

FAQ

What is the City-Brooks Park & Lakes Vision Plan?

The **City-Brooks Park & Lakes Vision Plan** is a three-pronged planning effort to establish a long-term, comprehensive vision for City-Brooks Park and study of the University Lakes system. The three planning efforts include:

- **City-Brooks Park Master Plan**, defining a long-term vision for park uses, circulation, recreation, and cultural destinations.
- **Study of University Lakes System Governance and Operations & Maintenance (O+M) Plan**, establishing a recommended framework for stewardship, funding, and long-term management.
- **Milford Wampold Memorial Park Concept Design**, advancing a shovel-ready design aligned with current dredging conditions.

Why is this planning effort happening now?

With the ongoing University Lakes Project and growing interest in expanding cultural amenities at City-Brooks Park, public attention and investment in this area are increasing. At the same time, many conversations and initiatives have been happening separately.

This planning effort responds to the need for a unified vision with a clear path to implementation, bringing related efforts together under one coordinated framework. The project builds on prior studies, ongoing investments, and community conversations about the future of City-Brooks Park and the University Lakes system. By coordinating planning across sites and initiatives, the project aims to align near-term projects with a shared long-term vision, address operational and governance challenges, and ensure that future investments deliver lasting substantial public benefit.

Who is leading the design?

The project is led by BREC in partnership with a Steering Committee representing key stakeholders. Sasaki is serving as the planning and design consultant, supporting technical analysis, community engagement, and plan development.

The Steering Committee includes 11 members representing BREC, LSU Foundation, the Knock Knock Children's Museum, BRAF, Baton Rouge Gallery, and the Mayor's Office.

How are these three efforts related? How are they different?

The **City-Brooks Park & Lakes Vision Plan** is organized into three distinct but closely related efforts. Bringing these projects under one umbrella ensures that a collectively considered, unified vision is established. It also improves efficiency in the planning process and helps accelerate implementation.

Stakeholder and public engagement will consider all three efforts holistically, with an emphasis on the City-Brooks Park Master Plan.

1. City-Brooks Park Master Plan
 - a. The goal of the master plan is to transform City-Brooks Park into a world-class, central park experience for East Baton Rouge Parish. The City-Brooks Park Master Plan will establish a unified, long-term vision for the site that will integrate better with the broader University Lakes system and bring together a number of efforts already underway, including plans for the Knock-Knock Children's Museum and the expansion of the cultural amenities.
2. Study of University Lakes System Governance & Operations + Maintenance Plan
 - a. The University Lakes Governance Plan establishes a clear recommended framework for long-term stewardship by assessing existing conditions, evaluating peer governance models, defining roles and responsibilities, projecting operations and maintenance needs, and delivering an actionable organizational and financial roadmap to guide implementation, funding, and phased delivery over time.
3. Wampold Beach Concept Design
 - a. As an important park on University Lake, the design for this site will follow the design principles from the larger University Lakes design, also led by Sasaki, while adapting to the current and upcoming dredging conditions, the new University Lakes System Business Planning and other potential new opportunities. The concept design for Wampold Park will include reviewing previous planning efforts, conducting site analysis, exploring design alternatives, and developing a shovel-ready preferred concept design for further implementation.

What's the project timeline?

The Unified Master Plan will be developed over the course of spring and summer 2026, with work beginning earlier in the year to support research, coordination, and early engagement. While the three planning efforts progress on slightly different schedules, they are being coordinated to ensure alignment and efficiency.

Public engagement will focus primarily on the City-Brooks Park Master Plan, with opportunities for community input occurring at key intervals in the process.

How can the public participate?

Community input is a core part of this planning process, and there are multiple ways to get involved. The project team will host three key engagement opportunities, starting with an online survey and followed by two interactive public meetings in the Spring & Summer of 2026.

Important dates:

- **Online survey for City-Brooks Park:** Open NOW!

Take three minutes to tell us what you love about City-Brooks Park today — and what activities, spaces, and experiences you'd like to see in the future. The survey timeline has been extended to April 17th.

- **First public meeting:** April 23
Join us to explore early design ideas, learn more about the project, and share your thoughts directly with the project team.
- **Second public meeting:** Mid-June
Be part of the conversation as we unveil the draft master plan and hear from the community about what should be prioritized first as the vision moves toward implementation.

Will decisions be made before public input is collected?

No. The planning process is structured to gather public and stakeholder input early and throughout the project. Feedback will help inform priorities, evaluate alternatives, and shape recommendations before plans are finalized.

Will this project result in immediate construction?

This is a planning effort. While some recommendations may help advance near-term projects, implementation will depend on future funding, approvals, and coordination among project partners.

Where can I find project updates and materials?

This webpage will serve as a central resource for all public project materials. Project updates, meeting announcements, and engagement opportunities will also be shared through BREC and Steering Committee partner communication channels.

Who can I contact with questions?

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact info@brec.org