



JACK R WELLS CHARRETTE ATHENS, GA

DATES: OCTOBER 13-15, 2011

The wholesale transformation of the existing public housing site into a mixed-income, affordable, energy-efficient and sustainable housing development focused on site design, stormwater management, transportation-oriented design, green building practices, family needs and play spaces, and socio-economic considerations.

Students and faculty from the College of Environment and Design partnered with the Athens Housing Authority and Atlanta-based residential developer Columbia Residential and JHP Architecture & Urban Design for a design charrette focused on the transformation of the Jack R. Wells public housing neighborhood, located at Hawthorne Avenue and Pauldoe Street.

The site's steep topography and protected stream buffer added a challenge to the redesign, yet also provided natural assets ripe for enhancement. Two options for redevelopment were presented, both of which included multi-family and senior housing communities in a combination of two-story townhouses and single-story flats, a "village green", community centers and multiple outdoor active and passive recreation spaces.



THIS OUTREACH PROJECT WAS CONDUCTED BY
students and faculty of the University of Georgia College of Environment + Design.
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PARTNERS: ATHENS HOUSING AUTHORITY, COLUMBIA RESIDENTIAL, JHP ARCHITECTURE AND URBAN DESIGN

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1. Senior housing is in a 3 story building at the front entrance in an architecturally-dramatic bridge leads people into the community.
2. Realigning the entrance improves traffic flow at the intersection and throughout the site.
3. Additional road connections achieve reconnection by stitching the adjacent residential neighborhoods together.
4. Parking is internalized within blocks.
5. Landscape enhancements include re-connecting the community to nature and natural systems. Hiking trails are incorporated throughout the site, especially along the creek.
6. An existing baseball field is enhanced with a concession building, bleachers, and marked for soccer and well as baseball games.

7. Landscape plantings and stormwater systems will be integrated with other community needs such as traffic calming, open and rec spaces, and trails.
8. Village Green - This centrally-located open green serves as a community gathering space.
9. Multiple Community Centers will be developed, that accommodates a gathering place, job training center, fitness room, and a childcare center.



10. Other community gathering spaces included are a splash park and a picnic pavilion.
11. Multiple playground spaces scattered throughout the site means that there is a convenient outdoor playspace for all residents to walk to.



FINAL PRODUCTS FROM THE CHARRETTE AVAILABLE HERE: <http://tinyurl.com/jackrwell2011>
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