

Master Plan

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Park View



A Master Plan engages neighbors in composing a park plan.



Goal Statement Board

Passive Park ready for picnics

- flowers
- wildlife
- trees
- honor the flood plain
- smells good
- nature
- bird watching
- woodlands
- indigenous (do not need to keep formal plantings)
- sell old plants (to raise funds)
- natural
- passive (no programmed sports)
- clean
- contemplative
- quiet
- neighborhood
- no parking
- informal
- paths (mulch, circulation)
- safety
- connectivity
- house foot print is not sacred
- wild like central park
- retreat
- serene
- historical (don't need to repeat civil war, but other area history)
- mill park
- pet friendly (not a dog park)
- no playground
- weddings
- picnicking

Once the words were defined and clarified to everyone's satisfaction, the group took turns nominating their favorites. This went around the room until the following five words rose to the top of the board and were approved. Their goal statement is found below and on the cover of this report.

"PASSIVE, NATURAL, EDUCATIONAL, NEIGHBORHOOD RETREAT"



Bird Watching



Native Elderberry bush (Sambucus Canadensis) feeds birds.



Wild Sweet William (Phlox divaricata) spreads widely in moist, woodland areas.

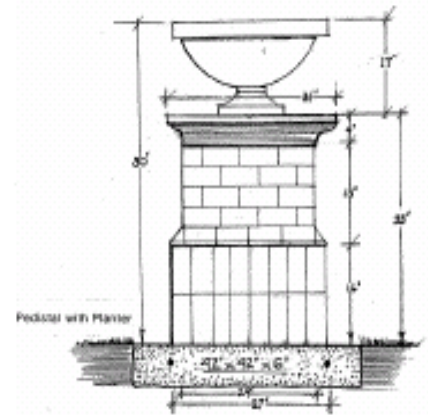
Considerations

Entrances/Access – The group agreed that access to the park by visitors would be on foot or by self propelled vehicles like bicycles or strollers. Parking is available across Collier Road in Tanyard Creek Park. Only Park Maintenance vehicles will have access to the park the existing asphalt driveway. A removable bollard will block all other vehicles. This bollard will have a lock and key for park maintenance crews. The proposed pedestrian entrance further north along Overbrook was deemed inadequate for vehicles. The plan DOES not show access down to Tanyard Creek because of the steep grades and water pollution. Warning signs about water quality are set along the creek within Tanyard Creek Park to the southeast.



Existing Asphalt Driveway

Masonry columns and low walls will outline edges and entrance to the park along Overbrook Drive and Collier Road. The design will be similar in style to the columns erected by the Greystone Garden Club located around the Collier Hills neighborhood. The entrance to Overbrook Drive from Northside Drive is one example. Another example is on Walthall Road across from Road.



Column Erected by Greystone Garden Club

Audubon Habitat – The group expressed interest in obtaining Audubon Habitat designation. This needs to be a volunteer project. For example, blue bird houses were built and posted around the site during the master plan process as a result of the enthusiastic reception by the committee of achieving this designation. This plan endorses the following guidelines provided by an Audubon expert to improve the bird habitat.



1. Retain dead or dying trees wherever that can be done safely. If dead trees are near and tall enough to fall upon the trail, consider whether retaining at least the bottom 20 feet. "Some 85 species of



Red-headed woodpecker making his home in a dead tree

North American birds excavate nesting holes, use cavities resulting from decay (natural cavities), or use holes created by other species in dead or deteriorating trees".¹ Cavity nesters found across the creek include red-headed woodpeckers, red-bellied woodpeckers, downy and hairy woodpeckers, bluebirds, titmice, and chickadees. Other cavity nesters may be enticed to set up residence. For example, neighbors have reported a pair of barred owls. The greatest single challenge for cavity nesters is man's removal of the dead trees in or on which they make their homes.

Unlike nesting boxes, which provide only cavities, dead trees also attract vital food, such as beetles that decompose the wood. Dead trees also provide roosts for various creatures, such as great blue herons. Anyone viewing dead trees as unattractive should plant blooming native vines at their bases. Crossvine, passionflower, and coral honeysuckle are among the native vines that would cloak dead trees in leaves while also attracting hummingbirds and butterflies to their flowers.

2. Plant native shrubs and vines will provide dense cover and/or fruit for birds and other animals. Native plants such as cherry laurel, Southern wax myrtle, elderberry, leucothoe, beautyberry, spicebush, and inkberry will be planted on the hilltop's open areas. Most of these bushes have fruits cherished by birds and foliage that could provide some of the cover

3. Minimize the use of herbicides and pesticides. The City does not use any herbicides or pesticides in routine maintenance. Unfortunately, some type of herbicide may be necessary to stem the reemergence of the invasive species like English Ivy, Privet and Kudzu. The City will recommend that its contractor selects an

¹ Cavity-Nesting Birds of North America, U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture Handbook # 511, Nov. 1997.



Barred Owls



Leucothoe (leucothoe axillaris) in bloom.



Southern Leopard Frog (Rana sphenoccephalus)

herbicide non-toxic to wildlife needs. Selecting a safe but efficacious herbicide will require study since Roundup, a common alternative, is blamed as a significant contributor to the collapse of frogs. If the shoots are sprayed rather than painted, any overspray may end up in the neighboring creeks.

The City's maintenance crews will not clean, maintain or fill bird feeders or nesting boxes; however, they support the volunteers' efforts to install and maintain these in good condition.

Native Species – The floodplain area will be planted with Sycamores and Musclewood trees as recommended by the Beltline Arboretum Plan. Native shrubs and perennials will be planted along the floodplain as part of the landscaping for the Beltline Trail. Non-native species planted by the former residents may remain but the non-natives in the proposed open lawn on the hill may be relocated behind the proposed granite wall to blend with neighborhood plantings.

An initial desire for edible and native plants was refined and modified. Orchard trees would generate fruit fall that would be an ongoing maintenance problem. Two existing pear trees planted by the Howards are dropping fruit on the asphalt drive. Berry-bearing trees and shrubs for wildlife are preferred. These can be tucked in among the other plantings.

Lighting - Lighting is not planned for the park at this time. All City parks are closed between 11:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m., per City Ordinance. PATH does not typically light their trails, either.



Nest in Bird House



Winterberry (Ilex verticillata)

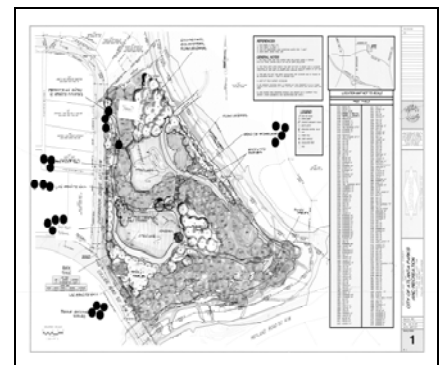
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Volunteers clearing and planting

Set Priorities --Each member indicated by placing dots on the

Item	Number of Dots
Granite Staircase	4
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Rating with Dots

preliminary plan, which items were a priority for future implementation.

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Louise G. & James Howard, Sr.

Visual Impact of Concrete Trail – The BeltLine Trail standard designates concrete surface in order to ensure safe access by all potential users on a maintainable, long-lived surface. Community members expressed a desire to soften the trail’s impact. PATH is ready to add appealing visual amenities like benches, plantings, and trees. Native non-woody plants could be planted along the trail instead of a grass strip. These were incorporated into the final landscaping plans for the trail.



Christmas Fern (Polystichum acrostichooides) remains green throughout the winter.

Top 8 – Committee members wrote their own favorite eight from the list. The results which are tabulated below are not a ranking.

	Wants – from TOP 8
7	BIG TREES – PRESERVED& NEW
7	NATIVE PLANTS
6	BENCHES
6	WILDLIFE HABITAT
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2	LABYRINTH



Mule grass (Muhlenbergia capillaris)



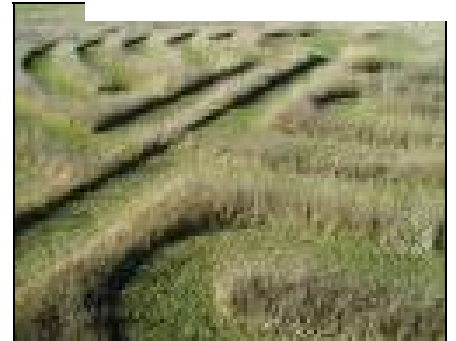
Dog Hobble (Cornus amomum)

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Sensitive Fern (Onoclea sensibilis) s sensitive to frost.

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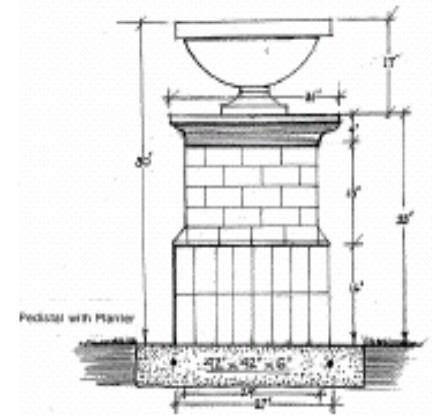
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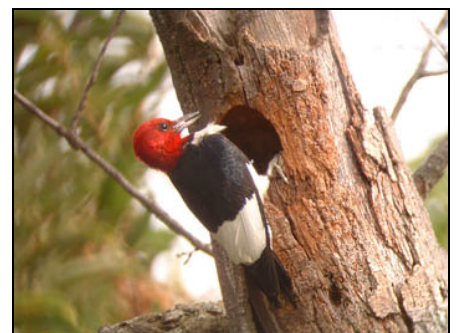
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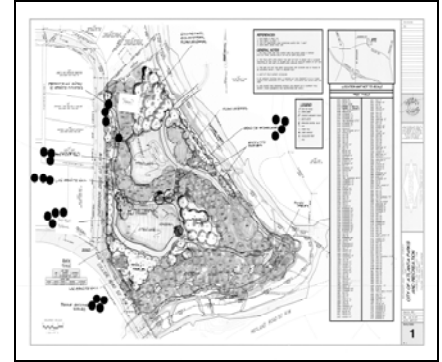
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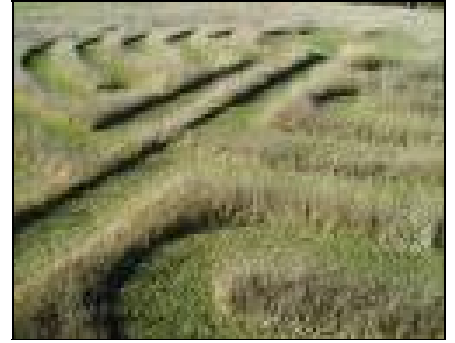


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Grassy Labyrinth

PLANT LIST

KEY	QTY.	BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	SIZE	SPACING
GROUNDCOVERS					
SN	23	SORSHASTRUM NUTANS	INDIAN GRASS	3 GAL.	24' O.C.
MC	21	MUHLENBERGIA CAPILLARIS	PINK MUHLY GRASS	3 GAL.	24' O.C.
OS	75	ONOCLEA SENSIBILIS	SENSITIVE FERN	3 GAL.	24' O.C.
PA	52	POLYSTICHUM ACROSTICHOIDES	CHRISTMAS FERN	3 GAL.	24' O.C.
AT	24	AESCLEPIAS TUBEROSA	BUTTERFLY NEED	1 GAL.	18' O.C.
VS	68	VIOLA SP.	WOOD VIOLET	1 GAL.	18' O.C.
PD	51	PHLOX DIVARIGATA	WOODLAND PHLOX	1 GAL.	18' O.C.
SHRUBS					
CA	3	CORNUS AMOMUM	SILKY DOGWOOD	1 GAL.	5' O.C.
PL	41	PRUNUS LAUROCERASUS 'OTTO LUYKEN'	CHERRY LAUREL	1 GAL.	3' O.C.
SC	2	SAMBUCUS CANADENSIS	AMERICAN ELDERBERRY	1 GAL.	5' O.C.
VN	2	VIBURNUM NUDUM	POSUMMAH VIBURNUM	1 GAL.	5' O.C.
IV	28	ILEX VERTICILLATA	WINTERBERRY	1 GAL.	3' O.C.
AA	3	ARONIA ARBUTIFOLIA	RED CHOKECHERRY	1 GAL.	5' O.C.
CV	3	CHIONANTHUS VIRGINICUS	FRINGE TREE	1 GAL.	5' O.C.
CAL	40	CALLIGARPA AMERICANA	AMERICAN BEAUTYBERRY	1 GAL.	3' O.C.
LA	56	LEUCOTHOE AXILLARIS	DOG HOBBLE	1 GAL.	3' O.C.
TREES					
AR	1	ACER RUBRUM	RED MAPLE	3" CAL.	
PO	4	PLATANUS OCCIDENTALIS	SYCAMORE	3" CAL.	
AM	4	AMELANCHIER ARBOREA	SERVICEBERRY	3" CAL.	
NS	2	NYSSA SYLVATICA	BLACK GUM	3" CAL.	
QL	2	QUERCUS LYRATA	OVERCUP OAK	3" CAL.	