

Green Plan Committee Minutes  
(Summarized)  
November 14<sup>th</sup> 2007

Present: Dr. Bill Drummond, Consultant and all Green Plan Committee Members

Absent: N/A

- INTRODUCTION
  - o Goals of committee members:
    - Sean: wishes to maintain a balance of natural areas and community spaces.
    - Brad: create public spaces and keep people in John's Creek for generations
    - Jim: get best service out of parks and recreational areas
    - David: stressed connectivity, not having to get in a car. More parks.
- BACKGROUND:
  - o Drummond: Representative Jan Jones initially secured funding for Tech to facilitate efforts before Johns Creek and Milton were incorporated
    - Tech conducted background work for Milton and John's Creek
    - Completed a bicycle and pedestrian plan for Milton
    - Johns Creek did not need a bicycle and pedestrian plan because the City Council had already approved a set of greenways/paths, but it did need additional parks and major recreation facilities.
  - o Geoff Berlin summarized the history of the greenway plan, which was developed for Fulton County before Johns Creek was incorporated.
    - Initial effort realized the neighborhood did not want paths in their backyards
    - Stressed safety along major thoroughfares with regard to greenway
    - Committee did NOT want the path to serve as a mode of transportation.
    - Take advantage of road widening projects to include the trail/path in the right of way
    - City council voted to designate a greenway map and location spreadsheet.
- DISCUSSION:
  - o Drummond:
    - Focus on Parks and Recreation
    - NRPA guidelines (1983 edition) call for 6.5 to 8.5 acres of local parks per 1,000 in population
    - Recommendations for parks by comparing to other areas
    - We can compare park land in Johns Creek to Alpharetta, Milton, Roswell and Fulton County
  - o Brad asked what is "Best in class" in the way of city green space.

- Drummond replied that there is no “best in class” but the Trust for Public Land publishes an “Excellent City Parks” report. For Johns Creek it will be a challenge to double or triple current park lands.
- Brad asked what kinds of goals there should be.
- Drummond: We should define several goals for the plan. We can also create a range of low, medium, and high objectives.
- David asked if trail miles count.
- Drummond replied that we classify trail miles separately.
- David asked if we can count National Parks.
- Drummond replied that National Parks are a regional and national resource, not a local resource.
- Kyethea Kirk described Historic Bridge Rehabilitation Project
- Sean commented we are in a race against the developers.
- Geoff commented that higher density in some places can save green space in others.
- David said that Density has to be discussed.
- Brad raised the question of sustainability in building/recycling/energy use. Susan responded that individuals can make recommendations or comments to the overall advisory committee.
- Jim: Adds that it is part of the larger plan
- Brad commented that we can encourage people to open up private land, such as unused areas of golf courses.