



## Bond Linear Park Coming to Life

The City of Tallahassee recently began construction on the new Bond Community Linear Park. This project, funded by the CRA, was brought forth as an idea by residents as part of the Neighborhood First planning process in the Greater Bond Neighborhood.

Connecting Speed-Spencer-Stephens Park to the St. Marks Trail, this new mid-block, multi-use trail and park will add greenspace and expand access to recreational opportunities, while also enhancing the stormwater system.

The first step in construction will be to enclose the ditch. The new linear park will then be built on top of it. When complete, the park will offer various amenities, such as drinking fountains,

park benches, a front porch-style swing, landscaping, lighting, an entrance seat wall and a paved pathway. Construction is expected to be completed by this July.

The Greater Bond Neighborhood First Plan was adopted by the Greater Bond Neighborhood Association on September 24, 2018, as part of the City's Neighborhood Public Safety Initiative. On December 13, 2018, the CRA voted unanimously to fund the plan to the tune of \$6.4 million, with an initial funding of \$500,000 and a commitment of an additional \$5.9 million over the following three years. Development and construction of the linear park was included in the initial funding.

The Greater Bond Neighborhood First Plan addresses

the neighborhood's top priorities and concerns: Community Beautification, Land Use, Economic Development and Resident Empowerment, and Neighborhood Safety and Crime Prevention. It is the culminative work of a yearlong collaborative process led by the neighborhood association's community action team, residents and various interested stakeholders, with support from the City of Tallahassee and CRA.

Since its inception in 1998, the Tallahassee Community Redevelopment Agency has committed more than \$65 million in current and future financial assistance to more than 300 small, medium and large-scale projects. The Bond Linear Park project represents another important investment in the community. Learn more at [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com).



### MAKING HISTORY



In July 2018, the John G. Riley Center/Museum was approved for a grant from the Tallahassee Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) to install nine historic monument markers in the Greater Frenchtown/Southside District. The "Soul Voices" monuments along the Frenchtown Heritage Trail were unveiled to the community in November 2019.

The nine markers tell the history of Frenchtown, one of Tallahassee's oldest African American communities. Through them, visitors can discover and

celebrate a time when Frenchtown was a thriving, self-sustaining community of families, homes, businesses and pride. The markers include oral histories that were conducted between 1998 and 2005 by the Riley House with former residents. They share what life was like in the community from the late 19th to mid-20th century.

Seeing the ample community interest and support for the new markers, the CRA Board approved funding this January for four additional historic monument markers.

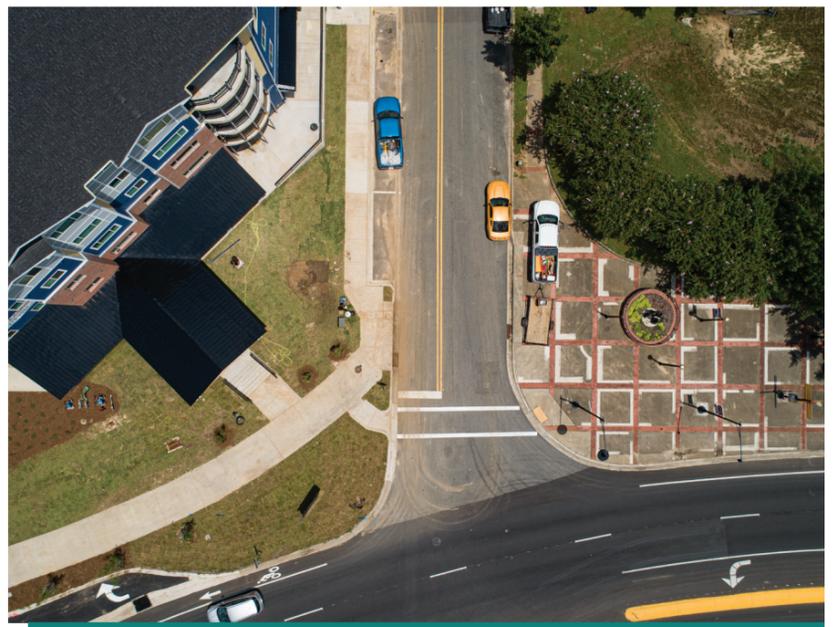
### COMING SOON



New street lights are coming to the Greater Frenchtown area as part of planned improvements. The CRA is working with the City's Electric Utility on the replacement of existing streetlights on sections of Dent, Dover and Dunn streets. The new street lights

will feature LEDs, which use less energy while providing ample light. The lights will be upgraded in conjunction with Underground Utilities and Public Infrastructure street improvements, beginning with Dover Street.

### SUPPORTING THE URBAN CORE



The CRA assists with various enhancement projects to help strengthen the local economy, reduce blight, enhance property values, improve infrastructure and much more in the Greater Frenchtown/Southside District and the Downtown District. In total, the CRA covers nearly

2,300 combined acres between the two districts. The Greater Frenchtown/Southside District covers 1,858 acres, and the Downtown District covers 440 acres. To find out if your property is included in one of these districts, visit [Talgov.com/CRA](http://Talgov.com/CRA).

### CRA CALENDAR

MEETING DATE	MEETING TIME	MEETING LOCATION
<b>Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA)</b>		
March 26	9:30 AM	City Hall, 300 S. Adams St. City Commission Chambers
<b>Greater Frenchtown Southside Citizen Advisory Committee (GFS-CAC)</b>		
April 6	6:00 PM	Renaissance Center, 435 N. Macomb St. 2nd floor conference room
<b>Downtown Redevelopment Committee (DRC)</b>		
April 7	9:00 AM	Renaissance Center, 435 N. Macomb St. 1st floor conference room
<b>Upcoming CRA-sponsored Events</b>		
EVENT	EVENT DATE	EVENT LOCATION
Second Annual Railroad Square Art Jazz Festival	March 6-7	Railroad Square
Springtime Tallahassee	March 27-28	Downtown
Word of South Festival	April 3-5	Cascades Park
LeMoyne Chain of Parks Art Festival	April 18-19	Chain of Parks
Shakespeare in the Park	May 7-10	Cascades Park
Seasons of Emancipation	May 9	Speed-Spencer-Stephens Park

\*Meeting dates, times, and locations subject to change. Call the Department of Communications at 850-891-8533 for information, or you may view the current meeting agenda online at [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com). Follow @CityofTLH on Twitter for City news.