

UEF NEEDS ASSESSMENT Stakeholder Advisory Committee Work Session Summary Brief

Date: Monday August 27, 2018

Time: 5:30 – 7:30 PM

Location: WeWork Terminus, 3280 Peachtree Road, Suite 700, Atlanta, GA 30305

Attendees: 22

Team members: 6

Purpose of the meeting:

The purpose of the meeting was to solicit input from Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) members on the Urban Ecology Framework (UEF) 4 Future Alternative Scenarios that respond to the findings from the Needs Assessment. The team began the session with the updated Vision Statement and Goals and a description of the Needs Assessment data analysis approach and findings that informed the scenarios.

Needs Assessment Data Analysis key takeaways:

Overall the feedback from participants on the Needs Assessment analysis approach and the variety and quality of the of mapping was positive.

The following are key takeaways:

1. Great maps but would like to see more connectivity to areas outside of the city – both in terms of landmarks and properties like the prison farm, or other possible areas of annexation.
2. Would like to make sure legacy communities are kept in mind as well as mechanisms to consider associate with gentrification
 - o Make recommendations to protect communities to avoid displacement
 - o Increase community understanding of public health benefits of healthy forest and other natural areas
3. The intersection with affordable/fair housing and access to nature by different communities seems a great opportunity for synergies and complementary strategies to be explored further in the future.
 - o Odetta MacLeish-White with TransFormation Alliance will be able to provide information
4. There is the question of land acquisition/preservation for wilderness versus recreation land.
 - o Also “created” or restored biodiversity areas versus those that are native zones that are to be preserved.
 - o Pockets of undisturbed land for habitat (limited access for people)
 - o Also further interest in linking to health/disease prevention
5. Making sure terminology takes into consideration a variety of audience members.
6. There are some great examples of urban ecology precedents to learn from including Singapore.

Future Scenarios key takeaways:

The Consultant Team presented four Alternative Future Scenarios: 1) Equity and Access, 2) Landscape Ecology, 3) Equity and Ecology, and 4) Grey to Green Infrastructure. Overall, the Future Scenarios were well received by participants. Following are key takeaways from the future scenarios:

1. A request for more descriptions of the scenarios be included on the maps as well as what the outcomes of the scenarios would be in terms of recommendations (to come in next phase).
2. City staff requested a work session focused on providing more input to the team and including more input from the Green Infrastructure Task Force.