



Newest Park in Druid Hills Takes Shape With Help From Community Volunteers



Clifton community members gathered last month at the Burbanck site to clear overgrown vegetation. It was the first stage in plans to make the site into a park.

The CCP and Emory are developing a new park in Druid Hills in conjunction with the Druid Hills Civic Association and Park Pride, a local parks advocacy group. The site, which Emory purchased, is at 1164 Clifton Road (the corner of Oxford and Clifton roads) and is one block from Emory Village.

The first phase of develop-

ment for the 1.2 acre site includes the removal of an existing non-historic home, clearing heavy bushes to increase visibility from the street and the addition of a trail. Druid Hills Civic Association is expected to advance efforts for this phase.

Last month, local neighbors and Emory volunteers worked together to clear overgrown vegetation on the property. A

second “ivy-pull” at the site is scheduled for Dec. 16 from 1:30–3:30 p.m.

Tax-deductible donations for this park are being accepted through Park Pride (www.parkpride.org). The park will open in the spring of 2007.

For more information, visit www.cliftoncommunitypartnership.org.

Community of Learning: A Design Process Begins



On November 30, the CCP and Emory kicked-off an urban design process at the Emory Conference Center Hotel. The public meeting included an introduction of Goody Clancy, the nationally-acclaimed urban design firm who will lead the process. Look for opportunities for community participation in early 2007.

Goody Clancy is headquartered in Boston and has a long tradition of providing architectural and planning services for colleges and universities around the country. Currently, Goody Clancy is working with two similar academic/community partnerships at The Ohio State University and the University of Cincinnati. Their work

emphasizes engaging the community and its stakeholder groups in a collaborative work effort.

This project will support the CCP's focus on pedestrian-oriented streetscapes. Among the streetscape design elements to be discussed over the next few months: sidewalk dimensions; street lighting; building finish materials; pedestrian crossing features; landscape elements, including trees and planters; ground-floor transparency for street-level retail; parking placement and design; and street signage standards.

Look for regular updates on www.cliftoncommunitypartnership.org.



S. DeKalb Commuters: Cliff Is on the Way

With two successful park-n-ride lots up and running at North DeKalb and Northlake malls, Emory will soon offer commuters in south DeKalb a chance to *Go together with Cliff!*

Beginning Monday, January 8, Emory's third park-n-ride lot will be fully operational. This shuttle service, from South DeKalb Mall to Emory, will serve commuters living in southeast Atlanta and provide them with an alternative means of getting to work. There are 200 reserved parking spaces in the lot and it will be patrolled by security.

For shuttle schedules and maps visit www.ridecliff.org.

Vanpools Work

Earlier this year, Emory surpassed the goal set by the Clifton Corridor Transportation Management Association (CCTMA), by creating 31 vanpools with 372 participants. The 2006 goal was 25 vanpools. Since Emory's vanpool program was founded in 2003, it continues to exceed expectations by recruiting new members.

"Presently, the CCTMA has 31 vanpools operating in 10 metro Atlanta counties. That's an increase from 18 vanpools one year ago," said Laura Ray, associate vice president for transportation and parking for Emory University.

Emory's vanpool program is designed to target employees who do not use public transportation and who are seeking the added benefits that vanpooling offers.

A vanpool is identified as a group of seven to 15 commuters who live and work in the same area, have similar work hours and share the commute in a leased van. A minimum of three vanpool members must register to drive the van and the operating cost of the vanpool is shared among the vanpool members. The entire group enjoys the savings of sharing expenses and the convenience of sharing a ride.

For commuters with unexpected emergencies, Emory has a Guaranteed Ride Home program. This program is designed to provide commuters participating in alternative transportation programs, with a ride to either park-n-ride lots or directly home. To register in these programs, please call 404.727.1829 or visit www.187ridefind.com.

Survey Says!

What services are needed on Clifton Road for the convenience and enrichment of the entire community?

That was one of 25 questions the Clifton Community Partnership (CCP) asked its stakeholders and Emory staff during an online survey in September. The survey was developed to solicit input from Emory faculty and staff and the Clifton community, to measure interest in a range of options proposed for the planned retail-residential project on Clifton Road, across from the CDC.

After survey responses were calculated, the results were shared with Emory's proposed partner in the development; the results will be used to help shape the proposed retail mix. Preliminary work on this site is expected to begin late next summer.

The key objective of the survey was to determine what retail, entertainment and service options should be included in the site. An overwhelming majority of survey participants recommended including a café, a specialty market and a specialty restaurant.

Comments from the survey revealed what was widely known for those currently working on or near Clifton. "Too little time," "too much traffic" or "nothing is within walking

distance" were comments that repeatedly resonated through responses when participants were asked about leaving their offices during the workday. Many participants indicated an interest in leaving campus or their workplace for lunch if there was a way to get there quickly, without moving their vehicles.

The CCP received over 1,300 responses to the survey and more than 200 additional comments were received via email. The majority of respondents (72 percent) were women and respondents were evenly divided by age and income level.

Complete survey results and a mixed-use report developed for the site, can be found on the CCP website www.cliftoncommunitypartnership.org.

Emory's New Energy Source: Biodiesel

As part of Emory's Sustainability Initiative, the University is exploring new and innovative ways to become a better steward of the environment. Part of this initiative involves decreasing the emission of greenhouses gases that contribute to global warming.

In November, Emory reached a new milestone in its effort to reduce the amount of greenhouse gas-producing fossil fuel that it uses. Emory has switched to B5 biodiesel blend for much of its shuttle fleet, using a mixture of five percent cooking oil to reduce the amount of petroleum-based diesel fuel the buses burn. Emory hopes to increase its biodiesel blend to B20 (20 percent cooking oil and 80 percent petroleum) over the next several months. Twenty-four of Emory's 58 shuttle buses use biodiesel fuel,

with the remainder of the fleet being fueled by compressed natural gas or electricity.

Biodiesel fuel is safer for the environment because it is made from renewable resources and has substantially lower carbon dioxide emissions compared to petroleum diesel. Biodiesel can be used in any concentration with petroleum-based diesel fuel in existing diesel engines with little or no modification.

The biodiesel program was conceived by Emory undergraduate student Eric Fyfe, who approached Emory's transportation office with the concept of running Emory's shuttle fleet on cooking grease. After graduation, Eric was hired by the Southern Alliance for Clean Energy and continues to work with Emory to turn his class project into a reality.

Mark Your Calendars!

The next urban design community input meeting will be held in late January.

Visit www.cliftoncommunitypartnership.org for meeting times and locations.

Who we are...

For more detailed information on any of the articles inside the Community Update, please contact:

Bryan Cooke, executive director for Clifton Community Partnership
bryan.cooke@emory.edu
404.727.9341

Betty Willis, Emory's senior associate vice president for governmental and community affairs
betty.willis@emory.edu
404.727.5312

David Payne, Emory's director of communications for campus planning and outreach
dpayne2@emory.edu
404.727.0996

Get Your News Faster

Don't like waiting for the Community Update to be delivered to your mailbox? Sign up to receive electronic copies of the Community Update by visiting www.cliftoncommunitypartnership.org.

Get Involved!

For information about what's happening in specific neighborhoods within the Clifton community, please visit some of the following websites:

- Candler Park: www.candlerpark.org
- Oakhurst Neighborhood Association: www.oakhurstga.org/ona
- Woodland Hills Neighborhood Association: www.woodlandhillsatlanta.org/index.php

Five Questions

A snapshot of questions for leaders in the Clifton community



David Dixon,
Principal-In-Charge
with Goody Clancy

CCP: Your firm was recently selected to lead the development of urban design standards for streetscapes through Emory along Clifton and North Decatur roads. What can we expect?

David Dixon: In the short term, the community can expect to hear a lot from us. There will be considerable opportunities for community input. Our guidelines should be finished by the end of next summer. Longer term, our work product will serve as the foundation for a richer and more pedestrian-focused community that creates more opportunities for people to walk safely to shops, parks, housing and work. Across America more walkable neighborhoods are offering people opportunities to enjoy the benefits of a community.

CCP: You and your firm were chosen because of your experience in working with universities and their communi-

ties. Why did you choose to work with us?

Dixon: This is the type of project that my colleagues in urban design and planning enjoy working on. Emory is a university blessed with many resources and the decision to expand its working relationship with the surrounding community has the ability to create synergies that can enhance the quality of life for people living in neighborhoods around the University. As the CCP initiative matures, the synergies and collaborative work product generated between Emory and the community will be truly exciting and a great model for other universities and adjacent communities to look to for inspiration.

CCP: You reference 'community' often. How do you define 'community?'

Dixon: A place where people share various dimensions of their lives — friendships, shopping, work. It can include neighborhoods, but is larger in the sense that it serves a number of

human needs beyond housing. I think that fostering a sense of community at a neighborhood level is growing increasingly important as people live farther and farther from their immediate family members and neighborhoods grow more diverse.

CCP: Do you have a vision for this project?

Dixon: No, from the conversations we have had — including with community members at our interview — I expect that this community will articulate a terrific vision for this project. My job is to facilitate a process that allows a community to understand how and why their surroundings can be improved.

CCP: If you had not ended up as an architect and urban design planner, what other career path might you have taken?

Dixon: As much as I love my career, I could see myself as a historian.



EMORY
UNIVERSITY

1762 Clifton Rd., Plaza 1000
Atlanta, GA 30322



CLIFTON COMMUNITY
partnership
Update



Happy Holidays from the CCP

The CCP would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season!

Emory University Communications
Campus Planning and Outreach
404.727.9477, kvgray@emory.edu

The *Community Update* is a monthly newsletter published by Emory University's Office of Communications, Campus Planning and Outreach, to share information and ideas among stakeholders working to improve the quality of life in the Clifton community. Feedback and story ideas are welcomed!

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