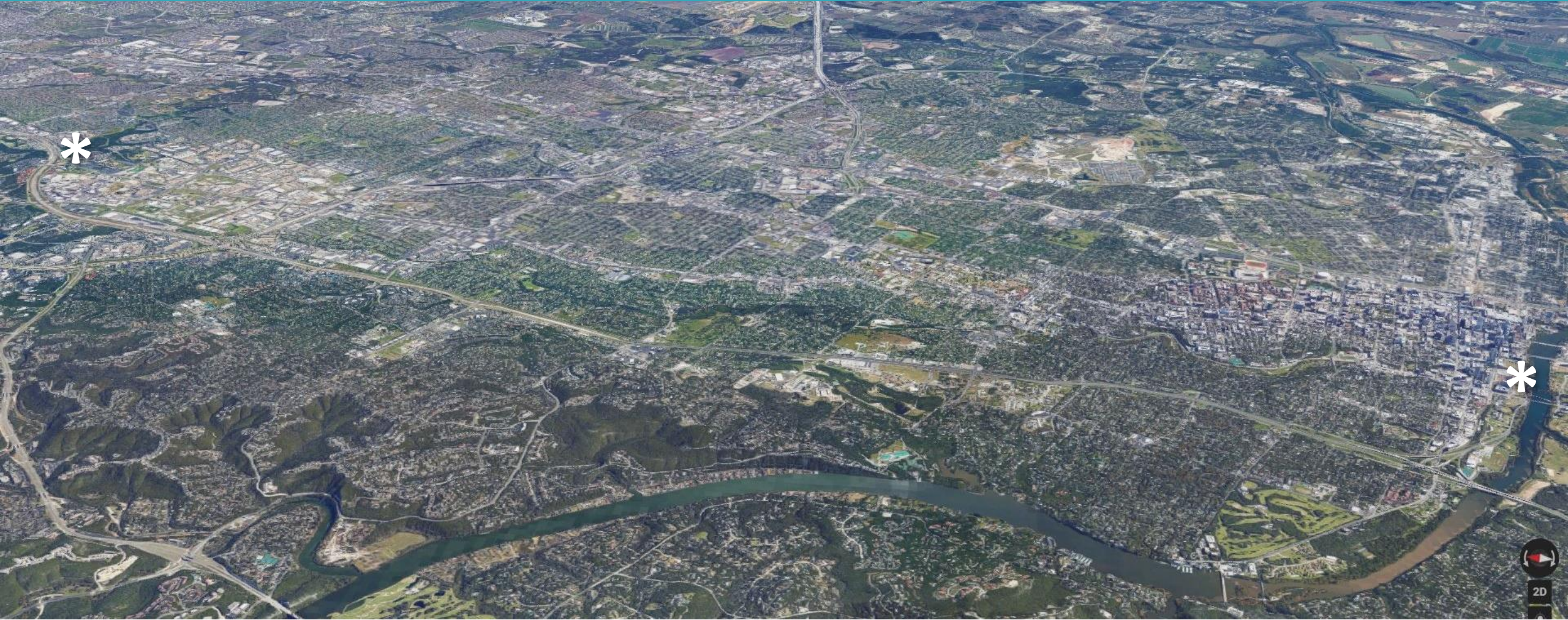


Shoal Creek Trail: Vision to Action Plan

CAG/TAG/Community Workshop #2

August 30 - September 13, 2017



project timeline: spring 2017 to spring 2018

TAG MEETINGS

- June 7, 2017
- August 30, 2017
- November 1, 2017

CAG MEETINGS

- June 14, 2017
- September 6, 2017
- November 8, 2017

COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS

- June 21, 2017
- September 13, 2017
- November 15, 2017

Final Plan completed – February 2018

www.shoalcreekconservancy.org/trailplan/

Consultant Team & Project Partners:



City of Austin

Shoal Creek Conservancy

Consultant Team: McCann Adams Studio & Siglo Group

Historical & Cultural Interpreter: Ted Eubanks, Fermata Inc.

Community Advisory & Technical Advisory Group Members



the purpose of the second round of meetings is to understand:

- Consider planning and design concepts for the Project Corridor.
- Solicit comments from the TAG, CAG, and Community.
- Identify funding opportunities and gaps.
- Begin establishing priorities.



the six guiding principles



1. HISTORY & CULTURE



2. NATURAL RESOURCES & ECOLOGY



3. CONNECTIVITY & COMMUNITY ACCESS



4. SAFETY, HEALTH & WELL-BEING



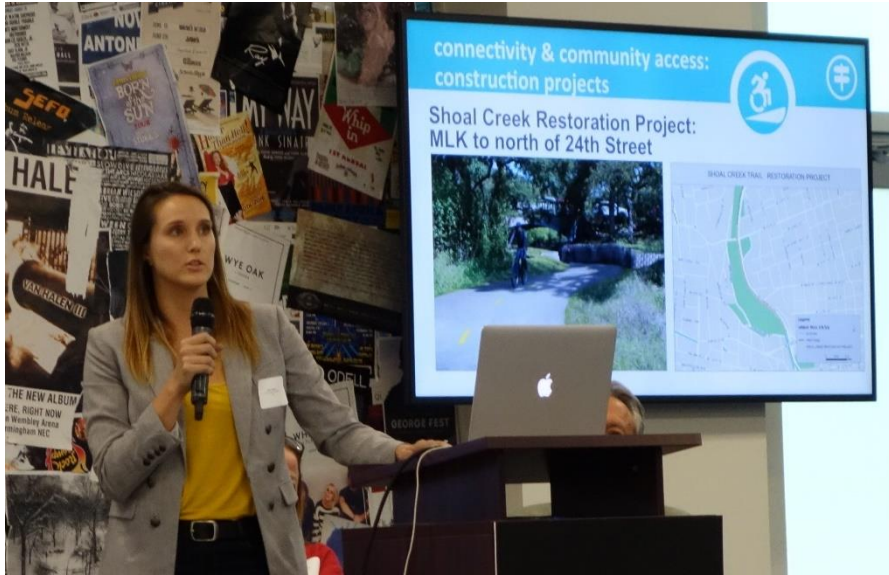
5. ACTIVITIES & RECREATION



6. PROJECT ADVOCACY & IMPLEMENTATION



Technical Advisory Group (TAG) meeting #1



Janae Spence put together the dynamic 30 member TAG

Austin Independent School District
Austin Public Library
Austin Police Department
University of Texas Austin
CapMetro
CTRMA

CITY OF AUSTIN DEPARTMENTS:

Public Works
Watershed Protection
Planning Development & Review
Public health
Parks & Recreation
Austin Energy
Economic Development
Development Services
Austin Water
Office of Sustainability
Planning and Zoning
Transportation

#4 ... For ALL
CITIZENS.

DEFINE Katina
• SUSTAINABLE
• RESILIENT
ACCESS
• POINTS OF EGRESS IN
TRAILS IN FLOODPLAIN.
DELEGATION
• AREAS THAT CAN
DOUBLE AS FLOOD
MITIGATION (LIKE
NW PARK TODAY)

Identify and integrate
best practices in
environmental stewardship,
sustainability and
resiliency

Community Advisory Group (CAG) meeting #1



CAG Meeting #1 Photos 6/14/17

oasis
respite
potential
nice walk
value/valuable
sweat
transportation
urban-wildlife
green spine
heritage
connectivity
hidden
beauty
shade
connectivity
emerald necklace
community

artery
biking
connectivity
discover
ecosystems services
safe passage
test rides
scottie
sacred
access
Eeyore's
bikeway
jogging
history
enjoyable education
opportunity
happiness

alive
bikes
tranquil
flooding
flooding education
fossils
gift
relax
Revitalizing
youth
home
generosity
natural areas
education
transportation
recreation
butterflies

CAG: One Word Association Exercise

Community Workshop #1



Over 70 people attended the first Community Workshop and provided feedback on all aspects of the 13-mile pathway.

Community Workshop #1: 6/21/17



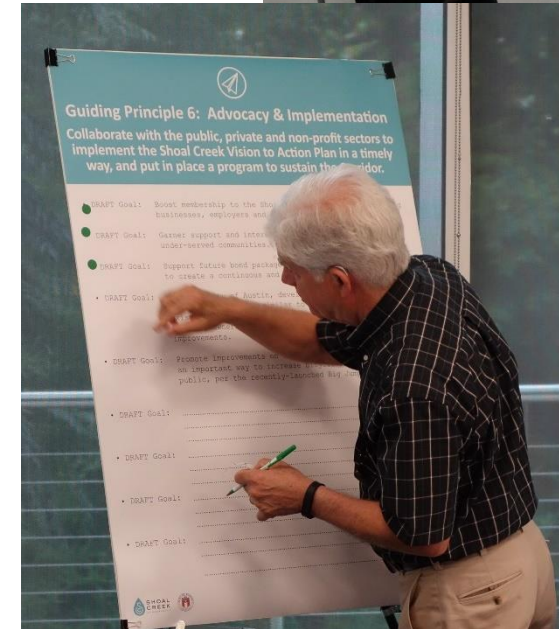
Introductory Exercise: Where do you Live/Work/Play?



Community Workshop #1 Presentation



Participants prioritize Goals under each of the Six Guiding Principles.



history & culture



Guiding Principle 1: History & Culture

Tell the stories: interpret and celebrate this area's unique history and culture in a way that's informative and engaging to diverse communities.

- DRAFT Goal: Reveal the unique role that Shoal Creek has played in Austin's and America's development.
- DRAFT Goal: Research and document the history of the Project corridor, and develop key narratives or "story-lines" that illuminate and connect the community to its past.
- DRAFT Goal: Develop interpretative signage, public art and other media to interpret both the natural and human history of the corridor.
- DRAFT Goal: Identify and name key spaces, landmarks, nodes and even pathway segments of the Corridor, so these are grounded in its heritage.
- DRAFT Goal: Publish beautiful photographs, both historic and contemporary, of Shoal Creek in the form of notecards, postcards, books, exhibitions, etc., in order to "market" the Corridor.
- DRAFT Goal: Educate youth about the history. Create road markers?
- DRAFT Goal: More things at history that are easier to read & don't take a year.
- DRAFT Goal: I enjoy all the public art along our trails. Would love more!
- DRAFT Goal: Public art! Art is missing.
- DRAFT Goal:

Top 3 Community Prioritized Goals:

- Develop interpretative signage, public art and other media to interpret both the natural and human history of the corridor.
- Identify and name key spaces, landmarks, nodes and even pathway segments of the Corridor, so these are grounded in its heritage.
- Research and document the history of the Project corridor, and develop key narratives or "story-lines" that illuminate and connect the community to its past.

history & culture



Workshop participants engage in discussions surrounding the History & Culture of the Shoal Creek Corridor.

natural resources & ecology



Guiding Principle 2: Natural Resources & Ecology

Integrate best practices in environmental stewardship, sustainability and resiliency.

• DRAFT Goal: Restore and Enhance Plant Communities – Manage and protect native trees, understory and groundcover to create diverse and aesthetically appealing plant communities; increase riparian habitat; enhance wildlife habitat; and manage invasive species.

• DRAFT Goal: Repair and Improve Ecological Function – Manage landscape to better absorb and clean water, protect seeps and springs, regenerate native flora, filter air, improve and stabilize soil, reduce urban temperatures, mitigate erosion, minimize and reduce floodplain disturbance, stabilize creek banks and provide more shade.

• DRAFT Goal: Enhance Resiliency – Manage landscape and infrastructure to adapt to and withstand drought, flooding, heavy use, climate change and other major disturbances.

• DRAFT Goal: Enhance the “user experience” – Provide aesthetically pleasing, compelling and shaded natural surroundings. Interpret natural areas and ecology. Provide access to natural areas and connections to transit nodes, while reducing impacts to ecological function.

• DRAFT Goal: Facilitate Stewardship – Catalyze opportunities to appreciate, observe and care for the natural environment.

• DRAFT Goal:

• DRAFT Goal:

• DRAFT Goal:

Improved absorption of rain water

Improve water quality and quantity

Protect creek wildlife - birds, fish, insects, etc.

Provide shaded walking paths and bicycle paths

natural resources & ecology



Workshop participants engage in discussions surrounding the Natural Resources & Ecology of the Shoal Creek Corridor.

connectivity & community access



Guiding Principle 3: Connectivity & Community Access

Increase connectivity and comfort for people of all ages and abilities who are walking, biking and/or taking transit.

- DRAFT Goal: Prioritize those access improvements that create "ladders of opportunity" for the community, connecting people to schools, work places, public services and public open space.
- DRAFT Goal: Establish clear trail gateways, trailheads and way-finding signs that call out bicycle and walking travel-time to key public destinations.
- DRAFT Goal: Provide shade along all public pathways and within connecting parks and activity spaces, so these are useable during summer months.
- DRAFT Goal: With Capital Metro, AISD and other partners, promote the transit-to-trail connections that already exist. Improve local bus stops along the Corridor and provide way-finding to the Corridor pathway system.
- DRAFT Goal: provide support infrastructure for Bicyclists - racks, lights, bike repair stations, etc.
- DRAFT Goal: Multi-modal access for neighborhoods west of Mopac
- DRAFT Goal: Efficient & effective transportation
- DRAFT Goal: Connections w/ CAP Metro bus service and to other getting into South

Top 4 Community Prioritized Goals:

- Provide shade along all public pathways and within connecting parks and activity spaces, so these are useable during summer months.
- Prioritize those access improvements that create "ladders of opportunity" for the community, connecting people to schools, work places, public services and public open space.
- Establish clear trail gateways, trailheads and way-finding signs that call out bicycle and walking travel-time to key public destinations.
- With Capital Metro, AISD and other partners, promote the transit-to-trail connections that already exist. Improve local bus stops along the Corridor and provide way-finding to the Corridor pathway system.

connectivity & community access



Workshop participants engage in discussions surrounding the Connectivity & Community Access of the Shoal Creek Corridor.

safety, health & well-being



Guiding Principle 4: Safety, Health & Well-Being

Create a safe pathway system that makes being active a fun, easy and daily choice.

- DRAFT Goal: Ensure that there is adequate lighting along the pathways, along with video cameras and call-boxes, to increase security at all hours of the day.
- DRAFT Goal: Develop programs and promotional materials to be distributed within nearby schools, churches, workplaces, retailers, etc., that promote the Shoal Creek pathway system as an active transportation link.
- DRAFT Goal: Create fitness "parcours" along different segments of the Shoal Creek pathway, that encourage and guide physical activity and are designed to engage all ages and abilities.
- DRAFT Goal: Design the pathway and the overall system to minimize conflicts between the various types of users, including joggers, walkers, bicyclists, dog-walkers, strollers, skateboarders, wheelchairs, etc. Where possible and not intrusive to the natural environment, provide "dual tracks", or separate paths for wheeled and non-wheeled users.
- DRAFT Goal: *Provide a smoke-free environment ~~and~~ to provide clean, fresh air.*
- DRAFT Goal: *Develop programs that support & encourage youth involvement in the work & stewardship along the creek.*
- DRAFT Goal: *Establish a trail that connects the creek and the city center.*
- DRAFT Goal: *Provide a safe and secure environment for the community.*

Top 3 Community Prioritized Goals:

- Design the pathway and the overall system to minimize conflicts between the various types of users. Where possible and not intrusive to the natural environment, provide "dual tracks" or separate paths for wheeled and non-wheeled users.
- Ensure adequate lighting along the pathways, along with video cameras and call-boxes to increase security at all hours of the day.
- Develop programs and promotional materials to be distributed within nearby schools, churches, workplaces, retailers, etc., that promote the Shoal Creek pathway system as an active transportation link.

safety, health & well-being



Workshop participants engage in discussions surrounding the Safety, Health & Well-Being of the Shoal Creek Corridor, and were encouraged to participate in a health survey, <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/shoalcreekvision>

activities & recreation:



Guiding Principle 5: Activities & Recreation

Enhance access to and opportunities for recreation, education, social activities, and community events, as well as a place of beauty, calm and refuge.

- DRAFT Goal: Preserve places of tranquility and refuge throughout the Shoal Creek Corridor, and locate the more active, noisier activities and events spaces well away from these areas.
- DRAFT Goal: Connect both children and adults to nature. Create an environment that helps people de-stress and be present in and aware of nature.
- DRAFT Goal: Focus the more active recreation in the existing parks.
- DRAFT Goal: Understand what recreational facilities and other activities may be "missing" in the nearby public parks and recreational facilities, so that the Shoal Creek Corridor can potentially offer these, along its pathway system, where appropriate.
- DRAFT Goal: Using input from the community, locate new places in the Corridor that could serve as trailheads, community gathering and events, picnicking, sports, etc.
- DRAFT Goal: Promote education and interpretation about the natural and human history of the Shoal Creek Corridor.
- DRAFT Goal: DEVELOP LINEAR ACTIVITIES SUCH AS DISK GOLF THAT FOCUS USE ALONG THE LENGTH OF THE CREEK
- DRAFT Goal:
- DRAFT Goal:

Top 3 Community Prioritized Goals:

- Preserve places of tranquility and refuge throughout the Shoal Creek Corridor, and locate the more active, noisier activities and events spaces well away from these areas.
- Using input from the community, locate new places in the Corridor that could serve as trailheads, community gathering and events, picnicking, sports, etc.
- Connect both children and adults to nature. Create an environment that helps people de-stress and be present in and aware of nature.

activities & recreation



Workshop participants engage in discussions surrounding the Activities & Recreation of the Shoal Creek Corridor, and were encouraged to place dots showing where Activities & Recreation occur and are desired along the creek.

project advocacy & implementation



Guiding Principle 6: Advocacy & Implementation

Collaborate with the public, private and non-profit sectors to implement the Shoal Creek Vision to Action Plan in a timely way, and put in place a program to sustain the Corridor.

DRAFT Goal: Boost membership to the Shoal Creek Conservancy, targeting businesses, employers and residents within the watershed.

DRAFT Goal: Garner support and interest from next-generation and under-served communities.

DRAFT Goal: Support future bond packages, *+ other public funding initiatives*, by the City and Travis County to create a continuous and functional pathway system.

DRAFT Goal: With the City of Austin, develop a "Great Creeks" Improvement Program, similar to that of the City's existing Great Streets Development Program, whereby property owners may participate in funding creekside improvements.

DRAFT Goal: Promote improvements on the Shoal Creek pathway system as an important way to increase bicycle-riding by the Austin public, per the recently-launched Big Jump initiative

DRAFT Goal: *Stimulate involved citizenship + stewardship of youth + charging adults*

Promote/Initiate Trail Cleanup, Design & other community events

DRAFT Goal: *Promote walking, cycling and human-powered transportation as a means to reduce greenhouse gas emissions*

DRAFT Goal: *Preserve, expand, protect and hike trail network*

DRAFT Goal:

Top 3 Community Prioritized Goals:

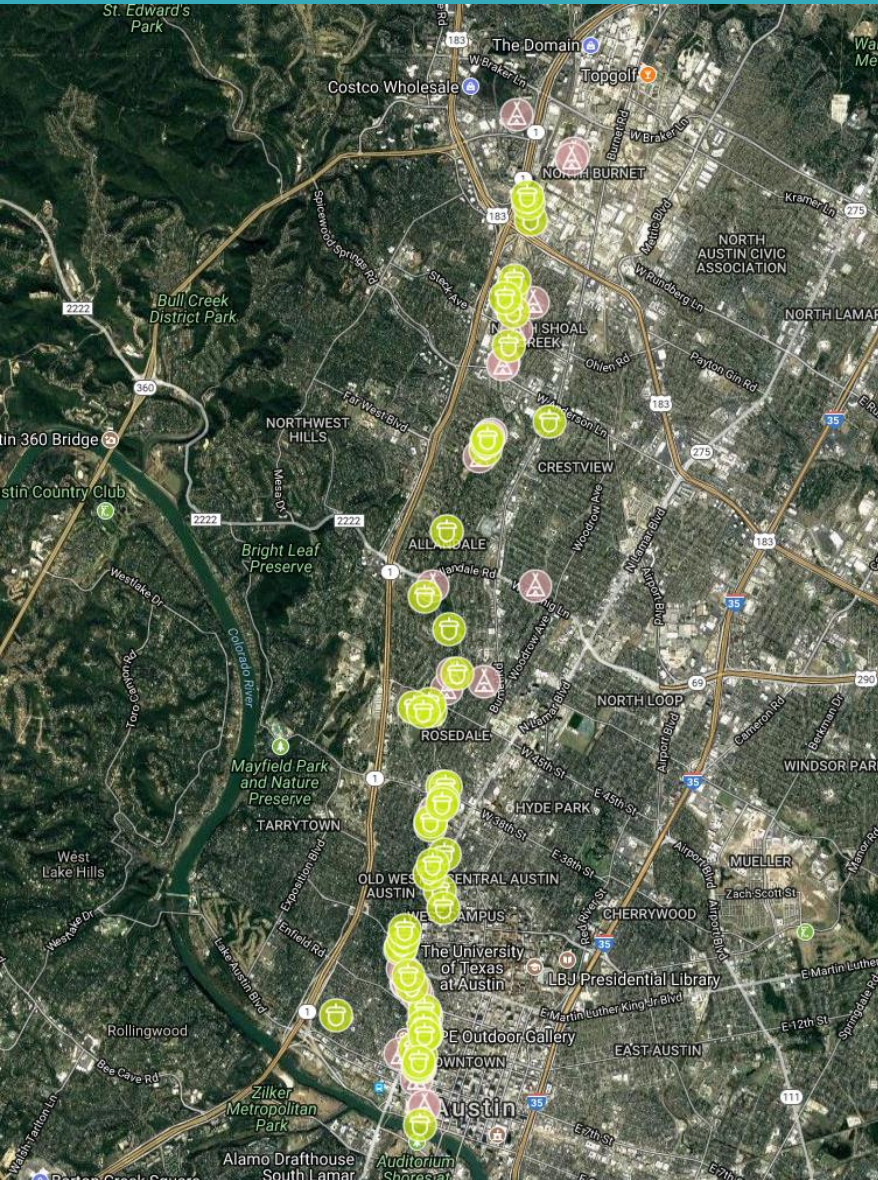
- Promote improvements on the Shoal Creek pathway system as an important way to increase bicycle-riding by the Austin public, per the recently-launched Big Jump initiative.
- Garner support and interest from next-generation and under-served communities.
- Boost membership to the Shoal Creek Conservancy, targeting businesses, employers and residents within the watershed.

project advocacy & implementation



Workshop participants engage in discussions surrounding the Project Advocacy & Implementation of the Shoal Creek Corridor.

Public Comments Takeaways



History & Culture:

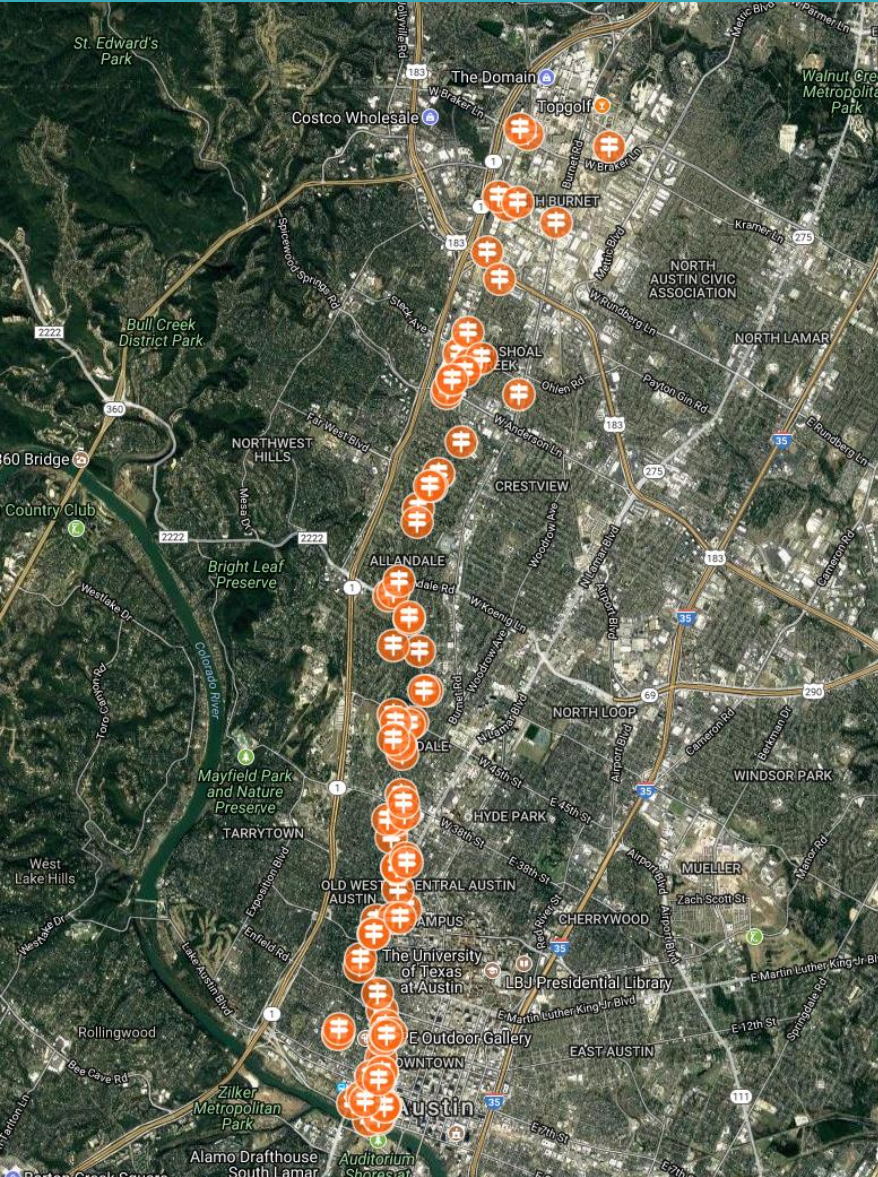
- Lots of interesting urban legends and more contemporary history/stories to tell.
- Strong general interest in historic preservation, cultural preservation and telling stories.
- Interest in preserving (getting it landmarked) and re-imagining the Third Street trestle bridge as Austin's "High Line" (NYC), create an "enhanced public realm" or plaza.



Ecology:

- Much support for green infrastructure all along the trail, roadways (esp., as well as in Duncan Park along 9th Street).
- Great concern to preserve/restore wildlife habitat, planting more shade trees, grasslands/prairie.
- Many places need to address erosion, flooding and improve water quality throughout watershed.

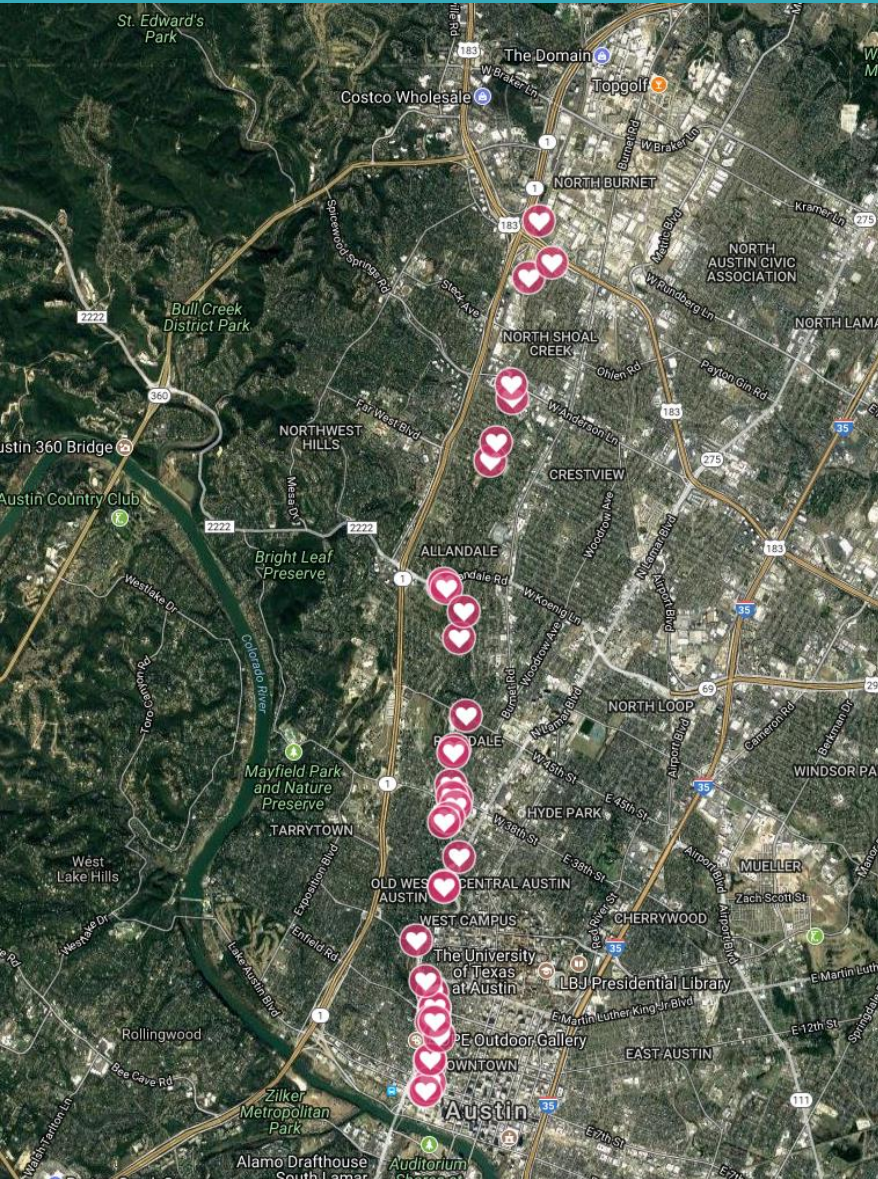
Public Comments Takeaways



Connectivity:

- Many suggestions for secondary trails to connect to or near the main Shoal Creek pathway, especially to/from public schools, ACC.
- Desire for dual tracks in many areas, especially Pease Park.
- Many suggestions for more underpasses dedicated to bicyclists under existing bridges.
- Lots of interest in creating new, creekside trail between 45th and Northland (adjacent to Austin Memorial Park).
- Lots of interest in creating new, creekside trail between Steck Avenue and Anderson Lane (adjacent to private, commercial properties, including KVUE).
- Lots of interest in Burnet Road connection/trails, especially to Kramer Station.

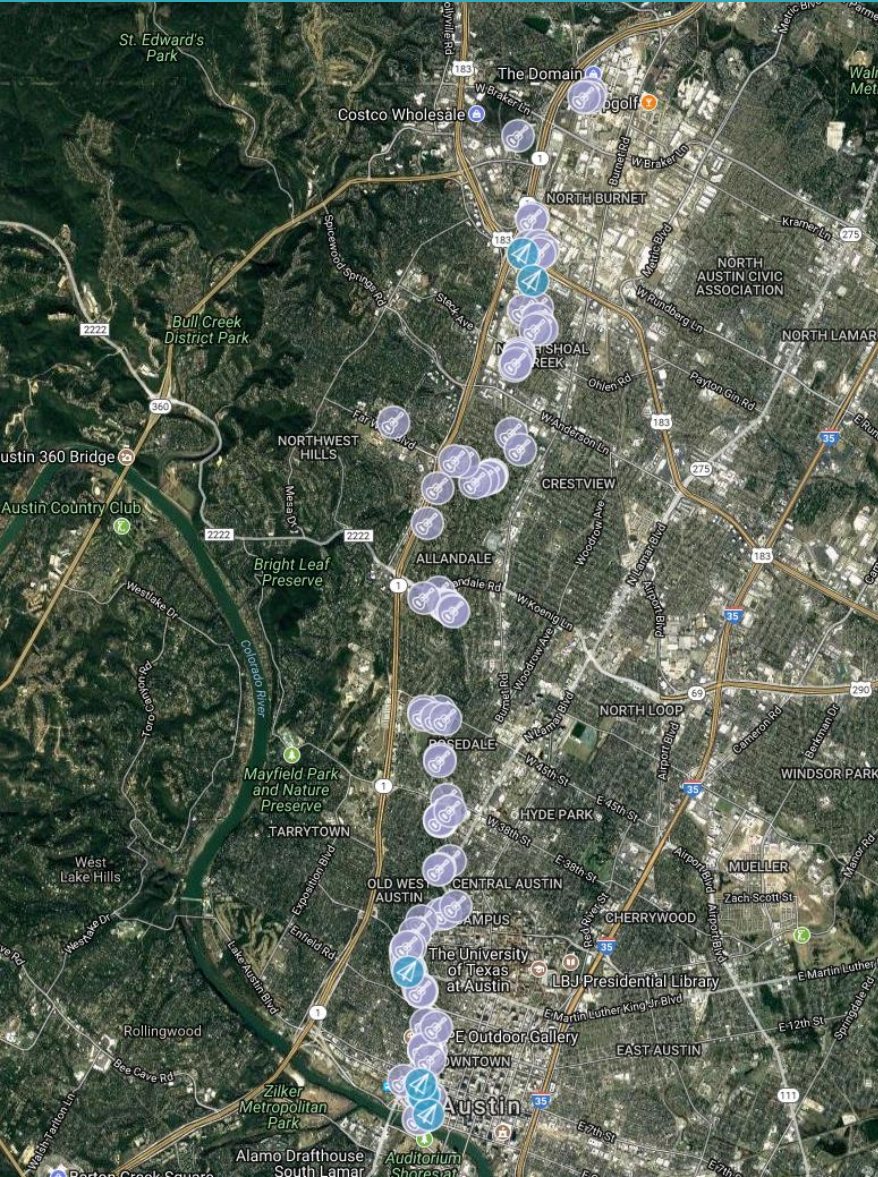
Public Comments Takeaways



Health & Safety:

- Need protected bicycle facilities north of 38th Street - not just shared paths or just striped bicycle lanes.
- Many concerns about graffiti under bridges - mostly in Segment A (southern third of study area).
- Some concerns about homeless encampments.
- Parking along Shoal Creek Boulevard cited as safety concern for cyclists.
- Need to improve lighting under bridges, even during the day.
- Need to improve 38th St, both for cyclists (no bike facilities) and pedestrians (curbside, narrow sidewalk) is very dangerous for cycling, as 38th St is such a major east-west connector to the trail.
- Very dangerous to cross 183 for bikes and peds.

Public Comments Takeaways



Activities:

- Strong interest in ensuring that many nodes along the trail become or remain tranquil, more contemplative or refuge-like spaces. However, many areas called out for tranquil are also called out for Public Events or Organized Recreation.



Advocacy:

- CIPs, parking benefit districts, private donations were identified.
- Promote a Adopt-a-Trail for maintenance.
- Build the Bowie Street Underpass.
- Implement the Pease Park Master Plan.
- Implement the 183 undercrossing pathways.

natural resources & ecology: management guidelines

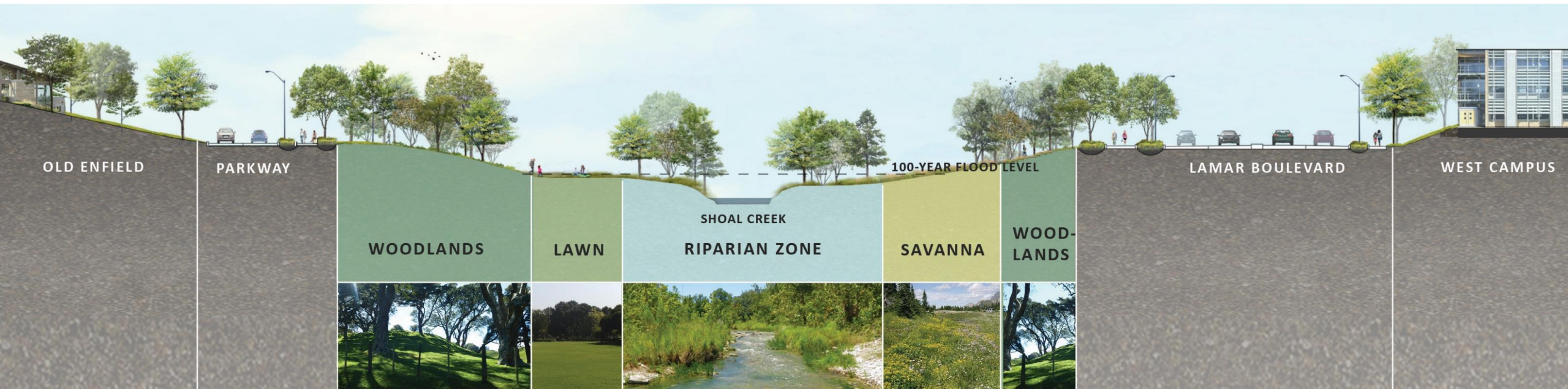
- *What needs to be prioritized?*
- *What is missing?*
- *How do we measure success?*



natural resources & ecology: management guidelines

The Plan will include both on and off-street Green Infrastructure Treatment Guidelines describing the following:

- Planting List
- Planting Protocols
- Invasive Species Management
- Soil Preparation
- Irrigation
- Integration of disturbance mitigation
- On-going Care and Management
- Adaptive Management Approach



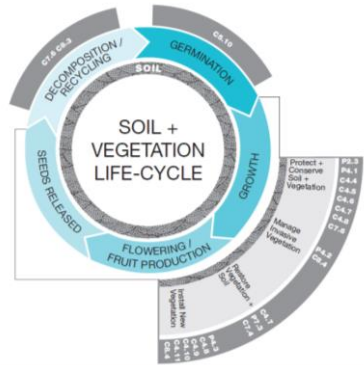
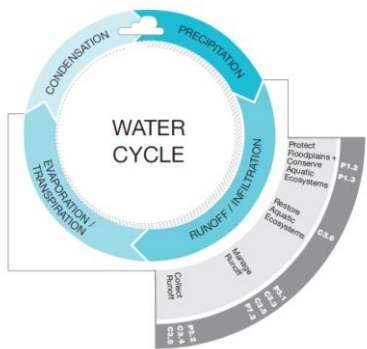
natural resources & ecology: management guidelines

Example Conceptual Frameworks

SITES v2 Rating System

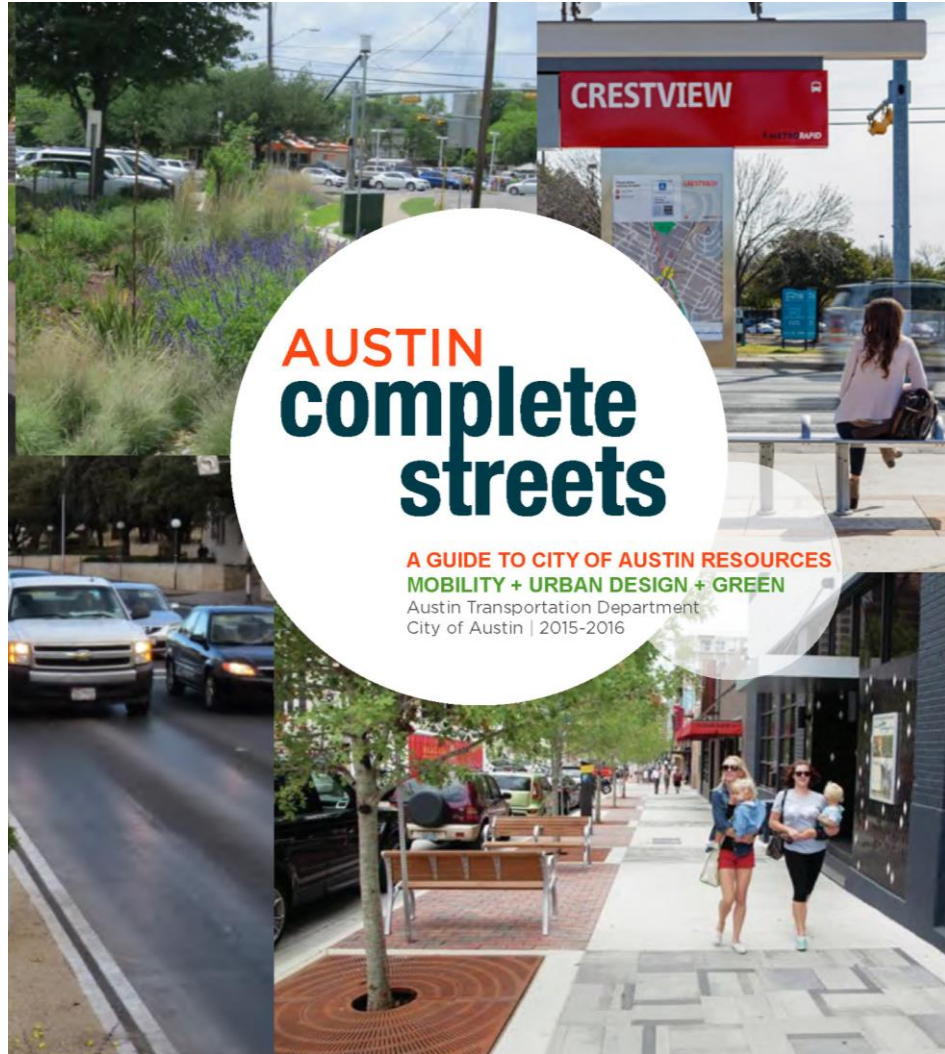
For Sustainable Land Design and Development

- Do no harm.
- Apply the precautionary principle.
- Design with nature and culture.
- Use a decision-making hierarchy of preservation, conservation, and regeneration.
- Provide regenerative systems as intergenerational equity.
- Support a living process.
- Use a systems thinking approach.
- Use a collaborative and ethical approach.



natural resources & ecology: management guidelines

Example Conceptual Frameworks



GREEN STREETS

AN INTRODUCTION
SEPTEMBER 25, 2015

STREETS as:

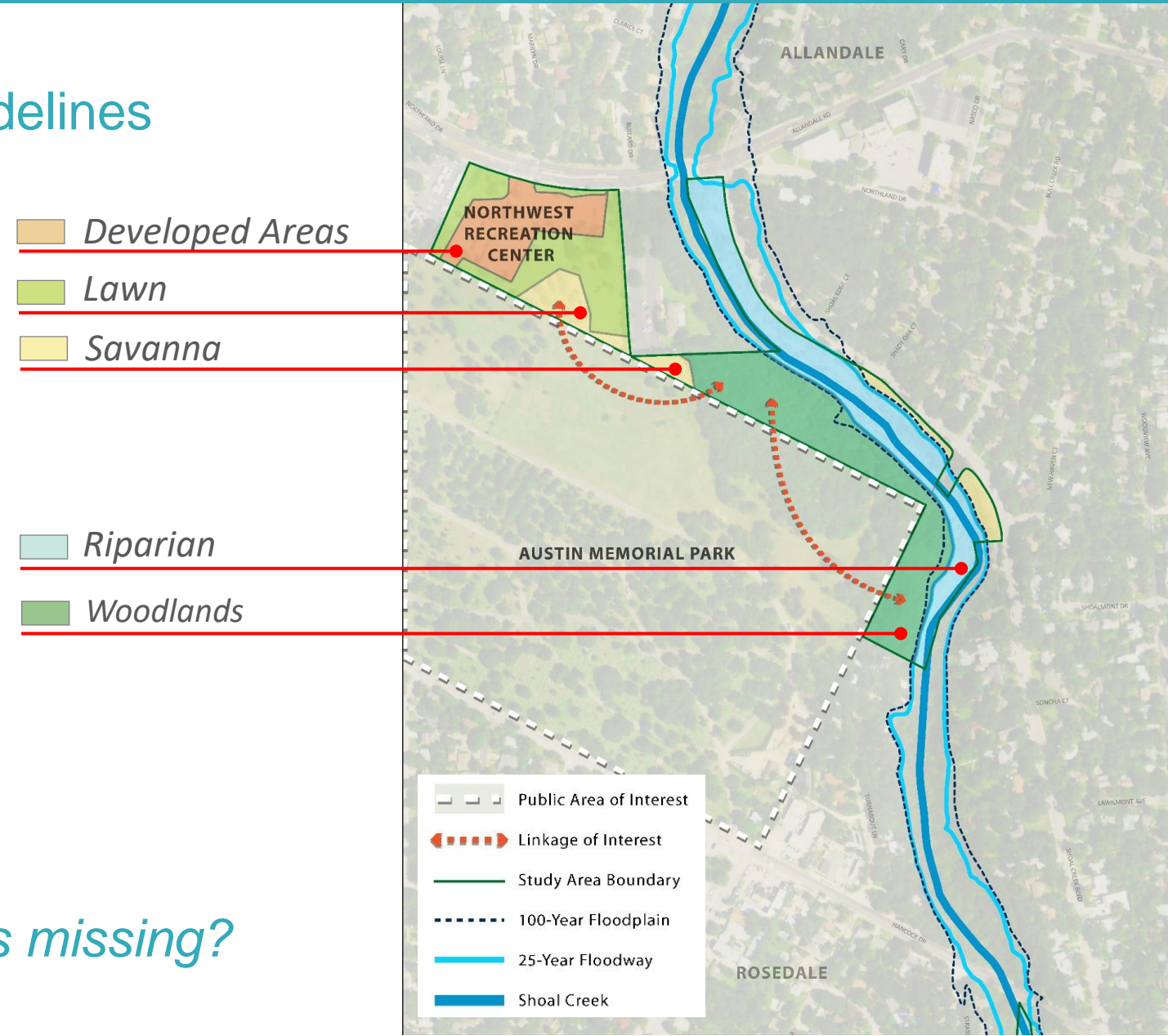
- Ecosystem
- Public Space
- Economic Benefit
- Climate Change Resiliency
- Integrated Public Policy and Practice
- Public Health
- Materials and Resource Management

natural resources & ecology: management guidelines

Proposed Content for Natural Area Management Zones Guidelines

- Planting List
- Planting Protocols
- Soil Preparation
- Green Infrastructure Integration
- Invasive Species Management
- Irrigation
- Integration of Disturbance Mitigation
- On-going Care and Management
- Adaptive Management Approach

What needs to be prioritized? What is missing?



natural resources & ecology: management guidelines

Example Metrics of Success

- Reduce the highest priority invasive species populations by XX% area in X years.
- Increase species observations for major taxa by XX% in XX years.
- Plant XX container trees in the next X years.
- Plant XX tree seedlings in the next X years.
- Increase shade over trail to XX% over XX years.
- XX% of space for recreation vs. XX% space for reclamation of natural systems

What should be our metrics of success for natural resources and ecology?

Contact:

Ben Prince: Bprince@siglogroup.com

Jonathan Ogren: Jogren@siglogroup.com



YEAR 1



YEAR 5



YEAR 40

thank you, and see you next on Wednesday, September 13th
6pm at Congregation Beth Israel for Community Workshop #2

A vibrant, multi-colored duck is swimming in a body of water. The duck's head features a rainbow-like pattern of colors including green, blue, yellow, and red. Its body is primarily dark with a large, bright yellow patch on its side. The water is a light, warm tone, and the overall image has a soft, artistic feel.

This community project is made possible by private donations
from the **Downtown Austin Alliance, Jack and Carolyn Long,
Constructive Ventures, the Georgia B. Lucas Foundation
Fund, and the Charles and Betti Saunders Foundation Fund.**