



ATTENDEE COMMENTS

HENDERSON PROPERTY PUBLIC INPUT MEETING 8/8/2019

Introduction by PARKS Director Jimmy Gisi and Designer Gary Caraway

- No funding has been identified for construction. But, PARKS is getting a head start on the planning phase so the plan will be ready when funding becomes available. Also, PARKS may be able to get started on portions of the plan with internal resources
- The next opportunity for public input will be when the updated plan is presented to the Recreation Board, and subsequently to the Board of Commissioners for approval.
- In the last public input meeting, we heard a desire for a balanced or blended approach between recreational aspects and historical preservation and information.
- The lay of the land dictates what features are best suited for certain features.
- Various streams cross the property, constituting state waters, which must be protected.
- Focus of most development will be in the central portion of the site, where the existing house and outbuildings are located.
- Plan includes a dedicated entrance, separate from a dedicated exit. This will maximize safety and take advantage of the existing stream crossings.
- The parking lot on the plan shows +/- 60 parking spaces
- The plan shows potential connection to a proposed Nickajack Greenway trail
- Active features include a community building for educational opportunities, meetings, etc. in an indoor/outdoor setting; improvements to an existing pond; outdoor classroom; pavilions; open play area
- Passive features include a mix of hard surface and natural surface trails; interpretive signage regarding the natural and historical settings. Trails include +/- 1 mile of perimeter loop and ¼ to ½ mile of inner loop(s)
- The historic resources will be protected with appropriate fencing and otherwise left undisturbed

Public Comments

- Where was the mill?
 - At the top of the area shown on the master plan



- Please install cyclone fencing to protect the historic earthworks from bike riders, etc.
- The primary reason that the County purchased this property was to protect the earthworks. Must preserve them, and tell the story. Although, interpretive signage can come in a later phase.
- History is very important.
- Chain link fencing is preferred rather than wooden rails, which can be disassembled
- Which side of Nickajack Creek would the Greenway Trail be on?
 - On the west side. Plan may include overlooks
- I like the fountains and public spaces. There is nothing like this nearby.
- What kind of playground equipment to you anticipate?
 - We envision more natural looking equipment, a creative play space
- I like pretty much everything the way it is laid out on the plan. There is something for everyone.
- A portion of the property is listed on the National Registry of Historic Places. Please involve the Historic Preservation Commission and the County's historic planner.
- Pay attention to preserving the view shed of the historic area
- There is an historic wagon road off of Henderson Road. Please include this in the plan.
- There are 2 millstones in an undisclosed area, can use them in the design, as appropriate.
- 2014 Chattahoochee River Plan, funded partially by the Mableton Improvement Coalition, with recommendations for this property.
 - We referred to this plan in creating our design
- Could include a visitor Center, trail head, community meeting space
- Work the parking lot into the topography. Make it fit the land. Do not clear cut the trees.
- We appreciate the family friendly aspects of the design. Hope it gets built soon.
- Stress the significance of the earthworks. These are some of the best examples of Federal earthworks remaining in Georgia. Preserve them, protect them from foot traffic.
- There is an additional area of earthworks, not shown on this plan, in the NE corner
 - Better and more complete information will be gathered when the construction for design is underway, in the future.
- This is part of a continuous line of defensive earthworks, several miles long.
- Use stormwater as an opportunity, rather than piped offsite. Incorporate it into the modified pond area. Use pervious pavements.



- This area can include a mix of native plantings, educational area for plants and wildlife
- These are the best Union trenches in the state. A discussion followed on the participation of freed and enslaved Africans in Sherman's army. Historian will share his research and materials for the future signage.
- You did a great job developing this plan
 - Thank you. We learned a lot during the first public meeting, especially regarding the blending of active and historical opportunities. This is why we hold these public input meetings.
- Regarding the inner trail loop, does the topography support accessibility?
 - We will follow the guidelines for trail design – firm and stable –
- Can you expand the trail to loop around the pond?
 - We will consider how to pull that into the plan
- What is the size of the open play space?
 - It is about ¼ acre
- Concern for protecting the earthworks. Do not prefer chain link fencing. Is there an alternative?
 - We will try to achieve a balance between preservation and aesthetics
- Are bicycles allowed?
 - We have not included bikes or bike trail in the plan.
- Prefer not to have bikes at all.
- What is the parking capacity shown?
 - +/- 60 spaces, may have bus parking as well
- Can there be connectivity to the Publix lot?
 - It is very difficult to access the site from the Publix lot
- Will there be a sidewalk along Veterans Memorial?
 - This plan includes sidewalk only along the frontage of the Parks property.