THE CHATTAHOOCHEE RIVERLANDS

DEMONSTRATION SITE: CHATTAHOOCHEE HILLS RIVERLANDS PARK
In an area dominated by agricultural land and private property, the Chattahoochee Hills RiverLands Park represents an opportunity to add a large recreational asset to the region that can serve as a model for other park spaces throughout the RiverLands.

The majority of the site is a low-lying wetland that experiences occasional flooding and is best suited for conservation and protection of habitat. However, given the size of the site and its extensive River frontage, many stakeholders felt that there were also significant opportunities for water access points, camping and event spaces.

The design goals for the Chattahoochee RiverLands Park reflect a desire to create a large public gathering space with a wide variety of outdoor recreation activities. After extensive discussion with a committee of stakeholders, opportunities for camping, play, and community events were identified as priorities for the site. An area that prioritized River access was also considered a necessity.

Based on stakeholder conversations, the programmatic amenities reflected in the design for this site include:

- A Water Hub at the confluence of White Oak Creek and the Chattahoochee River with a boat ramp, outfitter and parking lot dedicated to boat access
- A Beacon (elevated structure providing vistas to the River and supporting visual access and orientation along the riverfront; consider activation that may include rock climbing and bird watching, as well as art installations and education) and overlooks that allow visitors to get up high and view the River from above
- An area for potential commercial development, namely food and beverage vendors
- Primitive campsites that visitors can hike or backpack to, including tent platforms, charcoal grills, and dry toilets.
- An event space and Nature Center that bring people together and highlight the ecology of the region
EXPLORING 53 MILES WITH CHATTANOOCHEE NOW

The southern section of the Chattahoochee RiverLands Greenway Study consists of 53 miles of River, from Peachtree Creek to Chattahoochee Bend State Park, as it winds through a wide variety of urban, suburban, and rural transects. Chattahoochee NOW, a non-profit organization dedicated to coordinating community efforts to reach the riverfront’s greatest potential, while sustaining the River’s health, gave the Project Team a tour of the southern section and an introduction to their 2016 Vision 53 report, presenting opportunities for those 53 miles.

The tour included an introduction to the rural heritage of the southern portion of the site and the goals of Chattahoochee NOW. Board member Steve Nygren pointed out that while the northern portion of the River includes access points on average every 3-to-5 miles, in the southern 53 miles, access is sparse. Chattahoochee NOW sees the potential for a contiguous greenway along the River that would increase access and recreational opportunities along the Chattahoochee. Nygren pointed to Chattahoochee Hills’ use of Transfer Development Rights (TDR) as an important legal tool to preserve large tracts of open space.

Current parks in the area include Moore’s Bridge Park, Chattahoochee Hills Park, McIntosh Reserve, Cochran Mill Park, Dog River Park, Boundary Waters Park, Sweetwater Creek State Park, and Chattahoochee Bend State Park. The RiverLands Greenway presents the opportunity to seamlessly connect all the parks and create a regional destination in the southern-most portion of the study area.

The Chattahoochee Hills RiverLands Park Demonstration Site offers the potential to build both a new relationship between Chattahoochee Hills and the River while acting as the link to the agricultural history to the south and connections to Old Campbellton to the north.
CHATTACHOOCHEE HILLS RIVERLANDS PARK

PROGRAMMATIC ZONING

THIS ILLUSTRATION DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A DESIGN PROPOSAL NOR SHOULD IT SET ANY EXPECTATION FOR IMPLEMENTATION

KAYAK STORAGE

BOAT RAMP

OVERLOOK

OUTFITTER

BEACON

COMMUNITY CENTER

VENDORS

TO BUFDORD DAM

TO CHATTACHOOCHEE BEND STATE PARK
THIS ILLUSTRATION DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A DESIGN PROPOSAL NOR SHOULD IT SET ANY EXPECTATION FOR IMPLEMENTATION.
CHATTahoochee Hills RiverLands Park

Experiencing the Blueway

The RiverLands is more than just a land-based trail; it also includes 100 miles of River, 8 proposed camp sites, and 42 water access points along the way that together form a Blueway trail. Chattahoochee Hills RiverLands Park will be a critical stop along the Blueway, with multiple amenities geared toward water-based recreation. This includes not only typical boat and kayak launches, but also features ADA-specific water access points, ensuring people of all abilities have access to the River.