



**Shoal Creek Trail: Vision to Action Plan  
Technical Advisory Group (TAG) Meeting #1  
June 7, 2017  
Meeting Notes**

**PROJECT TEAM INTRODUCTIONS:** Joanna Wolaver (SCC), Janae Ryan (COA Public Works), Jana McCann (McCann Adams Studio), Jonathan Ogren (Siglo Group)

**OPEN QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER MOVING FORWARD:**

1. How can this Shoal Creek plan help support the work and goals of your department or organization?
2. What plans or projects are we missing, that should be considered in the development of this plan?

**ATTENDEE INTRODUCTIONS:** (See Sign In Sheet for those in attendance)

**PRESENTATION:** Janae Spence (COA Public Works, Urban Trails), Joanna Wolaver (SCC), Jana McCann (MAS), Jonathan Ogren (Siglo)

**ADDITIONAL PROJECTS/PLANS TO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION:**

- Seaholm District Master Plan
- Urban Forestry Plan
- 2013 Watershed Protection Ordinance
- CHA Community Health Assessment - should the trail be designated as a Tobacco Free Space?
- CodeNEXT, park typologies
- PARD Long Range Plan
- PER, Urban Trails Master Plan, public meeting on the horizon
- Watershed protection master plan,
- CAPMETRO 2025 plan
- Project connect 2.0
- Rail with trails plan
- Lower Shoal Creek Plan, Seaholm gap b/w Seaholm and library (Joanna) 2008? Task Force Document
- Look at online incident maps by APD
- Lamar Beach
- Will the Seaholm Intake Project include the peninsula area?
- Neighborhood Plans

## LESSONS LEARNED AND OTHER OBSERVATIONS:

- The connection to Neils Thompson Drive from the NE corner of the intersection of US183 and MOPAC is planned.
- Dual trails for wheeled and non-wheeled users where possible
- Designate space for pedestrian only segments of the trail along the creekside if appropriate.
- Need to identify low hanging fruit, easy project to implement
- Coordination with Watershed Protection is necessary.
- During construction Shoal Creek is an active channel, so care needs to be taken to not to negatively impact the water quality or flow.
- Assure connectivity between street level and creek level trails
- Care should be taken to manage waste during construction
- Design new improvements to withstand flood water.
- Balance the transportation goal of having a 12' trail with that of preserving and/or restoring the riparian areas.
- Creek serves as both parallel connector and perpendicular barrier, considerations for trail connectivity and access
- Project boundary is the watershed, with a connection to the Walnut Creek Greenway
- Ensure connections to the street grid, especially at bus stops at 35<sup>th</sup> and 45<sup>th</sup> and at the future high frequency lines.

### LIGHTING/SAFETY:

- It is important that the trail be safe at all hours.
- If there is to be lighting meters will need to be set and funding identified.
- Lighting should be vandalism proof.
- Lighting should be considerate of surrounding ecology.
- Could park curfew be waived so that the transportation function of the trail can work? Get something in writing from the PARD director to allow for this.
- Lighting; needs special lights for bats, attracts bugs, spiders eat them.
- Note that currently APD does not patrol the parks after curfew.
- Plan for the highest levels of public safety: emergency stations/way finding stations, interpretative signage, lighting, call boxes, cameras, env. monitoring.
- Provide addresses along creek – make it easy for emergency responders.

### FUNDING:

- D'Anne: Trail cost has quadrupled, signage and lighting always get cut first. Need more funding sources, won't get more money or staff, how can the community support these efforts?
- How do we fund utilities? How do we get the public to help with safety and stewardship?
- Start a Great Creeks funding source so that redeveloping properties become a funding source for projects. Increasing density next to the park, may be unpopular, but could be a funding source, affordability.
- The Sustainable SITES Initiative evaluation system could help attract funding and allow us to pull project components into one framework, can give us a check list, ensure we're capturing everything, maybe partner with The Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center. Review Sustainable SITES or similar rating system to ensure we are taking into consideration all sustainability elements & recruit and coordinate funding.

## WHO'S MISSING? / WHO SHOULD WE ADD TO THE TAG?:

- Office of City Engineer
- Real-Estate
- Office of Equity (Janae may have a contact there)
- Business owners along the creek may have site plans or maintenance plans that impact the trail (Honda, UFCU).
- Sierra Club for CAG
- Employers or companies in the watershed and along the trail could assist with funding, planning and other resources

**HOMEWORK:** Send Janae the list of investments that have taken place in the watershed that impact Shoal Creek or the Trail

## **TAG Comments on the Guiding Principles (sticky notes exercise)**

- When you need roadway lighting, contact 311, place your needs, same for trail light and you need a meter set.
- GP#3: Increase transit connectivity & enhance...walking, biking & (transit) modes.
- GP#3: Increase connectivity and enhance walking and biking transportation safety and comfort.
- GP#4: Activate open/public paces only accessible by trail (Nathan)
- Health & Well Being – Incorporating “safe design” without over designing the riparian environment
- Keeping a good design balance with transportation with respect to the natural environment. Enhance it.
- Identify and integrate best practices in environmental stewardship, sustainability and resiliency.
- Library – include safety/security as an aspect of the guiding principles.
- GP#4: ...for all citizens.
- GP#3: ....and connections to transit.
- GP#6 ...Action & Maintenance Plan
- When biking and walking the trail, shade is important. Although planner for connectivity looks good on plans the trails will not be used in the summer (or any hot day) if trees are not included in plans) (Dottie Urban Forestry)
- Refine the connectivity & access points. Could this be re-worded to highlight it as “access to opportunities”? This would tie in principle-wise with the Federal “ladders of opportunity” could help with pulling Federal Funding (Alicia)
- GP#1: General reference to “sustainability” and “resiliency” are not meaningful – do you mean making the trail design sustainable and resilient in the flood prone corridor? Ide revise it to address trail design specifically (Andrea)
- Katina
  - Define
    - Sustainable
    - Resilient

- Access
  - Points of egress in trails in floodplain
- Recreation
  - Areas that can double as flood mitigation (like NW Park today)
- History
  - 1915 Flood
  - 1981 Flood
  - 2015 Flood
  - Little Shoal Creek Tunnel
  - NW Park Combo Recreation/Flood Control
  - Jefferson St. Buildings