



# Bicentennial Square

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Vision Plan



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# Letter from KCCI



Dear Community,

Our 2024 volunteer Knight Creative Communities Institute (KCCI) Community Catalyst team set out to commemorate Tallahassee's 200th anniversary as the state capital by creating a comprehensive design for an iconic city park in downtown Tallahassee.

The 14 Community Catalysts, known as the KCCI Tally 200 team, brought a wide breadth of professional experience, technical expertise, and personal achievements to this project. We were guided by strong personal connections to the City of Tallahassee, and our unanimous determination to create a public space that will be welcoming to all for generations to come.

A celebratory park space at City Hall will provide a much-needed focal point for downtown Tallahassee. Situated at the intersection of city and county government centers, the state Capitol, and local businesses, the significance of this future park location is unique in Florida. It has the potential to become a distinctive destination.

Based on community input and our team's expertise, this Vision Plan lays out thoughtful strategies for transforming the area into a vibrant and welcoming destination for Tallahassee residents, visitors of all ages, businesses, and elected officials. The design elements included in the plan are responsive to input and suggestions received from hundreds of community citizens and stakeholders through public surveys, meetings, and conversations.

Thank you to the Downtown Redevelopment Committee for unanimously approving KCCI's team vision for Bicentennial Square. Our team appreciates the unanimous approval by the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Board on October 17, 2024 for the funding for Phase 1 and Phase 2.

Our KCCI Community Catalyst team is grateful for the opportunity to develop this plan and to the Tallahassee community for the important role they played in its ideation.

Sincerely,

**2024 KCCI Community Catalyst Team**

## Acknowledgements

The 2024 KCCI Tally 200 team extends its sincere appreciation to the many individuals and organizations who gave their time, expertise, talent, ideas, and support to help envision the recommendations included in the Vision Plan.

City of Tallahassee Mayor John Dailey, City Commissioner Curtis Richardson, City Commissioner Commissioner Jeremy Matlow, Commissioner Jacqueline (Jack) Porter, and Commissioner Diane Williams-Cox.

City of Tallahassee Team Members and especially: Office of the Mayor, City Parks, Recreation & Neighborhood Affairs Department, Underground Utilities & Public Infrastructure, Facilities, City Construction, Department of PLACE, and Tallahassee Community Redevelopment Agency.

A variety of community organizations provided input and counsel. This includes, but is not limited to: Tallahassee Garden Club, Downtown Improvement Authority and Board of Directors, Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, Greater Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce members, Hayward House, NAI TALCOR, Florida Retail Federation, Capital City Consulting, The Southern Group, COCA, Sunrise Rotary, REI, Gulf Winds Track Club, Tallahassee Senior Center, Audubon Society, Bicentennial Committee, Visit Tallahassee, KCCI Advisory Board, Ausley Law Firm, Kimley-Horn, Jay Revell, and Family Promise of the Big Bend.

### Thank you to the 2024 volunteer KCCI Community Catalysts:

Elizabeth Barron (Ausley McMullen)  
Jan Brown (Retired)  
Rachel Corry (Moore)  
Pamela Flores (Florida Department of Environmental Protection)  
Jane Johnson (Florida Association of Centers for Independent Living)  
Verlonda Johnson (Preeminence Contracting and Construction)  
Jonathan Klepper (Florida Center for Reading Research)  
Maxim D. Nasab (Apexx Architecture)  
Matthew Persinger (Architects Lewis + Whitlock)  
Hadley Peterson (Kimley-Horn and Associates)  
Bianca Rhoades (Hancock Whitney Bank)  
Rueben Stokes (Rueben Stokes DEIB Advisory Services, a BEMSTAR Company)  
Alexandra Valdes (Apalachee Regional Planning Council)  
Reenee Williams (CareerSource Capital Region)

### Thank you to the KCCI Project Advisory Committee Members:

Caleb Martinez (chair)  
Joey Arellano  
Holly McPhail  
Charlie Johnson

*This Vision Plan would not have been possible without the KCCI sponsors that made this 2024 KCCI Community Catalyst Class possible. This includes: Knight Foundation Fund at the Community Foundation of North Florida, VyStar Credit Union, Tallahassee Memorial HealthCare, Taproot, FAMU School of Business and Industry, Florida State University College of Business, NAI TALCOR, Structure Real Estate, Nolia & Bill Brandt, Lewis + Whitlock Architects, Wood + Partners, Brown & Brown, BowStern Marketing, Serena and Jon Moyle, David Powell and Vicki Webber, Marjorie Turnbull, Dentist Dr. Cory Couch, and Charlie Johnson.*

# Our Process

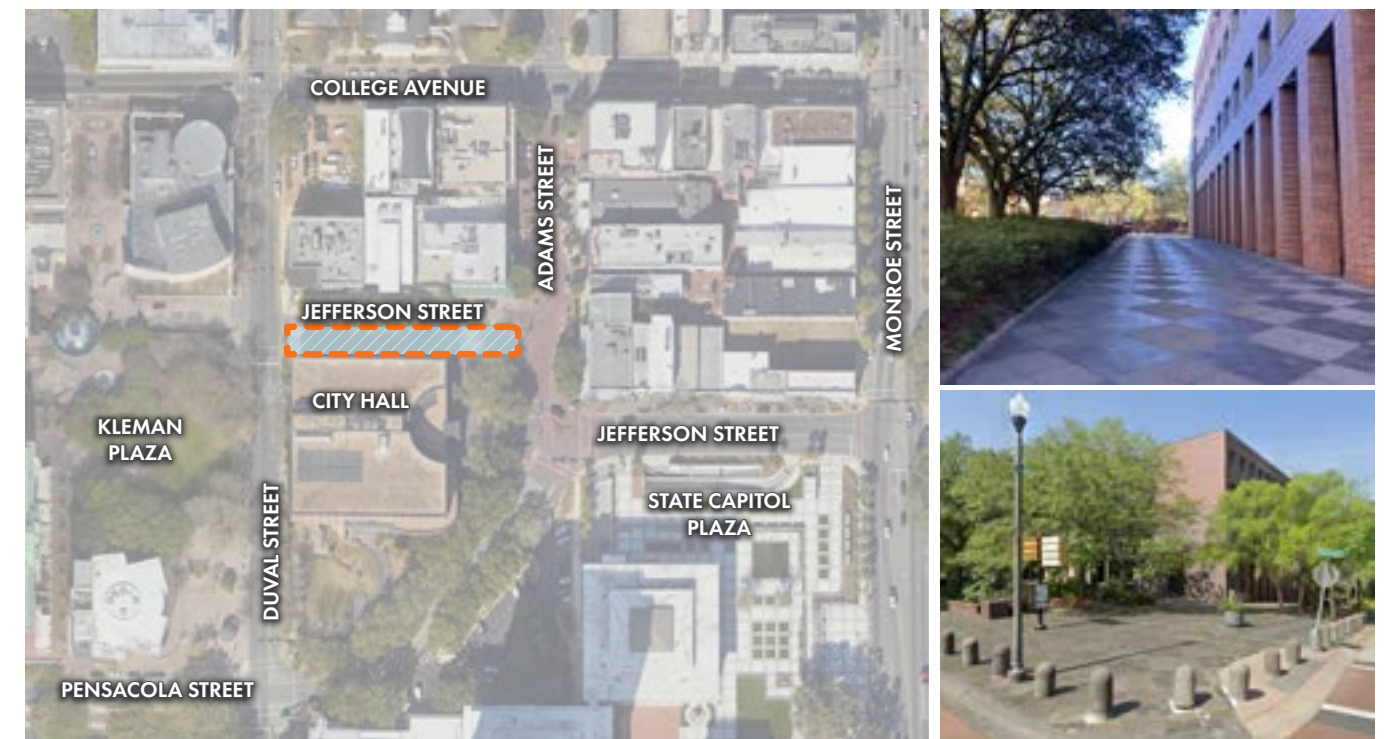


For 200 years, the proposed location of Bicentennial Square has been part of the heart of Downtown Tallahassee. Historically, this space was where people would gather and circulate and has connected people with their local and state governments. As Downtown Tallahassee has evolved and changed over the last eighty years - this space has been underutilized and has not experienced much activity or public use. This central historical space can easily become a memorable, welcoming place, Bicentennial Square, a park that redefines Tallahassee's Downtown landscape by reconnecting people to the public realm. This is the prime opportunity to also address significant safety, accessibility, and connectivity issues that are present around City Hall.

The 2024 KCCI Community Catalyst Team has developed a phased approach to transforming this underutilized space by leveraging quick wins and cost-effective tactical changes that will redefine Tallahassee far into the future and give the people of Tallahassee, and of Florida, a Capital City Downtown public realm enhancement they can be proud of. The return on investment is priceless, and as past KCCI projects historically show, will have a constant, positive impact and ripple effect of placemaking and economic influence. It has the potential to become a distinctive destination commemorating Tallahassee's legacy as Florida's capital city, celebrating Tallahassee's evolution and development, while also looking forward to continued growth and success.

It is a publicly owned property that has the potential to connect Kleman Plaza to the Adams Street corridor while enhancing a sense of place defined by safety, welcome, and belonging. Located near City Hall, businesses, restaurants, and the Capitol, the space experiences heavy foot traffic but is underutilized. The current park site is underutilized because it is not welcoming, is poorly lit at night and offers little shade or seating during the day.

This Vision Plan includes a detailed assessment of the current site and lays out thoughtful strategies for transforming the area into a vibrant and welcoming destination for Tallahassee residents, visitors of all ages, businesses, and elected officials. The design elements included in the plan are responsive to input and suggestions received from hundreds of community citizens and stakeholders through public surveys, meetings, and conversations. The KCCI Catalyst team is grateful for the opportunity to develop this plan and to the Tallahassee community for the important role they played in its ideation.



 BICENTENNIAL PARK PROJECT EXTENTS

Bicentennial Square, nestled in the heart of Tallahassee, includes a rich tapestry of history. The story begins nearly two centuries ago, when Creek Chief Neamathla presided over Cohowooche, the land that would one day become Tallahassee. In 1823, a pivotal agreement between John Lee Williams, Dr. William Simmons, and Chief Neamathla paved the way for Tallahassee to rise as Florida's new capital. Amidst tensions and negotiations, Governor William DuVal and U.S. Army soldiers intervened, leading to the establishment of Tallahassee in March 1824.

Governor DuVal, envisioning the city's future, designed a grid layout that included five central public squares. Among these was Wayne Square, the precursor to today's Bicentennial Square. Wayne Square quickly became a hub of commerce and community, bustling with markets where farmers traded goods and stories beneath oaks.

The square's evolution mirrored Tallahassee's broader history. In 1865, the Emancipation Proclamation echoed through its streets, heralding the end of slavery in Florida and marking a transformative moment in the square's narrative. Over the decades, as Tallahassee grew, so did Wayne Square. The original City Hall, built nearby in 1893, stood as a testament to the city's aspirations and governance.

In the 1960s, as Tallahassee modernized, so did its civic structures. The old City Hall made way for a new era, culminating in the construction of the current City Hall in 1968. This transformation marked not only a physical change but a symbolic one, reflecting Tallahassee's journey from its humble beginnings to its status as a thriving capital city.

Today, Bicentennial Square stands as a living tribute to Tallahassee's past and present. The trees whisper tales of civic gatherings, while its streets echo with the footsteps of generations. As Tallahassee continues to evolve, Bicentennial Square remains a cherished landmark—a testament to resilience, growth, and the enduring spirit of a community bound by history.



Plan for the City of Tallahassee circa 1824. Image courtesy of State Archives of Florida, Florida Memory, <https://floridamemory.com/items/show/29876>



For years people have talked about improving the “hill” outside of City Hall. In 2019, Florida A&M University (FAMU) held a design charrette and site visit with the local chapter of the American Institute of Architects. Several visionary and transformative ideas were shared and acted as groundwork for the work of the 2024 KCCI Community Catalyst Team. Fast forward to 2023, several Downtown stakeholders approached KCCI to evaluate a larger Downtown Revitalization effort as the official 2024 KCCI Community Catalyst project concept. Working hand-in-hand with stakeholders, the 2024 KCCI Community Catalyst project was selected to leverage not only the past five years of conversations about downtown revitalization but also align with the 2024 Tallahassee Bicentennial. KCCI’s Board of Directors felt that in order for a potential park or public realm enhancements to be successful in this space, it was important to work with the community to understand what they wanted to see in the space.

To bring that vision to reality, a group of volunteer “Community Catalysts” was formed with individuals who had the talents, resources, and expertise to lead the project through community visioning, inclusive engagement, and vision planning. The 2024 KCCI Community Catalyst team includes fourteen talented and diverse individuals who were selected out of a highly competitive applicant pool to serve as the KCCI 2024 Community Catalyst leadership team.

The 2024 KCCI team first met in December 2023 to start researching best practices and case studies across the country and world that addressed expanding urban access to nature, integrating art into public spaces, and the impact a transformed public space could have on economic development. Drawing on research from the Brookings Institution, the 2024 KCCI team recognized the transformative power of public spaces. Investing in the creation of a welcoming and culturally rich environment catalyzes economic growth and creates a sense of belonging.

Then, in January 2024, after KCCI’s two-day leadership training, the 2024 KCCI team set out to commemorate Tallahassee’s 200th anniversary by brainstorming the possibilities for the space with the community to ensure the community’s desires and needs were met. As community input was analyzed and integrated, the 2024 KCCI team began conceptualizing a Vision Plan for an iconic urban park in Downtown Tallahassee. The KCCI team is guided by the unanimous determination to create a public space that will be welcoming to all for generations to come.

As of December 2024, the KCCI team has provided over 3,000 hours to the project with an in-kind value of nearly half-a-million dollars.



# Crafting the Vision

The vision for the space is informed by best practices around the globe and informed by the City's Comprehensive Plan, Cultural Plan, and Downtown CRA Master Plan. Perhaps more importantly, the vision for the space was co-designed with and informed by the Tallahassee community.

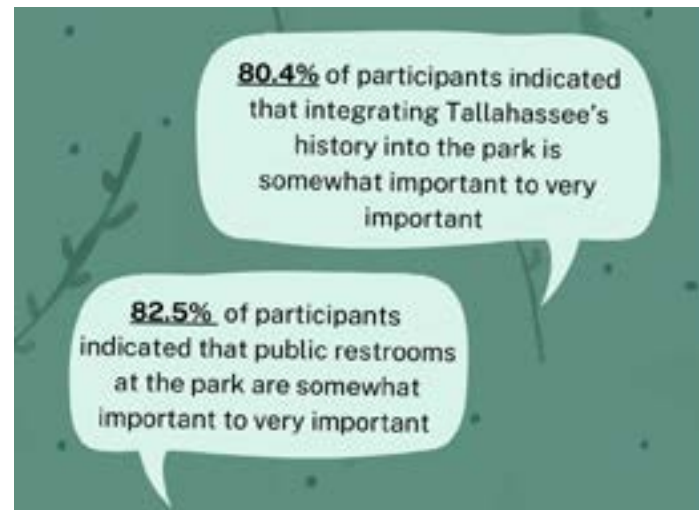
KCCI reviewed feedback from more than 400 citizens and stakeholders to understand their desire for the components and elements of a park in downtown Tallahassee.

Community feedback from KCCI's Community Input Survey and in-person outreach guided the Bicentennial Square design and helps ensure the park activates downtown, enhances community vitality, and is a welcoming place for a diverse group of people.

Over nine months of continued conversations the KCCI team was able to hear from community through online survey respondents, social media engagements, individual stakeholder meetings, focused conversations, large-scale community events, and pop-up booths.



Key words from open-ended survey feedback.



## What We Heard

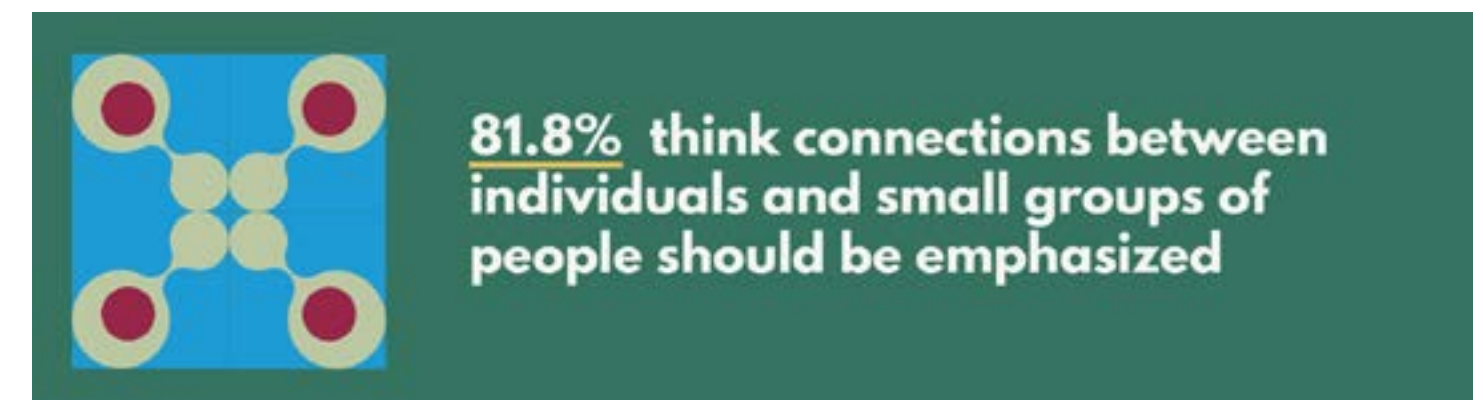
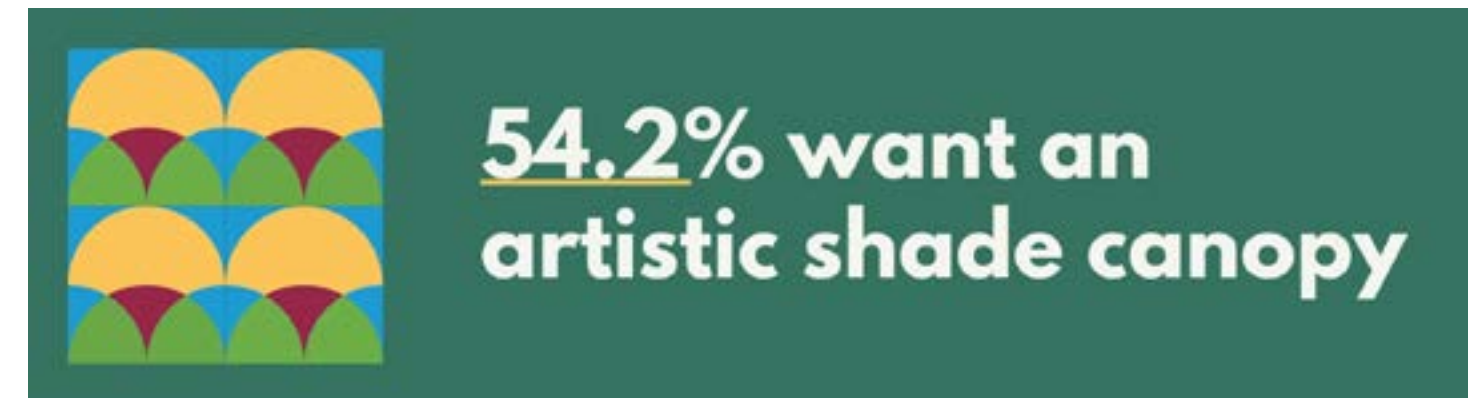
The top features that would motivate participants to visit **Bicentennial Square**:



Shared tables and seating options



Natural green space and flora/fauna



*"I love the idea of the space celebrating our history and taking us into the next 100 years with cool, interactive displays, lighting and elements that families can enjoy."*

# Grounded in Reality



The engagement was complemented by a deep dive into historical research of the space, connectivity analysis of the space, existing assets and site inventory, and a design constraint analysis. In its current state, the proposed Bicentennial Square site is used as a pedestrian walkway to connect people with Adams Street, City Hall, the Capitol Complex, and Downtown Tallahassee in general. The current site is not welcoming, offers little seating or shade during the day, and is underutilized due to safety concerns at night.

Under a significant portion of the proposed site is the City Hall parking garage, which limits certain improvements due to the structural and functional role of the space. The parking garage is slated for waterproofing improvements in 2026, which afforded the 2024 KCCI team an opportunity to leverage quick wins and immediate enhancements. Since the waterproofing will impact existing infrastructure, there is the opportunity to redesign the paving with safer, more accessible elements such as slip-resistant pavers.

The 2024 KCCI team not only conducted significant research to detail these design constraints, but they also worked hand-in-hand with City staff to understand operations and maintenance concerns to ensure every recommendation discussed with the public was grounded in reality. This allowed the first phase of engagement to dive into a level of detail with the community to truly envision what was feasible in the space and what design features could be included. The community input gathered at this stage helped the project team develop the overall project vision, guiding principles, and initial design possibilities.

A SWOT analysis is a strategic planning tool used to identify and evaluate the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats involved in a project. It provides a comprehensive overview of both internal and external factors that can impact the success of the endeavor. In the context of planning to develop Bicentennial Square in downtown Tallahassee, a SWOT analysis was used to assess the current environment in terms of strengths and weaknesses (internal) and opportunities and threats (external).

- **Strengths:** By examining the strengths of the project, such as its central location, community support, and existing infrastructure, the City can leverage these advantages to maximize the park's potential and appeal.
- **Weaknesses:** Understanding the weaknesses or challenges, such as accessibility issues, budget constraints, and potential conflicts with stakeholders, allows the City to proactively address these issues and minimize their impact on the project.
- **Opportunities:** Recognizing opportunities, such as community engagement, innovative design possibilities, and public-private partnerships, enables planners to capitalize on these potential avenues for enhancing the park and achieving broader community goals.
- **Threats:** Identifying potential threats, such as safety risks, regulatory hurdles, and budget limitations, helps the City develop strategies to mitigate these risks and ensure the project's success.



## Strengths:

- 1. Central Location:** Being located in downtown Tallahassee makes the park easily accessible to residents and visitors.
- 2. Desire for Park Space:** There's a strong desire for a space that provides opportunities for relaxation and recreation.
- 3. Community Input and Collaboration:** Leveraging community input and collaboration enables a comprehensive and inclusive approach to park design and management, ensuring alignment with local needs, preferences, and fostering cohesive stakeholder engagement.
- 4. Existing Infrastructure:** The presence of the Millenium Walkway, utilities, nearby parking, and established trees provides a foundation for park development.
- 5. Accessibility and Safety Focus:** Emphasizing safety, including adequate lighting and accessibility, enhances the park's appeal and usability.

## Weaknesses:

- 1. Steep Slope:** The steep slope of the Millenium Walkway may pose accessibility challenges and require careful design considerations.
- 2. Disintegrating Bricks:** Saving and maintaining the named bricks on the Millenium Walkway, especially those that have disintegrated or become unreadable, presents a logistical and preservation challenge.
- 3. Future Construction:** The planned construction over the parking garage and replacement of the parking garage roof may disrupt park activities and require careful planning to mitigate impacts.
- 4. Homelessness Concerns:** Addressing the needs of the unhoused population while ensuring park safety and cleanliness requires a delicate balance and comprehensive strategy.
- 5. Long-term Maintenance:** Responsibility for the long-term maintenance and security of the park may strain resources and require sustainable funding.

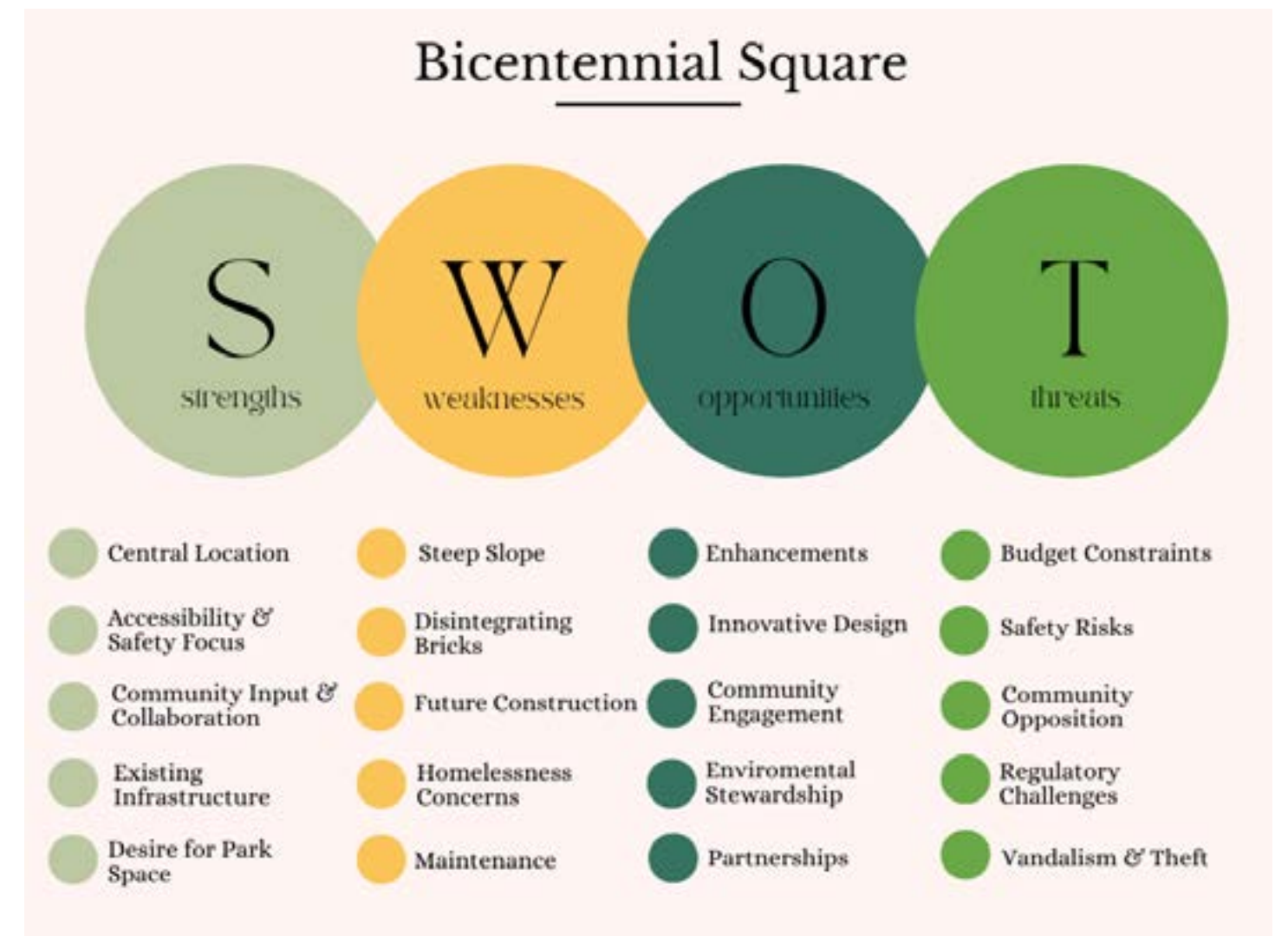
## Opportunities:

- 1. Park Enhancement:** Future phases can focus on enhancing the park's amenities, such as adding recreational components, restroom facilities, improved landscaping, and cultural elements.
- 2. Innovative Design:** Incorporating innovative lighting solutions for the colonnade and trees can enhance the park's aesthetic appeal and safety features.
- 3. Community Engagement:** Continued engagement with agencies serving the unhoused population can identify additional opportunities for park adaptation and support services.
- 4. Environmental Stewardship:** Maintaining the current oak trees and creating a healthy environment for them can contribute to the park's ecological sustainability.
- 5. Public-Private Partnerships:** Exploring partnerships with businesses or organizations can provide resources for park maintenance and programming.

## Threats:

- 1. Budget Constraints:** Limited funding may restrict the scope of park development and maintenance efforts, compromising the quality of amenities and services.
- 2. Safety Risks:** Inadequate lighting and accessibility measures may increase safety concerns, discouraging park usage especially at night.
- 3. Regulatory Challenges:** Navigating regulatory approvals and compliance requirements for park construction and operations can delay project timelines and increase costs.
- 4. Vandalism and Theft:** Maintaining security in the park, especially during off-hours, is essential to prevent vandalism, theft, and other criminal activities that may deter visitors.
- 5. Community Opposition:** Conflicting opinions or resistance from certain community groups may hinder park development and implementation of proposed initiatives.

By conducting this SWOT analysis, we gained valuable insights into the various factors influencing the development of the space and can make informed decisions to optimize its design, implementation, and long-term sustainability. This analysis serves as a foundation for developing the Vision Plan, guiding the allocation of resources, prioritization of initiatives, and management of potential challenges throughout the project lifecycle.





# Vision & Guiding Principles



*Located in the heart of downtown, Bicentennial Square's mission is to create a place that fosters an authentic sense of connection and belonging between people of all ages, backgrounds, and cultures. The park will celebrate Tallahassee's eclectic character as a dynamic place where people can connect with nature, each other, and Tallahassee's collective past and co-created future.*

**Connection:** Provides for deeper, authentic connection to other places and people in Tallahassee.

**Activation:** Supports programs, events, and everyday activities to enliven Downtown so the space is a co-created place where diverse people can come together.

**Art:** Supports public art and increases natural beauty and placemaking in Downtown Tallahassee.

**History/Future:** Builds on the collective history of Tallahassee by celebrating diverse stories to reimagine and preserve historic elements in the space.

**Nature:** Preserves and restores the nature of Tallahassee in an efficient and sustainable way while providing a connection between our urban fabric and the natural environment.

**Welcome:** Improves belonging and safety for a variety of diverse users through inclusive site design.



# Phased Approach

## Phase 1

Through extensive public engagement efforts, a park concept was developed that weaves together places to celebrate history, art, and nature while integrating elements that increase activity and the sense of belonging in the space. The first phase of making Bicentennial Square a reality includes the following components to be completed by March of 2025.

- **Colonnade Lighting**
- **Bike Rack**
- **Planting**
- **Signage and Wayfinding**



## Colonnade Lighting

The colonnade lighting is dynamic, allowing the lighting features to highlight the architectural features of City Hall, provide additional lighting to enhance security, and provide a space for exploration and imagination. At night, lighting plays an integral part of the iconic look of any building. The architecture's aesthetic features will be easily distinguishable from afar, providing a sense of place and arrival to the traveling public. Tallahassee's City Hall is an architectural staple for the region. Adding aesthetic lighting will help accentuate the architectural language and provide a more interactive and safe space. Upgrading the aesthetic lighting on this historical building will lead to an enhanced visual experience in the downtown area.

With the new lighting design, we want to meet the minimal design language but also find ways to improve the existing appearance at night. We propose to keep fixture quantities to a minimum and locate lights in positions that are protected but easily accessible for maintenance. Color changing LEDs will be implemented throughout the project that allow for an easy-to-use controller to match any city events or special themes. Using the newest technology will allow us to be more efficient with the lighting design. Although the main goal is to improve the aesthetic lighting, we are dedicated to ensuring that it exemplifies visual connections to the urban fabric and provides a safer space in the downtown core.



*Renderings of the Proposed Lighting Design and Function*

## Bike Rack

The bike racks, existing and required by the City of Tallahassee, offer a canvas ripe for transformation. A fast way to create interest and bring activity to the park space is to reimagine these bike racks as opportunities for beauty and engagement. In this endeavor, we hope to elevate the visibility and appreciation of cyclists by integrating sculptural bike racks that double as artistic installations,

Replacing the existing rack racks with custom, sculptural designs will bring new vibrancy to the park. By opting for a more artistic approach for bike racks, the City can promote cycling as a sustainable and enjoyable mode of transportation, fostering a sense of community and turning utilitarian structures into captivating works of art.



*Precedent Example of Recommended Product*

## Planting

While planting in the berm cannot occur until after the City Hall parking garage renovations, the short-term solution to integrating nature into the site is through the replacement of bollards along the northeastern boundary of Bicentennial Square with self-watering planters and native plants. This is an area that sees heavy foot and vehicular traffic, meaning it is an ideal opportunity to catalyze site transformation with bright and eclectic colors as an early precursor to the park design. The utilitarian nature of traffic bollards can overshadow the beauty and character of our urban landscape. These existing bollards, serving as functional security barriers, will remain within the sight-distance triangle and be reimaged along the perimeter to mark the entry into the park. Additional planters will be added in Phase 3.

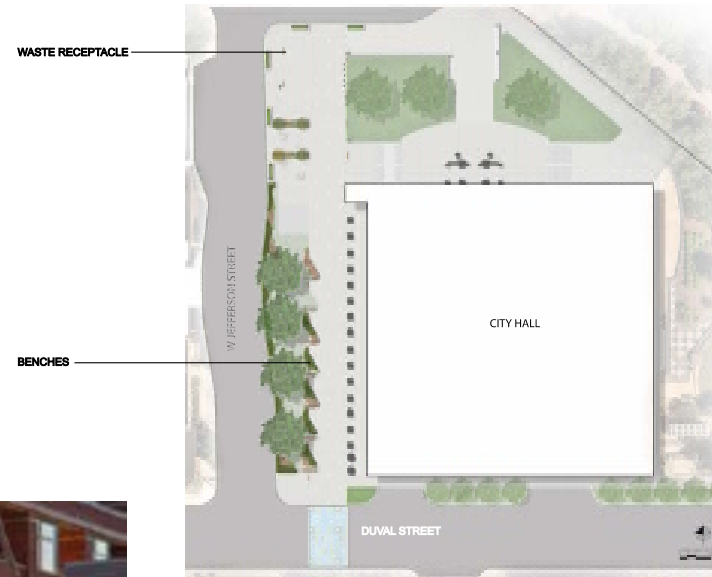
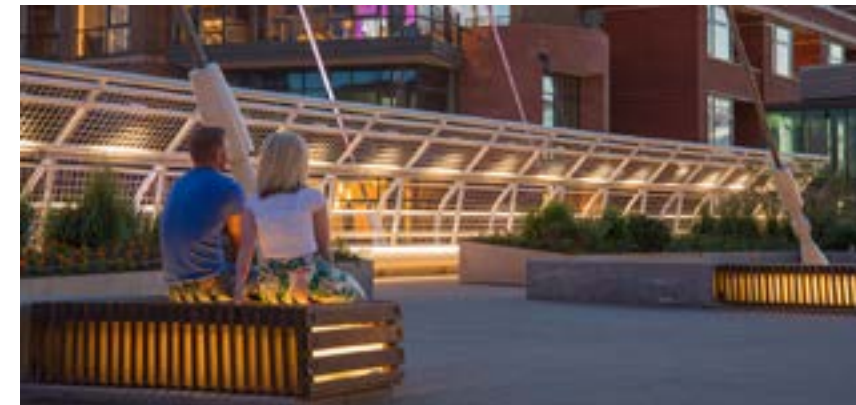
## Signage and Wayfinding

To best engage Bicentennial Square visitors we recommend an environmentally-friendly, interactive sign that allows for integrated wayfinding and community discovery. A Bicentennial Square welcome sign should be added for site identification. These design elements help enhance connectivity and provide a sense of place at the Bicentennial Square site during Phase 1.

# Phase 2

The second phase of Bicentennial Square will be implemented hand-in-hand with a team of professional designers. This phase is devoted to further defining the park character while being installed in a manner that does not require major site work. This includes the below elements. While the specific products for this phase have not been selected, the intent of these site furnishings is captured in the precedent imagery below.

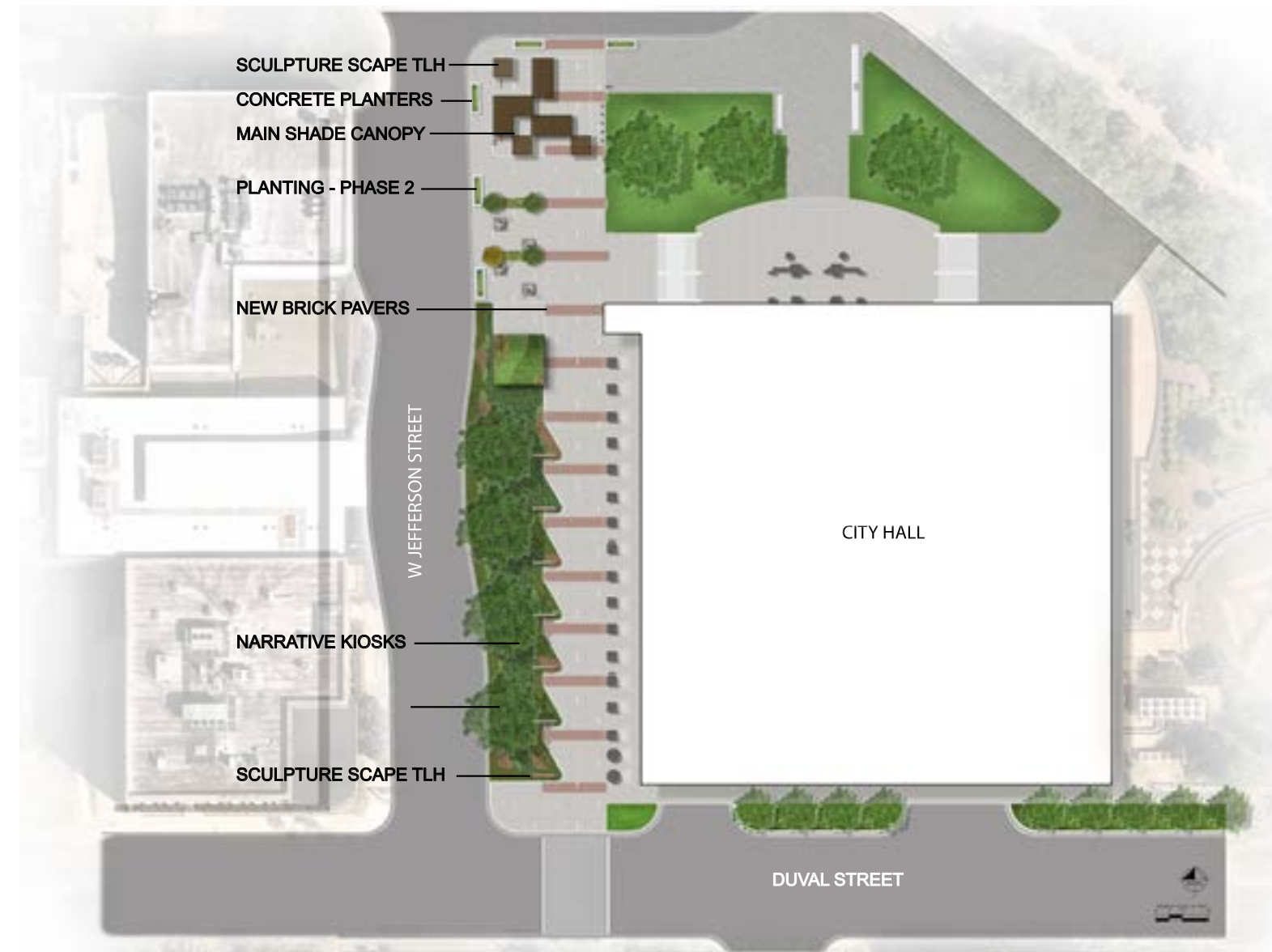
- **Trash Receptacles**
- **Benches and Furniture**



# Phase 3

The final phase of Bicentennial Square completes the build-out with elements that require integration with larger site infrastructure and existing capital projects in the area.

- **Sculptural shade canopy with seating**
- **Updated slip-resistant paving with integrated lighting**
- **Pedestals to integrate DIA + COCA Sculpture Scape TLH program**
- **Narrative kiosks/interactive signage**
- **Redesigned native planting in the berm**
- **Artistic crosswalk**





## Sculptural Shade Canopy

Located at the corner of Adams and Jefferson, this element will anchor the site and provide space for connection. This structure is envisioned to act not only as a structure to provide shade but also an architectural big move to better connect the built environment with nature. Additional seating will be provided underneath the canopy.

## Paving

The paving throughout the linear park should be replaced as part of Phase 3 to slip-resistant paving to assist with the accessibility issues of the slope while also having integrated lighting to activate the space at all hours of the day.

## Native Planting

The existing planting in the berm will be reimagined to include native plantings with identification markers throughout to help educate the public on the benefit of native plants. The Tallahassee Garden Club is an identified partner for this work. Together with the KCCI team and City staff, the Garden Club has drafted the below planting plan for the space.



## Sculpture Scape TLH

Public art in Bicentennial Square will be supported by the Downtown Improvement Authority (DIA) and the Council on Culture & Arts (COCA) through their newly created program of rotating sculptures in downtown Tallahassee which feature national, regional, and local artists. This would include two (2) locations in the space that would be installed in January of 2027 after a Call for Artists is completed.

## Narrative Kiosks/Interactive Signage

Up to seven architectural kiosks should be added in the berm to celebrate the heritage and culture of Tallahassee. Themes for the stories told on these kiosks or interactive signage should include diverse stories that represent the unique tapestry of voices and stories within Tallahassee.



## Artistic Crosswalk

The KCCI Catalyst team worked with the DIA to spearhead an innovative project to install an artistic crosswalk near Bicentennial Square. The design was done by Lindsey Masterson of Pen & Tool Designs. This artistic crosswalk aims to merge safety and aesthetics, enhancing the urban landscape while improving traffic conditions by transforming the crosswalk space with a Color Safe thermoplastic product approved by the Florida Department of Transportation.

Ideally, the installation will be located at the intersection of South Duval Street and West Jefferson Street, at the boundary shared with the entrance to the Kleman Plaza Parking Garage. This is one of the busiest intersections in Tallahassee, making it a prime location for this safety-enhancing project. The choice of site reflects a strategic effort to address pedestrian and driver safety concerns in high-traffic areas. Traffic studies have shown that similar projects in Tallahassee have resulted in a 10% decrease in drivers running stop signs and a significant reduction in vehicle speeds by more than 20%. By incorporating art into urban infrastructure, this crosswalk will create a safer, more engaging environment.



Design Element	Required	Recommended	Desired
<b>Update Pavers</b>	•		
Slip Resistant	•		
Light Integrated			•
<b>Improve Berm Design</b>	•		
Provide Plant Identifications	•		
Add Paths and Water Features		•	
Florida Friendly Plantings	•		
<b>Sculpture Scope Pedestals</b>		•	
Work with DIA/COCA	•		
<b>Shade Canopy</b>	•		
Designed with Local Artist		•	
Integrate Lighting & Wayfinding		•	
<b>Seating</b>	•		
Flexible Seating Options		•	
<b>Safety Lighting</b>	•		
Aesthetic Lighting		•	
<b>Informational Kiosks (Story of TLH)</b>	•		
<b>Updated Wayfinding</b>	•		

Above is a chart that denotes what features of each design element are required, what are recommended based on best practices and community feedback, and what is desired - budget permitting.

# Partnership

The cultivation of robust and sustained community partnerships will be integral to the realization of the Bicentennial Square's mission to be a place that fosters an authentic sense of connection and belonging between people of all ages, backgrounds, and cultures.

There are numerous partnership opportunities that can support the individual goals and values enumerated in the park plan, as illustrated in the examples below.

Guiding Principles	Community Partners
<p><b>Connection:</b> Provides for deeper, authentic connection to other places and people in Tallahassee.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Greater Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce</li> <li>■ Big Bend Minority Chamber of Commerce</li> <li>■ Visit Tallahassee</li> <li>■ Downtown Business Association</li> <li>■ City of Tallahassee Parks &amp; Recreation</li> </ul>
<p><b>Activation:</b> Supports programs, events, and everyday activities to enliven Downtown so the space is a co-created place where diverse people can come together.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ City of Tallahassee Parks &amp; Recreation</li> <li>■ Gulf Winds Track Club</li> <li>■ Tallahassee Senior Games</li> <li>■ FSU Student Union</li> <li>■ FAMU Efferson Student Union</li> <li>■ TSC Black Student Union</li> <li>■ Tallahassee Downtown Getdown</li> <li>■ COCA</li> <li>■ African Dance and Arts Summer Festival</li> <li>■ Working Class Wednesday</li> <li>■ Black on Black Rhyme</li> <li>■ Tallahassee Downtown Improvement Authority</li> <li>■ Retail Friday, High End Pop Up Shops</li> <li>■ Food truck alley day Wednesday</li> </ul>



Guiding Principles	Community Partners
<p><b>Art:</b> Supports public art and increases natural beauty and placemaking in Downtown Tallahassee.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ COCA</li> <li>■ FSU Master Craftsman Program</li> <li>■ Tallahassee Museum</li> <li>■ LeMoyne Arts Gallery</li> <li>■ Riley House Museum</li> <li>■ Mission San Luis</li> <li>■ Goodwood Museum &amp; Gardens</li> <li>■ Florida Historic Capitol Museum</li> <li>■ The Grove Museum</li> <li>■ Tallahassee Downtown Improvement Authority</li> <li>■ KCCI</li> <li>■ Word of South</li> </ul>
<p><b>History/Future:</b> Builds on the collective history of Tallahassee by celebrating diverse stories to reimagine and preserve historic elements in the space.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Leon County Public Libraries</li> <li>■ Leon County Public Schools</li> <li>■ WFSU Public Media</li> <li>■ Tallahassee Democrat</li> <li>■ FSU Dept of History</li> <li>■ FAMU Dept of History, Political Science, Geography, Political &amp; African American Studies</li> <li>■ Historic Capitol Museum</li> <li>■ Indian- Pioneer Oral History Project</li> </ul>
<p><b>Nature:</b> Preserves and restores the nature of Tallahassee in an efficient and sustainable way while providing a connection between our urban fabric and the natural environment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Tallahassee Garden Club</li> <li>■ UF/IFAS Master Gardener Program</li> <li>■ Tallahassee Nurseries</li> <li>■ Native Nurseries</li> <li>■ Esposito's Garden Center</li> <li>■ Sustainable Tallahassee</li> </ul>
<p><b>Welcome:</b> Improves belonging and safety for a variety of diverse users through inclusive site design.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Greater Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce</li> <li>■ Big Bend Minority Chamber of Commerce</li> <li>■ Visit Tallahassee</li> <li>■ Family Promise of the Big Bend</li> <li>■ Homeless Outreach Street Team (HOST)</li> <li>■ Kearney Center</li> </ul>

Working with a broad cross-section of community partners and organizations, KCCI's team envisions Bicentennial Square becoming a focal point for year-round events and activities that attract local residents, visitors, and businesses.

Some of the suggested programming can include:

- ☑ Crosswalk Activation and celebration during Bicentennial Week (November 10th, 2024).
- ☑ Farmers' Market: In collaboration with the Tallahassee Downtown Market, Bicentennial Square can serve as an additional site for vendors selling local produce, artisan goods, and homemade crafts.
- ☑ Music in the Square: Concerts showcasing local bands and musicians across various genres can be featured in the square to encourage patronage of nearby restaurants and bars.
- ☑ Food Truck Day: A rotating selection of food trucks offering diverse culinary options can provide outdoor lunch or dinner options for downtown employees and visitors to the Capitol.
- ☑ Art Walks: In collaboration with local art galleries and COCA, art exhibitions and live painting sessions by local artists can be featured.
- ☑ Cultural Festivals: Bicentennial Square will provide a unique venue for celebrations of different cultures with food, music, dance, and crafts.
- ☑ Fitness Boot Camp: Outdoor fitness classes, including yoga, Zumba, and boot camp sessions can be offered in the grass area at Kleman Plaza and on the Jefferson Street slope between Duval and Adams Streets.
- ☑ Pop-Up Boutiques: Seasonal pop-up shops featuring locally made, luxury goods, and unique finds can be set up in the park space during the legislative session.
- ☑ Garden Club Workshops: the park can serve as a site for educational gardening sessions and plant swaps.
- ☑ Outdoor Movie Nights: Family-friendly movies can be shown on a big screen under the stars.
- ☑ Craft Fairs: Seasonal craft fairs showcasing handmade items from local artisans.

- ☑ History Walks: Guided tours highlighting the history of Tallahassee and the park.
- ☑ Sustainability Days: Workshops on sustainable living and environmental conservation can be featured in the park, with local horticulturists.
- ☑ Book Fairs: Local book sellers can be invited to host conversations with authors, book signings, and literary discussions.
- ☑ Pet Adoption Days: Partner with local animal shelters to host pet adoption events.
- ☑ Interactive Science Exhibits: Working with the Challenger Learning Center and the FSU Mag Lab, the park can host fun, hands-on science activities for kids and families.
- ☑ Community Volunteer Days: Organize community service projects to improve and beautify the park.
- ☑ Recycling and Upcycling Workshops: Teach the community how to recycle effectively and upcycle items into useful or decorative objects.
- ☑ Nature Scavenger Hunt: Partner with Visit Tallahassee for a scavenger hunt that encourages participants to learn about local flora, fauna, and environmental features.
- ☑ Composting Workshops: Demonstrate how to start and maintain a compost bin at home, with hands-on activities for participants.
- ☑ Water Conservation Days: Educational activities and demonstrations on conserving water at home and in the community especially since the city offers energy audits.
- ☑ University Days: The park is well-situated to host advocacy events in conjunction with state universities during the legislative session.
- ☑ Association Advocacy Days: Statewide associations can also use the park space for events and activities with their members when they come to Tallahassee during the legislative session.
- ☑ Job Fair for the City: The park is an ideal location to showcase the many benefits of living and working in Tallahassee for prospective city employees.



