



GOVALLE NEIGHBORHOOD PARK POOL IMPROVEMENTS

CLMP164 2015 Landscape Architecture Rotation List PA150000028

Public Meeting 2 Summary

Prepared by Asakura Robinson
June 2016



Introduction

Following the initial public meeting in January, the project team held the second public meeting for Govalle Neighborhood Park Pool Improvements on April 14th from 6:30-8:00pm, which was advertised through the distribution of flyers, yard signs at Govalle Park, announcements through the NextDoor app, and personal email invitations to attendees of the first public meeting. Five community members attended and participated in group discussion and one-on-one talks with project team members.

The meeting was attended by members of the consultant team, City of Austin Public Works Department, Parks & Recreation Department and Public Information Office, PARD Aquatics Division, Art in Public Places and representatives from MobilityTalks survey team.



GOVALLE POOL IMPROVEMENTS
ALBERCA DEL PARQUE GOVALLE
COMMUNITY WORKSHOP / TALLER DE LA COMUNIDAD

THURSDAY / JUEVES
April/Abril 14, 2016
6:30 - 8:00 PM

Parque Zaragoza Center
2608 Gonzales Street



Join us for the second community workshop to see design concepts and share your ideas for your new neighborhood pool. **#swimgoalle2016**

Únase con nosotros para el segundo taller comunitario para conocer conceptos del diseño y compartir sus ideas para su nueva piscina comunitaria. **#swimgoalle2016**

Meeting Place Punto de Reunión:
PARQUE ZARAGOZA CENTER

Project Area Área del Proyecto:
GOVALLE POOL / ALBERCA



www.austintexas.gov/department/govalle-pool-improvements
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Presentation

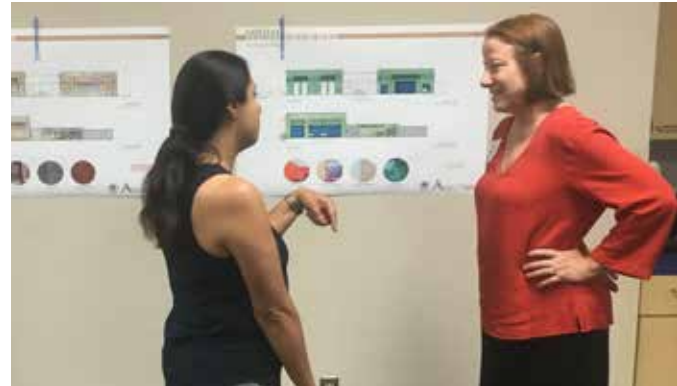
Asakura Robinson began the meeting with a presentation describing the project goals, the findings from the activities at the first public meeting, and how that has led to the current design concept. Attendees were invited to give feedback on the proposed design, the site plan arrangement, what materials would be used, and how art could be incorporated into the design through the Art in Public Places program with the City of Austin.

The presentation highlighted key points of community feedback from the first public input meeting and how they are reflected in the proposed plan:

1. Participants want **large pool areas**, which includes a large recreational pool with activities for kids of various ages.
2. More **seating and shaded area** is needed for parents watching their kids in all the pool areas.
3. Bathrooms **visible and close to pool area** and playground are important for safety.
4. There is interest in a **shower facility outside the pool enclosure** for cyclists, kids.
5. Participants voiced concern about **safe access for pedestrians** to the park and pool, including train track crossing and missing sidewalks.

Design preferences include the following:

1. Users want to see **variety of play amenities** for activity pool.
2. Open space preferences are grassy areas for relaxing and landscaped shaded areas.
3. A high value was placed on shade trees and solar panels used as shade devices.
4. Favorite materials include colorful tiles incorporated into building and pool area design.
5. Users generally preferred overhead lighting fixtures and grow walls or ornamental iron fencing.
6. Sustainable design is important

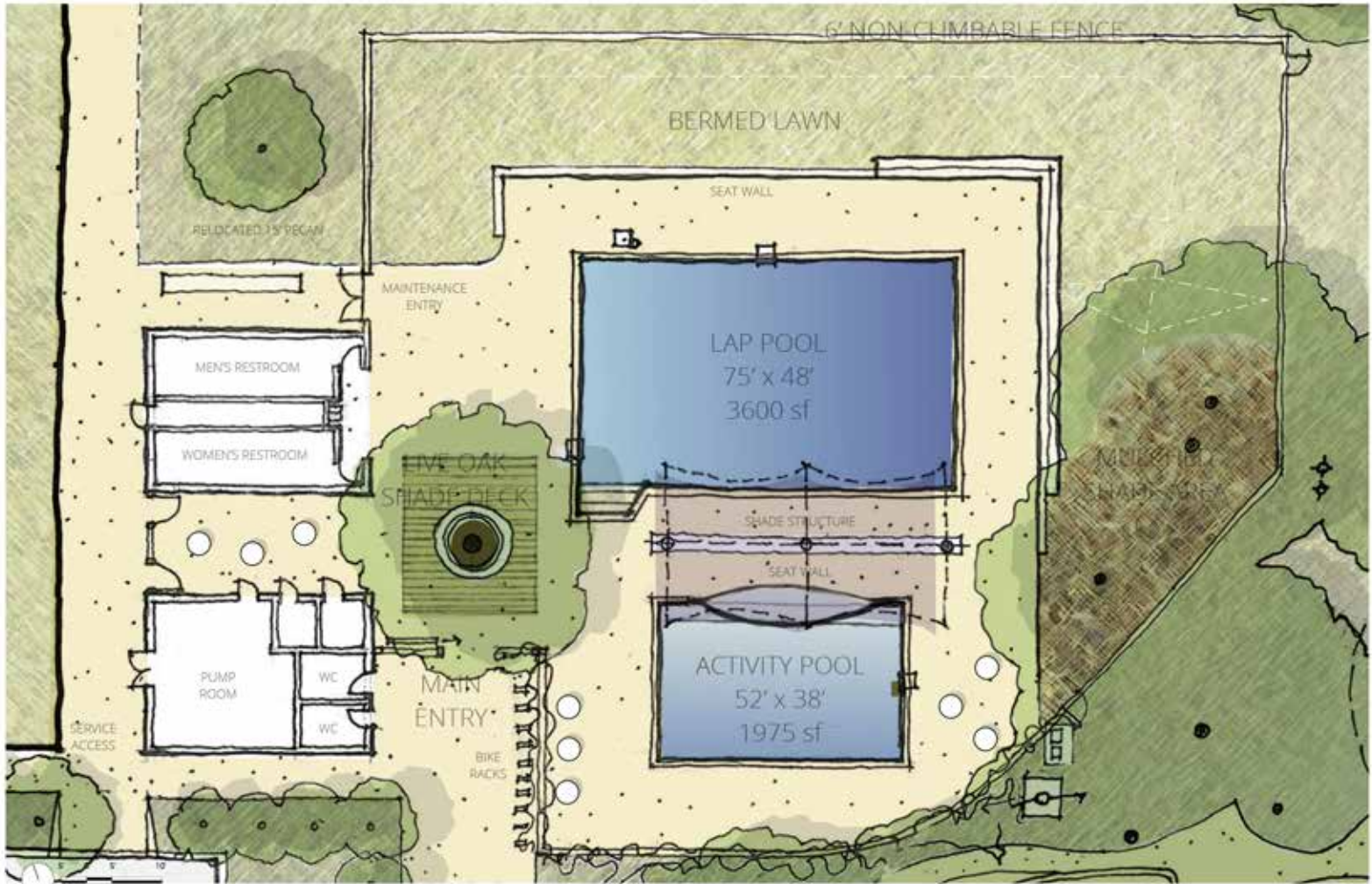


Preferred Concept

Pool Area & Program

The proposed Neighborhood Pool design has a larger footprint than the pool area that exists today and is designed with the long-term plans on the park in mind, including access from Shady Lane and the potential future development of a recreation center to the west of the pool.

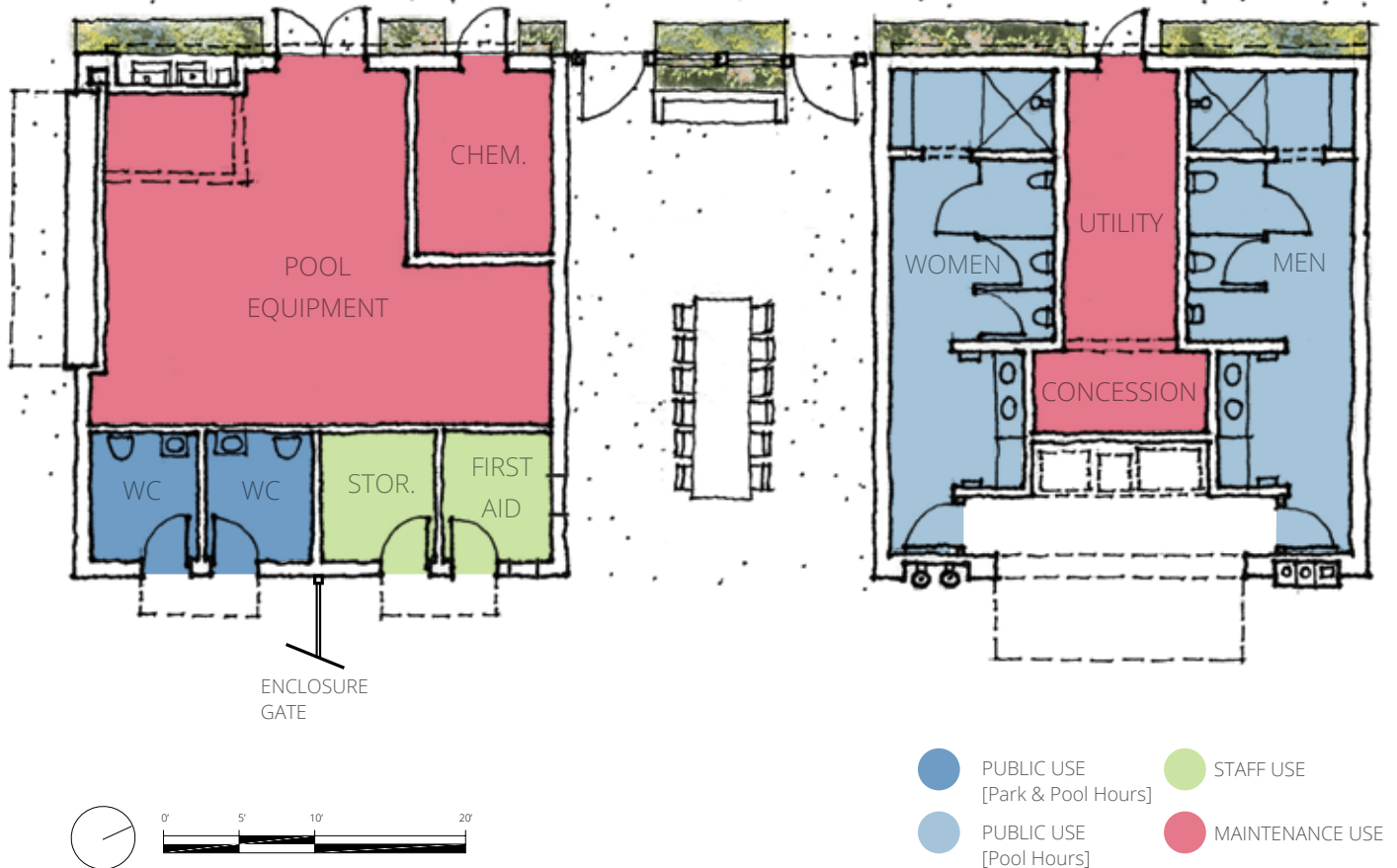
The two proposed pools include a 3600 sf lap/recreational pool to the north and a 1975 sf activity pool to the south, which is zero-entry and includes play features such as bubblers. The entire pool area, including the lawn, pools and pathway from Bolm Road, will full fully accessible. A shade structure and bench seat will provide separation and seating between the pools. The deck area is partially lined by a bench wall with bermed lawn open space along the perimeter of the fenced pool area, which benefits from the shade of existing trees. An existing 30" live oak tree would be maintained and featured as the central focal point of the pool area. Bike racks line the entrance wall. A service access on the west edge of the pool area allows utility access to the pump room and other facilities.



Public Comments:

There were few comments about the proposed pools and deck areas. One participant was concerned about the life expectancy of the central oak tree. She warned that it would be lost in 20 years, and that a tree planting program should be put in place. There was also a discussion of whether the pools would be salt water or chlorine. An additional recommendation was that a water bottle filling station should be provided at the pool house, perhaps outside of the gate.

Some community members were concerned about existing access to the park. The bridge along Airport Boulevard is thought to be dangerous for pedestrians and bicyclists and requires redesign to improve the accessibility of Govalle Park for people who live on the other side of the railroad tracks. Likewise, there is concern about the safety of children crossing the tracks to get to the pool.



Pool House Floor Plan

The proposed pool house has two buildings around a dogtrot courtyard. The building on the south (left) is predominantly for maintenance with two unisex restrooms outside of the pool enclosure which are accessible to park users during park hours even when the pool is closed. The building to the north (right) has men’s and women’s restrooms with entrances facing the pool, which improves visibility. The center of the building provides utility space, with a potential future concession area facing the pool. The shaded central courtyard between the two buildings may feature tables and seating.

Public Comments:

Community members discussed options for entrances to the restrooms. One idea was to position the entrances from courtyard to help activate that interior space, however, others agreed that visibility of children is better with the entrances facing the pool area.



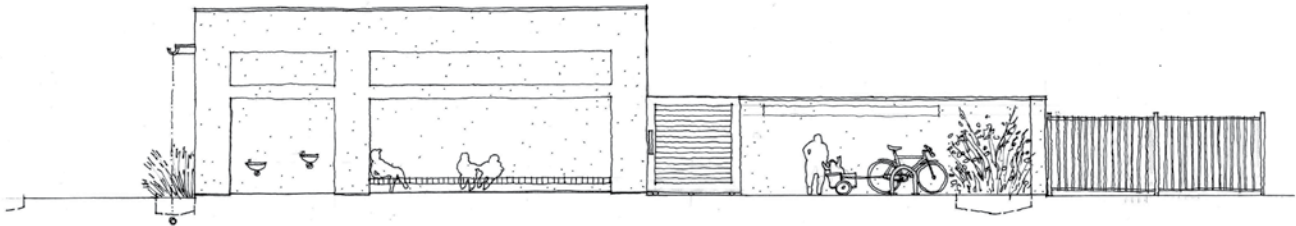
Bird's Eye View

The sketch model above indicates the general massing and positions of buildings and shade structures relative to the pool areas. A shade canopy stretches between the two buildings over a dogtrot courtyard and a second shade structure covers a seat wall between the two pools.

Pool House Proposed Design



EAST ELEVATION (View from pool area)



SOUTH ELEVATION (View from Bolm Road)

Pool House Elevation

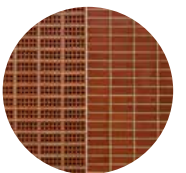
The project team showed proposed elevations indicating the building design options. Four separate material schemes were offered to meeting participants.

Public Comments:

One participant was curious how light and air would enter the buildings. Moving forward, the design team will explore how light and air can be sufficiently accommodated in the building. Community members also shared ideas for materials and the landscaping around the building, including the following:

- The use of low-maintenance plants like cacti
- A building around which people may congregate with wood, tiles, plants, and a fountain
- The building should have "softness" in materials
- Plants should be incorporated near the entrance
- Desire for rainwater collection from the building
- Winterize the building for year-round use
- The use of plants as art with the building

Pool House Exterior Finishes

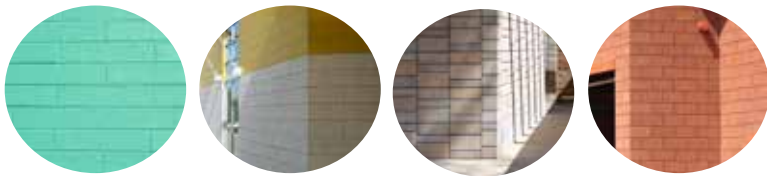
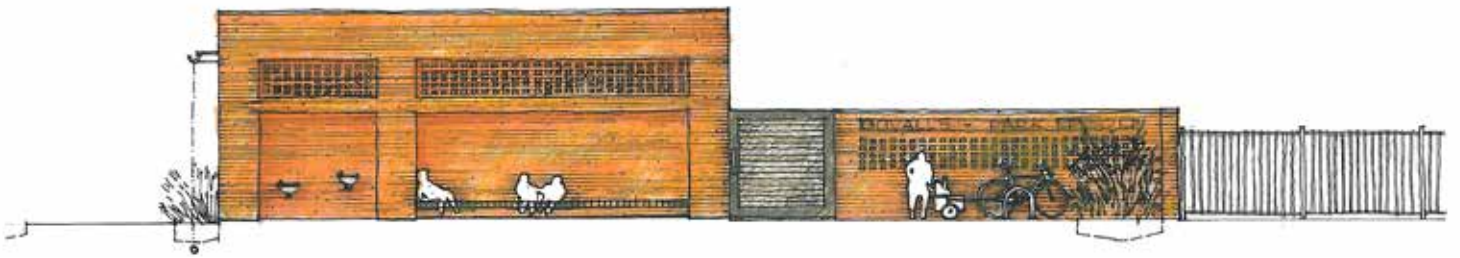
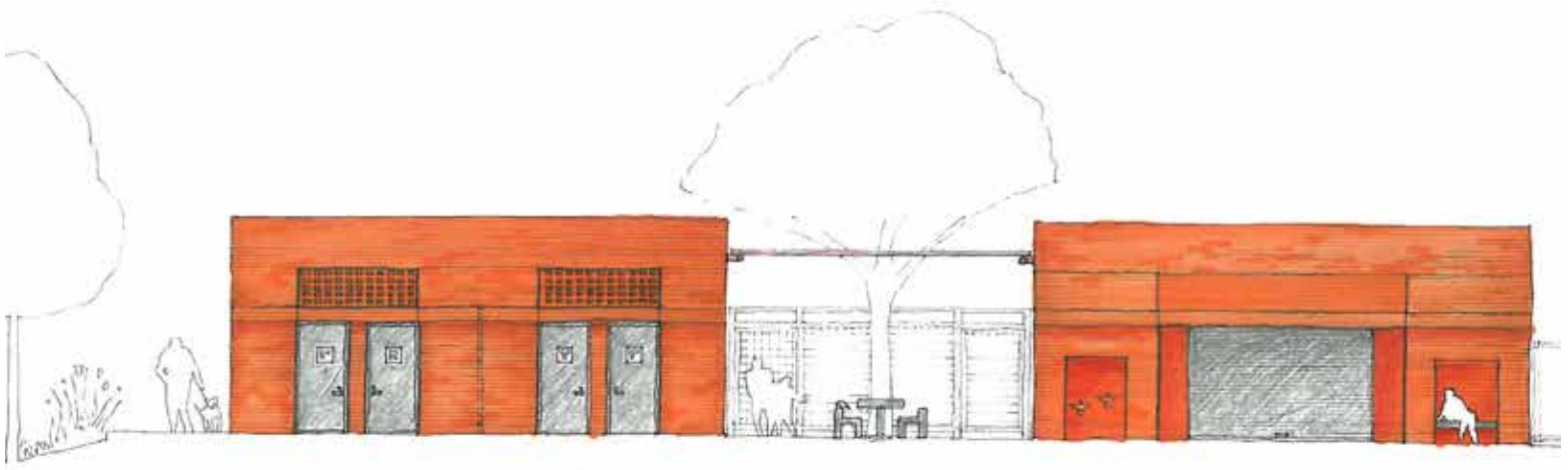


Tan Brick
Brick Brise-Soleil
Thin Brick
Contemporary Brick

Pool House Exterior Finishes: Brick

The use of bricks could incorporate different colors and patterns, which would also allow for ventilation in the form of brick brise-soleils. Load-bearing double wythe brick offers many options for “earthy” look that avoids institutional feel, although this construction type is the most expensive of the four options.

There was no specific stakeholder feedback on this board.



Painted Brick
 Structural Glazed Brick
 Decorative Masonry Unit
 Structural Clay Tile

Pool House Exterior Finishes: Brick and Tile

Painted brick, fire brick and masonry units provide a greater range of visual styles and less-expensive building material options.

Stakeholders felt the painted brick looked too “institutional” and commented that mosaic tile (and a water feature) would be a nice addition to “soften” the feel of this scheme.

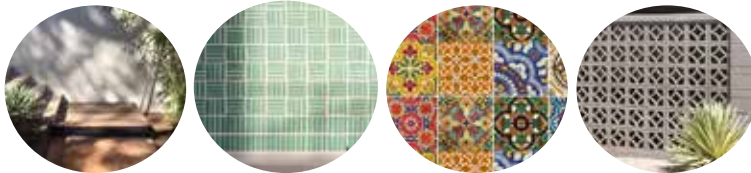


Painted Stucco
 Stucco with Painted Metal
 Stucco & Pattern Block
 Stained Stucco

Pool House Exterior Finishes: Stucco

Stucco finishes may be painted to achieve a desired effect, such a warm, cool, soft or bold colors; and may be combined with other materials like brick patterns. Applied over simple concrete masonry unit (CMU) construction, this option is also comparatively cost-effective.

Stakeholders recommended softening the public areas of the scheme with inclusion of plants and wood highlights on the buildings. The pattern block and stained stucco were both preferred.



Stucco with Brick
 Pattern Tile
 Decorative Tile
 Pattern Cement Block

Pool House Exterior Finishes: Stucco, Tile and Brick

Elements of the pool house can be accentuated with dual materials, in this case a combination of white stucco with non-bearing brick facades or tile.

Stakeholders enjoyed the potential of the tiles for building highlights in the seating alcove, preferring the pattern tile, “festive” decorative tile and the “old school” pattern cement block.

Art is Public Places (AIPP)

At the first public meeting, City of Austin Art in Public Places solicited feedback on the installation for the project. Stakeholders offered interest in the art being functional, speaking to the history of the park and pool, being integrated with showers and/or the theme of water, and being interactive for children.

Participants at the second public meeting built on those ideas, and suggesting the following ideas:

- Something that speaks to the importance of water and water conservation
- Magic of water
- Water catching system for art
- Storytelling tiles in the flooring, similar to those at the airport
- History of Govalle
- Incorporate "Austin" things into the art
- Artistic gate
- Meeting place: "meet me at the ____"
- Art should be a place where kids wait
- A place where people can be "in" the art



Open Room Austin, Sand Beach Park

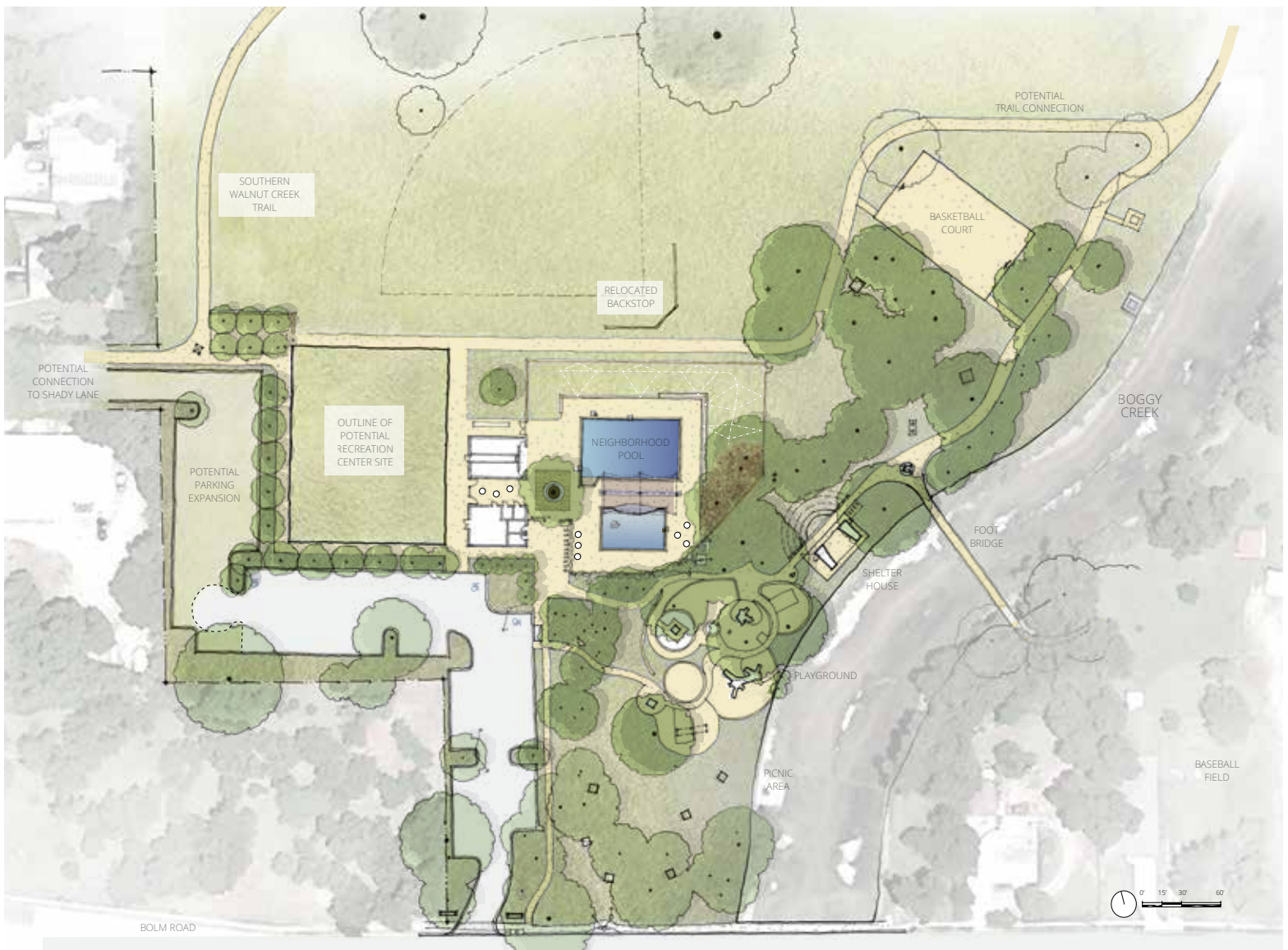


Trail of Tejano Legends: Tenderly
Ann and Roy Butler Hike and Bike Trail



Community Screens: Charms
Northwest Recreation Center

Future Planning Concepts



Conceptual Master Plan

The project team has considered the possibility of future master planning at Govalle Park as a reference for the preferred concept. The master planning exercise shown here and shared with attendees indicates an area suitable for the placement of a potential future recreation center, although such project is unfunded and not part of the project scope. Additional trails and accessible routes could be considered in future efforts, as well as the potential parking expansion and trail and street access to Shady Lane.

Continued Engagement

The City of Austin is designing a
La Ciudad de Austin está diseñando una

NEW **ACTIVITY & RECREATION /LAP POOL** at **NUEVA ALBERCA de NADAR y ACTIVIDADES** a

GOVALLE PARK

recreation/lap pool ● activity pool ● restrooms ● shaded deck
 piscina de natación ● piscina de actividades ● baños ● cubierta de sombra

What do you like about the proposed design with bathhouse building? How would you improve it? Share your thoughts on the comment cards below.

Que le gusta acerca del diseño propuesto de la piscina y edificios de baños? Como se puede mejorar? Favor de compartir su opinion acerca del diseño en las tarjetas de comentarios siguientes.

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Following the public meeting, the information boards were posted at Parque Zaragoza, where daily visitors will be able to learn about the project and have an opportunity to leave comments on provided cards.

The consultant team did not receive any written feedback on the boards but estimate that the boards were seen by many additional stakeholders visiting the Parque Zaragoza.

The consultant team also delivered an abridged version of the Public Input Meeting #2 presentation to the Springdale-Airport Neighborhood Association at their regular meeting on April 26th, 2016.



All information and Public Input Reports are posted online, allowing people to stay updated on the progress of the project, even if they can not make it to the public meetings: <https://austintexas.gov/department/govalle-pool-improvements>

For additional information, contact:

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