



# COMMUNITY MEETING #4

## October 30, 2019

### Questions or Comments

If you would like clarification or have questions regarding the community process, final proposed schematics, or initial design development, please let us know.

- Slides that Laurie L Shows are too small - It's very hard to follow when she refers to this area or that area - Use larger views and point with a laser pointer to where -
- When showing a green circle for a tree, make the circle the size of the critical root zone -
- artwork AIPP Please outside the full critical root zone of any heritage tree at BSP - no digging, no driving trucks in the CRZ -

### Contact Information:

If you would like a response to your comment, please leave your information.

Michael Fossum,

→  
over

More information:

[AustinTexas.gov/BartonSpringsBathhouse](http://AustinTexas.gov/BartonSpringsBathhouse)



for AIPP artwork:  
Something that is interactive for  
children, very technological, to  
be located in the new exhibit room -

or  
a historical piece to be displayed  
at the rotunda, like a scale model  
of the pool + spring flood -



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From Zöila Vega-Marchena, Ph.D. Austin Heritage Tree Foundation  
**Questions or Comments**

If you would like clarification or have questions regarding the community process, final proposed schematics, or initial design development, please let us know.

- ① Please involve the B&P community that participated in the B&P short term projects - Gary Gregson has a distribution list that he would email notices to - We are NOT getting notices from PARD - B&P Conservancy sends notices 3 hrs before meeting - FBSP sends nothing
- ② Take extra protection for all heritage trees - The Grounds Impr. project was done like that - We, and several independent arborists, can help - Protect the full CRZ + canopy - go beyond code Be very careful with slope by leaning tree - Stay away from there, no digging, no concrete -

### Contact Information:

If you would like a response to your comment, please leave your information.

Dr. Zöila Vega-Marchena, Austin Heritage Tree Foundation,  
[Redacted]

More information:

[AustinTexas.gov/BartonSpringsBathhouse](http://AustinTexas.gov/BartonSpringsBathhouse)





Barton Springs  
Bathhouse

REHABILITATION

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Love the design, especially the opening of spaces.  
As a swimmer one addition I would like to see is outdoor showers, closer to the pool. I like to swim, rinse my hair outside & not necessarily even enter the bathhouse.

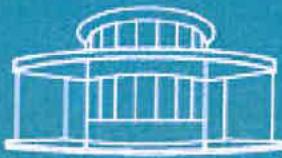
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If you would like clarification or have questions regarding the community process, final proposed schematics, or initial design development, please let us know.

Comment: Great job with the entire process, including public meetings, survey responses, and overall outcome. I'm thrilled!!!

### Contact Information:

If you would like a response to your comment, please leave your information .

Milce Cannatti

More information:

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Barton Springs  
Bathhouse  
REHABILITATION

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If you would like clarification or have questions regarding the community process, final proposed schematics, or initial design development, please let us know.

The lifeguard Shack needs to stay in the current space. The safety of the swimmers should be the number 1 goal.

### Contact Information:

If you would like a response to your comment, please leave your information .

More information:

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### Questions or Comments

If you would like clarification or have questions regarding the community process, final proposed schematics, or initial design development, please let us know.

- outdoor kiosks to prepay?
- <sup>fullsize</sup> lockers ... enough?
- cellphone / key lockers like at LA Fitness?
- site stairwell to connect upper parking lot?
- temporary facilities during construction?

### Contact Information:

If you would like a response to your comment, please leave your information.

matthew peterworth  
[REDACTED]

More information:

[AustinTexas.gov/BartonSpringsBathhouse](http://AustinTexas.gov/BartonSpringsBathhouse)





Barton Springs  
Bathhouse

REHABILITATION

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(clip boards needed for comments - no hard surface or white to write -)

### Questions or Comments

If you would like clarification or have questions regarding the community process, final proposed schematics, or initial design development, please let us know.

① Meetings - 4/3/18, 8/14/18, 10/18/18, 10/30/18 - How were these promoted? How many people attended? Were the meetings' results posted online + promoted? - Why do we have to be here to know? Web streaming by COA 2 needed. 68% well? 68% of how many peoples' input?

Today 21 attendees?

What is the annual use of BSp? # of attendees? How well have this amount of users been represented? Pool at pool?

\*② Does this design accommodate ADA compliance to better/best standards?

③ Is the 500 yr. flood plain being considered? How are considerations different from longer FP needs?

### Contact Information:

If you would like a response to your comment, please leave your information below.

Eliza Kella



④ Need covered dressing areas, please.

⑤ Tree protection in place by ponds and for entry?

\*⑥ Protection of BSp during construction of Bath house. Who will oversee this?

⑦ How will people live up to brief tickets?

⑧ Will Barton Springs road remain in use long term? over?

More information:

[AustinTexas.gov/BartonSpringsBathhouse](http://AustinTexas.gov/BartonSpringsBathhouse)



- (9) Solar showers in the dressing rooms?
- (10) How do we keep our clothes near us and dry in the dressing rooms?
- (11) Mirrors for dressing rooms? — where?
- (12) Toilets and clothes' hours in restrooms? dressing rooms?
- (13) Where do visitors go during a storm? Covered areas?
- (14) Where will people dress / use facilities during construction?
- (15) Regulatory demands  
off site water quality detection facility — where the flood plain —  
where will this be? Filter ponds — trees being kept? Safety concerns?  
How will ponds drainage affect parking lot by BSP?  
Will the ponds be destroyed?
- (16) Will the Splash exhibit be destroyed?  
Education exhibits — Will it have sponsorships? Will a P3 system  
be developed. How will you promote the Dec. 5 event re: this?  
Will
- (17) Why were no questions allowed with the whole crowd  
allowed to hear them? Hurry through because of  
Baseball game? Not acceptable — We should  
be able to ask questions as a group —  
Bad engagement.

I would prefer a response in person to  
all of the attendees. That is how  
a public meeting works.

- (18) All information from tonight needs to  
be up on website — for all to access.

Name	Comment
Dr. Zoila Vega Marchena	<p>1. Please involve the BSP community that participated in the BSP short term projects. Garey Greyon had a distribution list that he would email notices to. We are not getting notices of who PARD. BSP Conservancy sends notices 3 hrs before meeting. FBSP sends nothing. Take Extra protection for all heritage trees. THe grounds improvement project was done like that. We, And several independent artists can help. Protect the full CRZ and canopy. Go beyond code. Be very careful with slope by leaning tree. Stay away from there. No digging, no concrete.</p>
Michael Fossum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Slides that Laurie shows are too small. Its very hard to follow when she refers to this area or that area. Use Layer views and point with a laser pointer to where.</li> <li>• When showing a green circle for a tree make the circle the size of the critical root zone.</li> <li>• Artwork AIPP please outside the full critical root zone and any heritage tree of BSP no digging, no driving trucks on the CRZ</li> <li>• For AIPP artwork : Something interactive for children, very technological, to be located in the new exhibit room, or a historical piece to be displayed at the rotunda like a scale model of the root and spring flow.</li> </ul>
	<p>Love the design, especially the opening of spaces. As a swimmer, one addition. I would like to see outdoor showers closer to the pool. I like to swim and rinse my hair outside and not necessairily even under the bathhouse.</p>
Mike Cannotti	Great job with the entire process, including public meetings, survey responses and overall outcome. I'm thrilled!

The lifeguard shack needs to stay in the current space. The safety of the swimmers should be the number 1 goal.

Matthew Peterworth

- Outdoor kiosks to prepay?
- Fullsize lockers enough?
- Cellphone/ key lockers like at LA fitness?
- Site stairwell to connect upper parking lot?
- Temporary Facilities during construction?

Eileen Kella

- ❶ .Meetings- 4/3/18, 8/14/18, 10/18/18, 10/30/18 how were they promoted?
- ❷ How many people attended? Were the meetings' results posted online and promoted. Why do we have to be here to know? Web-streaming by COA? 68%? 68% of how many people's input? Today 21 attendees What's the annual use of BSP? How well have these users been represented? Polls at pool?
- ❸ Does this design accommodate ADA Compliance to better? Best standards?
- ❹ Is the 500 year flood plain considered? How are considerations different from 100 yr FP needs?
- ❺ Covered dressing areas, please.
- ❻ Tree protection in place by ponds and for entry?
- ❼ Protection of BSP during construction of Bath House? Who will oversee this?
- ❽ How many people line up to buy tickets?
- ❾ Will Barton Springs road remain in use by cars?
- ❿ Solar showers in the dressing rooms
- ❾ How do we keep our clothes near us and dry in the dressing rooms?
- ❿ Mirrors in the dressing room? Where?
- ❿ Towels and clothes in the restrooms? Dressing rooms?
- ❿ Where do visitors go during a storm> covered area?
- ❿ Where will people dress/ use facilities during construction?
- ❿ Regulating Demands. Off-site water quality detection facility, above the floodplain where will this be? Zilker ponds- trees being kept? Safety concerns? How will pond drainage affect parking lot by BSP? Will the ponds be destroyed?
- ❿ Will the splash exhibit be destroyed? Education Exhibit- will it have sponsorships? Will a P# system be developed? How will you promote the DEC. 5th event?
- ❿ Why no questions allowed with the whole crowd? Hurry through because of the baseball game? Not acceptable. We should be able to ask questions as a group. Bad engagement. I would prefer a response in person to all of the attendees.. That is how a public meeting works.
- ❿ All information from tonight needs to be on website for us all to access.

**From:** Karen Kreps  
**To:** [Bartonsprings-YahooGroups Com](#)  
**Cc:** [Altamirano, Sergio](#); [Schneider, Justin](#)  
**Subject:** Comments on Barton Springs Bathhouse Community Meeting #4  
**Date:** Thursday, October 31, 2019 10:21:05 AM

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\*\*\* External Email - Exercise Caution \*\*\*

On a cold and damp night, I dragged myself out to this public meeting reluctantly. There were about twenty-five people present: City staff, special interest groups like Friends of BSP, and a handful of regular, year-round swimmers, of which I am one. It was out of a sense of public duty that I attended, to understand what would happen to the place I love visiting daily.

My impression is that, despite its main announced purpose, this meeting was **intentionally managed to discourage community engagement**. A 45-minute presentation was given by the architect of the plan, and no time was allowed for public questions or comments. Instead, the public was invited to view the design boards at the back of the room, which were very hard to interpret, and to ask questions of the team one-to-one.

We were handed an agenda and another piece of paper for questions of comments that stated: “If you would like clarification or have questions regarding the community process, final proposed schematics, or initial design development, please let us know.”

*This email is intended to submit my comments (highlighted with **bold**) and questions (questions are bulleted).* It was difficult to listen to the presentation and to write legible comments by hand, without any clip board or solid surface.

**Most offensive:** We were not permitted to hear other people’s questions and comments in the Community Engagement Meeting. When I ask why of Justin C. Schneider, the Community Engagement Specialist, [justin.schneider@austintexas.gov](mailto:justin.schneider@austintexas.gov), he said they wanted to make people who come to the meeting as comfortable as possible and they had gotten feedback from the community *that public discuss made them uncomfortable and that they preferred one-on-one discussion!* Several of the regular patrons of the pool joined me in grumbling about the “divide and conquer” approach, how at no time was public discussion offered nor the opportunity for anyone who would be uncomfortable about it invited to leave the meeting.

On the **City’s of Austin’s website** about this project, I was pleased and surprised to see so much information. <http://austintexas.gov/bartonspringsbathhouse> But I looked at the comments collected from past meetings and did not recognize any of the critical comments that I had made nor that other regular swimmers whom I knew had made. Nor did I find any form for public comment, only an email to another public information officer who was also at the meeting, [sergio.altamirano@austintexas.gov](mailto:sergio.altamirano@austintexas.gov). Justin Schneider did agree to add an online public forum to the links on this page so that anyone who wants to comment about the project and have their comments seen could do so. I thank him for that and look forward to seeing an announcement about this new online forum. Neither of the two Community Engagement Specialists were aware of or subscribed to the [bartonsprings@yahoogroups.com](mailto:bartonsprings@yahoogroups.com) list, so I just invited them both to subscribe if they really wanted to engage with the community. I explained to Justin how the list has been active since 1995, with about 400 subscribers at all times and how, with a [yahoo.com](http://yahoo.com) account, he could search an archive of past comments about the

bathhouse.

We listened to Laurie Limbacher give a presentation that was difficult to see on the small screen. In it, she attempted to justify an answer to the question I hear from many patrons: Why must this project be done in the first place? It was good to find it online on [http://austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/Parks/Planning\\_and\\_Development/BSBH\\_Community\\_Meeting\\_Presentation\\_1.pdf](http://austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/Parks/Planning_and_Development/BSBH_Community_Meeting_Presentation_1.pdf) But without her commentary viewable in the presentation notes, **the slides are very difficult to understand.** Even having heard her deliver her comments, I found them very confusing. It left me with these many questions:

With new additional entries at the Rotunda and the West gate,

- Will the current entrance on the East side of the building ALWAYS be open during regular operational hours?
- Will it be ADA accessible, when you get rid of the ramp and drop the viewing deck to its lower level?
- What is the advantage of removing the shade cover from that entrance?

In the dressing rooms:

- Where can you keep dry belongings?
- Will /where there be lockers?
- Will there be hooks for hanging clothes and towels. These are not found much at Deep Eddy.
- Where are the mirrors, trash receptacles, electric plugs? IF the only showers will be on the exterior north wall, will you have to walk around the entire block of showers to get to the benches to get dressed? **That's a long walk.**
- If some people found the dressing areas in back creepy, why would they feel that showers back there would be less creepy?
- When the tickets will be purchased inside the rotunda, will you have to separate by gender to enter through to the pool?
- Will you have to go through air conditioning? How will that AC be managed when there are long, constant lines. **I don't want to be exposed to AC when going to the pool.**
- How many more staff will be needed to run attendance through the rotunda?
- Will the limestone wall be at all changed/affected by having lifeguard offices that look out over the pool from the east end of the lady's dressing room?
- How will the current toilets be reconfigured? The 3 small ones in the main toilet area are **terribly tight.** And the private ADA bathroom has **not had a proper way to lift the door stop and close the door** since it was built.

Since I don't see my comments in the archive of past comments, I will again submit that the architects **Godfrey & Limbaugh, who designed the WORST bathhouse at Deep Eddy, that most women hate, should never have been involved again in this project.** The project is WAY over spec'd and will be terribly disruptive to public use of the pool.

Nothing was said about how long the facilities would be under construction and what temporary alternatives would be offered—and if they would be ADA compliant?

- Will there be hot showers? Any showers? How much parking will be lost during the

construction period?

- Why is there always some big construction project going on at the pool?
- Why is \$6 million being spent on this project when—according to a staffer who was at the meeting—the pool has been without any soap in the restrooms for the past few weeks because “it was not in the budget”?

**It is a terrible waste to destroy the Splash! exhibit.** It should not be moved. It is one of the most under-promoted features of a visit to the pool. Very often, I’ll meet tourists who have no idea it is there or that they can visit it for free. Everyone I tell about it is happy to know and often will visit. Just because the exhibit is a little old, does not mean it should be replaced. It is as charming and as informative as ever!

- Isn’t the bathhouse in the flood plane? How can we even consider a year-long + construction project?

I hope these comments will encourage other regular users of the pool and the bathhouse to review the plans and to leave their comments and questions both in reply on this email list AND on the forum that the Community Information Specialist *promised to set up* on the city’s website. If/when I learn it is there, I will use this list to share the news.

Best regards,

KK

Karen Kreps  
Net Ingenuity

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[www.netingenuity.com](http://www.netingenuity.com)

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