



PUBLIC SAFETY TRAINING CENTER

Background Briefing

OVERVIEW



Atlanta x Community

Atlanta stands on the precipice of great change. The Public Safety Training Center will reimagine the training of regional public safety professionals and establish a new standard for 21st century policing that protects the safety and civil rights of all citizens.



Urgency in Transformation

Building this campus will improve morale, recruitment, and retention. The current Atlanta Fire Rescue Department (AFRD) & Atlanta Police Department (APD) training facilities do not meet the full needs of our public safety professionals or represent the national and regional leadership of our agencies.



Invaluable Partnerships

The City of Atlanta will provide the 150-acre site, while philanthropic and corporate funding will offset the costs of facility construction. Through partnerships, the campus will be open to the public and render over 100 acres of greenspace, including public access to walking trails and parkland for the community.

THE OPPORTUNITY

LEGEND

- A** LEADERSHIP BUILDING / AUDITORIUM
+/- 30,000 SF
- B** ADMINISTRATION / CLASSROOM BUILDING
+/- 60,000 SF
- C** FUTURE E911 BUILDING
30,000 SF
- D** HOUSING
+/- 18,800 SF (40-50 ROOMS)
- E** PT FIELD / BLACKHAWK LANDING PAD
- F** WATER TOWER
- G** FUELING STATION
- H** EVOC W/ OBSERVATION TOWER
10-12 ACRES
- I** VEHICLE STORAGE
- J** MOCK CITY WITH SHOOT HOUSE
- K** BURN / SMOKE BUILDINGS
- L** EXPLOSIVES
125' RADIUS
- M** SHOOTING RANGE
50 LANES @ 25-500 YD.
- N** FUTURE DEVELOPMENT
- O** RUNNING TRAIL
+/- 1 MILE LOOP
- P** HORSE BARN
35-40 STALLS
- Q** KENNEL
- R** PASTURE
+/- 41 ACRES
- S** TRAINING FIRE STATION
9,500 SF
- T** CONTROLLED ACCESS
- U** PUBLIC PARK
+/- 4 MILES OF TRAILS
- V** INTRENCHMENT CREEK
- W** TRAIL CONNECTION TO SOUTH RIVER TRAIL - PATH
- X** POTENTIAL PASTURE
+/- 85 ACRES
- Y** FUTURE AGRICULTURAL FIELDS
- Z** FUTURE URBAN FARM SITE
+/- 35 ACRES



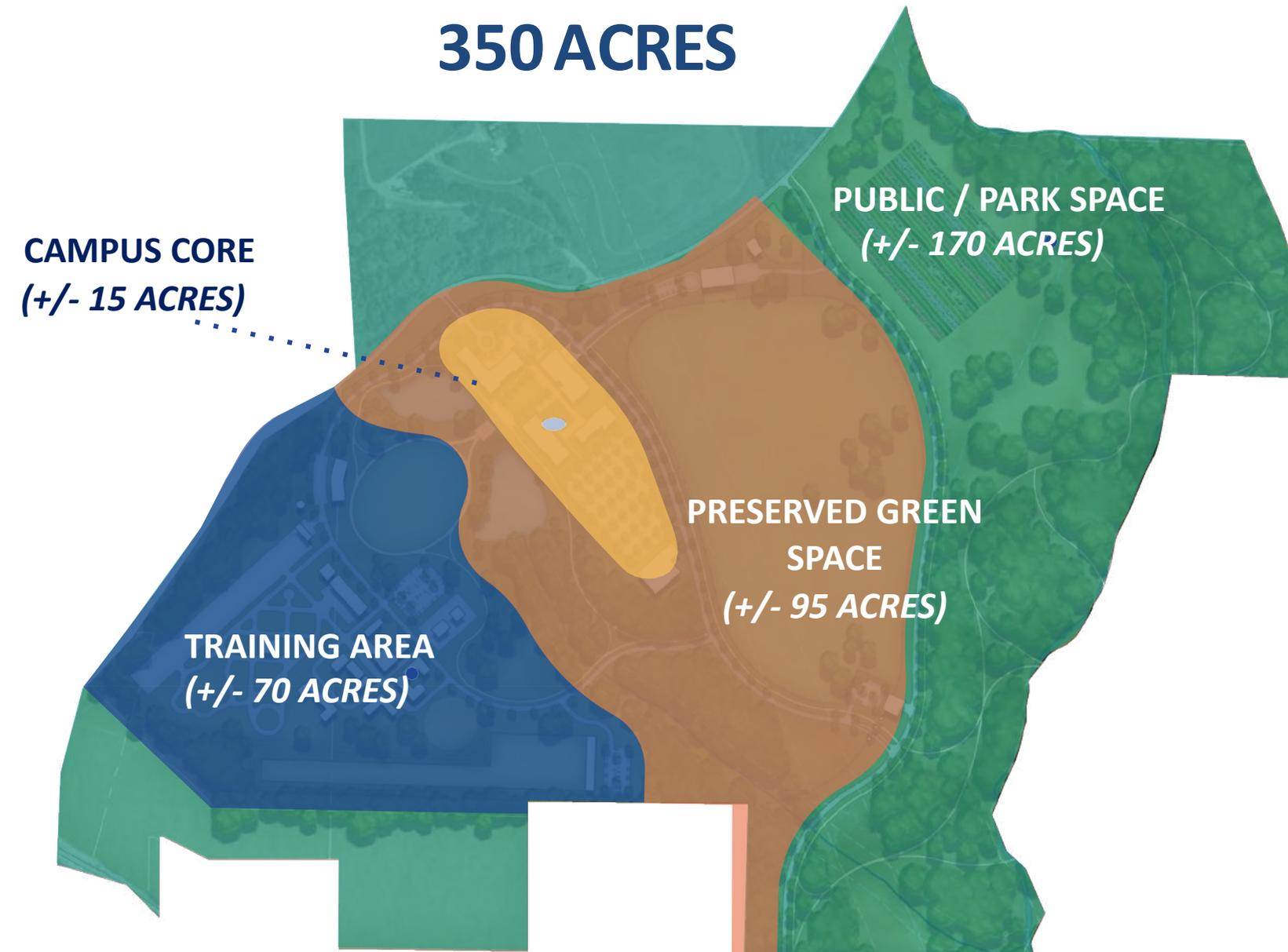
*Draft Site Plan –
To Be Updated Based Upon Community Engagement
and Final Technical Assessments*

City of Atlanta owned property, which has lain dormant for 40 years

- ❖ The campus will include greenspace open to the public featuring walking trails and expansion to South River Trail and the Atlanta BeltLine.
- ❖ Site of the original training academy through the 1980's.
- ❖ Police and Fire Rescue have used the area continuously for outdoor tactical training for 50 years.
- ❖ A comprehensive property assessment revealed no other suitable locations to accommodate APD and AFRD's unified needs.

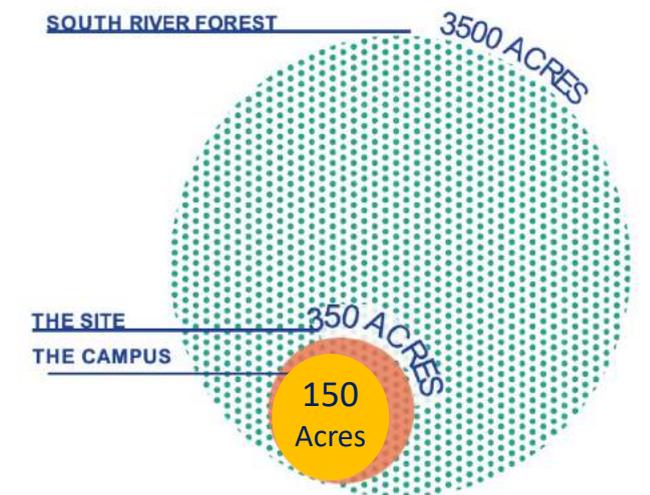
THE OPPORTUNITY

350 ACRES



POSITIVE IMPACT FOR RESIDENTS:

- ❖ The project **ENHANCES** park spaces for the public
- ❖ The project does **NOT** destroy old-growth forest
- ❖ The project will immediately **PROVIDE** useable public space that residents currently can't access
- ❖ Responsible environmental development and design will **NOT** impede the vision of the South River Forest



THE OPPORTUNITY



FIRING RANGE DISTANCE TO RESIDENTS

APD currently conducts its tactical training, including the firing range, in this area. The new location will greatly increase the distance from residential areas.

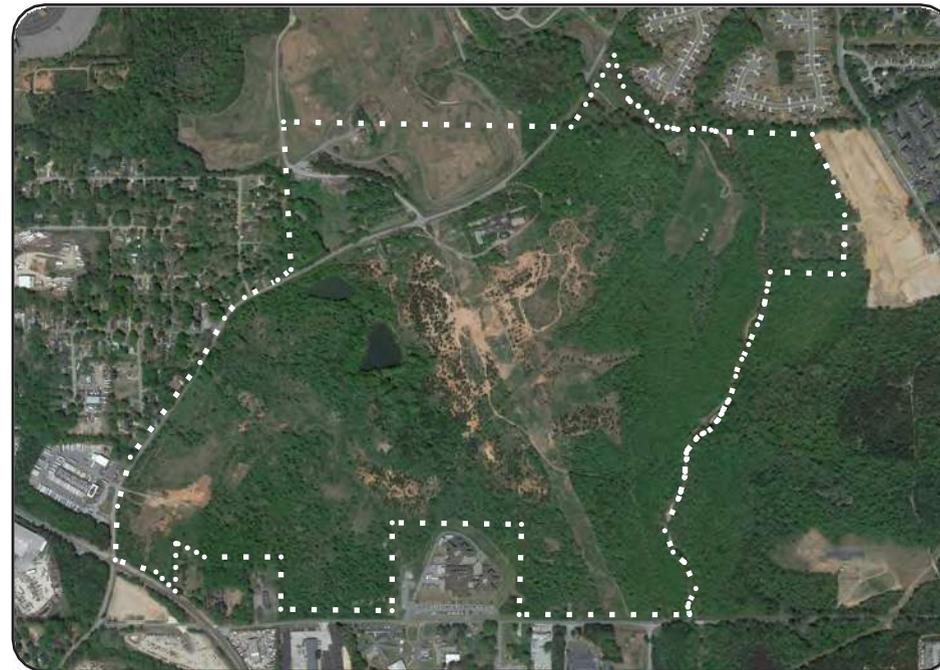
- ❖ Current Firing Range = **500 feet**
- ❖ Proposed Firing Range = **1/2 mile** (with populated areas more than 1 mile)

THE OPPORTUNITY

- ❖ The land for the training center historically served as cropland for the Honor Farm and is devoid of hardwood trees
- ❖ The land also includes a major utility easement
- ❖ Aerial photos show new regrowth over recent years has delivered invasive species such as Loblolly Pine, Boxelder, Chinese privet, Callery pear, Tree of Heaven, Chinaberry and Kudzu trees
- ❖ Any tree removed during construction will be replaced with a hardwood tree
- ❖ Any hardwood tree removed during construction will be replaced with 100 hardwood trees to restore the land to its genuine canopy
- ❖ The final design will include a permanent exhibit that memorializes the legacy of the City's Honor Farm that was the original facility on the site



1999



2010



2020

SMART INVESTMENT

- ❖ The center will be built in phases, the first of which will be privately funded through the Atlanta Police Foundation through philanthropic and corporate donations
- ❖ The full recommended scope of facilities is expected to cost \$90 million. The City's contribution will be through a 30-year, \$1 million per year lease starting in FY24 or a single contribution through a general obligation bond



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Atlanta Police Foundation (APF) in partnership with APD Urban will host multiple community engagement sessions to gather input on the site plan.

Listening Sessions

Objectives: The key objectives of these engagement events are:

- To educate community residents and stakeholders about the proposed facility, uses, and the site
- To listen to community concerns regarding the proposed public safety facility and the site
- To gather community input on how to best utilize the public space on the site to fit the community's needs

General Format:

All listening sessions will be held virtually, via Zoom. A link will be provided for pre-registration of attendees.

Moderator: APD-U Team

The initial two dates have been identified as:

- July 15th, 2021 – 6:00 (City of Atlanta)
- July 29th, 2021 – 6:00 (DeKalb County)

❖ WHY IS A NEW TRAINING CENTER NEEDED?

The new center will meet several needs, most importantly making our city safer and solidifying Atlanta's continued commitment to 21st Century Policing.

- The current Atlanta Fire Rescue Department (AFRD) & Atlanta Police Department (APD) training facilities do not meet the full needs of our public safety professionals or represent the national and regional leadership of our agencies.
- Tactical training for each department is located in separate facilities.
- Building this campus will improve morale, recruitment, and retention of our public safety professionals.
- Our citizens deserve first-rate public safety professionals whose ongoing training reflect the high standards we expect them to comport themselves throughout their careers.

❖ WHERE WILL THE CENTER BE LOCATED?

The City has identified 150 acres of a 350-acre parcel of land it has owned for 100 years in unincorporated DeKalb County. The parcel is the original site of the Police and Fire departments' training centers and is in the same area as the current outdoor tactical training for Atlanta's public safety agencies.

- Location – 6.4 miles from Atlanta City Hall
- Rural Area – ½ mile to residential homes
- Land – City owned

❖ **WHY THIS SITE? ARE THERE OTHER PLACES THE TRAINING CENTER COULD BE BUILT?**

A comprehensive assessment was conducted by the City and partners to identify potential locations for the facility, including a review of all City owned property. That analysis resulted in the recommendation for the City to build the center on 150 acres of City-owned property on Key Road. No other suitable locations were identified during the assessment. The currently dormant location is adjacent to the current APD tactical training facilities and shooting range.

❖ **WILL THE COMMUNITY BE ENGAGED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS FACILITY?**

APF and the City of Atlanta are working to engage the community in the final design and development process. A series of community meetings to inform residents of the plans and gather input are currently underway.

❖ **WHAT IS BEING DONE TO HONOR THE HISTORY OF THE HONOR FARM?**

Plans include installing a permanent exhibit to commemorate the Honor Farm, including those whose ill-treatment further underscores Atlanta's commitment to inculcating respect for the civil and human rights of all citizens.



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