



We Are Columbia

**MEETING DATE:** October 18, 2016

**DEPARTMENT:** City Clerk

**FROM:** *Erika Moore, City Clerk*

**SUBJECT:** Gateway to the Army Centennial Park Project Update -  
Retired Command Sergeant Major Marty Wells, President of  
the Gateway to the Army Association

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- CentennialParkConceptBrief18Oct16 (PDF)

# Gateway to the Army Association



## Commemorating Fort Jackson's 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday





# Gateway to the Army Association



## Centennial Park Information Brief & Request for Funding

# Columbia City Council



# Fort Jackson History



## (Business Leaders Lead the Way!)

- March 14, 1917 – Columbians, led by Chamber of Commerce, raised \$5K to buy & donate 1200 acres of land for Army cantonment in Columbia
- June 2, 1917 – War Dpt granted final approval for Army Tng Ctr in Columbia
- June 8, 1917 – Columbia Chamber of Commerce honors Edwin Robertson for leading effort to secure cantonment in Columbia
- June 25, 1917 – Construction of first buildings started
- July 18, 1917 – Columbia cantonment designated as “Camp Jackson”
- September 5, 1917 – First Soldiers arrive at Camp Jackson



● Gateway to the Army Association



# Fort Jackson Facts



- Largest Initial Entry Training (IET) Site in the Army
- Trains over 72,000 Personnel per year
  - ✓ 54% of Army Basic Combat Training (BCT) Load
  - ✓ 64% of Army Female Soldiers
  - ✓ 27,000 in AG, Finance, Drill Sergeant Academy, Chaplain Schools & Mechanic courses
  - ✓ 2,000 Navy personnel for deployments in FY15





# SC Military Economic Impact

Branch	Economic Impact
SC Military	\$19.0 Billion
Fort Jackson	\$2.3 Billion
Military Visitors	\$40 Million (Midlands)



# Centennial Park Value



- Serves as a testament of support for future BRACs
- Continues the Legacy of Columbia's citizenry & business leaders from 1917
- Provides gathering place for 3000-5000 weekly visitors
- Educates visitors on wartime service of American Patriots
- Improves quality of life of Fort Jackson Soldiers, Employees and Residents



# Centennial Park “BRAC STRONG!”



- Base Realignment and Closure process (BRAC) determines which military installations grow and which ones are shut down
  - BRAC Committee looks for “military-supportive” communities during BRAC decision-making process
  - FT Jackson’s annual economic impact benefits businesses, corporations and legislative bodies in Columbia, the Midlands and SC



# Park Overview





# Soldier Statue



Gateway to the Army Association





# Pathway of Patriots



Gateway to the Army Association



# Pathway of Patriots



Section through Column Detail  
 Section through Pediment  
 Foundation Detail

Document in Progress - Preliminary

Preliminary Document, Subject to Change. File Date: 05/14/16

Memorial Design  
 Fort Jackson Memorial Park  
 Gateway to the Army Association  
 4811 Hurd Scribble Road, Suite 172  
 Columbia, South Carolina 29229

53.1

Gateway to the Army Association



# Pavilion Recognition

(Proposed)



## Major General Charles H. Barth Pavilion

Wells Construction Company  
Salutes MG Barth's honored service to  
Camp Jackson, the U.S. Army  
and the  
United States of America



# Administration



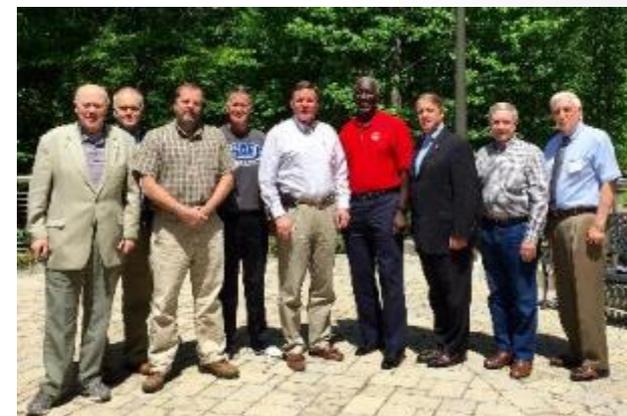
- GTTA established as a 501-C3 organization
- Estimated project cost is \$2.7 million
- Donations from community members, veterans, patriots, area businesses, philanthropists, & defense contractors
- Granite pavers for \$99 (4"x 8") & \$199 (8"x 8")
- Website [www.gatewaytothearmy.org](http://www.gatewaytothearmy.org)
- Facebook site
- Groundbreaking fall 2016
- Primary designer: Ron Clamp



# GTTA Board



- CSM (ret) Marty Wells, president
- Bill Eisele, vice president
- Col. (ret) Sam Brick, secretary
- Col. (ret) Gene Gordon, treasurer
- Maj. Gen (ret) George Goldsmith
- Maj. Gen. (ret) Abe Turner
- Dan Hennigan, executive officer
- Tom Sliker
- Col. (ret) Bryan Hilferty
- CSM (ret) Ron Friday (not pictured)
- Ted Stambolitis (not pictured)





# GTTA Honorary Board



- GEN (ret) Fred Woerner, SOUTHCOM & History board
- Sgt. Maj. of the Army (ret) Jack Tilley
- Sherriff Leon Lott, Richland County Sheriff
- Mayor Steve Benjamin
- Jennifer Harding, Russell & Jeffcoat Realtors
- Alex English, NBA Hall of Famer
- Joe Pinner, TV Personality
- Otis Rawl, President/CEO, Lexington Chamber of Commerce





# Centennial Park Corporate Sponsors





# Centennial Park In-Kind Sponsors





# Sponsor Recognition



- Corporate name and logo to be placed on the Centennial Park "Title Stone"
- Corporate logo and link to corporate website will be displayed (and meta tagged/indexed) as a link on GTTA's website
- Periodic iHeart Media PSAs mentioning sponsors
- Corporate name and logo place on a 8X8 commemorative brick conspicuously placed on our "Pathway of Patriots".
- Regular notice on our social media posts
- Corporate name and logo place in our printed material such as invitations, programs, brochures etc.



# Sponsor Recognition Cont.



- Corporate name and logo placed in our newspaper advertisements
- Corporate name will be featured in a official news release to all electronic and print media in South Carolina
- Corporation will be recognized at all GTTA events and activities
- Invitation to and recognition at the Centennial Park dedication



# How Columbia City Council Can Help



- Provide \$500,000 over 3 years for the construction of Centennial Park
- Talk About Centennial Park in Your Work Places and Community
- Help GTTAA Identify Potential Partners



# Questions?

