

## Vision

### The Public Parks at The Grove at Shoal Creek are....

- ~~An urban oasis~~ A refuge from the urban environment anchored by majestic live oaks, diverse natural habitat, and Shoal Creek.
- Active vibrant parks that serve the needs of the surrounding neighborhoods, new and old, and all Austinites
- Open spaces that ~~feel integral and indispensable~~ integrate with ~~to~~ the fabric of ~~Austin~~ Shoal Creek and the surrounding neighborhoods.

## Goals

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### ~~Urban Oasis~~ Refuge

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Preserve, protect and enhance the natural character and distinct natural features of the site.

Strategies:

- Preserve heritage trees
  - Provide a buffer for Shoal Creek's riparian edge
  - Minimize impacts on Shoal Creek's erosion hazard zone
  - Protect and buffer the site's unique wetland
  - Use vegetation that supports urban wildlife (i.e. birds, bees and butterflies)
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Provide opportunities for exploration, escape, and connection with nature.

Strategies:

- Provide a network of trails, large and small, hard and soft, throughout the site
  - Welcome pets while protecting the environment and experience of other park users
  - Create opportunities for children to interact with nature through play
  - Welcome exploration of the site's more natural areas
  - Distribute passive uses throughout the site
  - Design the wet pond to support wildlife and invite interaction
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Celebrate the site's unique geology and ecology.

Strategies:

- Design the wet pond to enhance and recharge the wetland
  - Provide educational materials regarding the unique relationship between the wet pond, wetland, and creek
  - Create creek overlooks and wildlife watching locations
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### Active, vibrant park

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Provide opportunities for active recreation for all ages and abilities.

Strategies:

- Create imaginative play environments for children of all ages
- Distribute multi-generational spaces across the site
- Encourage structured and unstructured fitness activities
- Provide walking loops
- Create wide, level open lawns for unstructured recreation where feasible
- Design spaces and signage to emphasize pedestrian and bicycle safety

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Ensure infrastructure is sufficient to accommodate anticipated use.

Strategies:

- Welcome and accommodate pets in the parks by integrating pet comfort stations
- Accommodate sufficient parking off-site
- Build trails and pathways to accommodate regular use and expected traffic
- Provide ample bicycle parking
- Provide ample waste collection and regular maintenance

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Create a vibrant complimentary interface with the adjacent urban district.

Strategies:

- Accommodate many active uses outside the public park area in the adjacent urban plaza
- Blur the lines between public and private realm to ensure that the adjacent plazas and private parkland feel like an extension of the public park
- Encourage park-compatible uses on adjacent private land including restaurants, food stands, splash play features, public restrooms, farmer's markets, etc.

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Develop programming and amenities that build community.

Strategies:

- Accommodate larger events and community programs
- Provide places for small events and gatherings
- Create ample shaded seating and picnic areas
- Encourage community stewardship of site's natural resources

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## Fabric of Austin

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Build a critical link and destination in Austin's Shoal Creek Trail system.

Strategies:

- Build the Shoal Creek Trail through the parks from Jefferson Street to the corner of 45<sup>th</sup> and Bull Creek
- Build a bridge across Shoal Creek and a connection to Shoal Creek Boulevard
- Develop nodes where key views can be appreciated

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Create a place that feels open, welcoming and comfortable for all.

Strategies:

- Provide identity, wayfinding, and interpretive signage in the park and along trail corridors
- Accommodate the existing and future pet owners that will use the park
- Ensure that at least 705' of public frontage exists along the park's edge
- Ensure the restaurant area adjacent to the park is designed to create an open, welcoming gateway from the adjacent plaza to the park
- Ensure site's amenities are accessible and accommodate users of all abilities
- Provide good visibility and lighting in more active areas of park
- Buffer surrounding residential areas from high activity areas

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Celebrate the site's unique cultural history.

Strategies:

- Develop features to inform the public and celebrate the unique history of the site
- Provide opportunities for public art
- Provide accommodations for those who visit the site with their dogs