

PIR C178534

3. All records of communications (meeting notes, audio or video recordings, emails, text messages, letters or exchanged documents) between any representative of Austin City Limits (Live Nation Ticketmaster) and any representative of the City of Austin (including Design Workshop) and between any representative of the Austin Parks Foundation and any representative of the City of Austin (including Design Workshop) where such communications reference (a) any aspect of the Zilker Park Vision Plan or potential elements of a Zilker Park Vision Plan, (b) any comments or objections to any part of any draft or proposed element of a Zilker Park Plan expressed by Save Our Springs Alliance or the Rewild Zilker coalition, where such communications were exchanged on or after January 1, 2021.

ZPVP Meetings with C3 Presents

*Meetings and correspondence relating to Austin City Limits Festival organization was limited to the Austin C3 Presents office. There was no contact with Ticketmaster, Live Nation, any other representative or agents of the Austin City Limits Festival.

5.3.21 - Small Group Discussion "Large Events" included Emmett Beliveau (COO, C3 Presents) and James Russell (Executive Director, Trail of Lights Foundation and Kite Festival Foundation)

Zilker Relays and Blues on the Green representatives were invited and did not attend.

[recorded and on website]

1.7.22 - Events meeting with Emmett Beliveau (C3 Presents) and James Russell (Trail of Lights Foundation and Kite Festival Foundation)

-Reviewed elements of draft 3 concepts and how the 3 concepts would impact their events.

Considered scale of land bridge

Parking structure south of land bridge – how many spots is dependent on height and number of levels

Circular route of shuttle necessary to ACL

Seem to express they would work around whatever park plan is recommended by Council

Didn't seem to oppose any concepts that were presented to them

2.7.22 - Events follow-up with Emmett Beliveau (C3 Presents) and James Russell (Trail of Lights Foundation and Kite Festival Foundation)

-Trail of Lights:

Only use on southside for Holiday Tree and parking on Polo Field

Partial to land bridge idea

Concern of tunnels washing out in bad weather (underpass idea)

Contractually obligated to use Polo Field – until replacement is created – understanding that events are precluded from Council's resolution to remove parking from Polo Field

If goal is to keep B.S. open, they would likely reduce T.O.L. shuttles because they would have no control over traffic and speed in getting them there

-C3:

Concerns with southside restrictions

Willing to work with us to consider ZHT on landfill (which is currently used as staging area)

Expressed interest in enhancing the Crenshaw Ped Bridge

CapMetro bus service can't seem to meet the demand for the festival, so they have to contract out

3.7.22 - Meeting with PARD Events Office Staff and Emmett Beliveau (C3 Presents)

- We know/expect landfill staging area access will decrease, Polo Field may need to absorb some of that infrastructure
- Preserve & maintain public access to the park during the build but no way to maintain access on the 6 actual event days
- One plan will "not fit all" events according to Jason (e.g. land bridge may be a security concern for ACL)
- Bridges considered: Toomey, Lou Neff, 1 east of pool and 1 west of the pool on the southside
- C3 needs width of B.S. to feed attendees through entry
- No security screening until festival boundary so nothing major in terms of the above bridges requiring further security
- C3 may have to think about where their back of house operations would move. This may cause more drive time and transportation.
- C3 thinks a loop circulator shuttle is a good idea.
- C3 said all concepts impact their current festival footprint.
- Welcome Center in Regenerate: help or hurt?
Rugby Field currently has stage, medical compound, etc.
Not much benefit for their uses
Would require flexibility in their footprint to see what would remain or what may have to move

9.15.22 - Meeting with C3 Presents Staff

- Fortifying land bridge in consideration of connecting north and south sides of B.S. and the park activations on the bridge
- Great Lawn and landfill revegetation includes areas that are currently used for festival
- B.S. one way in each direction with median and accommodating bikes lanes and on-street parking
Dramatic decrease in the through-put
- 500-800 staff for ACL shuttle in from Barton Creek Mall, 150 cops with individual vehicles park within and surrounding area
- Will work with the plan concept that moves forward to Council
- tentative schedule for December community meetings, feedback through January, and then revision

ZPVP Meetings with Austin Parks Foundation

5.18.22 - Zilker Eagle Site Visit included APF, PARD, Design Workshop, Nelson\Nygaard

-Overview about Zilker Eagle operations, status to get it back in operation, drainage & safety

7.6.22 - Zilker Eagle Follow-up Meeting included APF, PARD, Design Workshop, Nelson\Nygaard

-Consideration for less stops

As the route gets longer, capacity and efficiency decreases. No longer achieving what it's meant to do

-Limitations with train size

Barton Springs tunnel

Height constraints cannot have awning to help with the heat

-Consideration for current train and another around Great Lawn.

Would require signal system. 2-3% grade based on manufacturer's recommendation

-Ped-rail conflicts with playground and trailhead

-Open to considerations for a new route and would consider different manufacturer

Consider the experience of new loop alignment on Great Lawn with stop at landfill area parking

This route could fill a void if vehicular access is removed/limited on north side of Barton Springs

-Awareness of PWD's Barton Springs Road Bridge project

10.24.22 - Zilker Eagle Alignment and Barton Springs Bridge Meeting included APF, PARD, PWD, AECOM

-Consideration for how the train would run during rehabilitation or replacement project

Construction effort could be up to 3 years with start date possibly in 2026 because of permitting and design, funding, significant phasing, and coordination with traffic switching etc.

-1 train to be operational, 2 is not outside the realm of possibility

-Considerations in the plan

Not so close to the edge (previous track washout), can't mitigate runoff

Not necessarily traditional train and track, could be rubber tire shuttle type vehicle that looks like train on a concrete path

-APF estimates fall 2023 at the earliest based on train needs and track

Consideration how train closure could affect their agreement

-PWD timeline:

Nov. 10 Mobility Committee

Preparing memo to Mayor and Council

Mid-late January introduce ideas to the public

Will need coordination with ATD with possible pilot improvements

ZPVP Meetings including Austin Parks Foundation

1.14.22 - Meeting with Zilker Park Partners included representatives of Austin Parks Foundation, Austin Together, Barton Springs Conservancy, Girl Scouts Zilker Cabin, The Trail Foundation, Umlauf Sculpture Museum & Garden, Zilker Botanical Garden Conservancy, Zilker Collective Impact Working Group, Zilker Park Boat Rentals, and Charlie McCabe, Al Godfrey, Laurie Limbacher (ZPVP consultant team), [recorded and on website]

ZPVP Meetings with Zilker Collective Impact Working Group

*Zilker Collective Impact Working Group represents the following groups: ABC Kite Festival, Austin Parks Foundation, Austin YMBL Sunshine Camps, Barton Springs Conservancy, Explore Austin, Friends of Barton Springs Pool, Girl Scouts Zilker Cabin, Hill Country Conservancy, The Rowing Dock, The Trail Foundation, Trail of Lights Foundation, Umlauf Sculpture Museum & Garden, Waterloo Disc Golf, Zilker Botanical Garden Conservancy, Zilker Park Boat Rentals, Zilker Theatre Productions

3.24.22 - Zilker Collective Impact Working Group Meeting
[recorded and on website]

11.28.22 Zilker Collective Impact Working Group Meeting
[recorded and on website]

1.4.23 Zilker Collective Meeting (Part 2 to November's meeting)
[recorded and on website]

Zilker Park Collective Impact Working Group Meeting with Design Workshop

Wednesday, January 4, 2023 | 1:00pm – 2:00pm

Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcode-uqz4vGNI63u-VkVJDGHpaP34VQML>

AGENDA

This meeting is Part 2 of a discussion of ZCIWG's Partner Letter 5. The first meeting was held on Nov. 28, 2022. At this meeting we'll discuss items not covered previously.

- 1:00 Girl Scouts Cabin: Discuss "Activate facilities" label on the cabin in ZPVP draft
- 1:05 Park Safety: Update on partner letter sent to the City on Oct. 28 (any reponse?)
- 1:10 Zilker Botanical Garden, ANSC, and Stratford Realignment
- 1:20 Barton Springs Road reconfiguration
- 1:30 Sports Complex followup from previous discussion
- 1:40 Retain some of Rock Garden, playground parking?
- 1:50 Staged parking over time, not all at once (garages)

From: [Claire Hempel](#)
To: joy@austinparks.org; [Sonny Sin](#); [Mosteiro, Jonathan](#); katie@austinparks.org; [Mattern, Lauren](#); pam@austinparks.org
Cc: [Montes, Gregory](#); [Eckard, Megan](#)
Subject: RE: ZPVP | Zilker Eagle Follow-up Meeting
Date: Wednesday, July 6, 2022 9:56:39 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Hello Joy,

Yes, we still plan to meet today at 1, virtually. Talk with you then,

Claire Hempel (she/hers)
PLA, AICP CUD, LEED® Green Associate™, CDT
Principal

DESIGNWORKSHOP

812 San Antonio Street
Suite 401
Austin, TX 78701
512 647-2371 (direct)
512 499-0222 (main)
512 774-9191 (mobile)
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From: Google Calendar <calendar-notification@google.com> **On Behalf Of** joy@austinparks.org
Sent: Wednesday, July 6, 2022 9:53 AM
To: [Sonny Sin](mailto:ssin@designworkshop.com) <ssin@designworkshop.com>; [Claire Hempel](mailto:chempel@designworkshop.com) <chempel@designworkshop.com>; jmosteiro@nelsonnygaard.com; katie@austinparks.org; lmattern@nelsonnygaard.com; pam@austinparks.org; joy@austinparks.org
Subject: ZPVP | Zilker Eagle Follow-up Meeting

Hi everyone,

It's been a while since we last met; just wanted to confirm we are a go for the meeting today.

Best,
Joy

ZPVP | Zilker Eagle Follow-up

Attachments

Meeting

Wednesday Jul 6, 2022 · 1pm – 2pm (Central Time -
(Chicago

Sonny Sin | Design Workshop is inviting you to a
.scheduled Zoom meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://designworkshop.zoom.us/j/83030183232?
pwd=T01wWE1VREFsckZ0SmpyUmtiUERTdz09](https://designworkshop.zoom.us/j/83030183232?pwd=T01wWE1VREFsckZ0SmpyUmtiUERTdz09)

Meeting ID: 830 3018 3232

Passcode: 698559

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Find your local number:

<https://designworkshop.zoom.us/u/kd905YcrqI>

< From: Angela Richter

Sent: Monday, June 13, 2022 9:50 AM

< To: Sonny Sin

Cc: Claire Hempel >; Joy Casnovsky >; Katie Robillard

>; Pam Taylor >; lmattern@nelsonnygaard.com;

< Jonathan Mosteiro

Subject: Re: Zilker Eagle Follow Up Meeting

Thanks, Sonny. Wednesday July 6th 1 pm to 2 pm
looks good for the APF team. Please send an invite with
.link to all those cced

,Thank you

[image001.png](#)

[image002.png](#)

[image003.png](#)

[image004.png](#)

[image005.jpg](#)

Angela

:On Mon, Jun 13, 2022 at 8:29 AM Sonny Sin > wrote
,Good morning Angela

Below are Design Workshop's availability on early
.July

July 5th (Tue) 11am-1pm, 2-3pm *
July 6th (Wed) 12-2pm *
July 7th (Thu) 9-10am, 11-12pm, 1-2pm *
July 8th (Fri) 12-5pm *

,Thanks
(Sonny Sin (she/hers

[dw-email-logo]

San Antonio Street 812
Suite 401
Austin, TX 78701
(direct) 717-9783 512
(x9783 (main 499-0222 512
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[up of a logo Description automatically generated

< From: Angela Richter
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2022 3:04 PM
< To: Claire Hempel
Cc: Joy Casnovsky >; Katie Robillard >; Pam Taylor >;
lmattern@nelsonnygaard.com; Jonathan Mosteiro >;
< Sonny Sin
Subject: Zilker Eagle Follow Up Meeting

,Hi Claire and team

At our walk through at the Zilker Eagle site, we
discussed setting up another meeting (virtual) with the
transportation experts on the Zilker Team, particularly
those that were knowledgeable about trains and
circulators. This email is to try and get that on the
.calendar

It looks like our team (Joy, Pam, and Katie) have some

availability the first 2 weeks of July. Could y'all send
?over some times that could work for a meeting

,Thanks
Angela

--

Angela Richter, Advocacy Manager

Austin Parks Foundation
P.O. Box 6160 | Austin, TX 78762
angela@austinparks.org | 512.668.9640

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Angela Richter, Advocacy Manager

Austin Parks Foundation
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angela@austinparks.org | 512.668.9640

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Location

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pwd=T01wWE1VREFsckZ0SmpyUmtiUERTdz09](https://designworkshop.zoom.us/j/83030183232?pwd=T01wWE1VREFsckZ0SmpyUmtiUERTdz09)

[View map](#)

Organizer

[Sonny Sin](#)
ssin@designworkshop.com

Guests

joy@austinparks.org - creator
[Angela Richter](#)
[Claire Hempel](#)
[Jonathan Mosteiro](#)
[Katie Robillard](#)
lmattern@nelsonnygaard.com
[Pam Taylor](#)

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From: [Karen Blizzard](#)
To: chempel@designworkshop.com; [Montes, Gregory](#); [Eckard, Megan](#); [Sonny Sin](#); [Soliz, Ricardo](#); [Schneider, Justin](#)
Cc: [Kurt Culbertson](#); [Molly Stevens](#); [Hayden Brooks](#); [Karen Blizzard](#); [Colin Wallis](#); joy@austinparks.org; kayla@austinparks.org; katie@austinparks.org; erica@sunshinecamps.org; president@bartonspringsconservancy.org; [Karen Brimble](#); [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] [Jason Cheng](#); [Steve Barnick](#); [Ashley Todd](#); [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [Paula Bookidis](#); [Cherisse Robison](#); [FloraM](#); [AliciaG](#); [Gayla Nakamura](#); [George Cofer](#); [Fleetwood Jacobs](#); [susan](#); kate@rowingdock.com; [lindsay](#); heidi@thetrailconservancy.org; hanna@thetrailconservancy.org; [Russell, James](#); [Katie Robinson Edwards](#); Gordo@discgordo.com; [jecraft38](#); [Laura McCabe](#); [Holly Hawk](#); [Laura](#); dponton@zilker.org; [REDACTED] [Lisa Muir](#)
Subject: Re: ZPVP | Collective Meeting, Part 2
Date: Wednesday, January 4, 2023 10:53:32 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[Design Workshop Meeting agenda 010423.docx](#)

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

All,

Attached is a final agenda for our meeting today. See you at 1pm!

Karen

From: Claire Hempel
Sent: Friday, December 16, 2022 11:30 AM
To: Claire Hempel <chempel@designworkshop.com>; Karen Blizzard [REDACTED] gregory.montes@austintexas.gov <gregory.montes@austintexas.gov>; Megan Eckard (megan.eckard@austintexas.gov) <megan.eckard@austintexas.gov>; Sonny Sin <ssin@designworkshop.com>; Ricardo Soliz (ricardo.soliz@austintexas.gov) <ricardo.soliz@austintexas.gov>; Justin Schneider (justin.schneider@austintexas.gov) <justin.schneider@austintexas.gov>
Cc: Kurt Culbertson <kculbertson@designworkshop.com>; Lindsay Rohler <lindsay@rowingdock.com>; katie@austinparks.org <katie@austinparks.org>; kayla@austinparks.org <kayla@austinparks.org>; dponton@zilker.org <dponton@zilker.org>; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; Hayden Brooks <hbrooks@americanrealty.com>; [Cherisse Robison](mailto:CherisseR@gstx.org) <CherisseR@gstx.org>; [Paula Bookidis](mailto:PaulaB@gstx.org) <PaulaB@gstx.org>; [George Cofer](mailto:george@hillcountryconservancy.org) <george@hillcountryconservancy.org>; [Fleetwood Jacobs](mailto:fleetwood@hillcountryconservancy.org) <fleetwood@hillcountryconservancy.org>; [Karen Brimble](mailto:karen.brimble@lynxs.com) <karen.brimble@lynxs.com>; [Katie Robinson Edwards](mailto:katie.edwards@umlaufsculpture.org) <katie.edwards@umlaufsculpture.org>; joy@austinparks.org <joy@austinparks.org>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [Mike Cannatti](mailto:mike@tcciplaw.com) <mike@tcciplaw.com>; [Laura McCabe](mailto:operationsmanager@zbgconservancy.org) <operationsmanager@zbgconservancy.org>; hanna@thetrailconservancy.org <hanna@thetrailconservancy.org>; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; heidi@thetrailconservancy.org <heidi@thetrailconservancy.org>; [REDACTED]; [Jason Cheng](mailto:jcheng@dtjdesign.com) <jcheng@dtjdesign.com>; [Gayla Nakamura](mailto:Gaylan@gstx.org) <Gaylan@gstx.org>; erica@sunshinecamps.org <erica@sunshinecamps.org>
Subject: ZPVP | Collective Meeting, Part 2

When: Wednesday, January 4, 2023 1:00 PM-2:00 PM.

Where: https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcode-uqz4vGNI63u-VkVJDGHpaP34VQML_

Hello,

Thank you for working with us to find an alternative date. Please distribute as needed.

Thank you,

Claire Hempel (she/hers)

PLA, AICP CUD, LEED® Green Associate™, CDT
Principal

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812 San Antonio Street
Suite 401
Austin, TX 78701
512 647-2371 (direct)
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From: [Claire Hempel](#)
To: [Joy Casnovsky](#); [Sonny Sin](#); [Eckard, Megan](#); [Montes, Gregory](#); [Soliz, Ricardo](#)
Cc: [Katie Robillard](#); [Kayla Reese](#)
Subject: RE: Zilker Draft Plan-train feedback needs
Date: Friday, January 6, 2023 1:28:14 PM

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Thanks so much, Joy. We really appreciate the feedback.

Claire Hempel
512 647-2371

From: Joy Casnovsky <joy@austinparks.org>
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2023 12:07 PM
To: Claire Hempel <chempel@designworkshop.com>; Sonny Sin <ssin@designworkshop.com>; Eckard, Megan <Megan.Eckard@austintexas.gov>; Montes, Gregory <Gregory.Montes@austintexas.gov>; Soliz, Ricardo <Ricardo.Soliz@austintexas.gov>
Cc: Katie Robillard <katie@austinparks.org>; Kayla Reese <kayla@austinparks.org>
Subject: Zilker Draft Plan-train feedback needs

Hi Claire,

Thank you for your time this week with the ZCIWG!

I added a comment into the Zilker Draft Vision Plan, but have slightly tweaked it since Wednesday, so I wanted to email you as well because it's so critical to the future of an operational train in Zilker Park--

There does not seem to be any graphics noting the maintenance facility on the map or any mention of the maintenance needs in text. If I remember correctly, I believe Design Workshop shared during the 11/28 meeting with the Zilker Collective Working Group that the maintenance area could be north near MOPAC or south are the Quonset Hut/Welcome Plaza/Caretaker cottage. **We strongly believe the train maintenance area needs to be captured in the Vision Plan either by adding the graphic on the map or at the least, putting it into the text.** Bottom line: operating a train requires a maintenance shed/area, and expanding the train north of Barton Springs Road would definitely necessitate an even larger maintenance area/shed.

From Page 32 of the [Zilker Vision Draft Plan](#), we are requesting that the following edits be made to the text for the final vision plan version--

Zilker Eagle has limited circulation today but has been envisioned to take on a broader role in the park's future. Given the limitations of the Zilker Eagle's current location (steep grades, pedestrian/train conflicts, narrow space under Barton Springs

Road), the plan envisions a future for the Zilker Eagle that moves **and/or expands** the loop to the north side of the park. This loop would have stations at a handful of locations—the land bridge, the parking area near the ZBG/ANSC, and the Tommey Road connection—allowing visitors to cover more areas of the park without having to walk the entirety. **"For successful operation, a maintenance yard and train storage area must be incorporated along the current rail alignment and on the the north side of the park, if moved/ expanded in the future.**By moving the line to the north side of the park, the limitations that dictate the type of car that runs today are gone, meaning that other electric car models can be considered, allowing for traversing of steep grades, running multiple trains on track, etc.

Paired with the Zilker Eagle as a park circulator is the idea of an internal shuttle, that would use the existing roadways and wide shared use pathways to bring visitors and employees from a parking area/bus stop to a distant location. The shuttle would serve the ANSC, athletic field complex, the ZBG, pool, etc.

Please let me know if you have any questions and thank you!

Joy

--

P.S. Will you focus locally this holiday season? [Make a gift](#) to APF today to help keep our communities greener, safer, and more accessible—and to keep Austin, *Austin*.

Joy Casnovsky, Chief Mission Officer

pronouns: she | her | hers

Austin Parks Foundation
P.O. Box 6160 | Austin, TX 78762
512.387.3051 | joy@austinparks.org



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From: [Claire Hempel](#)
To: [Karen Blizzard](#); [Montes, Gregory](#); [Schneider, Justin](#); [Eckard, Megan](#); [Soliz, Ricardo](#); [Kurt Culbertson](#); [Sonny Sin](#); [Stephanie Heimstead](#)
Cc: [Hayden Brooks](#); [Molly Stevens](#); [mac51triangle@gmail.com](#); [mike](#); [Charlie McCabe \(chasmccabe@gmail.com\)](#); [Cherisse Robison](#); [Katie Robinson Edwards](#); [operationsmanager@zbgconservancy.org](#); "Angela Richter"; [colin@austinparks.org](#); [Mike Cannatti](#); [cherisser@gstx.org](#); [Heidi Anderson](#); [katie.edwards@umlautsculpture.org](#); [mac51triangle@gmail.com](#); [gordo@discgordo.com](#); [Lbmassengale@gmail.com](#); "Karen Blizzard"; [molly@moontowercoaching.com](#); [hbrooks@americanrealty.com](#)
Subject: ZPVP | Partner Organizations Meeting this Friday at Noon
Date: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 9:39:39 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Good morning!

We look forward to speaking with you this Friday at Noon about the Zilker Park plan options as we head toward the February 15th community meeting. Below is the meeting invite, and if you have not received the Outlook invitation, please let me know and I will send it to you.

The following groups will be represented:

- Zilker Botanical Gardens Conservancy
- Austin Parks Foundation
- Barton Springs Conservancy
- Girl Scouts Zilker Cabin
- The Trail Foundation
- Umlauf Sculpture and Museum & Garden
- Zilker Theatre Productions
- Waterloo Disc Golf
- Zilker Park Boat Rentals/general rower interests
- Austin Together
- Design Workshop
- PARD, City of Austin
- Charlie McCabe

Loose Agenda (Noon-1:30):

- Introductions
- Review and discussion of partners' memo to COA/planning team
- Preview of in-process plan drafts (3 options: Stitch, Edges, Repurpose)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87623632118?pwd=VFhBRFYwTk9SYnFJcmdDTnJWSDVmZz09>

Meeting ID: 876 2363 2118

Passcode: 126776

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Passcode: 126776

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Claire Hempel (she/hers)

PLA, AICP CUD, LEED® Green Associate™, CDT
Principal

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From: [Claire Hempel](#)
To: [Kurt Culbertson](#); [Sonny Sin](#); [Montes, Gregory](#); [Eckard, Megan](#); [Soliz, Ricardo](#)
Subject: FW: ZPVP | Plan Check
Date: Tuesday, February 1, 2022 11:30:54 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

To note about security - see below from Emmett.

Claire Hempel (she/hers)
PLA, AICP CUD, LEED® Green Associate™, CDT
Principal

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Austin, TX 78701
512 647-2371 (direct)
512 499-0222 (main)
512 774-9191 (mobile)
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From: Emmett Beliveau <Ebeliveau@c3presents.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 1, 2022 11:29 AM
To: Claire Hempel <chempel@designworkshop.com>
Subject: Re: ZPVP | Plan Check

Copy. For ACL, APD Special Events (Sgt. Jones) coordinates police deployment *outside* Zilker Park (e.g. surrounding neighborhood). C3 plans for and hires APD Officers directly for everything *inside* Zilker. If you are digging in on internal ACL security questions, I'd like to stay in the loop.

Thanks.

From: Claire Hempel <chempel@designworkshop.com>
Date: Tuesday, February 1, 2022 at 11:20 AM
To: Emmett Beliveau <Ebeliveau@c3presents.com>
Subject: RE: ZPVP | Plan Check

[EXTERNAL]

James gave me a contact - Sgt. Michael Jones. Thanks!

Claire Hempel (she/hers)
PLA, AICP CUD, LEED® Green Associate™, CDT
Principal

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From: Emmett Beliveau <Ebeliveau@c3presents.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 1, 2022 9:42 AM
To: Claire Hempel <chempel@designworkshop.com>
Cc: James Russell (j.edwardrussell@gmail.com) <j.edwardrussell@gmail.com>;
gregory.montes@austintexas.gov; Megan Eckard (megan.eckard@austintexas.gov)
<megan.eckard@austintexas.gov>; Kurt Culbertson <kculbertson@designworkshop.com>; Sonny Sin
<ssin@designworkshop.com>
Subject: Re: ZPVP | Plan Check

Could we do Monday or Tuesday next week? I'm out of town the rest of the week. Re: APD, it gets complicated who is responsible for what. Can you let me know more about what you're looking for so we can pull in the right folks? Give a ring if easier.

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 1, 2022, at 9:34 AM, Claire Hempel <chempel@designworkshop.com> wrote:

[EXTERNAL]

Hi Emmett and James,

We would like to circle back with you on the plans as they've developed since we last spoke.

Please let me know which times work for you:

Mon. 2/7: 9-10am

Wed. 2/9: 12:30-1pm, 3:30-4:30pm

Th. 2/10: 1-2pm

Fri. 2/11: 11am-1pm, 3-4:30pm

Also, do you have a contact with APD, Events that we could reach out to to discuss event security?

Thanks!

Claire Hempel (she/hers)
PLA, AICP CUD, LEED® Green Associate™, CDT
Principal

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From: [Emmett Beliveau](#)
To: chempel@designworkshop.com
Cc: [Maurer, Jason](#); [Montes, Gregory](#); [Eckard, Megan](#); [Kurt Culbertson](#); [Sonny Sin](#)
Subject: Re: ZPVP | C3 Events
Date: Friday, February 25, 2022 3:32:04 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Thanks, Claire.

Below dates work for me!

Mon. 3/7: 2-3pm

Tue. 3/8: 2-4pm

Wed. 3/9: 3-5pm

Wed. 3/23: 3-4:30pm

Fri. 3/25: 10-4

Emmett

From: Claire Hempel <chempel@designworkshop.com>

Date: Friday, February 25, 2022 at 3:30 PM

To: Emmett Beliveau <Ebeliveau@c3presents.com>

Cc: Maurer, Jason <Jason.Maurer@austintexas.gov>, gregory.montes@austintexas.gov <gregory.montes@austintexas.gov>, Megan Eckard (megan.eckard@austintexas.gov) <megan.eckard@austintexas.gov>, Kurt Culbertson <kculbertson@designworkshop.com>, Sonny Sin <ssin@designworkshop.com>

Subject: ZPVP | C3 Events

[EXTERNAL]

Hi Emmett,

We want to circle back with you to discuss the 3 concepts and talk about event functionality and challenges/opportunities you see with each.

Do any of these dates/times work for you?

Mon. 3/7: 2-3pm

Tue. 3/8: 2-4pm

Wed. 3/9: 3-5pm

Wed. 3/23: 3-4:30pm

Th. 3/24: 10am-Noon

Fri. 3/25: 10-4

Thank you!

Claire Hempel (she/hers)

PLA, AICP CUD, LEED® Green Associate™, CDT
Principal

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From: [Joy Casnovsky](#)
To: [Montes, Gregory](#)
Cc: [Sonny Sin](#); [Katie Robillard](#); [Claire Hempel](#); [Eckard, Megan](#); [Samantha Panger](#)
Subject: Re: ZPVP | Zilker Eagle Maintenance Yards
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 9:07:55 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

That would be ideal, thanks, Greg.

On Fri, Mar 10, 2023 at 5:24 PM Montes, Gregory <Gregory.Montes@austintexas.gov> wrote:

Perhaps language can be added to the plan document that states that moving forward APF will make a determination on the location of each. The map can then show “Maintenance or Depot” at both sites, which gives flexibility. Thanks.

Gregory Montes, CNU-A

Program Manager

City of Austin Parks and Recreation Dept.

From: Joy Casnovsky <joy@austinparks.org>
Sent: Friday, March 10, 2023 3:56 PM
To: Sonny Sin <ssin@designworkshop.com>
Cc: Katie Robillard <katie@austinparks.org>; Claire Hempel <chempel@designworkshop.com>; Montes, Gregory <Gregory.Montes@austintexas.gov>; Eckard, Megan <Megan.Eckard@austintexas.gov>; Samantha Panger <spanger@designworkshop.com>
Subject: Re: ZPVP | Zilker Eagle Maintenance Yards

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Hi Sonny,

Thanks so much for reaching out. If possible, we'd like to stay as flexible as possible by saying that they are each a maintenance/depot area. At this point, with so much still TBD with the extended train route, etc. it would be hard to say exactly which is which. I would not want to box-in the possibilities, if that makes sense.

Thanks,

Joy

On Thu, Mar 9, 2023 at 9:30 AM Sonny Sin <ssin@designworkshop.com> wrote:

Hello all,

I am not sure you had time to look through the most recent ZPVP.

We added 2 maintenance place for Zilker Eagle. One under the MoPac and the other one in Welcome Center.

For that, it would be nice if we can distinguish the functions between them.

For instance, one is maintenance yard and the other one is depot.

Could you advise me on this?

Here is the most recent plan.

[ZPVP_Concept Draft_230227.pdf \(austintexas.gov\)](#)

Let me know if you have any questions!

Thanks,

Sonny Sin (she/hers)

AICP, SITES AP

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--

P.S. Help care for the places that connect us - our parks, trails and green spaces - with a [gift today!](#)



Joy Casnovsky, MPAff, Chief Mission Officer

pronouns: she | her | hers

Austin Parks Foundation

P.O. Box 6160 | Austin, TX 78762

512.387.3051 | joy@austinparks.org

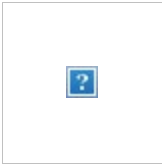


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--

P.S. Help care for the places that connect us - our parks, trails and green spaces - with

a gift today!



Joy Casnovsky, MPAff, Chief Mission Officer

pronouns: she | her | hers

Austin Parks Foundation

P.O. Box 6160 | Austin, TX 78762

512.387.3051 | joy@austinparks.org



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From: [Claire Hempel](#)
To: [Karen Blizzard](#); [Montes, Gregory](#); [Eckard, Megan](#); [Soliz, Ricardo](#); [Kurt Culbertson](#); [Sonny Sin](#); [Schneider, Justin](#)
Cc: [Chute Canul, Christine](#); [George Cofer](#); mac51triangle@gmail.com; [Laura McCabe](#); [Jason Cheng](#); [Molly Stevens](#); [Mike Cannatti](#); [Hayden Brooks](#); [Karen Brimble](#); [Austin Deadline Calendar](#); [Fleetwood Jacobs](#); [Heidi Anderson](#); [Colin Wallis](#); "Angela Richter"; [Russell, James](#); rwebster3@yahoo.com
Subject: RE: RESENDING Re: Zilker Collective Letter Re: ZPVP | Zilker Park Collective Meeting
Date: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 3:05:49 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

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We can talk about that high level. Nelson\Nygaard will not be on the call, and they are our transportation subconsultants. I can relay any questions that are out of my expertise to them.

Claire Hempel (she/hers)
PLA, AICP CUD, LEED® Green Associate™, CDT
Principal

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From: Karen Blizzard <kbliz@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 2:58 PM
To: Claire Hempel <chempel@designworkshop.com>; Greg Montes <gregory.montes@austintexas.gov>; Megan Eckard <megan.eckard@austintexas.gov>; Ricardo Soliz <ricardo.soliz@austintexas.gov>; Kurt Culbertson <kculbertson@designworkshop.com>; Sonny Sin <sson@designworkshop.com>; Justin Schneider <justin.schneider@austintexas.gov>
Cc: Chute Canul, Christine <Christine.Canul@austintexas.gov>; George Cofer <george@hillcountryconservancy.org>; mac51triangle@gmail.com; Laura McCabe <operationsmanager@zbgconservancy.org>; Jason Cheng <jcheng@dtjdesign.com>; Molly Stevens <molly@moontowercoaching.com>; Mike Cannatti <president@bartonspringsconservancy.org>; Hayden Brooks <hbrooks@americanrealty.com>; Karen Brimble <karen.brimble@lynxs.com>; Austin Deadline Calendar <ausdeadlinecalendar@designworkshop.com>; Fleetwood Jacobs <fleetwood@hillcountryconservancy.org>; Heidi Anderson <heidi@thetrailfoundation.org>; Colin Wallis <colin@austinparks.org>; 'Angela Richter' <angela@austinparks.org>; James Russell <j.edwardrussell@gmail.com>; rwebster3@yahoo.com
Subject: Re: RESENDING Re: Zilker Collective Letter Re: ZPVP | Zilker Park Collective Meeting

Thank you, Claire! We would also welcome information on the impacts to traffic flow for each

of the concepts, if it is available.

Karen

From: Claire Hempel <chempel@designworkshop.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 2:50 PM
To: Karen Blizzard <kbliz@hotmail.com>; Greg Montes <gregory.montes@austintexas.gov>; Megan Eckard <megan.eckard@austintexas.gov>; Ricardo Soliz <ricardo.soliz@austintexas.gov>; Kurt Culbertson <kculbertson@designworkshop.com>; Sonny Sin <ssin@designworkshop.com>; Justin Schneider <justin.schneider@austintexas.gov>
Cc: Chute Canul, Christine <Christine.Canul@austintexas.gov>; George Cofer <george@hillcountryconservancy.org>; mac51triangle@gmail.com <mac51triangle@gmail.com>; Laura McCabe <operationsmanager@zbgconservancy.org>; Jason Cheng <jcheng@dtjdesign.com>; Molly Stevens <molly@moontowercoaching.com>; Mike Cannatti <president@bartonspringsconservancy.org>; Hayden Brooks <hbrooks@americanrealty.com>; Karen Brimble <karen.brimble@lynxs.com>; Austin Deadline Calendar <ausdeadlinecalendar@designworkshop.com>; Fleetwood Jacobs <fleetwood@hillcountryconservancy.org>; Heidi Anderson <heidi@thetrailfoundation.org>; Colin Wallis <colin@austinparks.org>; 'Angela Richter' <angela@austinparks.org>; James Russell <j.edwardrussell@gmail.com>; rwebster3@yahoo.com <rwebster3@yahoo.com>
Subject: RE: RESENDING Re: Zilker Collective Letter Re: ZPVP | Zilker Park Collective Meeting

Thank you, Karen, and other members of the ZPC. This is valuable feedback and we look forward to speaking with you tomorrow. I would especially like to hear more about your ideas on the Zilker Eagle/internal shuttle circulation.

Claire Hempel (she/hers)
PLA, AICP CUD, LEED® Green Associate™, CDT
Principal

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512 499-0222 (main)
512 774-9191 (mobile)
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From: Karen Blizzard <kbliz@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 2:34 PM
To: Claire Hempel <chempel@designworkshop.com>; Greg Montes <gregory.montes@austintexas.gov>; Megan Eckard <megan.eckard@austintexas.gov>; Ricardo Soliz <ricardo.soliz@austintexas.gov>; Kurt Culbertson <kculbertson@designworkshop.com>; Sonny Sin <ssin@designworkshop.com>; Justin Schneider <justin.schneider@austintexas.gov>

Cc: Chute Canul, Christine <Christine.Canul@austintexas.gov>; George Cofer <george@hillcountryconservancy.org>; mac51triangle@gmail.com; Laura McCabe <operationsmanager@zbgconservancy.org>; Jason Cheng <jcheng@dtjdesign.com>; Molly Stevens <molly@moontowercoaching.com>; Mike Cannatti <president@bartonspringsconservancy.org>; Hayden Brooks <hbrooks@americanrealty.com>; Karen Brimble <karen.brimble@lynxs.com>; Austin Deadline Calendar <ausdeadlinecalendar@designworkshop.com>; Fleetwood Jacobs <fleetwood@hillcountryconservancy.org>; Heidi Anderson <heidi@thetrailfoundation.org>; Colin Wallis <colin@austinparks.org>; 'Angela Richter' <angela@austinparks.org>; James Russell <j.edwardrussell@gmail.com>; rwebster3@yahoo.com
Subject: RESENDING Re: Zilker Collective Letter Re: ZPVP | Zilker Park Collective Meeting

Apologies, I attached Letter 2 by mistake. Here is Letter 3. ...

Thanks,
Karen

From: Karen Blizzard <kbliz@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 2:18 PM
To: Claire Hempel <chempel@designworkshop.com>; Greg Montes <gregory.montes@austintexas.gov>; Megan Eckard <megan.eckard@austintexas.gov>; Ricardo Soliz <ricardo.soliz@austintexas.gov>; Kurt Culbertson <kculbertson@DesignWorkshop.com>; Sonny Sin <ssin@DesignWorkshop.com>; Justin Schneider <justin.schneider@austintexas.gov>
Cc: Chute Canul, Christine <Christine.Canul@austintexas.gov>; George Cofer <george@hillcountryconservancy.org>; mac51triangle@gmail.com <mac51triangle@gmail.com>; Laura McCabe <operationsmanager@zbgconservancy.org>; Jason Cheng <jcheng@dtjdesign.com>; Molly Stevens <molly@moontowercoaching.com>; Mike Cannatti <president@bartonspringsconservancy.org>; Hayden Brooks <hbrooks@americanrealty.com>; Karen Brimble <karen.brimble@lynxs.com>; Austin Deadline Calendar <ausdeadlinecalendar@designworkshop.com>; Fleetwood Jacobs <fleetwood@hillcountryconservancy.org>; Heidi Anderson <heidi@thetrailfoundation.org>; Colin Wallis <colin@austinparks.org>; 'Angela Richter' <angela@austinparks.org>; James Russell <j.edwardrussell@gmail.com>; rwebster3@yahoo.com <rwebster3@yahoo.com>
Subject: Zilker Collective Letter Re: ZPVP | Zilker Park Collective Meeting

Good afternoon,

We are looking forward to meeting with Design Workshop tomorrow! Thank-you again for the opportunity.

To help guide the discussion, attached is a third letter from our partner organizations. It builds on the previous two letters and provides feedback specifically on the three design concepts: Stitch, Edges, and Regenerate.

This is by no means a "final" document, as further discussion is needed both among the

partners and with Design Workshop. It is a starting point, though, and we look forward to discussing the concepts with you all tomorrow.

Best regards,

Karen Blizzard
Project Manager, Zilker Collective Impact Working Group

From: Claire Hempel

Sent: Thursday, March 3, 2022 10:15 AM

To: Claire Hempel <chempel@designworkshop.com>; Greg Montes <gregory.montes@austintexas.gov>; Megan Eckard <megan.eckard@austintexas.gov>; Ricardo Soliz <ricardo.soliz@austintexas.gov>; Kurt Culbertson <kculbertson@DesignWorkshop.com>; Sonny Sin <ssin@DesignWorkshop.com>; Justin Schneider <justin.schneider@austintexas.gov>; Karen Blizzard <kbliz@hotmail.com>

Cc: Chute Canul, Christine <Christine.Canul@austintexas.gov>; George Cofer <george@hillcountryconservancy.org>; mac51triangle@gmail.com <mac51triangle@gmail.com>; Laura McCabe <operationsmanager@zbgconservancy.org>; Jason Cheng <jcheng@dtjdesign.com>; Molly Stevens <molly@moontowercoaching.com>; Mike Cannatti <president@bartonspringsconservancy.org>; Hayden Brooks <hbrooks@americanrealty.com>; Karen Brimble <karen.brimble@lynxs.com>; Austin Deadline Calendar <ausdeadlinecalendar@designworkshop.com>

Subject: ZPVP | Zilker Park Collective Meeting

When: Thursday, March 24, 2022 10:00 AM-11:30 AM.

Where: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88416417987?pwd=ZUpqQnRVTlpEb1N4TVlxdjRBSHJOUT09>

Please forward as needed.

Claire Hempel | Design Workshop is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88416417987?pwd=ZUpqQnRVTlpEb1N4TVlxdjRBSHJOUT09>

Meeting ID: 884 1641 7987

Passcode: 987661

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,88416417987#,,,,*987661# US (Houston)

+16699009128,,88416417987#,,,,*987661# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 884 1641 7987

Passcode: 987661

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kcOnyZp9rn>

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From: [Angela Richter](#)
To: chempel@designworkshop.com
Cc: [Joy Casnovsky](#); [Katie Robillard](#); [Sonny Sin](#); [Montes, Gregory](#); [Eckard, Megan](#); [Mosteiro, Jonathan](#); [Mattern, Lauren](#); [Pam Taylor](#)
Subject: Re: Zilker Eagle Discussion
Date: Tuesday, April 19, 2022 11:19:48 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Our best time is **Wed. 5/18: 10-11:00 am.**

I just sent everyone on this email a calendar invite. We are looking forward to seeing you all on-site of the Zilker Eagle on May 18th.

Angela

On Mon, Apr 18, 2022 at 1:16 PM Claire Hempel <chempel@designworkshop.com> wrote:

Good afternoon,

Do any of the below times work for you for an on-site meeting?

- Wed. 5/11: 10-11:00 am
- Th. 5/12: 8:30 am-11:00 am
- Fri. 5/13: 10 am-Noon
- Wed. 5/18: 10-11:00 am
- Fri. 5/20: 10 am-11:30 am

Thank you!

Claire Hempel (she/hers)

PLA, AICP CUD, LEED® Green Associate™, CDT

Principal

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812 San Antonio Street

Suite 401

Austin, TX 78701
512 647-2371 (direct)
512 499-0222 (main)

512 774-9191 (mobile)
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From: Angela Richter <angela@austinparks.org>
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 12:00 PM
To: Claire Hempel <chempel@designworkshop.com>; Joy Casnovsky <joy@austinparks.org>; Katie Robillard <katie@austinparks.org>
Subject: Zilker Eagle Discussion [Filed 28 Mar 2022 12:35]

Hi Claire,

As I mentioned in the Zilker Collective Impact group meeting, I would love to find a time to invite the design team out to the site of the Zilker Eagle to talk through specifics of the train alignment and needs.

Could you **provide us with a few times that would work for you** that would allow time for our discussion to affect what is shown at the next community meeting?

Thanks,

Angela

--

Angela Richter, Advocacy Manager

Austin Parks Foundation

P.O. Box 6160 | Austin, TX 78762

512.668.9640 | angela@austinparks.org



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--

Angela Richter, Advocacy Manager

Austin Parks Foundation
P.O. Box 6160 | Austin, TX 78762
512.668.9640 | angela@austinparks.org



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From: [Angela Richter](#)
To: [Katie Robillard](#); [Sonny Sin](#); [Montes, Gregory](#); [Eckard, Megan](#); [Mosteiro, Jonathan](#); [Mattern, Lauren](#); [Pam Taylor](#); [Joy Casnovsky](#); chempel@designworkshop.com
Cc: [Colin Wallis](#)
Subject: Zilker Eagle Info for Meeting Tomorrow
Date: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 12:54:29 PM
Attachments: [Vision Routes \(1\).pdf](#)
[Zilker Train Future Vision 2022.pdf](#)

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Claire and all,
APF is looking forward to meeting with you all tomorrow at **10 at the Zilker Eagle Train Depot**. (This is close to Barton Springs).

We will update you on our work on the train, explain APF's vision for the train's future, and welcome a dialogue with you about how the train might be represented in the draft Zilker Vision Plan that will be presented in the Fall.

I've attached a couple of documents. One is a two-pager with some quick facts about the train and its future potential. We will go over this tomorrow. The other offers some quick future route scenarios that we drew as a starting point for conversation. Please keep in mind that these were not drawn by a planner or engineer but we hope they can serve as a conceptual base from which to talk about what important stops could be connected by the train.

The distances represented by those scenarios are as follows, consistent with the length of other train loop systems in parks.

Current ~1.03mi
Vision 1 ~ 1.67mi
Vision 2 ~ 2.38mi
Vision 3 ~2.13mi

If you have time to review the attachments prior to our meeting, great. If not, do not worry. We will discuss tomorrow.

Sincerely,
Angela and the APF Team

--

Angela Richter, Advocacy Manager

Austin Parks Foundation
P.O. Box 6160 | Austin, TX 78762
512.668.9640 | angela@austinparks.org



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From: [Joy Casnovsky](mailto:Joy.Casnovsky@designworkshop.com)
To: chempel@designworkshop.com
Cc: [Katie Robillard](mailto:Katie.Robillard@designworkshop.com); [Montes, Gregory](mailto:Montes.Gregory@designworkshop.com); [Eckard, Megan](mailto:Eckard.Megan@designworkshop.com); [Sonny Sin](mailto:Sonny.Sin@designworkshop.com)
Subject: Re: Train considerations with Zilker
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 10:14:00 AM

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Yes, that works. Can you send an invite? Thanks!

On Wed, Oct 19, 2022 at 9:48 AM Claire Hempel <chempel@designworkshop.com> wrote:

Good morning Joy,

We had a Technical Advisory Group meeting with key City staff members yesterday, and Paulinda (Public Works PM on the Barton Springs Road bridge project) has some questions about the train. I thought it would be advantageous to get all of us on a call to coordinate.

Are you available on Monday 10/24, 8:30-9a? We can determine after that call if we need to have a follow up to discuss other train-related matters like the maintenance yard.

Thanks,

Claire Hempel

512 647-2371

From: Joy Casnovsky <joy@austinparks.org>
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2022 8:36 PM
To: Claire Hempel <chempel@designworkshop.com>
Cc: Katie Robillard <katie@austinparks.org>; Montes, Gregory <gregory.montes@austintexas.gov>; Megan Eckard (megan.eckard@austintexas.gov) <megan.eckard@austintexas.gov>; Sonny Sin <ssin@designworkshop.com>
Subject: Re: Train considerations with Zilker

Yes, feel free to send dates that week. I think virtual would probably be the easiest. Thx!

--

Joy Casnovsky, Chief Mission Officer
pronouns: she | her | hers

Austin Parks Foundation

P.O. Box 6160 | Austin, TX 78762

512.387.3051 | joy@austinparks.org

On Tue, Oct 18, 2022, 3:48 PM Claire Hempel <chempel@designworkshop.com> wrote:

Hi Joy!

I'm going to a couple of different conferences this week and next - could we look at dates on the week of 10/31? Would this be a virtual meeting?

Claire Hempel

512 647-2371

From: Joy Casnovsky <joy@austinparks.org>
Sent: Thursday, October 13, 2022 12:05 PM
To: Claire Hempel <chempel@designworkshop.com>
Cc: Katie Robillard <katie@austinparks.org>
Subject: Re: Train considerations with Zilker [Filed 13 Oct 2022 13:21]

Hi Claire,

It was nice running into you yesterday! I know you're working towards having the first draft released to the public after combining the three conceptual options together. Could

we schedule some time in the next week to discuss the train considerations we highly recommend for Zilker?

Thanks,

Joy

On Tue, Sep 13, 2022 at 3:01 PM Joy Casnovsky <joy@austinparks.org> wrote:

Hi Claire,

I wanted to touch base with you after our last conversation regarding the train. What has come increasingly clear to the APF train team is that having a **dedicated maintenance space or yard for train repairs and tools is necessary**. I know we discussed this when we met last, but I think it's imperative that this be planned for if a train is to continue to operate at Zilker.

Over the summer, Katie and I spent a considerable amount of time in Zilker with multiple train and track mechanics. All of them have been very surprised that we do not have a place to take the locomotive/train cars off the track and away from the public in order to perform repairs. I've also visited several miniature trains in Texas (Houston Zoo, Lufkin Zoo) and they have dedicated maintenance facilities. No one has explicitly told us this, but we're fairly certain that the previous train operators used the PARD maintenance yard (and their large equipment) for repairs. While that may not have exactly been kosher since the operators were concessionaires...and it doesn't matter at this point...I do want to share this feedback.

We're happy to jump on a call to share more details, but just wanted to make sure that this is hopefully included in the plan.

Thanks,

Joy

--

P.S. It's time for our biggest fundraiser of the year - [Party for the Parks!](#) Join us as we celebrate our 30th and raise essential funds for our

parks, trails and green spaces.

Joy Casnovsky, Chief Mission Officer

pronouns: she | her | hers

Austin Parks Foundation

P.O. Box 6160 | Austin, TX 78762

512.387.3051 | joy@austinparks.org



--

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--

P.S. It's time for our biggest volunteer event of the year - [It's My Park Day!](#) Join us as we give some much-needed love to these treasured spaces.

Joy Casnovsky, Chief Mission Officer

pronouns: she | her | hers

Austin Parks Foundation

P.O. Box 6160 | Austin, TX 78762

512.387.3051 | joy@austinparks.org



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From: [Claire Hempel](#)
To: [Schneider, Justin](#); [Corpus, Kasey](#); [Montes, Gregory](#); [Eckard, Megan](#); [Soliz, Ricardo](#)
Cc: [Kurt Culbertson](#); [Sonny Sin](#)
Subject: FW: Meeting request with Zilker Vision Plan Team
Date: Thursday, December 2, 2021 2:36:52 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

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Hi,

Making sure you are aware of this request as part of the small group discussions.

Claire Hempel, PLA, AICP CUD, LEED® Green Associate™
Principal

DESIGNWORKSHOP

812 San Antonio Street
Suite 401
Austin, TX 78701
512 647-2371 (direct)
512 499-0222 x2371 (main)
512 774-9191 (cell)
www.designworkshop.com

From: Karen Blizzard <kbliz@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, November 12, 2021 3:29 PM
To: McNeeley, Kimberly <Kimberly.McNeeley@austintexas.gov>; gregory.montes@austintexas.gov; Claire Hempel <chempel@designworkshop.com>
Cc: Mike Cannatti <president@bartonspringsconservancy.org>; Colin Wallis <colin@austinparks.org>; 'Angela Richter' <angela@austinparks.org>
Subject: Meeting request with Zilker Vision Plan Team

Good afternoon Kimberly, Gregory, and Claire,

On Nov. 3, Barton Springs Conservancy and Austin Parks Foundation hosted another meeting with Zilker organizations to discuss the Vision Plan scenarios. The following groups were represented at the meeting:

ABC Kite Festival
Austin Parks Foundation
Austin YMBL Sunshine Camps
Barton Springs Conservancy
Explore Austin

The Rowing Dock
The Trail Foundation
Trail of Lights Foundation
Umlauf Sculpture Museum & Garden
Waterloo Disc Golf

Friends of Barton Springs Pool
Girl Scouts Zilker Cabin
Hill Country Conservancy

Zilker Botanical Garden Conservancy
Zilker Park Boat Rentals
Zilker Theatre Productions

Everyone appreciated the range of options and creative thinking behind the design concepts. However, several groups expressed concerns about the potential elimination of in-park parking, and the impacts of this to their operations and to park visitors from across the city who use their amenities.

According to the Vision Plan timeline, you'll be holding small-group meetings in December-January. We would like to request a meeting with our group to discuss these concerns in more detail. Please let us know which dates/times you are available to meet.

Best regards,

Karen Blizzard, Project Manager
On behalf of Barton Springs Conservancy and Austin Parks Foundation

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From: [Susan Selesky](#)
To: [Schneider, Justin](#)
Cc: [Joy Casnovsky](#); chempel@designworkshop.com; [Eckard, Megan](#); [Montes, Gregory](#); [Soliz, Ricardo](#); [Kurt Culbertson](#); [Sonny Sin](#); [Jayna Burgdorf](#); [Susan Selesky](#)
Subject: Re: Next ParksCast Episodes
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 9:43:50 AM

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Thank you, Justin! This looks great. I'll let you know if we need any additional info.

On Wed, Nov 30, 2022 at 9:14 AM Schneider, Justin <Justin.Schneider@austintexas.gov> wrote:

Susan and friends,

I've attached our proposed blog post. It's a little long, because I wanted to include the full text of the interpretive storylines. Let us know if you would like for any additional refinement.

I've also attached a couple of photos. The color one is from 2022 (credit Austin Parks and Recreation Department). The black and white one is from 1938 (credit Austin History Center, PICA 17205).

Justin

From: Susan Selesky <susan@austinparks.org>
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 9:38 AM
To: Schneider, Justin <Justin.Schneider@austintexas.gov>
Cc: Joy Casnovsky <joy@austinparks.org>; chempel@designworkshop.com; Eckard, Megan <Megan.Eckard@austintexas.gov>; Montes, Gregory <Gregory.Montes@austintexas.gov>; Soliz, Ricardo <Ricardo.Soliz@austintexas.gov>; Kurt Culbertson <kculbertson@designworkshop.com>; Sonny Sin <ssin@designworkshop.com>; Jayna Burgdorf <jayna@austinparks.org>; Susan Selesky <suzy@austinparks.org>
Subject: Re: Next ParksCast Episodes

You don't often get email from susan@austinparks.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Thanks Justin! We're aiming for something between 1,000 - 2,000 words.

On Tue, Nov 15, 2022 at 8:03 AM Schneider, Justin <Justin.Schneider@austintexas.gov> wrote:

Thanks for reaching out, again, Joy.

We would love to connect. The plan goes live today, and we are happy to put something together. I can make time to work on it early next week.

Do you have a preferred word limit? Claire and Sonny, I will just need a little support with photos.

Justin

From: Joy Casnovsky <joy@austinparks.org>
Sent: Wednesday, November 9, 2022 2:22 PM
To: chempel@designworkshop.com; Schneider, Justin <Justin.Schneider@austintexas.gov>
Cc: Eckard, Megan <Megan.Eckard@austintexas.gov>; Montes, Gregory <Gregory.Montes@austintexas.gov>; Soliz, Ricardo <Ricardo.Soliz@austintexas.gov>; Kurt Culbertson <kculbertson@designworkshop.com>; Sonny Sin <ssin@designworkshop.com>; Jayna Burgdorf <jayna@austinparks.org>; Susan Selesky <suzy@austinparks.org>
Subject: Re: Next ParksCast Episodes

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Hi Claire and Justin,

I know y'all are hard at work getting the ZVP ready for release next week! I just wanted to touch base again and see if you were interested in having it featured at all in the APF blog? If you'd like it included before the end of the calendar year, the latest we can accept the copy and photos is December 1. If you have it before then, even better so we aren't

rushing to get it published before the holidays.

Joy

On Tue, Oct 25, 2022 at 10:41 AM Joy Casnovsky <joy@austinparks.org> wrote:

Hi Claire,

Jerreta is no longer with APF. We can still include. Zilker Vision blog assuming you/Justin are able to write it and provide photos and then we can public on our blog. We'd like at least two weeks lead time between receiving the content and publishing on our blog.

Thanks,

Joy

--

Joy Casnovsky, Chief Mission Officer
pronouns: she | her | hers

Austin Parks Foundation

P.O. Box 6160 | Austin, TX 78762

512.387.3051 | joy@austinparks.org

On Mon, Oct 24, 2022, 7:08 PM Claire Hempel <chempel@designworkshop.com> wrote:

Hi Jerreta,

Circling back on this, are you still planning to do blog posts next month? How can we help?

Claire Hempel

From: Jerreta Hartfield <jerreta@austinparks.org>
Sent: Wednesday, September 14, 2022 4:54 PM
To: Claire Hempel <chempel@designworkshop.com>
Cc: Joy Casnovsky <joy@austinparks.org>; Schneider, Justin <Justin.Schneider@austintexas.gov>; Eckard, Megan <Megan.Eckard@austintexas.gov>; Montes, Gregory <Gregory.Montes@austintexas.gov>; Soliz, Ricardo <Ricardo.Soliz@austintexas.gov>; Kurt Culbertson <kculbertson@designworkshop.com>; Sonny Sin <ssin@designworkshop.com>
Subject: Re: Next ParksCast Episodes [Filed 14 Sep 2022 17:11]

Hi Claire,

I can weigh in here! November through January works great for our schedule. We are looking forward to collaborating on this.

Thanks,

Jerreta

On Wed, Sep 14, 2022 at 3:52 PM Claire Hempel <chempel@designworkshop.com> wrote:

Hi Joy,

The plan rollout will begin in November, concluding in early January.

The blog posts could go out between that time frame. What works best for APF?

Claire Hempel (she/hers)

PLA, AICP CUD, LEED® Green Associate™, CDT

Principal

812 San Antonio Street

Suite 401

Austin, TX 78701
512 647-2371 (direct)
512 499-0222 (main)

512 774-9191 (mobile)
www.designworkshop.com

From: Joy Casnovsky <joy@austinparks.org>
Sent: Wednesday, August 31, 2022 9:30 AM
To: Schneider, Justin <Justin.Schneider@austintexas.gov>
Cc: Claire Hempel <chempel@designworkshop.com>; Eckard, Megan <Megan.Eckard@austintexas.gov>; Montes, Gregory <Gregory.Montes@austintexas.gov>; Soliz, Ricardo <Ricardo.Soliz@austintexas.gov>; Kurt Culbertson <kculbertson@designworkshop.com>; Sonny Sin <ssin@designworkshop.com>; Jerreta Hartfield <jerreta@austinparks.org>
Subject: Re: Next ParksCast Episodes [Filed 31 Aug 2022 17:43]

Great--if you can circle back with us with a draft and time frame, that would be great. Ideally we'd have at least two weeks between receiving the draft from you and publishing it.

On Wed, Aug 31, 2022 at 9:24 AM Schneider, Justin <Justin.Schneider@austintexas.gov> wrote:

Thanks, Joy.

I was thinking that might be the case. I think we can manage that. On the line with Alejandro (and Katie) right now, and looking forward to working more with him on projects moving forward.

Justin

From: Joy Casnovsky <joy@austinparks.org>
Sent: Wednesday, August 31, 2022 9:19 AM
To: Schneider, Justin <Justin.Schneider@austintexas.gov>
Cc: chempel@designworkshop.com; Eckard, Megan <Megan.Eckard@austintexas.gov>; Montes, Gregory <Gregory.Montes@austintexas.gov>; Soliz, Ricardo <Ricardo.Soliz@austintexas.gov>; Kurt Culbertson <kculbertson@designworkshop.com>; Sonny Sin <ssin@designworkshop.com>; Jerreta Hartfield <jerreta@austinparks.org>
Subject: Re: Next ParksCast Episodes

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Good morning Justin,

Thank you for reaching out! Over the summer it became clear to us that we were struggling to have the bandwidth for the podcast, and with Kathleen's departure, we have even less. In order to create continuity with the sharing of the Zilker Vision Plan, we'd like to propose that we publish one or two blog posts after October 12 (Party for the Parks, our 1x year fundraiser). We would rely on you and your team to take the lead in terms of creating the content and providing a draft or outline of what these post(s) should look like. We can share and promote the posts on our social media platforms and newsletters.

Let me know what you think,

Joy

On Tue, Aug 30, 2022 at 11:10 AM Schneider, Justin <Justin.Schneider@austintexas.gov> wrote:

Good morning, Joy.

I wanted to take a quick moment to follow-up with one of the conversations we were a little slow with connecting to Kathleen about before she transitioned out of her APF role.

We discussed doing a third podcast about the interpretive storylines that have been developed for the Zilker Park Vision Plan. I bet you have your hands full right now, but if it's still possible to continue with this vision, our team would be happy to participate. I think aiming for September or early October could work.

Thank you,

Justin Schneider

Community Engagement Specialist

Austin Parks and Recreation Department

(512) 974-6572 – Office

(512) 974-6723 – Media Line

he/him

www.austintexas.gov/parks

From: Claire Hempel <chempel@designworkshop.com>

Sent: Wednesday, August 17, 2022 9:18 AM

To: Kathleen Barron <kathleen@austinparks.org>

Cc: Eckard, Megan <Megan.Eckard@austintexas.gov>; Schneider, Justin

<Justin.Schneider@austintexas.gov>; Montes, Gregory

<Gregory.Montes@austintexas.gov>; Soliz, Ricardo

<Ricardo.Soliz@austintexas.gov>; Kurt Culbertson

<kculbertson@designworkshop.com>; Sonny Sin

<ssin@designworkshop.com>

Subject: RE: Next ParksCast Episodes

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Hi Kathleen,

I hope your summer is going well. Looking forward to some fall time for sure.

Thanks for circling back with us on this. We discussed what would be an appropriate next podcast, and since we're in the production stages of the draft plan, this might be a good time to talk about the interpretive stories within Zilker. These will be part of the plan but haven't been heard yet by the public.

Attached is a draft from our subconsultant of the storylines. We might consider adding Kim McKnight or Sarah Marshall from COA to the group to help bring light to these stories.

What do you think?

Claire Hempel

512 647-2371

From: Kathleen Barron <kathleen@austinparks.org>
Sent: Wednesday, August 10, 2022 10:46 AM
To: Claire Hempel <chempel@designworkshop.com>; Montes, Gregory <gregory.montes@austintexas.gov>; Soliz, Ricardo <Ricardo.Soliz@austintexas.gov>; Kurt Culbertson <kculbertson@designworkshop.com>
Subject: Next ParksCast Episodes [Filed 10 Aug 2022 10:49]

Hello!

I wanted to gauge your interest in recording the next two episodes about the Zilker Vision Plan, and what we might focus on. I recall we wanted to do at least one episode on implementation of the vision plan (I assume that would be last), but not sure what the third episode should focus on.

Are you at a stage in the process where it makes sense to record a new episode? Is there enough of an update to share? And what would be a good theme?

Let me know what you think and I can get one or two recording sessions on the calendar.

Thanks!

Kathleen

P.S. Help care for the places that connect us - our parks, trails and green spaces - with a [gift today!](#)

Kathleen Barron, Senior Programs Manager

pronouns: she | her | hers

Austin Parks Foundation

PO Box 6160, Austin, TX 78762

512.829.8649 | kathleen@austinparks.org



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Joy Casnovsky, Chief Mission Officer

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Austin Parks Foundation

P.O. Box 6160 | Austin, TX 78762

512.387.3051 | joy@austinparks.org



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Joy Casnovsky, Chief Mission Officer

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512.387.3051 | joy@austinparks.org



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[Jerreta Hartfield, Director of Marketing & Communications](#)

pronouns: she | her | hers

[Austin Parks Foundation](#)

[P.O. Box 6160 | Austin, TX 78762](#)

O. (737) 301-6528 | jerreta@austinparks.org



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P.S. Will you focus locally this holiday season? [Make a gift](#) to APF today to help keep our communities greener, safer, and more accessible—and to keep Austin, *Austin*.

[Joy Casnovsky, Chief Mission Officer](#)

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Austin Parks Foundation

P.O. Box 6160 | Austin, TX 78762

512.387.3051 | joy@austinparks.org



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Susan Selesky, Digital Marketing Manager

Pronouns: She | Her | Hers

Austin Parks Foundation

P.O. Box 6160 | Austin, TX 78762

512.361.2674 | susan@austinparks.org



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Susan Selesky, Digital Marketing Manager

Pronouns: She | Her | Hers

Austin Parks Foundation

P.O. Box 6160 | Austin, TX 78762

512.361.2674 | susan@austinparks.org



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Date: March 23, 2022

To: Claire Hempel, Design Workshop

Zilker Collective Impact Working Group Comments on Design Concepts

The Zilker Collective Impact Working Group (ZCIWG) represents Zilker Park nonprofits, events, and vendors operating within or adjacent to the park that have provided programming and events for diverse park users across the city for decades. Because Zilker is a metropolitan park that belongs to all Austinites, we are advocating for ecological uplift balanced with increased visitor use to create an inclusive park culture where all visitors feel welcome to experience the park's cultural, educational, recreational, and event offerings in Zilker's uniquely natural setting.

In September, our organizations sent a letter to Design Workshop outlining our priorities for the Vision Plan in more detail. In January, we sent a second letter providing specific feedback on the Interactive Map that Design Workshop posted for public review in December. Both letters are included in this PDF document for reference.

We are writing again to provide feedback on the three concepts—Stitch, Edges, and Regenerate—that Design Workshop presented at Community Meeting #4 on February 15. **These concepts will require further conversation and vetting among our group members and with Design Workshop,** but our goal is to identify a preferred overall design concept along with elements from the other design concepts that should be combined together. **For now, we are providing some preliminary reactions to aspects of each plan as set forth below.**

Also, as stated in our letter #2 and in previous meetings of the 2019 working group, no parking should be removed from the park until there is a significant amount of adequate, convenient, affordable parking to replace it.

Stitches

- Does the best job of integrating and orienting the park visitor experience with a centralized visitor welcome center/land bridge design that safely connects all the park quadrants together.
- Reduces impervious cover while also improving the park ecology, including ecological uplift to 84 acres of the park, an underground parking structure, and improvements to the banks of Barton Creek.
- Improves visitor experience with a visitor welcome/education center prominently located with visual connection to Barton Springs and park entrances, and parking access for visitors from all over Austin.
- Additional bike and pedestrian bridges are positive aspects of this plan.
- Keeping Barking Springs is a positive aspect of this plan. Adding an additional off-leash area on the north side of Barton Creek has potential if there is mitigation to prevent runoff downhill into Barton Creek.
- The Zilker Eagle should be designed as a hop-on, hop-off loop system that extends from the northwest corner of the park to the Violet Crown trailhead. Two trains should be able to be run at once, and a second depot/maintenance area should be located at the far end (Mopac side) of the park, near parking. There should be stops at attractions that children are likely to visit, such as

the Austin Nature and Science Center. The current plans don't reflect the true potential of the Zilker Eagle to serve families as both a joy to ride and a circulator.

- Relocating Zilker Hillside Theater to the Great Lawn near Barton Springs Road has merit but requires further discussion. There would need to be an all-weather path to the back of the theater for loading props, sets, materials, and equipment. Noise and light mitigation from Barton Springs Road, central parking garage, and nearby trails/playscapes would be needed. No parking on Barton Springs preferred (for safety, noise, more efficient traffic flow); consider a drop-off in this area. Some surface parking at ecologically uplifted landfill is good for possible overflow parking needs if central garage fills up. A ZBGC rep has also noted that the Great Lawn is flat and sunken, and retains water after it rains.
- The proposed entrance to ZBG off Stratford Drive is good, but how would limited-mobility visitors be accommodated? In addition, the entry route is located far from the closest parking, which would impact evening meetings and nighttime rentals.
- The proposal to close Lou Neff to traffic has merit but should be considered with regard to whether Zilker Boats remains in its current location with parking access for visitors who bring their own boats.
- Add more traffic lights on Barton Springs Road, including one at the current or relocated entrance to Zilker Botanical Gardens for safe crossing to the bus stop.
- Bus stops should be pull outs for loading and unloading safely without stopping the flow of traffic.
- Additional parking may be required in other areas of the park to provide sufficient access to park amenities; further discussion is needed. For example, it's not clear where Zilker Boats visitors would park if they bring their own boats.
- Relying on offsite parking is problematic because no details have yet been provided. There is no assurance that offsite parking would be consistently available and affordable into the future. ZBGC has attempted for years to contract with the garages south of the park, for only one weekend, with no success.
- The idea of disconnecting Columbus Drive requires further discussion with the groups that would be affected by this, as it could create traffic flow issues.
- The realignment of Stratford Drive requires further discussion with the groups that would be affected by this, including Rowing Dock, ANSC, and ZBGC. Child safety and accessibility should be considered.
- A small restroom/changing room should be added on the south side of Barton Springs Pool, as recommended in the [2009 Barton Springs Master Plan](#).
- Sidewalks should be a priority along Barton Springs Road and Stratford Drive.
- Add a child-friendly walking path from the Nature Center to ZBG.

Edges

- Does the best job of providing parking for most areas of the park, with three garages at the perimeter of the park. Perhaps certain aspects (TBD) of this strategy could be blended with the central buried garage in Stitches to provide convenient, equitable access to all amenities and programs for visitors from all parts of Austin.

- It makes sense to have the sports complex on the polo fields, not close to Barton Springs as shown in Stitches. However, it is not clear whether a sports complex is actually needed; it could take away green space and create more need for parking. Perhaps a nature viewing platform along the river's edge would be better?
- Retaining parking on the north side of Barton Springs is a positive element of this plan.
- Adding more play areas, including nature play and all-abilities play, is a good idea. The play area on the west side of Mopac near the historic pistol range is a good use of neglected parkland.
- Additional bike and pedestrian bridges are positive aspects of this plan.
- Keeping Barking Springs is a positive aspect of this plan. Adding an additional off-leash area along Azie Morton is also a good idea.
- The Zilker Eagle should be designed as a hop-on, hop-off loop system that extends from the northwest corner of the park to the Violet Crown trailhead. Two trains should be able to be run at once, and a second depot/maintenance area should be located at the far end (Mopac side) of the park, near parking. There should be stops at attractions that children are likely to visit, such as the Austin Nature and Science Center. The current plans don't reflect the true potential of the Zilker Eagle to serve families as both a joy to ride and a circulator.
- Relocating Zilker Hillside Theater to the Great Lawn near the lake has merit but requires further discussion. There would need to be an all-weather path to the back of the theater for loading props, sets, materials, and equipment. Noise and light mitigation from Barton Springs Road and nearby trails/playscapes would be needed. Parking garage adjacent is good, convenient for families. Consider Stratford access along Mopac sized for traffic load. The pedestrian bridge across the lake offers alternative pedestrian access. A ZBGC rep has also noted that the Great Lawn is flat and sunken, and retains water after it rains.
- Add more traffic lights on Barton Springs Road, including one at the current or relocated entrance to Zilker Botanical Gardens for safe crossing to the bus stop.
- Bus stops should be pull outs for loading and unloading safely without stopping the flow of traffic.
- A tunnel under Barton Springs Road could create safety issues, especially at night.
- The realignment of Stratford Drive requires further discussion with the groups that would be affected by this, including Rowing Dock, ANSC and ZBGC. Child safety and accessibility should be considered.
- A small restroom/changing room should be added on the south side of Barton Springs Pool, as recommended in the [2009 Barton Springs Master Plan](#).
- It's not clear where Zilker Boats visitors would park if they bring their own boats.
- Sidewalks should be a priority along Barton Springs Road and Stratford Drive.
- Add a child-friendly walking path from the Nature Center to ZBG.

Regenerate

- The Butler Landfill surface parking under Mopac would return more of the Landfill to "restored prairie" than would the Stitches parking area on the Landfill.
- The Quonset Hut could be repurposed to provide an open-air education structure close to the playscape and Barton Creek, consistent with Barton Springs Pool Master Plan.

recommendations; it should not add significant traffic to this already over-crowded area of the park.

- This design locates a Welcome Center in an already over-crowded part of the park (and in the floodplain).
- Leaving the Hillside Theater where it is, is problematic in that it doesn't solve problems of traffic conflicts with Barton Springs, increasing visitor usage on the hillside, difficulty off access, and insufficient parking for patrons with families (especially if Polo Field parking goes away). It has been our experience that families bringing all that they need for a picnic on the hillside for a live theater event cannot be accommodated on public transportation.

We appreciate your consideration of these issues and look forward to further discussion.

Sincerely,

ABC Kite Festival
Austin Parks Foundation
Austin YMBL Sunshine Camps
Barton Springs Conservancy
Friends of the Austin Nature and
Science Center
Friends of Barton Springs Pool
Girl Scouts Zilker Cabin
Hill Country Conservancy

The Rowing Dock
The Trail Foundation
Trail of Lights Foundation
Umlauf Sculpture Museum & Garden
Waterloo Disc Golf
Zilker Botanical Garden Conservancy
Zilker Park Boat Rentals
Zilker Theatre Productions

Date: January 7, 2022

To: Claire Hempel, Design Workshop

Zilker Park Collective Comments on Interactive Map

In October, our organizations sent a letter (included below) which details our top priorities for the Zilker Vision Plan. Based on our review of the latest Zilker Interactive Map and the design alternatives presented at the Community Meeting #3, we are providing additional feedback on the design alternatives. With the Zilker Park organizations supporting this letter, parking access is a top priority that must be balanced with the objectives of prioritizing the natural environment at Zilker Park. Adequate parking (in addition to improvements for other transportation modes) will ensure that visitors from all over Austin feel included and welcome. We support a parking strategy in which a significant portion of the overall number of unpaved parking spaces that may be removed from the park are first replaced elsewhere in the park and/or immediately adjacent to the park. Additional details for parking-related feedback is set forth below in the “Parking” section.

We generally support the following:

- Balancing restoration and maintenance and enhancement of the natural environment with sustainable solutions for increased park visitation and parking needs.
- Efforts to protect water quality and ecological uplift opportunities, especially along waterways such as the banks of Barton Creek and Lady Bird Lake.
- Retaining the Great Lawn as a lawn (some ecological uplift without removing the opportunities for the current uses of the space).
- Converting the Polo Field to additional lawn space or sports fields IF alternative parking is found.
- Ecological uplift in the Nature Preserve Zone shown on the Interactive Map, which includes the Zilker Clubhouse and the Austin Nature and Science Center.
- Ecological uplift of landfill and Polo Field areas, either as mowed lawn area or natural area IF the parking spaces here are replicated somewhere nearby.
- One or more visitor hubs and gateways throughout the park. (This idea is an extension of the “education and welcome center” priority.)

We oppose the following:

- Any reference to repurposing the Girl Scout Cabin in any way that would reduce access by the historic and current users, the Girl Scouts of Central Texas.
- Reducing existing lawn areas, which are some of the most heavily utilized areas of the park.
- Introducing vehicular traffic through the Austin Nature and Science Center (ANSC). ANSC is an educational space within a sensitive riparian zone that is meant to be pedestrian-only. One proposed route bisects the birds of prey exhibits and cuts off Overlook Point from the rest of ANSC.

We believe the following is missing:

- The “visitor hub” design concept should be described as opportunities to integrate interpretive spaces and programming to educate visitors about the environment, culture, and history of Zilker Park and surrounding watershed areas.

- A plan for an upgraded playground near Barton Springs Pool that serves an interpretive purpose, and additional play features for children throughout the park.
- A design concept for the addition of a rest room on the south side of Barton Springs Pool, as recommended in the [2009 Barton Springs Master Plan](#).
- Active transportation paths (not just gateways), as described in Survey #4. Our letter states: "We support an improved pedestrian and bicycle trail system through the park that brings those that walk, bike, or roll from one destination to another through the park, as well as associated wayfinding signage."
- Circulator options, including exploring the Zilker Eagle, as described in Survey #4. Our letter states: "We support prioritizing internal circulation of people within the park from parking, transit, or their point of entry to their destinations. We hope the consultant team will explore the possibility of an expansion of the Zilker Eagle train serving this purpose."
- If realignment of the primary entry for ANSC is considered, school buses must have clear and easy access to the front of ANSC, and pedestrian safety must be a priority between parking and bus drop-off locations.

Parking:

In keeping with the 2019 Zilker Working Group findings, we generally support a parking strategy in which a significant portion of the overall number of unpaved parking spaces that may be removed from the park are first replaced elsewhere in the park and/or immediately adjacent to the park. This group also supports a multi-faceted parking strategy that differentiates user groups and provides a mix of parking options for weekday users, weekend users, special events, and large special events.

The Interactive Map concepts focus primarily on (1) consolidating existing lots within the park and removing parking from the Polo Field, (2) creating a parking garage under MoPac or parking on Barton Springs Road, and (3) exploring park-adjacent parking options outside of Zilker. Following below is our feedback on these strategies, along with additional recommendations.

In-Park Parking and Polo Field

As noted in the design concepts for the Polo Fields, "in recent years, City Council has directed the Parks and Recreation Department to remove parking from the Polo Field area." To support this directive, we recommend a phased removal of Polo Field parking in the near term by reducing Polo Field overflow parking by thirds over the next four to six years, provided that convenient, affordable and accessible parking is funded and implemented to replace a significant number of the parking spaces removed. We recommend a social media education campaign to describe the benefits of these changes.

In addition, we recommend restricting Polo Fields parking uses to specific calendar dates or events (namely, Blues on the Green, Zilker Hillside Theater, Zilker Tree Lighting, Trail of Lights, Zilker Kite Festival, Zilker Botanical Garden Spring Event, Austin YMBL Sunshine Camps events), provided that event organizers are required to make reasonable remediation/repair measures (e.g., turf replacement, aeration, etc.) until such time as the Zilker parking plan is funded and implemented.

To meet the requirement of providing long-term convenient, affordable and accessible replacement parking spaces for the Polo Field, we recommend that the following "in park" parking solutions be evaluated for financial and environmental feasibility:

- Structured parking underneath MoPac
- An underground parking structure with a “green” roof in any suitable location (near MoPac at the Polo Field, Pistol Range, or Butler Landfill areas),
- Parking improvements at Azie Morton along the south side of Barton Springs Pool (to reduce impervious cover and improve water quality while meeting parking needs)
- Parking improvements to the Stratford/Butler Landfill area and Lou Neff Road, using landfill remediation and “green” landscaping to improve them ecologically and aesthetically
- An option for buried/structured/green roof parking along Barton Springs road on the west side of the park to help offload parking in unpaved areas of the park.
- Options for additional structured parking or lot(s) in or near the east end of the park closest to Lamar or along the south side of Barton Springs Road near MoPac.
- While we appreciate the idea of consolidating some of the small lots, we would also like to see scenarios for retaining some or all of the small lots on the north side of the Barton Springs Zone, using “green” landscaping to improve them ecologically and aesthetically. These lots provide reliable, easy access to popular amenities such as Zilker Rowing, the playground, Hillside Theater, and Barton Springs Pool.

Park-Adjacent Offsite Parking

To provide additional transportation options for park visitors, we agree with the idea of exploring “shared parking” opportunities with entities that own or operate parking structures near Zilker Park, such as Dougherty Arts Center or Barton Oaks Plaza Garage. These should connect with park circulators to get people where they need to go.

However, until negotiations occur, we recommend that privately owned offsite parking be viewed as a **supplemental** option rather than a primary long-term parking solution for Zilker Park. Privately owned garages are not a revenue source for the City, may be operated by third parties, and may be sold or redeveloped at any time. It is unknown whether parking costs would be controlled to ensure continuous affordable parking. Questions of maintenance and security would also need to be explored.

We appreciate your consideration of these issues and look forward to further discussion.

Sincerely,

ABC Kite Festival	Hill Country Conservancy
Austin Parks Foundation	The Rowing Dock
Austin YMBL Sunshine Camps	The Trail Foundation
Barton Springs Conservancy	Trail of Lights Foundation
Explore Austin	Umlauf Sculpture Museum & Garden
Friends of the Austin Nature and Science Center	Waterloo Disc Golf
Friends of Barton Springs Pool	Zilker Botanical Garden Conservancy
Girl Scouts Zilker Cabin	Zilker Park Boat Rentals
	Zilker Theatre Productions

September 23, 2021

To: Claire Hempel, Design Workshop

Zilker Park Stakeholder Values in the Zilker Park Vision Plan

We, the undersigned organizations operating in Zilker Park have identified the following priorities which we hope will be incorporated into the Zilker Park Vision Plan and by which we will assess the draft plans presented to us. These priorities are in alignment with the park needs outlined in the Austin Parks and Recreation Department's long-range plan, *Our Parks, Our Future*.

The Zilker Park Vision Plan should:

- Prioritize creating an inclusive park culture to ensure that all visitors feel welcome and have access to park amenities.
- Protect the water quality at Zilker Park by repairing degraded landscapes, providing green infrastructure, and educating the public about water quality and the environment.
- Maintain and enhance the natural environment of the park, with focus on sustainable systems, native landscaping, and innovative methods for increased visitor use and access to Ladybird Lake.
- Include an improved, accessible pedestrian and bicycle trail system through the park that brings those who walk, bike, or roll from one destination to another, and include associated wayfinding signage.
- Plan for internal circulation of people within the park from parking, transit, or their point of entry to their destinations. We hope the consultant team will explore the expansion of the Zilker Eagle train route.
- Include improvements of the surrounding and internal transportation network including pedestrian and cyclist facilities with an emphasis on alleviating safety concerns and connecting an all ages and abilities network to park attractions.
- Identify new parking solutions including the possibility of parking structure(s) and shared parking (outside the park) with nearby businesses. The parking should serve the whole park including the Great Lawn, Zilker Botanical Garden, Umlauf Sculpture Garden, Zilker Hillside Theater, Sunshine Camps, Butler Trail, and the Girl Scout Cabin. We support the idea that any new parking within Zilker Park be sited in less-environmentally sensitive areas and utilize creative landscaping, including potentially a sunken structure with green roof to be compatible with the nature of the park. Parking areas should connect with internal park circulators to get visitors where they need to go.
- Consider the addition of public lockers, bike racks, and stroller racks in strategic locations near park transportation, and with minimal impervious cover.
- Per the parkland events taskforce recommendations circa 2018, retain the programming currently taking place in the park, including but not limited to the Kite Festival, Trail of Lights, Zilker Musical, Blues on the Green, and ACL Festival.

- Include a plan for an upgraded playground near Barton Springs Pool that serves an interpretive purpose; identify additional play features for children throughout the park.
- Provide interpretive and educational components that engage the public and convey the rich environmental, cultural, and historic heritage of the park. Establish an education and welcome center to orient visitors to park amenities.

In addition to the above, we support ongoing information-sharing among PARD and the park stakeholder groups on topics that affect all groups and their respective planning efforts.

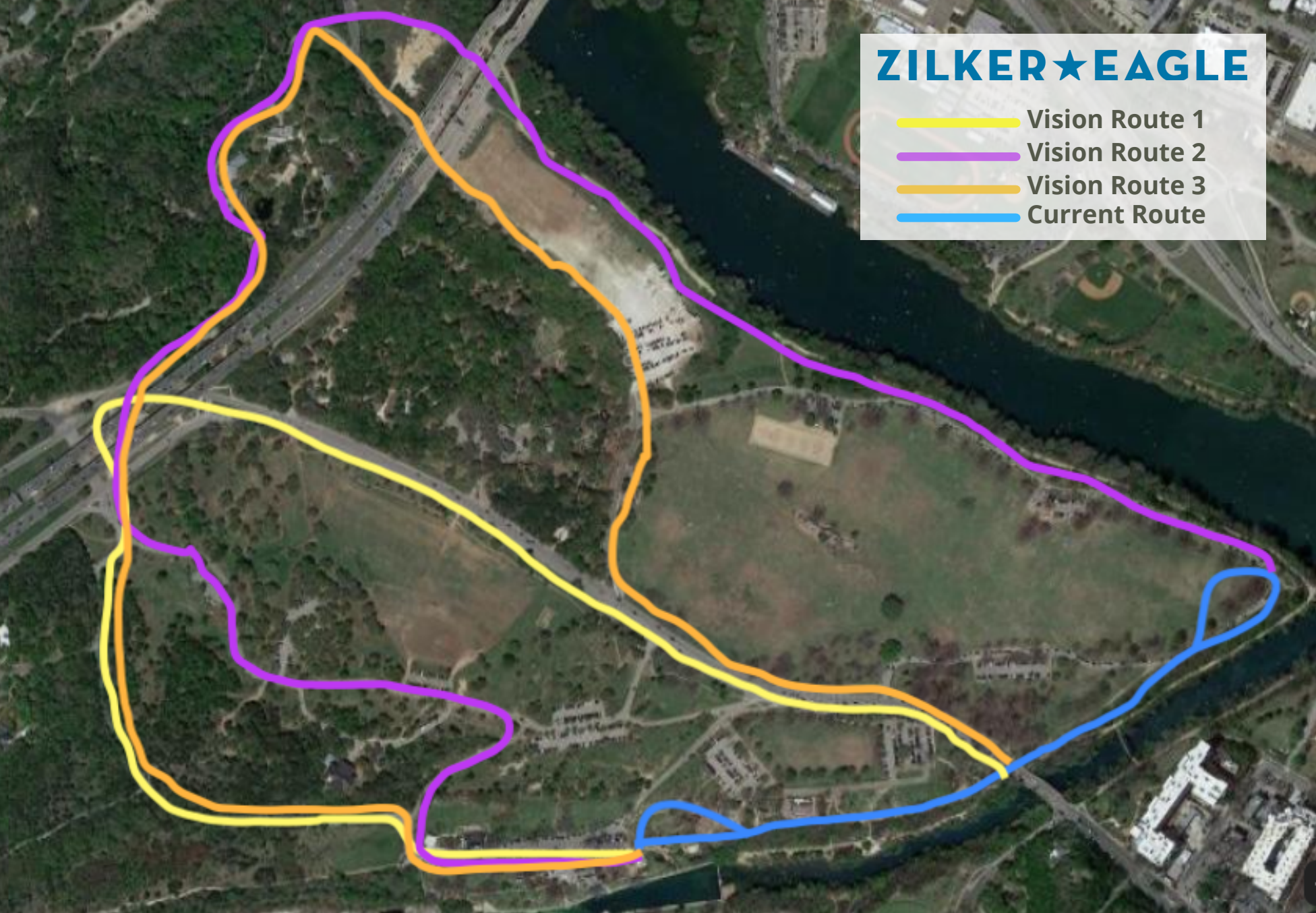
Sincerely,

ABC Kite Festival
 Austin Parks Foundation
 Austin YMBL Sunshine Camps
 Barton Springs Conservancy
 Explore Austin
 Friends of Barton Springs Pool
 Girl Scouts Zilker Cabin
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The Rowing Dock
 The Trail Foundation
 Trail of Lights Foundation
 Umlauf Sculpture Museum & Garden
 Waterloo Disc Golf
 Zilker Botanical Garden Conservancy
 Zilker Park Boat Rentals
 Zilker Theatre Productions

ZILKER★EAGLE

-  Vision Route 1
-  Vision Route 2
-  Vision Route 3
-  Current Route



ZILKER★EAGLE

 Vision Route 1

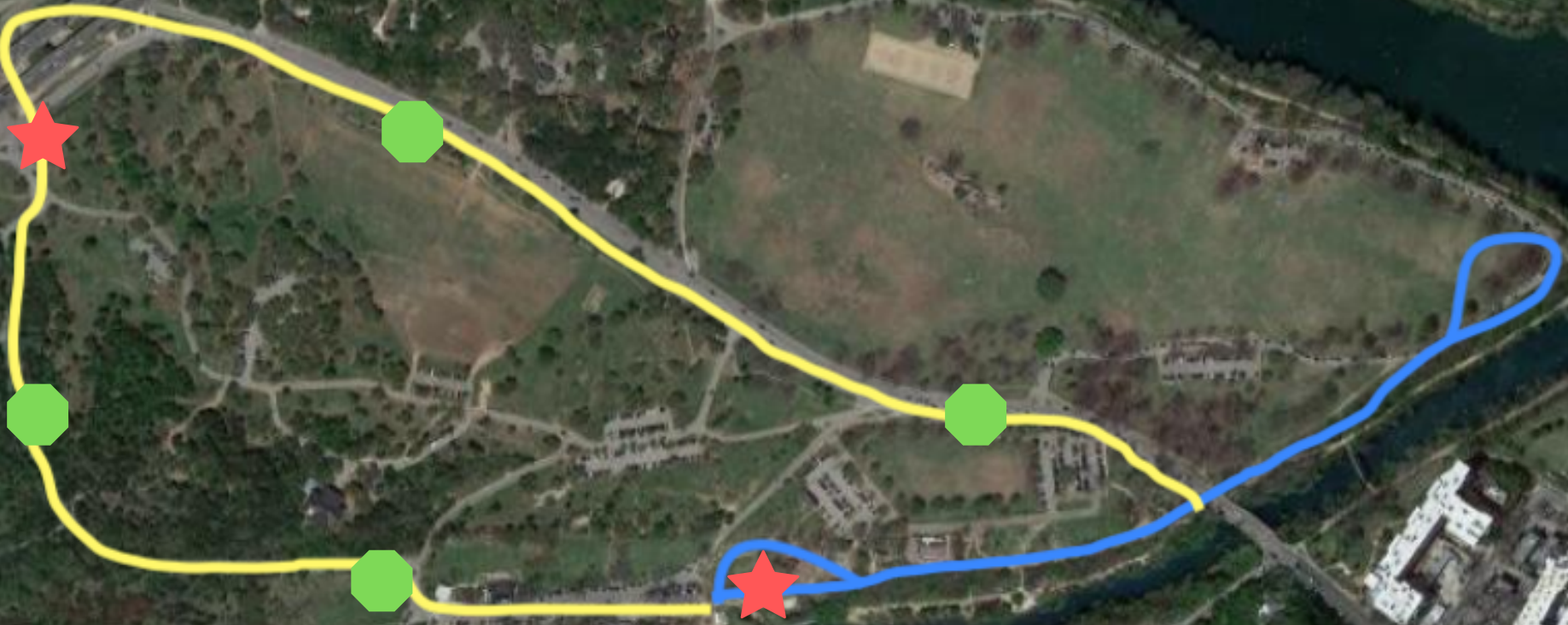
 Vision Route 2

 Vision Route 3

 Current Route

 Purposed Stop

 Purposed Depot



ZILKER★EAGLE

— Vision Route 1

— Vision Route 2

— Vision Route 3

— Current Route

● Purposed Stop

★ Purposed Depot



ZILKER★EAGLE

— Vision Route 1

— Vision Route 2

— Vision Route 3

— Current Route

● Purposed Stop

★ Purposed Depot





Zilker Eagle Mini-Train Future Vision

VISION: An expanded route for the Zilker Eagle will offer a pleasant and convenient internal circulation option within Zilker Park and be a popular park attraction.

WHAT: Austin Parks Foundation (APF) will be reopening the historic Zilker mini train this Fall with new tracks and a brand new train. The new and improved Zilker Eagle will initially travel from the historic depot near Barton Springs to Lou Neff Point.

An expanded vision of the train would be a benefit to future Zilker Park visitors. Similar trains are popular and serve as both amusements and as people-movers. We encourage Design Workshop to recommend an expanded train route and phasing plan within the Zilker Park Vision Plan.

WHY: Transportation to and within Zilker Park has long been recognized as a significant problem by the many groups that operate in the park. In their June 2019 report to City Council, the Zilker Park Working Group recommended that the Zilker Master Plan should study, “options for a circulator system within the park to move visitors from one area of the park to another, including a shuttle bus or expansion of the Zilker Zephyr.” This request was made again in the recent Zilker Park stakeholder letter dated September 23rd, 2021, sent to Design Workshop by 16 groups working directly in Zilker Park. That letter asks that the Vision Plan, “plan for internal circulation of people within the park from parking, transit, or their point of entry to their destinations. We hope the consultant team will explore the expansion of the Zilker Eagle train route.”

PRECEDENT

Hermann Park, Houston. The Hermann Park Railroad takes a two-mile, 16 minute journey around Hermann Park. The train departs from Kinder Station every 25 - 30 minutes. There are three stops along Hermann Park Railroad to allow train riders to get on or off at various points of interest in the Park.

Brackenridge Park, San Antonio. The tracks are about two miles, and give a 20 minute tour through Brackenridge Park. There are stops near the Witte Museum, Japanese Tea Garden, and Sunken Garden – people are able to stop at these locations and get a return ride on the train with their train ticket.

CONSIDERATIONS

- Since 1961, a mini train has run in Zilker Park. The original Zilker Eagle operated from 1961- 1996. The Zilker Zephyr operated from 1997-2019. In 2020, the Austin City Council asked Austin Parks Foundation to take over restoration and operation of the train.
- A train circulator can provide multi-generational and varying ability accessibility.
- Trains offer long-term infrastructure. Once there are tracks on the ground, the investment has been made and the train is likely to persist for decades, unlike a bus shuttle system which can be easily canceled at any time. Tracks are very low maintenance and take a long time to degrade.
- The new Zilker Eagle is an environmentally friendly option with an electric engine. It will not contribute to air pollution in the park.
- Since a train runs along tracks, it doesn't compete with car space and wouldn't compound traffic and parking issues. Similarly, an APF run train will reliably arrive at stations on time, unlike a potential shuttle system that may have to deal with vehicle traffic hold-ups.
- Trains offer a pleasant, open air, fun experience. People often have nostalgic feelings or happy memories surrounding trains.
- A train would attract residents throughout the City to the park, hopefully improving the goal of a Zilker for everyone. The train is also a tourist attraction.
- There is the potential to include an educational interpretive tour of natural, historical, cultural aspects of Zilker for train riders.
- Austin Parks Foundation's agreement with the City of Austin means that unlike a private operator, the funds raised from the train will be invested back in Austin's park system.
- A future train could accommodate a baggage car or section for items like strollers or coolers.
- APF is committed to fundraising and leading the next phase of the train expansion as soon as the vision plan has been completed.

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

- Single train will accommodate 72 passengers
- Two trains could be run at once
- Maintenance/storage facility is needed for an expansion. The current tunnel is aging and the plan should consider siting a covered storage facility for trains elsewhere.
- An expanded train route should consider adding a second depot at the far end of the park, near parking. This depot should include a ticket booth and space for merchandise.
- Maximum of 3% grade but 2% preferred for rail slope
- Ballast is pervious, minimize impervious cover at stops etc
- Make sure all stops are ADA accessible
- The train should make stops at (1) parking (2) Barton Springs (original depot) (3) Great Lawn (4) Botanical Gardens (5) Austin Nature and Science Center (6) Zilker Hillside Theater/Barton Creek Greenbelt entrance and any new major destinations.

Learn more at Zilkertrain.org

Zilker Park Vision Plan: The Stories of the Park

Think about your favorite parks outside of Austin. Can you remember the first time you were there? Maybe it was a national park like the Grand Canyon or a state park like Mother Neff or even a city park like Central Park. What do you recall about the stories of the park? What is the history of the people in that space? Did you learn about the type of animals that call it home? Or did you gain more understanding about the geology or plants of this park? Finally, I want you to recall whether you had to search online about the park or whether the stories of your favorite parks were told in the park.

Each of these questions can help us interpret a deeper meaning and connection to the parks we love. One aspect of the Zilker Park Vision Plan is a guide for what stories around Zilker Metropolitan Park can connect us to the space in a deeper way. I hope this guest post from the Austin Parks and Recreation Department encourages you to think about what stories you want to know more about in Zilker Park as well as other parks throughout Austin.

[*View the entire draft plan online and provide comments*](#)

Guiding Principles and Goals

The Austin Parks and Recreation Department (PARC) often develops guiding principles and goals, sometimes called project values and objectives, to provide a framework for projects. The draft Zilker Park Vision Plan Guiding Principles and Goals were first presented at Community Meeting #1 on June 29, 2021. After community feedback, the principles and goals were honed into the final [Guiding Principles and Goals](#) under the following themes

- Nature and Ecology
- History and Culture
- Equity, Diversity and Inclusion
- Accessibility
- Sustainability

The Guiding Principles and the correlating goals have driven the planning process for the park and the storylines.

Interpretive Storylines

Part of the Vision Plan includes suggestions for a future interpretive plan for Zilker. Driven by the “History and Culture” and “Equity, Diversity and Inclusion” Guiding Principles and Goals, the planning team identified [five storylines](#) to guide future storytelling at the park.

Zilker Park is a complex space with a complicated history. The storylines are for the park as a whole and are only a road map. Anyone doing interpretive planning in the future will do additional research to define the main stories and develop how visitors discover and engage with the interpretive themes. But,

today, we want to know: What might be missing from these storylines? What is it you really want to understand more deeply about Zilker Park? The information below can be found in the [draft Zilker Vision Plan](#), pages 185 to 189.

Storyline 1: Barton Springs Has Been a Constant, but Evolving, Destination for Humans for at Least 10,000 Years.

- **Indigenous occupation:** Archeological sites reveal that Indigenous people camped, hunted, fished, and quarried rock here for at least 9,000-10,000 years before European colonizers arrived. The Vara Daniels site, which lies beneath the Great Lawn and rugby fields, is one of the “largest deeply stratified sites known in Texas.” Today, it serves as evidence of Indigenous people’s long-term presence on this land, and presents an opportunity for contemporary Austinites to learn more about the generations of Native people who preceded them here.
- **Euro-American settlement and business enterprises:** Beginning in the 1830s, Euro-American settlers brought their agricultural traditions and commercial/industrial enterprises to this landscape. Within the present-day park boundaries, men including William Barton, Ashford B. McGill, and Dr. Barclay Townsend farmed and ranched; Michel Paggi, Jacob Stern, and the Rabb family all operated mills on the creek; Michael Butler mined clay for his brickworks; and Andrew J. Zilker used the spring water for his icemaking business and pasture for the horses that pulled his delivery wagons. While Barton Springs was already a popular swimming destination by the mid-1800s, Paggi built a dam on Barton Creek in the 1870s to create a swimming hole and a bathhouse to accommodate swimmers.
- **Park origins and development:** Through a series of land deals between 1917 and 1934, Andrew J. Zilker transferred three parcels of land that would become Zilker Park to the City of Austin. However, Zilker did not profit from these transactions; rather, he specified that the proceeds from the first two deals be placed in a trust for Austin High School, and gifted the third parcel of land outright. The subsequent development of Barton Springs and the surrounding land reflected popular ideas about recreation at the time (active recreational facilities in a naturalistic environment). Under the City of Austin and various New Deal institutions, the park’s naturalistic features and recreational facilities were expanded and remnants of its commercial and industrial past were removed. As the city grew and automobile ownership became more accessible, the park became a popular destination for white, middle class Austinites.
- **Modern gathering space:** Today, Zilker Park is a blend of active recreational facilities (e.g., Barton Springs, hiking trails) and gathering spaces for events large and small, public and private (e.g., Zilker Clubhouse, Girl Scout Cabin, picnic tables for private gatherings; large open spaces for public events like ACL, Blues on the Green, the Zilker Kite Festival and Austin Trail of Lights). Austinites have also built a culture of informal gatherings at sites throughout the park, such as the Monkey Tree on Azie Morton Road.

Storyline 2: Zilker Park’s Extant Built Environment Tells Part of The Story of Austin’s Settlement, Development, and Evolving Identity.

- **Zilker Park’s built environment reveals clues to some aspects of Austin’s history:**
 - **Settlement and Early Industry:** The old Rabb homesite and the location of the Paggi grist and ice mill (at Sunken Garden/Old Mill Spring) both evoke Austin’s early industrial

period and speak to how crucial access to flowing water was for many people and industries.

- Expansion: As Austin's population expanded, it outgrew some of Zilker Park's facilities. One of these was the Barton Springs Bathhouse. Completed in 1947, architects Delmar Groos and Dan Driscoll designed the new bathhouse with a Streamline Moderne aesthetic. This style strayed from the rustic-style park buildings constructed during the 1930s, but both approaches had something in common: they took inspiration from Zilker Park's landscape. The bathhouse was sited around the location's large trees, and the low-slung building took inspiration from the horizontal limestone terraces found throughout the park.
- **Zilker Park by Austinites for Austinites:** Zilker Park's design was led by two local men: engineer Frederick A. Dale and architect Charles H. Page. Other Austinites were also involved in its design and construction: Hugo Kuehne designed the Caretaker's Cottage and the first Barton Springs bathhouse; plants for the Rock Garden came from the home garden of Dr. T.S. Painter on W. 33rd St.; young architect Bubi Jessen designed the iconic entry columns; materials and labor for custom light fixtures were donated by Gage Brothers, Weigel Iron Works, and Fox and Schmidt; and the Austin Police Department helped fund and build the shooting range.
- **Zilker Park and the New Deal:** Many of Zilker Park's most iconic features were developed under various public works programs during the Great Depression.
 - Funding: Most of the Texas parks projects that were developed during this time were intended to be state parks. Zilker Park was an exception, and it received funding thanks, in part, to Congressman James P. "Buck" Buchanan, who represented Austin in the House of Representatives and was able to use his position on the House Appropriations Committee to fund work in his district.
 - Design: The park was developed under various New Deal programs, and its design was especially influenced by the National Park Service's emphasis on highlighting the natural topography and flora, and constructing rustic-style buildings using natural materials.
 - Construction: In 1933, Charles Page secured funding from the Civil Works Administration (CWA) to build the park, including the stone entrance columns and the beloved Zilker Clubhouse, both of which still stand today. In 1934, Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Company 1814 designed and built roads, cleared land, and constructed park facilities (picnic tables, barbecue pits, and lighting). The National Youth Administration (NYA) repaired flood damage in 1935-1936 and built the Sunken Gardens in the late 1930s, and the Works Progress Administration (WPA) helped improve the park's lily pond. Without this substantial federal investment, Zilker Park would look very different today.

Storyline 3: Zilker Park Has a Long History as a Contested Landscape.

- **White settlement and white supremacy at Barton Springs:**
 - Enslavement of African Americans. When William Barton settled on the banks of Spring Creek (known today as Barton Creek) around 1837, he brought his wife, children, and up to 30 African Americans he enslaved with him. The Bartons ranched cattle here. The African American men and women whom Barton enslaved likely worked in the Barton Family's ranching and domestic activities, increasing the Bartons' wealth through their uncompensated labor.

- Settlement on Indigenous lands. As a white settler in Indigenous people's traditional homelands, William Barton was in frequent conflict with Comanches who claimed the land as their territory.
- **Exclusion of non-white and lower income citizens:** When the City of Austin took ownership of Zilker Park in 1917, it instituted fee-based access, which solidified the pool as the domain of the white middle class. The implementation of the 1928 Master Plan, and specifically its recommendation for segregated facilities for Black citizens, codified this racial division. It wasn't until Black activists, such as Joan Means Khabele, Bertha Means, V. Saundra Kirk, and Willie Mae Kirk, fought to integrate Barton Springs that the park became officially accessible to Black Austinites. Nevertheless, racial disparities persisted: many Black community members continued to feel unwelcome in the park and at the pool well after the facilities were officially desegregated.
- **Community organizing and activism:** Since the late 1960s, community members and grassroots activist organizations, including the Zilker Park Posse, Save Barton Creek Association, Save Our Springs Alliance, and Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, have challenged development plans that would negatively impact the springs and the park (e.g., development in the Barton Creek watershed, construction of MoPac Expressway in the park). They have also supported scientific research and education and advocated for better regulations to protect and preserve Barton Springs, Barton Creek, and Zilker Park.

Storyline 4: The Ebb and Flow of Water Indelibly Shapes the Ecology of Zilker Park.

- Water as it shapes the landscape: The creeks and river create riparian habitat where water-loving plants thrive, wildlife is drawn to the fresh water, and resident bird populations seek out prime nesting and feeding locations. In the western half of the park, which is more characteristic of the Edwards Plateau, oak-juniper woodlands grow in shallow soils that formed atop limestone rock. Here, rainwater flows down through the limestone and into the Edwards Aquifer far beneath. The plants that grow in this area are adapted to the faster draining soils.
- Springs as habitat: The springs in the park and the Edwards Aquifer beneath it support the endangered Barton Springs and Austin Blind Salamanders. As the park was developed and new buildings and features were constructed, the springs' flow was disturbed and the salamanders' populations decreased. Through careful planning, habitat restoration, and limited development, the salamander populations in Zilker Park are growing.

Storyline 5: Zilker Park Offers Austinites the Opportunity To Experience Great Biodiversity in a Relatively Small Area.

- Ecotone: Zilker Park provides habitat for more than 600 plant and animal species. It straddles the Edwards Plateau and Blackland Prairie ecoregions and blends characteristics of both. Within the park's 351 acres, Austinites can spot armadillos while hiking through oak-juniper woodlands typical of the Texas Hill Country, paddle along shoreline communities of bald cypress trees and snapping turtles, and wade in a natural pool fed by the same springs that support two species of endangered salamander.
- Biodiversity: At least 224 species of birds – more than 85% of the wildlife species that call the park home – can be found in Zilker Park. They include a diverse array of species drawn to the varied habitats that make up the park. Migratory songbirds stop to rest in the park on their way

to their northern breeding grounds, and egrets and herons hunt along the banks of the river and in the creeks.

Those are the proposed interpretive storylines for Zilker Park. What are your thoughts? What storylines are you excited to see in greater depth? What is missing? The Zilker Park Vision Plan team is looking forward to hearing more about the storylines as well other aspects of the draft Vision Plan. Share your feedback at <https://publicinput.com/ZilkerVision>.

MBE/WBE COMPLIANCE PLAN

All applicable sections must be completed and prior to the due date and time as indicated in the solicitation documents.

Section I — Project Identification and Goal(s)

Project Name	Zilker Metropolitan Park Master Plan Reissue
Solicitation Number	RFQS 6100 CLMP295A

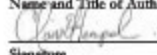
Project Goal(s) or Subgoals

Combined MBE/WBE	
MBE	
African American	1.90
Hispanic	9.00
Asian/Native American	4.90
WBE	15.80

Section II — Proposer Company Information

Company Name	Design Workshop, Inc.	
Address	812 San Antonio Street, Suite 401	
City, State Zip	Austin, TX 78701	
Phone	(512) 499-0222	
Email	chempel@designworkshop.com	Fax
Name of Contact Person	Claire Hempel	
Is your company a registered Vendor with the City of Austin?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If yes, provide Vendor Code VS0000011357 If No, please note: All vendors; Subconsultants and consultants must register with COA's Vendor Connect prior to award. See Link for registration information at https://www.austintexas.gov/financeonline/account_services/search/	
Is your company COA M/WBE certified?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (If yes, please indicate:) MBE <input type="checkbox"/> WBE <input type="checkbox"/> MBE/WBE <input type="checkbox"/> AA <input type="checkbox"/> H <input type="checkbox"/> A/N <input type="checkbox"/> WBE <input type="checkbox"/> Joint Venture <input type="checkbox"/>	

I certify that the information included in this **MBE/WBE Compliance Plan** is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I further understand and agree that this **MBE/WBE Compliance Plan** shall become a part of my contract with the City of Austin.

Claire Hempel, Principal
Name and Title of Authorized Representative

Signature

4/24/2020
Date

For City of Austin SMBR Use Only:

I have reviewed this Compliance Plan and found that the Proposer **HAS** **HAS NOT** complied as per the City Code Chapter 2-9A through GFE.

Reviewing Counselor Jessica Obereimbt Date 05/12/2020

I have reviewed this Compliance Plan and have found the Proposer **COMPLIANT** **NON-COMPLIANT**

Director /Assistant Director/ Designee Tamela Saldana Date 5.13.20

EXHIBIT C

Appendix A

Section III — MBE/WBE Compliance Plan Summary

- Directions:
- For each Subconsultant listed in Sections IV, V, VI or VII, fill in all blanks (if applicable).
 - For project participation use an EXACT percentage calculated to the two digit decimal number.
 - Goal(s) percentages should be based on the Base Proposal amount only. Allowances are not included.
 - Alternates are not recorded on this MBE/WBE Compliance Plan.
 - If Proposer is a certified MBE/WBE, include participation details in the Proposer box ONLY.
 - MBE/WBE Compliance Plans not complying with these requirements shall be rejected as non-responsive.

Is the stated project goal(s) of the solicitation met? Yes No (If no, attach documentation of Good Faith Efforts)

PROPOSED PARTICIPATION GOAL(S)

Use this section to calculate participation.
Include all details including the total percentage for each category where applicable.

MBE/WBE Solicitation Goal(s)(s)	Proposer Participation Goal(s)
African American	1.90 %
Hispanic	9.00 %
Asian/Native American (Combined)	4.90 %
WBE	15.80 %
MBE	%
MBE/WBE Combined	31.60 %
Non-Certified	35.13 %
1) Total Subconsultants Percentages	66.73 %
2) Proposer's Own Participation (less any subcontracted amount) Are you counting your own participation toward the goal(s)? (if yes, indicate below) <input type="checkbox"/> MBE <input type="checkbox"/> WBE <input type="checkbox"/> AA <input type="checkbox"/> HIS <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	33.27 %

Aggregate Percentage Amount (*Subconsultant (s) % (1) + Proposer (2) %*) = _____ = 100%

For SMBR Use Only:

Verified participation for each category:

African-American 1.9 % Hispanic 9.0 % Asian/Native American 4.9 % WBE 15.8 %

MBE - % WBE - % Combined MBE/WBE - %

Prime 33.27 % Non-Certified 35.13 %

EXHIBIT C

Appendix A

Section IV — Disclosure of MBE and WBE Subconsultants

(Duplicate as Needed)

Note:

- Fill in all the blanks (use "none" or "N/A" where appropriate).
- MBE/WBE Compliance Plans not complying with these requirements shall be rejected as non-responsive.
- Provide the name and vendor code of each MBE/WBE certified Firm listed in Section IV, V, and VI, as registered with Austin Finance Online.
- Select either MBE or WBE for dually certified firms to indicate which certification will count towards the MBE or WBE goal(s).
- Contact SMBR to request an availability list of certified Firms for additional scopes of work that were not included on the original availability list.

Name of MBE/WBE Certified Firm	Limbacher & Godfrey Architects		
City of Austin Certification Information	<input type="checkbox"/> MBE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WBE	AA <input type="checkbox"/> H <input type="checkbox"/> A/N <input type="checkbox"/>
Vendor Code	LJM7079715		
Address/ City / State / Zip	2124 East 6th Street #102, Austin, TX 78702		
Contact Person & Phone #	Julia Limbacher (512) 450-1518		
Fax & Email Address	(512) 320-1916		
Commodity Code(s)	906-48		
Commodity Code(s) Description(s)	Historical Preservation		
Percentage of Subcontract	10.8 %		

Name of MBE/WBE Certified Firm	Encotech Engineering Consultants		
City of Austin Certification Information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MBE	<input type="checkbox"/> WBE	AA <input type="checkbox"/> H <input type="checkbox"/> A/N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Vendor Code	ENC1735650		
Address/ City / State / Zip	8500 Bluffstone Cove Suite B103, Austin, TX 78759		
Contact Person & Phone #	Ali Khataw (512) 338-1101		
Fax & Email Address	(512) 338-1160	al.khataw@eec-tx.com	
Commodity Code(s)	92567, 925	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	92531
Commodity Code(s) Description(s)	Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering		
Percentage of Subcontract	4.9 %		

Name of MBE/WBE Certified Firm	Altura Solutions, LP		
City of Austin Certification Information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MBE	<input type="checkbox"/> WBE	AA <input type="checkbox"/> H <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A/N <input type="checkbox"/>
Vendor Code	ALT8322417		
Address/ City / State / Zip	4214 Medical Parkway Suite 201, Austin, TX 78756		
Contact Person & Phone #	Jesus Lardrabal (512) 410-7059		
Fax & Email Address	jel@alturalp.com		
Commodity Code(s)	91825		
Commodity Code(s) Description(s)	Compliance Consulting		
Percentage of Subcontract	1.5% per letter 1.2 %		

Name of MBE/WBE Certified Firm	Majestic Services, Inc.		
City of Austin Certification Information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MBE	<input type="checkbox"/> WBE	AA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> H <input type="checkbox"/> A/N <input type="checkbox"/>
Vendor Code	V00000915343		
Address/ City / State / Zip	8120 North III 35 Suite 101, Austin, TX 78753		
Contact Person & Phone #	Sharal Brown		
Fax & Email Address	N/A	sharalb@majesticvc.co,	
Commodity Code(s)	96121, 2389	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2362 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Commodity Code(s) Description(s)	Lost Estimating		
Percentage of Subcontract	1.9 %		

EXHIBIT C

Appendix A

Section IV — Disclosure of MBE and WBE Subconsultants
(Duplicate as Needed)

Note:

- Fill in all the blanks (use "none" or "N/A" where appropriate).
- MBE/WBE Compliance Plans not complying with these requirements shall be rejected as non-responsive.
- Provide the name and vendor code of each MBE/WBE certified Firm listed in Section IV, V, and VI, as registered with Austin Finance Online.
- Select either MBE or WBE for dually certified firms to indicate which certification will count towards the MBE or WBE goal(s).
- Contact SMBR to request an availability list of certified Firms for additional scopes of work that were not included on the original availability list.

Name of MBE/WBE Certified Firm	Garza EMC		
City of Austin Certification Information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MBE	<input type="checkbox"/> WBE	AA <input type="checkbox"/> H <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A/N <input type="checkbox"/>
Vendor Code	V00000907852		
Address/ City / State / Zip	7708 Rialto Boulevard Suite 125, Austin, TX 78735		
Contact Person & Phone #	Julia Mrmak (512) 298-3284		
Fax & Email Address		jmrma@garzaemc.com	
Commodity Code(s)	91842		
Commodity Code(s) Description(s)	Engineering Consulting		
Percentage of Subcontract	7.5%		

Name of MBE/WBE Certified Firm	Concept Development & Planning, L.L.C. (CD&P)		
City of Austin Certification Information	<input type="checkbox"/> MBE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WBE	AA <input type="checkbox"/> H <input type="checkbox"/> A/N <input type="checkbox"/>
Vendor Code	VS0000010052		
Address/ City / State / Zip	P.O. Box 5459, Austin, TX 78763		
Contact Person & Phone #	Avin Gray (512) 533-9100		
Fax & Email Address		agray@cdandp.com	
Commodity Code(s)	91573		
Commodity Code(s) Description(s)	Public Information Services		
Percentage of Subcontract	5% per letter		1.2% X

Name of MBE/WBE Certified Firm			
City of Austin Certification Information	<input type="checkbox"/> MBE	<input type="checkbox"/> WBE	AA <input type="checkbox"/> H <input type="checkbox"/> A/N <input type="checkbox"/>
Vendor Code			
Address/ City / State / Zip			
Contact Person & Phone #			
Fax & Email Address			
Commodity Code(s)			
Commodity Code(s) Description(s)			
Percentage of Subcontract	%		

Name of MBE/WBE Certified Firm			
City of Austin Certification Information	<input type="checkbox"/> MBE	<input type="checkbox"/> WBE	AA <input type="checkbox"/> H <input type="checkbox"/> A/N <input type="checkbox"/>
Vendor Code			
Address/ City / State / Zip			
Contact Person & Phone #			
Fax & Email Address			
Commodity Code(s)			
Commodity Code(s) Description(s)			
Percentage of Subcontract	5%		

EXHIBIT C

Appendix A

Section V— Disclosure of Non-Certified Subconsultants
(Duplicate as Needed)

Note:

- Fill in all the blanks (use "none" or "N/A" where appropriate).
- MBE/WBE Compliance Plans not complying with these requirements shall be rejected as non-responsive.
- Fill in names and vendor codes of each Second-Level Subconsultant, as registered with the City of Austin.

Are Goal(s) Met? Yes No If no, state reason(s) below and attach supporting documentation:

Name of Non-Certified Subconsultant	Buie & Co.
Vendor Code	V00000912861
Address/ City / State / Zip	2901 Bee Cave Road Suite D, Austin, TX 78746
Contact Person & Phone #	Jed Buie (512) 969-6800
Fax & Email Address	jed@buieco.com
Commodity Code(s)	915-73
Commodity Code(s) Description(s)	Public Information Services
Percentage of Subcontract	5 %
Reason Certified Firm not used	Specific experience related to project scope
Name of Non-Certified Subconsultant	Siglo Group, LLC
Vendor Code	V00000913083
Address/ City / State / Zip	2315 Willow Street, Austin, TX 78702
Contact Person & Phone #	Jonathan Ogren (512) 699-5986
Fax & Email Address	jogren@siglogroup.com
Commodity Code(s)	91843
Commodity Code(s) Description(s)	Environmental Consulting (Incl. Sustainability)
Percentage of Subcontract	6.7 %
Reason Certified Firm not used	Specific experience related to project scope
Name of Non-Certified Subconsultant	Sherwood Design Engineers
Vendor Code	V00000959383 V00000930686
Address/ City / State / Zip	2548 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA 94110
Contact Person & Phone #	Jim Remlin (415) 677-7300
Fax & Email Address	jremlin@sherwoodengineers.com
Commodity Code(s)	92517
Commodity Code(s) Description(s)	Civil Engineering
Percentage of Subcontract	3.83 %
Reason Certified Firm not used	Specific experience related to project scope
Name of Non-Certified Subconsultant	Nelson Nygaard
Vendor Code	NEL8311588
Address/ City / State / Zip	201 W. 5th Street Suite 1100, Austin, TX 78701
Contact Person & Phone #	Meredith Greene (214) 283-8705
Fax & Email Address	N/A mgreene@nelsonnygaard.com
Commodity Code(s)	91896
Commodity Code(s) Description(s)	Transportation Consulting
Percentage of Subcontract	5 %
First-Level Subconsultant	
Reason Certified Firm not used	Specific experience related to project scope

EXHIBIT C

Appendix A

Section V— Disclosure of Non-Certified Subconsultants
(Duplicate as Needed)

Note:

- Fill in all the blanks (use "none" or "N/A" where appropriate).
- MBE/WBE Compliance Plans not complying with these requirements shall be rejected as non responsive.
- Fill in names and vendor codes of each Second-Level Subconsultant, as registered with the City of Austin.

Are Goal(s) Met? Yes No If no, state reason(s) below and attach supporting documentation:

Name of Non-Certified Subconsultant	C.I. McCabe and Associates, Inc.	
Vendor Code	V0000966675	
Address/ City / State / Zip	445 Artisan Way Suite 269, Somerville, MA 02145	
Contact Person & Phone #	Charles J. McCabe, Jr. (774) 266-0114	
Fax & Email Address	N/A	chuck@cjmcabe.net
Commodity Code(s)	96119	
Commodity Code(s) Description(s)	Conservation and Resource Management	
Percentage of Subcontract	**Operations & maintenance services - per letter	1.2 %
Reason Certified Firm not used	Specific experience related to project scope	
Name of Non-Certified Subconsultant	MuseWork, LLC	
Vendor Code	V0000961246	
Address/ City / State / Zip	5006 Woodview Avenue Suite 100, Austin, TX 78756	
Contact Person & Phone #	Angela Davis (512) 589-0990	
Fax & Email Address	N/A	angela@museworkexhibits.com
Commodity Code(s)	906-52	
Commodity Code(s) Description(s)	Interior Design, Space Planning, and Exhibits/Display	
Percentage of Subcontract	**Interpretive planning - per letter	1.2 %
Reason Certified Firm not used	Specific experience related to project scope	
Name of Non-Certified Subconsultant	Drenner Group, PC	
Vendor Code	V0000931332	
Address/ City / State / Zip	200 Lee Barton Drive #100, Austin, TX 78704	
Contact Person & Phone #	Dave Anderson (512) 807-2900	
Fax & Email Address	(512) 807-2917	danderson@drennergrouppc.com
Commodity Code(s)	91800	
Commodity Code(s) Description(s)	Consulting Services	
Percentage of Subcontract		2.5 %
Reason Certified Firm not used	Specific experience related to project scope	
Name of Non-Certified Subconsultant	HR&A Advisors	
Vendor Code	VS000029899	
Address/ City / State / Zip	99 Hudson Street 3rd Floor, New York, NY 10013	
Contact Person & Phone #	Candace Damon (212) 977 2706	
Fax & Email Address	N/A	cdamon@hradvisors.com
Commodity Code(s)	91875	
Commodity Code(s) Description(s)	Management Consulting	
Percentage of Subcontract	**Events/revenue/business planning	7.3 %
First-Level Subconsultant		
Reason Certified Firm not used	Specific experience related to project scope	

EXHIBIT C

Appendix A

Section V— Disclosure of Non-Certified Subconsultants
 (Duplicate as Needed)

Note:

- Fill in all the blanks (use "none" or "N/A" where appropriate).
- MBE/WBE Compliance Plans not complying with these requirements shall be rejected as non-responsive.
- Fill in names and vendor codes of each Second-Level Subconsultant, as registered with the City of Austin.

Are Goal(s) Met? Yes No If no, state reason(s) below and attach supporting documentation:

Name of Non-Certified Subconsultant	EMD Consulting Group	
Vendor Code	VS0000037461	
Address/ City / State / Zip	2315 Willow Street, Austin, TX 78702	
Contact Person & Phone #	Rick Daley (314) 301-9425	
Fax & Email Address	rdaley@emdconsulting.com	
Commodity Code(s)	91849	
Commodity Code(s) Description(s)	Finance/Economics Consulting	
Percentage of Subcontract	**Botanic Garden operations design services - per letter	1.2 %
Reason Certified Firm not used		
Name of Non-Certified Subconsultant	Kardia Advisory Group	
Vendor Code	V70000266000	
Address/ City / State / Zip	6608 Glebe Path, Austin, TX 78754	
Contact Person & Phone #	Denisha Jenkins (512) 265-6856	
Fax & Email Address		
Commodity Code(s)	541611	
Commodity Code(s) Description(s)	Administrative and General Management Consulting Services	
Percentage of Subcontract	**Diversity, equity and inclusion consulting - per letter	1.2 %
Reason Certified Firm not used		
Name of Non-Certified Subconsultant		
Vendor Code		
Address/ City / State / Zip		
Contact Person & Phone #		
Fax & Email Address		
Commodity Code(s)		
Commodity Code(s) Description(s)		
Percentage of Subcontract	%	
Reason Certified Firm not used		
Name of Non-Certified Subconsultant		
Vendor Code		
Address/ City / State / Zip		
Contact Person & Phone #		
Fax & Email Address		
Commodity Code(s)		
Commodity Code(s) Description(s)		
Percentage of Subcontract	%	
First-Level Subconsultant		
Reason Certified Firm not used		

Date: April 29, 2022

To: Claire Hempel, Design Workshop

Zilker Collective Impact Working Group Feedback regarding “Stitch” Concept

The Zilker Collective Impact Working Group (ZCIWG) represents Zilker Park nonprofits, events, and vendors operating within or adjacent to the park that have provided programming and events for diverse park users across the city for decades. Because Zilker is a metropolitan park that belongs to all Austinites, we are advocating for ecological uplift balanced with increased visitor use to create an inclusive park culture where all visitors feel welcome to experience the park’s cultural, educational, recreational, and event offerings in Zilker’s uniquely natural setting.

To date, we have sent three letters to Design Workshop offering feedback on the Vision Plan design concepts, and we have appreciated opportunities for discussions with Design Workshop through the Small Stakeholder meetings. We are writing again to offer comments specific to the “Stitch” design concept.

Given the [survey results](#) showing that the “Stitch” design received the most support from survey respondents, each of our partner group is offering their “top-priority” changes that are required to make the Stitch concept work for their organization.

Also, as stated in our previous letters, no parking should be removed from the park until there is a significant amount of adequate, convenient, affordable parking to replace it.

Common to all groups:

- Bus stops on Barton Springs Rd. should be pull-outs for loading and unloading so as not to stop the flow of traffic.
- The sunken garage should have a long driveway (similar to the Long Center's) so as not to stop traffic flow on Barton Springs Road.
- Add sidewalks along Barton Springs Road.
- As stated in previous letters and in previous meetings of the 2019 working group, no parking should be removed from the park until there is a significant amount of adequate, convenient, affordable parking to replace it.
- If there is a buried landbridge garage and an above-ground garage at Azie Morton, consider creative reuse ideas (especially for the above-ground garage), for a future time when car-dependence is decreased. Ideas might include bike parking, autonomous vehicle storage, and/or exercise features such as covered biking/running/skate ramps.

Requested modifications to the Stitch plan, per group:

Austin Parks Foundation - The Zilker Eagle train should be designed as a hop-on hop-off loop system to serve Zilker families as both a joy to ride and a circulator. Two trains should be able to be run at once, and a second depot/maintenance area should be located at the far end (Mopac side) of the park, near parking. There should be stops at attractions that children are likely to visit, such as the Austin Nature and Science Center.

Austin Sunshine Camps - The Sunshine Camp site requires adequate parking and access for use of their site, including a turnaround for delivery access. Disconnecting Columbus Drive requires further discussion.

Barton Springs Conservancy – Add a “green” structured parking garage #3 at Azie Morton (from Edges).

Friends of Austin Nature & Science Center - Opposed to any public use of Nature’s Centers Drive (including shuttle traffic). Any change to Stratford Lane must still provide safe bus access and facilitate school bus drop-off and pick up of children to the ANSC entrance. Continue to use the Boneyard for ANSC programming for summer and day camps and coordinate with other groups if needed.

Friends of Barton Springs Pool - Add/retain the recently built surface parking at Azie Morton by the south entrance (from Regenerate) for swimmer/neighborhood access to Barton Springs Pool. Add parking garage #3 (from Edges). Add a restroom to the south side of Barton Springs, as called for in the [2009 Barton Springs Master Plan](#).

Girl Scouts Zilker Cabin - Preserve primary access and use by Girl Scouts with shared maintenance/operation/restoration costs with all users. Disconnecting Columbus Drive and possible walking or vehicle alternatives require further discussion.

Hill Country Conservancy – HCC’s top priority is trail connectivity to Barton Springs Road, Butler Trail and Zilker neighborhood, which optimally would involve a new ped/bike bridge over Barton Creek. (Not sure yet how to get under/over Azie Morton safely.)

Rowing Dock - Add substantial parking to the northwest side of ZP with a parking garage in the Butler Landfill or under Mopac (Stitch plan currently shows 170 surface spaces, which is completely inadequate for the demand at that end of the park).

The Trail Foundation – Please refer to the trail-specific letter that The Trail Foundation sent to Design Workshop.

Waterloo Disc Golf Club – Keep the disc golf course in its current location (it is difficult to gauge on the Stitch plan where it would be, and we would like to discuss or provide more information). Our members, who bring discs, bags, drinks, and carts, want plenty of parking to

remain available at Zilker: prefer garages that are buried with green roof and that don't displace portions of the golf course; would like access to surface lot on Columbus Drive shown in Stitch plan.

Zilker Botanical Garden Conservancy - With proposed entrance off Stratford, limited-mobility visitors would need to be accommodated. Provide expanded parking options (from Regenerate or Edges) and a traffic light on Barton Springs Road at the new entrance.

Zilker Park Boat Rentals – ZPB would like for the parking lot nearest the boat rental to remain in its current location. It is currently used by many groups on a daily basis and should not be removed.

Zilker Theatre Productions – The proposed Stitch location for ZHT near the Landbridge site has merit but would require noise and light mitigation from Barton Springs Road. Provide parking and access for theatergoers, an all-weather loading/unloading path to stage, and a drop-off area. Mitigate flooding potential of Great Lawn; possibly add overflow parking at uplifted landfill.

We appreciate your consideration of these issues and look forward to further discussion.

Sincerely,

ABC Kite Festival
Austin Parks Foundation
Austin Sunshine Camps
Barton Springs Conservancy
Friends of the Austin Nature and Science Center
Friends of Barton Springs Pool
Girl Scouts Zilker Cabin
Hill Country Conservancy

Rowing Dock
The Trail Foundation
Trail of Lights Foundation
UMLAUF Sculpture Garden + Museum
Waterloo Disc Golf Club
Zilker Botanical Garden Conservancy
Zilker Park Boat Rentals
Zilker Theatre Productions

Date: November 23, 2022

To: Claire Hempel, Design Workshop

Zilker Collective Impact Working Group Feedback on Draft Vision Plan

The Zilker Collective Impact Working Group (ZCIWG) represents Zilker Park nonprofits, events, and vendors operating within or adjacent to the park that have provided programming and events for diverse park users across the city for decades. Our 16 organizations met on November 17, 2022, to discuss the draft Vision Plan. We applaud Design Workshop for the thousands of hours of thinking, work, discussion, and community input that went into this plan! It is truly impressive in its scope and detail.

In particular, we support and endorse the overall draft plan to create a green Land Bridge that connects the north and south portions across Barton Springs Road; to ecologically enhance over 90 acres of environmentally damaged parkland; to remove surface parking from the Polo Field and Butler Landfill parking areas and other park areas; to improve access within and to the park with an “all of the above” approach for parking, transit, trails, shuttles, and increased connections; and to create a Welcome Plaza -- all while reducing the amount of impervious cover and rehabilitating Barton Creek with controlled water access and erosion treatments. We also support and endorse the recommendation to create a unified Zilker Park nonprofit organization to partner with the City to help implement the Zilker Metropolitan Park Vision Plan.

We are writing to provide feedback in writing, ahead of our upcoming small-group stakeholder discussion on November 28. Most of our feedback relates the draft plan design outlined in Chapter 6. Following below are our areas of review and discussion thus far.

Barton Springs Pool Area, North Side

The rehabilitated Barton Springs bathhouse and Sheffield Education Center will attract more visitors, as will the new Welcome Center, Violet Crown Trailhead, Zilker Eagle train, playground, and café. Providing easy visitor access to this highly visited area will be critical.

- We would like to see a shuttle plan to move people from the parking garage to the pool area.
- We are pleased to see that the surface parking area on the north side of the pool will remain, and we would like to verify this with Design Workshop to understand how many spaces will be included and which portion reserved for ADA use. Would it be possible to reserve some surface parking on the north side for regular or senior swimmers in the morning?
- There is a mixture of opinion in our group on the idea of retaining some of the Rock Garden area parking on the bluff above the pool and current Zilker Hillside Theater area, but can you elaborate on the factors behind the decision to remove this surface parking area?

Some Zilker neighbors have said that they drive around to the north side of the pool (rather than walking to the south side) in order to access the restroom and bathhouse. We recognize that providing a restroom on the south side of the pool may be beyond the scope of this plan but wanted to make you aware of this and to remind you that the Barton Springs Pool Master Plan includes the idea of a modest bathhouse or restroom on the south side of the pool.

Barton Springs Spillway

We support the draft plan for making improvements to the banks of Barton Creek that will control erosion and provide a more sustainable approach for increasing levels of visitor access to the area. At the same time, we are concerned about potential tree removal and potential salamander habitat impacts from the improvements.

Repurposing the Quonset Hut and Caretakers Cottage into a Visitor Center is a great opportunity to provide information about the history and ecology of the park, as well as an interpretive experience looking across the creek to Sunken Garden.

Land Bridge

We welcome the idea of a Land Bridge to connect the two halves of the park across Barton Springs Road, especially by including natural or “green” landscaping as part of the bridge design. This feature integrates and orients the park visitor experience and safely connects all the park quadrants together.

- Although the Land Bridge should be ADA compliant, it should not be an overly wide concrete walkway which, though appropriate for some urban designs such as Waterloo Greenway, does not fit the natural aesthetic of Zilker Park.
- Initially we had proposed a central Visitor Center, which does not appear to be located at the Land Bridge in the draft plan. However, there is a reference to an “Info Center” at the Land Bridge (p. 127 of the draft plan). In our view, there should be some type of visitor information center in this area of high pedestrian traffic, to “meet people where they are” and provide interpretive and wayfinding park information. In addition, the Land Bridge and/or underground parking garage should be designed to allow for repurposing to provide visitor information and Welcome Center uses in the future when fewer cars are driven.

Zilker Hillside Theater

Zilker Theatre Productions supports moving the theater to the Great Lawn area. However, we have the following concerns about the draft plan as shown:

- The theater area does not show a road behind or near the theater to allow for vehicle load-in. We utilize large sets which require large trucks/trailers and large equipment.
- What is the size of the planned space? The current theater can seat 3,000+ audience members and we regularly have crowds from 1,500 - 3,500. As Austin grows, the audience size will continue to increase.

- The rendering of the theater shows a “shell” of the stage. Will this include space for storage, backstage area, dressing rooms and portable rest rooms for cast/crew/orchestra? Alternatively, would these spaces be included under the Land Bridge? And will there be space for an orchestra pit?
- We currently have ADA-accessible parking and seating, but it is not clear whether the draft plan shows ADA-accessible paths from the Land Bridge to the hillside area. Is this planned?
- We do have concerns about the road noise from Barton Springs Road and potentially from the new Sports Complex. The Land Bridge may block some of the noise, but will other noise barriers be put in place?

Girl Scout Cabin

Overall, Girl Scouts of Central Texas is pleased with how the Zilker Girl Scout Cabin concept is represented in the Zilker Vision Plan; however, the Cabin is listed in a map/section titled “Activating Existing Facilities,” which is unclear. We would appreciate greater clarification on what this means for the usage of this facility. If such specificity cannot be provided, it is recommended that the Zilker Girl Scout Cabin be removed from this classification. Following are some additional thoughts about the draft plan:

- Given the steep grading and condition of the existing road into the Zilker Girl Scout Cabin, we are encouraged by the creation of a new road behind the McBeth Recreation Center. Thought should be given to how cars that unintentionally enter this road may turn around, given that it dead-ends at the Cabin.
- Access to parking at the Zilker Girl Scout Cabin still needs to be addressed, given its remote location and current limited parking onsite at the cabin. Increased parking onsite at the Cabin should be considered.
- While the Quonset Hut and Caretakers Cottage are explicitly mentioned in several areas of the plan as the ideal locations for a Welcome Center, the Zilker Girl Scout Cabin is still listed alongside the Quonset Hut and Caretakers Cottage as potential locations in one section on page 95 of the draft plan PDF. We would appreciate greater clarification on whether the Zilker Girl Scout Cabin is being considered as a Welcome Center location.
- We are pleased with the report’s mention of the Zilker Girl Scout Cabin history, along with an increased focus on safety.

Zilker Botanical Garden and Stratford Realignment

The Vision Plan proposes that Stratford be realigned along the east side of Mopac. Currently there is a bike trail, so it’s already in a transportation use by nonmotorized vehicles. With regard to its viability as a thoroughfare for vehicular traffic, Zilker Botanical Garden Conservancy has the following concerns:

- Is there a plan for sound mitigation in Zilker Botanical Garden (ZBG)?
- How will ZBG be rehabilitated during and after the reconstruction of Stratford? We would like to see a plan for this.

- There is concern about the loss of acreage with the Stratford realignment, as well as with the Mopac expansion.
- ZBG has not been able to determine the ideal location for its new secondary entrance because more information about parking is needed. We would like to be sure that the secondary entrance actually exists and that there is sufficient parking and some sort of internal transportation to that entrance. Information is also needed about the Mopac expansion.
- ZBG membership and attendance is growing: Over 165,000 people visit ZBG annually. We intend to continue that growth, and we don't see sufficient parking and access represented in the Vision Plan draft.
- 30% of ZBG visitors are from out of town and use Uber or Lyft to get to the gardens. Safe pullouts on Barton Springs Road near the ZBG entrance are needed for rideshare drop-offs.

Sports Complex / Disc Golf Course

Our leading question is: Who or what is driving the need for a sports complex? In the "What We Heard" section of Chapter 5, there is no mention of community advocacy for a sports complex, nor do we recall seeing support for this in previous community engagement surveys. We have a number of concerns about locating a sports complex in Zilker Park:

- The sports complex encroaches on the original disc golf course and some of its oldest and best holes. On pp. 145-146 of the draft plan, it appears that an additional disc golf course area is being added between Austin Sunshine Camps and the Maintenance Facility. In actuality, however, half of the existing course is already located there.
- The additional proposed area is a hilly, wooded area with many trees that is not well-suited to disc golf and that we think should ideally remain natural and wild. There is also the potential for user conflict in that area, with rest rooms and an ASC ropes course being located nearby. We would like to better understand from Design Workshop the feasibility of this idea.
- In addition to encroaching on the disc golf course, adding pickleball, basketball, and tennis courts to the park creates more impervious cover and noise. Again, we do not know who from the public is requesting this.
- It appears that Wright Field and the Great Lawn volleyball courts would be relocated to this area. We appreciate creating space for a baseball field and volleyball courts, since those are existing uses that are being relocated from other areas. However, we do have a question about the viability of having just one baseball field.
- A possible solution might be to reduce the size of the sport court area to just encompass a baseball field and volleyball space, thereby leaving space for the original disc golf area.
- Having a sports complex would create light pollution as well as potential noise pollution for the Zilker Theater. Many communities and HOAs around the country have experienced complaints about the addition of pickleball to their public spaces.
- Where is the parking for a sports complex? Parking is already a huge issue with the existing park amenities and programs.
- Sports amenities and courts are available in many other areas of the city, and we feel that they may not be appropriate for Zilker and perhaps better suited for neighborhood/pocket parks.

Austin Nature and Science Center

Early on, we had advocated for an internal transit system that goes in and out of the ANSC—perhaps a shuttle loop that provides convenient access and connect to one or more centrally located parking garages. We continue to advocate for this idea.

Rowing Dock

Our leading question is, what is driving the desire to relocate Rowing Dock? Rowing Dock and The Trail Conservancy share the following operation concerns about moving it to the proposed location:

- Customers and boats would continually be crossing the hike-and-bike trail, creating potential collisions with trail users. The rationale for expanding the dock for Texas Rowing Center, for example, was to reduce the amount of rowing and rental traffic that crossed the hike and bike trail.
- There is significant elevation differential between site and the water's edge. This would require removing most if not all of the vegetation/trees to create an ADA-compliant ramp to the water's edge.
- The proposed garage under MoPac is intended to provide parking for ANSC, ZBG, Butler Trail, and Rowing Dock. What is the size of this garage? We are concerned that this garage can't accommodate the amount of traffic needed by those four entities, whose primary traffic falls on the weekends.
- We would like more information and a rationale for moving Rowing Dock. Is it part of an on-water transit idea?

Transportation and Parking

The three garages proposed in the draft Vision Plan are critically important to the idea of consolidating parking, accommodating visitors from across the city, and reducing impervious cover in the park.

- We support the proposal of “green” garages that could be repurposed for non-parking uses in the future when fewer cars are driven.
- We recommend including charging stations for electric vehicles in the garages and other parking areas of the park.
- We would like to see the use of electric golf carts, human-powered pedicabs, or a similar solution, to transport visitors from the parking garages to wherever they want to go in the park. In addition, we would like to see the Zilker Eagle train used as a circulator.
- Are there numbers for the parking spaces in each of the parking garages? As mentioned earlier, we are concerned that the garage under Mopac, intended to serve Austin Nature and Science Center, Zilker Botanical Garden, Rowing Dock, and access to the Butler Trail may not provide sufficient parking.

Our group has mixed feelings about “calming traffic” on Barton Springs Road by reducing lanes to one lane each way, reducing the speed limit, and having parallel parking. Because Barton Springs Road is currently a major east-west artery, these strategies could potentially create a commuting nightmare, even though we believe this park road should not be a major thoroughfare. Other planning entities will need to be involved with these decisions to ensure the best outcomes for everyone.

We support pullouts and/or parking solutions along Barton Springs Road that avoid traffic slow-downs and provide safe areas for rideshare pickups and drop-offs. For example, 30% of ZBG visitors are from out of town and utilize rideshare to get to ZBG. Currently those drop-offs are risky along Barton Springs Road, unless visitors are dropped off in the ZBG parking lot.

The proposed parking garage on Azie Morton is good for Zilker Boats and for Umlauf. We are not sure whether the ZPVP team is coordinating with the City and Transportation Department about possible paid parking near Wright Field, but this coordination needs to happen.

Solidifying a plan to make transportation and parking work five years into the future, and beyond, is an aspect of the plan that needs more thought and definition.

Finally, as stated in previous letters, we hold firmly to the idea that no parking should be removed from the park until there is a significant amount of adequate, convenient, affordable parking to replace it.

Girl Scouts Cabin and Austin Sunshine Camps Access

Girl Scouts of Central Texas is pleased with the proposed access to the cabin, and we believe it is an improvement. However, we want to make sure people are able to turn around and exit if they drive in by accident.

Austin Sunshine Camps is pleased with the new entrance road. It meets ASC needs in terms of getting buses in and turning them around. There’s also some parking and ability for parents to drop off kids with suitcases, etc.

Park Safety

On October 28, in response to recent incidents of vandalism at the Girl Scouts Cabin together with increased violent offenses and property theft in Zilker Park over the past year, this group wrote to City officials and PARD Director Kimberly McNeeley to share our concerns about these park safety incidents. We suggested a number of solutions including incorporating “safety into the Zilker Vision Plan design.”

We appreciate the discussion of lighting in the park on page 35 and would also encourage consideration of other design solutions in areas where crimes have occurred. These might include, for example, improving sight lines, creating greater visibility, and designing to encourage visitor traffic in high-risk areas. We would not want to discourage visitors from enjoying the park in the evening hours after dark while the park is still open to the public.

We appreciate your consideration of these issues and look forward to our discussion on November 28.

Sincerely,

ABC Kite Festival
Austin Parks Foundation
Austin Sunshine Camps
Barton Springs Conservancy
Friends of the Austin Nature and Science Center
Friends of Barton Springs Pool
Girl Scouts Zilker Cabin
Hill Country Conservancy

Rowing Dock
The Trail Foundation
Trail of Lights Foundation
UMLAUF Sculpture Garden + Museum
Waterloo Disc Golf Club
Zilker Botanical Garden Conservancy
Zilker Park Boat Rentals
Zilker Theatre Productions