

A NEW APPROACH TO PARKS AND RECREATION SYSTEM PLANNING



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Poll 2

Poll 3

PETER HARNIK



URBAN GREEN

Innovative Parks
for Resurgent Cities

*“...**PARKS** seem relatively simple and straight forward. People frequently say, ‘It’s not rocket science, it’s just a park.’*

***NO!** For rockets... you [just] need to be good at math. Parks require math plus horticulture, hydrology, psychology, sociology and communication. They are immensely complicated.”*

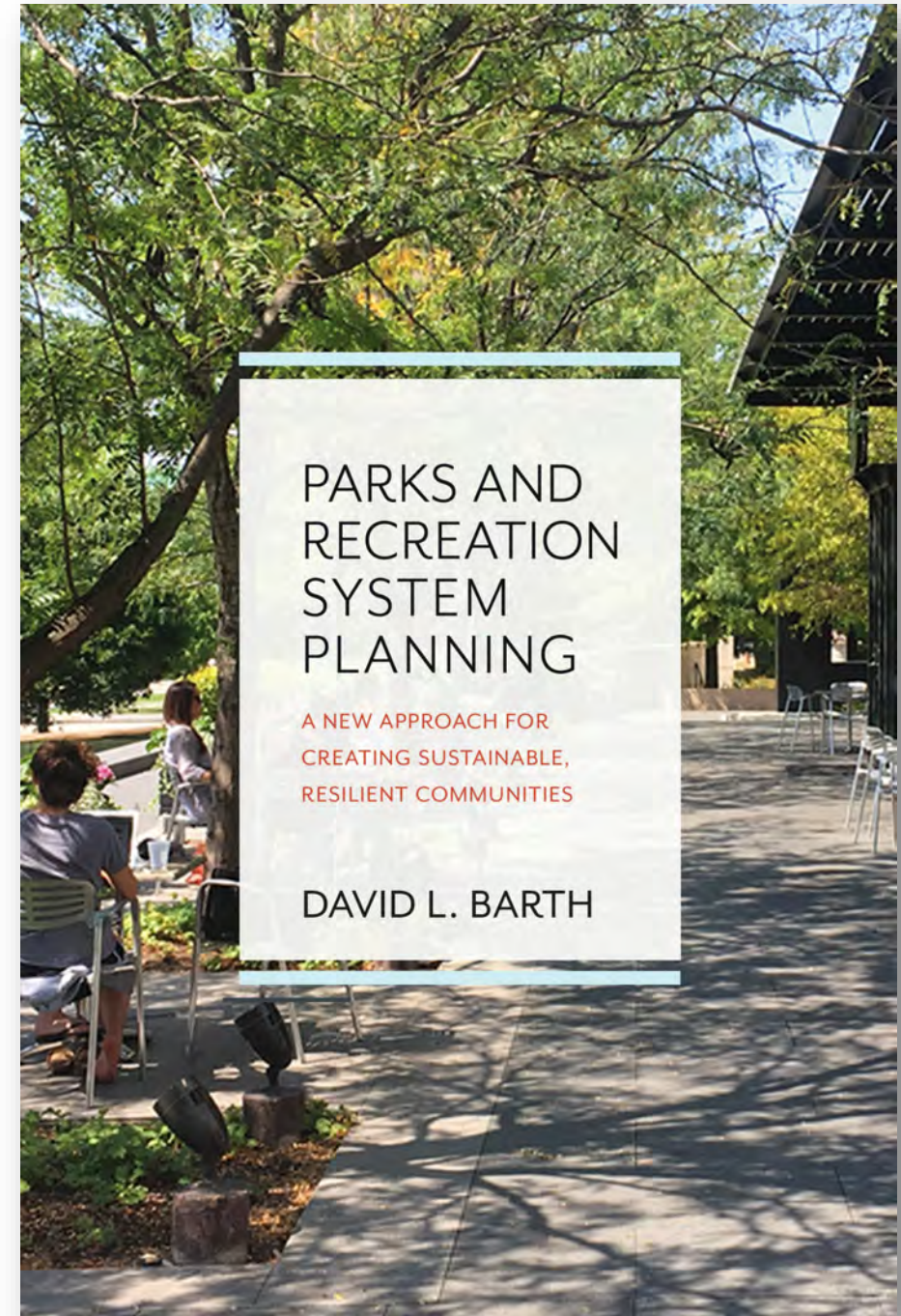
TWO BIG IDEAS:

01

Parks and recreation systems can generate multiple sustainability and resiliency benefits if they are thoughtfully planned, designed, and managed as part of a broader public realm that includes transportation, stormwater, and utility systems.

02

We need a more comprehensive and collaborative parks and recreation system planning process to realize these benefits.



ORGANIZATION

Introduction: A Framework for Community Sustainability and Resiliency

Part I: Generating Multiple Benefits

Chapter 1: Parks and the Public Realm

Chapter 2: Multiple Dimensions of Parks and Recreation Systems

Chapter 3: High-Performance Public Spaces

Part II: Planning a Comprehensive Approach

Chapter 4: A New Approach to Parks and Recreation System Planning

Chapter 5: Initiating and Planning the PRSMP Process

Chapter 6: The Preliminary Implementation Framework

Part III: Executing the New Approach

Chapter 7: Existing Conditions Analysis

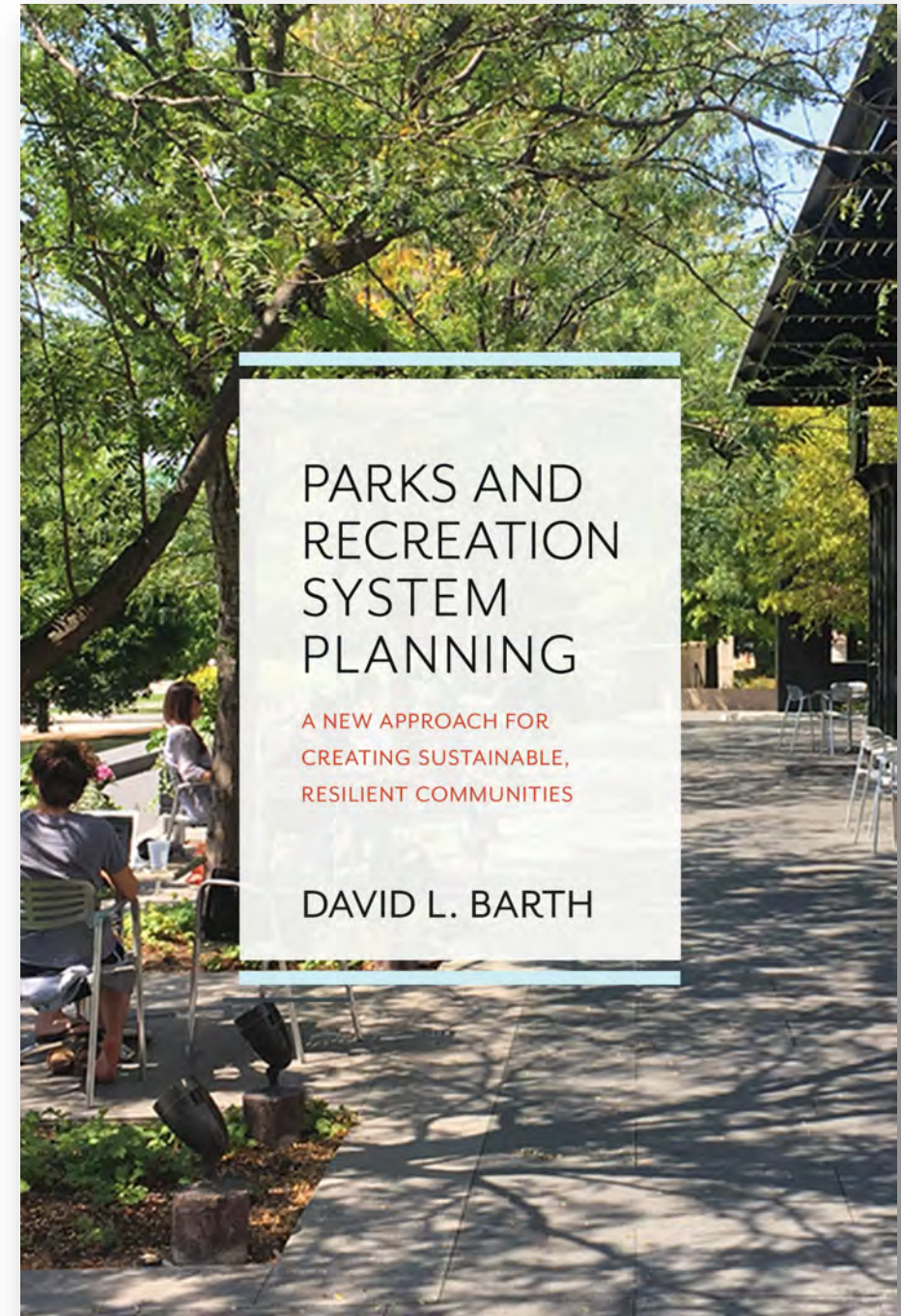
Chapter 8: The Needs Assessment

Chapter 9: Level-of-Service Alternatives

Chapter 10: Developing a Long-Range Vision

Chapter 11: Implementation Strategy

Conclusion: The Power of Parks and Recreation System Planning

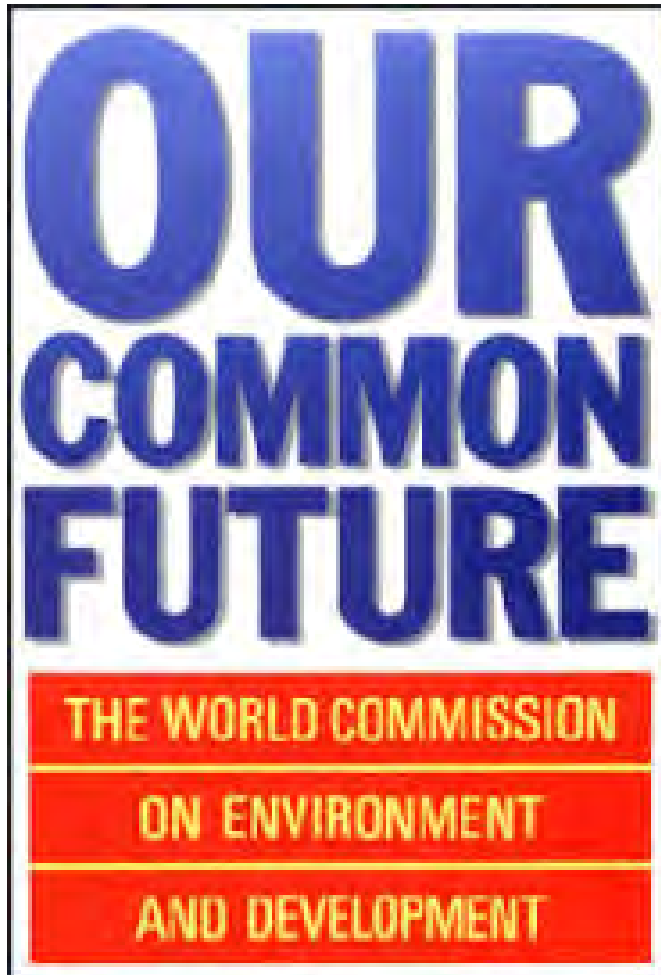


UNDERLYING CONCEPTS AND INFLUENCES

GLATTING JACKSON KERCHER ANGLIN, 1987 - 2012



SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES, 1987



“Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”

1. INCLUSIVE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

- Adequate nutrition for all
- Quality education for all
- Reduced mortality and morbidity
- Gender equality
- Access to clean water and sanitation

2. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

- Protecting biodiversity
- Stable climate
- Resilience to natural hazards

3. INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Eradicating income poverty and hunger
- Reducing inequalities
- Ensuring decent work and productive employment

4. PEACE AND SECURITY

- Freedom from violence, conflict, and abuse
- Conflict-free access to natural resources
- Transparent government
- Stakeholder engagement

Dimensions and Indicators of a Sustainable Community
("Framework for a Sustainable Future," United Nations System Task Team, 2012)

PUBLIC REALM AS AN INTEGRATED SYSTEM FOR SUSTAINABILITY



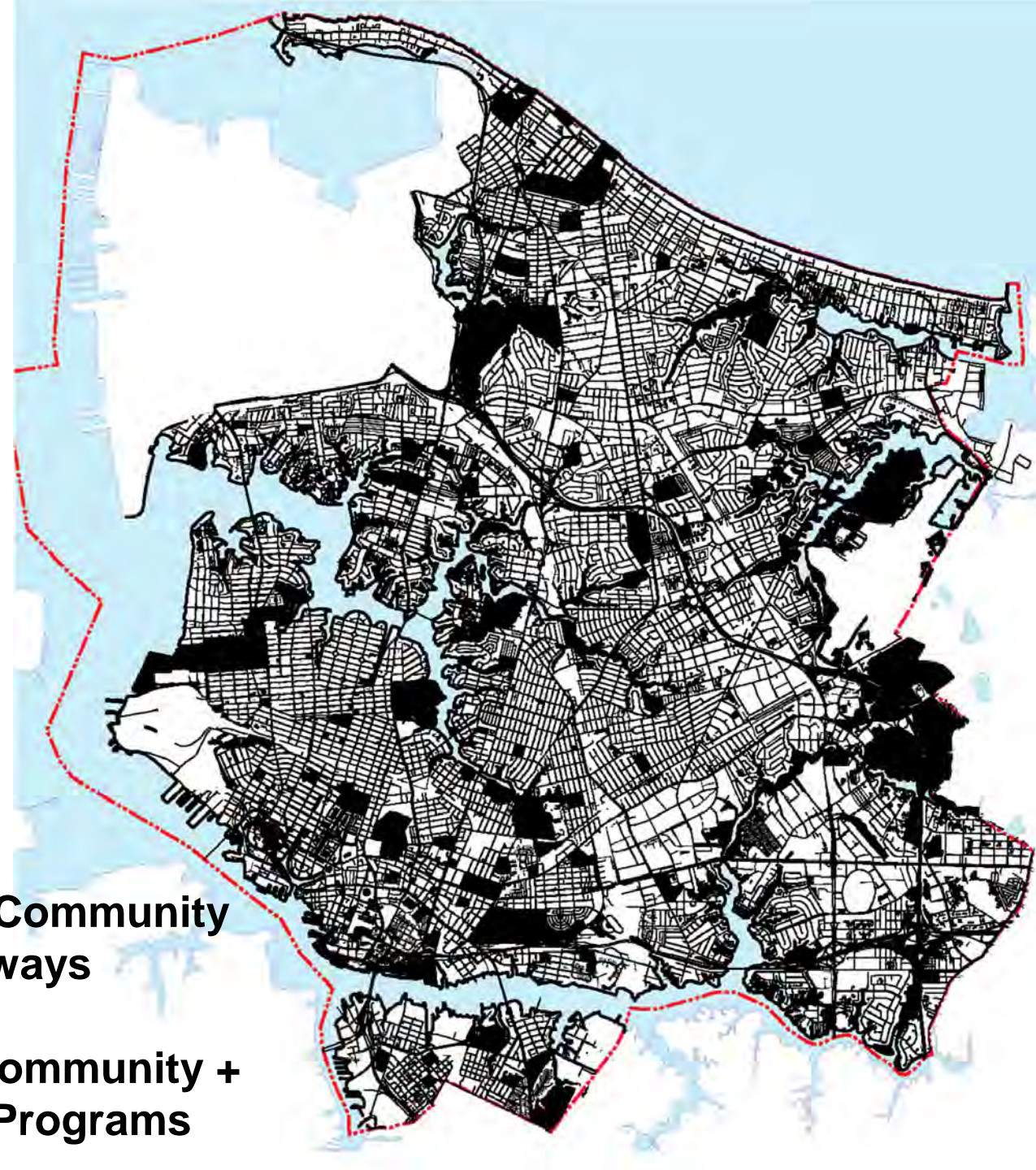
CITY of NORFOLK
RECREATION & PARKS
VISION PLAN



**Parks, Athletic Fields, Community
Character, Bikeways**

+

**Trails, Water Access, Community +
Recreation Centers, Programs**



JOHN CROMPTON, REPOSITIONING, 2007

Communitywide Benefits Generated by Parks and Recreation



The High Line:

- \$150M Investment
- \$2 Billion Economic Activity

ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

- Attracting tourists
- Attracting businesses
- Attracting retirees
- Enhancing real estate values
- Reducing taxes
- Stimulation of equipment sales

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

- Protecting drinking water
- Controlling flooding
- Cleaning air
- Reducing traffic congestion
- Reducing energy costs
- Preserving biological diversity

ALLEVIATING SOCIAL PROBLEMS

- Reducing environmental stress
- Community regeneration
- Cultural and historic preservation
- Facilitating healthy lifestyles
- Alleviating deviant youth behavior
- Raising levels of education attainment
- Alleviating unemployment distress

PLACEMAKING AND ACTIVATION

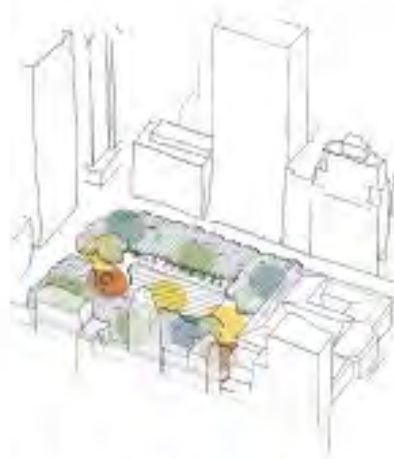
POWER OF 10+

HOW CITIES TRANSFORM THROUGH PLACEMAKING



City/Region

10+ MAJOR DESTINATIONS



Destination

10+ PLACES IN EACH



Place

10+ THINGS TO DO,
LAYERED TO CREATE SYNERGY

KALENA
PARK

LIHUE, KAUAI



KALENA PARK

Final Concept Plan

August 29th, 2019







NATIONAL 10-MINUTE WALK INITIATIVE

MADE POSSIBLE BY



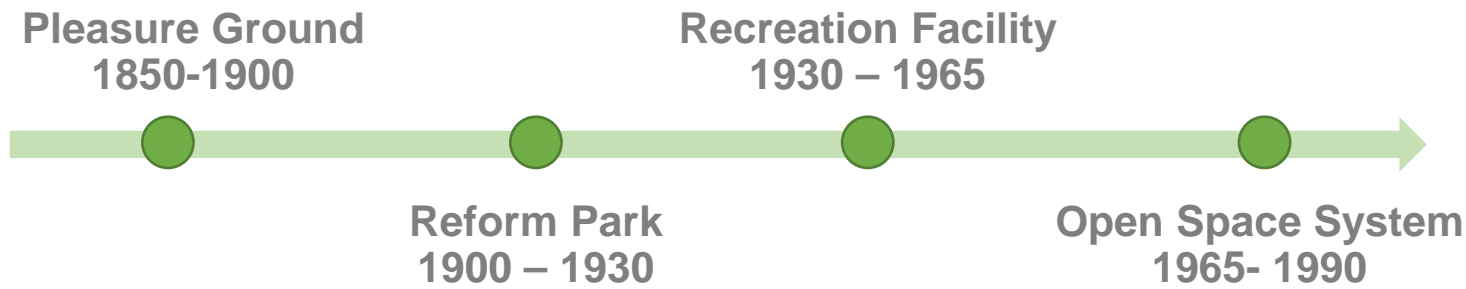
We're building a nationwide movement to improve access to parks & green spaces, while transforming communities, and getting people to the places where they live some of their best moments.



10 MINUTE WALK

CRANZ, POLITICS OF PARK DESIGN, 1982

TIMELINE



Just for the fun of it...

This is a top-down diagram of a playground layout. It shows various pieces of equipment numbered 1 through 16, including slides, swings, and climbing structures, arranged within a fenced area with trees and a building in the background.

MIRACLE PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

Just for the fun of it...
why not give some thought to your playground needs now?

Just for the fun of it...
why not ask yourself if your playgrounds were overrun with weeds instead of children last year?

Just for the fun of it...
why not make up your mind to do something about it right now?

Just for the fun of it...
why not install some imaginative Miracle Equipment ... or better yet, an entirely new Miracle Playground?

Just for the fun of it...
why not mail the coupon today for your FREE copy of Miracle's new Catalog and full details on Miracle's "On-The-Spot" Consulting Service?

© Copyright 1985 by Miracle Equipment

MIRACLE EQUIPMENT COMPANY
Box 2793 - Grinnell, Iowa
Please send catalog, price list and information on Miracle's "On-The-Spot" Consulting Service.

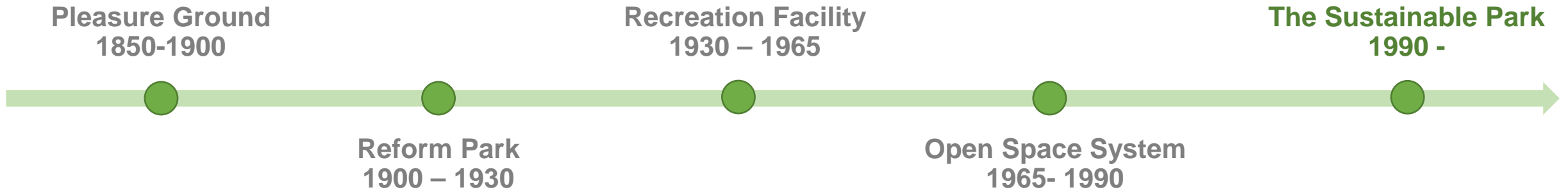
NAME _____
TITLE _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____

Space Ship
Imagine the excitement the new Miracle Space Ship will create on your playground!

A tall, slender, white structure resembling a space ship or a tower, with a red base and a yellow top section. It is surrounded by a red and white striped base.

CRANZ, THE SUSTAINABLE PARK, 2004

TIMELINE



- Focuses on making cities more ecologically and socially balanced and sustainable; and
- Plays a role in solving larger urban problems outside their boundaries, integrated with the surrounding urban fabric...

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE



4" Rain Event



3 Days Later



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY MASTER PLAN, 2007

A 50 YEAR, UNIFYING VISION FOR A LIVABLE, SUSTAINABLE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

"When we build let us think that we build forever. Let it not be for present delight, nor for present use alone; let it be such work as our descendants will thank us for, and let us think, as we lay stone on stone, that a time is to come when those stones will be hold sacred because our hands have touched them."

-John Ruskin

PRINCIPLES *of a livable, sustainable miami-dade county*

Equity

every resident should be able to enjoy the same quality of public facilities and services, regardless of income, age, race, ability or geographic location

Access

every resident should be able to safely and comfortably walk, bicycle, drive and/or ride public transit from their home to work, school, parks, shopping and community facilities

Beauty

every public space - including streets, parks, plazas and civic buildings - should be designed to be as aesthetically pleasing as possible, and to complement the natural and cultural landscape

Multiple Benefits

every single public action should generate multiple public benefits to maximize taxpayer dollars

Seamlessness

every element of the County, including neighborhoods, parks, natural areas, streets, civic centers and commercial areas - should be connected without regard for jurisdiction

Sustainability

natural resources - including water, wildlife habitat, and open space - must be protected for future generations

VISION

Great Parks

are accessible to everyone regardless of age or ability



Great Public Spaces

are designed to engage residents



Great Natural and Cultural Places

are planned and managed to balance access and resource protection



Great Streets

are designed as linear parks



Great Greenways, Trails and Water Trails

connect every resident to places throughout the community



Summary Poster for the 2007 Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces Master Plan



Miami-Dade County
Parks and Open Space System Master Plan

KISSIMMEE LAKEFRONT PARK, 2007

01

Downtown visitation increased to 500,000 visitors annually

02

Social center of the community, the public “front yard”

03

5% increase in downtown property values

04

Improved lake habitat, stormwater treatment

05

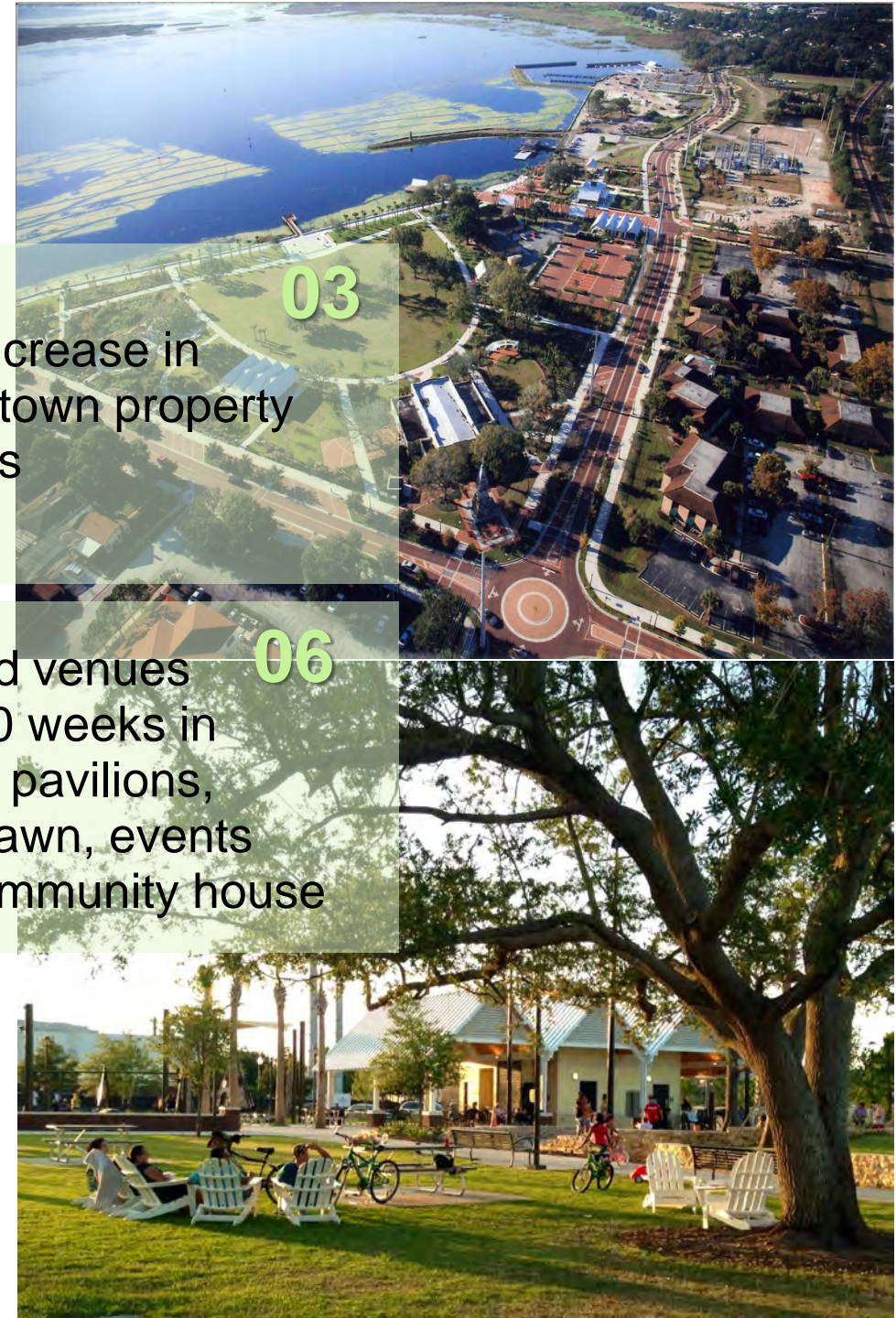
New direct and indirect employment

06

Fee-based venues booked 40 weeks in advance: pavilions, wedding lawn, events space, community house

07

Attracted new investments: \$17 M from the KUA, \$7 M public parking garage, Sun Rail Station, \$75 M in mixed-use developments, hotel



RESILIENCY (ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION FRAMEWORK, 2014)

SHOCKS

- Coastal storms (winds, flooding)
- Riverine flooding
- Extreme rainfall
- Wildfire
- Civil disturbances
- Severe economic recessions

CHRONIC STRESSES

- Drought
- Urban heat island effect
- Nuisance flooding
- Chronic disease
- Poverty / inequality
- Climate change



HIGH PERFORMANCE PUBLIC SPACES, 2015

Any publicly-accessible space that generates economic, environmental, and social sustainability benefits for their local community.

A HPPS can be a park, trail, square, green, natural area, plaza or any other element of the “public realm” that generates all three types of benefits (Barth, 2015).



Houston's Discovery Green

CRITERIA FOR A HPPS (MUST MEET 80%)



Social

- Improves the neighborhood
- Improves social and physical mobility
- Encourages health and fitness
- Provides relief from urban congestion, stressors
- Provides places for formal and informal social gathering, art, performances, events
- Provides opportunities for individual, group, passive and active recreation
- Facilitates shared experiences among different groups
- Attracts diverse populations
- Promotes creative and constructive social interaction



Environmental

- Uses energy, water, and resources efficiently
- Improves water quality of both surface and ground water
- Serves as a net carbon sink
- Enhances, preserves, promotes, or contributes to biological diversity
- Hardscape materials selected for longevity of service, social/ cultural/ historical sustainability, regional availability, low carbon footprint
- Provides opportunities to enhance environmental awareness and knowledge
- Serves as an interconnected node within larger scale ecological corridors and natural habitat



Economic

- Creates and facilitates revenue-generating opportunities for the public and/or the private sectors
- Creates meaningful and desirable employment
- Indirectly creates or sustains good, living wage jobs
- Sustains or increases property values
- Catalyzes infill development and/or the re-use of obsolete or under-used buildings or spaces
- Attracts new residents
- Attracts new businesses
- Generates increased business and tax revenues
- Optimizes operations and maintenance costs

BEST PRACTICES FROM OTHER DISCIPLINES

- Project Management
- Strategic Planning
- Applied Social Research

TRADITIONAL PLANNING	STRATEGIC PLANNING
Input-oriented	Result-oriented
Technocratic	Participatory
Neutral	Mobilization instrument
Linear planning	Iterative planning
Rigid implementation	Flexible implementation
Routine-based	Change-oriented
Compliance monitoring	Performance monitoring
Emphasis on the plan document	Emphasis on plan implementation

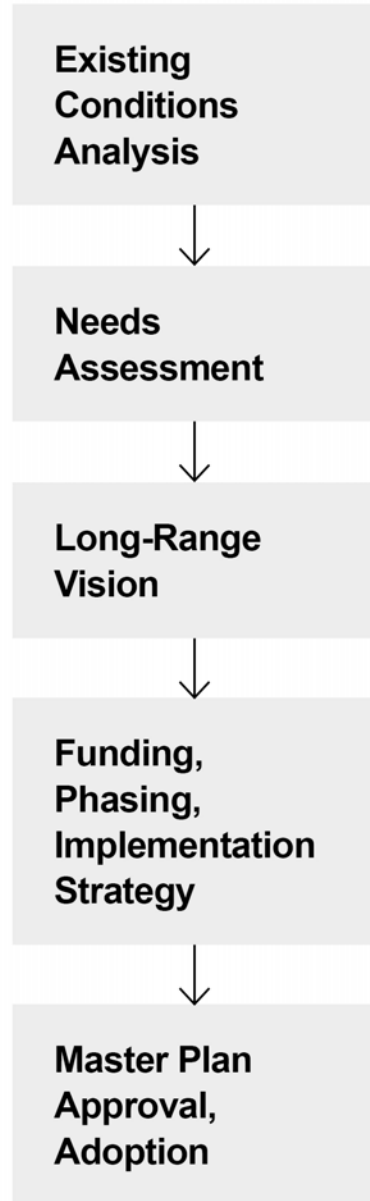
Attributes of traditional vs. strategic planning processes (UNESCO.
<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018/001897/189757e.pdf>)

**A NEW APPROACH TO PARKS AND
RECREATION SYSTEM PLANNING TO
GENERATE MULTIPLE BENEFITS**

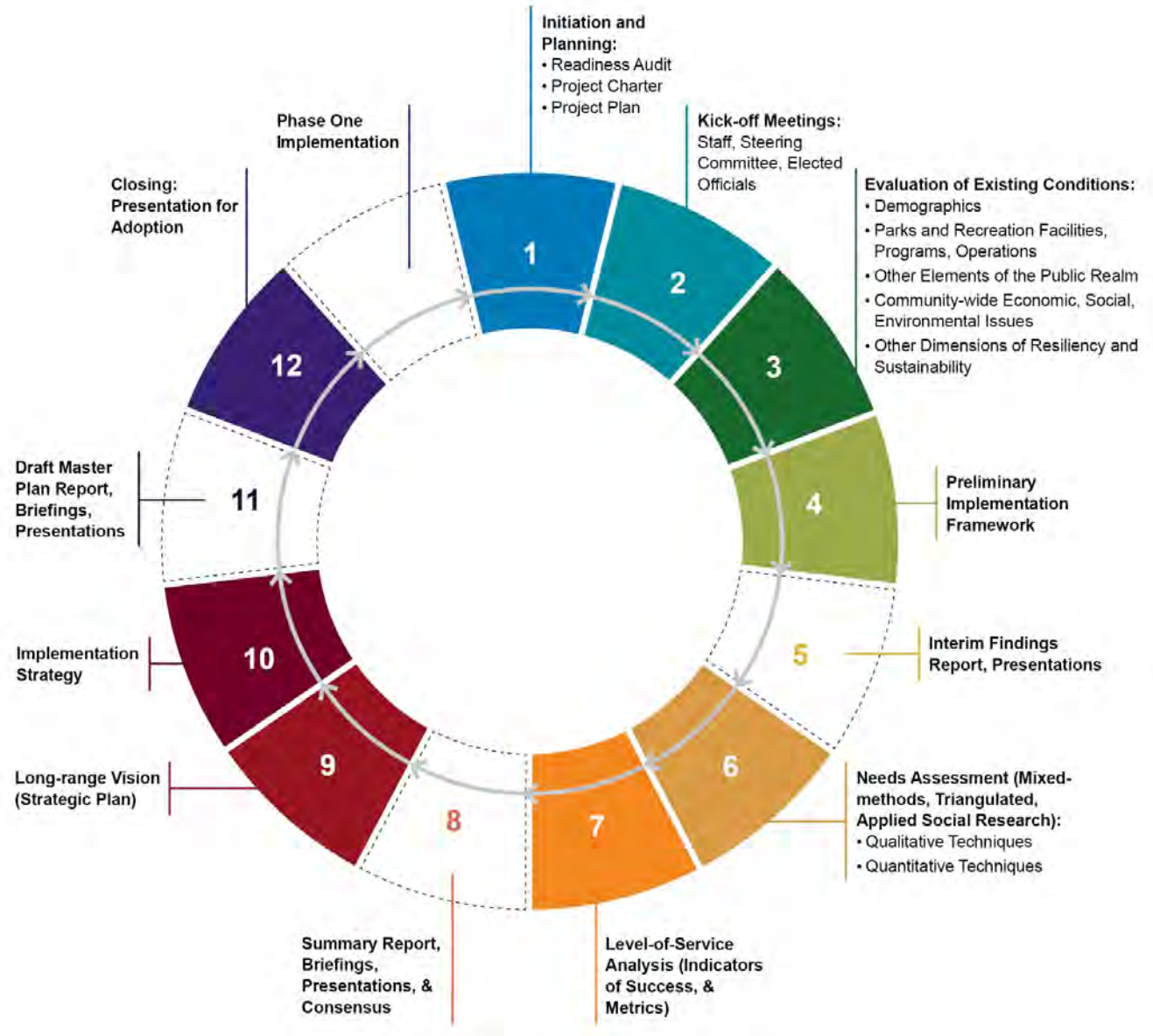
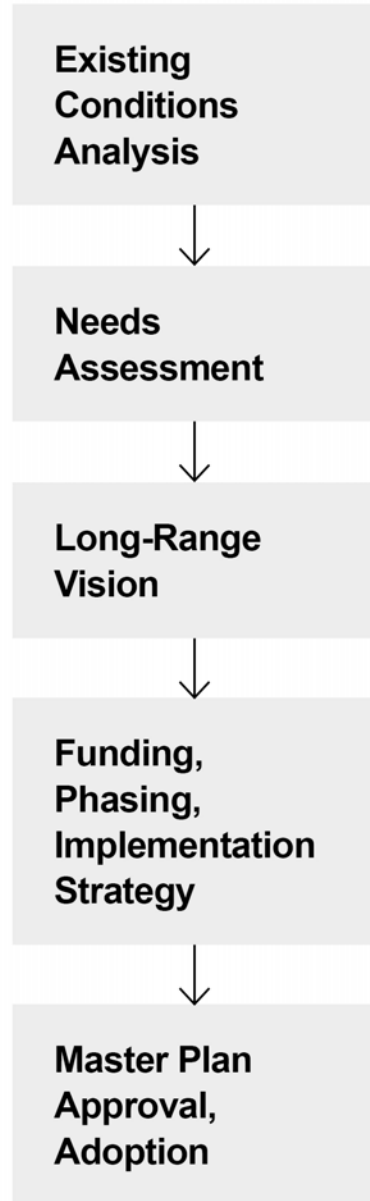
Poll 4

Poll 5

TRADITIONAL VS. NEW APPROACH



TRADITIONAL VS. NEW APPROACH



7 KEY FACTORS FOR SUCCESS

A STRONG LEADER AND A COLLABORATIVE INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM: TOP TWO FACTORS FOR THE ADOPTION OF INNOVATION

Primary Factors:

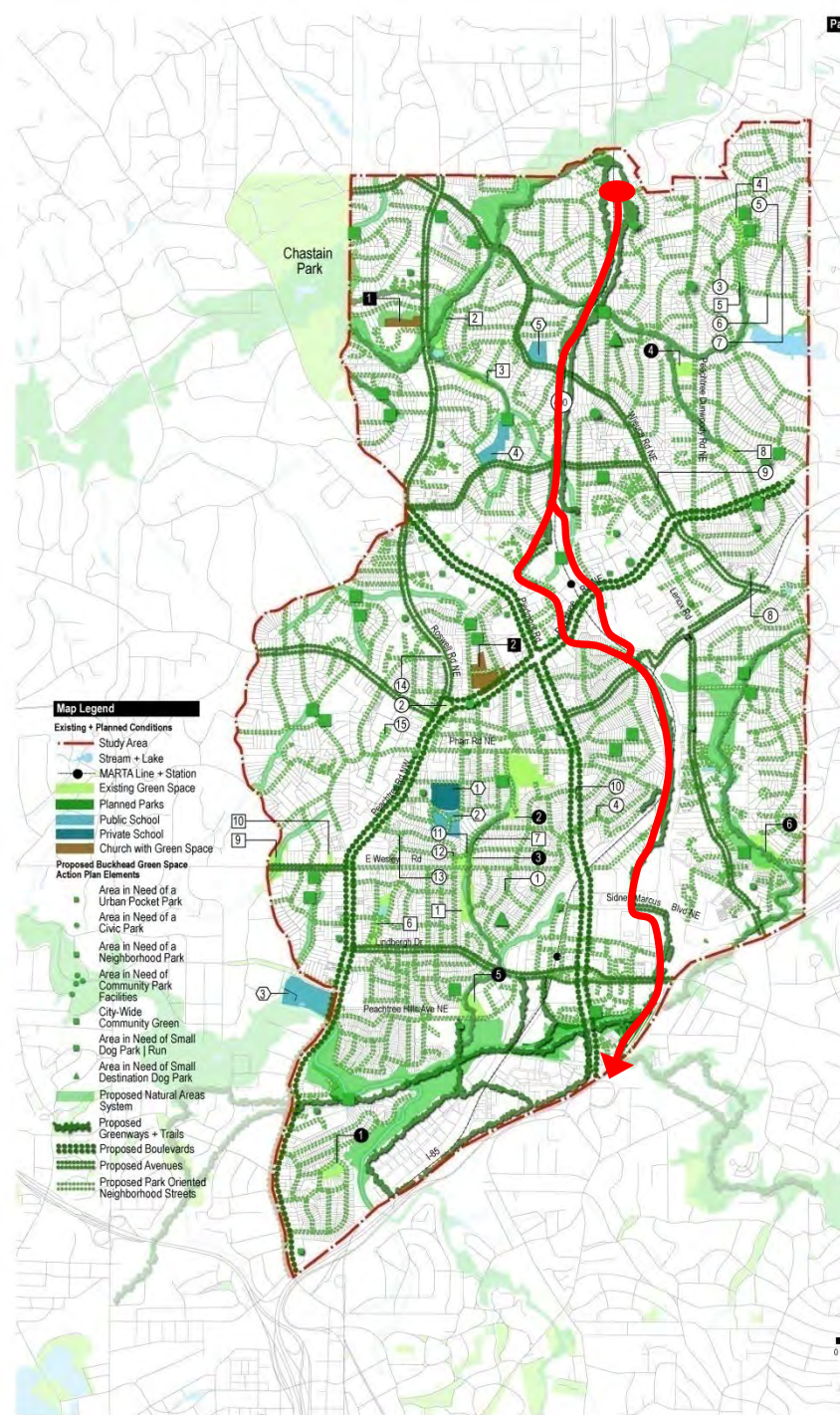
- Presence of a strong leader/ advocate for the innovation
- Collaborative relationship of the planning and design team
- External characteristics, including system openness and stakeholder involvement

Secondary Factors:

- Costs, economic benefits, and perceived return-on-investment
- Presence of a long-range vision

Other Possible Factors:

- Perception of the innovation
- Internal characteristics of the organization
- Funding
- Passion



Denise Starling and Howard Shook

INTENTIONALITY: MULTIPLE DIMENSIONS

Soak It Up, Philly!

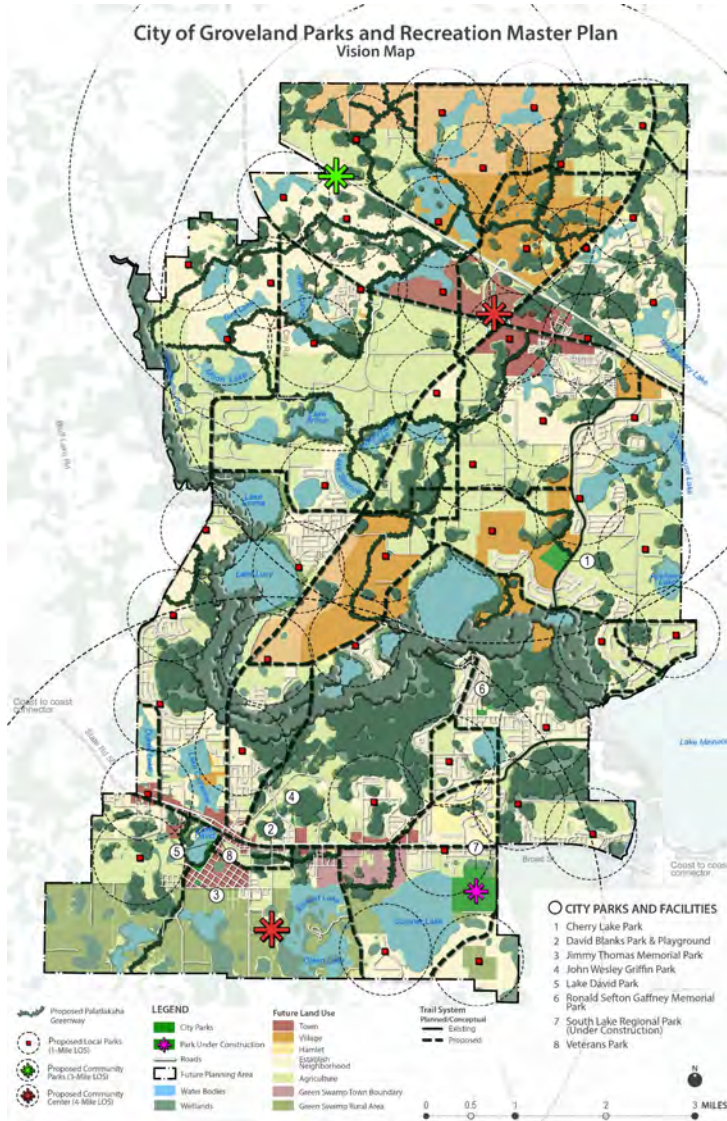
What is a stormwater basin?

During heavy storms, stormwater overwhelms the sewer system, sending pollutants into our creeks and rivers. A stormwater basin helps solve this problem by collecting, redirecting and slowing the flow of water.



- Accreditation by Commission for Accreditation of Parks and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA)
- Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Access
- Before and After School Care
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Access
- Branding
- Capital Improvements Plan
- Commercial Recreation
- Comprehensive Plan Goals
- Construction Delivery Methods
- Cost Recovery
- Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)
- Design Standards and Details
- Economic Development
- Educational Opportunities
- Environment
- eSports
- Flood Control
- Funding
- Gentrification
- Green Infrastructure
- Health and Wellness
- Homelessness
- Impact Fees
- Income Inequality
- Land Development Codes
- Land Use
- Level-of-Service Standards
- Marketing
- Mental Health
- Needs and Priorities
- Neighborhood Stabilization
- Opioid Abuse
- Organizational Mission and Role
- Organizational Structure
- Operations and Maintenance
- Park Classifications
- Partnerships
- Permitting
- Political Priorities
- Programs – Recreation, Social, Educational
- Quality of Life
- Redevelopment
- Safety
- Sea Level Rise
- Service-Delivery Models
- Social Equity
- Staffing
- Stormwater Treatment
- Resource Protection
- Technology
- Tourism
- Transportation
- Wildlife Habitat
- Youth Development

HYPOTHETICAL VISION + PRELIMINARY IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK



- Comprehensive Plan
- Land Development Codes
- Design Prototypes and Standards
- Service-Delivery Model(s) for Parks, Recreation Centers, Aquatics, Athletics, etc.
- Bikeways and Trails Master Plan
- Conservation Lands Master Plan
- Stormwater Master Plan
- Long Range Transportation Plan
- Level-of-Service Methodology and Metrics
- Impact Fees
- Capital Funding Alternatives (Bonds, Sales Tax, etc.)
- Operations and Management
- Public/ Private Partnerships

SCIENTIFIC, MIXED-METHODS, TRIANGULATED APPROACH – INCLUDING EXTENSIVE PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

PRIMARY DATA:

Predominantly Quantitative Techniques:

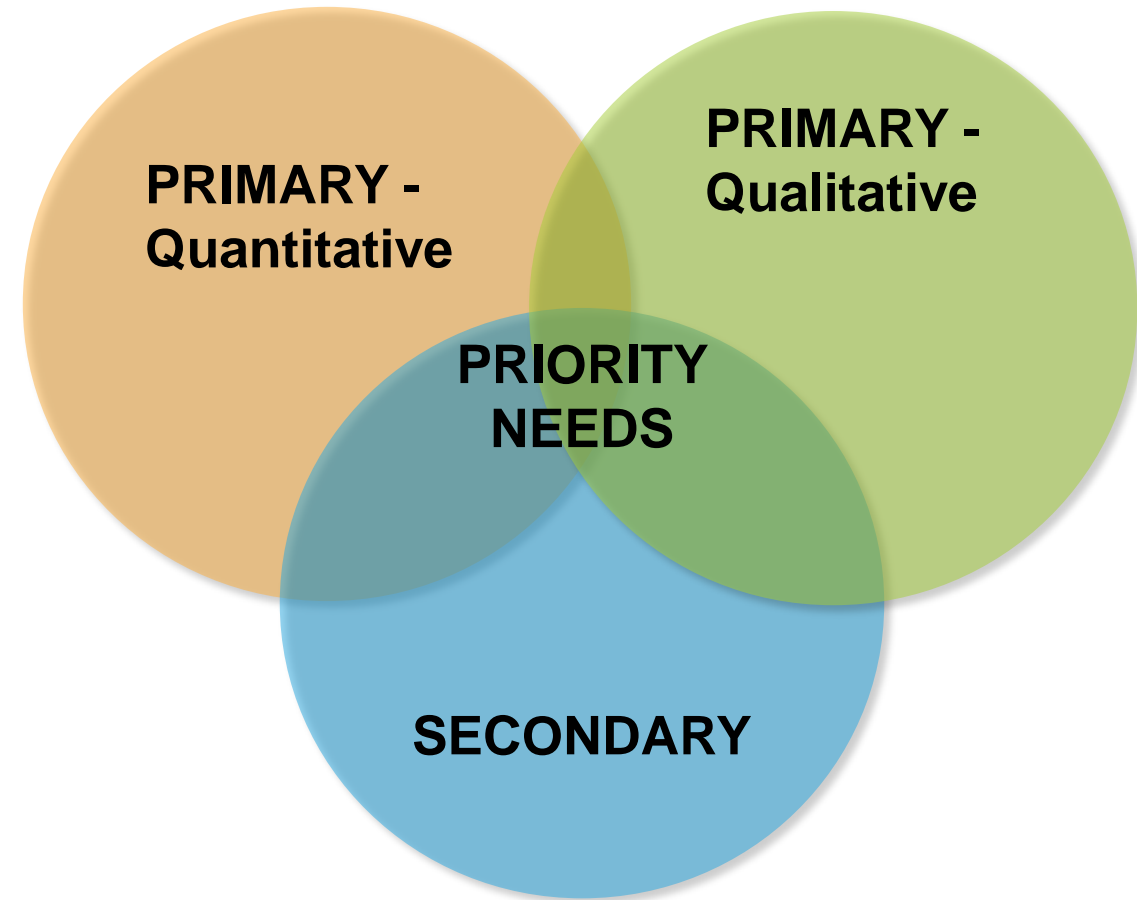
- Statistically-Representative Mail Survey
- On-line Survey
- Level-of-Service Analysis
- Benchmarking

Predominantly Qualitative Techniques:

- Interviews, Focus Groups
- Social Media, Web Sites
- Public Workshops
- Park Evaluations

SECONDARY DATA:

- Census Data
- Review of Comprehensive Plan, Previous Planning Documents, Other Literature






To help limit the spread of COVID-19, all meetings and events will now take place virtually. Learn more about DPR's COVID-19 response.

Facebook Twitter Instagram Skip Navigation Select Language

ATLANTA RECREATION & PARKS

About Participate Calendar



Let's hear from you!

Attend an #ActivateATL Public Meeting!

[Find a Meeting](#) →

CITY OF ATLANTA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

ACTIVATE ATL

Planning a Shared Vision for the Future of Parks and Recreation in Atlanta

Act Today for a Stronger Parks and Rec Tomorrow!

The City of Atlanta wants to know how recreation and parks can better serve you and improve the health of your family!

www.Activate-Atl.com

- Learn about how ActivateATL can improve your neighborhood parks and recreational offerings!
- Share your concerns, hopes and dreams for Atlanta parks and recreation with the online survey!
- Download the App (iAPPRIDEET - Atlanta) and give us real time feedback on how the parks really to you!
- Join us at one of the upcoming Virtual Public Input Workshops!

ATLANTA RECREATION & PARKS

Instagram

2:19 PM

66%

THE CITY OF ATLANTA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS IS INVITING YOU TO A SCHEDULED ZOOM MEETING.

PARKS MASTER PLAN

SAVE THE DATE

DISTRICT 6 JUNE 25

DISTRICT 7 JUNE 30

CITY-WIDE JULY 9

VIA ZOOM

RSVP BELOW

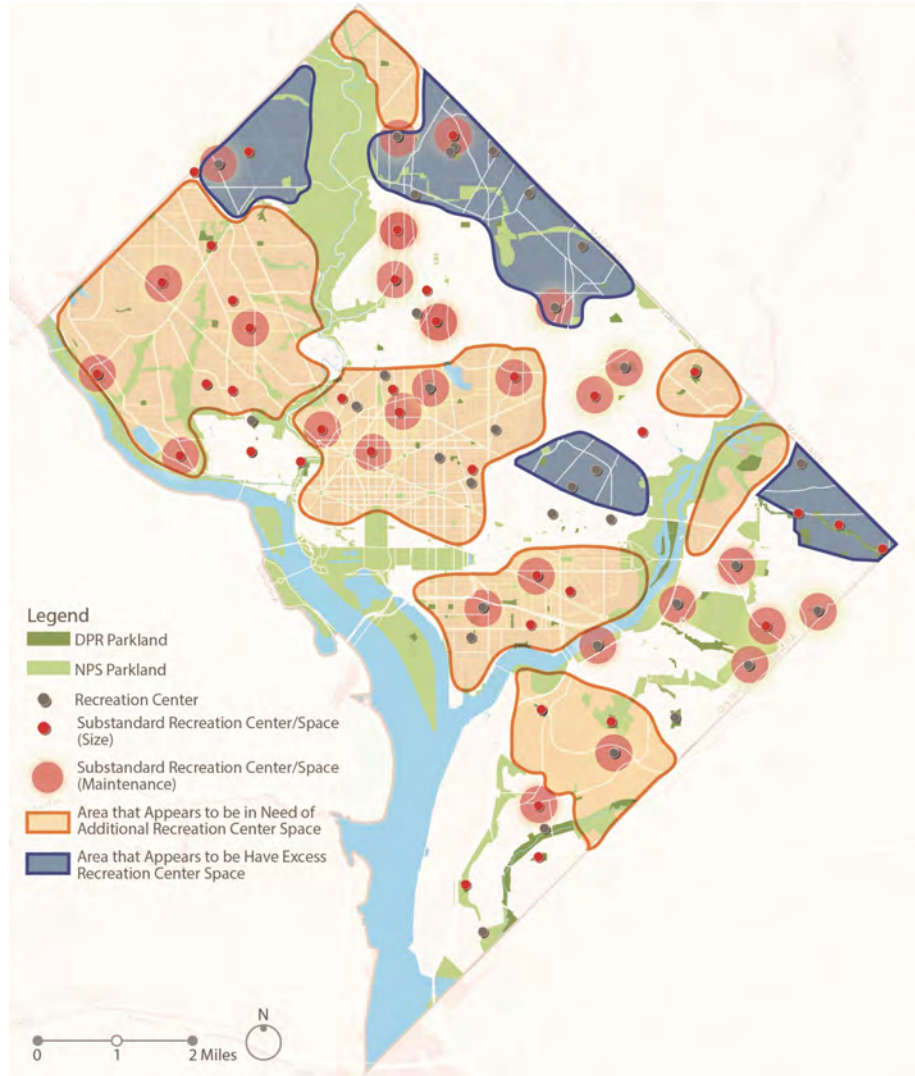
WE NEED YOUR INPUT

YOUR FEEDBACK WILL HELP US TRANSFORM ATLANTA'S PARKS AND RECREATION FOR THE FUTURE.

Each district meeting will begin at 6:30PM! Please plan to join us to share your thoughts and concerns with us!



RESILIENCY AND SUSTAINABILITY LOS METRICS



DIMENSION	POTENTIAL METRICS
1. Bicycle and pedestrian access to parks, open spaces, natural areas, civic sites, and other elements of the public realm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miles of paved, multi-use trails Percentage of the long-range bicycle/ pedestrian network vision completed Percentage of parks and open spaces with bicycle and pedestrian access Percentage of complete streets
2. Green infrastructure and stormwater treatment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of community tree canopy coverage Improvement in water quality of key water bodies Percentage of stormwater treatment projects incorporating green design practices
3. Health and wellness of community residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of residents considered obese Participation in fitness and wellness programs Reduction in chronic health conditions such as Type 2 diabetes and heart disease
4. Social and educational programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High school graduation rate Local unemployment rate Percentage of households considered by the United Way to be Asset-Limited, Income-Constrained, Employed (ALICE)
5. Economic Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in property values adjacent to new/ improved parks and open spaces Increase in number of businesses opened in response to new/ improved parks and open spaces Increase in public and private sector jobs created through parks and open spaces

COMPELLING VISION AND GRAPHICS

A 50 YEAR, UNIFYING VISION FOR A LIVABLE, SUSTAINABLE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

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Great
Natural and Cultural Places

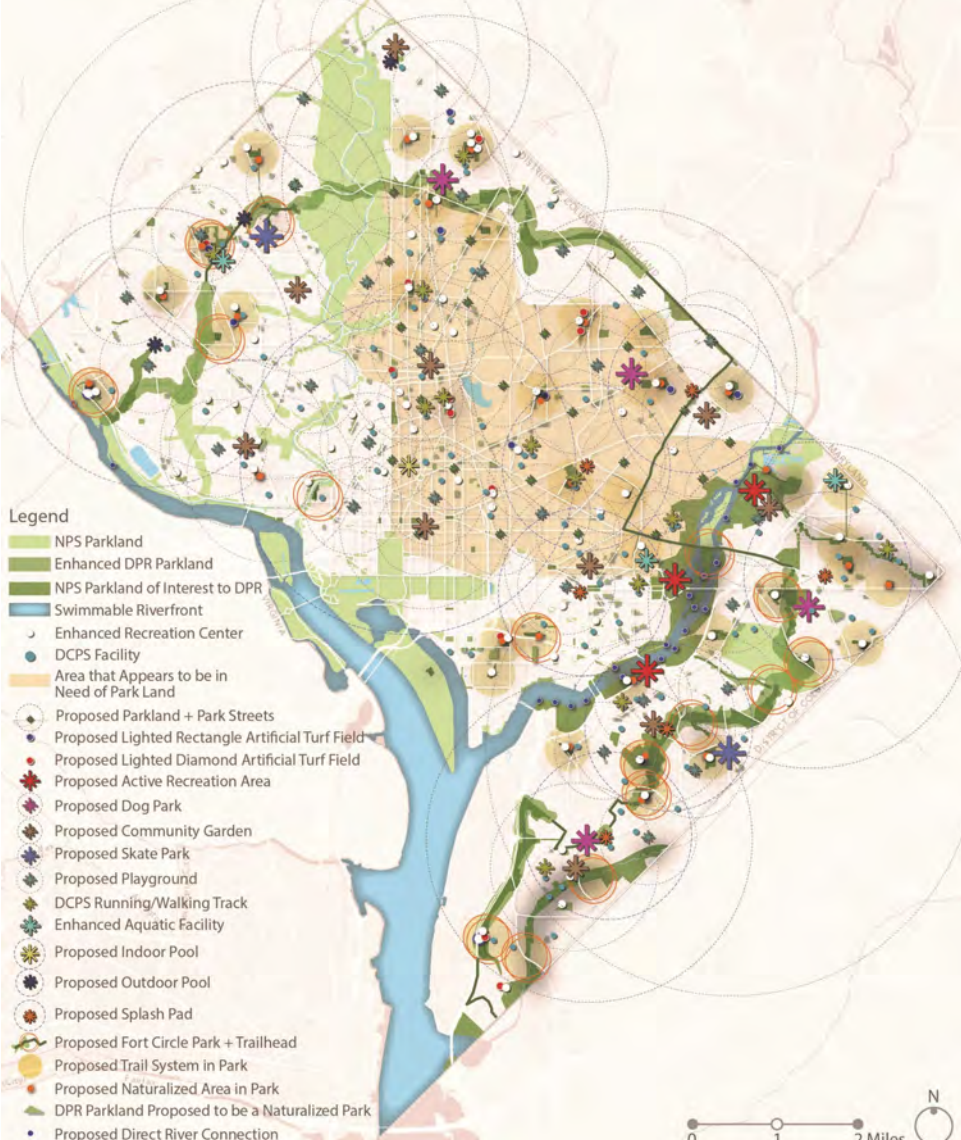
are planned and managed to balance access and resource protection

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Streets

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Greenways, Trails and Water Trails

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BEFORE

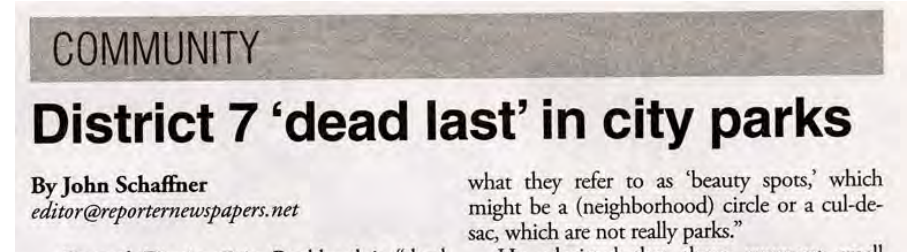


AFTER

FOCUS ON IMPLEMENTATION TO GENERATE BENEFITS

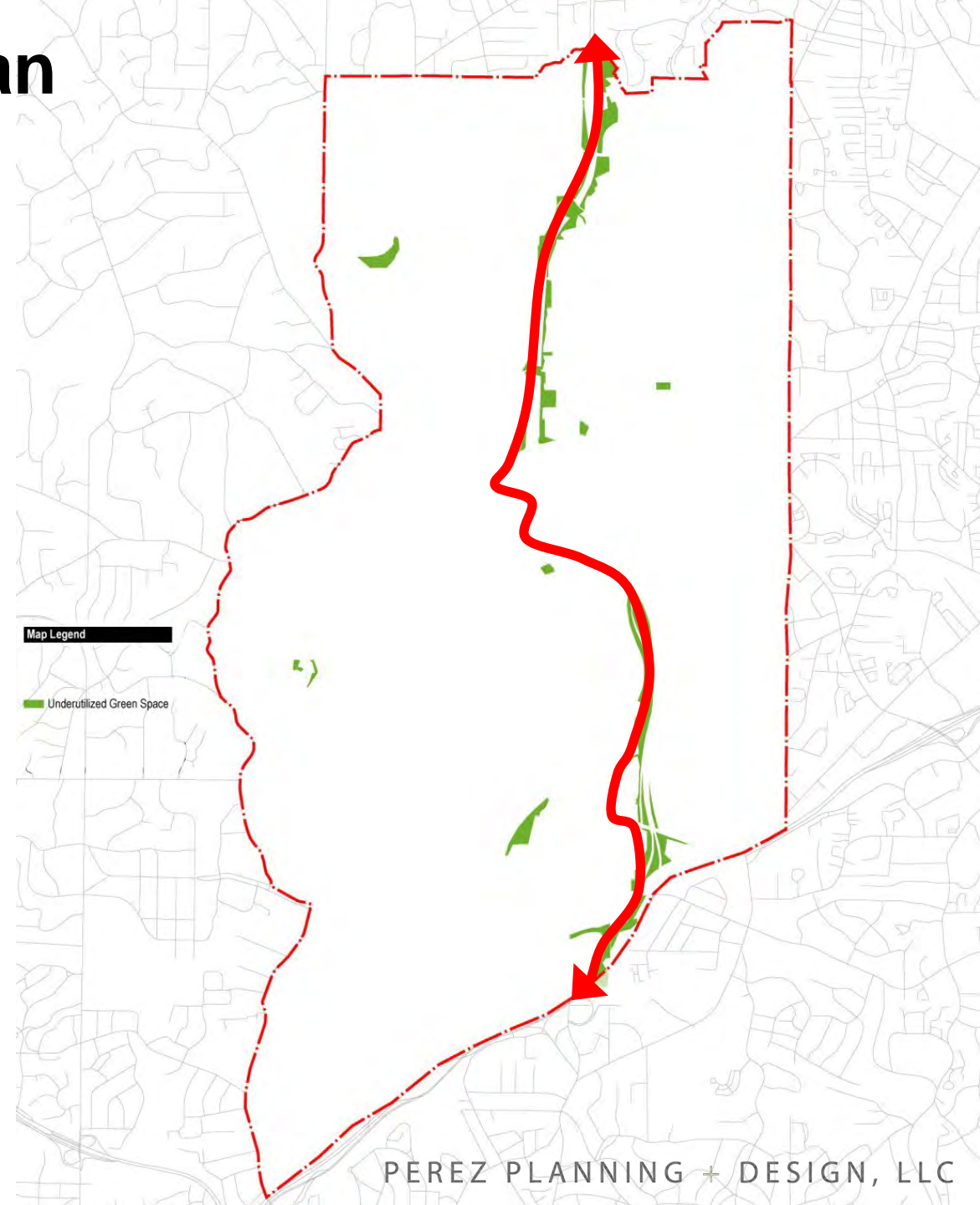
Buckhead - Atlanta Challenges

- Losing market share to Midtown, Atlanta
- Traffic congestion / poor pedestrian connectivity
- Water quality / flooding
- **Limited public space**
- High land costs



District	Pop (2000)	# of Parks	Avg Park Size	Parks Acreage	Total acres/ 1,000 Pop
1	36,165	25	12.8	320.8	8.87
2	36,313	27	6.6	179.3	4.94
3	36,200	25	7.8	194.8	5.38
4	34,573	32	3.6	117.3	3.39
5	32,839	26	5.0	130.1	3.96
6	36,145	70	5.2	367.8	10.18
7	34,419	23	3.2	73.6	2.14
8	35,272	35	10.0	349.0	9.89
9	34,132	17	14.9	253.7	7.43
10	32,967	23	10.3	236.7	7.18
11	34,714	20	29.0	581.1	16.74
12	34,114	17	36.2	616.2	18.06
City-wide	417,853	340	10.06	3420.4	8.19

Buckhead Greenspace Action Plan + Path 400 Trail















WRAP-UP

01

Widely accepted, irrefutable relationship between great parks systems and sustainable, resilient, and livable communities

02

Intentionally plan our parks systems as integral parts of the public realm

03

Broaden our perspectives to include other dimensions

04

Use the planning process as a platform for community leadership

05

Create a more rigorous, robust, and collaborative planning process - that applies the best practices and principles from the disciplines of project management, strategic planning, and applied social science research – that focuses on generation of communitywide benefits



A NEW APPROACH TO PARKS AND RECREATION SYSTEM PLANNING



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