



# ACCGov Youth & Community Enrichment Facility Project

## SPLOST 2011 Project 22

### FACT SHEET

#### PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Athens-Clarke County Unified Government (ACCGov) is advancing the design and construction of a new Youth & Community Enrichment Facility to meet the education and workforce needs of current and future residents of Athens.

The initiative is a part of the ACC'S Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) program that was passed by voters on November 2, 2010. The project was approved with the location to be determined following ACCGov's site selection process.

#### PROJECT BENEFITS

The Youth & Community Enrichment Facility Project is being implemented in partnership with the Athens Land Trust (ALT) to provide education, life skills training, and employment programs for youth and families of Athens-Clarke County. Envisioned uses of the facility include a community market and garden, classrooms, a youth activity center, and community event space.

The campus will also be an engine to support small business development and financial literacy programs and is envisioned to house those services provided by the Athens Land Trust including:



**Young Urban Farmers (YUF)  
Program**



**Young Conservation Stewards  
(YCS) Program**



**Young Urban Builders (YUB)  
Program**



**Grow Your Business (GYB)  
Program**



**Homebuyer Education  
Program**



**Commercial and Commissary  
Kitchen**

## PROJECT SITE SELECTION

The project site location has not been identified. ACCGov is implementing a collaborative site selection process that will be completed in stages and will allow the public opportunities to provide input on proposed locations.

### Stage 1

#### Site Criteria **\*Completed\***

- Identification of project needs
- Site selection committee assembled
- Establish project-specific site criteria & standards
- Obtain public input on criteria & standards
- Mayor & Commission approved site selection criteria & standards

### Stage 2

#### Identification of Potential Sites **\*In Progress\***

- Identify potential sites
- Obtain public input on the assessment of up to 10 potential sites
- Site selection committee recommends top 3 potential sites
- Mayor & Commission act to approve, amend, or reject candidate sites

### Stage 3

#### Evaluation of Candidate Sites

- Conduct suitability reviews and rank potential sites
- Complete detailed site & study review of highest performing potential sites
- Site selection committee recommends top ranked site to Mayor & Commission
- Mayor & Commission act to approve, amend, or reject recommended sites

## CONSTRUCTION PROCESS



The Youth & Community Enrichment Facility is expected to be completed in mid to late 2025.



The new facility will be designed to further ACCGov's goal of 100% Clean Renewable Energy.



The new facility will attain a green building design and operation certification.

## PROJECT TIMELINE

### Planning

Spring 2022 - Fall 2023

- Programming **\*Completed\***
- Site Selection **\*In Progress\***
- Concept Design
- Site Acquired

### Final Design

Fall 2023 - Summer 2024

- Schematic Drawings
- Design Development
- Construction Drawings

### Construction

Summer 2024 - Fall 2025

- Construction Bidding (Summer 2024)
- Groundbreaking (Fall 2024)
- Ribbon Cutting (Fall 2025)

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## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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### **Q What are the immediate next steps for the Youth & Community Enrichment Facility Project?**

ACCGov will administer an extensive site selection process and lay the framework for the new facility design. Through interactive sessions with key stakeholders and the public, ACCGov will develop a list of potential sites for the Youth & Community Enrichment Facility that will be studied and reviewed.

Potential sites will be evaluated on the previously developed site selection criteria and standards as well as their suitability to house the required building and site development components. The public will be asked their opinion of the top 10 ranked sites.

### **Q When will the Youth & Community Enrichment Facility Project location be determined?**

ACCGov anticipates finalizing a location for the Youth & Community Enrichment Facility Project in Spring/Summer 2023 after the Mayor and Commission are presented and act on the site selection findings and recommendations report.

### **Q What is the anticipated cost of the Youth & Community Enrichment Facility?**

The construction cost limit is currently approved for \$2.5 million, which includes SPLOST funds and private donations. It is also expected that the project partner(s) will pursue additional capital funds to support the SPLOST allocation. There will likely be changes to the overall project budget depending on the purchase price for the site and the design and construction process.

### **Q When is the Youth & Community Enrichment Facility project scheduled to be completed?**

The construction cost limit is currently approved for \$2.5 million, which includes SPLOST funds and private donations. It is also expected that the project partner(s) will pursue additional capital funds to support the SPLOST allocation. There will likely be changes to the overall project budget depending on the purchase price for the site and the design and construction process.

### **Q How can I participate?**

Public engagement is critical to successfully completing construction of the new Youth & Community Enrichment Facility. Every phase of the process will include opportunities for public feedback. Digital surveys, public forums, and other engagement strategies will be leveraged to maximize public and stakeholder input.

#### **Below are some of the current ways you can participate:**

- Visit the project page and sign up for project notifications at [www.accgov.com/youthfacility](http://www.accgov.com/youthfacility)
- Email [splost@accgov.com](mailto:splost@accgov.com) with questions or comments