Little Walnut Creek Greenbelt

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

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

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

Amenities:

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

Development priorities:

• Preserving natural feel
• Improving trails
• Increasing area connectivity
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.
Organize Trails by Use and Develop Internal Wayfinding

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

**Shared-use Path**
These trails would serve dual use for walking and bicycling and should be a

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

**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.

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

- Prickly Pear Cactus
- Trail Amenities
- Dog Park
- Picnic Pavilion
- Outdoor Classrooms
- Nature Play
5 | Formalize Parking and Active Transportation

- Bike Parking
- Covered Bike Areas
- Green Infrastructure in Parking Lots
- Amenities at Trailheads