

Public gets first glimpse at new park's possibilities

BY CINDY LANDRUM – UPDATED MARCH 7, 2013

Source: Greenville Journal

Some Greenville residents have long talked about the possibility of a major new park downtown.

On Thursday, they got their first glimpse of what the park could look like.

Consultants with Seamon Whiteside + Associates unveiled three preliminary concept drawings they had crafted from input gathered at public meetings over the week before.

Based on comments they received about the concept drawings, the consultants will now begin to create a draft plan for the park, incorporating programming costs and engineering and environmental constraints.

The city wants to relocate its public works department now located in the floodplain of the Reedy River and turn that land near the Kroc Center and A.J. Whittenberg Elementary into a public park.

The city has already purchased 33 acres of land on Fairforest Way next to the Duke Energy Operations Center for the public works relocation, although a cost estimate and timetable for the move has not yet been released.

The Swamp Rabbit Trail, the well-used biking and walking trail built on an old railroad bed from Greenville to Travelers Rest, also runs through the potential park.

The park would also connect residents of the city's west side to downtown.

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Further public input will be received before a final plan is drawn up for the potential park. This concept drawing features a dog park and a labyrinth, items that may or may not be included in the final drawing.

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