

# Shoal Creek Steering Committee Meeting

## January 23rd, 2024

---

### Quorum met, last meeting's minutes approved

#### Waste water line break in Shoal Creek near 12th Street

- Break occurred on Jan 10, 2024
- 6" line, perpendicular to the creek broke
- Line was rerouted deeper and parallel to creek on Jan 11, 2024
- WPD engineer: minimal damage to the creek and no issue of erosion
- Fish were relocated downstream
  - No reported fish deaths
- Jan 13, 2024, new manhole installed and sidewalk reopened
- Spill was estimated to be 15,000 gallons of sewage
- 7,000 gallons of water was pumped out
- 24-hr Watershed pollution hotline (512-979-2550)

#### City of Austin's HOME Initiative

- Amendments to the City's Land Development Code to provide more housing types and increase overall housing supply within Austin's single-family zones
- Likely to see a bump in impervious cover in the watershed
  - Watershed does not have water quality control measures for single-family housing
    - Discussions about regional stormwater collection and retention

#### Seiders Springs area removed from mowing

- Establish official Grow Zone
  - Minimal adaptive management
  - No-mow
  - Seeding
  - Planting woody seedlings
  - Soil erosion control - limited
  - Soil amendments - limited
  - Selective invasive species control
- How Grow Zone behaves is dependent on the abiotic factors present in the area
  - Sunlight
  - Rainfall
  - Soil compaction
- Try to design Grow Zones to not need vegetation management
- Formal placements of bunch grasses can be used along the edge of the Grow Zone to make the area look neater and to prevent mowing encroachment

- Wildflower meadows are a brief stage of a Grow Zone or are otherwise managed with mowing to discourage the growth of woody vegetation
  - Mowed twice a year

**Next meeting is on April 23rd**