

# City of Norcross

65 Lawrenceville Street  
Norcross, GA 30071



## Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 17, 2025  
5:00 PM

2nd Floor Conference Room

### **Parks, Green Spaces, and Trails Commission**

*Tixie Fowler, Chair*

*Joe Weber, Commission Member*

*Kassie Diehl, Commission Member*

*Scott Leslie, Commission Member*

*Jon Davis, Commission Member*

**1. Call to Order**

**The Parks, Green Spaces, and Trails Commission meeting was called to order at 5:03 PM by Chair Tixie Fowler**

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Tixie Fowler	Chair	Present	
Joe Weber	Commission Member	Present	
Kassie Diehl	Commission Member	Present	
Scott Leslie	Commission Member	Present	
Jon Davis	Commission Member	Present	

**Attending Public:**

Michael Jones - Staff Liaison  
 Bruce Gaynor - City Council liaison

**2. Action Item: Ratification of June 2025 Meeting Minutes**

Parks, Green Spaces, and Trails Commission – Regular Meeting - Jun 25, 2025 5:00 PM

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Kassie Diehl, Commission Member
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Joe Weber, Commission Member
<b>AYES:</b>	Fowler, Weber, Diehl, Leslie, Davis

**3. Ongoing Business**

**A. Council Update - (Councilman Bruce Gaynor)**

Gaynor reported that Council is reviewing the Piedmont Pathway Report on Monday, July 21 to vote on recommended contractor for feasibility study. In addition, Gaynor noted a concept plan for the “Parking Lot Renovation Project” being managed by the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) adjacent to City Hall was shared at a recent Town Hall meeting. Gaynor reported mixed responses ranging from “don’t need” to “should be a parking garage instead”. Next steps are for contractor Columbia Engineering to tweak design per public input.

**Discussion:** The Commission shared ideas with Gaynor for addressing concerns about public awareness of this additional parking (noting that historic attempts at strategic parking signage have failed).

**TO DO:** Chairman Tixie said she would email Mayor and Council the ideas for improving renovation as proposed by the Commission at an earlier meeting to underline G&T interest in green infrastructure practices being included in parking lot design as well as addressing concern regarding public awareness of this additional parking.

**B. Tree Preservation Board Update - (Terry Sutton)**

Terry was absent. Bruce Gaynor and Kassie reported the Tree Board's proposal to buy church property noting that it would be presented at the Council meeting on Monday, July 17. The Commission members reiterated consensus that funding this purchase is a concern as the Commission main interest is in using available funds to purchase new greenspace, not necessarily to expand existing greenspace. However, (that concern noted), the Commission confirmed support of the Tree Board's interest in expanding public access through Johnson Dean, and supports the City purchasing or leasing rightful access to easements for trail use in Johnson Dean.

Chairman Fowler mentioned recent emails from Tree Board member Charlie Riehm suggesting the Commission support a parking garage adjacent to City Hall (instead of the DDA's currently proposed parking lot). Commission members discussed and agreed that parking garages were out of the PG&T scope; however, supporting green infrastructure practices being incorporated into proposed construction was within PG&T scope and would be pursued.

**C. RFP for Piedmont Pathway Concept Report Update** (*Michael Jones*)

Michael reported that PG&T members Scott Leslie and Jon Davis had participated in Staff's decision to select a contractor for conducting a feasibility study for areas including the Piedmont Pathway, and effectively used the rubric that was also used by Staff to qualify the selection. Scott Leslie added that he felt BCC/H&L were best qualified for the study, noting that their team included Perez Planning & design (contractors for PG&T&GI Master Plan) and was not "boiler plated", appearing not "tied into our goals" for greenspace development.

**D. Expanding Downtown Parking - Downtown Development Authority Project Proposal Update** (*Tixie Fowler and Bruce Gaynor*)

This agenda item was addressed in full during the Council update and the Commission agreed no further discussion was necessary.

**E. Landscape Improvements in East Norcross** (*Tixie Fowler*)

Tixie will report feedback from Staff on proposed idea of the City expanding its efforts to maintain, increase invasive plant management and plant trees along public right-of-ways in East Norcross.

**4. New Business**

Tixie tasked Commission members to identify a project that they would like to spearhead, using the PG&T&GI Master Plan as a source of ideas for strategic planning.

TO DO: Tixie asked board members to offer their ideas at next meeting in August.

**5. Additional Input/Discussion Not Otherwise Addressed By This Agenda**

**6. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 6:16 PM.