

# Little Walnut Creek Greenbelt

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EAST AUSTIN'S NEXT GREAT PARK



# Overview

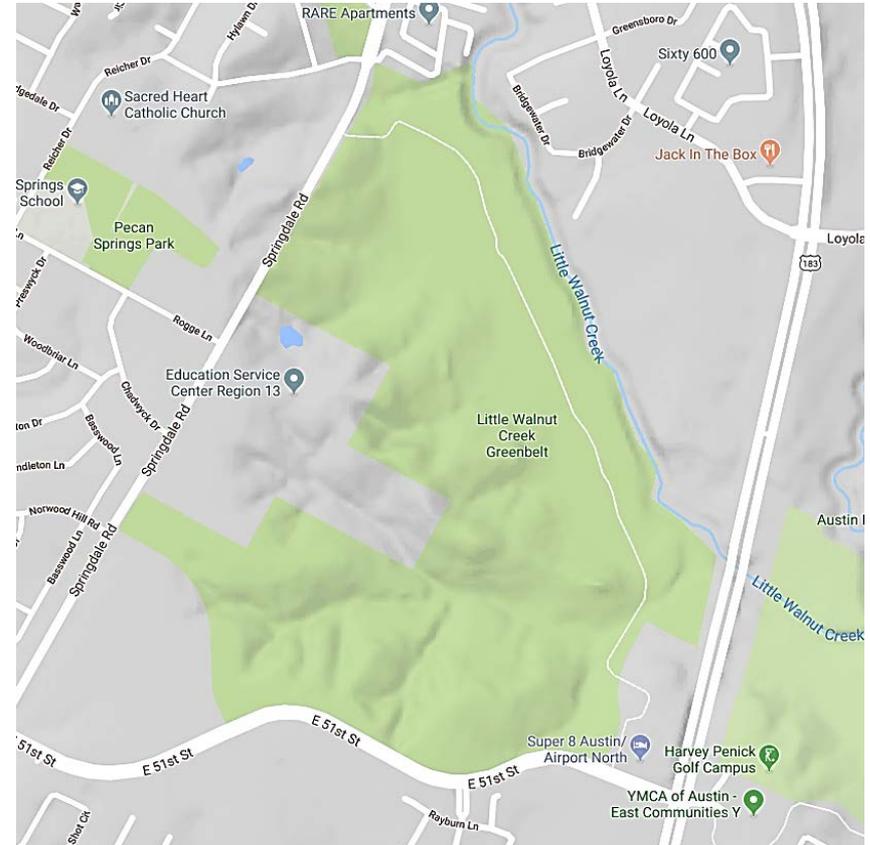
Little Walnut Creek Greenbelt is a 206-acre city-owned tract off of 51st Street and US-183 in East Austin.

Area is largely wooded and has a number of steep ravines and hillsides.

A utility service road crosses the property from north to south.

The park has over 4 miles of informal trails.

No major improvements have been made to the Greenbelt.





*steep hillsides*



*natural and undeveloped*



*panoramic views*



*user-generated trails*

# Mission

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Increase the awareness of the Little Walnut Creek Greenbelt, engage the Greenbelt's potential users, and develop a master plan that details which improvements will increase access and use of the Greenbelt.



# Process

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## **February**

Roll Out Survey

First Public Meeting: Feb 25

## **April**

Second Public Meeting: Apr 3

## **May-August**

Asakura Robinson Develops Park Plan

## **September-November**

Third Public Meeting and Final Adjustments to Plan

Formal Approval Process

# Feedback

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## **Amenities:**

- Soft-surface trails
- Parking and accessibility
- Trail markers and wayfinding

## **Development priorities:**

- Preserving natural feel
- Improving trails
- Increasing area connectivity



# **LITTLE WALNUT CREEK GREENBELT**

## **Community Master Plan**

### **Concepts**

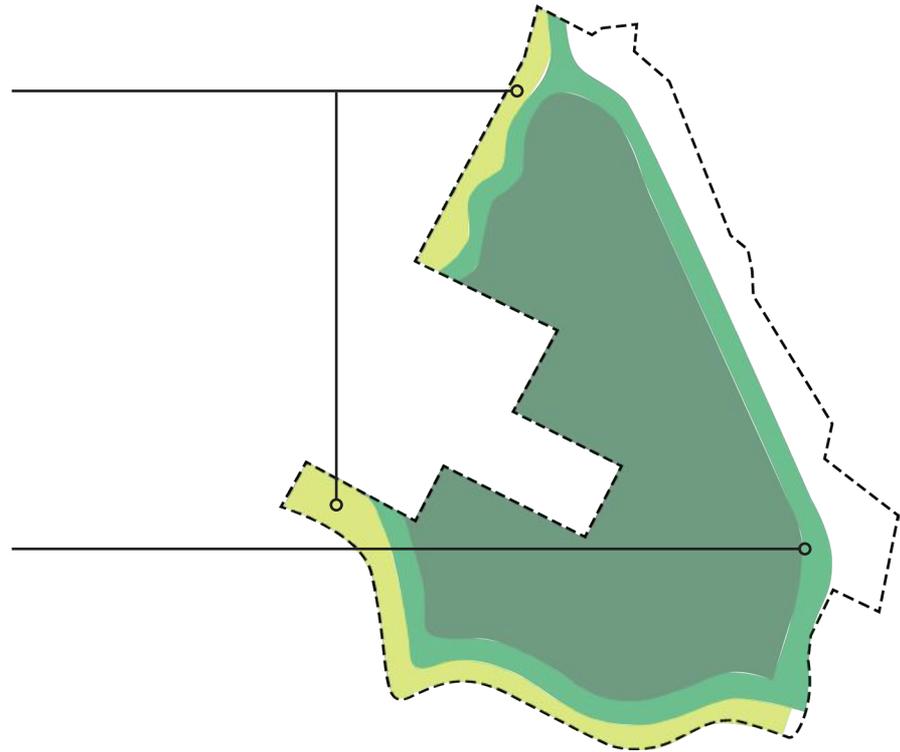
# 1 | Create Active Edge and Entrances

## Active Edge

The active edge is the most activated greenbelt zone and will contain most of the programming projects identified in Concept 4.

## Passive Edge

The passive area offers a transition to the environmentally sensitive areas to the center of the park. It will include unpaved trail systems and light amenities.



# 2 | Organize Trails by Use and Develop Internal Wayfinding

Image: Fairfax County



## Cycle Track

These tracks would be exclusively for bicyclist use and should be 12-16 feet

Image: York Region



## Shared-use Path

These trails would serve dual use for walking and bicycling and should be a

Image: Permatrak



## Recreation Path

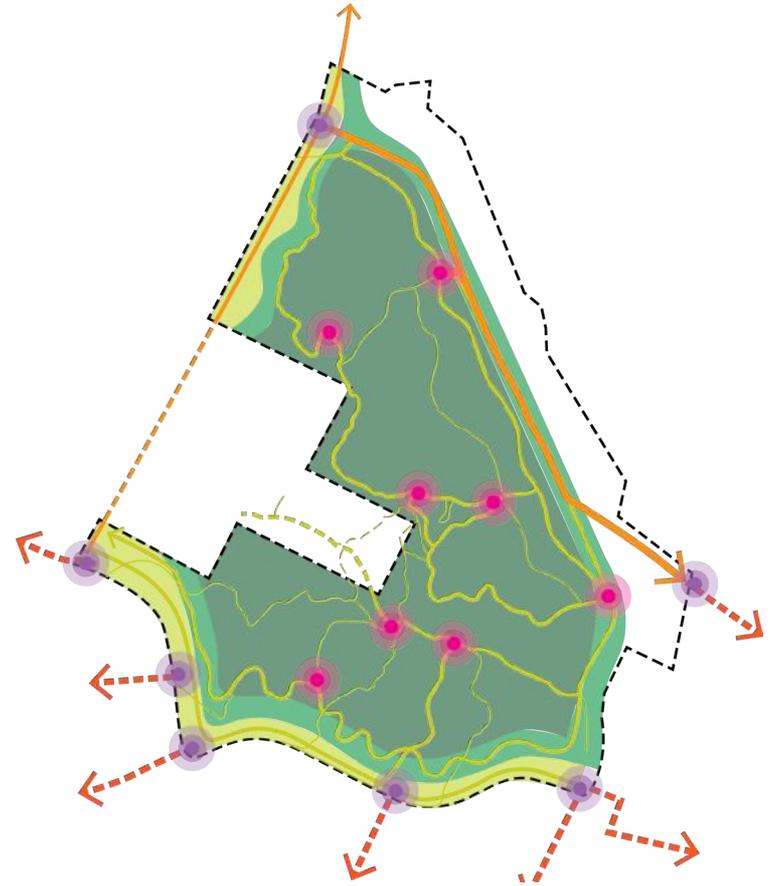
These paths should be installed only in relatively flat areas and would be used for walking, jogging, running, and bicycling.

Image: Trip Advisor



## Nature Paths

Areas of limited foot traffic, particularly in steep slope areas, would be characterized as nature trails.



# 3 | Create Forest Stewardship Plan

In many areas of the greenbelt, native species are being crowded by invasive species

Common invasives are Ligustrum (Ligustrum japonicum) and Prickly Pear Cactus (Opuntia spp.).

An Invasive Species Removal Plan may be considered to direct and prioritize future stewardship and forest management.

Volunteer stewardship can help maintain and restore ecosystem health.

Image: Asakura Robinson



## Prickly Pear Cactus

Prickly Pear Cactus should be selectively removed from the site where it has become invasive.

Image: Gardening Know How



## Ligustrum

v, or Privet, should be eliminated from the site via cutting and the application of herbicide.



## Volunteer Stewardship

Volunteers can play an integral part of forest stewardship by helping to remove invasive species and planting native plants throughout the greenbelt.

# 4 | Incorporate Programming for Community Use



Image: Immo Park



**Prickly Pear Cactus**

Image: City of Columbia



**Trail Amenities**

Image: Chronogram



**Dog Park**

Image: Waukesha County



**Picnic Pavilion**

Image: Lake Flato



**Outdoor Classrooms**

Image: Site Design Group



**Nature Play**

# 5 | Formalize Parking and Active Transportation

Image: Tahoe Flats



**Bike Parking**

Image: Setterplay



**Covered Bike Areas**

Image: Cornell University



**Green Infrastructure in Parking Lots**

Image: USDA



**Amenities at Trailheads**

