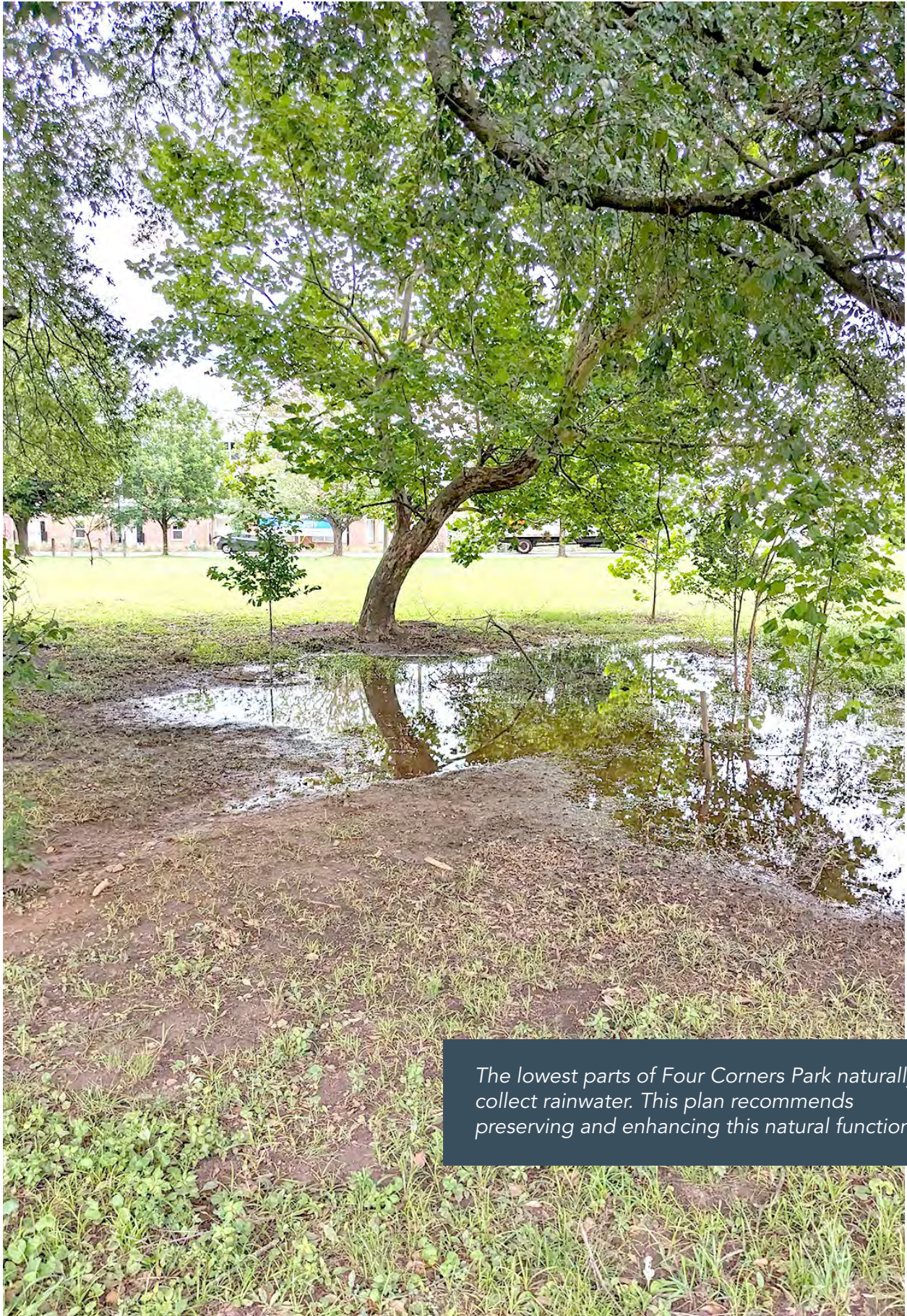
MARTA BRT Stop, Peoplestown



Atlanta Memorial Park, Park Pride



Spirit, Family, Community sculpture, Park Pride



The lowest parts of Four Corners Park naturally collect rainwater. This plan recommends preserving and enhancing this natural function.

Projects & Budget

At the final public meeting, attendees were asked to share their top five priorities within the vision plan, via paper feedback forms distributed at the meeting, and an online survey. Only four people participated in this final survey, making it difficult to draw conclusions about priorities based on community preferences. However, a phasing plan is offered below to suggest a logical order of projects to achieve the full buildout with minimal disruption to existing uses.

Because the expansion of the Youth Center will necessitate moving the existing basketball courts and playground, it is recommended that those projects be completed first, to avoid disruption to these popular existing uses.

Although it has been suggested that the pedestrian circulation through the park be completed first, this is not necessarily advisable since the pedestrian infrastructure needs to respond to the dimensions and locations of the site features they are serving. Instead, allowances for the pedestrian infrastructure associated with each project have been included in the costs for that project.

Ultimately, the construction process will be contingent upon funding. Several funding possibilities are available, including Park Pride grants, funding from the Atlanta City Council District 1 discretionary budget, the Park Improvement budget, and additional dollars identified by the community and/or other advocacy organizations.

SUGGESTED PHASING



Opinion of Probable Costs by Project, January 2024

The budgets presented here are intended to provide a starting point for fund raising and advocacy efforts and were compiled without the benefit of detailed design, survey, geotechnical, and other site conditions, which may change significantly the cost of any project. Park Pride makes no guarantee or warranty as to their accuracy. Projects may be value engineered or subdivided to fit smaller budgets.

EXPAND & RENOVATE RICK MCDEVITT YOUTH CENTER & SURROUNDINGS					
Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Grading/site prep	ALLOW	1	\$35,000	\$35,000	Demo/General conditions/ESPC fencing/Tree protection
Renovate existing building footprint	SF	5,000	\$125	\$625,000	Update interior finishes, insulation, roofing, mechanical, and fixtures
Expand building footprint	SF	6,000	\$275	\$1,650,000	Construct additional wing, including two restrooms and a kitchen
ADA Parking & loading zone	ALLOW	1	\$15,000	\$15,000	Four ADA-accessible perpendicular spaces off Crew Street with signage, wheel stops, and striping
Solar collectors	ALLOW	1	\$25,000	\$25,000	Add solar panels to roof
Reconstitute historical spray ground	ALLOW	1	\$180,000	\$180,000	Assume ground sprayers on recirculating system
Dumpster enclosure/waste management	ALLOW	1	\$15,000	\$15,000	Create new waste management area for building off Haygood
Replace small pavilion	EA	1	\$45,000	\$45,000	Reconstruct pavilion in new location
Bicycle parking and repair stations	ALLOW	1	\$6,500	\$6,500	New bike racks & repair station
Electric vehicle charger	ALLOW	1	\$8,000	\$8,000	EV charging port and curb reconfiguration
Concrete walkways	SF	9,600	\$10	\$96,000	
Regrade/sod lawn	SY	500	\$2	\$1,000	Fine grading and Bermuda sod stabilization post-construction
Lighting	ALLOW	1	\$70,000	\$70,000	New pedestrian-scale light fixtures and security lights
Security cameras	EA	2	\$16,300	\$32,600	Security cameras and associated monitoring. Recommend for building perimeter.
Site furnishings (benches, trash cans, drinking fountains, picnic tables, etc)	ALLOW	1	\$25,000	\$25,000	Benches = \$5,000 each installed, Trash cans = \$3,000 each installed
Design & Engineering	15%			\$424,365	Plan to spend 15% of construction costs in design & engineering fees

Construction materials testing & inspection	2%	\$56,582	Plan to spend 2% of construction costs in material testing & inspection
Contingency	20%	\$662,009	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL		\$3,972,056	

RELOCATE AND COVER BASKETBALL COURTS

Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Grading/site prep	ALLOW	1	\$35,000	\$35,000	Demo/General conditions/ESPC fencing/Tree protection
New basketball courts	EA	2	\$40,000	\$80,000	
Steel canopy over basketball courts	ALLOW	1	\$200,000	\$200,000	
Park entrance on corner of Crew Street and Weyman Avenue	ALLOW	1	\$25,000	\$25,000	Includes paved entry plaza, signage, ADA ramp, short stone seatwalls
Concrete walkways	SF	2580	\$12	\$30,960	Includes paved walkway from Weyman Ave to covered basketball courts with two stone columns
Stairway to youth center	ALLOW	1	\$55,000	\$55,000	Includes cheek walls along edges, steel handrails, and concrete treads/risers/landings
Site furnishings (benches, trash cans, drinking fountains, picnic tables, etc)	ALLOW	1	\$50,000	\$50,000	Benches = \$5,000 each installed, Trash cans = \$3,000 each installed
Lighting	ALLOW	1	\$70,000	\$70,000	New pedestrian-scale light fixtures and security lights
Security cameras	EA	1	\$16,300	\$16,300	Security cameras and associated monitoring.
Solar collectors	ALLOW	1	\$25,000	\$25,000	Add solar panels to roof
Green infrastructure best practices	ALLOW	1	\$50,000	\$50,000	Collection point for new impervious surface
Design & Engineering	18%			\$114,707	Plan to spend 18% of total budget in design & engineering fees
Contingency	20%			\$150,393	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$902,360	

PROJECTS & BUDGET

RELOCATE AND EXPAND PLAYGROUND					
Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Grading/site prep	ALLOW	1	\$55,000	\$55,000	Demo/General conditions/ESPC fencing/Tree protection
Toddler playground equipment	ALLOW	1	\$170,000	\$170,000	Allowance for new playground equipment for 2-5 years old, including swings
Schoolage playground equipment	ALLOW	1	\$250,000	\$250,000	Allowance for new playground equipment for 6-12 years old, including swings & hillside slide
Relocate "In Search of Awe" play sculpture	ALLOW	1	\$20,000	\$20,000	Allowance to move play house to new toddler playground
Playground installation costs	30%			\$132,000	Installation costs of playground equipment is usually tied to the value of the equipment itself
Concrete walkways	SF	5700	\$12	\$68,400	Includes paved walkway between upper lawn and toddler playground and oval walkway around schoolage playground
Stairway to youth center	ALLOW	1	\$55,000	\$55,000	Includes cheek walls along edges, steel handrails, and concrete treads/risers/landings
Lighting	ALLOW	1	\$50,000	\$50,000	New pedestrian-scale light fixtures
Small pavilion	ALLOW	1	\$55,000	\$55,000	Parent pavilion near schoolage playground
Site furnishings (benches, trash cans, drinking fountains, picnic tables, etc)	ALLOW	1	\$50,000	\$50,000	Benches = \$5,000 each installed, Trash cans = \$3,000 each installed
Design & Engineering	18%			\$162,972	Typically 18% of total budget in design & engineering fees
Contingency	20%			\$213,674	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$1,282,046	

LARGE PAVILION & CHESS TABLES

Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Grading/site prep	ALLOW	1	\$20,000	\$20,000	Demo/General conditions/ESPC fencing/Tree protection
Large pavilion	EA	1	\$120,000	\$120,000	Pre-fabricated family-sized pavilion
Chess plaza	ALLOW	1	\$68,000	\$68,000	Includes chess tables/chairs, plaza paved with crushed stone, and enclosed with short stone seating walls
Regrade/sod lawn	SY	500	\$2	\$1,000	Fine grading and Bermuda sod stabilization post-construction
Lighting	ALLOW	1	\$35,000	\$35,000	New pedestrian-scale light fixtures and security lights
Site furnishings (benches, trash cans, drinking fountains, picnic tables, etc)	ALLOW	1	\$50,000	\$50,000	Benches = \$5,000 each installed, Trash cans = \$3,000 each installed
Design & Engineering	15%			\$44,100	Plan to spend 15% of total budget in design & engineering fees
Contingency	20%			\$67,620	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$405,720	

WALKING TRAIL

Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Grading/site prep	ALLOW	1	\$25,000	\$25,000	Demo/General conditions/ESPC fencing/Tree protection
Crushed stone walkway	SF	5,680	\$10	\$56,800	Crushed stone walkway with metal edging
Park entrance on corner of Hank Aaron Drive and Weyman Avenue	ALLOW	1	\$25,000	\$25,000	Includes paved entry plaza, signage, ADA ramp, short stone seatwalls
Lighting	ALLOW	1	\$55,000	\$55,000	New pedestrian-scale light fixtures
Fitness station equipment for full-body workout	ALLOW	1	\$35,000	\$35,000	Install high-quality steel powder-coated workout equipment along walking trail (assume seven pieces)
Site furnishings (benches, trash cans, drinking fountains, picnic tables, etc)	ALLOW	1	\$50,000	\$50,000	Benches = \$5,000 each installed, Trash cans = \$3,000 each installed
Design & Engineering	15%			\$37,020	Plan to spend 15% of total budget in design & engineering fees
Contingency	20%			\$56,764	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$340,584	

PROJECTS & BUDGET

LEGACY GARDEN				
Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost Notes
Grading/site prep	ALLOW	1	\$5,000	\$5,000 Demo/General conditions/ESPC fencing/Tree protection
Landscaping	ALLOW	1	\$5,000	\$5,000 Native plants
Interpretive signage	ALLOW	1	\$15,000	\$15,000 Includes signage design, development, manufacture & installation
Concrete walkways	SF	1800	\$12	\$21,600 Includes paved walkway between corner park entrance and playground
Park entrance on corner of Hank Aaron Drive and Haygood Avenue	ALLOW	1	\$15,000	\$15,000 Includes paved entry plaza, signage, ADA ramp, short stone seatwalls
Lighting	ALLOW	1	\$35,000	\$35,000 New pedestrian-scale light fixtures
Site furnishings (benches, trash cans, drinking fountains, picnic tables, etc)	ALLOW	1	\$20,000	\$20,000 Benches = \$5,000 each installed, Trash cans = \$3,000 each installed
Design & Engineering	15%			\$17,490 Plan to spend 15% of total budget in design & engineering fees
Contingency	20%			\$26,818 Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$160,908

COMMUNITY GARDEN EXPANSION				
Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost Notes
Demo/site prep	ALLOW	1	\$15,000	\$15,000 Erosion & sediment control/rough grading/tree protection
Expanded garden footprint	ALLOW	1	\$20,000	\$20,000 Includes fencing, raised beds, mulch, pathways, etc
Perforated pavilion	ALLOW	1	\$25,000	\$25,000 Small shade shelter with perforated roof
Small parking lot	ALLOW	1	\$10,000	\$10,000 Small asphalt lot suitable for loading/unloading or setting up temporary markets
Secure shed	ALLOW	1	\$7,000	\$7,000 Lockable storage facility (recommend repurposed shipping container)
Lighting	ALLOW	1	\$35,000	\$35,000 New pedestrian-scale light fixtures

Site furnishings (benches, trash cans, drinking fountains, picnic tables, etc)	ALLOW	1	\$30,000	\$30,000	Benches = \$5,000 each installed, Trash cans = \$3,000 each installed
Design & Engineering	15%			\$21,300	Plan to spend 15% of total budget in design & engineering fees
Contingency	20%			\$32,660	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$195,960	

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Green infrastructure	ALLOW	1	\$300,000	\$300,000	Green infrastructure should be planned and designed in coordination with the City of Atlanta Department of Watershed Managementz
Design & Engineering	15%			\$45,000	Plan to spend 15% of total budget in design & engineering fees
Contingency	20%			\$69,000	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$414,000	

MISCELLANEOUS PROJECTS

Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Invasive plant removal	ALLOW	1	\$30,000	\$30,000	Professional removal of invasive plants
Terraced seating on hillside	LF	200	\$25	\$5,000	18" x 18" x 24" concrete curbing set into hillside
Green infrastructure curb bump-outs	EA	18,000	\$5	\$90,000	Stormwater facilities constructed in the public right-of-way
Parallel parking along Crew and Weyman	ALLOW	1	\$50,000	\$50,000	Stripe parallel parking spaces. Adjust curb as needed (minor). Pour sidewalk where absent.
Skate park	ALLOW	1	\$85,000	\$85,000	Minor skatepark near basketball courts
TOTAL				\$260,000	
GRAND TOTAL				\$7,933,635	



Darrell "Jay" Johnson, steering committee member and co-founder of Dream Builders of Atlanta, investigates the neighborhood's history at the Atlanta History Center's Kenan Research Center.

Appendices

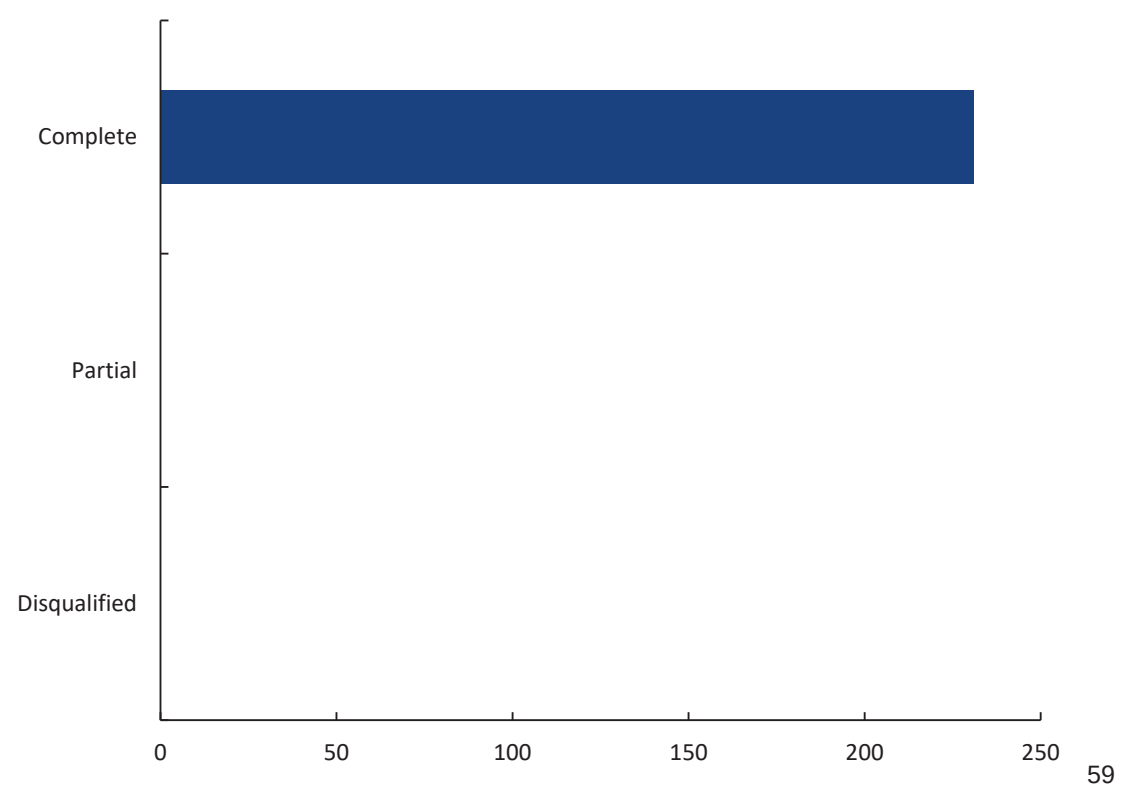
*Note: Any identifying information
of respondents has been redacted*

Appendix A - Community Survey	59
Appendix B - Preliminary Concepts	91
Appendix C - Final Plan Feedback	105

Survey 1: Community Survey for Four Corners Park

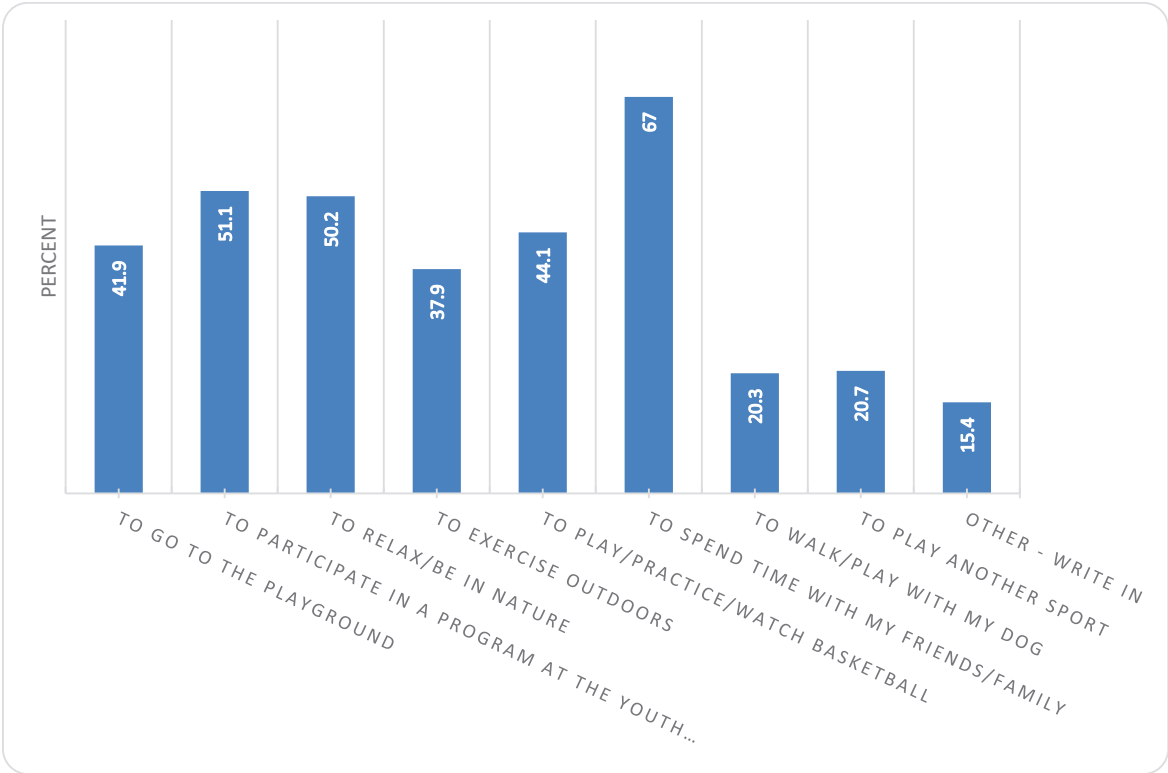
Survey 1 – Closed, September 20, 2023

Response Statistics – 231 Responses



	Count	Percent
Complete	231	100
Partial	0	0
Disqualified	0	0
Totals	231	

Question 1: Why do you visit Four Corners Park? (select all that apply)



Value	Percent	Count
to go to the playground	41.9%	95
to participate in a program at the youth center	51.1%	116
to relax/be in nature	50.2%	114
to exercise outdoors	37.9%	86
to play/practice/watch basketball	44.1%	100
to spend time with my friends/family	67.0%	152
to walk/play with my dog	20.3%	46
to play another sport	20.7%	47
Other - Write In	15.4%	35

Question 1: Other - Write In	Count
all of the above	5
555 senior meeting	1
555SENIOR PROGRAM	1
A	1
Birthday parties	1
Build a parking space on the right side of the building will be good parking instead of parking on the street ample parking	1
Community Meetings	1
Community meeting	1
I visit the park for leisure. Meetings .events and to relax	1
Native American pow wows	1
Out doors event It's a great location	1
Senor group/community groups/meetings	1
Set up game night movie night or date night on the field	1
Volunteer, as needed	1
all except to go to the playground	1
baseball	1
computer	1
host community lead events and engage with the community	1
meet with other seniors	1
meeting	1
participate in senior program	1
rest	1
senior group	1
single rim and low back board	1
soccer	1
to be with the seniors	1
to get on the computers	1
to meet with my group 555	1
to spend time with the seniors	1
to walk/play with my cat	1
visit the community garden	1
Totals	35

Question 2. What do you like most about Four Corners Park?

Response
It's in a great location; it just needs upkeep.
The park is friendly and have good people around
I like that it's a nice big park with Thugs. I feel that the park is safe enough for my kids to attend all the different programs that are available.
The environment everybody cool with everybody
The basketball court and center but the basketball could better
Basketball court, youth center, playground, sitting area, field for other activities like family events
The people always f fun, quiet, and a place to relax like the fact that I could have picnics
The family atmosphere no mater your race, religion or sexual preference you are welcomed and love at four corners park.
Family oriented, great vibes, no drama
The neighborhood activities and the convenience of the park for my kids.
The Park is in a good location in tge neighborhood . I like communit ypeoole gather there for fun- and shared information
The community center
Basketball court and the youth center
It's convenient.
The community engagement.
The community engagement.
I like the family environment of the park.
It's clean, A place i can take my grandkids without violent.
I've been coming to this park for 24 years . Everyone around here is like family! It's a great place to take my dogs and let them run around freely.
I grew up here and it's always been a refuge to come here and just relax and unite with family and friends.
Being able to be wit community and stay connected with childhood friends
The safe environment and the basketball court
the community outreach activities and participation
The open space, and comfortable and safe space to bring my friends ave family.
The basketball game count
The field and basket ball court but it needs more check your message amenities for the younger youths such as a bigger playground with more thing to do swings slide new things to help gross motor skills
The community

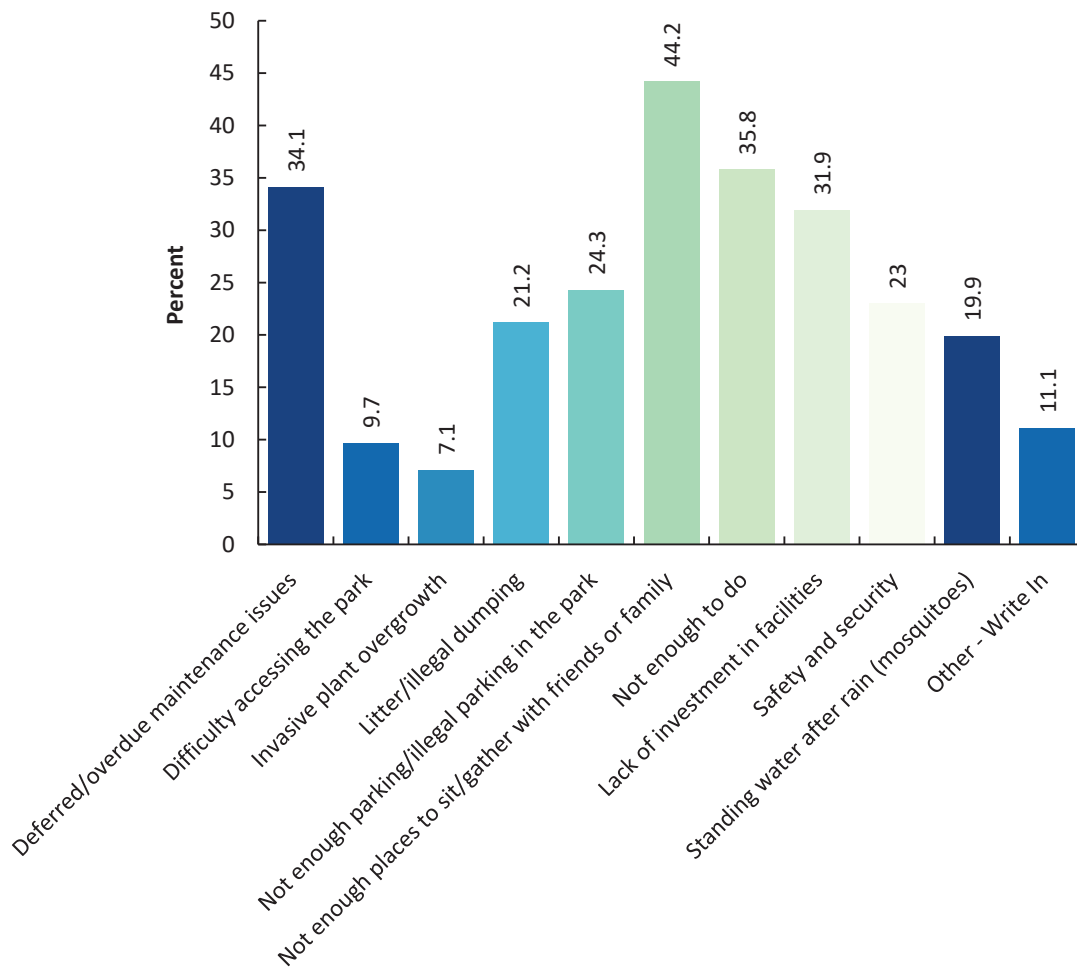
The green space
The location and environment and sense of community in the area.
The open space
NA
It's always supported the community
Friendly
Now that we have people we can talk to if you have any problem
The environment is always family oriented
The Vibes
Born and raised within the community within 30 yrs.
Family atmosphere Kate Bradley
Family Atmosphere. Kid friendly. Safe
Update playground
The Youth Center and programs
The Youth Center
Being in nature
The open nature in the city
A place for kids like swings & slide added
Community/Basketball
The ability to socialize with neighbors
seeing people and meeting other people i never met
having a gathering spot for all ages to enjoy
The youth center
it's in the neighborhood
space for community meetings and the little wooden play house
makes the community open and beautiful
friendly helpful place for my grandkids
basketball & playground
seniors meetings
i like the fact that they include everybody in the area in the program
the community
that is closer park to me
always clean, very comfortable
my senior program

the togetherness of people
the fun
good meeting place & recreation for kids and seniors
Peace, family & friends & programs
i like to ride my scooter
it's quiet
playground
basketball court/i like to ride my scooter
basketball/playground
i spent my youth here and it's a great park
the community
nature, peacefulness, and tranquility
it's been here all my life
the basketball court
the people
family environment
I like the open space, the pavilion where the community can gather, and the basketball courts/playground for the kids.
It is a large green space nestled in a great residential location. Close to a handful of restaurants and the beltline.
It's a family staple for the environment
basketball courts
the basketball court
the playground
very family and friend oriented
the center
the computer
the center
basketball
playground for the kids
friendly
center
the peace of the environment
basketball
the computers

that it brings people together
i can practice playing basketball
that its big enough for everybody
the park is very family park
the center
the center and the court
very cool and relaxing
the kids having fun
it's convenient
i grew up going to this park
location
The basketball court and people
Community meetings
The family atmosphere
Basketball
The people in the park are friendly
Basketball
Center
community
The people in the Center are great mentors.
The people are nice and the _____
The people/My family love parks
The court
The court
Basketball
The programs there
The central location and opportunities for creating natural areas in Peoplestown.
I love the open field with scattered trees which feels like a serene, relaxing environment.
It's conveniently located and has a community center
family gathering at park
Seeing people I grew up with in the neighborhood.
Plenty of basketball hoops, and open green space
The nature
The atmosphere and family oriented

Such an important community gathering spot
A loving and living place to enjoy nature and relax. A comfortable place for programming community-driven activities
Basketball court, the facilities, and the senior and youth programming
It is easily accessible to community members
The space they made for the seniors
It's history
The distance to the park
community members
the people
full basketball court
In a decent area
friendly community
i like the green space and trees
community
love the park for being there for the community
community activities
the center
family and community
the participants are friendly
community activity
A place where my family made a lot of memories

Question 3. What are the TOP 3 challenges facing Four Corners Park? (select the three most urgent challenges)



Value	Percent	Count
Deferred/overdue maintenance issues	34.1%	77
Difficulty accessing the park	9.7%	22
Invasive plant overgrowth	7.1%	16
Litter/illegal dumping	21.2%	48
Not enough parking/illegal parking in the park	24.3%	55
Not enough places to sit/gather with friends or family	44.2%	100
Not enough to do	35.8%	81
Lack of investment in facilities	31.9%	72
Safety and security	23.0%	52
Standing water after rain (mosquitoes)	19.9%	45
Other - Write In	11.1%	25

Question 3: Other - Write In Answers	Count
all of the above	6
All of the above	1
All of the above, except safety and security and standing water after rain	1
N/A	1
Need counseling for substance	1
Playground, court repaved	1
The condition of the playground and basketball court	1
The court	1
all except invasive plants and litter	1
all except litter/illegal dumping	1
lack of investment & safety and security	1
lack of investment & standing water	1
not enough parking, and not enough places to sit/gather	1
not enough places to sit/gather, lack of investment, and dogs in the park doing their business	1
not enough places to sit/gather, not enough to do, lack of investment	1
not enough to do & lack of investment	1
not enough to do & safety and security	1
not enough trash cans	1
pavement cleaning	1
update playground and basketball court	1
Totals	25

Question 4. Tell us more about the challenges you identified above (where or when do they occur)

Response
Many maintenance concerns such as broken benches, large holes in the ground, painting needs to be updates. Gang activity in the evening leads to litter and dangerous situations.
Lighting
It's not enough benches
I feel like the guys that runs the park, sometimes need a little help so that they can expand
MORE WATERFOUNTAINS AND TRASH CANS
I feel like there should be more trashcans. I feel there don't invest enough in the basketball court I feel like there should be things such as rubber flooring, glass backboards, and sib
The up keep of the park isn't met the grass sometimes not cut long periods of time a lot of times no one is coming to clean the park or empty the trash. The center needs to be pressure washed it needs more space so you can have more than one group of kids in at a time. You can't have an after school program with all the kids in one space. The gazebo's could use some up keep as well pressure washing for ants and spiders. The center surroundings could use some up keep too, like its trees and other debris behind the center on the side of the center and on top of the center. I think it would benefit if we could have another gazebo cause we have lots of families and friends like to come here to gather.
When I come to the park, there's nowhere to park sometime either. The basketball court is for all the sitting area school.
The court is asphalt and very hard on younger and older people body's. The goals are broken. Cracks in the basketball court are hazardous, people can fall and injure themselves. I feel that peopletown is forgot in the eye of the city used for its economical benefits and neglected!! It's time for improvements our kids need access to better resources better ways to play. Somewhere to grow somewhere to learn our kids are the ones suffering.
During family functions we could use more benches, playground need rebuild age friendly
The playground is not all age friendly, basketball court isn't in good condition, more benches for sitting is needed.
The standing water occur after heavy rain and stands there for day and create mosquitos . The benches and tables are limited and rotten . City don't keep up with maintenance at the park and center .its a delayed response
Just need better security
We need an updated park and community center
No security guard No swings or water features Not enough space to host a gathering
I think the park needs some updates outside and to the building.
I think the park needs some updates outside and to the building.
Play ground need to be updated. Places to sit with family and friends.
There's no extra activities to do like walking a track, swimming, or events.
Just mosquitoes

putting more into the park agriculture and look
It happens all the time the lack of seating,
Not enough places to sit while in the park
The park really needs more places to sit and space to allow kids to play and gather safely
NA
Need to spray football and mosquito need a outdoor facility to use the restroom
the neighborhood needs a place that have resources for kids as well as parents to better themselves as well as a dog part for the family fur babies
N/A
N/A
Need more for the kids to do
Need more for the kids to do. Redo the basketball courts
Update other activities
Update or add more to the playground, upgrade basketball court.
N/A
Very limited space for multiple families
There are few sitting areas for multiple families
Suggested activity: yoga for kids with transportation
Not enough investment in facilities
Also, not enough places to sit/gather, not enough to do, lack of investment in facilities
Ants in outdoor planters. Parking in front of play area on grass
a lot of parks in Atlanta have seen many renovations and investment and it feels like Four Corners is very behind in new amenities being added and maintenance for youth center
water occurs on path to side of bball court
the center need maintenance daily and supplies for cleanliness of center
limited playground and activities for young children and lots of litter (trash, discarded clothes) 8112
no improvement in the last 25 years that i have lived in the community
more activity for the youth. i feel like certain people are moving in pushing a lot of people who been living in this community for years. i'm very sad
don't know
sidewalks cracked too much
just being consistent of coming up here more often [maintenance]
need more places to sit, more places to park
we would love to have a kitchen to cook. not everyone has transportation
we need more facilities for 555

no benches, not enough shelter, no picnic area, small water park for kids
it's not nothing to do for kids and seniors
playground
we could use more resources
people racing down the street leaving the park
it's hard for the kids to play
just the littering need to get better
New Year's Eve and 4th of July tend to be dangerous due to gun usage
I often see trash/litter around the basketball courts and along the sidewalks surrounding the park. There is only one small covered outdoor seating area next to the playground. Water gathers at the bottom of the hill in the field after rain.
There is already water flowing to this area, it is a storm water project. A detention pond or some small body of water would be a LOVELY addition to a park/green space heavy atlanta
The park has so much potential. However it seems as if the power at he doesn't care. It needs to be tended to and cared for
park is very unwelcoming. feels unsafe, and the park feels unmaintained.
littering is a problem in the whole neighborhood
there is not really much for kids to do
nothing
alot of trash around the park
more safety for peoples
nowhere to sit or tables to eat
it should be more seats for like shade when its hot
it's just the trash around the basketball court for the most part
to the playground for more stuff
No challenges right that I have
Nothing
Also (above) Not enough places to sit/gather with family Not enough to do Standing water after rain (mosquitoes)
Also (above): Not enough places to sit/gather with friends or family Not enough to do Safety and security Standing water after rain
Old benches
Also (above): Not enough parking/illegal parking in the park Not enough places to sit/gather with friends or family Not enough to do Lack of investment in facilities Standing water after rain
The park had maintenance issued that have been ignored for years, particularly flooding and overgrowth. Littering is an issue with no real trash collection infrastructure. The community center needs investment to better serve programming to the area.

The park has continuously went through Planning sessions, however, I do not see change. There's no reason why the children in the area should have to go to another park instead of the one in their neighborhood.

The green space sometimes has random holes/damage which make running through them dangerous. There is often wrappers and bottles on the ground, which make the space feel less nice. The basketball courts slope slightly downhill and are not flat.

Too much bugs that I can't enjoy nature

Lack of parking and lighting after dark

Insufficient outlets, aging facilities, and storm water ponding on the southeast corner of the park

Flooding is an issue that would require integrated stormwater management including Green Infrastructure.

Difficulty accessing the park from Hank Aaron Side Invasive species and overgrowth behind the facility - should be a tree cover trail or walkway The large amount of flooding in the park

Parking

The community could benefit from the help of a drug counselor

Been living in area about five years have not seen any upgrades or maintenance

No dogs off leash

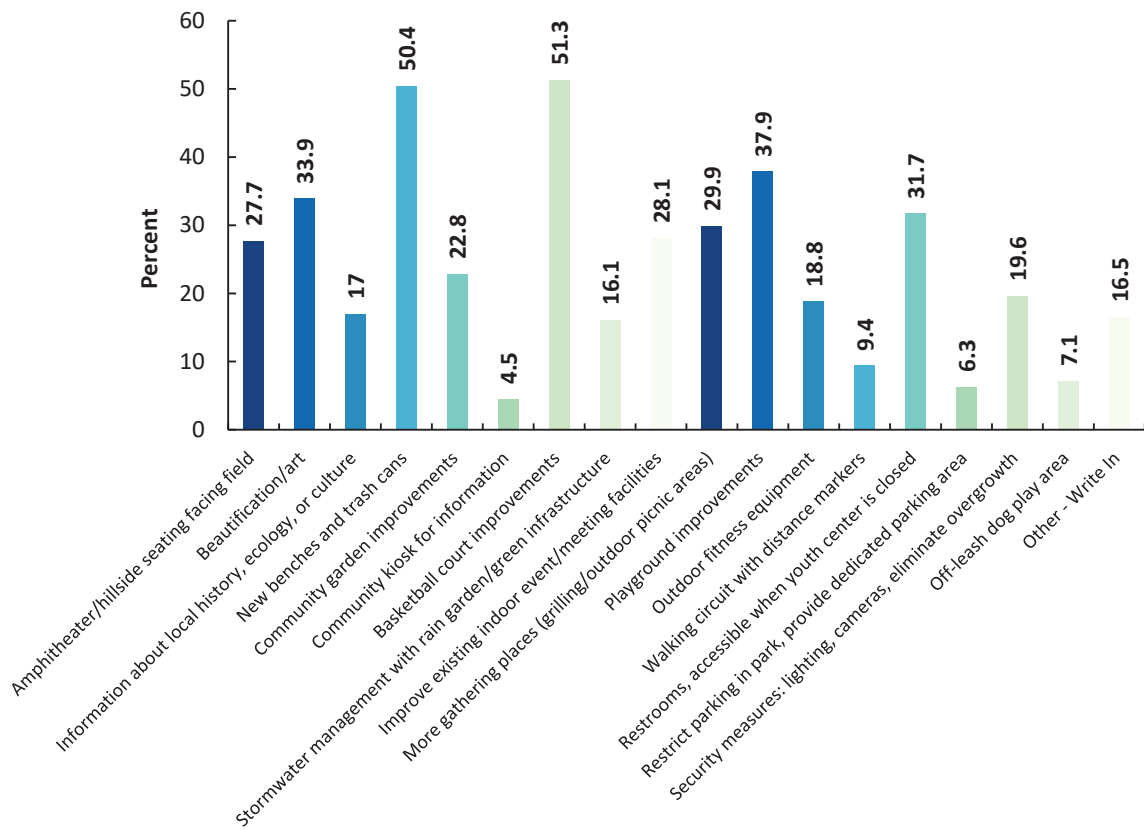
maintenance not being completed like other parts of the city

I rarely go to the park because there is no comfortable place to sit and not walkable in the park (no paths). I actually haven't used the park in a year

build inside basketball court

no security presence

Question 5. What are the TOP 5 amenities you would like to see added or improved at Four Corners Park? (select ONLY 5 and share more about your answers in the next question)



Value	Percent	Count
Basketball court improvements	51.3%	115
New benches and trash cans	50.4%	113
Playground improvements	37.9%	85
Beautification/art	33.9%	76
Restrooms, accessible when youth center is closed	31.7%	71
More gathering places (grilling/outdoor picnic areas)	29.9%	67
Improve existing indoor event/meeting facilities	28.1%	63
Amphitheater/hillside seating facing field	27.7%	62
Community garden improvements	22.8%	51
Security measures: lighting, cameras, eliminate overgrowth	19.6%	44
Outdoor fitness equipment	18.8%	42
Information about local history, ecology, or culture	17.0%	38
Other - Write In	16.5%	37

Stormwater management with rain garden/green infrastructure	16.1%	36
Walking circuit with distance markers	9.4%	21
Off-leash dog play area	7.1%	16
Restrict parking in park, provide dedicated parking area	6.3%	14
Community kiosk for information	4.5%	10

Question 5: Other - Write In Answers	Count
all of the above	5
all except off-leash dog play area	2
playground, and restrooms	2
restrooms and security measures	2
All of the above	1
All of the above, except community kiosk and off-leash dog play area	1
Also, more gathering places and restrooms	1
Basketball court improvements, stormwater management with rain gardens/green infrastructure, Improve existing indoor event/meeting facilities, more gathering places, playground improvements, restroom accessible when rec center is closed	1
Pond	1
all except amphitheatre, dog park, and new benches & trash cans	1
all of the above and "pass-way"	1
all of the above except amphitheatre, art, benches, and dog park	1
all of the above except for walking circuit	1
all of the above except parking and dog park	1
all of the above except parking, security, and dog park	1
all of the above except stormwater management, outdoor fitness equipment, parking, security, and dog park	1
beautification/art, local information, new benches, kiosk, stormwater management, improve building, more gathering places, outdoor fitness equipment, and walking circuit	1
build parking area on property where there is ample space	1
different types of sports like tennis, baseball	1
improve existing indoor facilities, playground, outdoor fitness equipment, restrooms, and a pool	1
more gathering places, and restrooms	1
more gathering places, restrooms, and security measures	1
native american pow wows	1
playground and dog park	1

playground and outdoor fitness equipment	1
playground, more gathering places, and restrooms	1
playground, restrooms, and security measures	1
playground, workout equipment, restrooms	1
things to do for children	1
walking circuit and games for seniors and toddlers	1
Totals	37

Question 6. Tell us more about the amenities you identified [in Question 5].

Response
See above.
Need outdoor exercise equipment
I thing that the court need repaved with new nets. I think that the benches are a little old, and a amphitheater would be awesome.
N/A
Pretty self explanatory
Basketball court could use new court new goals also so court art. The kids could use more things to do on the playground it also needs to be updated. The youth center could use more space for after school care and other meetings an events. The benches are out dated needs to be replaced and the trash cans need to be switched out. Restroom facilities when the center is closed would keep people from going around the building to use the restroom. We want beautification at our park and we want it to be well maintained by the people visiting it as well as the people responsible for the up keep.
I always walk my dog, but there's not a designated area for dogs and all people are not pet friendly, so we should be a designated area for dolls
The court is asphalt and very hard on younger and older people body's. The goals are broken. Cracks in the basketball court are hazardous, people can fall and injure themselves. I feel that peopletown is forgot in the eye of the city used for its economical benefits and neglected!! It's time for improvements our kids need access to better resources better ways to play. Somewhere to grow somewhere to learn our kids are the ones suffering.
More trash cans to stop the liter.
We need the asphalt done and new nets and to improve on the benches
Everything i mention is outdated or neglected by the City. We need outside plugs for events . Solar panel . Its way overdue for a upgrade
Wish to make more recommendation. The park needs a lot of improvement better design for future usefulness
We need clean restrooms Need new playground equipment
Dog play area
When I bring my dogs to the park there is no designated area for them to play safely or doggy bags to clean up after them. I see workout areas at other parks and I think it would be cool at our park!
We would love to have lawn events. No one have a place to use the restrooms so they leave the park. Exercise women will help with health issues people are experiencing. You can't play basketball when it's raining. We have nowhere to walk.
I believe that they would make the park better
Added more amenities for a safer and fun park
It would really be nice to have restrooms accessible and cleaned regularly.
Non beside basket ball court
It would be nice to come to the park on a nice day and barbecue and let the kids play

More benches and lights are needed for the park to be a safer space
NA
All of it
a clean joyful,loving safe haven for the community
N/A
Having somewhere to go to in the community
More for the community more the kids to be active and invest in their future a safe place to not only to be able to hang out be learn life skills
More plants and artwork Update basketball court
There is no community garden. Upgrade court. Improvement to youth center more indoor games and computers. no restrooms outdoors.
N/A
I'd love for more community garden growth
I'd love to see investment in the outdated facilities
Also: Community kiosk for information, basketball court improvements, more gathering places, playground improvements, walking circuit, restrooms, security measures
no to off leash dog play area
please add more benches and picnic tables
There is a statue with an important community figure and it would be nice to have others added. It would also be nice to have tables for chess and games and a tennis court and baseball field added.
add tennis or baseball
it would be nice to have info for park posted and restrooms that are clean and opened
would love more amenities for the whole family to enjoy and to [illegible] serve as a space for community meetings
have something for the children in the community to do always
Native American/Black language lessons and monthly pow wows. putt putt golf
living in this community
The are around here needs to have better things to do or like more stuff for the playground
we need a kitchen in the center
they don't have enough for the children and seniors
more stalls in restroom
parking on the right front of building where there's space not used
also want restrooms
also outdoor fitness equipment, walking circuit, restrooms, and security measures not enough to do around the park
make the playground better

need more things to do
As-salamu alaykum
i feel it will make it better
i want everything to be better
fitness improves your mental health. better play area for kids, more options
Would enjoy an off leash dog area and as stated above safety is lacking
Safety is needed in Peoplestown.
It deserves proper lighting and cameras
would love a large open space to take my dog.
we need a real playground it should be important that the young people know about their community
lack of trash
i see a lot of poop on the floor
need trash can
amphitheater can allow concerts, benches and trash cans can allow more places to get rid of trash leaving less mess on the ground
the goals are a bit unbalanced, so it makes it harder to shoot
i feel like we need to redo the park. new ground and more water
add better floors for basketball
instead of concrete, add marble floors
important for kids to play. more activities and parking
have restrooms so when something outside is going on we will have restrooms to go to
The Four Corners Park need a new court
Trash
Lack of water fountains
Also: Restrooms accessible when youth center is closed. NO off-leash dog play area
Also (above) Basketball court improvements Improve existing indoor event/meeting facilities More gathering places Playground improvements Outdoor fitness equipment Restrict parking in park, provide dedicated parking area Security measures
Also (above) Basketball court improvements Stormwater management More gathering places Playground improvements Walking circuit with distance markers Restrooms, accessible when youth center is closed Restrict parking in park Off-leash dog play area
Also (above) More gathering places Playground improvements Restrooms, accessible when youth center is closed It would be nice for a better playground for the kids. It would be great to have somewhere to sit and grill with family.
Also (above): Off-leash dog play area
Also (above): Outdoor fitness equipment Restrooms, when center is closed Restrict parking in park

Security measures
Also (above): Restrooms, accessible when youth center is closed
Also (above): Restrooms, accessible when youth center is closed
Also (above): Education & meeting space Our community loves music (amphitheater) A place for children 5 and under Seating to watch basketball games
I would like to see improvement to the court because it is uneven
Also (above): Improve existing indoor event/meeting facilities More gathering places (grilling/outdoor picnic areas) Playground improvements Outdoor fitness equipment Walking circuit with distance markers Restrict parking in park, provide dedicated parking area Security measures: lighting, cameras, eliminate overgrowth
Also (above): Playground improvements Restrooms, accessible when youth center is closed
Also (above): Restrooms, accessible when youth center is closed A little more programs
Must have a great playground, number one way to get more users in the park.
The basketball courts are a prime amenity and used by the youth. Better/more courts would expand access. There also needs to be public restrooms and more gathering and rest areas throughout the park as infrastructure is concentrated in the NW corner.
I would like to see improvements of what they currently have in place, as well as new construction.
Because of the wet area being somewhat in the middle of the space, and the presence of many beautiful older trees, I believe the park would benefit from more intentional design of the space (community garden, basketball court improvements, grills or dog play areas) rather than awkward patches of sloping grass which are underutilized.
N/A
Feel very strongly about the importance of a rain garden to manage ponding and would love a walking path around it with education signs.
I wish there were more amenities at this park. As it is, it feels like a big hot open field with trees at the edges. It seems like there is enough room for a skateboard park, baseball diamond or soccer field on the site. There are no amenities aside from the playground, one picnic shelter and basketball court all located near the building. Virtually the rest of the site is unused. A walking circuit would be nice as long as a significant portion were shaded.
Need off street parking the Lord part of the park need to be a area where we can walk around almost like a mini track
The priorities for Park maintenance is not the same in South Atlanta as it is in North Atlanta
The basketball court needs new rims and ground painted
no outdoor picnic area, no grills to utilize, no nice fitness equipment to use
The park in general is just really ugly. Even the art that exists needs some retouching. It's not inviting except maybe the kids playing basketball

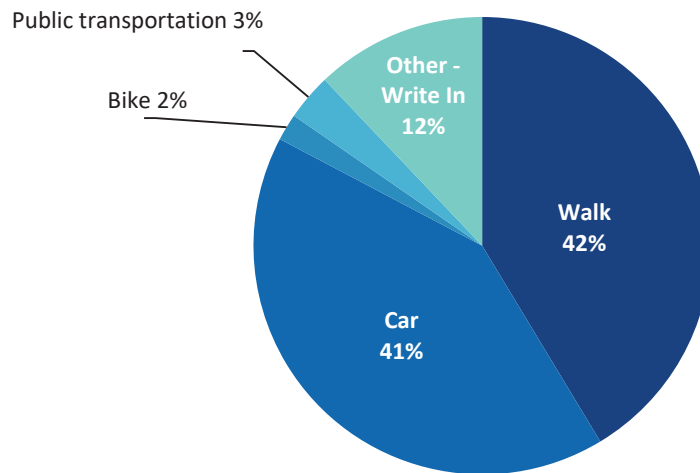
Question 7. Is there anything else you'd like us to know about the park?

Response
No
Need a shed over the basketball court so when it rain we can still play.
This park really do keep a lot of kids off the street because they have some place to attend that they feel safe.
N/A
No
This park is not just a place for family and friends to gather it's where the community gathers, our seniors gather our community events happen so this park is definitely needed so it's time we see a revamp basically some up to date beautification and improvements to four corners park. This park is dear to a lot of people old and young. I grew up coming to this park now I bring my kids here. I have family members that's seniors now grew up coming to this park so this park is dear to not current residents but former residents as well.
Not at this time
The court is asphalt and very hard on younger and older people body's. The goals are broken. Cracks in the basketball court are hazardous, people can fall and injure themselves. I feel that peopletown is forgot in the eye of the city used for its economical benefits and neglected!! It's time for improvements our kids need access to better resources better ways to play. Somewhere to grow somewhere to learn our kids are the ones suffering. I love my community and it's time we ooor love into it.
I have been coming to this park since I was little and now my kids go here and they love it
This park is a gathering place for the community for years . A lot of activites take place here community events. Senior citizens and youth programs .
More for seniors to do outside and inside
N/A
It is a great gathering spots for family, friends and place for children enrichment programs.
It is a great gathering spots for family, friends and place for children enrichment programs.
It's a good place for family friends in the community to get together if it can be updated
The park have allot of potential to be better and accessible and is long overdue for a make over to draw more neighbors and make it friendly for everybody.
Big area to do more with the park for community
Just need a
It need a bigger and better playground enough space for a bigger better playground
I grew up here in hope my kids will get to as well
There's no dog area
NA
Mr cj and mr j help everyone and I love that.

the park has always been a pillar on the neighborhood where families came together to spend and fellowship together
N/A
That everything needs to be upgraded
Expand the indoor facilities
put markers on the field
N/A
I'd love to see (?)
The park is great but needs investment to modernize it.
please add grilling for the outside
This is a beloved and important space for folks in Peoplestown that is utilized every day, and Four Corners deserves to stay up to date and invested in like the other parks on the BeltLine
it is important part of the neighborhood that we need
make the park useful for the neighborhood
1) perennial colorful flowers 2) screen on the green 3) lawn bowling league 4) free wifi
i do like the court and park although there are a lot of gnats, mosquitoes, and bugs so i would like the park to be in control of that
keep it for the community
why they don't have not enough walking space or exercises
more programs for children in Mechanicsville. Football, basketball, arts and crafts, etc
when can parking be provided
family oriented park; not a dog park. never been a dog park
where is the security and safety for the kids
it's an amazing park
it's a great park. i've been coming here for 40 years and just love it
how could we help
no
It's worth it
My mother was born in Peoplestown. In was born in Peoplestown. My mother birthday 1954. My birth 1971
no
no
trash cans and lighting
recolor the doll house
no

no
and we need a place to put our bags
court designs, shade
it's nice, but if they just added swings and slides it would be a lot better, and add a shed
keep it drug free and safe
keep it for the community
No, not at this time.
Add a pool for summer time and on weekends
No
No
Keep the grass cut Vendor opportunity " Community
No
No
The park is the center of Peoplestown and needs to shown as such.
The park is perfectly positioned to be a gateway from this community to the beltline, and vice versa; a path going from crew street to Hank Aaron/Milton ave would both serve existing residents, and also showcase peoplestown to visitors who are passing through!
Na
this park has been in the neighborhood for years and no upgrades have been made to help the community

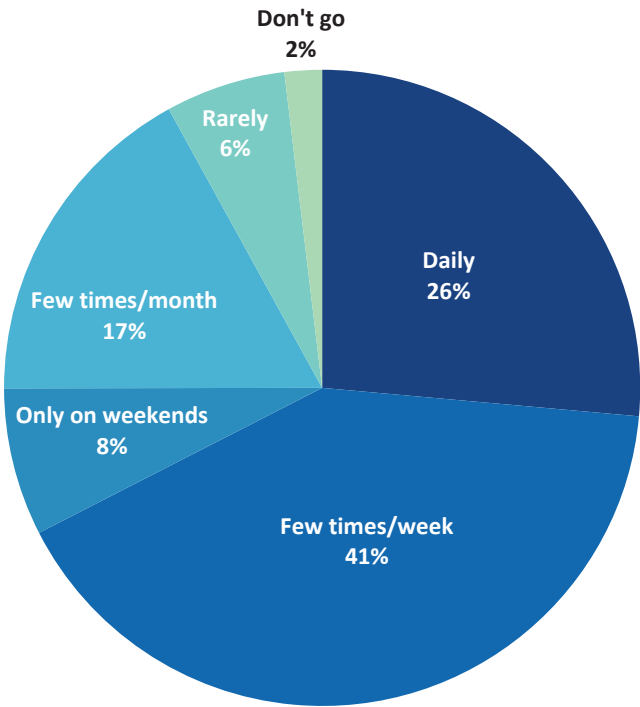
Question 8. How do you usually get to Four Corners Park? (select one)



Value	Percent	Count
Walk	41.4%	89
Car	41.4%	89
Bike	1.9%	4
Public transportation	3.3%	7
Other - Write In	12.1%	26
	Totals	215

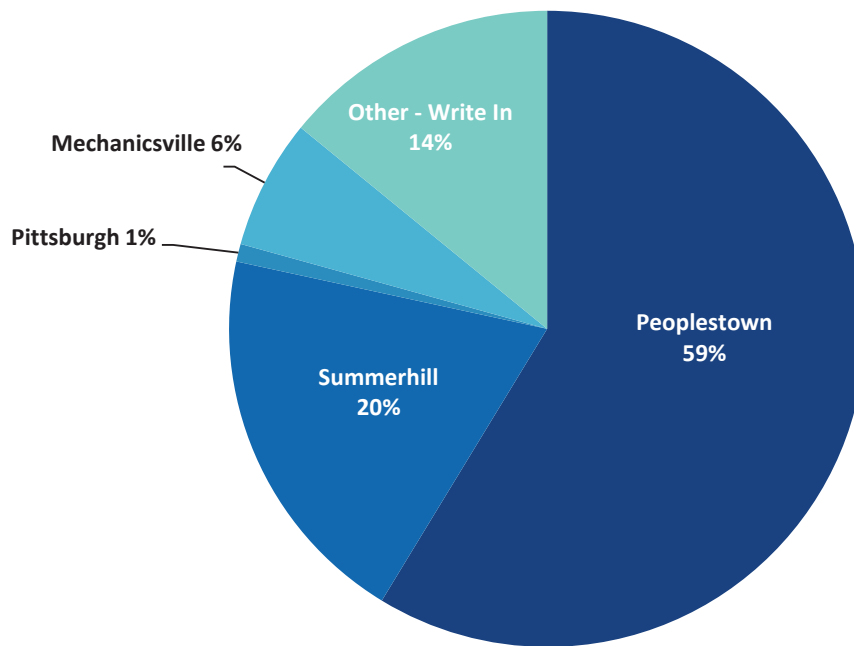
Other - Write In	Count
Walk and Car	6
walk or car	4
walk and bike	3
walk, car, or public transportation	3
all of the above	2
All of the above	1
I walk and drive	1
Walk/car/public transportation	1
bus	1
ride with friend	1
walk, car, or bike	1
Totals	24

Question 9. How often do you go to Four Corners Park?



Value	Percent	Count
Daily	26.4%	56
Few times/week	41.0%	87
Only on weekends	7.5%	16
Few times/month	17.0%	36
Rarely	6.1%	13
Don't go	1.9%	4
	Totals	212

Question 10. What neighborhood do you live in?

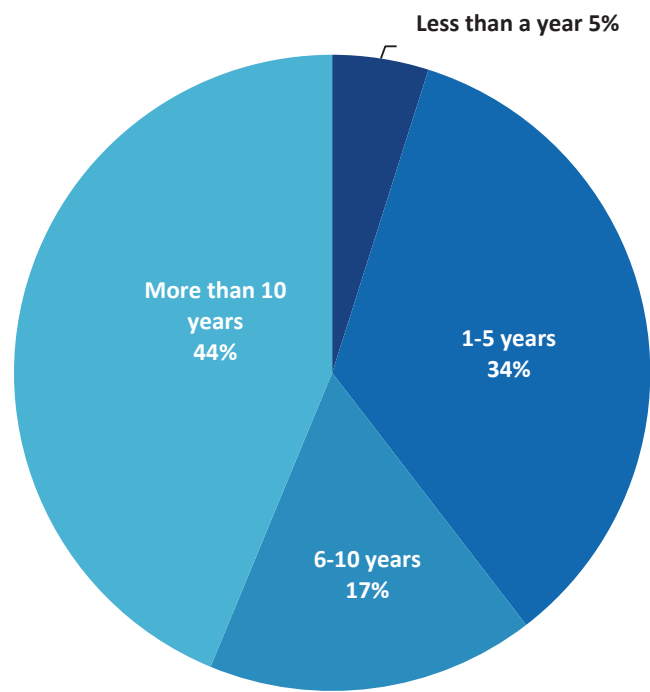


Value	Percent	Count
Peoplestown	58.7%	125
Summerhill	19.7%	42
Pittsburgh	0.9%	2
Mechanicsville	6.6%	14
Other - Write In	14.1%	30
	Totals	213

Other - Write In	Count
Cascade	4
West End	2
Bankhead	1
Buckhead	1
DeKalb	1
Decatur	1
Downtown	1
East Point	1

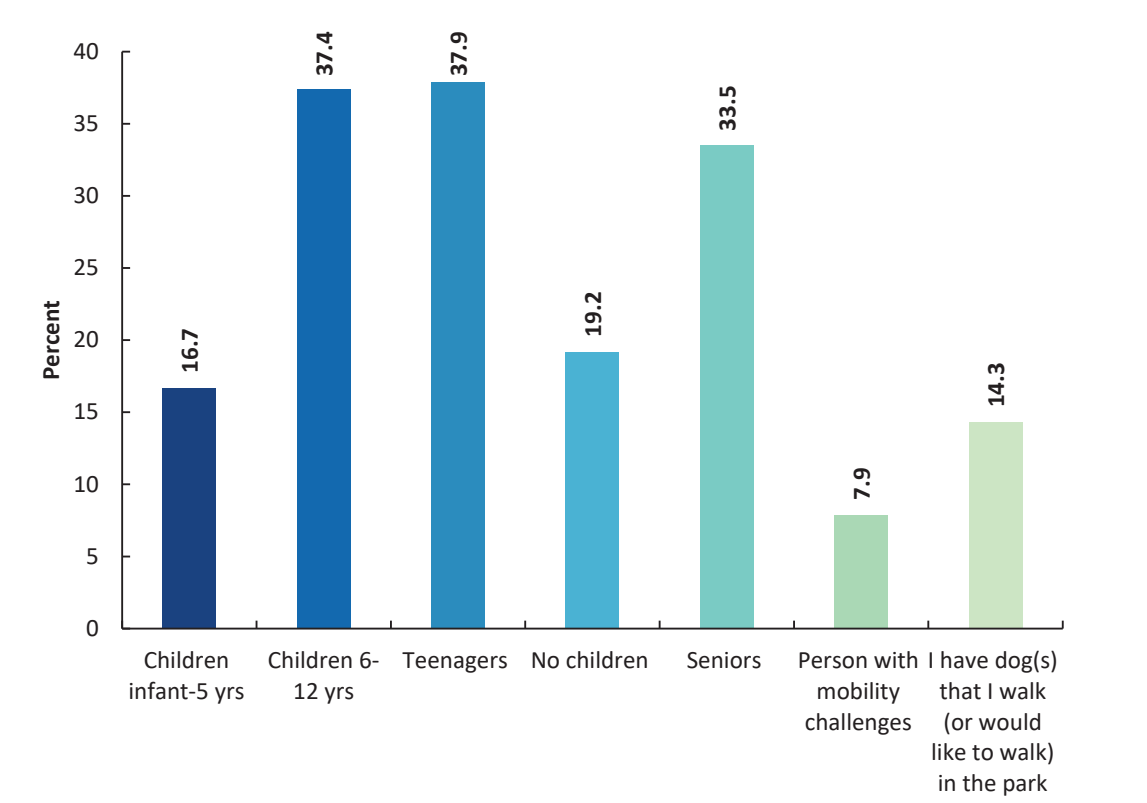
English Avenue	1
Hunter Hills	1
Lakewood	1
Lawrenceville	1
Lindbergh	1
Marietta	1
Oakland City	1
Oakland city	1
Peoplestown/Summerhill	1
Polar Rock	1
Summerhill/Mechanicsville	1
West end	1
work at ECO-Action	1
Totals	25

Question11. How long have you lived in the neighborhood?



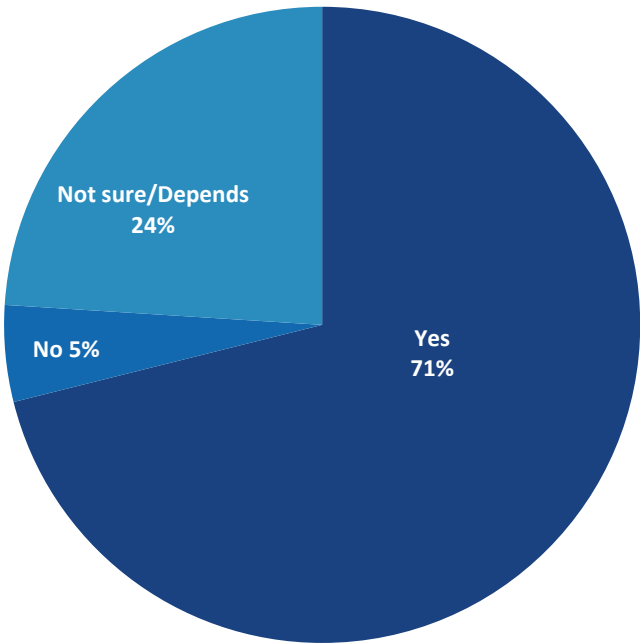
Value	Percent	Count
Less than a year	4.9%	7
1-5 years	34.7%	50
6-10 years	16.7%	24
More than 10 years	43.8%	63
	Totals	144

Question 12. Tell us who lives in your household (check all that apply)



Value	Percent	Count
Children infant-5 yrs	16.7%	34
Children 6-12 yrs	37.4%	76
Teenagers	37.9%	77
No children	19.2%	39
Seniors	33.5%	68
Person with mobility challenges	7.9%	16
I have dog(s) that I walk (or would like to walk) in the park	14.3%	29

Question 13. Are you interested in volunteering to improve Four Corners Park?

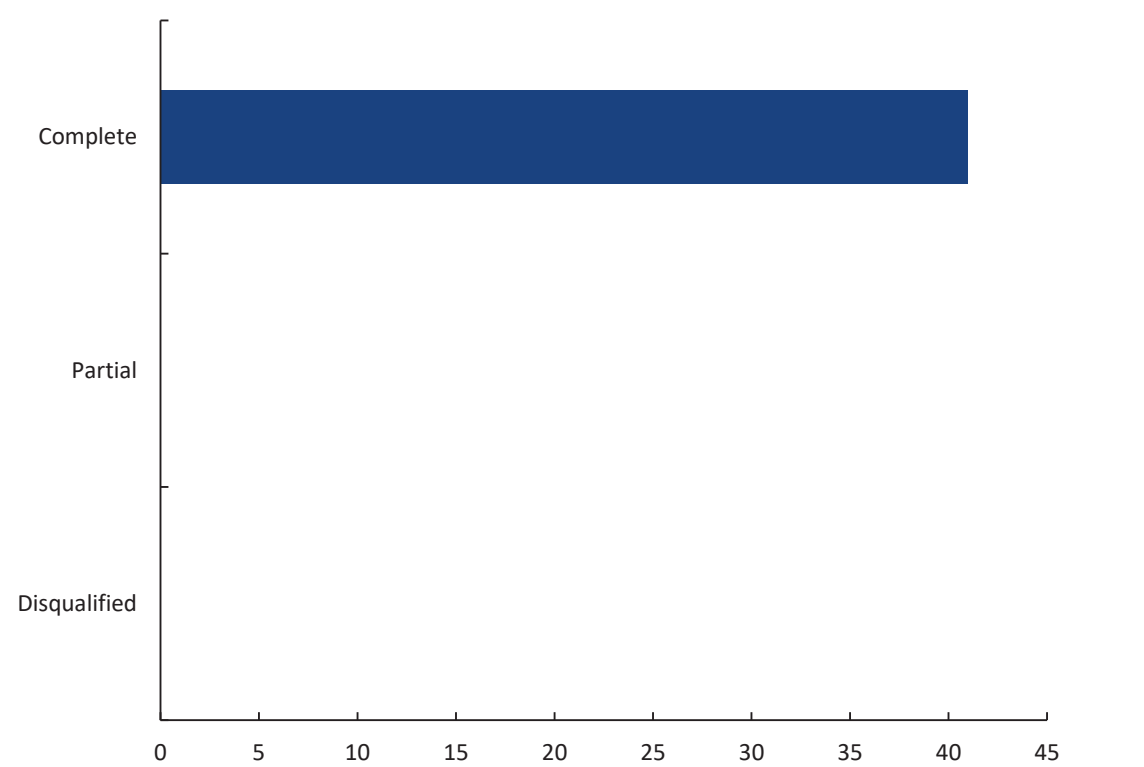


Value	Percent	Count
Yes	71.1%	145
No	4.9%	10
Not sure/Depends	24.0%	49
	Totals	204

Survey 2: Preliminary Vision Concepts for Four Corners Park

Survey 2 – Closed, October 18, 2023

Response Statistics



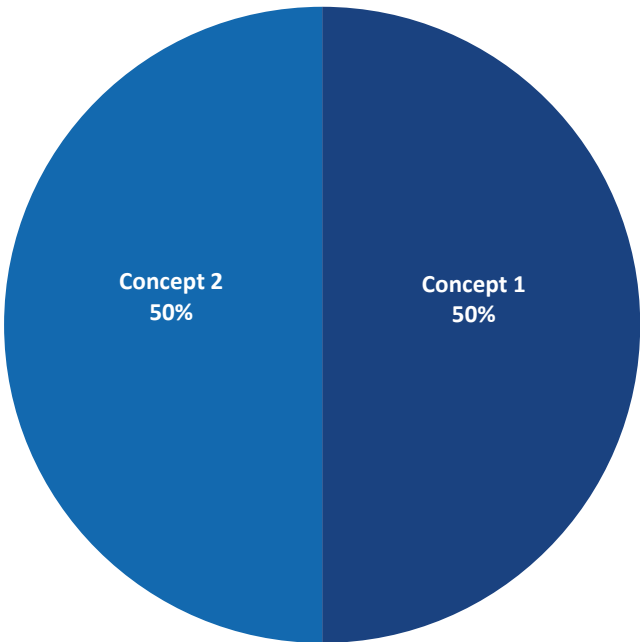
	Count	Percent
Complete	41	100
Partial	0	0
Disqualified	0	0
Totals	41	

NOTE: Questions 1 and 2 asked for personal identification for volunteer purposes and were redacted from this report.

Question 3. Share comments or preferences related to the Draft Guiding Principles here.

Response
Climate change is a big concern for me, so I especially like #2, though all sound good.
Agree with the principals
N/A
The park should continue to serve as it has served in the past, and should continue to especially serve youths and families. New features should enhance this without losing focus on these key groups.
Love it
I think these are great!
For #4 - need to make sure park allows for programming & events
great
no notes!! :-)
Nature is very important to call out. Could be added to one of these.
I like all of the guiding principles
Let us keep enduring for The Lord
It's refreshing to learn there is interest in improving parks in or communities.

Question 4. Overall, which concept do you prefer?

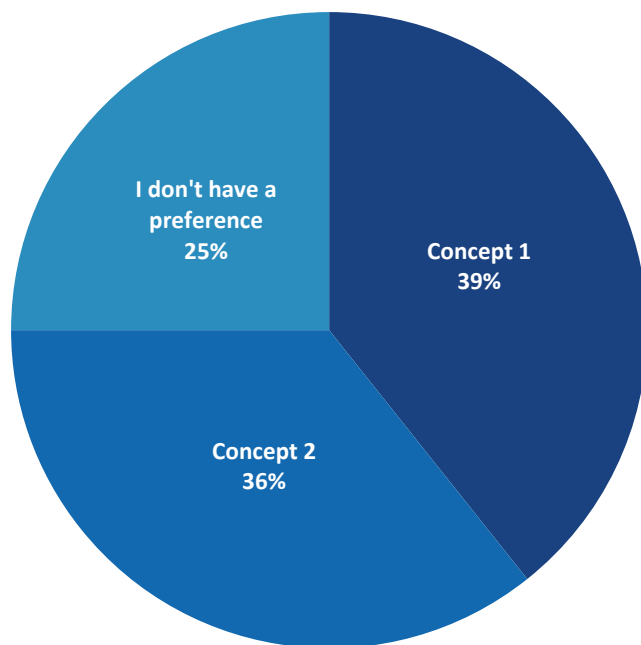


Value	Percent	Count
Concept 1	50.0%	17
Concept 2	50.0%	17
	Totals	34

Question 5. Share additional thoughts and comments [about the concepts] here.

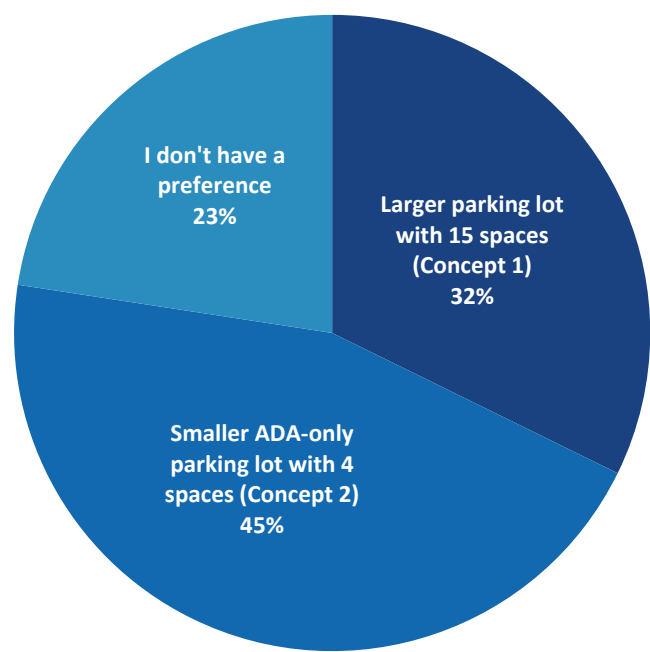
Response
I want a pretty walking path somewhere in the neighborhood, so I especially like the paths here. I don't have kids and am not interested in sports, so I like more places to gather. I don't have a car, so I don't care about parking and want minimal space to go to car storage. Preferably none.
DH Stanton is right around the corner and already has a baseball field that is not being utilized. I would rather have the space developed with things that complement DH Stanton park rather than compete.
Regardless of which Concept is chosen, night lighting above & beyond code driven requirements would greatly benefit this park.
Concept 2 does a wonderful job providing multiple paths through the park - this invites both residents and visitors to the community to travel THROUGH the park and not around it; this facilitates opportunities to see and meet more people, and be exposed to everything the park can offer. I think the varying features here will attract diverse interests and foster community growth and evolution in a positive way.
I don't think we need a baseball court because we have so close at DH Stanton. I feel like an outdoor kitchen has a possibility of bringing in homeless people to come camp out, so I am opposed to that. Not sure about the amphitheater either. I'm a huge fan of #1.
Things from both concepts can be left out and added to make the park best for the people in this community!
Overall I like 2, but some of one can be implemented. We need more light
need more lighting
Although people said that they feel safe in the park, we can increase security by cameras on each corner of the park as well as speed bumps along Crew Street in front of the park
ADA parking right next to community center as well as a loading zone
do need speed bumps. need better lights
We want a park where we can have activities like they have at Piedmont Park on a smaller scale
I like both concepts
I like both concept because they are a good idea
Designs should include larger meeting areas

Question 6. Do you prefer a more EXPANSIVE update to the youth center OVER THE EXISTING BASKETBALL COURT (Concept 1) OR a more ECONOMICAL update to the Youth Center OVER THE EXISTING FIELD (Concept 2)?



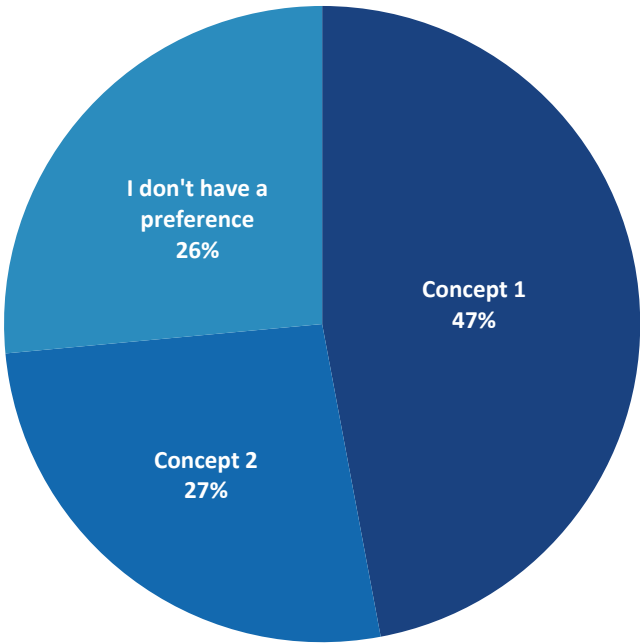
Value	Percent	Count
Concept 1 (Expand over courts)	39.3%	11
Concept 2 (Expand over field)	35.7%	10
I don't have a preference	25.0%	7
	Totals	28

Question 7. Do you prefer a new parking lot with 15 spaces (Concept 1) OR a smaller parking lot with 4 dedicated ADA parking spaces (Concept 2)?



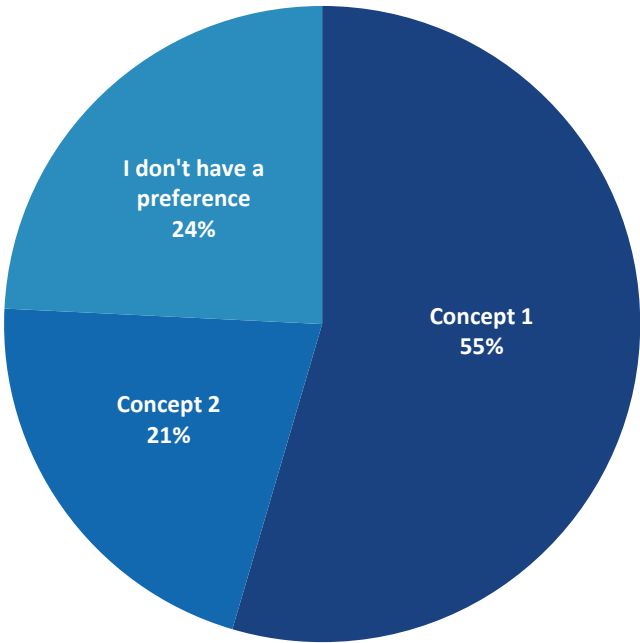
Value	Percent	Count
Larger parking lot with 15 spaces (Concept 1)	32.3%	10
Smaller ADA-only parking lot with 4 spaces (Concept 2)	45.2%	14
I don't have a preference	22.6%	7
	Totals	31

Question 8. Do you prefer covered basketball courts relocated in the SW field (Concept 1) OR resurfaced basketball courts relocated to enlarge the existing playground (Concept 2)?



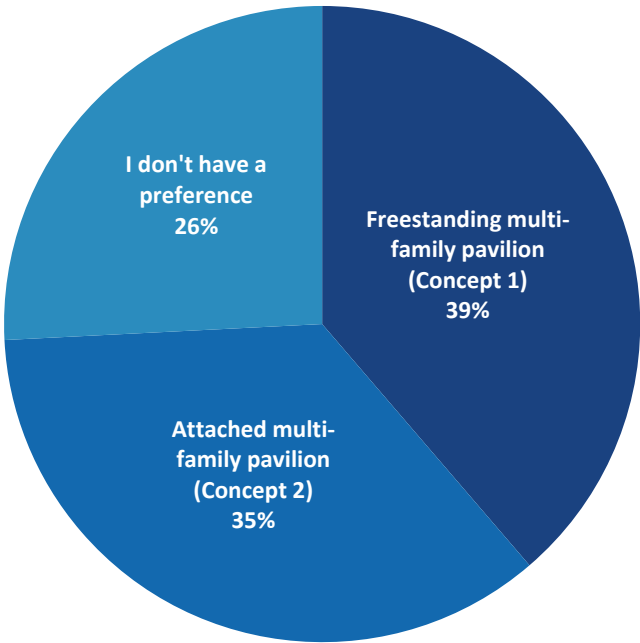
Value	Percent	Count
Concept 1 (Covered)	47.1%	16
Concept 2 (Resurfaced)	26.5%	9
I don't have a preference	26.5%	9
	Totals	34

Question 9. Do you prefer two connected playgrounds located away from streets (Concept 1) OR an expanded playground in its current location (Concept 2)?



Value	Percent	Count
Concept 1 (away from streets)	54.5%	18
Concept 2 (current location)	21.2%	7
I don't have a preference	24.2%	8
	Totals	33

Question 10. Do you prefer a freestanding multi-family pavilion adjacent to Youth Center indoor kitchen (Concept 1) OR an attached multi-family pavilion with outdoor kitchen (Concept 2)?

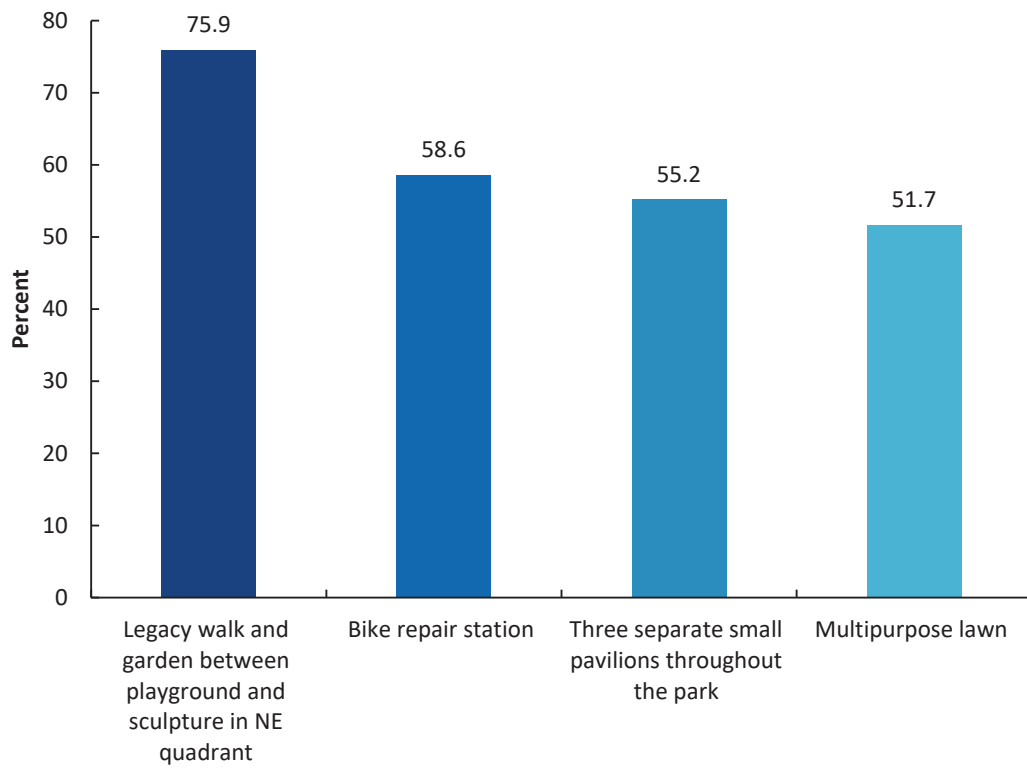


Value	Percent	Count
Freestanding multi-family pavilion (Concept 1)	38.7%	12
Attached multi-family pavilion (Concept 2)	35.5%	11
I don't have a preference	25.8%	8
	Totals	31

Question 11. Please share additional comments here.

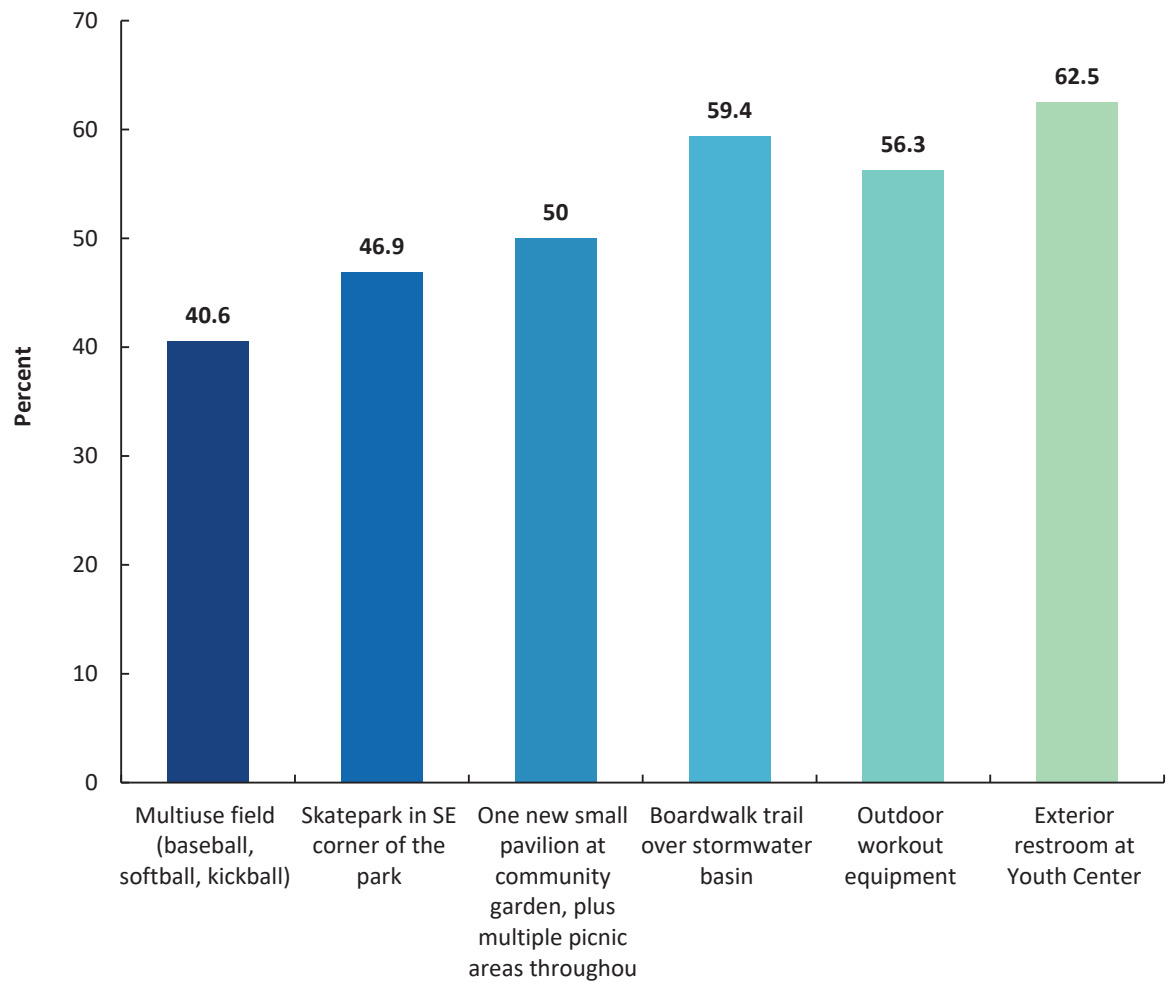
Response
Just a thought - in my experience there are several transient and potentially unhoused individuals who consider this neighborhood their home. It would be nice to see this park having features that might make such individuals feel welcomed/ included/ considered rather than unwelcomed or excluded. Someone with more knowledge on this topic may have useful insights to consider.
10 ADA spaces
power outlets outside
Expansive update is too expensive/not feasible. Playground is too isolated in its current location. NOTES WRITTEN ON CONCEPT 1 OPPOSITE SIDE Space is too valuable to use for very limited parking. Yes, placemaking entrance features Adjust footprint/placement to leave more useful open space (indicating covered basketball courts) Buy McGruder's grocery Native plants (check mark) Consolidate sidewalks close together (referring to redundancy of walking path) Street parking on three sides NOTES WRITTEN ON CONCEPT 2 OPPOSITE SIDE Room for soccer (written over baseball field) Connect to Ridge multimodal trail (with arrow pointing west from SW corner of park) Too isolated (referring to playground with arrow drawn to SE corner of park) Buy McGruder's Grocery Focal point (check) Native plants (check) Too hard to maintain (referring to outdoor workout equipment) Move playground to skatepark area Skatepark not responsive to needs - what about pickleball court?
[Arrow drawn to indicate the attached multifamily pavilion with outdoor kitchen should be included in concept 1]
[Arrow drawn to show smaller parking lot in concept 1]
I like concept 1 that's what we need badly

Question 12. Select the elements you prefer from Concept 1



Value	Percent	Count
Legacy walk and garden between playground and sculpture in NE quadrant	75.9%	22
Bike repair station	58.6%	17
Three separate small pavilions throughout the park	55.2%	16
Multipurpose lawn	51.7%	15

Question 13. Select the elements you prefer from Concept 2



Value	Percent	Count
Multiuse field (baseball, softball, kickball)	40.6%	13
Skatepark in SE corner of the park	46.9%	15
One new small pavilion at community garden, plus multiple picnic areas throughout the park	50.0%	16
Boardwalk trail over stormwater basin	59.4%	19
Outdoor workout equipment	56.3%	18
Exterior restroom at Youth Center	62.5%	20

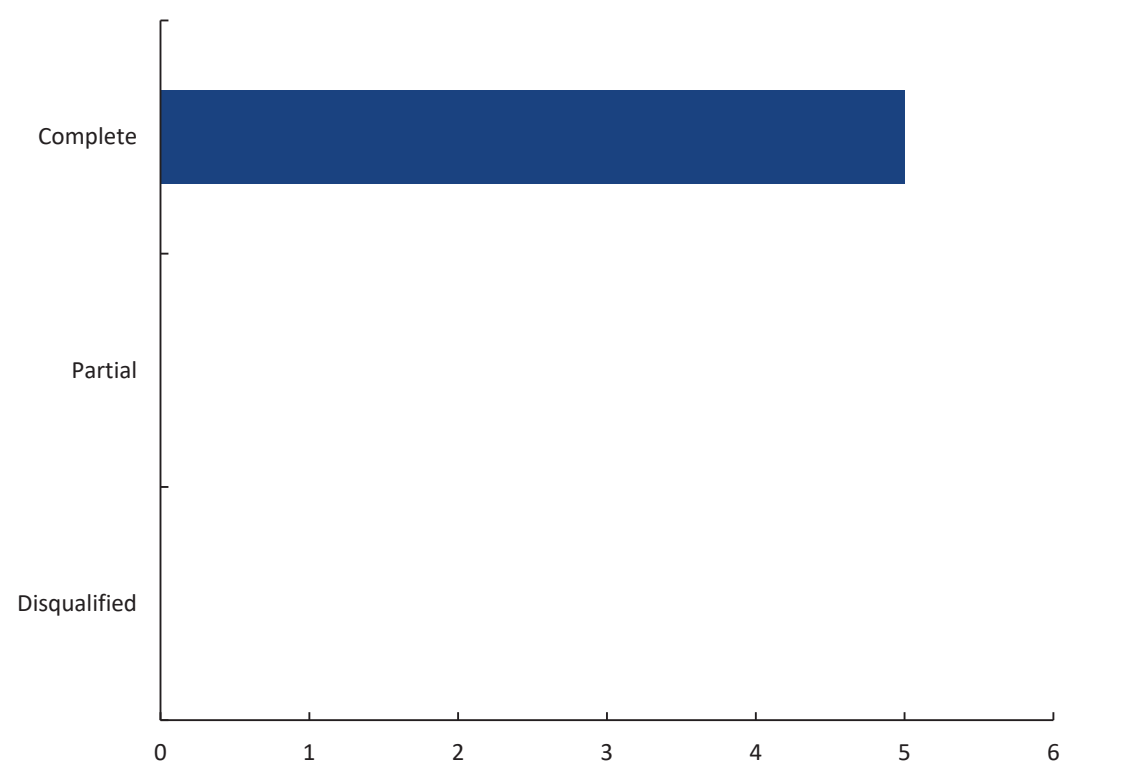
Question 14. Please share additional comments here

Response
Thank you for taking on this project!
(indicated on form) move outdoor workout equipment, ADA parking, and attached multifamily pavilion with outdoor kitchen to concept 1
add doggy stations
Bike racks, soccer!!
[Arrow drawn to indicate skate park in concept 1]
We need elements to cause neighbors to interact with each other.
I would also like to also have an indoor pool

Survey 3: Final Vision Plan for Four Corners Park

Survey 3 – Closed, November 6, 2023

Response Statistics



	Count	Percent
Complete	5	100
Partial	0	0
Disqualified	0	0
Totals	5	

Question 1. The vision plan includes many projects. List the TOP 5 most important projects to you, with 1 being the most important.

Projects voted number 1
Expansion and updates for the Rick McDevitt Youth Center
Playgrounds
Paths and sidewalks through the park

Projects voted number 2
Healthy & Homegrown garden area
Natural areas
Improved basketball courts

Projects voted number 3
Basketball court upgrades
Sidewalk system
Wetland areas

Projects voted number 4
Legacy walk & garden, Lighting & Seating
Buying grocery property and incorporating into park
Terraced seating/the Hill incline

Projects voted number 5
Playgrounds
Add as many new shade trees as possible for urban heat mitigation

Question 2. Share additional comments below**Response**

I feel as though to meet the needs of the original people in Peoplestown Community, there are suggest areas on this plan that aren't needed. We don't need a skate park because no one in this neighborhood skates. We don't need bike repair station, and we don't need two playgrounds.

The overall design of the park is beautiful and I hope all elements are able to be incorporated to give back to this community.

Don't think skatepark is requested by community there had been a skating rink request at one point but not really feasible. Any way to have shade from trees rather than fabric on playgrounds? Would be good to have a phasing plan that might start with a sidewalk system, trees and playgrounds, basketball court, building

Bravo!



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