ATHENS INNOVATION DISTRICT
INNOVATION

the action / process of innovating

to introduce new methods, ideas, or products

to make change in something established

ATHENS, GA

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

CLEAN WATERWAYS

“INNOVATION DISTRICT”

COLLABORATIVE HUB

CAMPUSS TO DOWNTOWN GREENWAY

COMPLETE STREETS
**GOAL:**
Create an innovation district that has a positive impact on the Athens community and the University of Georgia; a place that welcomes creativity and new ideas, while fulfilling the needs of the Athens community as a whole through a number of programs co-operating to form an established area between the University and downtown district.

**PROBLEM:**
Athens host a wide variety of fields, but what it lacks is the ability for young professionals to find work in their field. The potential affect the 34,536 students could have on Athens, is often left through the arches among their graduation.
PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT PROCESS:

1. Initial thoughts and brainstorming

2. What is an Innovation District?

3. What are the significant needs and themes of Athens and UGA?
**Program Development Process:**

4. What and Why?

5. Program Development Outline
THE PROGRAM:

1) Living Labs are spaces, preferably outside, which allow for flexible experimentation to occur. Living Labs, such as the one in Midtown, Atlanta, encourage community members to "engage with their surroundings and collaborate to make Midtown a better place to live, work and visit," this aligns with the goal of an innovation district for Athens. The Midtown Innovation website also suggests that walkable areas support living labs because they allow for people to be more observant of their surroundings and interact with the living labs more easily.

2) Community design labs allow for space for different design firms to collaborate and hold meetings. These spaces can hold planned meetings or be a space for designers to take breaks and bounce off different ideas/ work out problems with the help of others. The picture below was taken in a community design lab in Baltimore where community members gather to discuss different issues, big and small scale. According to Baltimore community design lab's website, it is an inviting environment where the only thing individuals need to have in common is the motivation to inspire change.

3) There needs to be a strong connection from the innovation district to campus and to downtown Athens, and all near surround areas on site. Having many alternative routes would allow for many different forms of transportation. Some good options for Athens would be a continuation and stronger connection of the existing greenway. This also creates the opportunity for the Oconee River to have a stronger connection to the city and campus.

4) The area should be pedestrian friendly to encourage people to get out and move freely through the district.

5) Parking should be available, but done in an efficient way, such as parallel parking and back in parking. This allows for more pedestrian space.

6) The district should have a large flexible park that can serve as a town square. This space could also become the host locations for events in town. Currently Athens closes down College Ave for city events and after it turns back into a road. This could also serve as a new home to the Athens farmers market, making it more centrally located. People enjoy being outside. Having green space that is Wi-Fi accessible allows for individuals to hold meetings outside and encourages people to be outside. It gives people the opportunity to move around during work instead of being confined to a desk. It also allows people to become familiar with their neighboring business owners and employees; more conversations among these individuals are likely to occur. A good example of an urban, multi-use park is Habima Square in Tel Aviv, Israel.

7) Co-Working spaces for people who are not quite ready to launch their businesses. Good for start-ups, beneficial for students who are looking into starting their own businesses.
INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS

ATHENS INNOVATION DISTRICT

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA CAMPUS

DOWNTOWN ATHENS

MIXED USE

LUXURY LIVING APARTMENTS

UNDERDEVELOPED ARMSTRONG AND DOBBS SITE

OCONEE GREENWAY TRAIL SYSTEM

SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL

INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS

WALKABILITY

1 mi = 1.6 km
0.5 mi = 0.8 km

circulation:
- roads
- pedestrian friendly
- bike lanes
- greenways

findings:
- need a connection to greenways
- need bike parking infrastructure
- additional bus stop along road
CONCEPTUAL THINKING...AN EVOLUTION
FORMING A CONCEPT—INSPIRED BY MATERIALS
FORMING A CONCEPT - INSPIRED BY HISTORY
ATHENS INNOVATION DISTRICT

MASTERING A CONCEPT

MASTER PLAN

WATER

MORE RESEARCH

ATHENS INNOVATION DISTRICT

MASTER PLAN
ATHENS INNOVATION DISTRICT

INNOVATION PARK SITE PLAN

INNOVATION SCULPTURE PARK

STEPPED LAND TERRACE

SHADY NATIVE TREES

RIPARIAN PLANTS FOR WATER FILTRATION WITHIN SWALE

BRIDGE + PATIO + VEHICULAR ACCESS FOR EVENTS

GRANITE AND GNEISS SEA T ROCKS (TYP.)

GRANITE AND GNEISS BLOCKS (TYP.)

LITTLE OCONEE INTERACTIVE WATER FEATURE

STORMWATER BASIN

MAIN ENTRANCE WALKWAY FROM DOWNTOWN

SHADY NATIVE TREES

NATIVE FLOWERING TREE (TYP.)

OUTDOOR RAUL CAR CAFE

MOVABLE TABLES AND CHAIRS (TYP.)

NATIVE DECIDUOUS SHADE TREES (TYP.)

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STORMWATER BASIN

SHADY NATIVE TREES
INNOVATION PARK SITE PLANS

SITE DRAWINGS

STORMWATER BASIN
SCALE: 1/4"=1'-0"

WATER FEATURE PERSPECTIVE

WATER FEATURE DETAIL
SCALE: 1/4"=1'-0"

INNOVATION PARK SITE PLAN

PIPE OUTLET
COMPACTED SUBGRADE
CRUSHED STONE
MINIMUM 4" DEPTH
GRASS SITTING BLOCK
1'-0" BELOW GRADE
STONE MIX OF RIPARIAN PLANTS

COMPACTED CRUSHED STONE
MINIMUM 4" THICKNESS

GRASS SITTING BLOCK
1'-0" BELOW GRADE

TURF
COMPACTED CRUSHED STONE
MINIMUM 4" THICKNESS

CONCRETE SLAB W/ REINFORCEMENT
MINIMUM 4" THICKNESS

POOL DEPTH: 1'-0"

GNEISS SITTING BLOCK
GNEISS COBBLE BED

STORMWATER FILTRATION
FILTERED BY RIPARIAN PLANTS
NATIVE MIX OF RIPARIAN PLANTS
GRASS MINIMUM 4" THICKNESS
CRUSHED STONE MINIMUM 4" DEPTH
COMPACTED SUBGRADE
# PLANT LIST

## TREES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>QTY</th>
<th>SYMBOL</th>
<th>SIZE</th>
<th>COMMON NAME</th>
<th>SPACING</th>
<th>ADDITIONAL NOTES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>262</td>
<td>mv</td>
<td>5 1/2&quot; cal.</td>
<td>Magnolia virginiana 'Henry Hicks'</td>
<td>12'-0&quot; o.c.</td>
<td>Henry Hicks Sweetbay Magnolia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>AR</td>
<td>5 1/2&quot; cal.</td>
<td>Acer rubrum 'Autumn Blaze'</td>
<td>12'-0&quot; o.c.</td>
<td>Autumn Blaze Red Maple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53</td>
<td>CF</td>
<td>5 1/2&quot; cal.</td>
<td>Cornus florida 'Appalachian Spring'</td>
<td>10'-0&quot; o.c.</td>
<td>Appalachian Spring Flowering Dogwood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>PO</td>
<td>5 1/2&quot; cal.</td>
<td>Platanus occidentalis</td>
<td>22'-0&quot; o.c.</td>
<td>American Sycamore</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## SHRUBS

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>RC</td>
<td>1 gal.</td>
<td>Rhododendron catawbiense</td>
<td>5' o.c.</td>
<td>pink flowers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## GRASSES

<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>MC</td>
<td>1 gal.</td>
<td>Muhlenbergia capillaris 'Regal Mist'</td>
<td>3'-0&quot; o.c.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>822</td>
<td>SS</td>
<td>3 gal.</td>
<td>Schizachyrium scoparium 'Camper'</td>
<td>2'-0&quot; o.c.</td>
<td>white bark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>212</td>
<td>LV</td>
<td>5 flats</td>
<td>Elymus virginicus</td>
<td>1'-0&quot; o.c.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## TURF GRASS

<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>155</td>
<td>ZJ</td>
<td>15537 sqft.</td>
<td>Zoysia japonica × Z. tenuifolia</td>
<td>5'</td>
<td>Emerald Zoysia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## HERBACEOUS PERENNIALS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>QTY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>402</td>
<td>BA</td>
<td>9 flats</td>
<td>Baptisia alba</td>
<td>1'-6&quot; o.c.</td>
<td>Wild White Indigo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>262</td>
<td>HA</td>
<td>4 flats</td>
<td>Helianthus angustifolius 'First Light'</td>
<td>1'-6&quot; o.c.</td>
<td>Purple Cone Flower</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200</td>
<td>PC</td>
<td>1 gal.</td>
<td>Pontederia cordata</td>
<td>1'-6&quot; o.c.</td>
<td>Purple Pickerelweed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>380</td>
<td>EP</td>
<td>8 flats</td>
<td>Echinacea purpurea</td>
<td>1'-6&quot; o.c.</td>
<td>Black Eyed Susan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**PLANT SCHEDULE**

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**ATHENS INNOVATION DISTRICT**

**INNOVATION PARK PLANTING PLAN**

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**SCALE: 1" = 10'-0"**

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**CARYL RICKLES, LAND 4900, SPENCER R, SPRING 2015**
Athens Innovation District

Innovating

- The action/process of innovating
- To make change in something established
- To introduce new methods, ideas, or products

Athens, GA

University of Georgia

Clean Waterways

Campus to Downtown Greenway

"Innovation District"

Collaborative Hub

Complete Streets
THANK YOU