

## Connecting Citizens to Parks and Recreation

A healthy community provides access to nature. Residents should be connected with local parks through trails, sidewalks, and additional transportation options. Recreational opportunities should be available to and inclusive for all.

### Measurable Goals:

- Increased trail length
- Increased parks acreage
- Increased City-owned property along Etowah River
- Sidewalk connectivity for all neighborhoods to a Citywide parks and trail network
- Increased recreation offerings
- Increased reservations of field spaces and facilities
- Increased participation in sports programs
- Increased enrollment in local gyms and recreation program providers
- Increased attendance at public events

### Major Partners:

- Residents
- City Officials & Staff
- Northside Hospital-Cherokee
- YMCA
- Boys & Girls Club
- Cherokee Co. Senior Services
- Cherokee Co. Parks & Rec
- Private Service Providers
- Developers
- Media
- Utility Providers
- Cherokee Co. School District
- Private Property Owners
- Canton Main Street
- Homeowner Associations
- Private Event Organizers
- Upper Etowah River Alliance
- Army Corps of Engineers
- GDOT
- Cherokee County

### How We Will Get There

- Purchase of property necessary to provide recreational opportunities for our growing community
- Development of a dog park
- Continuation of the Etowah Trail System along both sides of the river
- Increase opportunities for recreational access to Etowah River
- Increase opportunities for recreational access to Hickory Log Creek Reservoir, including boat uses
- Increase recreational opportunities connecting all neighborhoods
- Creation of a master sidewalk plan to connect all neighborhoods
- Increase multi-use pathways throughout the City
- Develop a free wellness program of classes for City residents
- Creation of community gardens and orchards for resident use
- Develop a biking program including facilities
- Develop outdoor fitness opportunities for residents
- Increase programming for all ages of Canton residents
- Mark all trails and pathways for easy navigation and emergency location
- Encourage recreation opportunities for all communities
- Utilize green development practices in all park projects
- Connect to neighboring trail systems
- Publish maps and create digital maps of various trail/walking paths throughout the City

### Specific Projects Underway

- Marietta Highway ULI-TAP Project
- New Diversity & Inclusion Task Force
- Public Safety Citizens Advisory Board
- New City Website
- Etowah River Trail Eastward from ERP Oval under Interstate 575
- Etowah River Trail Westward connecting Heritage to Boling Park
- Purchase of TAGH, LLC Property at the Etowah Riverbend
- Harmon Park CDBG Upgrades
- Harmon Park Atlanta United Mini-Pitch Project
- National Fitness Center Outdoor Gym

### Materials/Supporting Documents:

- Rivermill LCI
- Canton 2040 Plan
- City of Canton Housing Study
- Hickory Log Creek Reservoir Management Plan
- Atkins Etowah River Trail Masterplan
- Etowah River Greenway Plan