

Multi-Purpose Urban Greenway Transforms Corridor

The proposed Hollice T. Williams Urban Greenway is an adaptive use of underutilized space beneath the elevated Interstate 110 highway, near its southern terminus in downtown Pensacola, adjacent to Pensacola Bay. This project will create a radically revitalized gateway corridor into the heart of the city and become a destination for those who seek a unique and culturally diverse venue for recreation or relaxation.

The Hollice T. Williams Greenway will achieve the multiple purposes of stormwater mitigation, recreation, and creation of a unique civic space designed to attract a diverse range of visitors and encourage neighborhood reinvestment. The project will aid the City of Pensacola in collecting, treating and routing 1.3 miles of stormwater, providing relief to diverse adjacent neighborhoods in flood prone areas near Hollice T. Williams Park. A concept similar to Tallahassee's Cascades Park, consisting of a network of underground channels, open streams and ponds designed to provide both flood protection and treatment of run-off during intense storms, the Hollice T. Williams stormwater/recreation basins will maximize the use of public lands to manage large run-off volumes generated quickly during storm events. Dual use dry ponds which double as youth athletic and passive fields.

In addition to its adaptive approach to stormwater management, urban place making will be achieved by this project. Taking a note from of New York's Highline Park, the City looks to transform the dreary hardscape of the highway underpass to a vibrant space supporting community health and wellness, tourism and economic development. The Greenway will feature gateways, waterscape, artistic hardscape, decorative lighting, sculptures, stonescapes, decorative seating, exercise stations, shade gardens and edible plantings.

The project will provide passive, active and community gathering spaces. It will serve people of all ages and interests from children to seniors, traditional and non-traditional athletes and the "forgotten youth" of the community. Private and non-profit partners, including Upward Intuition and Innisfree Hotels, are collaborating with the City to support the development and operation of a community garden, a world class competitive skate park/amphitheater and to build early-learning opportunities into the Greenway.

The Greenway will be an iconic, one of a kind, urban green spine that will mitigate flooding, and provide community-wide enjoyment and activity options for all ages. This project will catalyze the revitalization of adjacent inner city neighborhoods and the entire corridor.

Phase 1: Planning, Design and Permitting - \$1,500,000

Phase 1 has been funded through Escambia County's RESTORE Direct Component grant.

Phase 2: Implementation and Construction - \$12,442,900

- Gateways
- Park Seating
- Splash Pad
- Community Garden
- Wet Detention Pond with Fountain
- Multi-Use Paths
- Decorative Lighting
- Early Learning Features
- Passive Gathering Areas
- Dual Use Competition Skate Park Facility and Amphitheater
- Landscaping
- Athletic Fields
- Art/Sculpture
- Dry Stormwater Ponds

Applicant: City of Pensacola, FL
Project Title: Hollice T Williams Urban Greenway
Budget: \$ 12.5 million

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HOLLICE T. WILLIAMS URBAN GREENWAY

