

# HARLINSDALE FARM

February 2006

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

*Acknowledgements*

*Executive Summary*

- I. History
- II. Site Information
- III. Visioning Charette Process
- IV. Program Elements
- V. Site Inventory & Analysis
  - One Hundred Year Floodplain
  - Municipal Owned Property
  - Travel Distance
  - Influence Zone
- VI. Site Concepts
  - Acquisitions to Protect Harlinsdale
  - Property Composite
  - Preservation Areas
  - Views
  - Passive Activity Area
  - Linkages
  - Parking & Vehicle Areas
- VII. Composite Conceptual Site Plan
- VIII. Master Plan
- IX. Visionary Plan

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## Harlinsdale Farm

Franklin, Tennessee

## II. VISIONING CHARETTE PROCESS

The Master Plan for Harlinsdale Farm is the result of a visioning charette planning process conducted during February of 2005. Held on-site in the old Harlinsdale homeplace, the design team led and participated in a series of visioning charettes to gain insight into the identity and goals of Harlinsdale Farm. A diverse collection of user groups met for four days to express their opinions and desires. The creation of the Master Plan would not be possible without the input of the following groups:

### City of Franklin

- Codes Dept.
- Engineering Dept.
- Finance Dept.
- Planning Dept.
- Streets Dept.
- Solid Waste Dept.
- Fire Dept.
- Police Dept.
- Parks Dept.
- Water Dept.
- Human Resources Dept.

### City of Franklin Citizen Committees

- Transportation
- Public Enterprise
- Budget & Finance

### Cool Springs Chamber of Commerce

### W.C./Franklin Chamber of Commerce

### W.C. Economic Development Council

### Friends of Harlinsdale

### Adjacent Residents

### Commercial Developers/Realtors of Franklin

### Williamson County Schools

Franklin Special School District  
 Battle Ground Academy  
 Columbia State Comm. College  
 Saddle-Up  
 Franklin Area Polo Players  
 Harpeth River Watershed Association  
 UT Agri. Exchange  
 Franklin Board of Aldermen  
 Heritage Foundation  
 Downtown Franklin Association  
 African American Heritage Society  
 Natchez Place, Inc.  
 Citizens of Franklin  
 Harlin Family

The design team heard the following specific goals and vision of the city and citizens of Franklin. These goals include:

- Maintain and enhance the history of Harlinsdale Farm and the Harlin Homestead.
- Create a 'Smithsonian' quality museum that will draw visitors to the Farm and allow them to experience the history of the site. History should include the walking horse industry, Midnight Sun, the Harlin/Hays Homestead, Civil War Cavalry Battle, Franklin Power Plant, the Inter-Urban Rail System and the American Indian.
- Keep the horses! Maintain pasture and barns for housing and running horses. Continue some part of the breeding operation.
- Provide flexible open space suitable for daily activities of visitors, and able to accommodate major festivals and gatherings, such as the Franklin Fourth of July celebration.
- Allow the City of Franklin and its residents to reconnect with and better experience the Harpeth River and adjacent natural areas.
- Development of a regional park which would draw users and visitors from the City of Franklin

and the surrounding area.

- Create a plan which will adapt and grow with the needs of the City of Franklin and the number of visitors to the site.
- Provide connectivity to and from Harlinsdale Farm to other City and County-owned properties.

## V. PROGRAM ELEMENTS

The following list is a compilation of the ideas offered during the visioning charette. While not every item will be able to be included at Harlinsdale Farm, a common theme for development and use of the park emerged.

### A. PRESERVATION

1. Historic Structures
2. Open Space
3. White Fencing
4. Horses:
  - a. Breeding operation
  - b. Midnight Sun
5. Viewsheds from Franklin Road
6. Trees along Harpeth River

### B. HISTORIC ELEMENTS

1. Midnight Sun
2. Walking Horse Industry
3. Harlin Family Homestead
4. Agricultural Farm
5. Indian Mounds
6. Battle of Franklin
7. Inter-Urban Railway
8. Connection to Stove Factory

### C. PASSIVE ACTIVITIES

1. Trails
  - a. Paved Trails: Walkers, Strollers, Jogging
  - b. Primitive Trails: Hiking, Cross Country
  - c. Horse Riding Trails
2. Open Space/Open Play
3. Natural Amphitheater Location

4. Polo Area
5. Horse Watching
6. Bird Watching
7. Nature Areas
  - a. Riparian zone along Harpeth River and Spencer Creek
  - b. Floodplain zone
  - c. Stormwater demonstration projects
  - d. Native flora, fauna
8. Picnics
  - a. Benches
  - b. Grills
  - c. Seating areas
9. Community Events
  - a. Fourth of July Fireworks
  - b. Farm Days
  - c. Community Concerts
  - d. Farmers Market
10. River Access

### D. VISIONARY AND CHARACTER ITEMS

1. 'Hook' Items
  - a. Allow people to fall in love with the horses
  - b. Develop a sense of place
  - c. Create a people's park
2. Smithsonian quality Walking Horse museum
  - a. Marketability
  - b. Branding
  - c. Logo development
3. Working horse breeding operation
4. Living farm exhibit/Agricultural tourism
5. Gateway development along Franklin Road
6. Links to other city parks and neighborhoods through riverwalk and trails along Harpeth River
7. Corporate Retreat Center
  - a. Meeting Rooms
  - b. Dining Facilities
  - c. Ropes Course
  - d. Trails

8. Reception Hall
  - a. Weddings
  - b. Fundraiser events
  - c. Parties
9. Access and exposure to Harpeth River

#### E. PROGRAM ITEMS

1. Franklin Horse Show
2. Educational
  - a. Self-guided tours
  - b. Interpretive signage
  - c. Historic timeline
3. Hayrides/Buggy Rides
4. Showcase for public art
5. Revenue generating opportunities

#### F. SUPPORT FACILITIES

1. Visitor Center
2. Parking
  - a. On site parking for day use
  - b. Off site parking for special events
3. Rest Room
  - a. Permanent and Temporary
  - b. Park Offices
4. Maintenance Facility

#### F. MISCELLANEOUS

1. Controlled access points
2. Screen sewage treatment plant
3. Screen/buffer adjacent residential development
4. Security/safety issues
5. ADA access

