



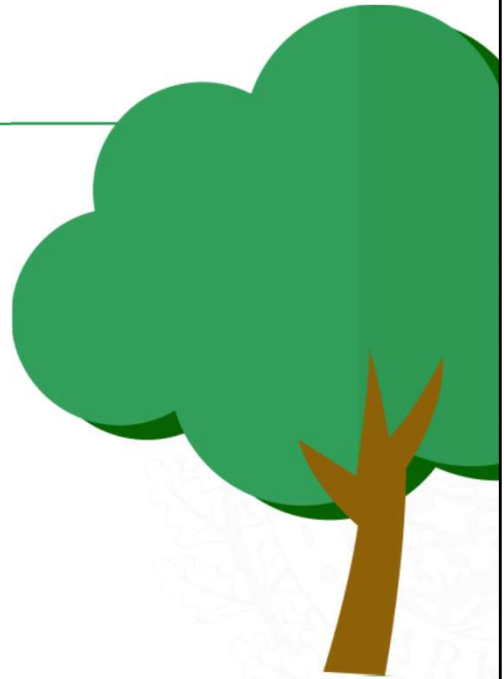
I-30 DECK PARK PLANNING STUDY

Community Engagement Meeting #2
Little Rock, Arkansas
Pulaski County

Hello, and welcome to the recorded presentation for Community Engagement Meeting #2 for the I-30 Deck Park Planning Study. During this presentation, we will present deck park alternatives between 6th and 9th streets in Little Rock, Arkansas. Your feedback on these alternatives, potential park amenities, and other features will play an important role in helping inform future recommendations.

AGENDA

- Meeting Logistics
- Meeting Materials/Stations
- Comment Period & Additional Resources
- Contact Us



This presentation will cover the following agenda topics: Meeting Logistics, Meeting Materials/Stations, Comment Period and Additional Resources, and Contact Information.

MEETING LOGISTICS



Community Engagement Meeting #2

Thursday, October 22, 2026
4:30 – 6:30 p.m.

East Little Rock
Community Center (Gym)
2500 E. 6th St.
Little Rock, AR 72202

October 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Community Engagement Meeting #2 is being held on Thursday, October 22, 2026, from 4:30 to 6:30 P.M., at the East Little Rock Community Center (Gym), located at 2500 E. 6th St., in Little Rock, Arkansas.

MEETING MATERIALS



Station 1 – Study Background

- Study Location Map
- Study Overview
- Purpose and Need
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Estimated Study Timeline

Station 2 – Site Context

- Reconnecting Communities Pilot and Study Grants
- Feasibility and Funding
- Reconnecting Downtown
- Site Context
- What is a Deck Park

Station 3 – Public Engagement

- Public Engagement
- CAB Members
- What's Happening Next

Station 4 – Amenities

- Guidance Board
- Amenity Preferences
- Inspiration & Ideas

Station 5 – Park Alternatives

- Deck Alternatives
- Park Alternatives
- Park Configuration Comparison

In this presentation, we will review materials available at Stations 4 and 5 at Community Engagement Meeting #2. Materials presented at Stations 1 through 3 were previously shared during Community Engagement Meeting #1 and are available on the study website.

PURPOSE OF THIS MEETING



Community Engagement Meeting #2

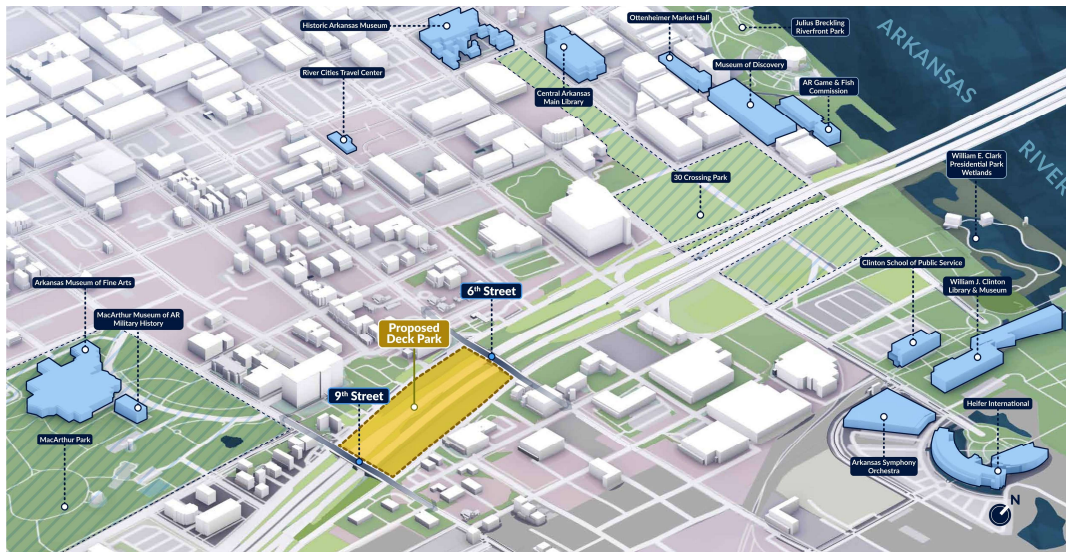
- Present deck park alternatives between 6th and 9th streets in Little Rock, Arkansas
- Gather public input on the alternatives, potential park amenities, and other features to help inform future recommendations
- Open forum style with no formal presentation
- Meeting materials at Stations 1-5
- Study website available with all materials for future viewing at lri30deckpark.publicmtgs.com



*To visit the study website,
scan the QR code above*

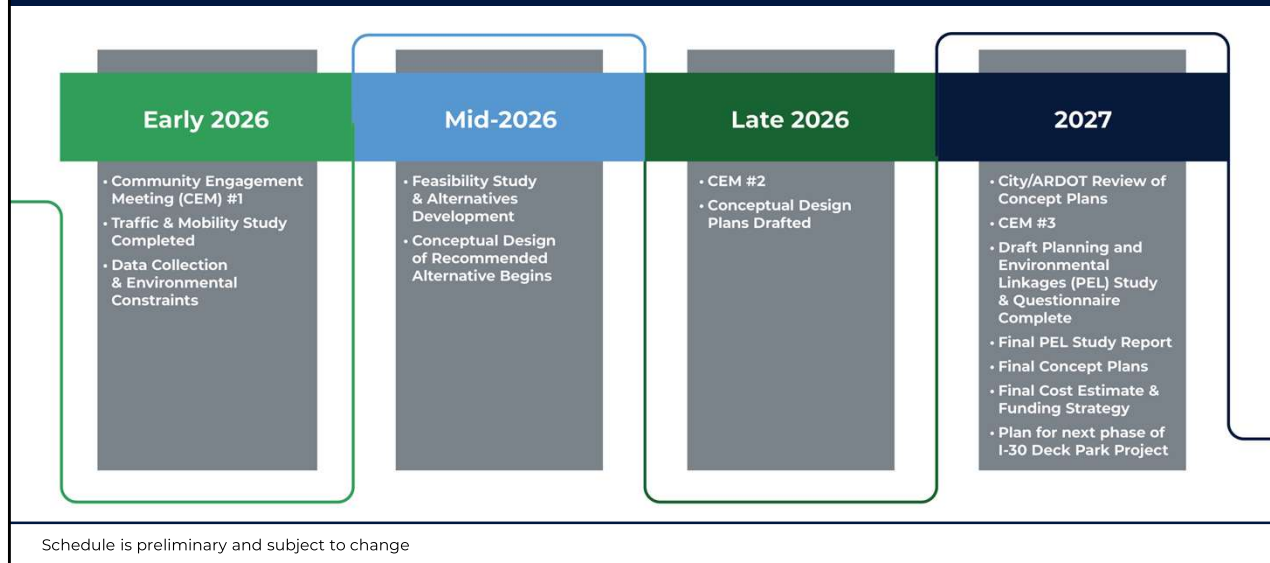
The purpose of Community Engagement Meeting #2 is to present deck park alternatives between 6th and 9th streets in Little Rock, Arkansas and gather public input on the alternatives, potential park amenities and other features to help inform future recommendations. This is an open-forum style meeting with no formal presentation. The study website now hosts all meeting materials presented at this meeting, which are available for viewing at any time. To visit the study website, please scan the QR code on this slide or visit LR-I-30-Deck-Park-DOT-Public_M-T-G-S-DOT-COM.

SITE CONTEXT



This map highlights the project study area and its connection to surrounding cultural institutions in downtown Little Rock. The highlighted corridor along Interstate 30, between 6th and 9th streets, represents the area where the deck park alternatives presented today are being studied.

ESTIMATED STUDY TIMELINE



This timeline provides a big-picture look at how the I-30 Deck Park Planning Study will move forward. In early 2026, the focus was on listening to the community, understanding existing conditions, and studying traffic and mobility. As we move into mid-to-late 2026, the team will develop feasibility study and explore different ideas for a deck park and continue gathering feedback to help shape a recommended concept. In 2027, the study will wrap up with a recommended concept, cost information, and a plan for how the project could move ahead. This schedule is an estimate and may change as the study progresses.

WHAT'S NEXT?



Comments Received

- Comments received during the comment period (October 22 – November 6), following Community Engagement Meeting #2, will be reviewed by the City of Little Rock.

Schedule

Community Engagement Meeting #3

- Once a recommended alternative is selected for further development, it will be presented to the community to review.

Comments received during the comment period (October 22 – November 6), following Community Engagement Meeting #2, will be reviewed by the City of Little Rock.

Based on community feedback received during and following Community Engagement Meeting #1, alternatives for the deck park were developed. These alternatives are being shared at the Community Engagement Meeting #2 to obtain community feedback on the alternatives, potential park amenities, and other features to help inform future recommendations. After a recommended alternative is selected for further development, it will be presented to the community.

After the planning study is complete, the city will use its findings to determine if, when, and how to seek funding to then move into the next project phases - NEPA, detailed design, and permitting. These steps prepare the project for construction, turning the concept into a deck park that reconnects communities.



STATION 1-3



*To visit the study website,
scan the QR code above*

Please note that the materials presented at Stations 1 through 3 were previously shared during Community Engagement Meeting #1. To keep this presentation focused on new information, those materials are not included in this recording but can be viewed at Community Engagement Meeting #2 and on the study website. The QR code will bring you directly to those materials.



STATION 4

Amenities

At Station 4, you'll find materials that cover:

Guidance Board

Amenity Preferences

Inspiration & Ideas

GUIDANCE BOARD



EXPLORE THE ALTERNATIVES, SHARE YOUR PREFERENCES

Follow these four steps to understand how the possible amenities, deck structure, and park concepts come together. Then tell us which alternatives and amenities you prefer.

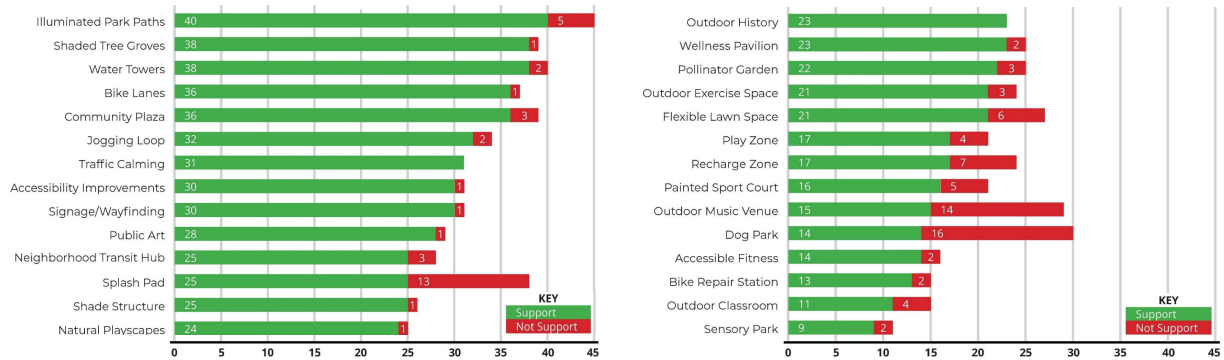


These four steps will help you explore the deck park alternatives. Begin by considering potential park amenities, then review the deck structure concepts, see how different amenities could come together within each park concept, and finally compare the alternatives based on deck size, park space, design considerations, and cost. As you move through these steps, evaluate your support of the different alternatives, which park amenities you prefer, and any additional feedback you would like to share with the project team.

AMENITY PREFERENCES



Amenity preference results from sticker tallies at Community Engagement Meeting #1 in February 2026



At Community Engagement Meeting #1 in February 2026, participants provided early feedback on potential park amenities using sticker tallies. Green represents support for an amenity, while red represents responses that did not support it. The results show strong support for amenities such as illuminated park paths, shaded tree groves, water towers, bike lanes, and a community plaza, while some amenities received mixed feedback. These results provide insight into community preferences as potential amenities are being considered.

INSPIRATION & IDEAS



CULTURAL TRAIL



PLAYGROUND PLAYScape



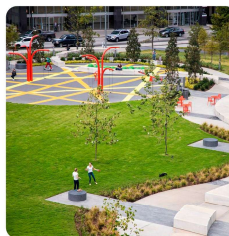
JOGGING LOOP



COMMUNITY PLAZA



SHADE PAVILION



FLEXIBLE LAWN SPACE



MONUMENTAL SCULPTURE/ICON



GARDENS

This board highlights examples and ideas for the top amenities selected during Community Engagement Meeting #1, including a cultural trail, playground playscape, jogging loop, community plaza, shade pavilion, flexible lawn space, monumental sculpture or icon, and gardens. The images provide examples of what these amenities could look like and help illustrate opportunities for recreation, gathering, landscaping, and other community uses.

For ideas on other possible amenities, please see the comment form and consider which features you would most like to see incorporated into the deck park.



STATION 5

Deck/Park Alternatives

At Station 5, you'll have the opportunity to review and compare deck and park alternatives: Community Cap, Central Connector, and Gateway Greens. Each alternative presents a different concept for the potential deck park.

DECK ALTERNATIVE – COMMUNITY CAP



“COMMUNITY CAP” DECK

*Size and configuration of deck openings for natural ventilation are conceptual only. If this alternative is selected as the preferred alternative, a more detailed fire and life safety analysis would be performed to refine the layout of the openings.



The Community Cap option creates a structural “lid” over Interstate 30 spanning from 6th Street to 9th Street, including the east and west access roads. This alternative will cover approximately 5.34 acres, is categorized as a tunnel, and has the highest estimated cost.

To ensure the project’s financial feasibility within the Reconnecting Communities Program, the cap incorporates a series of ventilation openings for the interstate below. These openings address critical airflow needs while becoming intentional design features within the park. Each opening is enclosed by protective walls that prevent tampering and create a sense of spatial definition. This enclosure helps form safer, more comfortable areas within the park that remain usable throughout the year.

PARK ALTERNATIVE – COMMUNITY CAP - PLAN



The purpose of the Community Cap is to maximize available space and reconnect the east and west sides of a corridor divided by Interstate 30. It links the densely populated neighborhoods west of the interstate with the revitalized East Village, Hanger Hill, and cultural institutions such as the Clinton Presidential Library and the Arkansas River Trail. These reconstructions align with the historic street grid and restore former connections.

The cap also creates a cultural and recreational pathway across these districts. It provides a direct pedestrian connection between MacArthur Park—with its amenities including the Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts, the MacArthur Museum of Arkansas Military History, and the Firehouse Museum—and the Clinton Library and Arkansas River Trail. From there, the continuity of destinations extends further into the Museum of Discovery, the River Market, the Historic Arkansas Museum, and the surrounding entertainment districts.

PARK ALTERNATIVE – COMMUNITY CAP - AXON



Park amenities include a network of pathways connecting the corners of the site and creating a meandering loop for walking, jogging, and exploration. Interpretive signage along the paths tells the story of Interstate 30's construction and its impact on Little Rock's urban fabric. Additional amenities include a circular shade pavilion with seating, restrooms, storage, and educational signage; a playscape; and a hard-surface plaza with seating and shade that functions as a "front porch" gathering space.

At the heart of the park is an unprogrammed activity area designed for spontaneous recreation, leisure, or planned events. A lightweight shade structure—extending from the ventilation-wall enclosure—covers this central zone to enhance comfort and seasonal usability. The final materials, sizing, and exact alignment of this structure are still being refined, but shade is considered essential for year-round activation.

To support accessibility and encourage regular use, linear parking areas are located on the east and west sides near the ventilation openings. These zones improve ADA access, accommodate maintenance and special events, and

make the park a destination rather than just a pass-through connection. The parking also provides an organizational framework that enhances visitor safety and clarity of movement.

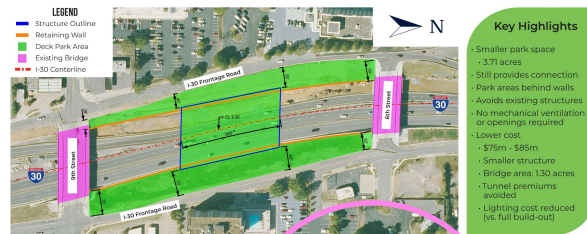
Overall, the Community Cap offers spaces for active and passive recreation, improves visibility and safety throughout the park, and establishes safe crossings.

This option fully connects the communities and is an obvious cap over I-30. Both words are referenced in the grant language's material. Reconnecting communities by transforming the highway barrier into a continuous public place.

DECK ALTERNATIVE – CENTRAL CONNECTOR

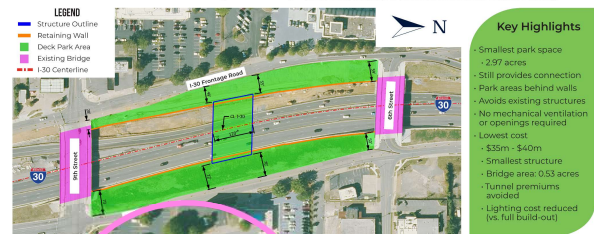


“CENTRAL CONNECTOR” DECK (OPTION A)



Option A:
300' Wide Structure

“CENTRAL CONNECTOR” DECK (OPTION B)



Option B:
120' Wide Structure

The Central Connector imagines the deck park as a front porch between the East End and Downtown Little Rock. This option provides a shared place where people can cross I-30, meet one another, and spend time outdoors. Its planning brings together a clear central gathering space and a quieter network of trails, gardens, and places to pause.

There are two options for the Central Connector. The main difference between **options A and B** is the size of the park space. Option A is 300 feet wide and will cover approximately 3.71 acres. Option B is 120 feet wide and will cover approximately 2.97 acres.

These alternatives do not require mechanical ventilation or openings and have lower costs when compared to other alternatives.

PARK ALTERNATIVE – CENTRAL CONNECTOR - PLAN



Option A:
300' Wide Structure



Option B:
120' Wide Structure

The oval shape at the center of this alternative draws people toward a paved courtyard at the center while giving walkers and joggers a simple, recognizable loop. From that formal figure, smaller trails extend into the surrounding landscape, connecting the entries, pollinator garden, play area, shade pavilion, and memorial trail. The contrast between the defined oval and the more relaxed paths gives the park both a strong identity and room to explore.

An example of featuring a monumental icon is the two faceted hands that rise from the central courtyard. Like *Cloud Gate* (a.k.a. *Bean*) in Chicago, they are intended to become a recognizable public artwork and a reason to visit. Their gesture of reaching toward one another gives physical form to the park's larger purpose: reconnecting places and people. The open courtyard lets visitors approach the sculpture from multiple directions, gather around it, and experience it at different scales.

PARK ALTERNATIVE – CENTRAL CONNECTOR - AXON



Option A:
300' Wide Structure



Option B:
120' Wide Structure

Both Option A and Option B includes all of the same elements, including the playscape, pavilion, plaza, pollinator garden, jogging path, memorial trail, flexible lawn space, and parking areas.

Park amenities also include a shade pavilion that offers a necessary reprieve from Arkansas heat. Positioned near the central space, it provides a comfortable place to sit, watch activity, and enjoy the park without needing to be part of an event. It carries the front porch idea into the architecture: open, welcoming, and useful on an ordinary afternoon.

The memorial trail gives the slower journey through the park a deeper purpose. Granite bands integrated into the path could carry names, dates, and family histories connected to the East End, developed with residents and descendants. The stories would become part of the everyday experience of walking through the park, while also inviting visitors to stop and reflect.

This alternative offers a more mellow pace. Its sculpture and plaza create a civic focal point; its shade, planting, and trails make space for conversation,

memory, and rest. Together, these elements turn a crossing over the highway into a place that belongs to both neighborhoods.

This option connects both sides in the center, concentrating investment in the center of the corridor to create a cultural hub and unified crossing. The main difference is the size and configuration of the park space.

DECK ALTERNATIVES – GATEWAY GREENS



“GATEWAY GREENS” DECK

*Width of structure may be refined if this alternative is selected as the preferred alternative. Width could potentially increase depending on a more detailed fire and life safety analysis or decrease depending on possible funding strategies (to be performed or determined in the next phase of the study).



The Gateway Green alternative strengthens the connection along 9th street, providing multiple pathways to the north and the homes, businesses, and cultural institutions in the area. The edges are defined by the 9th street bridge to the south, the access roads to the east and west, and new pedestrian crossings near where the connection to 8th street used to be.

This alternative allows for both bridges (along 9th street and 6th street) or a single bridge (along 9th Street OR 6th street). This alternative will cover approximately 4.21 acres (both bridges) or 3.35 acres (one bridge).

This alternative does not require mechanical ventilation or openings and has a middle cost when compared to the other alternatives.

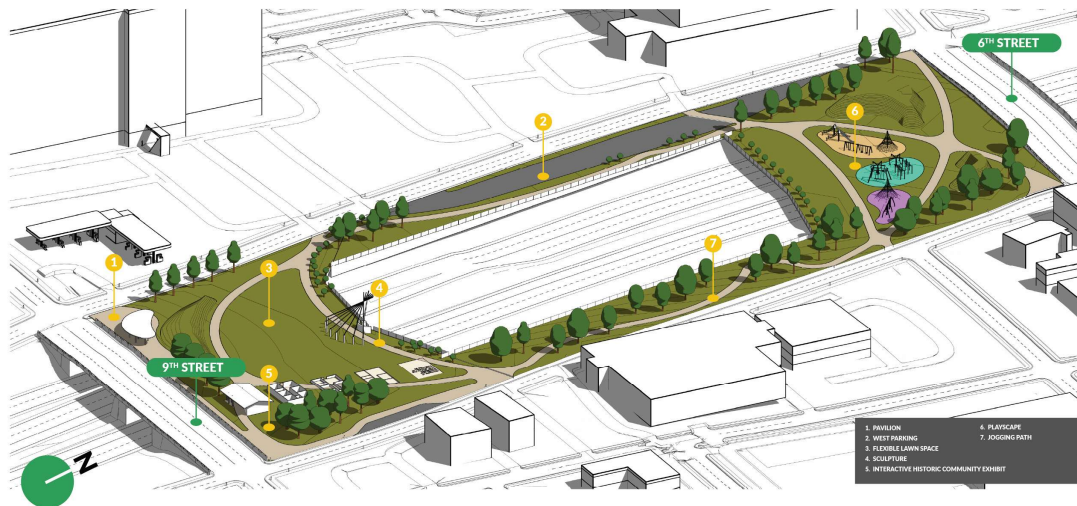
PARK ALTERNATIVES – GATEWAY GREENS - PLAN



Gateway Greens envisions 9th Street and I-30 as a “District Gateway,” connecting MacArthur Park to the East Side’s cultural institutions, including the Clinton Library, while helping bring neighborhood edges back together and restore local connectivity.

The improvements along 9th Street include a shade pavilion with seating and a play area, a vegetated seating area with shade trees, and a public restroom and maintenance building. Connections extend across the deck park from corner to corner, while meandering pathways provide circulation and help define the other programmed uses throughout the park.

PARK ALTERNATIVES – GATEWAY GREENS - AXON



At the center of the space along 9th Street is an open, unprogrammed recreational field for spontaneous play, exercise programs, performances, or simply lounging and enjoying the outdoors. Along the west edge of the field, a large berm with integrated seating provides additional seating while creating a sense of enclosure.

The north edge of the bridge is defined by an example towering sculptural element which will be visible from both directions of I-30. The tower is along the edge to make it more easily viewable from the interstate, it also becomes the terminus and focal point of the far side of the bridge where it will be most often entered, drawing people towards it and through the park.

The eastern edge of the park is unique because it tells the story of the interstate and the community that once resided there. The footprints of the homes that were demolished are now reconstructed as a series of rectangles on the ground where they were originally located and have an interpretative component which explains the history of the neighborhood and the intent of how the bridge reconnects them. The footprint closest to the 9th street bridge is reconstructed

and used for the bathrooms and storage. The intent is that these elements are not just historical, but they are interactive and encourage curiosity from children through older adults.

Finally, to improve access to the park, there is a drop-off and ADA parking spaces along the eastern frontage road. These improvements will enhance both visitor access to the park by users and the park's long-term maintenance and operation.

A playscape area is included in the space connecting to 6th Street.

PARK CONFIGURATION COMPARISON



PARK CONFIGURATION COMPARISON

■ Less Preferable Condition
 ■ Moderately Preferable Condition
 ■ More Preferable Condition

Element	Community Cap (Full Build-Out)	Central Connector		Gateway Greens	
		Option A: 300'-Wide Structure	Option B: 120'-Wide Structure	Both Bridges	One Bridge
Park Space Area	5.34 acres	3.71 acres	2.97 acres	4.21 acres	3.35 acres
Bridge Area	3.84 acres	1.30 acres	0.53 acres	1.86 acres	0.89 acres
% Park on Bridge	72%	35%	18%	44%	27%
Monumental Public Art	Strong	Strong	Strong	Strong	Strong
Trail Connectivity	Strong	Strong	Strong	Strong	Strong
Redevelopment Potential (Surrounding Parcels)	Strong	Low	Low	Moderate	Moderate
Tunnel Designation	NFPA 502 Category B	Non-Tunnel	Non-Tunnel	Non-Tunnel	Non-Tunnel
Fire & Life Safety Systems	Several Systems (Very High Cost)	Likely Fire Protection Only	None Expected	Likely Fire Protection Only	Likely Fire Protection Only
Under Deck Lighting Requirements	Full Daytime Threshold-Lighting Requirements	50% Daytime Threshold-Lighting Requirements	Daytime Lighting likely not required	50% Daytime Threshold-Lighting Requirements	50% Daytime Threshold-Lighting Requirements
Construction Cost*	\$195M - \$205M	\$75M - \$85M	\$35M - \$40M	\$100M - \$110M	\$60M - \$65M

Note: A No-Build Alternative serves as the baseline condition against which the deck park alternatives are compared; however, it does not satisfy the project's purpose and need.

* Construction Costs should be viewed as planning-level conceptual estimates intended for feasibility, funding discussions, and project screening; they are not intended for final budgeting, authorization, or procurement. Each estimate includes a 30% contingency to account for current uncertainties while establishing a realistic planning basis for future project development and funding discussions.

This slide compares the park configurations across key factors, including park space, connectivity, safety requirements, and estimated construction cost. The color coding highlights more preferable conditions in green, moderately preferable conditions in yellow, and less preferable conditions in orange. Each configuration offers different benefits and trade-offs to consider.

COMMENT PERIOD



October 22, through November 6, 2026

October 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

The comment period will begin Thursday, October 22, 2026, through Friday, November 6, 2026.

COMMENT FORMS & ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Visit Iri30deckpark.publicmtgs.com

CITIZEN COMMENT FORM
I-30 Deck Park Planning Study
 City of Little Rock
 Community Engagement Meeting #2
 East Little Rock Community Center (CYM)
 2500 E. 4th St., Little Rock, AR
 4:30 PM-6:30 PM
 October 22, 2024

Make your comments on this form and leave it with City of Little Rock personnel at the meeting or mail them at by 4:30 p.m. Friday, November 6, 2024, to:

City of Little Rock
 2500 E. 4th St., Little Rock, AR 72202
 Email: PublicEngagement@CityofLR.com

Name (please print): _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: _____
 Email: _____

Study Purpose and Need
 Between I-30 and I-49, a major highway corridor runs through downtown Little Rock, creating a division between neighborhoods. When the interstate was built in the 1960s, it severed direct connections and disrupted historic and business corridors, impacting the economic and cultural vitality of communities like Main Avenue Park and Doge Field. Today, the same corridor is still a barrier to development.

The proposed solution is a deck park spanning I-30 between 4th and 5th Streets. This deck park would reconnect neighborhoods, provide safe pedestrian and bicycle crossings, and create a vibrant public space with green areas, parking areas, and opportunities for recreation and entertainment. The park will also help to reduce the environmental and social impacts of highway infrastructure, and encourage economic development while maintaining construction safety and costs.

Beyond reconnecting communities, the deck park is envisioned as a catalyst for revitalization. By offering spaces for recreation, events, music, food, and outdoor activities, it will foster a sense of place and belonging. The park will not only improve mobility and safety, but also strengthen the cultural and economic fabric of downtown Little Rock, helping to create a more vibrant and resilient community.

See next page for questions >



I-30 Deck Park Planning Study Summary Sheet
 Community Engagement Meeting #2
 Little Rock, Arkansas (Pulaski County)

Why Are We Having This Community Engagement Meeting #2?
 The purpose of this meeting is to present deck park alternatives between 4th and 5th streets in Little Rock, Arkansas, and gather public input on the alternatives, potential park amenities, and other features to help inform future recommendations. This is an open forum style meeting. You are encouraged to view exhibits, ask questions, and provide comments.

Study Overview

- Community Input**
Gather feedback
- Analyze Project Costs**
Prepare a preliminary budget
- Traffic and Mobility Study**
Evaluate connectivity, convenience, and safety of the project
- Open Forum Community Engagement Meetings**
Host public meetings where attendees can learn more
- Impact Mitigation and Evaluation**
Evaluate the project's ability to mitigate impacts
- Feasibility Study, Alternative Evaluation, and Conceptual Design**
Evaluate whether the project is feasible and cost-effective

Estimated Study Timeline

Early 2024	Mid 2024	Late 2024	2027
Community Engagement Meeting #1	Community Engagement Meeting #2	Community Engagement Meeting #3	Community Engagement Meeting #4
Study Overview	Study Overview	Study Overview	Study Overview
Study Overview	Study Overview	Study Overview	Study Overview
Study Overview	Study Overview	Study Overview	Study Overview

Scan the QR Code to visit the website or visit Iri30deckpark.publicmtgs.com

For additional information, please email PublicEngagement@CityofLR.com or call 501-653-2700

To access comment forms and additional meeting materials, please visit the study website at LR-I-30-Deck-Park-DOT-Public_M-T-G-S-DOT-COM. You can also scan the QR code on your screen. Again, we want you to be heard!!! We encourage you to provide comment either at the community engagement meeting or during the comment period through other avenues provided. Your voice matters!!!



CONTACT US



Mail | Garver
ATTN: Caitlin Hetzel
4701 Northshore Drive
North Little Rock, AR 72118

Email | PublicInvolvement@GarverUSA.com

Phone | 501-823-0730



For questions or comments regarding the I-30 Deck Park Planning Study, please use the following information to contact us:

Mail to Garver, Attention: Caitlin Hetzel, 4701 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock, Arkansas 72118.

Email to PublicInvolvement@GarverUSA.com.

Lastly, you can call the phone number on your screen to leave a voicemail. 501-823-0730.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!



Thank you for your participation in Community Engagement Meeting #2. Your involvement and voice matters!