South River Forest and Public Safety Training Center
Community Task Force

SUBGROUP MEETING 2 – MAY 16 & 17, 2023
Table of Contents

01 Welcome

02 Expert Presentations

03 Review Visioning Session

04 Final Visioning Exercise

05 Next Steps
01

Welcome
Task Force Vision and Goals

Vision
The vision for the South River Forest and Public Safety Training Center Community Task Force is to contribute to the policymaking for a safe, equitable, and inclusive environment that provides comprehensive training for all public safety professionals and encourages public interaction with the site.

Goals
The goals for engagement are to:
- Create inclusive and community-driven recommendations for the surrounding green space (300 acres) and the public safety training curriculum.
- Facilitate an inclusive engagement process that incorporates the aspirations and expertise of the Atlantan community.
- Provide opportunities for fact-based education and awareness of the public safety training center and surrounding green space.
Task Group Areas

**Group 1: Parks & Greenspace**
Develop programming for passive and active uses of the land, while preserving its natural ecology

**Group 2: Police, Fire, and E911 Curriculum**
Provide input on the collaborative potential and direction of the public safety curriculum

**Group 3: Sustainability & Resilience**
Introduce and encourage the use of best practices with regards to infrastructure and development

**Group 4: Visioning, Memorializing, and Repurposing the former Atlanta Prison Farm Site**
Contextualize the future best use of the Atlanta Prison Farm Site given its history
Expectations

Engagement activities are centered around the planned development of the site

Recommendations will be delivered to the Mayor’s Office, but all may not be implemented

Task force members are representatives of their community of influence

The Task Force is focused on the 300 acres surrounding the Public Safety Training Facility site

Only selected Task Force members are to participate in the activities
Rules for Engagement

Be Respectful of Others

Be Present; No Substitutions

Silence Cellphones

One Conversation at a Time

In Absence, Review Materials & Provide Comments
Subgroup Meetings

Meeting 1: Inform and Early Visioning

Meeting 2: Final Vision and Early Recommendations

Meeting 3: Recommendations

Meeting 4: Priorities

Meeting 5: Review & Vetting of Final Recommendations for all groups
02

Expert Presentations
Presentations

• Samyukth Shenbaga & Mollie Bogle, Atlanta Regional Commission

Today’s presenters will:
• Provide additional context on current initiatives and/or best practices
• Share initiatives or relevant information not provided in the Previous Plans and Studies Summary
• Address questions presented in previous meetings
EXPLORE SOUTH RIVER FOREST

SRF & PSTCCTF
Parks & Greenspace Subgroup
The South River Forest, a proposal for an expansive 3,500-acre network of connected greenspaces inside I-285 in SE Atlanta and SW DeKalb County, would be protected, connected, and activated as publicly accessible greenspace providing significant environmental, social, and economic benefits for metro Atlanta’s communities.
PROJECT MANAGEMENT TEAM MEMBERSHIP

Deron Davis, The Nature Conservancy
Jacqueline Echols, South River Watershed Alliance
Ryan Gravel, Sixpitch, Inc.
Maria Houser, DeKalb County
Joshua Humphries, City of Atlanta
Shirley Nichols, South River Gardens Community Association
Michael O'Reilly, The Nature Conservancy
Renée M. Palmer, BlaqueBook Management Group
Joe Santifer, South River Forest Coalition

*Community members are in orange. Local government representatives are in red.*
SOUTH RIVER FOREST  CONSENSUS BUILDING & STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

PUBLICINPUT  https://publicinput.com/SouthRiverForest

564 PARTICIPANTS
1st Community Meeting Results

- Environmental Justice: 17%
- Economic Equity: 17%
- Recreational Opportunity: 14%
- Sustainable Development: 12%
- Intergovernmental Coordination: 11%
- Housing Affordability: 9%
- Government Transparency: 5%
- Environmental Stewardship: 4%
- Transportation Alternatives: 3%

30 Participants
1st Community Meeting Results

3500+ Acres
STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Commissioner Marvin Arrington, Jr., Fulton County
Don Bolia, Decide DeKalb
Celia Bynes, South River Gardens Community Association
Alison Clark, Community Stakeholder Advisory Committee, The Great Park Connection Conservancy, & Southeast DeKalb Neighborhood Alliance
Sam Collier, Business Owner
Patricia Culp, Cedar Grove Neighborhood Association
Chuck Ellis, DeKalb County Department of Recreation, Parks, & Cultural Affairs
Ayana Gabriel, Community Foundation of Greater Atlanta
Fabrizio Garcia, McKenny’s, Inc. & Metro South CID
Jim Giattina, Clarification & Mediation, Inc.
Susan Granbery, USDA Forest Service
Commissioner Natalie Hall, Fulton County
Jerry Hicks, South River Gardens Community Association
Commissioner Larry Johnson, DeKalb County
Kelly Jordan, Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area Alliance
Ronald Lall, NPU-W (Neighborhood Planning Unit-W)
Carlos Pagoaga, Coca-Cola Foundation
Commissioner Robert Patrick, DeKalb County
Joe Peery, South River Forest Coalition & Save the Old Prison Farm
Anne Phillips, NPU-Z
Rukia Rogers, The Highlander School
Representative Kim Schofield, GA House District 60
Jay Scott, The Great Park Connection Conservancy
Council President Doug Shipman, City of Atlanta
Margaret Spalding, South River Watershed Alliance, South River Forest Coalition, & East Atlanta Community Association
Kathy Waller, Atlanta Committee for Progress
Betty Willis, DeKalb Chamber of Commerce
Council Member Jason Winston, City of Atlanta
Katherine Zitsch, Metro Water Planning District

Community members are in orange. Elected officials are in red.
ECONOMIC EQUITY IN THE SBF

VISION
The equitable distribution of economic opportunities, resources, health, & access to a community to support economic mobility.

GOALS

ACCESS
- To create opportunities for economic growth and development
- To provide access to health care and mental health services
- To improve housing stability and affordability
- To increase economic mobility and access to employment
- To provide education and workforce development opportunities

EDUCATION
- To promote educational excellence
- To increase educational opportunities for all residents
- To improve the quality of educational facilities and technology

HOUSING
- To ensure safe and healthy living conditions
- To increase housing stability and affordability
- To improve tenant and landlord relations

PUBLIC HEALTH
- To ensure access to healthy food options
- To increase awareness of health disparities

ACTION ITEMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action Item</th>
<th>Responsible Party</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Establish a healthy living initiative program(s)</td>
<td>Local jurisdiction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Establish a residential voter education program(s)</td>
<td>Local jurisdiction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Establish a secondary school support network(s)</td>
<td>Local jurisdiction, school systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Establish a community center to provide health and wellness services</td>
<td>Local jurisdiction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Establish a food justice initiative program(s)</td>
<td>Local jurisdiction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Establish a local food security program(s)</td>
<td>Local jurisdiction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Establish a program to increase local food options</td>
<td>Local jurisdiction, school systems, OMA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# 2nd Community Meeting Results

## Table C.1 Environmental Justice Action Item Prioritization

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action Item</th>
<th>% Vote</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Establish bond(s) for the purchase of greenspace</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Amend land use regulations (e.g., zoning)</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Establish overlay district(s) (e.g., environmental, housing, land use)</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Amend environmental regulations (e.g., stormwater)</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Other priorities in this category include establishing carbon offset program(s) (e.g., land acquisition), community garden program(s), and an oral history program.*
# Final Recommendations

## Table 1. Summary Matrix of Recommendations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommendation</th>
<th>Timeframe</th>
<th>Responsible Party</th>
<th>Potential Partner</th>
<th>Funding Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A.1: Develop a Detailed Masterplan</td>
<td></td>
<td>CA, DC</td>
<td>ARC, TNC</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>A.2: Expand the Existing Trail Network</td>
<td></td>
<td>CA, DC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>A.3: Connect the Forests</td>
<td></td>
<td>CA, DC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>A.4: Increase Community Engagement</td>
<td></td>
<td>CA, DC</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>A.5: Establish the South River Community Development Corporation</td>
<td></td>
<td>CA, DC</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>A.6: Protect Existing Public Land to Parks and Recreation</td>
<td></td>
<td>CA, DC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>A.7: Protect Additional Private Land for Parks and Recreation</td>
<td></td>
<td>CA, DC</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>A.8: Establish the South River Forest Management Authority</td>
<td></td>
<td>CA, DC</td>
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<tr>
<td>B.1: Establish a Green Development Zone</td>
<td></td>
<td>CA, DC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>B.2: Connect the Forests</td>
<td></td>
<td>CA, DC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>B.3: Increase Community Engagement</td>
<td></td>
<td>CA, DC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>C.1: Protect the Forests</td>
<td></td>
<td>CA, DC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.2: Construct a Mixed-Affordable Housing Development, starting with Thomasville Heights</td>
<td></td>
<td>CA, DC</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>C.3: Create a Small Business Incubator</td>
<td></td>
<td>CA, DC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.4: Launching an Education Hub</td>
<td></td>
<td>CA, DC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Do not include final forest/friendly credits. Special thanks to ARC, TNC.
NEXT STEPS

PROTECT
- Develop a Detailed Masterplan
- Transfer Existing Public Lands to Parks and Recreation
- Acquire Additional Private Land for Parks and Recreation
- Establish the South River Forest Management Authority
- Coordinate Regionally to Restore the South River
- Address Gentrification with Strategic Growth Management Practices
- Establish a Green Development Zone

CONNECT
- Expand the Existing Trail Network
- Connect the Forest
- Increase Community Engagement

ACTIVATE
- Establish the South River Community Development Corporation
- Construct a Model Affordable Housing Eco-Development Starting with Thomasville Heights
- Create a Small Business Incubator
- Launch an Education Hub
03

Review Visioning Session Results
Vision Process
Recap of Week 1 – Vision Exercise

Visioning Exercise
1. Desired Outcomes
2. Individual Contribution
3. Selection of Key Vision Words
04

Final Visioning Exercise
Draft Vision Statements – Instructions

• Review drafted vision statements created from feedback and input from Week 1
• Edit the vision statements by placing colored dots:
  - Highly important or must keep
  - Not relevant or remove

• Feel free to add words or provide comments on the structure or content of the statement.
  NOTE: You are not required to comment on every word in the vision statement!

Refer to the results from your group’s visioning exercise and consider how any recommendations shared during Week 1, plan summaries, and presentations today should inform the final vision statement for your group.
Our vision is to create a dynamic and interactive community center that provides recreational opportunities for all. We aim to foster a sense of community through innovative programming that engages people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds. Our focus on culture and collaboration will ensure that the community center remains a culturally sensitive and expressive space for everyone, while promoting equity and advancing educational opportunity for residents.
Our vision is to create a dynamic and interactive community center that provides recreational opportunities for all. We aim to foster a sense of community through innovative programming that engages people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds. Our focus on culture and collaboration will ensure that the community center remains a culturally sensitive and expressive space for everyone, while promoting equity and advancing educational opportunity for residents.
Our vision is to create a dynamic and interactive greenspace that promotes a sense of community while providing recreational opportunities for all. The park will be an accessible space for everyone, while promoting ecological conservation and encouraging connectivity to current and future projects that serve the community.
Next Steps
Next Steps

• Week 3 – Recommendations
• Share Final Vision and Early Recommendations
## Task Group Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parks and Greenspace</th>
<th>Police, Fire, &amp; E-911 Training Curriculum</th>
<th>Sustainability &amp; Resilience</th>
<th>Visioning, Memorializing, &amp; Repurposing Former Atlanta Prison Farm Site</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesdays 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM</td>
<td>Wednesdays 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM</td>
<td>Wednesdays 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM</td>
<td>Tuesdays 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/2 • 5/16 • 5/30</td>
<td>5/3 • 5/17 • 5/31</td>
<td>5/3 • 5/17 • 5/31</td>
<td>5/2 • 5/16 • 5/30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Large Group Final Recommendations
Wednesday, August 2, 2023 • 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM
Communications

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brthomas@atlantaga.gov

For questions about media correspondence and press releases, please reach out to the City of Atlanta for assistance.

Website
www.atltrainingcenter.com