

TAKING TO THE SKIES

Town Center's Aviation Park Phase II Educational and Historical Installation Program 200

AVIATION PARK Cobb's Destination for Aviation Exploration and Fun

The Town Center Community Improvement District, which encompasses the largest thoroughfare in Kennesaw and two major interstates, is best known for its vast retail and office space. Yet the area is also home to more than 4,000 residents/multi-family housing, neighbor to a dozen schools, home of Kennesaw State University (KSU), the third largest university in Georgia, and 8.5 miles of trails. The Town Center Community Alliance serves each aspect of this diverse community. Its mission is to create the heart and soul of the district, bringing parks, trails, bikeshare, and artwork as a complement to its modern landscape. Through the development of Aviation Park, the Alliance has helped to form an inclusive and balanced area for all who live, learn, work and play in Town Center.

The Alliance works in partnership with the Town Center Community Improvement District (CID), which has brought investment and increased property values to the area for more than 20 years.

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Aviation Park Puts Wheels on the Ground

Opened in November of 2017, Aviation Park is located adjacent to Cobb County International Airport's runway and alongside the Noonday Creek Trail. This three-acre park was a collective enterprise between the Alliance, the Town Center CID and Cobb County to convert under-utilized vacant property into a themed environment for all ages to enjoy. Not only does it provide an opportunity for the community to exercise, play and bond with neighbors, it also serves as a recognition of the rich aviation history of the county and enables visitors to experience aviation firsthand. Aviation Park includes a spacious open greenspace for viewing aircraft take offs and landings, as well as a covered pavilion for picnicking, a lighted parking lot, and restroom facilities housed in a building to mimic the air traffic control tower at the airport. The state-of-the-art, aviation-themed playground is enhanced with S.T.E.M. related playground equipment which allows youth to combine electronic games and healthy outdoor, physical play.

Aviation has been ingrained in our local culture for nearly 100 years. The industry has played perhaps the most significant role in shaping our collective past – from the World War II Bell Bomber plant and Dobbins Air Force Base, to the Lockheed Corporation and the Cobb County International Airport.



AVIATION PARK PHASE II: PREP FOR TAKE OFF

CHECK-IN

Now, the Alliance has a unique opportunity to preserve our local history and connect community members through meaningful, hands-on experiences. If you join us in the boarding line for this journey, we will be able to commemorate the aviation history of Cobb for generations to come.

FLIGHT PATH

Together with Kennesaw State University, the Town Center Alliance is excited to launch Aviation Park Phase II, which will add innovative new exhibitions and installations that engage visitors in the exploration of aviation history and science. These permanent exhibits will feature the families, industries, and history of Cobb County's aviation industry, presented against the backdrop of the region's dynamic historic and current growth. Photographs, oral histories, and interactive elements will provide detail for visitors to explore the past and present at Town Center's newest destination park.

To make our Aviation Park vision a reality, we need your help. **By generously participating in and helping us reach our \$400,000 goal**, we will be able to curate, design, and install exhibits in two phases, which will include interactive play structures, seating, wayfinding, art pieces, and historical presentations.



Plane Display

This exhibition will be the center of the Mechanics in Motion anchor exhibit. A 1964 Beech A-23 Musketeer will be refurbished and mounted aloft to become an icon of Aviation Park.

- Plane: Donated by Hawthorne Aviation
- Refurbishment: *Donated by Atlanta Air Charter*
- Base Construction & Installation: \$30,000

Total: \$30,000+

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INTERDISCIPLINARY

EDUCATION

*Concept design only



Mechanics of Motion

The exhibition encircling the plane display will demystify the science of flight through an interdisciplinary and interactive approach. Each feature focuses on STEM content, delivered through methods that encourage viewers to engage in history, physical education, and art.

- Curatorial: **\$10,800**
- Design: \$9,000
- Materials, 2x3 panels (est. 9 panels): \$18,000

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- Materials, Interactive: \$3,200
- Installation: \$3,000

Total: \$44,000

Wheels to Wings

The second anchor exhibit focuses on the aviation history of the local region. Beginning with the role of bicycles in the development of flight and concluding with the opening of Aviation Park, Wheels to Wings draws the visitor into the personal, dynamic history of aviation in Cobb County. This exhibit offers an opportunity to tell the often-untold stories, including local farmers and women, as well as the experiences of local politicians, investors, and scientists who moved the aviation industry forward in Cobb County.

- Curatorial: \$14,400
- Design: \$12,000
- Materials, 3x4 panels (est. 12 panels): \$30,000
- Installation: \$4,600

Total: \$61,000



Aviation Mural

This large-scale mural will evoke the excitement and innovation of the exhibition space, creating a primary location where visitors can document their experiences at Aviation Park.

Total: \$20,000



Aviation Park Signage/ Public Art

An aviation-themed art structure and sign will proudly identify Aviation Park at the corner of Barrett Lakes Boulevard and Cobb Place Boulevard.

Total: \$20,000



Bicycles are still a substantial part of modern transportation networks. After Aviation Park opened, rentals at the adjacent Town Center Bikeshare station rose 2,000%.

Entrance Signage

Wayfinding signage greeting guests to the park and explaining the partnership of Town Center CID, the Alliance, Cobb County, and Kennesaw State University.

Donated by Town Center CID



What Happens Up There: From Taxi to Landing

We see planes taking off in front of us; now take a sneak peek at what happens inside the cockpit! This exhibition examines the visual and auditory experience of flight from the pilot's perspective and provides a step-by-step journey through the flight structure.

- Curatorial: \$7,200
- Design: **\$6,000**
- Audio: \$2,500
- Materials, 2x3 panels (est. 6 panels): \$12,000
- Installation: \$2,000

Total: \$30,000

Superfortress Climbing Structure

A replica of the Boeing B-29 Superfortress will invite visitors to explore the structure and have a hands-on experience with history, promoting a tactile, visual, and fun exploration of this important part of Cobb County's history. The Superfortress will be accompanied by an informational panel.

- Curatorial: \$1,000
- Design: **\$1,000**
- Materials and installation: **\$35,000**

Total: \$37,000





Lessons in Liftoff

It takes a team to make a plane fly. This exhibition explores the numerous people who play a role in liftoff, including pilots, mechanics, emergency personnel, and air traffic controllers.

- Curatorial: \$7,200
- Design: \$6,000
- Audio: \$2,500
- Materials, 2x3 panels (est. 6 panels): **\$12,000**
- Installation: \$2,000

Total: \$30,000

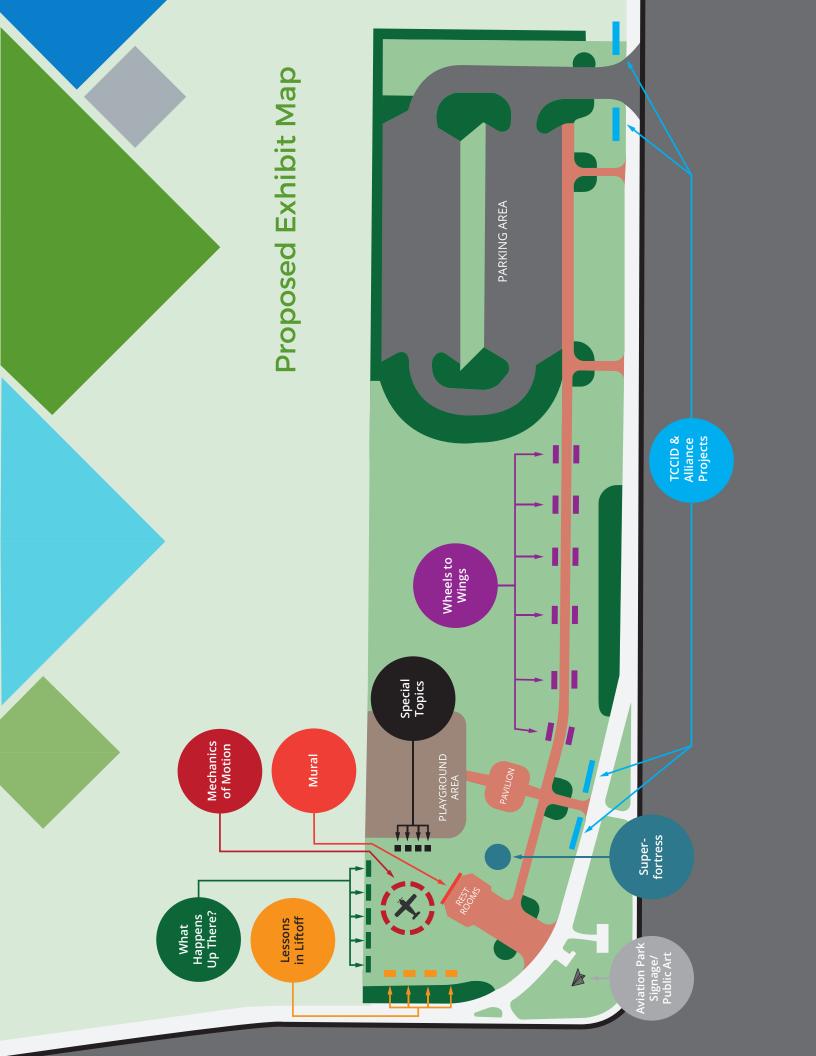


Exhibits can include Flight Fashions, Faces of Flight, and Flight in Film.

- Curatorial: \$6,000
- Design: \$5,000
- Materials, 2x3 panels (est. 5 panels): \$10,000
- Installation: \$2,000
 - Total: \$23,000



Employees at the Bell Bomber plant (1943-1945) work on tail assembly



THE SKY IS THE LIMIT

By activating Aviation Park with elements of art, education, recreation and fun, you have the potential to influence the quality of life right here in the Cobb community. Aviation Park will be a stand-out attraction that increases investments in the area, engages the diverse interests of our visitors, educates the next generation on our history, and connects to other Cobb experiences.

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We are at a crucial point of innovative and palcemaking growth in Town Center, and we need your help to offer creative resources for exploration and play. This park will be the benchmark for future greenspace efforts of the Alliance.

Historical photos courtesy of Kennesaw State University Archives.

BUDGET

Exhibits:	\$250,000
Plane Display Structure and Installation:	\$30,000
Public Art/Park Signage:	\$20,000
Installation of Exhibits:	\$25,000
Maintenance Funds:	\$75,000

TOTAL:\$400,000

Aviation is one of mankind's greatest accomplishments. Learning the concepts of flight and training to be a pilot can be teaching tools for success. I cannot think of a better way to inspire the next generation than to provide an opportunity for our community to learn and become excited about aviation and Cobb's rich history."

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- Larry Thompson



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