

FORESTPARK

City Council Agenda Item

Title of Agenda Item: Presentation by Partnership for Southern Equity about the Park at Fort Gillem

Submitted By: Economic Development

Date Submitted: 6/30/2025

Work Session Date: 7/21/2025

Council Meeting Date: 7/21/2025

Background/History:

In 2012, the City of Forest Park, through the Urban Redevelopment Agency (URA), purchased Fort Gillem as part of the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) initiative. The acquisition included 125 units of former military (Wherry) housing, repurposed by the Army as naturally occurring affordable housing (NOAH), namely The Park at Ft. Gillem. There was a stipulation to honor the pre-existing third-party property management contract until its conclusion in October 2025.

In January 2025, the URA partnered with Partnership for Southern Equity (PSE), an Atlanta-based nonprofit dedicated to advancing racial equity and shared prosperity across metro Atlanta and the American South.

This partnership aims to explore aligned opportunities for the Park at Fort Gillem in key areas such as:

- Economic Inclusion
- Equitable Development
- Environmental Justice
- Energy Equity

The project objectives include:

- Ensure transparency, equity, and inclusiveness in stakeholder engagement
- Collect qualitative and quantitative data to understand residents' needs
- Identify opportunities to mitigate resident hardships
- Equip the City of Forest Park and the URA Board with robust data and insights to guide future decisions regarding the Park at Fort Gillem

Action Requested from Council: Approval

Cost: \$

Budgeted for: Yes No

Financial Impact: