

Budgets Activate Plans...

The essence of any organization's future are its planning documents. As required for all cities and counties within the State of Georgia, the City of Brookhaven developed a comprehensive plan to help guide land use decisions, transportation improvements, recreational facilities, etc.

The City's *Comprehensive Plan 2034* was originally adopted on November 18, 2014 and incorporates the Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan and Comprehensive Transportation Plan, which were both previously adopted by the City Council on September 9, 2014.

Per Georgia state statute, the comprehensive plan must be updated every five years, or during 2019 for the City of Brookhaven. The comprehensive plan 2019 update was approved by the City Council on September 24, 2019. Additionally, per Georgia state statute, the City must provide an annual update to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs on progress toward *Comprehensive Plan 2034* goals identified in the Community Work Program (CWP). The 2018 annual update is available on the City website at:

https://www.brookhavenga.gov/sites/default/files/fileattachments/community_development/page/2051/community_work_program_2018-2022.pdf

The City's planning documents provide guidance to the City Administration to prioritize limited resources in the budget development process and then guide City departments' work efforts. The City of Brookhaven's major planning documents include:

- Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan
- Comprehensive Transportation Plan
- Buford Highway Improvement Plan & Economic Development Strategy
- Comprehensive Plan 2034
- Bicycle, Pedestrian, & Trail Plan
- Nancy Creek Watershed Improvement Plan
- Peachtree Creek Greenway Master Plan
- Ashford Dunwoody Corridor Study
- North Fork Peachtree Creek Improvement Plan
- North Druid Hills Corridor Study

While each of these documents are available on the City website, the following pages provide summary information on the findings and recommendations as well as summary progress to date.

The 2020 Adopted Budget includes specific recommendations to make progress on these planning documents; however, the estimated funding requirements in totality for these master plans exceeds \$300 million. The City Administration will aggressively seek non-City funding (i.e., grants and partnerships) for the implementation of these plans.

During 2019, strategic financing plans were initiated and approved for the Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan and Peachtree Creek Greenway Master Plan. Additionally, significant initial progress was made on the Ashford Dunwoody Corridor Study. The North Druid Hills Corridor Study was approved by the City Council on April 29, 2019.

Phase I of the Peachtree Creek Greenway is expected to be open by year end 2019 and several projects in the Park Bond capital improvement program are underway.

During 2020, two of the City's oldest plans will be updated. Specifically, the Comprehensive Transportation Plan and the Buford Highway Improvement Plan & Economic Development Strategy. Several major events have occurred since the original development of these plans including the city-wide zoning rewrite, the corporate campus master plans for Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and Emory University, the Peachtree Creek Greenway Plan and implementation of Phase I; and the Buford Highway transit study. Adopted funding for these two plan updates is included in the Public Works and Economic Development department budgets, respectively.

Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Approved: September 9, 2014

GOAL

The purpose of the Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan is to provide a full analysis of the parks and recreation system including operations and facilities upon incorporation of Brookhaven in December 2012.

STUDY RESULTS

- Staffing, operations and budget
- Programming
- Facility assessment and recommendations
- Park and greenway development
- Funding

DESIRED OUTCOMES

- Meet NRPA Guidelines
- Park and greenway needs and opportunities
- Traditional primary funding and grant methods

RECOMMENDATIONS

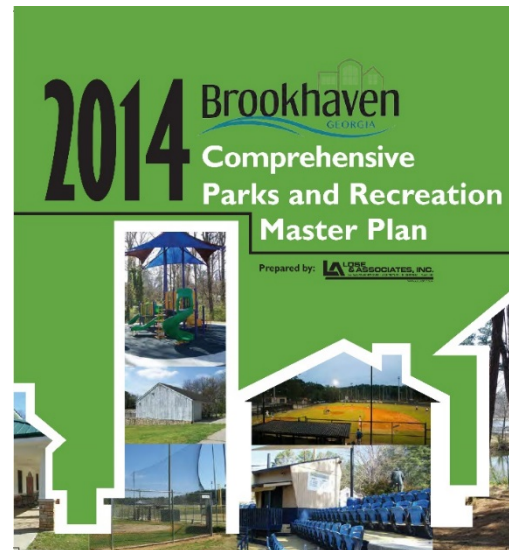
- Complete individual park master plan for each individual park in Brookhaven
- Acquire land in Planning Areas 2 & 3 and develop neighborhood parks, and find a large parcel near the Buford Highway Corridor to develop a new community park
- Do major renovations throughout the park system to improve safety, ADA compliance and create a unified appearance for park architecture, signage and site furnishings
- Create more walking trails in existing parks
- Create a major east-west greenway corridor that will begin a regional trail system connecting with surrounding communities
- Create a major north-south greenway corridors connecting community parks and neighborhoods to the adopted regional greenway

2020 ADOPTED FUNDING

The 2020 Adopted Budget includes \$3.5 million for operations and \$1.1 million for asset preservation capital improvements. Please see the Parks and Recreation Department budget narrative in this budget document for additional details.

PROGRESS TO DATE

The Parks and Recreation Department is staffed with seven full-time staff and 14 part-time staff (of which 8 are part-time pool managers). The operating budget has increased from \$939,950 (\$17 per capita) to \$3,467,702 in 2019 (\$64 per capita). Land surveys were completed for each park and are posted on the department's website. Park facilities were assessed for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).



Park land acquisition since the City's incorporation includes:

- Ashford Forest Preserve (31 acres)
- 1664 Remington Road (1.75 acres)
- 1206 Gail Drive (1.16 acres)
- 1621 North Druid Hills Road (2.54 acres)
- Peachtree Creek Greenway acquisitions totaling 25.00 acres.

Park maintenance standards were developed and are posted on the department's website. Master plans for each park were developed with extensive public input.

The new Skyland Park was constructed and open to the public in the fall of 2018. The new park is located on the site of the old vital records building. The new park includes a new playground, two sand volleyball courts, two new restroom facilities, new picnic shelter, a large dog and a small dog park area, solar shade structures that can be used for charging of electronic devices and an EV (electric vehicle) charging station.



Georgian Hills Park was renovated to include a new park entrance from Clairmont Road, walking trail, playground, picnic shelter and open space field.



Murphey Candler Open Space project was completed in late summer of 2018. This project included new sidewalk and ADA entrance into the park, granite seat walls, walking trail around the open space, new landscaping and open greenspace for activities and events.



Blackburn Park Open Space project was completed in March 2019. This project included new walking trail, new restroom facility, playground, renovated open space field to include irrigation and electrical outlets that can be used for events.



The Peachtree Creek Greenway plan was developed, and implementation is underway (see the Peachtree Creek Greenway planning process later in this section of the 2020 Adopted Budget document).

Alternative funding sources have been identified and secured for several parks including:

- The City assisted the Murphey Candler Park Conservancy in securing a Resurgens Charitable Foundation \$75,000 Grant for an all-inclusive playground at Murphey Candler Park.
- Georgia Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Department of Transportation awarded the City a grant of \$100,000 for trail improvement and kudzu removal Briarwood Park.
- The Stormwater Fund assisted with improvements at Georgian Hills Park and Murphey Candler Park.
- The Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) awarded grant funding of \$2.72 million for the Peachtree Creek Greenway project.
- In 2018 the Georgia Environment Protection Department and the U.S. Environment Protection Agency awarded the City a \$200,000 grant for the stream bank restoration (south of the lake) at Murphey Candler Park. In 2019, the agency awarded \$350,000 for streambank restoration north of the lake. Both projects are part of the Nancy Creek Watershed Improvement project.
- The Georgia Environmental Financing Agency provided a \$500,000 loan forgiveness grant and low interest loan for the purchase 31 acres that is now the Ashford Forest Preserve.
- U.S. Housing and Urban Development – Community Development Block Grant Funding (CDBG) in the amount of \$105,000 was secured towards installation of ADA-compliant bathrooms at Lynnwood Park Recreation Center.
- DeKalb County School District at Skyland and Ashford Park have an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) in place with the City that will allow both parties to use each other’s facilities during designated times for educational and recreational purposes.
- Formalized a partnership with the Atlanta Hawks Foundation for the Renovation of the two (2) outdoor basketball courts located at the Lynwood Park Recreation Center along with the renovation of one of the meeting rooms inside the Lynwood Park Recreation Center.
- Formalized a relationship with Park Pride to April of 2018 to bring volunteer programs to City of Brookhaven Parks, coordinating and leading park projects for corporate, student, and civic groups eager to give back to their communities through enhancing local greenspace.

Asset preservation projects include tennis court renovations, renovation to the Blackburn Tennis Center, new roof on the Lynwood Park Recreation Center, new gym floor at the Lynwood Park Recreation Center, renovation of the football stadium press box and locker rooms at Murphey Candler Park.



Before



After

City Council approved a \$40 million Park Bond for capital improvements that was approved by the voters in November 2018. The first Park Bond project, the marquee fence project at Blackburn Park, was completed in August 2019. Year one of a three-year invasive plant removal project within the Park Bond was completed in the fall of 2019.



Activities of the Parks and Recreation Department are summarized in the monthly operations report submitted to the City Council and available on the City website at:

<https://www.brookhavenga.gov/citymanager/page/monthly-departmental-reports>

Park Bond capital improvement projects and status can be found on the City website at:

<https://www.brookhavenga.gov/parks-bond-ref>

The Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan can be found on the City website at:

<http://www.brookhavenga.gov/city-departments/parks-recreation/park-plans>



Comprehensive Transportation Plan

Approved: September 9, 2014

GOAL

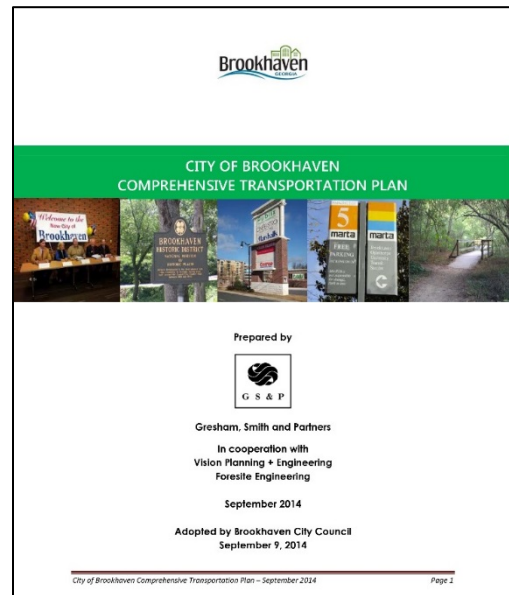
The purpose of the Comprehensive Transportation Plan is to establish a long-term vision of the City's multimodal transportation system consistent with the overall vision as expressed in the Comprehensive Plan.

STUDY RESULTS

- Analysis of the current and future system
- Identification of transportation improvements
- Transportation Policy Framework
- Phased approach for plan implementation

DESIRED OUTCOMES

- Meet requirements of Georgia Planning Act
- Establish community goals to guide the improvements to the transportation system
- Identify needed improvement projects
- Coordinate with the Comprehensive Plan, Park Master Plan, and Buford Highway Redevelopment Plan



RECOMMENDATIONS

- Establish a transportation vision with six major elements, including Safety, Economic Prosperity, Public Health, Sustainability, Mobility and Access, and State of Good Repair
- A balanced, multimodal transportation system for all residents of Brookhaven
- List Corridor Scoping and Concept Projects for Priority Corridors and Community Connectors
- List of Intersection Improvement Projects
- Development of a master plan for Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trail Improvements
- Study to examine the feasibility for a community bus circulator linking MARTA stations
- List of Transportation Operations and Management Projects

2020 ADOPTED FUNDING

The 2020 Adopted Capital Budget includes additional funding supporting several projects in this master plan. See the Capital Improvement Plan tab of this budget document for detailed capital project sheets.

Funding is included in the Public Works Department operating budget to update this plan to account for transit planning efforts underway as part of the I-285 Top End Express Lanes Project and a potential bus rapid transit (BRT) route on Buford Highway from the Lindbergh MARTA station to the Doraville MARTA station.

PROGRESS TO DATE

PART I - Corridor studies: The City has completed two Corridor Studies

Ashford Dunwoody Road Corridor Study (C-1):	Adopted by Council in April 2016
North Druid Hills Corridor Study:	Adopted by Council in April 2019

PART II - Intersection improvement projects:

Ashford Dunwoody Road/Peachtree Road (I-1): Engineering design underway
Buford Highway/Briarwood Road (I-4): Design complete and working on construction contract
Ashford Dunwoody Road/Johnson Ferry Road (I-7): Construction scheduled for Fall 2019
Ashford Dunwoody Road/Windsor Parkway (I-8): Solicitation for Engineering Design underway

PART III – Active Transportation Projects

North Fork Peachtree Creek Trail (AT-2) “Peachtree Creek Greenway”:

Phase I (Briarwood Road to N. Druid Hills Road): Ribbon cutting scheduled in Fall 2019
Phase II (N. Druid Hills Road to Atlanta line): Selection of design firm underway
Phase III (Chamblee line to Briarwood Road): Requesting funding in 2019 ARC TIP solicitation

Peachtree Road, N. Druid Hills Road to Ashford Dunwoody Road (AT-5):

One of the ARC funded TIP Projects, Final plans and Rights-of-way plans are being completed.

Nancy Creek Trail (AT-8): Design underway

PART VI – Special Projects and Programs

Development of Active Transportation Master Plan addressing bicycle, Pedestrian & Trail System (SP-2): Adopted by Council on April 12, 2016

Ultimate Buford Highway Concept Study (SP-3): Adopted by City Council Completed October 14, 2014

Traffic Calming Program (SP-4): Adopted by City Council on August 22, 2017

State of Good Repair Program (SP-5):Five-Year (2017-2021) Pavement Management Program was adopted by Council in February 2017. Second Pavement analysis is currently underway.

The Comprehensive Transportation Plan report can be found on the City website at:

<http://brookhavenga.gov/city-government/boards-commissions/steering-committees>

Buford Highway Improvement Plan and Economic Development Strategy

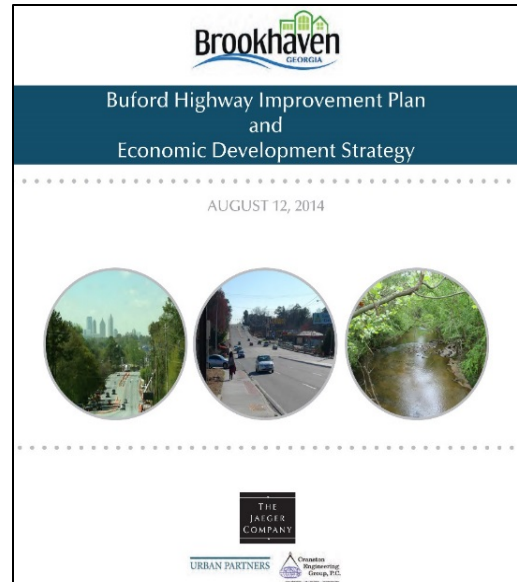
Approved: October 14, 2014

GOAL

The Buford Highway Improvement Plan and Economic Development Strategy's goal is to provide an attractive, safe and trafficable environment, with an emphasis on pedestrian accessibility and an action plan to stimulate the area to its full potential and long-range sustainability.

STUDY RESULTS

- Buford Highway's natural resources are compromised by surrounding economically obsolete development
- Highly sought-after view corridors are muted by the lack of vegetation to buffer views into strip centers
- Need to upgrade pedestrian and transit amenities
- Many undeveloped / underdeveloped commercial parcels



DESIRED OUTCOMES

- Leverage Peachtree Creek and Skyland Trail for multi-use trails
- Established gateways, improved transit amenities, and retain international character
- Redevelopment with more open space, multi-modal transportation, and affordable housing

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Buford Highway improvements segmented into five zones
- 5-year Community Work Program (CWP) 2015-2019
- Long-range projects for redevelopment, transportation and open space

2020 ADOPTED FUNDING

The 2020 Adopted Budget includes funding within the Economic Development Department to update the Buford Highway Improvement Plan and Economic Development Strategy document to account for the significant redevelopment announcements of Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and Emory University impacting the City's southern gateway, the Buford Highway Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) study, the City-wide zoning rewrite that included a Buford Highway overlay district, and development of the Peachtree Creek Greenway plan.

PROGRESS TO DATE

The Peachtree Creek Greenway Master Plan was approved by the City Council in the fall of 2016. By the end of 2019, the Peachtree Creek Greenway (PCG) segment from North Druid Hills Road to Briarwood Road will be completed. Implementation of the PCG has spurred redevelopment interest in the Buford Highway corridor.

In April 2019, the City Council approved the North Druid Hills Road corridor study to improve transportation efficiency and safety on North Druid Hills Road from Buford Highway to Peachtree Road. This includes intersection improvement recommendations for the major intersection of Buford Highway and North Druid Hills Road.

In early 2019, a transit consulting firm was engaged to study the feasibility of a BRT route on Buford Highway from the Lindbergh MARTA station within the City of Atlanta to the Doraville MARTA station. This study will be completed in early 2020. A Buford Highway BRT route was included in the recently approved DeKalb County transit Plan.

In November 2018, the City-wide zoning rewrite was completed and included an overlay district for Buford Highway. This updated zoning will assist in guiding redevelopment of Buford Highway. Information on the Buford Highway overlay can be found on the City website at:

https://library.municode.com/ga/brookhaven/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=PTIICOOR_C_H27ZO_ARTVOVDI_DIV2BHBUHIOV

In 2017, the City Council empaneled an Affordable Housing Task Force to explore policy options to protect and encourage affordable housing across the City. Results of this effort were included in the City-wide zoning rewrite. Specifically, Brookhaven is the only city in the Atlanta metropolitan area with required inclusionary zoning for affordable housing within multi-family redevelopment projects.

The Buford Highway Improvement Plan and Economic Development Strategy can be found on the City website at:

<http://www.brookhavenga.gov/city-government/boards-commissions/steering-commitees/buford-hwy>

Comprehensive Plan 2034

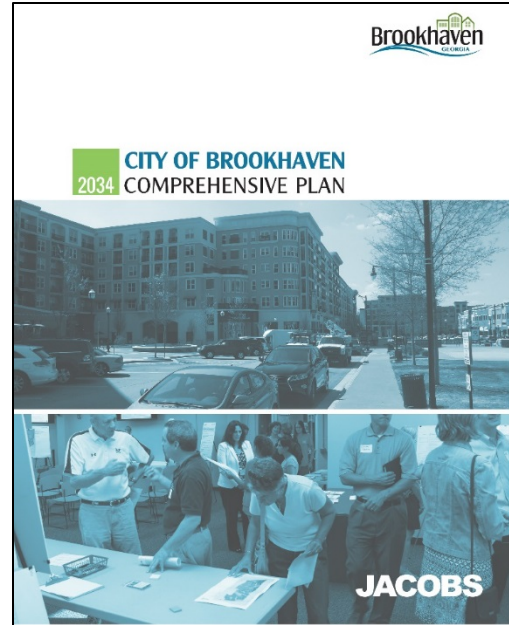
Approved: November 18, 2014

GOAL

The Comprehensive Plan establishes a City vision for long- and short-term goals to guide growth and investment. The completion of the Plan is a requirement of the State, and by its adoption, the City has been designated as a Qualified Local Government, eligible to seek specific Federal and State programs and grants. The City is required to provide an update to the Comprehensive Plan every 5 years.

STUDY RESULTS

- Identification of priority needs for the City's future
- Community Work Program (identifies specific actions the City should pursue within a 5-year timeframe)
- Establishment of Character Areas



DESIRED OUTCOMES

- Alignment of Zoning and Development regulations with the Comprehensive Plan
- To better manage growth and density increase
- To preserve and make available safe and affordable housing in the community

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5-year Community Work Program
- Specific projects related to Land Use; Community Facilities and Resources; Economic Development; and Population and Housing.

2020 ADOPTED FUNDING

While it is anticipated that additional policy matters recommended in the Comprehensive Plan 2034 will be advanced during 2020, no specific funding is requested in the 2020 Adopted Budget.

PROGRESS TO DATE

The most significant task identified in the Comprehensive Plan was the Zoning Ordinance Rewrite for the City to align the city's adopted regulations with its stated vision. The Zoning Ordinance Rewrite project was commenced in 2015, but was put on hold for completion of the Character Area Study which was intended to refine the vision provided in the comp plan. The study was initiated in 2016 to engage the public to better define ways to preserve the Character Areas while clarifying desires for the city's commercial corridors. The Comprehensive Plan was also updated

in 2016 to modify the Peachtree Corridor Overlay boundary to match the boundary identified in the City's Zoning Map for the Brookhaven-Peachtree Overlay.

Following adoption of the Character Area Study in early 2017, the Overlay District Rewrite was identified as the first step to kicking off the full Zoning Ordinance Rewrite. The Overlay District Rewrite was a 6-month project keyed in on the Peachtree Road corridor and how redevelopment would transition into adjacent residential areas. Upon completion of the overlay rewrite, the Zoning Ordinance Rewrite was restarted with a series of community meetings. The purpose of the rewrite was to provide regulations to implement the land use policies identified in the Comprehensive Plan, Character Area Study, and other planning and policy documents. The final zoning ordinance document was the result of months-long work by the rewrite steering committee that was comprised of community residents and business owners appointed by the Mayor and City Council. In addition to the steering committee meetings held, the department worked with the consultant team to host a series of public meetings to obtain input from citizens and the development community. The project was completed with the adoption of the Zoning Ordinance in the fall of 2018. Included in the new zoning ordinance were workforce housing mandates and incentives as a result of the recommendations of the Affordable Housing Task Force in 2017.

With these major Comprehensive Plan milestones now complete, 2020 Community Work Program initiatives include:

- Implementation of Planning Commission work program with additional special area plan work
- Tree, sign, and stormwater management ordinance review
- Update of the tree canopy study
- Complete the Atlanta Regional Commission Local Government Lifelong Communities Assessment Survey and evaluate codes, services, and practices to identify regulatory barriers that obstruct the support of Lifelong Communities Principles
- Undertake a historic and archeological resource survey (including cemeteries) and Develop historic guidelines for identified resources, as needed
- Amend Comprehensive Plan for inclusion of a new character area for the annexation area south of Interstate 85
- Develop a public art ordinance based on the plan adopted by City Council as a result of the work completed by the Arts Advisory Committee

The Comprehensive Plan 2034 and the annual updates are available on the City website at:

<https://www.brookhavenga.gov/commdev/page/comprehensive-plan-2034>

Bicycle, Pedestrian, & Trail Plan

→ Approved: April 12, 2016

GOAL

The goal of the Bicycle, Pedestrian, & Trail Plan is a vision that will establish a thorough network of trails, lanes and paths for transportation and recreation.

STUDY RESULTS

- Lack of provisions for both bicyclists and pedestrians
- Current City policy does not take an active role in promoting bicycle and pedestrian travel
- A comprehensive map with target recommendations

DESIRED OUTCOMES

- Address “fragmented” sidewalk system
- Significantly increase bicycle-friendly routes reflecting strong community desire active transport options
- Support incidental active transportation considering neighboring plans and public transportation access
- Connect network with MARTA transit options and the Atlanta Beltline

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 39 Short-term Projects
- 36 Mid-term Projects
- 41 Long-term Projects

2020 ADOPTED FUNDING

Continuation funding in the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) of \$100,000 is adopted for bike lane striping/improvements. Based on the results of the 2019 citywide sidewalk assessment, \$50,000 is adopted annually in the 2020-2024 CIP for sidewalk capital maintenance and ADA compliance. (This is in addition to the Public Works Department annual operating budget for sidewalk repair.)

Funding in the Capital Improvement Plan of \$50,000 is adopted for a sidewalk in-fill project on Briarwood Road from North Druid Hills Road to Buford Highway consistent with project 109-LT in the Bicycle, Pedestrian, & Trail Plan. This \$50,000 amount is an initial estimate and may be increased based on actual design. For planning purposes, the 2020-2024 CIP includes \$50,000 annually for the sidewalk in-fill projects.



PROGRESS TO DATE

MT-105:	N. Druid Hills Road (Lenox Park Blvd. to Ashton Town Homes) – completed in 2016
MT-130:	Donaldson Drive (Bubbling Creek to Runny Mead Way) – completed in 2016
ST-126:	Old Johnson Ferry Road (Existing to Brooklawn Road) – completed in 2017
ST-155:	Coosawattee Drive (2390 Coosawattee to 2416 Coosawattee) – completed in 2017
ST-159:	Thompson Road (Dresden Drive to Grant Drive) – completed in 2017
MT-114:	Dresden Drive (Camille Drive to N. Thompson Road) – completed in 2017
MT-152:	Ellijay Drive (2472 Ellijay to 2478 Ellijay) – completed in 2017
MT-189:	Woodrow Way (Lanier Drive to Oglethorpe Entrance) – completed in 2017
	Woodrow Way (Breton Circle to Inman Drive) – completed in 2017
LT-120:	Hermance Drive (Croswycke Forest Drive to Path) – completed in 2017
ST-116:	Caldwell Road (Sunland Drive to E. Osborne Drive) – completed in 2018
ST-118:	Lanier Drive (Peachtree Road to Woodrow Way) – completed in 2018
	Lanier Drive (Woodrow Way to Windsor Parkway) – completed in 2018
	Lanier Drive (Windsor Parkway to Hearst Drive) – completed in 2018
ST-126:	Old Johnson Ferry Rd. (Brooklawn Rd. to W. Nancy Creek Dr.) – completed in 2018
ST-127:	Ashford Dunwoody Road (Brookhaven Hill to Kadelston) – completed in 2018
ST-171:	Skyland Drive (S. Bamby Road to Tryon Road) – completed in 2018
ST-184:	Cartecay Drive (Sylvan Circle to Ellijay Drive) – completed in 2018
MT-105:	N. Druid Hills Road (Arrington Place to Colonial Drive) – completed in 2018
MT-164:	Tullie Road/Tullie Circle – Road abandoned to CHOA in 2018
MT-189	Woodrow Way (Windsor Parkway to Inman Drive) – completed in 2018
LT-116:	Caldwell Road (E. Osborne Road to Cheshire Way) – completed in 2018
LT-138:	Drew Valley Road (Birch Circle to E. Drew Valley Road) – completed in 2018
ST-109:	Briarwood Road (15 99 Briarwood to existing) – Design underway in 2019
MT-106:	Curtis Drive (Buford Highway to existing) – completed in September 2019
MT-152:	PC Greenway (Briarwood Rd. to N. Druid Hills Rd.) – completion in October 2019
MT-156:	Cheshire Way (Caldwell Road to Green Meadow) – completed in August 2019
LT-109:	Briarwood Road (Buford Highway to 1599 Briarwood) – design underway in 2019

Council adopted changes to the sidewalk policy for new developments on April 24, 2018. The policy requires any new development to install sidewalks or multiuse paths consistent with the Bicycle, Pedestrian, & Trail Plan. A listing of required sidewalks and multiuse paths can be found on the City website at:

<https://www.brookhavenga.gov/publicworks/page/sidewalk-program>

During 2019, a firm was hired to perform evaluation of all the sidewalks in the City of Brookhaven. The evaluation work was completed in September and the final report will identify the sidewalk sections and ramps that are not ADA compliant.

City Council established funding of \$100,000 per year starting in 2019 for Bike Lane and striping.

Peachtree Creek Greenway Phase I (Briarwood Road to North Druid Hills Road): This segment of the PCG is anticipated to be completed by year end 2019.

Peachtree Creek Greenway Phase II (North Druid Hills Road to Atlanta City Limits): This portion of Peachtree Creek Greenway is a federally funded project and the City is required to follow the GDOT Plan Development Process. The Public Works Department is currently in the process of selecting a qualified engineering firm to begin design development.

Peachtree Creek Greenway Phase III (Chamblee City Limits to Briarwood Road): The City is seeking federal funding for this portion of the Peachtree Creek Greenway. The City officially applied for the grant on October 8, 2019.

The Bicycle, Pedestrian, & Trail Plan can be found on the City website at:

<http://brookhavenga.gov/city-departments/public-works/bicycle-pedestrian-trail-plan>



Nancy Creek Watershed Improvement Plan

Approved: August 23, 2016

GOAL

The Nancy Creek Watershed Improvement Plan was commissioned by City of Brookhaven leaders in 2015 to evaluate watershed conditions in Nancy Creek on a regional scale with a special focus on evaluating the health of Murphey Candler Lake, as it is the focal point of the City-owned Murphey Candler Park.

STUDY RESULTS

- Threatened shoreline
- Few stormwater controls
- Elevated contamination levels
- Built-out watershed

DESIRED OUTCOMES

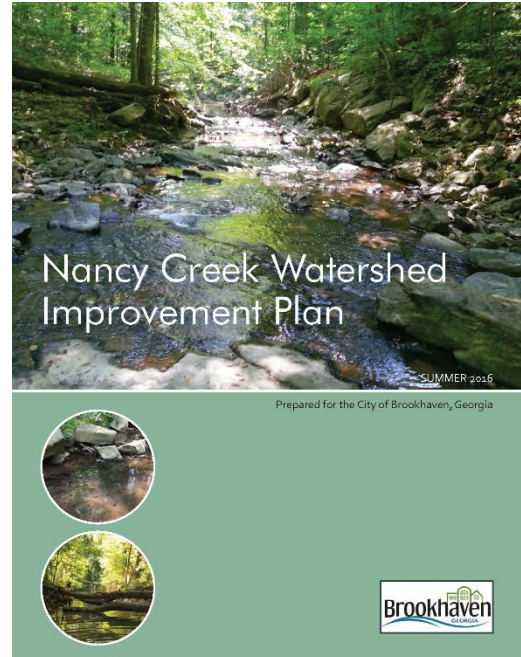
- Restore stream buffers to prevent the loss of soil/ stream buffer
- Improve streams to “sub-optimal” habitat condition or better
- Meet state water quality standards
- Support projects that promote wildlife diversity and aesthetics

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10-year implementation plan
- 16 stream enhancement projects
- 21 best management practice projects
- 6 projects specific to Murphey Candler Lake
- 28 retrofit study areas
- 7 programs (5 existing, 2 new)

2020 ADOPTED FUNDING

Continued implementation of prior year grant-funded streambank stabilization projects north and south of Murphey Candler Lake. Planning efforts will continue for the lake dredging funded by the Park Bond. A trash trap on the northside of Murphey Candler Lake will be designed in conjunction with the dredging project and streambank stabilization project north of the lake. Staff continues to seek grant and partnership opportunities.



PROGRESS TO DATE

NC7-002: Stream restoration of North Fork Nancy Creek from Dam to Nancy Creek

The City of Brookhaven successfully applied and received a 319(h) Grant (2017) from the Georgia Environmental Protection Department (GA EPD) for streambank restoration of the North Fork Nancy Creek from south of the dam to Nancy Creek. As of this publication, all invasive species along the stream has been removed. All construction debris within the stream and materials stored in the stream buffer have also been removed. Staff has reviewed and commented on the 60% restoration design with 100% design expected to be completed by year end. Once all permits are obtained, staff will proceed with the construction bidding process.

NC4-010: Stream restoration of North Fork Nancy Creek from I-285 to Murphey Candler Lake

The City of Brookhaven successfully applied and received a 319(h) Grant (2018) from GA EPD to restore the streambank north of Murphey Candler Lake to I-285. City received the Notice to Proceed from GA EPD on August 2019. Public Works staff is preparing the scope of work for the streambank restoration design and expects to issue a request for proposals (RFP) for a qualified engineering design firm by year end 2019.

NC-005: Shoreline restoration

A portion of shoreline on the eastside of the lake near the parking lot was completed in 2016. A continuation shoreline restoration project was funded in 2018; however, GA EPD declined the City permit request. At the advice of GA EPD, the permit application was withdrawn, and scope of work will be modified prior to resubmittal of application incorporating the lake dredging project funded from the Park Bond.

NC4-16: Dredging of Murphey Candler Lake

The City received proposals in March 2019 from two firms to dredge Murphey Candler Lake. Prior to engaging the selected firm, the Public Works Department engaged a geotechnical firm to test the lake sediment to determine the cost for landfill disposal cost of dredged material and is working with the U.S. Corps of Engineers to establish the allowable area for dredging.

NC4-001, NC4-002, NC4-003 & NC4-004: Installation of Trash Rack

A presentation made to the City Council by Storm Water Systems in June 2019. Public Works staff met with the vendor on site and investigated the suitable location for installation of a trash rack. Based on the channel cross-section, flow rate, and access to maintenance it was determined that combining NC4-001, NC4-002, NC4-003 & NC4-004 trash rack recommendations from the watershed study into a single trash rack further downstream was the best approach. The specific location of the trash rack will be determined once the design of the streambank restoration project north of the lake and the scope of the lake dredging project are determined.

The Nancy Creek Watershed Improvement Plan can be found on the City website at:

<http://www.brookhavenga.gov/city-departments/public-works/nancy-creek-watershed-improvement-plan>

Peachtree Creek Greenway

Approved: August 23, 2016

GOAL

The Peachtree Creek Greenway (PCG) is a 2.7 mile multi-use transportation project enhanced by trailheads and linear parks along the north fork of Peachtree Creek consisting of interwoven bicycle and pedestrian trails.



The PCG mission is to provide both residents and visitors with alternative means of transportation that promote enhanced quality of life, responsible land conservation, improved environmental quality, connectivity with the broader regional trail system, and sustainable economic growth.

The PCG will also serve as a community gathering area with easy access to centers of employment, residential and commercial development.

STUDY RESULTS

The Peachtree Creek Greenway Master Plan includes a robust existing conditions analysis that identifies the multiple economic, environmental, and social benefits the project can enable. The primary work product is the proposed Peachtree Greenway Master Plan with designs that address typical trail cross sections by segment, recommended locations for trail heads, and the preferred route. The study concludes with an implementation strategy that groups the project into three phases and identifies several potential funding sources for consideration.

DESIRED OUTCOMES

- Provide local and regional transportation alternatives and connectivity
- Enhance the natural environment
- Foster social, cultural and recreational interaction
- Preserve the international character of the Buford Highway Corridor
- Position Buford Highway for economic development

RECOMMENDATIONS

Construction of the PCG over three phases from the City of Atlanta corporate limits northeast toward the City of Chamblee corporate limits (Clairmont Road).

2020 PROPOSED FUNDING

The Phase I project (North Druid Hills Road to Briarwood Road) will be complete by year end 2019; however, the landscaping and plantings will continue through the cooler months into early

2020. Funding to continue the design for Phase II (North Druid Hills Road to the City of Atlanta corporate limits) is included in the 5-year Capital Improvement Plan. The Parks & Recreation Department operating budget includes \$74,259 to begin the daily maintenance of Phase I beginning in 2020.

PROGRESS TO DATE

Phase I will be completed by the end of 2019. The procurement process is underway for Phase II design and engineering services. Grant funding for Phase III (from Briarwood Road northeast to the City of Chamblee corporate limits) has been requested of the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC). To the extent the ARC provides funding for Phase III, the 2020 budget will be updated accordingly. The PCG branding, logo, and wayfinding sign design were approved by the City Council in March 2019.



Updates on the PCG implementation can be found on the project webpage at:

<https://www.brookhavenga.gov/pcg/page/peachtree-creek-greenway>

The Peachtree Creek Greenway Master Plan can be found on the City website at:

<http://brookhavenga.gov/city-departments/public-works/peachtree-creek-greenway>

Ashford Dunwoody Corridor Study

Adopted on: April 25, 2017

GOAL

The Ashford Dunwoody Corridor Study was commissioned by City of Brookhaven leaders to address traffic congestion and make operational improvements. The City's comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) recommended that a visioning process be undertaken to improve traffic operation and multimodal connectivity for several corridors including Ashford Dunwoody Road.

PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

- Serve the need of all users
- Ensure harmony with existing developments and future growth along the corridor
- Minimize negative impacts to property owners and neighborhoods along the corridor
- Be cost effective and implementable
- Have broad community support from residents, stakeholders and other partners

STUDY RESULTS

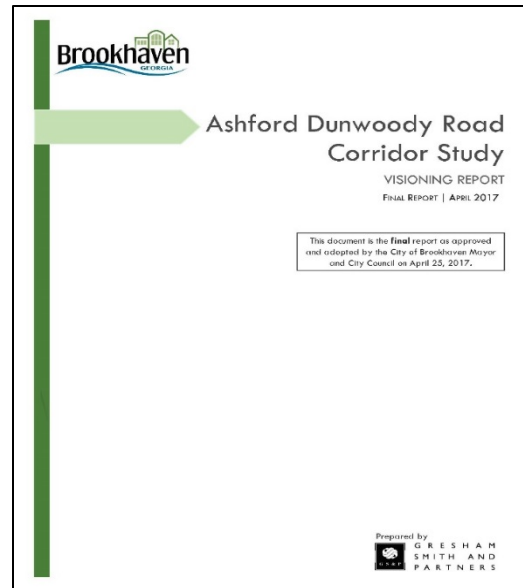
- Unsafe intersections (63% of the crashes)
- Lack of pedestrian facilities
- Traffic congestion during AM & PM Peak hours
- Outdated School Zone improvements

DESIRED OUTCOMES

- Address safety concerns
- Make the area more walkable
- Improve quality of life
- Enhance traffic flow
- Focus operational improvements rather than the capacity

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10 overarching recommendations
 - Design Ashford Dunwoody Road as a 35-mph roadway with 10-foot travel lanes and center turn lane where applicable



- Provide a continuous network of pedestrian and bicycle facilities along the corridor that will improve access to area trails, recreational facilities, schools, public transportation, and other destinations
- Ensure all pedestrian facilities comply with ADA Standards and follow GDOT's Pedestrian and Streetscape Guide as applicable
- Provide sufficient landscaping to create a comfortable and welcoming environment
- Work closely with property owners and stakeholders to discuss, review and solicit input on details of recommended projects
- Work with local police to enforce speed limits along Ashford Dunwoody Road and enforce the truck restrictions
- Work with homeowners' associations to discourage cut-through traffic
- Install cohesive streetscape elements
- Consider, where feasible, the option of relocating overhead utilities to underground
- Seek opportunities to accommodate public transit service

- **3 City-wide recommendations**

- Develop a Complete Streets policy for City of Brookhaven that encourage the design and operation of streets that enable safe access for all users
- Establish design guidelines for the City of Brookhaven as a whole to include a minimum street furniture, landscaping for public rights-of-way, and standards for pedestrian and bicycle facilities.
- Conduct a wayfinding study for the City of Brookhaven and design branded signage to guide residents and visitors throughout the City

- 10 Short-Term (ST) Projects
- 6 Mid-Term (MT) Projects
- 1 Long-Term (LT) Project – Turn lane and pedestrian improvements north of Johnson Ferry Road to Perimeter Summit Parkway/Oak Forest Drive

2020 ADOPTED FUNDING

No additional projects are adopted in the 2020 budget, but project funding is adopted for construction of the following projects:

- MT-01: ADR/Peachtree Road intersection \$1,100,000
- MT-02: ARR/Montgomery Elementary \$860,000

The City will continue to seek grant and partnership opportunities.

PROGRESS TO DATE

- Completed: 7 Short-Term Projects (ST-01, ST-02, ST-03, ST-04, ST-05, ST-06, ST-10)
- Completed: 1 Mid-Term Project (MT-06)
- Design Complete: 2 Short-Term Projects (ST-07, ST-09)

- Design Complete: 1 Mid-Term Project (MT-02)
- Design Underway: 1 Short-Term (ST-08) and 1 Mid-Term Project (MT-01)

The Ashford Dunwoody Corridor Study can be found on the City website at:

<http://www.brookhavenga.gov/city-departments/public-works/ashford-dunwoody-road-corridor-study>



North Fork Peachtree Creek Watershed Improvement Plan

Approved: August 28, 2018

GOAL

The North Fork Peachtree Creek Watershed Improvement Plan was commissioned in 2017 to evaluate watershed conditions. The City of Chamblee, located upstream of the creek, collaborated in the study to facilitate regional solutions.

STUDY RESULTS

- Threatened shoreline
- Few stormwater controls
- Elevated contamination levels
- Built-out watershed

DESIRED OUTCOMES

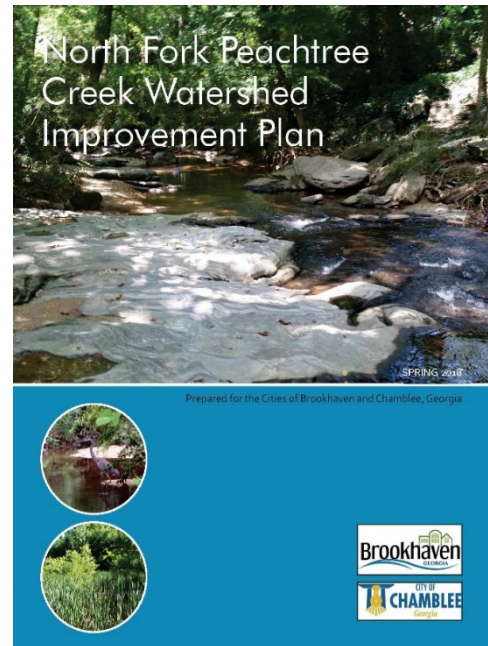
- Meet state water quality standards
- Restore stream buffers to prevent the loss of soil/ stream buffer
- Improve streams to “sub-optimal” habitat condition or better
- Support projects that promote wildlife diversity and aesthetics

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5-year implementation plan
- 25 new Best Management Practice (BMP) projects
- 4 BMP Retrofit projects
- 28 stream restoration projects

2020 ADOPTED FUNDING

The 2020 Adopted Budget does not include specific funding for the North Fork Peachtree Creek Watershed Improvement Plan; however, the City will continue to seek grants and partnership opportunities— especially regarding economic development along the Buford Highway corridor. As Phase II of the Peachtree Creek Greenway project is in design during 2020, every effort will be made to incorporate recommendations and projects from the watershed improvement plan.



PROGRESS TO DATE

In cooperation with the U.S. Geological Service, the City of Brookhaven installed a stream gauge at the Briarwood bridge to monitor flow volume and potential for downstream flooding. Efforts continue to make this live data available to the public and educational institutions.

Volunteer cleanups of the creek occur several times a year. The most recent was the Days of Service volunteer day sponsored by the YMCA that conducted a clean-up for the entire length of the North Fork of Peachtree Creek from the Atlanta city limits to the Gwinnett County line.

Phase I of the Peachtree Creek Greenway project (from North Druid Hills Road to Briarwood Road) also included the removal of invasive species along the creek and removed downed-trees blocking the creek.

In 2019, the City of Brookhaven applied for, and received, a 319(h) grant from GA EPD to restore 2,500 linear feet of streambank from Briarwood Road to North Druid Hills Reserve in between Buford Highway and I-85.

The North Fork Peachtree Creek Watershed Improvement Plan can be found on the City website at:

<http://www.brookhavenga.gov/city-departments/public-works/northforkpeachtree-creek-watershed-improvement-plan>

North Druid Hills Corridor Study

→ Adopted on: April 23, 2019

GOAL

The North Druid Hills Corridor Study was commissioned by City of Brookhaven leaders in late 2018 to address traffic congestion and make operational and safety improvements. The North Druid Hills corridor was designated a priority corridor in the Comprehensive Transportation Plan.

DESIRED OUTCOMES

- Improve Connectivity between the eastern and western part of the City and facilitate north-south travel
- Improve biking and walking conditions of the corridor
- Enhance access to key destinations and expand options for how to reach those locations, including on foot, by bike, and by transit as well as by car
- Improve traffic operations at key intersections along the corridor
- Accommodate changes in traffic patterns from DeKalb County school redistricting



RECOMMENDATIONS

- Eight Short-Term (ST) Projects
 1. ST-01: Convert southbound left-turn from NDH Road to northbound Buford Hwy to a protected only movement. Prohibit right-turns on red from southbound Buford Hwy to northbound NDH Road
 2. ST-02: Signage and pavement parking at NDH Road/Buford Hwy intersection
 3. ST-03: Intersection improvements at Briarwood Road and Oglethorpe Road intersections and road section improvements between these two intersections
 4. ST-04: Intersection improvements at Apple Valley Road and road section improvements Apple Valley Road to Sylvan Circle
 5. ST-05: Safety improvements (Signage) at MARTA Access Road
 6. ST-06: MATRA Bus stop consolidation
 7. ST-07: Design and install Art/Mural at MARTA retaining wall
 8. ST-08: Traffic /signal improvements including installation of fiber optic cable, CCTV at five intersections, cabinet upgrades from Buford Highway to Apple Valley Road
- Five Mid-Term (MT) Projects (ditto)
 1. MT-01: Section improvements from south of Gail Drive to Curtis Drive including mid-block crossings, center left turn lane, sidewalk & multiuse paths
 2. MT-02: Realign Curtis Drive intersection and section improvements from Curtis Drive to Lenox Park Blvd/N. Cliff Valley way
 3. MT-03: Intersection improvements at North Cliff Valley Way/Lenox Park Blvd.

4. MT-04: Road section improvements from 1548 NDH Road to 1390 NDH Road to include two travel lanes, two-way center left lane, Multiuse path, sidewalk and two mid-block crossings
 5. MT-05: Road section improvements from 1333 NDH Road to 1242 NDH Road to include two travel lanes, two-way center left lane, Multiuse path, sidewalk and a mid-block crossing
- Two Long-Term (LT) Projects
 1. LT-01: Road section improvements from 1960 NDH Road to 1118 NDH Road to include four travel lanes, two-way center left lane, Multiuse path, sidewalk and a raised median in the center lane just south of Red Roof inn Driveway
 2. LT-02: Road section improvements from 1118 NDH Road to 1776 NDH Road to include a three-legged multi-lane roundabout with a central landscape island and other improvements.

2020 ADOPTED FUNDING

Due to funding constraints, there is no specific funding recommended in the 2020 Adopted Budget; however, the City will continue to seek grants and partnership opportunities as well as incorporate the requirements of the study in conjunction with private development in the corridor. City is pursuing Georgia Transportation Infrastructure Bank Grant funding for ST-03 in 2020.

PROGRESS TO DATE

City of Brookhaven Arts Advisory Commission is working on establishing public art standards that would apply to the MARTA wall on North Druid Hills Road (ST-07). Additionally, a portion of recommendations are implemented through a private development at the intersection of N. Druid Hills Road and Briarwood Road (ST-03) in 2019

The North Druid Hills Corridor Study can be found on the City website at:

<https://www.brookhavenga.gov/publicworks/page/north-druid-hills-road-corridor-study-0>