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City of Fairburn

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**The City of Fairburn Invites the Community to Attend the Grand Re-Opening & Ribbon Cutting of the Cora Robinson Park and Community Garden Area**

The City of Fairburn invites the community and local stakeholders to the Grand Re-Opening and Ribbon Cutting for the Cora Robinson Park and Dodd Street Community Plaza on Tuesday, October 18, 2022 at 5:30PM at 155 Dodd Street, Fairburn, GA 30213. This family-friendly event will feature free food, a live DJ, face painting, plant grow giveaways, and much more!

“The re-opening of Cora Robinson Park and Community Garden displays the City of Fairburn's commitment to keeping families and neighborhoods healthy and safe,” said Mayor Mario B. Avery. “As our City continues to grow, it is important that we provide residents and their families access to recreational opportunities with open green spaces and play structures that make them feel safe and at home.”

“This was a collaborative effort between City departments and community-based organizations, who worked hard and made the improvement of Cora Robinson Park a priority for a much-deserved community,” said City Administrator Tony M. Phillips. “The families, neighbors, and businesses in the neighborhood have been patient and they deserve a first-class park. It is truly rewarding to celebrate its re-opening.”

“The Cora Robinson Park Improvements, Phase 2 Project, and the Dodd Street Community Plaza Project, stemmed from recommendations contained in the Lightning Community Strategic Plan, which is the community-based vision for guiding the growth of and change in the Lightning Neighborhood,” said Public Works Director, Lester Thompson. “This strategic plan was spawned from the Lightning Neighborhood Community Development Study which was paid for by Fulton County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. One of the key take-aways of desired improvements from the study was to “expand the Park to enhance safety and social activities, including interactive spaces, artwork, and community gardening.”

The new Community Plaza connects to the existing Cora Robinson Park and offers an open space for residents and their families to create social ties and build a greater feeling of community. These connections help reduce crime, empower residents, and allow them to feel safe in their neighborhoods. Community gardens help reduce negative environmental impacts by promoting sustainable agriculture.

The improvements at Cora Robinson Park and the construction of the Dodd Street Community Plaza cost approximately \$450,000 and were both funded by Fulton County CDBG Funds.


The park renovations and upgrades began on September 27, 2021 and include a large community pavilion constructed on a concrete slab to accommodate future picnic tables and seating units, a new parking lot to accommodate small gatherings, accessible sidewalk and project landscaping. The chain-link fencing surrounding the Park was also replaced with decorative wrought iron fencing with intermittent brick columns. The Dodd Street Community Plaza Project, located on City Owned Property directly across the street from Cora Robinson Park, was converted into a new park/plaza space with sidewalk, pedestrian lighting, landscaping, and a fountain. The project also included the installation of raised community garden beds and a small pavilion to provide shade for gardeners.


Every great city has a signature place that serves as a destination, an icon for the city, and a catalyst for economic growth. The Cora Robinson Park and the Dodd Street Community Plaza is one of the signature parks spaces in the great City of Fairburn. It is a place for community members to gather and celebrate, where art and park are indistinguishable, and the community gathers to play, garden, connect, and be inspired.


“This vibrant community space encourages neighborhood gatherings, celebrations, special events, art, music, and fun for all residents. Great parks provide all neighborhoods a community space that is essential to our quality of life. This is an exciting moment for the entire Fairburn community,” stated Parks & Recreation Director Chapin Scott.


Attendees are encouraged to bring their families and friends to this awesome event! To RSVP and for more information about the park and grand opening, please visit <https://bit.ly/CoraRobinsonParkandDoddStreetPlaza>.



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