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# COMMUNITY WORKSHOP #2

## Presentation Overview

T.B. McPherson Recreation Complex  
Building Renovation & Master Plan

Date of Workshop: April 9, 2026


# Workshop Presentation


## Project Management




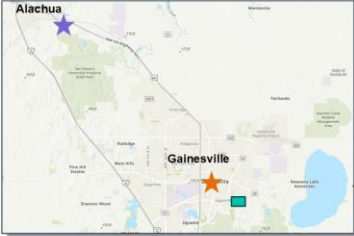
- Community Workshop #2 is the second of three community workshops open to the public during the project.
- The Project Manager for Wild Spaces Public Places (WSPP) with the City of Gainesville is Rachel Mandell.  
Rachel's contact information is:
  - 352-393-8544
  - MandellRC@GainesvilleFL.gov
- The Consultant Design Team working with the City consists of two local companies:
  - NV5 = Planning & Site Design (Alachua, FL)
  - Monarch Design Group = Architect (Gainesville, FL)

**Project Team**

 = Project Management ■

 = Planning + Site Design ☆

 = Architect ★



**WSPP Project Manager:**  
Rachel Mandell – 352-393-8544 – [mandellrc@gainesvillefl.gov](mailto:mandellrc@gainesvillefl.gov)

**Project Website:** <https://tinyurl.com/tbmcpherson>

City of Gainesville | T.B. McPherson Recreation Complex: Building Renovation and Site Master Plan

# Workshop Presentation

## Project Site & Project Deliverables



### Project Deliverables

- 1. Conceptual Floor Plan for Building Renovation**
  - \$3 Million Budget for Renovation
  - Engineering and Construction Phases Next
- 2. Conceptual Site Plan for the Park Complex**
  - Future Planning (10-Year Vision)
  - Implemented in Phases

Original Floor Plan

Original Site Plan

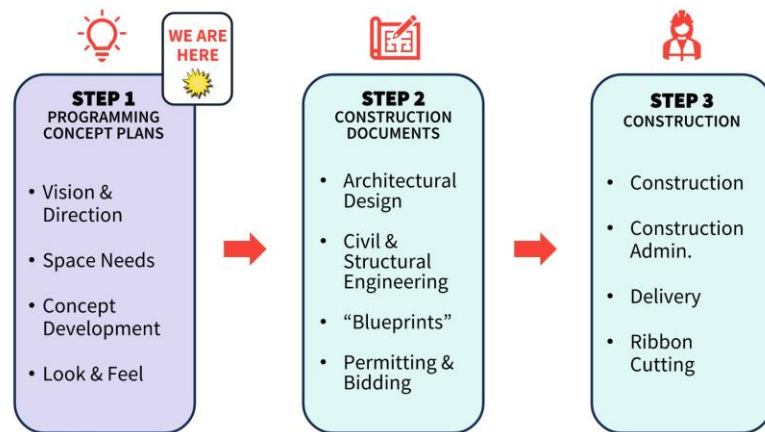
- The project site is the existing 15-acre community park, the T.B. McPherson Recreation Complex.
- Project “Deliverables” are the work products completed at the end of the project phase. The “deliverables” are:
  - (1) Conceptual Floor Plan for Center Building Renovation
  - (2) Conceptual Site Plan for the Park Complex
- Each of these “Conceptual Plans” will be implemented differently:
  - (1) Building:** \$3 Million Dollars is allocated for the Building Renovation from Wild Spaces & Public Places (WSPP).
    - This means money is set aside for the project and the renovation will happen in the next few years.
  - (2) Park Complex:** The Master Site Plan is a 10-Year Vision that will be implemented in future phases.
    - Funding will happen in the future and improvements will happen in groups or one at a time. City Staff will provide updates as each element gets funded and scheduled for implementation.

# Workshop Presentation

## Typical Project Timeline

In a Typical Design/Construction Project Timeline:

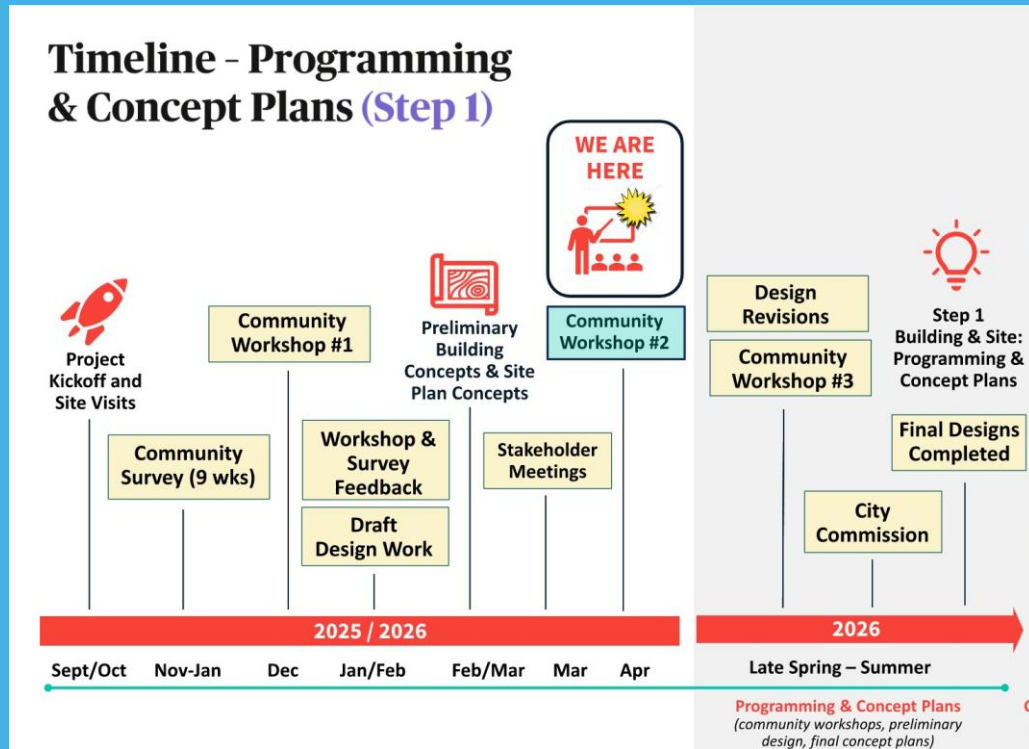
### Typical Project Timeline



- **Step 1 is the “Programming & Concept Plans” phase.** **This is what we are working on right now!** In this phase, design consultants ask for community feedback to guide designs for what people want and need. They create “concept plans” that show the important elements and the vision for the design.
- **Step 2 is the “Construction Documents” phase.** Architects and Engineers create hundreds of pages of detailed drawings (“blueprints”). They apply for Site Development Permits with the City of Gainesville. This phase can take 9 to 12 months.
- **Step 3 is the “Construction” phase.** This is when things are temporarily closed for demolition and construction. You see contractors and equipment and areas of the site fenced off. Depending on the complexity of the project, construction can take 6 months to 12 months or even more. At the end, a “Ribbon Cutting” ceremony happens, and public facilities are open again.

# Workshop Presentation

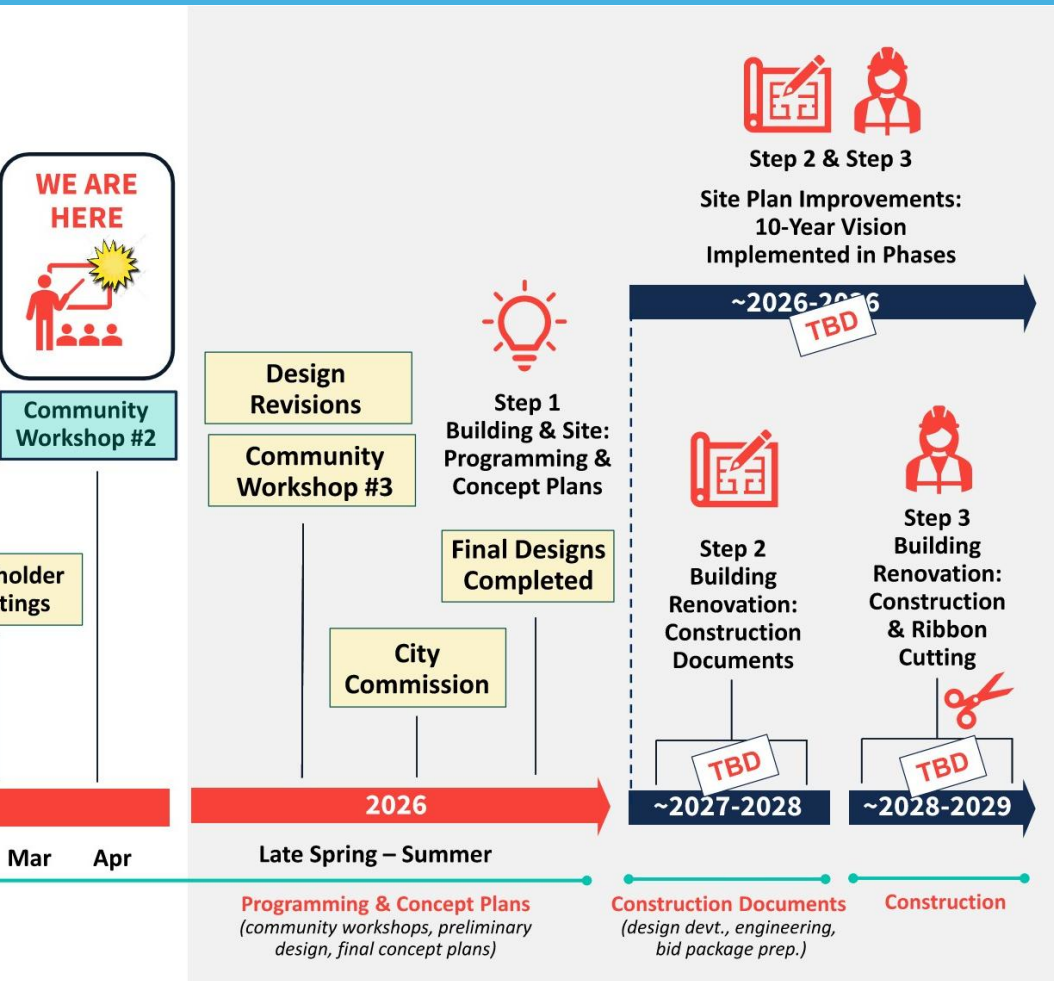
## Step 1: Programming & Concept Plans



- Our team is working on Step 1, “Programming & Concept Plans” for the T.B. McPherson project.
- Since “Step 1” began in Sept. 2025, the following tasks have been completed:
  - Project Kickoff/Site Visit
  - Community Survey (9 weeks)
  - Community Workshop #1 (Dec 11, 2025)
  - Workshop Feedback Summary & Community Survey Summary
  - Preliminary Building Concepts & Site Plan Concepts
  - Stakeholder Meetings/Focus Groups (March/April 2026)
- After Community Workshop #2, these tasks will happen next:
  - Workshop Feedback Summary & Stakeholder Meeting Summary
  - Design Revisions
  - Workshop #3
  - City Commission presentation
  - Final Conceptual Plans Completed

# Workshop Presentation

## Steps 2 & 3: Building Renovation & Site Improvements



- What happens after Step 1 is completed later this year?
- For Steps 2 and 3, the Building Renovation and the Site Plan Improvements each follow a different path to implementation:
- Conceptual Building Renovation Plans:
  - Step 2 begins right after Step 1: Architects and Engineers complete the blueprints and apply for permits
  - Step 3 begins right after Step 2: Renovation/construction begin after permits are complete
  - Dates for these phases will be provided by City Staff as soon as they are scheduled
- Conceptual Site Plans for Park Complex:
  - Steps 2 & 3 happen in future phases over 10 years
  - Funding allocations to be determined
  - City Staff will provide updates as each phase happens

## Building Design Scope



1. Maintain exterior shell of building
2. Maintain overall integrity and identity of the building, while being creative
3. Evaluate interior layout, partitions, finishes, building systems etc. with current and future needs in mind
4. Incorporate user group and community needs and feedback
5. Improve connectivity between the building and site
6. Work within the available budget

## Existing Layout



### Goals

- Multi-use Rooms
- Larger Spaces for Multi-uses  
- 20/30 people
- Co-location
- Lighting
- Maintainable for PRCA
- Patio Space
- Connectivity & Site Lines
- South Side Connection

■ Circulation

# Workshop Presentation

## Building Renovation: Scope & Goals

### ● Scope & Goals:

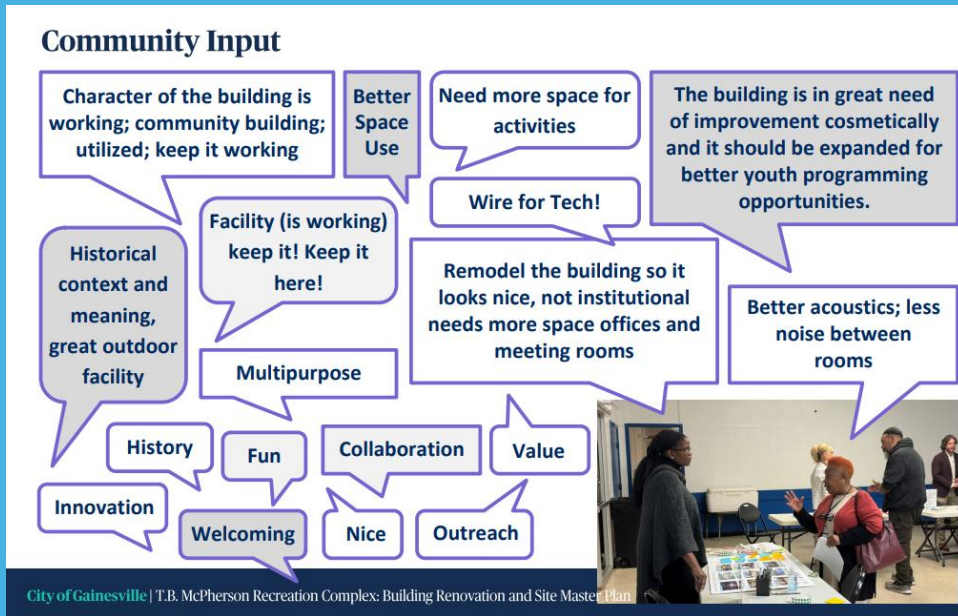
- Maintain exterior shell and building identity
- Improve interior layout based on community input
- Enhance connectivity between building and site
- Stay within available budget

### ● Major Design Considerations:

- Hallways: Memorable, skylights, easy navigation, nostalgia
- Multipurpose Room: Acoustics currently not ideal, enhance indoor/outdoor connection, more storage, support multiple events
- Restrooms: Improve accessibility and efficiency
- Support Spaces: Expand storage and staff areas
- Building Systems: Improve lighting, acoustics, HVAC, and user-friendliness of systems

# Workshop Presentation

## Building Renovation: Community Feedback



Three primary feedback themes arose through community input:

- Keep and Emphasize Role as Event Destination
  - Indoor gathering & social spaces
  - Strengthen community connection
  - Improve visibility from street
  
- Support Diverse & Creative Programs
  - Spaces that support Arts & hands-on activities
  - Support for workforce + tech opportunities
  - Flexible, multi-use spaces
  
- Celebrate History & Improve Amenities and Access
  - Upgrade amenities
  - Desire for longer hours
  - Improve affordability
  - Maintain as a neighborhood resource

### Community Feedback + Input: Themes

- Allow for indoor gatherings and social opportunities
- Support connection and community interaction
- Improve façade recognition and visibility from the street

Keep and Emphasize Role as Event Destination



- Create spaces that support activities in the arts and hands-on activities
- Include opportunities for workforce development and technology use
- Allow for multiple use of spaces

Support Diverse & Creative Programs



- Renovate Bathroom, kitchen and other amenities
- Request for longer hours of operation
- Make more affordable
- Irreplaceable neighborhood resource

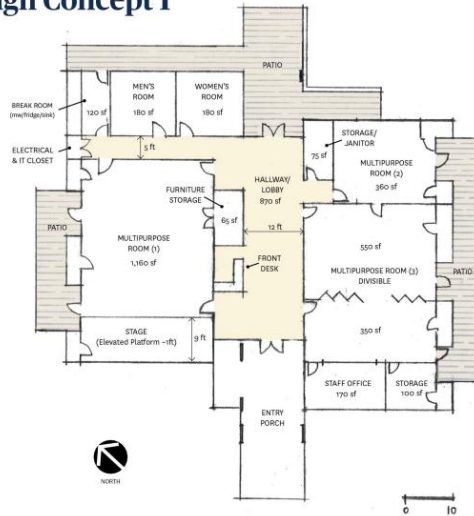
Celebrate History & Improve Amenities and Access



# Workshop Presentation

## Building Renovation: Design Concept Options

### Design Concept 1

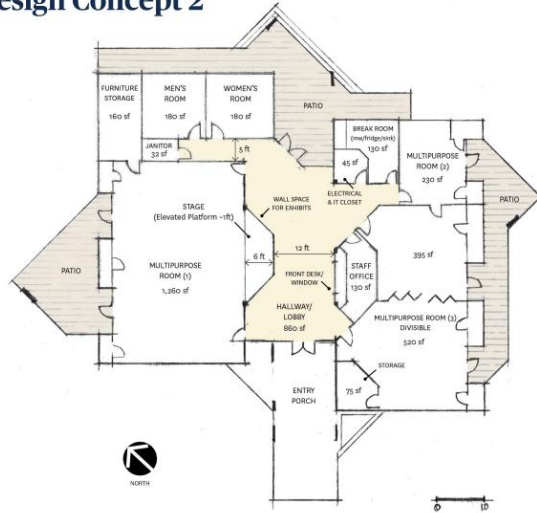


#### Characteristics

- Maintains integrity of existing building
- Legibility and **efficient space use**
- Hallway & lobby **well-lit** and book-ended with glass doors & windows
- Front desk re-located
- **Restrooms re-designed** for easier access
- Multipurpose room (1) **furniture storage** provided
- **Stage** provided in multipurpose room (1) as focal point
- **Co-location** and multi-use rooms
- **Patios** for connections to site

■ Circulation  
■ Outdoor Space

### Design Concept 2



#### Characteristics

- Legibility and **efficient space use**
- **45 deg. angle** introduced to carve spaces & provide interest
- Hallway & lobby **well-lit** and book-ended with glass doors & windows
- Front desk incorporated into staff office
- **Restrooms re-designed** for easier access
- Co-location and multi-use rooms
- **Stage** provided in multipurpose (1) room as a focal point
- Multipurpose room (1) **furniture storage** provided
- Additional **wall surfaces** in hallway for historic exhibits
- **Patios** for connections to site

■ Circulation  
■ Outdoor Space

Two primary design Concepts were explored:

#### ● Concept 1:

- Maintains current sightline of existing building
- Dedicated reception area within hallway
- Additional storage space
- Multipurpose room with large, elevated platform as a stage
- Includes movable partitions to allow for concurrent programs

#### ● Concept 2:

- Playful, adventurous identity
- Hallway includes prominent community exhibition space
- Angled stage in multipurpose room
- Improved sight lines programming
- Staff office and reception combined with engagement from hallway
- Includes movable partitions to allow for concurrent programs

# Workshop Presentation

## Building Renovation: Preferred Design Concept

Concept 2 was identified by Community as the preferred layout.

Additional Key Discussion Points:

### Kitchen:

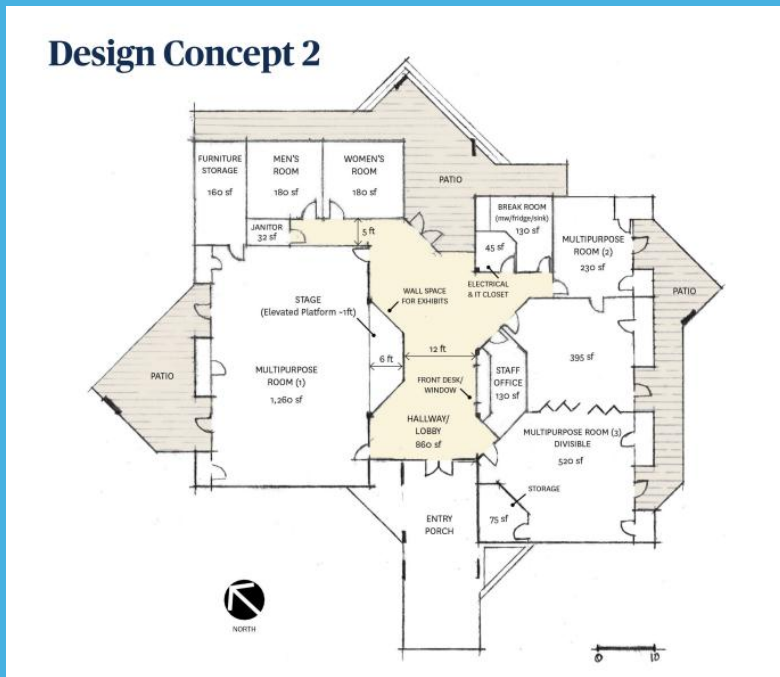
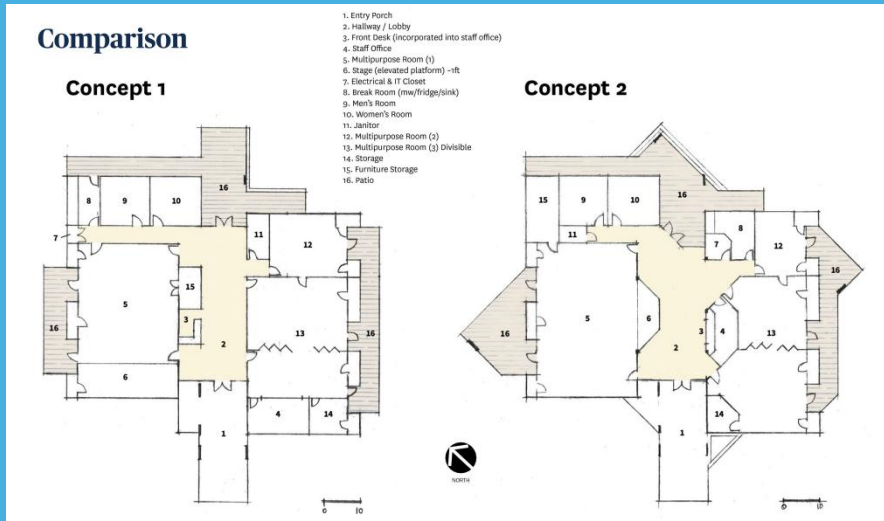
- Strong demand for upgraded kitchen, seen as essential for gathering & hosting.
- Current setup noted as inadequate.
- Possible Improvements to include more counter space & warming equipment

### Stage:

- Preference for a central stage.
- Stage should support multiple uses (performances, events, baby showers, etc.).

### Additional Feedback:

- Desire to make the facility a true destination for youth and families.
- Concerns that without improvements (e.g., shade, amenities), users will choose other facilities



# Workshop Presentation

## Building: Possible Exterior Façade Update

### Façade Design Approaches



Alongside the interior renovation, façade upgrades are under consideration – bringing new awareness and curb appeal to the facility. These could include:



#### 1. Non-Structural Elements

- Metal frame and mesh cladding
- Façade veil; decorative panels
- Fabric; awnings; canopies



#### 2. Paint and Accents

- Painted brick & veneers
- Color accents
- Alternative materials



#### 3. Lighting; Entry & Wayfinding

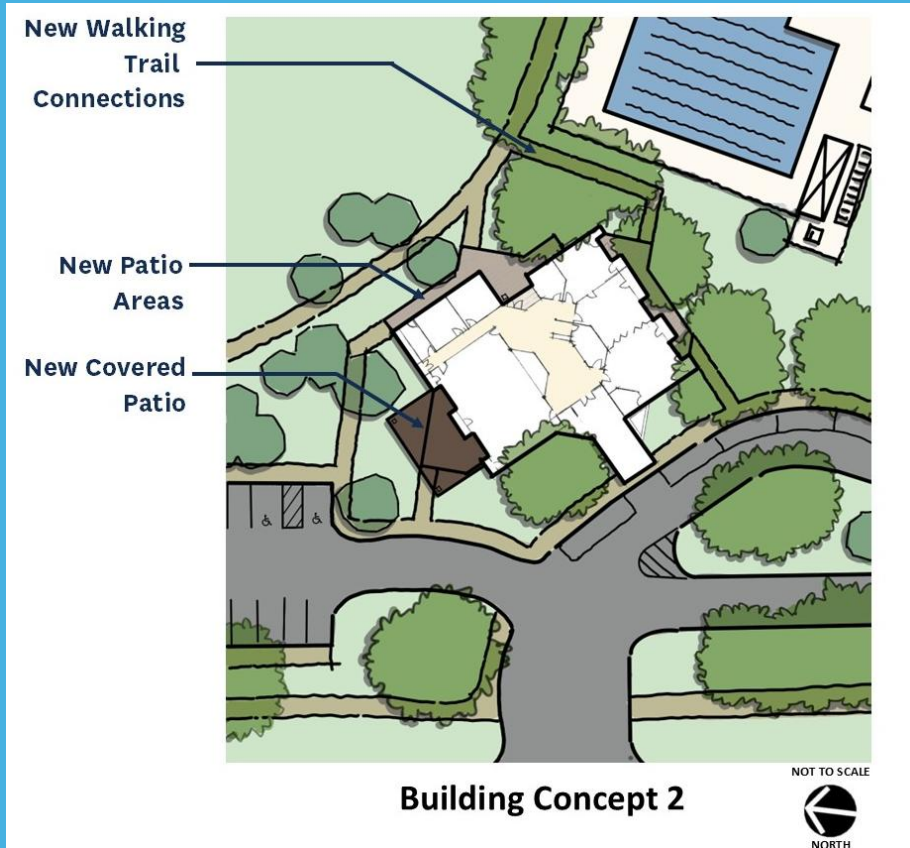
- Gateway and entry ‘wow factor’
- Signage upgrades
- Lighting: accent; wall wash; LED

In addition to the interior renovation, possible exterior façade upgrades are under consideration. These could possibly include:

- Non- Structural Elements:
  - Metal frame and mesh cladding
  - Façade veil, decorative panels
  - Fabric awnings, canopies
- Paint and Accents:
  - Painted brick & veneers
  - Color accents
  - Alternative materials
- Lighting - Entry & Wayfinding:
  - Gateway and entry ‘wow factor’
  - Signage upgrades
  - Lighting: accent, wall wash, LED

# Workshop Presentation

## Building Renovation & Site Plan Improvements



- Building Renovation and the Site Plan Improvements will be implemented at different times. **Why are they being designed together during Step 1?**
  - Survey feedback shows that people who use the building don't always use the park, and people who use the park don't always use the building.
  - The community wants the park and the facility building to become central elements of the neighborhood for years to come.
  - Designing building renovations and park improvements together makes a better overall plan. These elements can work together better to improve the experience and functionality of the recreation complex.
  - This image shows how exterior patio spaces and connected walking trails and sidewalks work to bring the building and the park together.

## Community Input

**This park is very important to the community**

Amenities are outdated and in poor condition

Keep the mature trees!

Make it easier to move around the whole park

Nice pool but hours are limited

Need better signage

Need better exterior lighting

Walking trails are rough, narrow, and uneven

Need more senior and youth programming

Add a multi-use court

Poor field conditions

Tennis court remodel was nice

Improve safety and visibility

Don't know what programs are offered

Need more seating and pavilions

Improve ADA accessibility. Need more ramps.

WHAT'S WORKING: T.B. McPHERSON RECREATION CENTER

WHAT'S NOT WORKING: T.B. McPHERSON RECREATION CENTER

Area	Feedback
Pool	Nice pool but hours are limited
Tennis	Tennis court remodel was nice
Trails	Walking trails are rough, narrow, and uneven
Lighting	Need better exterior lighting
ADA	Improve ADA accessibility. Need more ramps.
Seating	Need more seating and pavilions
Signage	Need better signage
Fields	Poor field conditions
Programs	Need more senior and youth programming
Multi-use	Add a multi-use court
Trails	Walking trails are rough, narrow, and uneven
Lighting	Need better exterior lighting
ADA	Improve ADA accessibility. Need more ramps.
Seating	Need more seating and pavilions
Signage	Need better signage
Fields	Poor field conditions
Programs	Need more senior and youth programming
Multi-use	Add a multi-use court

## PRESENTATION SLIDES FROM 4/9/26 WORKSHOP

## Community Feedback + Input: Themes

- Emphasis on flexible greenspace
- Preserve/enhance shade with existing mature trees and newly planted trees
- Assessment & preventative maintenance of existing trees for storm resilience/safety

**Green Space Preservation**

- Prioritize neighborhood recreation and public access
- Provide flexible multi-use spaces for community meetings, activities, and events

**Community-Centric Design**

- Add and improve existing lighting for evening use
- Enhance ADA accessibility throughout the site and in parking areas
- Improve safety and security using CPTED approach

**Safety + Accessibility**

- Most park amenities in need of improvement
- Upgrades to outdoor amenities, including walking trail, pavilions, basketball court, playground, etc.

**Park Amenity Upgrades**

- Improve community awareness of park and facility programming
- Revitalize park and facility's important role in the community

**Communication + Outreach**

- Allow for programming for all ages, especially seniors and youth
- Support youth/after-school, adult fitness, workforce training, cultural/art programs, sports programming

**Diverse Programs**

- Emphasize historical and cultural significance of TB McPherson in the community
- Interpretive signage, education about history
- Improve façade recognition and visibility from the street

**Location + Identity**

# Workshop Presentation

## Recreation Complex: Feedback and Themes

- NV5 presented the preliminary conceptual site plan/recreation complex designs for the project.
- Feedback from the first Community Workshop (Dec 11, 2025) and from the Community Survey (Nov. 2025 to Jan. 2026) was reviewed.
- The team identified themes that reflect community feedback:
  - Greenspace Preservation
  - Community-Centric Design
  - Safety & Accessibility
  - Park Amenity Upgrades
  - Communication & Outreach
  - Diverse Programming
  - Location & Identity
- Community feedback was used to make design decisions for the conceptual site plans.

# Workshop Presentation

## Recreation Complex: Proposed Improvements

The conceptual site plan for the recreation complex includes these proposed improvements:

1. Assessment & preservation of healthy mature trees
2. Half-mile walking trail with lighting that circulates through the park
3. Paved parking adjacent to playground and greenspace
4. Maintaining open greenspace
5. Improved lighting and signage
6. Improved accessibility & safety considerations
7. ADA improvements, ramps, connected walks
8. New playground equipment
9. Additional pavilions with picnic tables
10. Basketball court improvements
11. Replacement of one diamond field with multi-use field space
12. Drainage/stormwater improvements



MATURE TREES TO REMAIN



EXISTING WALKING PATH  
PROPOSED WALKING TRAIL  
0.5 MILE NEW TRAIL, 8'-10' WIDE,  
AMENITIES SUCH AS LIGHTING,  
BENCHES, PAVILIONS, OUTDOOR GYM  
EQUIPMENT



EXISTING LIME ROCK PARKING



PROPOSED PAVED PARKING



MAINTAIN OPEN GREENSPACE



IMPROVED LIGHTING



IMPROVED WAYFINDING



IMPROVED ACCESSIBILITY



ADA IMPROVEMENTS



EXISTING PLAYGROUND  
EQUIPMENT

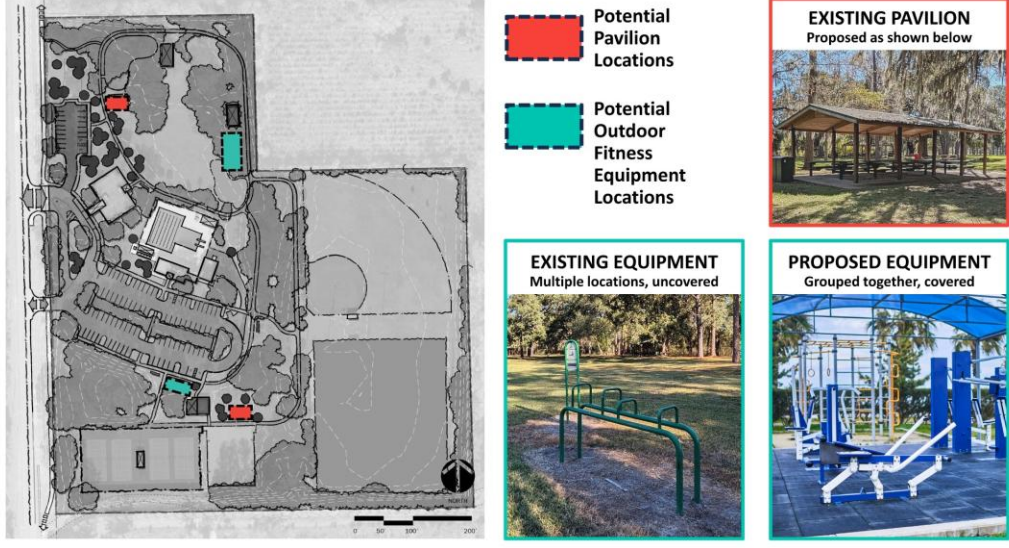


NEW PLAYGROUND  
EQUIPMENT (EXAMPLE)

# Workshop Presentation

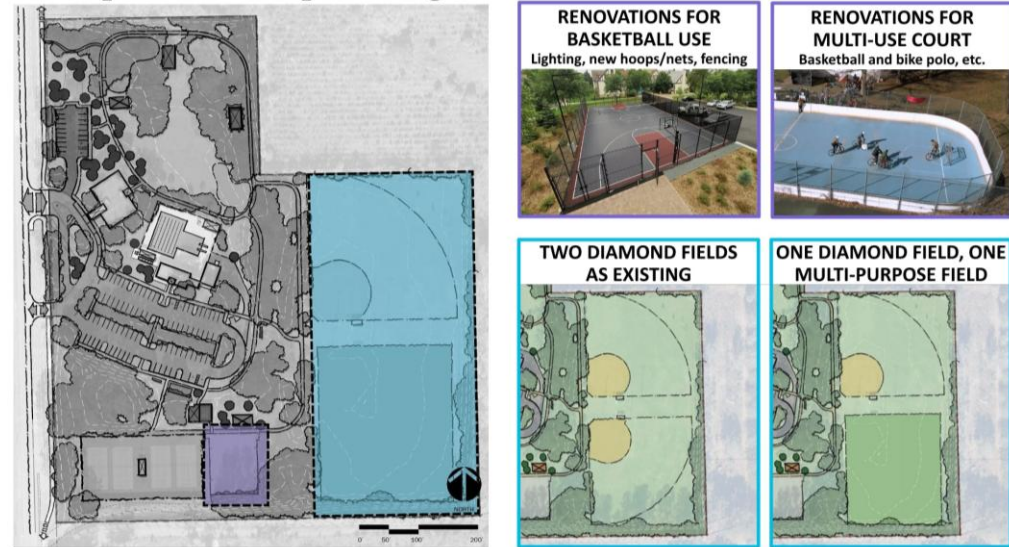
## Recreation Complex: Community Feedback

### Concept Plan: What location works best?



PRESENTATION SLIDES FROM 4/9/26 WORKSHOP

### Concept Plan: Example Changes



- Attendees were asked for their feedback on four different design elements:

- Which location works best for a new pavilion?
  - Near the playground
  - Near the tennis and basketball courts
- Whether the existing exercise/fitness equipment should:
  - Remain in multiple locations uncovered
  - Be grouped together and covered
- Renovations to the basketball court:
  - Basketball use only
  - Multi-use court (basketball use PLUS other court uses, like bike polo, etc.)
- Renovations to the diamond fields:
  - Keep two diamond fields as-is
  - Keep one diamond field & replace the other with an open-use greenspace/field

# Workshop Presentation

## Conclusion

- Presentation Conclusion
  - Q&A Session
  - Breakout Tables with optional written comments
- Refer to the document “Community Workshop #2 Participants Feedback” for a Summary of public input from this workshop.



City of Gainesville | T.B. McPherson Recreation Complex: Building Renovation and Site Master Plan

PRESENTATION SLIDE FROM 4/9/26 WORKSHOP



# STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS PARTICIPANTS' FEEDBACK

T.B. McPherson Recreation Complex  
Building Renovation & Master Plan

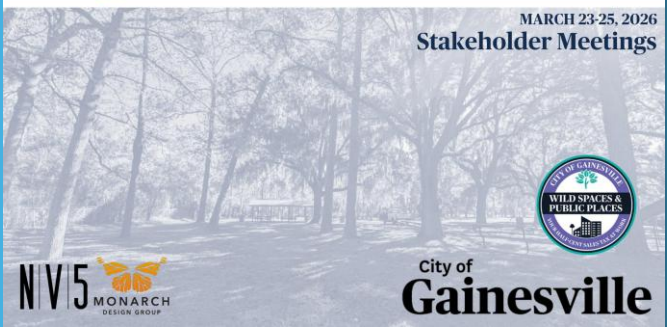
Dates of Meetings: March 23, March 24, March 25, and April 1, 2026

# Stakeholder Meetings

## Identifying Primary Stakeholders

### T.B. McPherson Recreation Complex: Building Renovation & Site Master Plan

MARCH 23-25, 2026  
Stakeholder Meetings



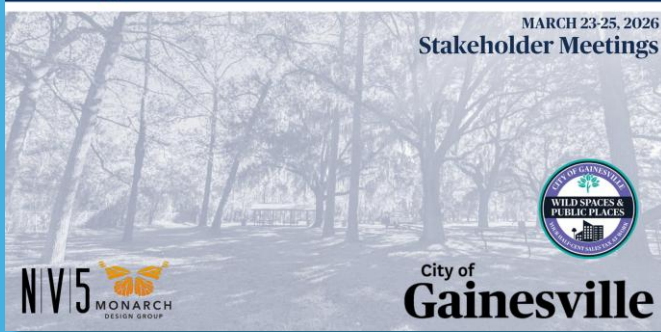
Images from Stakeholder Presentation  
(March/April 2026)

- Initial Stakeholder Groups identified in the Scope of Services were:
  - 1000 Voices
  - Saving Smiles (UF Dentistry)
  - Kickball (Stonewall Sports, Gainesville Kickball)
  - Lincoln Estates Neighborhood
  - Carver Gardens Neighborhood
  - North Lincoln Heights Neighborhood
  - Spring Hill Neighborhood
  - Caring and Sharing School
  
- Based on Community Survey and Workshop #1 feedback, the primary categories of Stakeholder Groups were summarized:
  1. Neighborhood Groups
  2. Faith-Based Groups
  3. Recreation Groups (including Youth Programming/Recreation)
  4. Arts & Culture Groups (including current programming at the Center)
  
- After coordination with City of Gainesville Government Affairs and Community Relations (GACR) department, a spreadsheet of **over 45+ total contacts** for these Stakeholder Group categories was prepared.

# Stakeholder Meetings

## Engagement Plan & Outreach

### T.B. McPherson Recreation Complex: Building Renovation & Site Master Plan

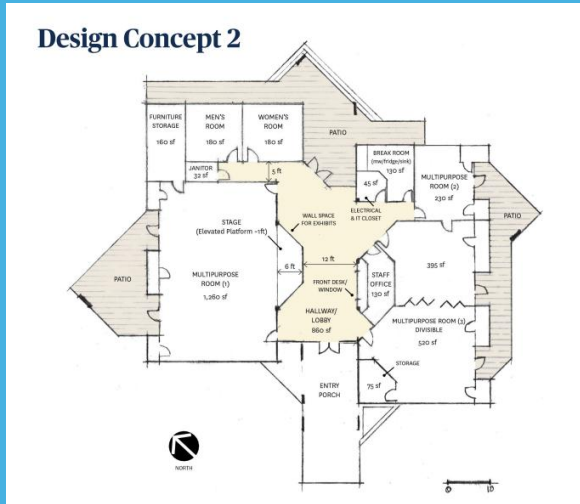


Images from Stakeholder Presentation  
(March/April 2026)

- In order to focus discussions specifically on the needs and concerns of each stakeholder group, the four (4) Stakeholder Meetings were designed to be “invitation-only,” with a maximum of 15 to 20 people.
  - The Neighborhood Leaders group included all of the neighborhood organizations in the area of the park.
  - The Faith-Based group included local churches/religious groups along the SE 15<sup>th</sup> Street corridor and in the surrounding neighborhoods.
  - The Recreation group included current users, such as kickball and tennis groups, team practice groups, and potential youth/mentorship groups.
  - The Arts & Culture group included the organization currently providing extensive programming at the Center, as well as other dance and voice groups that have used the space for practices and performances.
- Most invitations were sent out via email, some others by phone. RSVPs were requested.

# Stakeholder Meetings

## Presentation Format



Images from Stakeholder Presentation  
(March/April 2026)

- Based on public feedback from the 9-week Community Survey (Nov. 2025 to Jan. 2026) and Community Workshop #1 (Dec. 11, 2025), the format for the Stakeholder Meetings was a Presentation with Q&A.
- The presentation prepared for the Stakeholder Meetings was the same presentation shared at Community Workshop #2 (April 9, 2026).
- Refer to the “Presentation Overview” document on the project website to review the information presented at the Stakeholder Meetings and at Community Workshop #2.
- Refer to the “Community Workshop #2 Participant Feedback” document on the project website for a summary of public input from the workshop.

# Stakeholder Meetings

## Neighborhood Group



PHOTOS OF MEETING (March 23, 2026)

**Location/Time/Date:** T.B. McPherson Center, 6pm to 7:30pm, March 23, 2026

Invited	RSVPs	Attendance	Index Cards
10	7	6	2

### Preference for Concept 2

- Stage/Platform location
- Display space in lobby
- Patios to increase useable space and connect better to park
- Better restrooms/storage/acoustics

### Supportive of:

- Improved accessibility, walking trails, additional pavilions, grouped outdoor fitness equipment, prioritization of court renovation for basketball, and one diamond field plus one multi-purpose field

### Concerns:

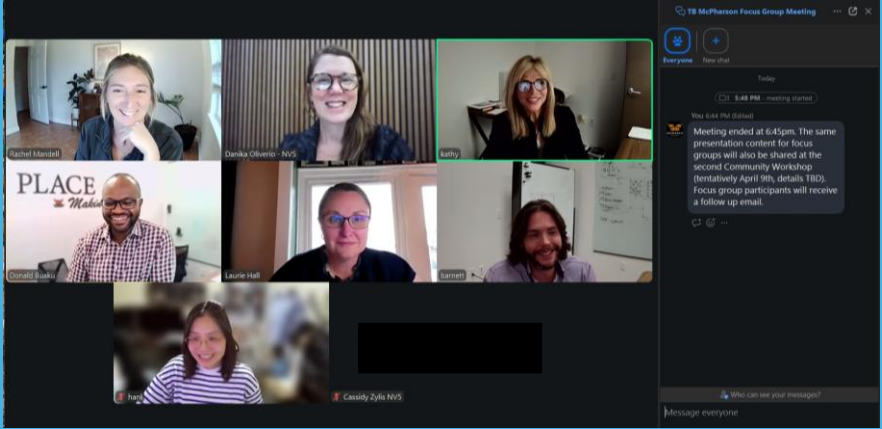
- Exterior façade needs to reflect interior renovations, needs to look like a transformation, a beacon, a community landmark
- Lighting is critical to improve safety (along walking path, under trees, in front of the building)
- Need to coordinate better with County, School Board, HUD, etc.
- Provide project visualization aids for future public meetings

# Stakeholder Meetings

## Faith-Based Group

Location/Time/Date: Zoom Call, 6pm to 7:30pm, March 24, 2026

Invited	RSVPs	Attendance	Chat Feature
15	5	0	N/A



- NOTE: None of the invitees, including 5 people who sent an RSVP, attended the scheduled Zoom meeting.
- The meeting link remained open for over an hour, in case participants were delayed. A message was displayed in the chat after City Staff and Design Consultants left the meeting.
- A follow up email reminder about Community Workshop #2 (scheduled for April 9, 2026), was sent out to each group.
- Reminder email stated that the same presentation information provided at the focus group meetings would also be shared at Community Workshop #2.

PHOTO OF ZOOM MEETING (March 24, 2026)

# Stakeholder Meetings

## Recreation Group



**Location/Time/Date:** T.B. McPherson Center, 6pm to 7:30pm, March 25, 2026

Invited	RSVPs	Attendance	Index Cards
15	6	7	1

### Preference for Concept 2

- Preservation of wide daylight lobby/hallway with exhibition/engagement space
- Angled forms and skylights
- Improved HVAC noise

### Supportive of:

- More pavilions, shaded seating areas, preservation of mature trees, walking trails, improved lighting throughout the park, clear signage/easier navigation
- Keeping distributed outdoor fitness stations AND grouped covered equipment
- One diamond field plus one multi-purpose field helps support demand
- Basketball-focused court renovation

### Concerns:

- Building layout too similar to existing footprint – needs to be more bold
- Need collapsible partition walls, more storage, more staff support space
- Kitchenette is not enough – larger more useable food prep area needed
- Conflicts between users/safety issues with a “multi-purpose” court renovation
- Field usage and layout is important (lighting, bleachers) – show dimensions
- Turf management is a long-term concern

PHOTOS OF MEETING (March 25, 2026)

# Stakeholder Meetings

## Arts & Culture Group

**Location/Time/Date:** T.B. McPherson Center, 12-1pm, April 1, 2026

Invited	RSVPs	Attendance	Index Cards
6	2	6	0



PHOTO OF ARTS & CULTURE STAKEHOLDER DISCUSSION (March 25, 2026)

### Preference for Concept 2

- Stage/Platform desired, options to extend/expand the platform needed too
- Patios are valuable additional rental and program space; will need visual interest

### Supportive of:

- Benches along paths and near courts for rest opportunities
- Multi-purpose court renovation

### Concerns/Comments:

- Community needs transparent info on project details, timeline, budget, progress
- Space should support everyday use (tutoring, classes, etc.) AND performances
- Building needs to look “alive,” inviting, welcoming AND bigger bolder signage for park
- Need commercial food-warming options (large microwave) in the kitchen
- Pavilions need to remain free community assets
- Preference for distributed fitness stations with PT-style movement prompts, kid-friendly obstacle elements and senior-friendly features
- Consider a patio stage for outdoor programming; consider shade sails for color/shade
- Community wants visible signs of change during the process to build excitement and trust, like banner signs on the fence facing SE 15<sup>th</sup> Street

N|V|5



# COMMUNITY WORKSHOP #2 PARTICIPANTS' FEEDBACK

T.B. McPherson Recreation Complex  
Building Renovation & Master Plan

Date of Workshop: April 9, 2026



## T.B. McPherson Recreation Complex: Building Renovation and Master Plan

**Attend the Community Workshop!**

**When?** Thursday, April 9  
6-7:30 p.m.

**Where?** T.B. McPherson Center  
1717 SE 15th St.

The City of Gainesville is planning improvements at the **T.B. McPherson Recreation Complex** at **1717 SE 15th St.**, and want to hear your input. Please join us **for the second community workshop.**

The purpose of this workshop is to **receive community input** on draft conceptual plans to the T.B. McPherson Center and park improvements.

Workshop Format:

Participants will have the opportunity to hear a presentation on the proposed renovations and site improvements, as well as provide feedback and share their perspectives on the proposed changes.

Want to learn more? Scan the QR code to the right to visit the project webpage, visit <https://tinyurl.com/tbmcpherson> or reach out to Rachel Mandell at 352-393-8544 or, [Mandellrc@gainesvillefl.gov](mailto:Mandellrc@gainesvillefl.gov)



### Project Timeline



City of **Gainesville**  
Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs

## Community Workshop #2 Outreach

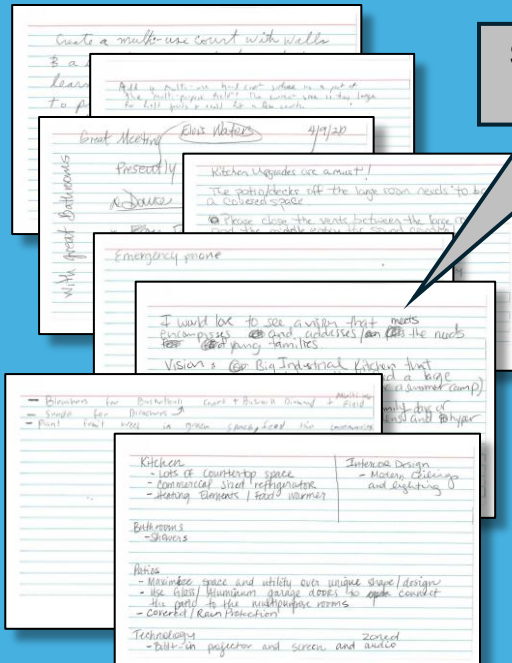
- Community Workshop #2 was held on April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026, to gather public input on the draft conceptual plans for the building renovation and park improvements.
- This was the second of three community workshops required by the Project Scope of Services.
- 580+ postcards were mailed via USPS, 5,900+ emails were sent out through Constant Contract.
- Flyers were provided as handouts and posted to inform the public about the upcoming workshop.
- Four (4) Stakeholder meetings were held prior to Community Workshop #2. (Refer to the “Stakeholder Meetings Summary” document on the project website for a summary of input.)

**Community Workshop #2  
Agenda**  
T.B. McPherson Recreation Complex

**6:00 - 6:15**  
**Arrival + Sign-In**

**6:15 - 7:00**  
**Presentation + Q&A**

**7:00 - 7:30**  
**Breakout Tables**



See Pages 14-15 for  
Index Cards

# Community Workshop #2

## Format & Participation

- **Location/Time/Date:** T.B. McPherson Center, 6pm to 7:30pm, Thursday, April 9, 2026
- **Attendance:** 37 names on sign-in sheet (many representing groups). Approximately 60+ total attendees.
- **Format:** Based on public feedback from Community Workshop #1 (Dec. 11, 2025), the format for Workshop #2 was a **Presentation with Q&A.**
  - To solicit input from attendees who did not prefer to comment in a large group setting, **Breakout Tables** were open at the end of the meeting and **Index Cards** were offered for optional written comments.
  - Attendees were able to talk with City Staff and Project Team members until 8pm. By the end of the meeting, **nine (9) Index Cards** with written feedback were submitted.



PHOTO OF WORKSHOP #2 (April 9, 2026)

# Workshop Presentation

## Building Renovation: Preferred Design Concept

Concept 2 was identified by Community as the preferred layout.

Additional Key Discussion Points:

### Kitchen:

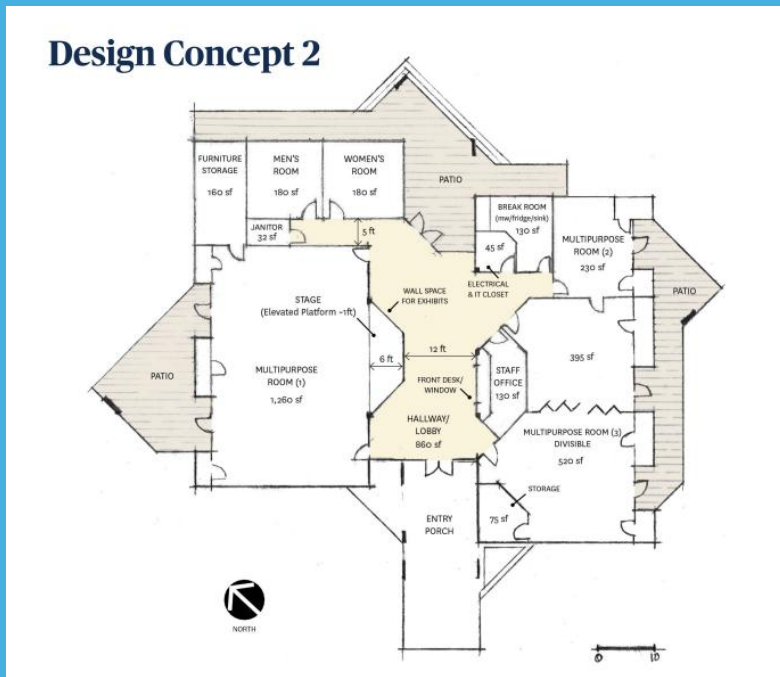
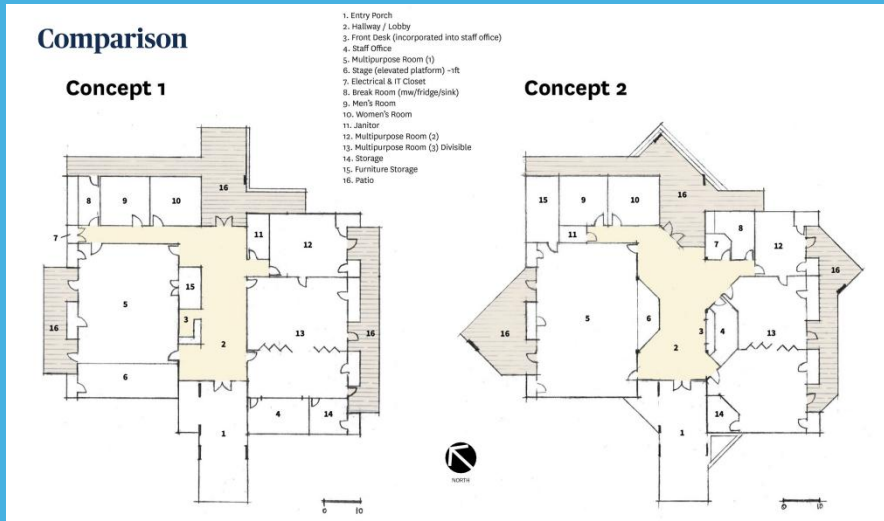
- Strong demand for upgraded kitchen, seen as essential for gathering & hosting.
- Current setup noted as inadequate.
- Possible Improvements to include more counter space & warming equipment

### Stage:

- Preference for a central stage.
- Stage should support multiple uses (performances, events, baby showers, etc.).

### Additional Feedback:

- Desire to make the facility a true destination for youth and families.
- Concerns that without improvements (e.g., shade, amenities), users will choose other facilities



# Workshop Presentation

## Building: Possible Exterior Façade Update

### Façade Design Approaches



Alongside the interior renovation, façade upgrades are under consideration – bringing new awareness and curb appeal to the facility. These could include:



#### 1. Non-Structural Elements

- Metal frame and mesh cladding
- Façade veil; decorative panels
- Fabric; awnings; canopies



#### 2. Paint and Accents

- Painted brick & veneers
- Color accents
- Alternative materials



#### 3. Lighting; Entry & Wayfinding

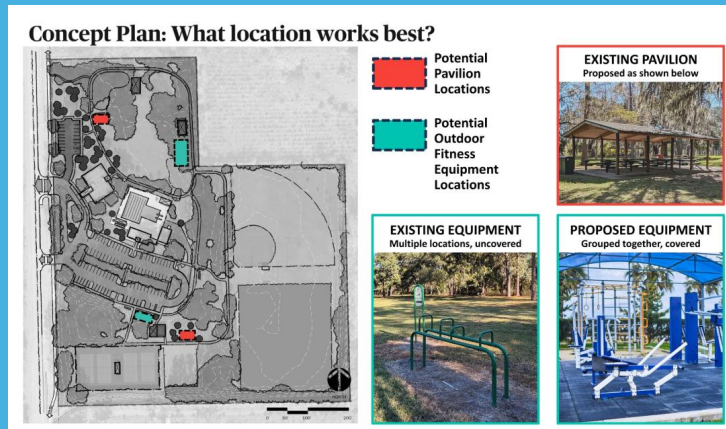
- Gateway and entry ‘wow factor’
- Signage upgrades
- Lighting: accent; wall wash; LED

In addition to the interior renovation, possible exterior façade upgrades are under consideration. These could possibly include:

- Non- Structural Elements:
  - Metal frame and mesh cladding
  - Façade veil, decorative panels
  - Fabric awnings, canopies
- Paint and Accents:
  - Painted brick & veneers
  - Color accents
  - Alternative materials
- Lighting - Entry & Wayfinding:
  - Gateway and entry ‘wow factor’
  - Signage upgrades
  - Lighting: accent, wall wash, LED

# Workshop Presentation

## Recreation Complex: Feedback on Pavilion Location



FEEDBACK FOR PAVILION NEAR PLAYGROUND



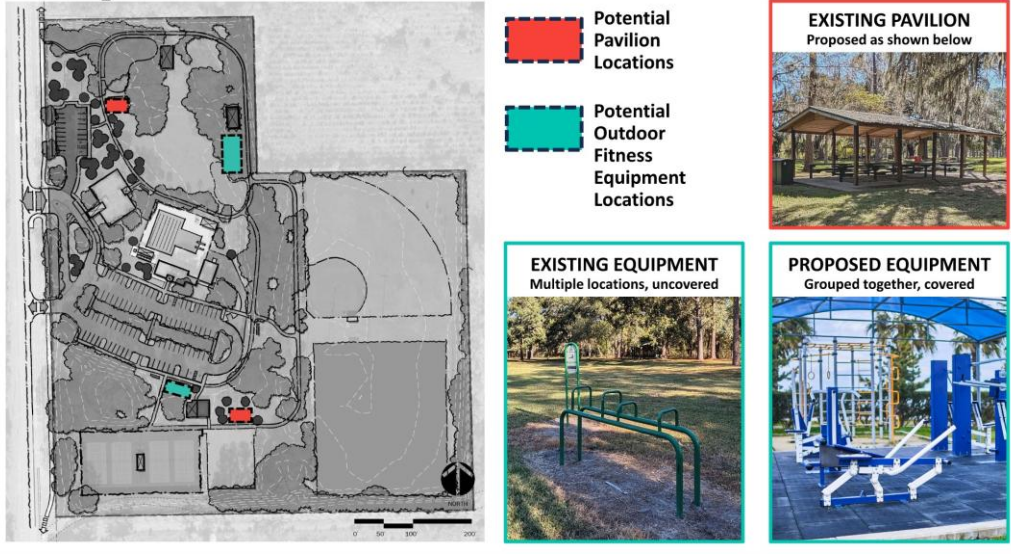
FEEDBACK FOR PAVILION NEAR BASKETBALL COURT

- Attendees were asked about **what location would work best for the proposed pavilion**. They were asked to choose, by show of hands, whether a new pavilion should go near the **existing playground** or near the **existing basketball court**.
  - When asked about a pavilion near the playground, 2 people raised their hands.
  - When asked about a pavilion near the basketball court, 7 people raised their hands.
  - One participant suggested that pavilions in both locations would be the most useful, and several other people nodded their heads.
  - This echoes previous public input that additional seating and gathering areas are desired.

# Workshop Presentation

## Recreation Complex: Feedback on Pavilion Location

### Concept Plan: What location works best?



(ABOVE) PRESENTATION SLIDE FROM 4/9/26 WORKSHOP

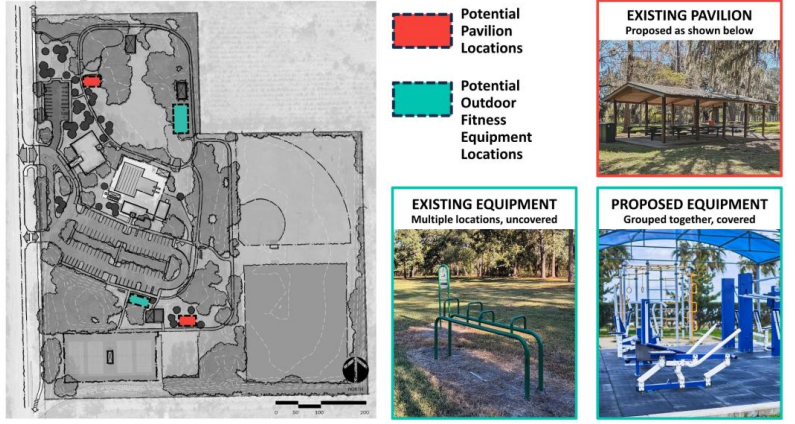
Want a pavillion near tennis + basketball courts

prefer pavillion near building

(ABOVE) EXCERPTS OF INDEX CARD COMMENTS  
FROM 4/9/26 WORKSHOP

- Comments from the Index Cards provided additional information on **pavilion location**:
  - One person wrote that they “want a pavilion near tennis and basketball courts”.
  - One person wrote that they “prefer the pavilion near building.”
  - Both pavilion locations are desired and can serve different user groups in the community.

### Concept Plan: What location works best?



# Workshop Presentation

## Recreation Complex: Feedback on Outdoor Fitness Equipment

- Attendees were asked **whether the existing outdoor fitness equipment should remain in multiple locations, uncovered, or if it should be grouped together and covered.** They were once again asked to choose by show of hands.
  - When asked if the fitness equipment should be in multiple locations, uncovered, 7 people raised their hands.
  - When asked if the fitness equipment should be grouped together, covered, 4 people raised their hands.
  - One participant suggested that both options would be useful. There could be one covered fitness area and also a series of individual pieces of equipment along the new walking trail route.



FEEDBACK FOR EQUIPMENT IN MULTIPLE LOCATIONS, UNCOVERED

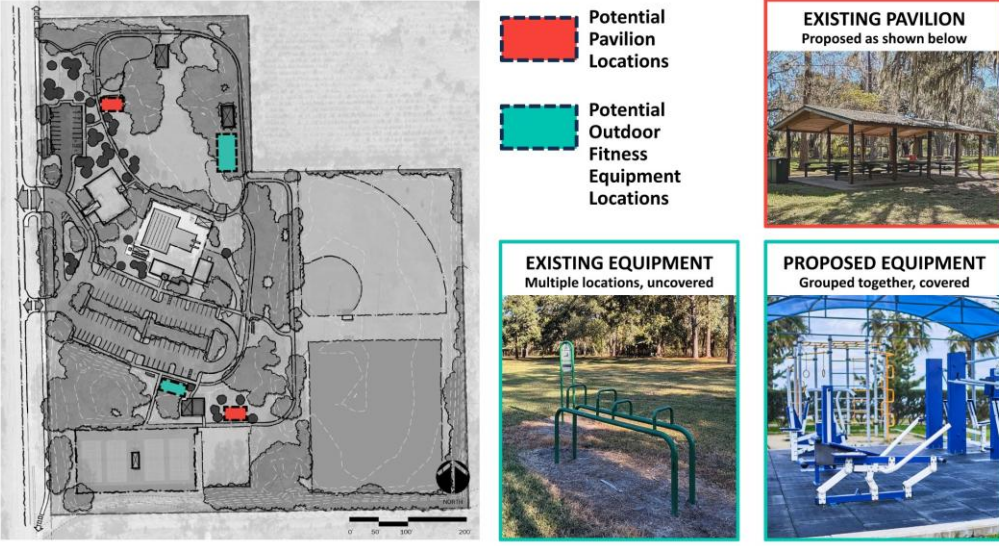


FEEDBACK FOR EQUIPMENT GROUPED TOGETHER, COVERED

# Workshop Presentation

## Recreation Complex: Feedback on Outdoor Fitness Equipment

### Concept Plan: What location works best?



(ABOVE) PRESENTATION SLIDE FROM 4/9/26 WORKSHOP

together.  
Kids / parents could ~~have~~ attend group fitness  
in the field. Make it a community gathering  
in health and fitness.

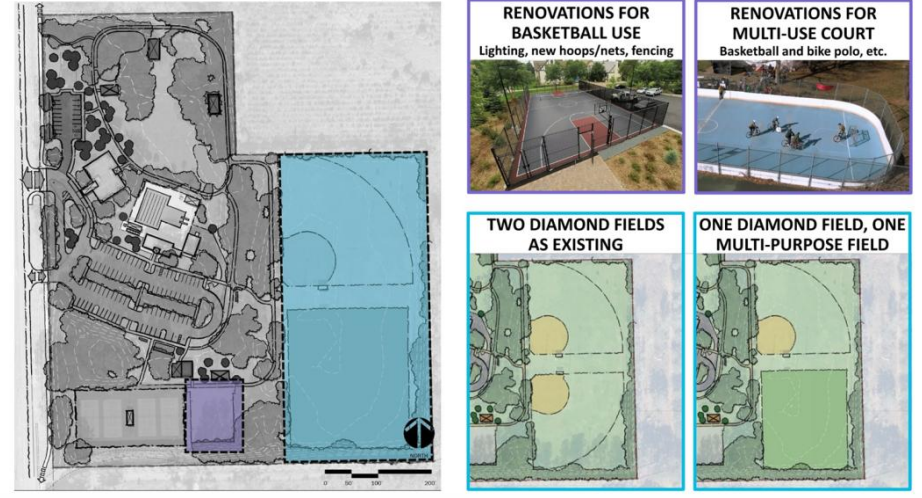
(ABOVE) EXCERPT OF INDEX CARD COMMENTS  
FROM 4/9/26 WORKSHOP

- Additional comments on Fitness Equipment:
  - One person commented during the Q&A that having fitness equipment near the playground would mean “being close to the kids.”
  - One person wrote on an Index Card that they want the park design to “make it a community gathering in health and fitness.”
  - One person commented that fitness equipment near the BBQ area in the open greenspace was preferred.

# Workshop Presentation

## Recreation Complex: Feedback on Basketball Court Renovation

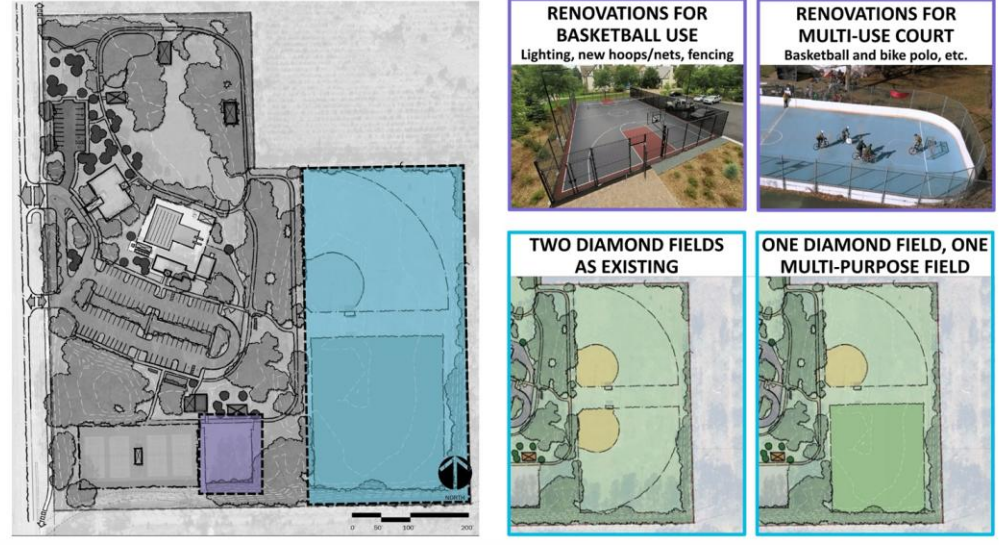
### Concept Plan: Example Changes



FEEDBACK FOR COURT RENOVATIONS

- Attendees were asked if they would prefer to see the existing basketball court renovated for:
  - Basketball Use** (lighting, new hoops/nets, fencing)
  - OR
  - Multi-Use Court** (improvements basketball plus other sports, like bike polo, etc.)
- Should basketball court should be renovated primarily for basketball use? 15 people raised their hands.
- Should basketball court should be renovated as a multi-use court? 0 people raised their hands.
- Concern was expressed that if the courts were “multi-use”, that access as “first-come, first-served” would result in limited use for everyone. **Scheduled use** was mentioned but lacked support.

## Concept Plan: Example Changes



(ABOVE) PRESENTATION SLIDE FROM 4/9/26 WORKSHOP

Need covered seating near softball court

- Bleachers for Basketball court + Baseball Diamond + Multi use Field  
- Shade for Bleachers ↗

Add a multi-use hard court surface as a part of the "multi-purpose field"? The current size is too large for field sports + could fit a few courts.

(ABOVE) EXCERPTS OF INDEX CARD COMMENTS FROM 4/9/26 WORKSHOP

# Workshop Presentation

## Recreation Complex: Feedback on Diamond Field Renovations

- Attendees were asked if they would prefer to keep the two existing diamond fields or if they would like one diamond field and one multi-purpose field.
  - One person commented that the community does not play softball anymore and that football would be an appropriate use for the fields. They added that there are no permanent football fields in the area.
  - One person wrote on an index card “need covered seating near softball court”. Another person wrote “Bleachers for basketball court + baseball diamond + multiuse field” and “shade for bleachers”.
  - One person wrote to “add a multi-use hard court surface as a part of the multipurpose field”.

# Workshop Presentation

## Q & A: Additional Comments

- Discussion Items during Q & A:

**Q:** Concern about too many features planned for the space and whether that might affect parking?

**A:** No new amenities are being added to the park. Improvements to existing facilities will meet but not exceed capacity.

**Q:** Parking on SE 15<sup>th</sup> Street during big events is not safe, and the road is in poor condition. How many new paved spaces are proposed in the area near the playground?

**A:** SE 15<sup>th</sup> Street is a County road (not owned by the City). The segment adjacent to the park is scheduled for pavement rehabilitation in 2028. The proposed newly paved area would add approximately 14 spaces.

**Q:** What is the age and condition of the pool? Could the pool be heated?

**A:** The pool is not part of this master planning effort; all City pool facilities will be comparatively assessed in the future. This pool is not currently planned for heated/year-round use due to staffing and cost, but community desire has been noted by Parks & Recreation to be used in future pool evaluations.



# Workshop Presentation

## Q & A: Additional Comments

- Additional comments during Q & A:

- Desire to make the park a true destination for youth and families
- Need for more water fountains throughout the park
- Fields are not heavily used right now
- Concern that without improvements, users will choose other facilities
- Requests for equitable investment compared to other parks (shade structures, seating, other amenities)
- Concerns about discussing park improvements if funding has not been allocated
- Suggestion that park funding can be secured if there is strong collective demand
- Strong desire for adequate/appropriate kitchen facilities to serve large community gatherings, camps, meetings, family reunions
- Community prefers large group Q&A, not breakout sessions



City of Gainesville | T.B. McPherson Recreation Complex: Building Renovation and Site Master Plan

# Index Cards

## Additional Written Feedback

Create a multi-use court with walls & a smooth surface to have kids learn to ride bicycles, to rollerskate, to play on a safe hard court. Other sports, such as bike polo, skateboarding, etc can be played as well, however, the main focus is community play in a safe space.

Add a multi-use hard court surface as a part of the "multi-purpose field"? The current size is too large for field sports & could fit a few courts.

- In addition to the Q&A and breakout table discussions, workshop participants also had the option to write down comments on Index Cards for the design team.
- Index Card comments will be incorporated with other feedback to guide design revisions.

Great Meeting Elois Waters 4/9/20

With great Bathrooms

Presently I worked with #1 groups

\* Dance Ministry - about the plan 2 for the stage

\* Eye Exercise Group - Plan 2

\* Youth Tutoring - Plan 2

\* Sewing Groups - Plan

I would love to see a vision that meets encompasses and addresses the needs of young families.

Vision: Big Industrial Kitchen that would be able to feed a large group (for example for a summer camp)

This facility could have family days or nights. (Say, flyer (carver gardens) and hyper (total households))

Partner with farmers and shop and have food boxes available. Families could prep/cook together.

Kids / parents could attend group fitness in the field. Make it a community gathering in health and fitness.

Tony & Leann  
asrlt@zqob@gmail.com  
BBF.dreams.com

# Index Cards

## Additional Written Feedback

- In addition to the Q&A and breakout table discussions, workshop participants also had the option to write down comments on Index Cards for the design team.
- Index Card comments will be incorporated with other feedback to guide design revisions.

- Bleachers for Basketball Court + Baseball Diamond + Multi use Field  
- Shade for Bleachers  
- Plant fruit trees in green space, feed the community

Kitchen Upgrades are a must!

The patio/decks off the large room needs to be a covered space.

⊗ Please close the vents between the large room and the middle entry for sound control

I like a version of concept #2

Too much wasted space still in entry way

I want paved parking near playground

Need covered seating near softball court

Want a pavillion near tennis + basketball courts

Emergency phone

Kitchen

- Lots of countertop space
- Commercial sized refrigerator
- Heating Elements / Food warmer

Interior Design

- Modern Ceilings and lighting

Bathrooms

- Showers

Patios

- Maximize space and utility over unique shape/design
- use Glass/Aluminum garage doors to open connect the patio to the multipurpose rooms
- Covered / Rain Protection

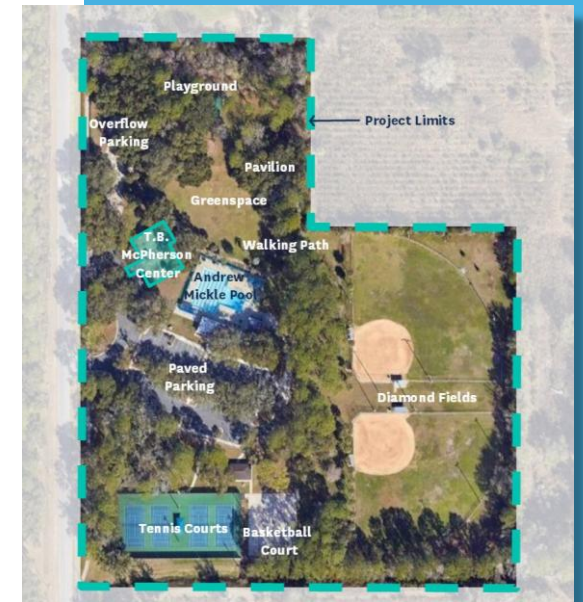
Technology

- Built-in projector and screen and audio

# Community Workshop #2

## 8 Key Themes

1. **Building/Park Connection:** Strengthen pedestrian circulation between building and park. Develop patio extensions from the building to support events, programming, and enhance visibility from the park. Outdoor connection “expands” building use. Integrating building with park maximizes the 15-acre property.
2. **Advance Concept 2 Layout:** Include a platform/stage in the large multi-purpose room to support multiple uses/events; acoustics also need improvement. Consider exterior façade changes to reflect interior renovations and park improvements.
3. **“Kitchen”/Food Prep Area:** Maintain and improve the important role and function of this area for community meals, camps, family gatherings, events. Add more counter space, plenty of fridge space, and provide appropriate food warming options.
4. **Multi-Use Flexible Recreation:** Focus on year-round, high-use facilities, like football or multi-purpose fields; renovations to courts (prioritizing basketball). Fitness equipment can serve different users grouped and covered as well as along the walking trail.



# Community Workshop #2

## 8 Key Themes

- 5. Comfort & Safety = Usability:** Additional seating, gathering space, and shade is essential (pavilions, bleachers, etc); lack of these is a significant barrier to use. Exterior lighting and other safety improvements (emergency phone suggested) are crucial to increase use of the park. Better lighting, more bleachers, shot clocks, more water fountains bring the facilities up to the level of other City parks. Paved parking near the playground and greenspace is desired.
- 6. Pool Improvements:** The pool should be evaluated for accessibility, year-round use, and future improvements. (Note: Public input regarding the pool is included in the data for this project. Analysis/recommendations for pool improvements are not included in this planning effort and will be conducted separately.)
- 7. Honor History & Community:** Support for historical displays in the building and elsewhere in the park; selection of design elements should reflect community significance.
- 8. Inclusive & Transparent Public Engagement:** Preference for workshops with presentations and large-group discussions. Community wants meaningful involvement, not just information.

