

City of Norcross

65 Lawrenceville Street

Norcross, GA 30071



Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 19, 2026

5:00 PM

2nd Floor Conference Room

Parks, Green Spaces, and Trails Commission

Tixie Fowler, Chair

Jon Davis, Commission Member

Joe Weber, Commission Member

Kassie Diehl, Commission Member

Scott Leslie, Commission Member

1. Call to Order: 5:30 pm

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Tixie Fowler	Chair	Present	
Jon Davis	Board member	Present	
Kassie Diehl	Board member	Absent	
Joe Weber	Board member	Present	
Scott Leslie	Board member	Present	

Others in Attendance:

Michael Jones, Staff liaison
 Terry Sutton, Tree Canopy Preservation board member
 Lisa Carr, PG&T Advisory Committee member
 Jian-Ming Su, PG&T Advisory Committee member
 Karen Zeliff, PG&T Advisory Committee member
 Liz Thompson, Chairperson, Norcross Public Arts Commission (NPAC)
 Jacques Murphy, Rising Chair, Norcross Public Arts Commission (NPAC)

2. Action Item: Ratification of January 2026 meeting minutes.

Motion to approve the January 2026 Parks, Green Spaces, and Trails Commission meeting minutes.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] 4-0

MOVER: Scott Leslie, Board Member

SECONDER: Joe Weber, Board Member

AYES: Osborn, Riehm, Sutton, Osbourne, Thompson

3.Item E on agenda (City Hall Parking Lot) moved to priority time slot to allow time for presentation and discussion with NPAC Chair and rising Chair (which had not been scheduled when the agenda was originally published).

Liz Thompson suggested visual correlation between Heritage Park and City Hall to create a sense of connection between the contiguous spaces. Outcomes of discussion are as follows:

- a. need to confirm theme (assume nature-based given PG&T interests)
- b. funding of art for the spaces can be generally budgeted as 4% - 5% of total construction budget of city parking lot. Tixie added that this funding could be collected via public and corporate donations.
- c. Liz provided a layout of recommended locations for future sculptures noting art would be phased in as funding became available. Tixie noted Len Housley's suggestion of prioritizing existing flag pole platform and electrical as flag itself will be removed during construction.
- d. PG&T and NPAC agreed that:
 use art to create movement and sense of safety in new parking area and Heritage Park
- e. NPAC should take lead in presenting art proposal to Council pending PG&T's review
- f. Jian recommended all lighting should be downward facing to reduce light pollution in the downtown area – all present agreed.

Additionally: PG&T asked NPAC to make design recommendations for bike racks, noting that current bike rack design standards "lacked imagination".

NEXT STEPS: Tixie and Liz will develop summary of recommendations in a proposal to be submitted by PG&T to Len Housley in response to Len's request for input. From there, NPAC will take the lead on project with the support of PG&T (being kept in the loop re the design process and funding initiatives).

3. Ongoing Business

A. City Updates (*Michael Jones and Joe Weber*)

Michael reported on the following topics:

- Playground upgrades (seating, shade, equipment) and grant reviews – tabled for Kassie to assist with report
- Piedmont Feasibility Study (confirmed March 19th PG&T meeting was scheduled for next update meeting by consultant)
- status of marketing campaign ideas for parks and greenspaces (discussion included the following ideas:
 - a. directional street signs (in universal brown) directing to local parks
 - b. Add “Parks” under Public Works on website as is currently not clear where to go to find info on parks
 - c. update and reprint hard copies of parks listings and information
 - status of city negotiations with church to purchase parcels expanding Johnson Dean (no update available, city awaiting Church response).
 - Status of next steps for Swenson-Brown (Hunter Rawls got OK to conduct feasibility study w Trees Atlanta.

B. Stormwater system updates and ordinances review (*Tixie Fowler & Terry Sutton*)

Tixie updated Commission re recent stormwater mitigation ordinance modifications submitted by Helen Balch and approved by Council. Terry connected ordinance work to 2045 Comp Plan. Terry shared idea of a checklist and shared a draft: the following recommendations were made:

- a. introduce a scoring system (basically a rubric) so staff can score a developer on alignment to City goals for greenspace infrastructure
- b. include language that clearly specifies “must do” versus “may do”
- c. add strong case studies to showcase examples that align with city goals and Comp Plan vision
- d. develop a clear handbook outlining developer “to do” items and follow that up with a checklist/rubric to assess compliance (so would have guidelines before applying for permits)

Concerns: How make rubric enforceable?

TO DO: Terry to take lead on sending his drafted checklist to Scott and Jon for input and to lead collaborative effort to develop handbook/checklist/rubric and address concerns with staff.

C. Heritage Park Revisioning

Discussion embedded into NAPC presentation (see agenda Item E moved to top of agenda)

D. Norcross Bike Route Updates (*Scott Leslie*)

Scott reported he has recommended green signs be added to the recently established bike route, as a universal signage color for bike safety. Otherwise, reported the new bike route has not been formally recognized yet.

E. City Hall Parking Lot (moved to top of agenda)

4. New Business

5. ADDITIONAL INPUT AND/OR DISCUSSION NOT OTHERWISE ADDRESSED BY THIS AGENDA (NPAC presentation added and embedded into Agenda Item E as noted elsewhere in this report.)

6. Adjourn Motion to adjourn made by Chair Tixie Fowler at 6:50 pm, seconded by Joe Weber. Motion passed 4-0.

Next regularly scheduled meeting to be held on Thursday, March 19, 2026.

