

AeroATL Model Mile Feasibility Study

Virtual Public Forums

Schedule & Attendance

Municipality	Date	Time	# Attendees
City of South Fulton	4/21/2020	2:00 - 3:00 PM	24
City of East Point	4/21/2020	4:00 - 5:00 PM	35
City of Atlanta	4/22/2020	3:00 - 4:00 PM	28
City of Hapeville	4/23/2020	2:00 - 3:00 PM	22
City of Union City	4/23/2020	4:00 - 5:00 PM	15
Clayton County	4/28/2020	2:00 - 3:00 PM	23
City of Forest Park	4/28/2020	3:00 - 4:00 PM	15
			162

Summary

This first round of public meetings was initially scheduled as two in-person meetings. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, these meetings were moved to a virtual/dial in format. All meetings were facilitated by a Consultant Team project manager and followed the same agenda:

- Introduction
- Pigeonhole: How To & Poll
- Overview of Goals & Criteria
- Progress to Date
- Existing Conditions
- Virtual Site Tour
- Interactive Poll
- Interactive Q & A
- Next Steps

Each meeting was recorded and can be found at <https://aeroatl.org/special-projects>. A summary of the interactive poll results and questions/answers recorded at each meeting is included below.

City of Atlanta

City of Atlanta Model Mile Poll Session

Question: What is your current association with the City of Atlanta?		Total votes (17)	
No	Answer options	Votes	% of Total
1	Resident	7	41.2%
2	Business Owner	1	5.9%
3	Government Employee	3	17.6%
4	Elected Official	0	0.0%
5	Just Interest in the Trail System	6	35.3%

Question: Do you actively use trails/greenways in Atlanta or other surrounding communities?		Total votes (17)	
No	Answer options	Votes	% of Total
1	Yes	15	88.2%
2	No	2	11.8%
3	I Don't Know	0	0.0%

Question: Which of the following destinations would you like to see the trail connect to? (Select your top two options.)		Total votes (33)	
No	Answer options	Votes	% of Total
1	Adams Park Recreation Center	2	6.1%
2	Alfred Holmes Golf Course	0	0.0%
3	Campbellton Road MARTA Bus Stops	5	15.2%
4	Cascade Elementary School	4	12.1%
5	Cascade Heights Business District	11	33.3%
6	Cascade Nature Preserve	11	33.3%
7	South Utoy Creek	0	0.0%
8	Other	0	0.0%

Question: Would you prefer a trail adjacent to the road or a trail that is incorporated into greenspace and easements away from the road?		Total votes (17)	
No	Answer options	Votes	% of Total
1	On-road	4	23.5%
2	Off-road	13	76.5%

Question: Which of following design features would make you feel safer as a pedestrian or bicyclist along Delowe Drive SW? (Select your top two options.)		Total votes (33)	
No	Answer options	Votes	% of Total
1	Change in the Road to Slow Traffic	4	12.1%
2	Dedicated Trail Adjacent to the Roadway	12	36.4%
3	Street Trees Separating the Road from Pedestrians and Bicyclists	8	24.2%
4	Narrower Roadway to Calm Traffic	4	12.1%
5	Incorporating the Trail into the Golf Course / Away from the Road	5	15.2%

City of Atlanta Model Mile Q & A Session

Q: If the off-road trail is not on Delowe, but nearby, where would it be and how can it be made safe?

A: It is important to think about safety with trails. One opportunity is to incorporate the trail into the golf course, further away from Delowe Drive. There are also options to go behind Cascade Elementary, use of the utility easement. In terms of safety, you always want to have eyes on the street. Call boxes, multiple access points, wayfinding signage, monitoring/patrolling, or neighborhood watch. There's no one way but there are many tools in the toolkit that we can use to make the trail safe.

Q: I'm confused as to where the trail would start. You asked what 2 locations we would want to see the trail connect but where is the starting point? Delowe & Campbellton?

A: Delowe at Campbellton is a good potential starting point since there is a lot of activity in that area. Our current thinking is to connect the trail along Delowe Drive in general and we are considering using Venetian Drive to connect to Cascade Road.

Q: How will the trail construction be funded?

A: There are multiple ways to fund trail construction projects including local funds, public private partnerships, state and federal funds.

Q: Is the project being coordinated with the transit expansion and land use project on Campbellton Road?

A: Yes. The transit expansion project on Campbellton Road is in the early stages, and we will leverage their work by sharing data. These and all other improvements need to work together, overall.

Q: How soon would this trail be constructed?

A: This is a feasibility study; there are no design or construction funds associated with this project, at this time. Construction can be complete within a few years, depending on the funding source. Locally funded projects usually move more quickly versus federally funded projects which require special permitting.

Q: What types of materials would be used in the trail construction?

A: Best practices in Atlanta promote using concrete as the primary trail surface. It is long lasting and requires less maintenance in the long term. There are other materials that should be considered in different environments but by and large, we are considering concrete.

Q: What about Boulevard Lorraine?

A: We looked at Boulevard Lorraine, as well as Boulevard Granada. One of the reasons we selected Venetian Drive is because it does connect and go behind the school. This model mile could yield additional spurs that utilize these alternate routes. There are a lot of opportunities here. There are also opportunities to fill in sidewalk gaps, which we will document.

Q: If the trail is not Delowe and there are call boxes? Who monitors it for safety? Is APD required to patrol the trail?

A: There are many ways to connect cameras and call boxes directly to the Atlanta Police Department and/or 911. The Atlanta Police Department is not required to patrol the trail but this should be a part of the larger conversation about how we want public safety to look. It is important to have a plan in place that is created in close coordination with the Atlanta Police Department.

Q: I did not see anywhere to park to access the trail. Would parking be at the Adams Park Rec center or will there be multiple access points for the trail?

A: The logical plan would be to have multiple access points onto the trail. We have not defined it yet, but we will look at the logical locations for trail head where we can incorporate parking. Adams Park, in the middle of the model mile would certainly be a viable option as well as other destinations along the route.

Q: Have you gotten buy in from surrounding communities or is this the beginning of the process?

A: This virtual public meeting marks the beginning of the engagement process, and we invite you and others to help advocate for this. Please drive your networks to the website to get them involved in this project.

Q: Can this trail alignment be added to the existing ongoing ABI right of way acquisition process?

A: Since the BeltLine project is much further along than our process, we will not be coordinating the model mile with their right of way acquisition process. The right of way acquisition process also depends on the source of project funding.