

Long Range Planning NEWSLETTER

June 2023

DeKalb County
Planning & Sustainability

Commission District Profiles



An ongoing project of Planning and Sustainability, Long Range Division is the updated Commission District Profiles is quickly coming to a close! The final drafts of each district has been completed and is awaiting final feedback.

The purpose of the Commission District profiles is to create an informative resource for County constituents and stakeholders that highlights pertinent information about their District.

The next step is creating and implementing more detailed report of each DeKalb district through ArcGIS Story maps.

Visit the [Planning and Sustainability](https://www.dekalbcountyga.gov/planning-and-sustainability) website to see the profiles!

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World Planning Day

November 8th 2023 is the annual celebration of World Planning Day! Each year, planners around the world engage in activities that highlight the importance of planning. Updates will be provided as November approaches!

Small Area Plans

One of the primary tools to guide development within Activity Centers is through the use of Small Area Plans (SAPs). These plans allow policy makers and the community to guide development, policies, and investments at a much finer level of detail than can be provided in the comprehensive plan.



Stone Mountain PATH Trail

The Stone Mountain PATH Trail SAP was selected as one of five recipients for the 2023 Community Development Assistance Program (CDAP.) DeKalb County will receive a project grant to assist in developing a two-year master plan for an area along the Stone Mountain PATH Trail.

This project will bring together cross-jurisdictional stakeholders to help align planning goals and regulations to create more affordable housing, multi-modal transportation options, and places for the community to work and play.

The next steps of the project include a Scope of Work verification meeting with ARC, contract signature between the two parties, and procurement in early 2024.



Presidential Pkwy/Embry Hills

DeKalb County Planning and Sustainability is moving forward with a Arts & Culture study for Presidential Pkwy/ Embry Hills. The Presidential Pkwy/ Embry Hill study will include an analysis of existing conditions that impact the ability to create a livable, pedestrian friendly environment associated with the boundary of the study.



Goals and conditions regarding Small Area Plans and other DeKalb County Planning and Sustainability projects can be referenced in the DeKalb 2050 Unified Plan.



Learn about our other Small Area Plan, Memorial Drive Revitalization, on the next page!

Memorial Drive Revitalization



The primary goal of the Memorial Drive Revitalization Plan is to provide a vision for the area. Work towards a consensus among business owners and the community. Create a revitalization strategy for this important corridor that includes beautification, vibrant businesses, mixed use development, and living wage employment opportunities.

Memorial Drive Tour

Representatives for Senators Ossoff and Warnock, Congressman Hank Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Decide DeKalb, DeKalb Chamber, Lexicon Strategies, and the Planning Division took a tour along the Memorial Drive corridor on February 22nd to view the rebranding efforts soon underway. Each playing a vital role in revitalizing the Memorial Drive Corridor.

Memorial Drive Rebranding

Part of the Memorial Drive Revitalization Plan is for the re-branding of the corridor. DeKalb County is collaborating with Houser Walker Architecture to reimagine Memorial Drive and create a logo that represent the corridor. The logo was publicly presented on June 8th, the Final Public Meeting of the Memorial Drive Rebranding Initiative. A recording of the meeting is available [here](#).

Trees and Trails

Trees and Trails have partnered with PATH Foundation to create a trail study for a trail to connect the Indian Creek MARTA to Memorial Drive. They had their first public meeting on May 22nd, 2023.

East Memorial Drive Event Boosters

In process of finalizing a location and date for an event that will showcase a variety of cultural foods and music on Memorial Drive.

Lift DeKalb

Plans to create a Community Development Corporation as well as a website to inform, educate, and gather community feedback.

F.A.M.E.

In process of finalizing a location and date for a Paint by Numbers themed event on Memorial Drive.

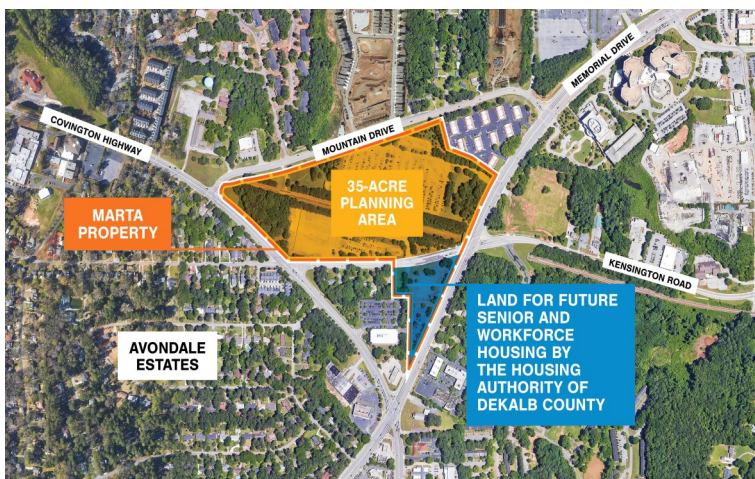
Community Action Groups

Since the Memorial Drive Revitalization plan's adoption, DeKalb County has been working on numerous plan initiatives. The Community Action Groups (CAG) is designed to be the community advocacy needed to move the needle on various projects.

Transit Oriented Development

Transit-Oriented Development, or TOD, means development that is vibrant, pedestrian-friendly, and genuinely integrated with transit that supports both local community development and regional economic development.

Kensington Station



Find out more information [here!](#)

In June 2022, MARTA and DeKalb County began the TOD master planning process with an interactive website, community meetings, and stakeholder engagement. The goal of the master plan is to direct the rezoning of the property and to enable its redevelopment from the private development community. In early May 2023, the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners approved the rezoning effort allowing MARTA to continue work on the Kensington Station TOD.

DeKalb County Planning and Sustainability are working with MARTA to plan and implement Tactical Urbanism at Kensington station to promote walkability and safety for pedestrians.

Indian Creek Station

Indian Creek Station TOD Master Plan is underway! This project will create a community-driven plan to catalyze the transformation of MARTA's Indian Creek Station into a walkable, vibrant, mixed-use, transit-centric community.

The Indian Creek Station Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Master Plan is an opportunity to transform this end-of-line station into a transit-oriented community that connects people to opportunity, drives sustainable community development, and promotes regional prosperity.

On May 11th, 2023, MARTA hosted a community workshop that invited the public to influence the master plan and provide input in an open house format.



Indian Creek TOD Community Workshop, May 11th, 2023

Find out more information [here!](#)

Stay Engaged!



Welcome to DeKalb County Planning & Sustainability

Contribute your ideas and influence decision-making on local
issues and projects that matter to you!

[Register here](#)

Engage DeKalb is Live!

DeKalb County's Planning and Sustainability department is launching Engage DeKalb! This engagement platform is a new way for you to provide input to county staff quickly and easily. Whether you have 5 minutes or more time to share, you can learn what is happening in your local government and share your thoughts.

We want to hear what you have to say on projects, programs, and topics that affect you and your neighbors. New projects will be added onto Engage DeKalb so be sure to register and keep updated on major projects happening around DeKalb County.

Engage DeKalb is live NOW! Get involved and [register here!](#)

DeKalb County...

Business Registry

The DeKalb County Long Range Planning Department has established a Business Registry to get business owners more involved in decisions affecting their communities. Once a company registers as a business with DeKalb County, they become part of the Business Registry.

Neighborhood Registry

The DeKalb County Long Range Planning Department has established the Neighborhood Registry to get residents more involved in decisions affecting their neighborhoods and to improve participation. Neighbors and neighborhood organizations that are not already on the Neighborhood Registry are invited to join. So far, the registry has over 500 people.

[Register Here!](#)

WELCOME OUR NEW RANGERS ON BOARD



Nicole is an Administrative Specialist with the Long Range Planning Division and has been with the team since March 2023. She enjoys the arts, music, and reading!

Nicole Marchant
Administrative Specialist



P.J. Skipper is the Staff Engineer with the Long Range Planning Division since October, 2022. He has over 25+ years of Engineering experience and he enjoys sports and movies!

P.J. Skipper
Staff Engineer

Meet the Long Range Planning Team!



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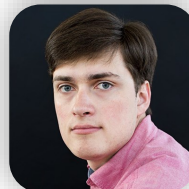
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Have further questions regarding the material covered in this month's newsletter?
Contact Nicole Marchant at nvmarchant@dekalbcountyga.gov or plansustain@dekalbcountyga.gov