Why Are We Here?

This meeting will cover a summary of the concept design phase conclusions and the preferred direction for the Boulevard Crossing Park!

Review summaries of our past community meetings, a summary of feedback on previous design concepts, a preferred design vision, and a look at the places and sustainable systems of the park.

During this meeting, everyone will have a chance to share their opinion and weigh in on how the future Boulevard Crossing Park will look and feel!

Tonight’s Agenda

Past Community Meetings
If you’re new to this community engagement process, take a look at some of the boards to catch up on what we’ve been working on!

Design Vision
We’ll go over the design vision in a brief presentation, through a large site model and descriptive displays.

Brief Discussion and Q&A
The Park Today

Opportunities

The design team looked deeply at the site during an existing conditions and analysis phase. Four key aspirations emerged to frame the constraints and opportunities that the site presents for use, design and construction.

Existing Site

This map shows the existing conditions at Boulevard Crossing Park.

Key Findings

The design team looked deeply at the site during an existing conditions and analysis phase. Four key aspirations emerged to frame the constraints and opportunities that the site presents for use, design and construction.

Here are the key findings of the existing conditions and analysis phase:

**Action**

**2009 MASTER PLAN**

The 2009 Master Plan established a vision and catalyzed the development of the park we know today. Yet, much has changed since.

**MOVING FORWARD**

This process will build on that Master Plan but adapt the design, uses and experiences to today’s needs.

**Vital**

**SITE HISTORY**

The site has a history of production - from agricultural lands long ago to industrial uses through the end of last century.

**USER NEEDS**

Though the park’s fields are often busy, there is a lot more potential for activities and uses that provide for a broader range of people.

**Connected**

**SOUTHSIDE TRAIL**

The northern boundary of the park is the future Southside Trail, which ABI hopes to open as an interim hiking trail by summer 2019.

**EDGES**

Each of the site’s edges is unique - from the bustle of Boulevard to the more neighborhood character of Englewood.

**Restored**

**WATER**

Roughly 2,200 acres, representing over 660 million gallons per year, of Southeast Atlanta drains to Boulevard Crossing Park before forming the headwaters of Intrenchment Creek.

**TOPOGRAPHY**

Our site has over 100’ of vertical change, making it steeply sloping in some areas!

**TREES**

More than 99.5% of the vegetation on site is classified as invasive, dead, poor or fair in condition with only a handful of high-quality trees.
We’ve Been Listening!

At Public Meeting #2 back in August, three concept schemes showcased a range of strategies for the park. Community members were asked to evaluate each.

The following boards summarize what we heard about the three concept schemes!

**HILLSIDE PARK**
A sculptural landscape that celebrates the site’s unique topography and combines complimentary uses into memorable places.

**CASCADE PARK**
An interplay of architectural terraces and a sculptural hill, Cascade Park provides unexpected experiences.

**PLATEAU PARK**
A grand plateau, graced with active fields, connects the Southside Trail to Englewood and overlooks a diverse neighborhood park at the site’s most visible corner.
### HILLSIDE PARK FEEDBACK

**Total Score**  
170.5 out of 240

**Average Score**  
3.4 out of 5.0

**Of nearly 50 Respondents**  
13 said it was their favorite  
1 said it was their least favorite

**Likes**  
- Event space  
- Movie night  
- Natural form of topography

**Dislikes**  
- No dog park  
- Lots of underutilized space  
- Limited accessibility

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**CASCADE PARK FEEDBACK**

**Total Score**  
167 out of 240

**Average Score**  
3.4 out of 5.0

**Of nearly 50 Respondents**  
8 said it was their favorite  
2 said it was their least favorite

**LIKES**  
- High point/view  
- Sense of adventure and fun  
- View of it from BeltLine

**DISLIKES**  
- Two soccer fields  
- No dog park  
- Programs too bunched up

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**PLATEAU PARK FEEDBACK**

**Total Score**  
136 out of 240

**Average Score**  
2.8 out of 5.0

**Of nearly 50 Respondents**  
6 said it was their favorite  
6 said it was their least favorite

**LIKES**  
- Pump track  
- Overlook  
- Pavilion

**DISLIKES**  
- Too much emphasis on fields  
- Fields get best view  
- Skate park too big

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41-year-old female from Boulevard Park  
30-year-old female from Boulevard Heights  
28-year-old male  
34-year-old female from downtown  
12-year-old male  
66-year-old female from Peoplestown
Here is the preferred design for Boulevard Crossing Park!

Community Togetherness
The community’s top priority is to build community togetherness at the park. The design vision creates spaces for large events, a diverse range of programming, and a design that helps build an identity for the community.

Safety
Connectivity & Access
Sustainability
Equity & Inclusion
The community expressed interest in prioritizing connection and access at the park. This value pushed the design team to think about transportation both to the site and within the site, and to make sure that the park brings communities together across the city.

The community asked that the design for the park incorporate strategies to promote safety. The design vision distributes activated spaces, clear systems of pathways and promotes open site-lines and viewsheds.

A sustainable park means shaping the ground to strategically divert stormwater and using vegetation to encourage a healthy ecology at the site.

Here’s how the vision aligns with the Community’s Values!

Community Togetherness
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Equity & Inclusion
The community places a high priority on environments that promote both equity and inclusion. The design vision creates a series of places that are accessible and approachable by people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds.

Safety
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Connectivity & Access
The community also expressed interest in prioritizing connection and access at the park. This value pushed the design team to think about transportation both to the site and within the site, and to make sure that the park brings communities together across the city.

Sustainability
The community attendees also expressed interest in creating a site centered around sustainability. A sustainable park means shaping the ground to strategically divert stormwater and using vegetation to encourage a healthy ecology at the site.
PLACES IN THE PARK

WILD SLOPE

UPPER PARK

RAMBLE

LOWER PARK

EVENT LAWN

Boulevard Crossing Park will offer a series of unique places - each with its own character and uses!

Upper Park

An activated ribbon of vibrant park uses including spaces for play, engaging with water, skating, dogs and gathering.

Wild Slope + Ramble

A series of places to wander, climb, discover and explore natural spaces and water-loving landscapes.

Event Lawn

A flexible and ever-changing community gathering space that also doubles as a soccer field.

Lower Park

A great place for community athletics including lawn terraces for spectators.
WILD SLOPE + RAMBLE
A SERIES OF PLACE TO WANDER, CLIMB, DISCOVER AND EXPLORE

MAJOR SLOPE PATH SECTION (A-A')

MINOR SLOPE PATH SECTION (B-B')

BOARDWALK SECTION (C-C')

BRIDGE SECTION (D-D')
**The Overlook**
A elevated and green gathering place and venue with views to the Atlanta skyline and across the park. The Overlook can hold up to 1,000 people seated or 500 people on blankets.

**SECTION E-E’**
Waterfall and Water Play
Taking advantage of the site’s unique topography, the waterfall begins a dynamic sequence of water experiences.

**SECTION F-F’**
Hillside Play
The Skate Park

Throughout the fall of 2019, the design team convened focus groups of skaters to better understand their desires and needs for a skate facility. The top features and experiences were incorporated in the latest design, including:

- Elements for a range of experiences and skill levels
- Skatepark elements including bowls, hips, small elements and rails
- Design elements that refer to Atlanta’s unique identity
EVENT LAWN
A FLEXIBLE AND EVER-CHANGING COMMUNITY GATHERING SPACE

SOCcer FIELD USE
FITNESS
MOVIE NIGHT
COMMUNITY EVENT/FESTIVAL
LOWER PARK
A GREAT VENUE FOR COMMUNITY ATHLETICS

Seating Terraces
Community Athletics

Soccer
Entry Plaza
Englewood

SECTION G-G'

Event Lawn
Planted Slope
Soccer

SECTION H-H'
Boulevard Crossing Park is striving to be a Sustainable SITES® certified project!

What is Sustainable SITES?

SITES® is the most comprehensive system for creating sustainable and resilient land development projects.

SITES is used by designers and others to align land development and management with innovative sustainable design.

SITES helps create ecologically resilient communities and benefits the environment, property owners, and local and regional communities and economies.

Administered by Green Business Certification Inc. (GBCI), SITES offers a comprehensive rating system designed to distinguish sustainable landscapes, measure their performance and elevate their value. SITES certification is for development projects located on sites with or without buildings—ranging from national parks to corporate campuses, streetscapes to homes, and more.

Where else has SITES been accomplished?

The Atlanta BeltLine has made achieving Sustainable SITES a priority. Despite being a relatively new system, SITES has been realized in two recent Atlanta BeltLine projects: Historic Fourth Ward Park and Enota Park.

Historic Fourth Ward Park’s natural beauty and appealing public spaces belie the fact that it is a large, complex civil engineering and infrastructure project. Built on 17 neglected acres of mostly contaminated soil and invasive plants, the park’s centerpiece is a stormwater retention pond that reduces neighborhood flooding, relieves local sewer systems and features a fountain through which stormwater enters the pond.

Enota Park, currently a small play-lot adjacent to the Westside Trail, is getting an upgrade. Design of the park, recently completed by another consultant team, will include a basketball court, an activity field, a splash pad (adding to the three splash pads that already exist in Atlanta BeltLine parks!), a playground, a large pavilion, and a solar shade structure.

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The planting plan for Boulevard Crossing Park will showcase best practices for urban park vegetation, including:

- A plant palette that is native to and inspired by the native Piedmont landscape
- The selection of drought tolerant species that will thrive over time
- The planting of lots of trees to create a robust urban forest and lots of shade
- The cultivation of diverse plant materials to enable biodiversity and resilience to change
- The design of environments immersed in plantings with year-round interest
- Adherence to the constraints of the site such as the need to plant shorter plants in the power line easement

### Upland Park
Primarily deciduous canopy tree of an upland forest palette and low groundcovers, such as:
- Oak, Hickory, Buckeye, Redbud, Dogwood, Sumac, Blueberry, Fern, New Jersey Tea, Sedge and Black-Eyed Susan

### Wild Slope
Rugged trees, primarily pine and understory, densely planted among native grass meadows, such as:
- Oak, Hickory, Buckeye, Redbud, Dogwood, Cedar, Viburnum, Blueberry, Deerberry, Aster, Sedge, Milthweed, Mountain Mint, Bluestem, Goldenrod

### Lowland Park
Lowland trees adapted to periodic inundation and evergreen plants for screening, such as:
- Maple, Paw Paw, Birch, Holly, Magnolia, Oak, Elm, Basswood, Inkberry, Winterberry, Spicebush, Sweetspire, Switchgrass, Fern, Sedge
Boulevard Crossing Park’s site elements and architectural design will be durable, simple and lasting, representing a palette that will age gracefully.

There are a number of site elements that have been implemented in the first phases of the BeltLine’s trails and parks that should be continued at Boulevard Crossing Park. This will provide continuity and ease of maintenance.

At the same time, elements unique to this park should help reinforce the area’s identity, be inspired by its urban landscape and connect to the community’s values.

**BeltLine Standards**
Elements of continuity with the BeltLine trail and park system include standard post-top lighting, stainless steel guardrails and honed granite in uniform sizes.

**Architectural Elements**
Architectural elements for the three facilities in the park—the maintenance facility, restrooms and the Overlook—will be durable, fit with neighborhood character and help to enhance user experience.

**Public Art**
Boulevard Crossing Park will have a number of public art opportunities including multiple potential locations for gateway elements, art that inspires experiences of interactivity and environmental interpretation.
Site materials at Boulevard Crossing Park will be chosen for their ability to withstand heavy use and contribute to the park’s identity. Key considerations include:

- Ability to reinforce and fit with Southeast Atlanta’s unique character
- Time-tested experience in applications in similar urban, public parks
- Cost considerations to ensure the project can meet the established construction budget
- Alignment with the project’s Sustainable SITES requirements
- Ability to be maintained within the existing park system capacity and philosophy

**Paving**

Paving throughout the park will allow for ease of movement and accessibility. Paving materials will relate to level of use, maintenance demands and aesthetic considerations and will likely include a range of capital investment.

**Walls**

Throughout the park, site walls will contribute to the sense of place and allow for various kinds of use. Depending on their scale and function, site walls can include integrated seating, can help create spectator spaces and help impound earth and water.

**Surfaces**

High use and specialty surfaces will be needed at various programmed spaces in the park. Play surfacing, synthetic turf and high-performance lawn are a few ideas for surfaces that will withstand and stay functional in the face of heavy use.
With over 100’ of grade change on our site and nearly 2,000 acres of Southeast Atlanta draining through our site, the park needs to handle approximately 1.8 billion gallons of water passing through annually. That’s a lot of water!

The stormwater approach to Boulevard Crossing Park is to Slow, Store and Restore!
• Restore headwaters
• Reduce CSO Events
• Design High Performance Landscape
• Integrate flood-tolerant planting

SLOW
In the Upper Park, slow the water down by utilizing the following strategies:
Stormwater Capture
Erosion Control

STORE
In the Wild Slope and Ramble, store the water by utilizing the following strategies:
Water Quality Measures
Slope Stabilization

RESTORE
In the Lower Park, restore ecological function by utilizing the following strategies:
Stormwater Storage
Flood Zone Hierarchy

STORMWATER
How well does this align with your vision for Boulevard Crossing Park?

Tell us what you think!

- 10: Perfectly Aligned! I love it and can’t wait to visit!
- 5: It’s good, but I have some concerns.
- 0: It’s not aligned at all with my vision!
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