

From the Mayor's Desk

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Planning Walking, Bicycle Trails for Peachtree Corners

There is a lot going on here in Peachtree Corners, the Town Center and the Veterans Monument are just two of the new projects that will be breaking ground this year. And another is our own beltline of multiuse trails that residents will soon be able to enjoy.

Those who attended the Multi-Use Trail workshop on Jan. 21, were able to view the concept drawings and ask questions of the representatives from Lord Aeck Sargent, the urban planners hired by the city who were on hand to answer questions and gather feedback from everyone.

We also posted a survey on the city's website and sent out notices in our e-newsletter and on the city's Facebook page inviting everyone to participate. We had a great response, over 400 people participated in either the workshop or online survey.

While most people said they would use the trail system for leisure purposes, over 200 people said they would use the trail as transportation to get to shopping and dining destinations. And, 70 people said they would use the city's trails to commute to work.

We anticipate that the number of people using the trail will only grow as housing within the Tech Park area increases. We already have plans from a developer to build millennial housing overlooking a lake in Tech Park that would connect with the first phase of trails in Technology Park.

Cities that have added multi-use trails have found that this kind of asset has proven to be a great economic development tool – particularly in attracting a younger workforce.

When the project is complete, there will be 11 miles of walking and bicycle trails that will crisscross through the community connecting residents with shops, restaurants and office parks.

The first portion of the proposed trail system will take advantage of the Colonial Pipeline easement that runs through Technology Park and neighborhoods and businesses on the west side of Peachtree Parkway. The trail that runs through Technology Park will be used as a framework for the future trail system and a component of the bigger picture as we expand the trails throughout the city.

You can view the plans on the city's website. Visit www.peachtreecornersga.gov, locate the button near the bottom labeled "City Projects," select "Project Studies" then click on the linked marked "Multi Use Trail Study." Or you can use this link which will take you directly to the report on the website.

Mike Mason, Mayor