

PUBLIC MEETING REPORT

April 5, 2016

Public Meeting Summary

The Parks and Recreation Department held a public meeting on April 5, 2016 at the Canyon View Events Center to share preliminary visual concepts and collect input from the surrounding community and park users. The meeting was an informal open house with a presentation. During the presentation the project team provided a project overview and background, reviewed public involvement and input, shared demographics, provided site analysis, including preliminary concepts that were created from



input collected. Attendees were able to visit five stations where details of the initial concepts were shared – Boat Ramp and Water Access; Central Lawn, Swimming and Day Use Area; Secondary Lawn and Passive Shoreline; Circulation, Tent and RV Camping Use; and the Preliminary Park Plan in its entirety.

The objective of the meeting was to present preliminary plans and designs and collect feedback from the public and park users.

Summary of Input Collected

Attendees were able to share input on boards at the five different stations, take an online survey, and leave written comments. All of the responses and input collected from the public through April 25, 2016 are included in this report.

The survey was conducted from April 5 to April 25 online through Survey Monkey. 86 responses were collected with 132 additional comments from respondents. The survey included questions on impressions and level of support for preliminary plans and improvements to the park including

- 28 Meeting Attendees
- 14 Written Comments
- 86 Survey responses
- 132 Survey open-ended responses

Central Lawn, a camp store, recreational activities, RV camping, switching tent and RV locations, boat ramp and water access, and boat launch area. Highlights of the survey responses are below and full results of the survey are provided at the end of this report.

Survey Highlights

- 44% of respondents indicated they use Emma Long Metropolitan Park a few times per year
- 24% strongly like and 52% like proposed improvements to the Central Lawn
- 61% were on the supportive side for the addition of a camp store with 39% on the non-supportive side
- Regarding the proposed recreational activities for the central lawn
 - o 86% on the supportive side for a playscape
 - o 68% on the supportive side for volleyball court improvements
 - o 75% on the supportive side for tree plantings
 - \circ 83% on the supportive side for shaded pavilion and group seating
 - o 74% on the supportive side for walking paths
 - 40% disliked, 19% neutral, and 41% liked the circulation, tent, and RV camping proposed improvements

- It was also close when asked if respondents supported switching the tent and RV camping locations with 47% not supporting and 52% supporting
- 71% liked the proposed boat ramp and water access improvements

Many comments were received via email, comment card, and open ended responses in the survey. These comments offered valuable feedback to the City and project team. Highlights of common topics include:

- There is a concern that the existing overcrowding problems would increase with new improvements to the park
- Several comments noted a preference for keeping the park more natural
- Circulation, Tent and RV Comping Use

Mapped Comments

- Many comments indicated that fixing problems with access to the park including turnaround solutions, addressing parking along City
 Park Road, and providing adequate parking and signage should be prioritized over amenity improvements
- Several comments encouraged relocating the boat docks closer to the boat ramps, noting that the proposed design is impractical for launching a boat
- Many of the comments indicated opposition to moving the RV spots from their existing location along the water; many comments support adding additional spots for both RV and tent camping
- Several comments noted interest in allowing food trucks to operate within the park
- Several comments noted interest in provision of a fueling station for boats
- Several comments noted there is too much boat traffic which causes noise problems and safety issues
- Several comments noted interest in additional trash and recycling receptacles and more frequent collection
- Several comments noted concern for amount of impervious cover in the plan

Onsite Survey

To reach those that use the park and might not be aware of the Vision Plan process, the team visited the park to ask park users to take a survey on site. The team visited the park on Sunday, March 20 and Saturday, March 26 as attendance was anticipated to be high on these weekends. IPads and paper surveys were used to collect responses and a bilingual Spanish speaker was available to help explain the project.

The survey was similar to the version shared at the public meeting, but was three questions shorter.

- 78 English Survey Responses
- 9 Spanish Survey Responses
- 51 Survey open-ended responses

Onsite Survey Highlights

- 46% of respondents indicated they use Emma Long Metropolitan Park a few times per year and 21% indicated it was their first time to visit
- Respondents home zip code locations were widely spread across the Austin area and beyond
- 95% were on the supportive side for the addition of a camp store with 5% on the non-supportive side
- Regarding the proposed recreational activities for the central lawn
 - 90% on the supportive side for a playscape
 - o 66% on the supportive side for volleyball court improvements
 - 69% on the supportive side for tree plantings
 - \circ $\,$ 79% on the supportive side for shaded pavilion and group seating
 - 66% on the supportive side for walking paths
- When asked if respondents supported switching the tent and RV camping locations 42% not supporting and 44% supporting
- There was strong support for the proposed improvements to the boat launch area

The open ended responses shared specific information on improvements and some highlights of common topics include:

- Desire for more and updated restrooms (with showers by the RVs)
- Comments on maintenance including addressing the sticker burrs
- Improvements for bike access and trails
- Desire for more campsites by the water and suggestions to keep RV sites near water

Mapped Comments

- Needs a bike trail separate from main grounds in high use area to restrooms and concession
- Parking areas should comply with city ordinance for shade and trees
- Include existing lake side trail in the Master Plan
- Glamping
- Overflow parking at tent turnaround area
- Use contained fire pits with concrete base beneath pit to help reduce fire hazards
- Ingress & egress at pay station is problematic for homeowners
- It is essential for lock gates at night
- Add nature trails in the preserve, if possible
- Possibly add additional shade pavilions closer to the water

Johnson, Kevin

From: Sent: To: Subject:

Wednesday, April 06, 2016 5:10 PM Johnson, Kevin Re: 1981 Lake Austin Corridor Study PARD

>

Hi Kevin

Glad you got it and the email server did not hold it as spam with the large pdf. The park does need some work, I grant that so I am with you there. The 1976 study and the 1981 study both indicated that Emma Long was overcrowded. The 1981 study making a point that other areas of the lake that had park access should get upgrades to shift use away from Emma Long. All of that was while Austin had a metro of 325,000. Now at two million Emma Long gets way more than 500 cars worth of people in it on some weekends. I agree it's hard to limit a public use park as to how many can use it at anyone time. But gosh, if we don't start now with methods that work, the future is even worse. I'd almost rather see no pull thru RV sites and instead car parking moved up there away from the water and less impervious cover at the boat ramps. The lake by far gets everyone coming to this stretch of it and the density of use is not a good balance. I'd much rather look at this whole project as a positive for people who don't get to the lake otherwise, but with limits on just how much is too much in one spot. Hence the impervious cover questions and I always want to be a realist as to what is far expectation. Thanks for listening and I'll be involved as much as I can to help.

Johnson, Kevin wrote:

> thank you very much for the thoughtful email.

> I appreciate your comments and will share both them and the documents with our project team. Code and regulatory issues will be something that our design team will shift some focus toward with this next iteration of work.

> Feel free to stay in touch, it's good to have engaged stakeholders like yourself involved during the early planning phases of work.

> > Than

> Thanks again,

> Kevin Johnson

> Project Coordinator | CIP Project Management City of Austin | Parks

> and Recreation Department

> (512) 974-9506 | kevin.johnson@austintexas.gov

>

- >
- > ----- Original Message-----

> From:

> Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2016 1:18 PM

> To: Johnson, Kevin < Kevin.Johnson@austintexas.gov>

- > Subject: 1981 Lake Austin Corridor Study PARD
- >

> Mr. Johnson

>

> First, a thank you for your service and hard work on the Emma Long Project. Last nights public meeting was well run, your presentation materials were excellent and everyone did an excellent job in public speaking, all of which are sometimes not easy in a such a venue.

>

> A little background on myself may help were I am coming from and why. I live directly across the lake from the park and have since 1997. I serve on our HOA board which is going to include most of the homes you will see from the park. I also serve as a publicly elected member of the board for Travis County Water Control and Improvement district #20. Our public water utility serves these homes and other neighborhoods behind us and more along Bee Caves road. While this letter is not to be interpreted as a statement from District #20 I will be making the same presentation of facts of the proposed plan for Emma Long Park at our next water board meeting. There is state law reference in this email further down that is important to research.

>

> Attached are pdf's of the material from the Austin History center that I showed you last night. (Note the 1976 study is not a complete pdf) I am not sure if all the involved have ever seen these studies nor knowledge of how they drove city council to enact controls on the lake for the protection of water quality. A brief history and not well known is that the entire length of Lake Austin at the 504.9 contour line from dam to dam has been within the city limits of Austin since 1891 for the protect of the city's water supply. With time, development began to create pressure on the lake and hazards to water quality. In 1976 the city completed the Lake Austin Growth Management plan. (see attached). In response to the 1976 plan the city Parks and Recreation department completed the 1981 Lake Austin Corridor Recreation study. (see attached).

>

> It became clear in 1982 from these studies that development controls were required of city council and city council annexed land on either side of the banks of Lake Austin via ordinance 820506-D & 820422-E and designated the land as LA zoning. This is single family homes. Standards were set high for maximum impervious cover allowed @ 20% for slopes less than 25%. (existing impervious cover could be counted as an allowable amount). New residential lots could be no smaller than one acre and 100foot bank width.

>

> The reason I bring these points up is the same as my question last night. There seems to be a huge increase in impervious cover from what is currently at Emma Long Park and the proposed new master plan. A vast amount of road ways designed for traffic flow, parking lots, boat trailer parking, over sized RV pad sites, pavilions etc. While I am not saying these would not be wonderful additions to a public park, I do question the gross restrictions placed on the lake by previous city council actions that limited single family home owners from paving their land and forced every commercial use along the lake to come forward to the planning commission and city council in the 1980's and ask for forgiveness and grandfather status of their non conforming uses. In essence the city wanted the commercial uses to disappear along the water, large home tracts to come to be and quiet park and conservation lands along the banks of our water reservoir.

>

> But now there is a vision to pave the park and ignore what was supposed to serve as strict impervious cover limits along the water. If the new master plan kept to the same amount of impervious cover that is there currently, I would have no questions. But in the spirit of how much is too much and where it is placed is a very real point. There should be no abandonment of the rules for the protection of water quality just so we can more conveniently pack more people in the park. Build it and they will come.

>

> A more important point is there is a state law to consider in the

> master design of the park that I don't think has been considered.

> Quote from Texas Admin Code

> (B) Raw water intakes shall not be located within 1,000 feet of boat launching ramps, marinas, docks, or floating fishing piers which are accessible by the public.

> The rule is Texas Administrative code Title 30 Ch 290 SubCh D Rule

> 290.41 (e) (2) (B)

>

> There are multiple public utility water intakes within your park

> boundary's. The park itself may even have an intake. Travis County

> WCID

> #20 water intake is located on the bank of Lake Austin at 1405 N Weston Ln. By state law you would not be allowed to construct any new docks or ramps within 1000ft of this intake. Using the city's GIS viewer map tool measuring from

TCWID #20 intake pipe to the purposed replacement swimming docks, platform and public beach I measure about 750feet.

> Changes to this configuration may involve state law and TCEQ. The new swimming dock further North on the master plan in the secondary lawn would be even closer and a new structure not allowed since it is public use.

> I am not attacking the park and it's wonderful ability to serve the public and it's asset value for what it is. What I am trying to point out is that we have a feature on the lake that has an impact on water quality via run off and over pressure as a draw for all the boats on the water. It gets condensed, noisy and dangerous. There seems to be more impervious cover close to the lake that would absolutely never be allowed by any other entity, especially if it was a commercial venture.

> Which this park seems to be driving towards revenue producing features.

> Then clearly we have a possible conflict with state law and what is supposed to be a buffer area from public use and pollution producing public structures from public drinking water intakes.

>

> Speaking strictly from a conservation aspect, the national parks service would never emplace this type of project with all the roads and RV pad sites along a public water reservoir. The boats, the cars, the parking, the general polluting nature of humans just get too dense with time.

> While low in the 1950's, beyond reason some days now, in the future, the metro area will overwhelm it even more. Since some of this envisioned plan would be against the idea of conservation, less maybe more in the long run. Please read the attached PDF's and have someone review the law mandating the 1000 foot separation, it may alter what is placed where on the shoreline that is not city code but state law.

>



Johnson, Kevin

From: Sent: To: Subject:

Saturday, April 09, 2016 5:57 PM PARD Emma Long Park Fwd: Comments

Hi,

While there are some good ideas in terms of the common central grass area I just reviewed the plans for Emma Long and am SHOCKED at the proposal to move the RV/Camping sites away from the water.

RV sites already have mixed use and often/typically have tent camping - why would you propose limiting to tent only? Swapping would also be a TREMENDOUS cost that is completely unnecessary.

- RV pads are currently wired with 50amp service

** It is currently downgraded to 20/30amp because of the main electrical power into the park was not upgraded when they were installed a few years back. But the lines to the RV pads are in great shape.

- RV pads already have water run to them.

- RV septic dump already has plenty of room for maneuverability

- RV camping is low turnover / high revenue compared to tent camping and does not impact the flow of traffic in/out of the park. Circulation is an issue at the gate house and city park road, NOT within the park itself.
- RV camping provides SIGNIFICANT revenue during the week as almost every site is booked all week. Tent camping does not and in the 4-5 months of summer texas heat tent camping anywhere in Central Texas is undesirable.

While it's great to see some of the ideas laid out in the plan, especially the central grass/park area, the swap of Tent and RV camping would be detrimental to the park's desirability for RVs/Trailers and significantly impact the mid-week revenue (Tent sites are almost always empty all week).

Please let me know what justified this approach and how I can help work with you to improve the current proposal. As Austinites we care passionately about City Park but I fear some major assumptions were made without understanding what makes this place special to RVers.

Thank you,



Johnson, Kevin

From:	
Sent:	Tuesday, April 12, 2016 7:02 AM
То:	emmalongvision@austintexas.gov; agray@cdandp.com; Johnson, Kevin; Welch, Cara
Subject:	Emma Long Vision Plan Comments //
Attachments:	2016-04-05 Emma Long Vision Commentspdf

Please see file attached. Thank you

Re: Emma Long Metropolitan Park Vision Plan Draft Proposal.

Comments / 2016-04-05 Presentation

Thank you to the City and their Vision Plan team for encouraging stakeholder's participation and feedback.

As I see it, Emma Long's charm is that it feels like an old state park located between hills and the lakeshores. You drive trough a long winding road and end up surprised in to an oasis.

I agree with the future design proposal presented by the Vision Team provided a 30% scaling back. The changes as planned would convert and open rural park into an urban park, and miss an opportunity. Make it be the "rural outdoor experience" that other parks can't provide.

With New Urbanism, Austin will become a denser city with less open skies. I urge the teams that are redesigning our parks throughout the City to reframe from making them into less open spaces.

Comments about the Vision draft proposal (4/2016)

I agree with the **roadwork**.

My **feeling of overdevelopment** is especially at the "Central Lawn". I would scale back the features density of the Center Lawn by a 30%, and do not split it into two halves (one single lawn would give a feeling of greater openness and accommodate large space events like hot air balloons). Move pavilion areas closer to each end of the lawn.

Move the volleyball courts because they are on prime real state and also hurt aesthetics.

Trails. One of the uniqueness of this park is the setting. It is hard to oversight the opportunity we have for wonderful trails. The lower area of Emma Long Park that is outside the Balcones Canyonlands Preserve is much larger than the footprint you are working with (see map included). Because the uniqueness of the setting I would place more funds in creating a friendly/mild trails than volleyball courts. Encourage **kids, adults and people on wheel chairs** to ride and hike on those trails. I understand that the new Federal guidelines for creating hiking trails for people on wheel chairs is much more relaxed that when designing concrete urban sidewalks. The slopes on lower area of the park are minimal, the place may be ideal for milder trails.?????

"The Commissary". I would take advantage of the concessionaire building and use some space for Nature Displays instead of having to create a separate structure.

Turkey Creek Park is very valuable to a large segment of Austinites, fixing the parking problem and adding bathrooms should be high in the list of priorities.

Graphics: When ever possible, I would encourage your graphic designers to follow the "**Older State Parks**" design books/styles.

Thank you.



<< See Map Below >>



emma long PARK
TREET

Name:	
Address:	
City:	_ Zip:
Email:	Phone:
Please share your input on the Emma Long Park Vision Plan. Comments 5459, Austin, TX 78763, or emailed to EmmaLongPark@austintexas.g	gov
Please involve us Part	c Neighbox to
advise you in Signage	We have
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se concernos are collective/upunsation Repe emma lond PARK Name: _ Address: upth City: _ Phone: Email: Please share your input on the Emma Long Park Vision Plan. Comments can be submitted today, mailed to P.O. Box, Emit charly 5459, Austin, TX 78763, or emailed to EmmaLongPark@austintexas.gov 0 0 ucio IAN the au Dame Voudes enter NR

Survey 2 Results

This survey was available begining April 5, 2016 at the public meeting and online until April 25, 2016. We received 86 responses total



Q2 What is your zip code?

Answered: 86 Skipped: 0



Zip Code	# of Responses	Zip Code	# of Responses
78730	33	78610	2
78758	7	78731	2
78704	4	78748	2
78737	4	78613, 78634, 78666, 78701,	
78746	4	78702, 78703, 78705, 78719,	These zip codes
78759	4	78723, 78727, 78728, 78736,	received only
78733	3	78742, 78745, 78747, 78749,	one response
78757	3	78750, 78730-334	

Q3 What is your overall impression of the proposed improvements to the Central Lawn?

Answered: 86 Skipped: 0



Strongly Like	Like	Neutral	Dislike	Strongly Dislike	Total
24%	52%	15%	6%	2%	
21	45	13	5	2	86

Q4 On a scale of 1 - 10, where is 1 is do NOT support and 10 is fully support, do you support adding a camp store that could provide supplies such as ice, sunscreen, firewood, hamburger buns, etc. for park users?



Answered: 86 Skipped: 0

Do NOT Support	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Fully Support	N/A	Total
10%	12%	9%	2%	6%	8%	5%	7%	8%	33%	0%	
9	10	8	2	5	7	4	6	7	28	0	86

Q5 On a scale of 1 - 10, where 1 is do NOT support and 10 is fully support, do you support adding new opportunities or improvements for the following recreational activities to the central lawn area?



Answered: 84 Skipped: 2

	Do NOT Support	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Fully Support	N/A	Tota
Playscape	2% 2	5% 4	1% 1	1% 1	5% 4	10% 8	6% 5	10% 8	8% 7	52% 43	0% 0	83
Improved volleyball	6%	6%	1%	5%	13%	13%	8%	15%	8%	24%	0%	
courts and nets	5	5	1	4	11	11	7	13	7	20	0	84
Tree plantings	0% 0	4% 3	4% 3	2% 2	15% 13	12% 10	6% 5	2% 2	7% 6	48% 40	0% 0	84
Shaded pavilions/	4%	2%	5%	2%	2%	8%	11%	6%	8%	50%	1%	
group seating	3	2	4	2	2	7	9	5	7	42	1	84
Walking paths	0% 0	1% 1	10% 8	2% 2	11% 9	6% 5	11% 9	7% 6	9% 7	41% 33	1% 1	81

Q5 Additional Comments

Additional Comments:

There still will not be enough parking. Need to raise entrance free. This park is a real Austin gem, and would be worth it.

Keep park natural as much as possible. I'm a resident of Glen Lake. Basic concern is increasing traffic/usage and trash. Most improvements will increase all of the above. Group usage is major issue. Note major commercial business going in at entrance to City Park. Small windy dangerous road increased usage is already a problem.

Doesn't seem like a store will be profitable. Would rather see food trucks

I am concerned about how this might impact my property in the future with noise and people coming onto my property while walking/hiking along trails

I would prefer to see the park left very natural. Attracting too many more people will be very hard on the native wildlife. Add a second swim area for adult lane swimming.

Ensure some camping areas and playscapes are usable/accessible by handicapped kids and adults.

Supply adequate public restrooms. Are the only ones in the concession area?

Nice to have a playscape, and the other features are great, but I feel the pavilion and walking paths are in the wrong place. People want to be down by the water.

more than any of the improvements, I would like the beach/swimming area maintained: fresh sand, plastic under-liner covered and stand-alone swim dock replaced.

Food trucks are much better idea than staffed store.

Better shower areas And dressing room privacy

Stickers in the grass and chicken bones on the ground are a huge turn off to me walking my dog there in the early mornings- I want to, I live nearby but there are always stickers and chicken bones on the ground . Vulture proof trash cans?

There is no provision for anything we'd be allowed to fish off of, such as a pier. I'm sure we wouldn't be allowed to use the swimming pier. What about the boat pier? And will the constant racing and noise of motorboats still go on all morning, afternoon, and through the evening? That kind of ruins the fun, and is dangerous to swimmers, kayakers, canoeists, etc. I see nothing about improved safety and noise reduction with regard to motorized watercraft. And just where do all those RV's plan to "dump?"

I'd like to see a better swim area for families.

Need to do better job improve and maintain boat docks. Need bumpers on bottom edge as they are high out of water. Need to make sure there are dock ties or cleats that are not broken and some more. Improve the area to the left of the furthest left boat ramp. This area needs to be kept mowed, weeded and tables added. It's a good place but could be better.

I don't want to lose the water front rv park.

I would like to see new trails in the woods to the north of the 'beach' area.

I love this proposed plan! I live in the CP neighborhood and run or bike into the park 4+ times a week. Although the park isn't used much during the week, I believe that could change IF more amenities were offered, such as the sports/programmed game area and supporting services (food trucks, etc.) The park could then be advertised and leveraged for regional sports activities.

In addition, I love the new swimming area, as its larger and more useful for swimming and water play. I also like the addition of other swimming and fishing docks, although safety is a concern for swimmers if no boundary is added (bouys, etc.)

Will the existing bathhouse be renovated? It's in serious need of repairs and updates.

Overall, impressive design! There needs to be consistent incentive for food truck operators to come out to CP as well as a sufficient biz for a concession stand -- but strong use of the sports areas as well as all types of campers may do the trick.

Great job!

More full RV sites

I like leaving an Open Lawn for different temporary uses (frisbee, croquet, footsack, etc).

Q5 Additional Comments continued

Camp store will likely lose money - there have been a lot of business at corner of 2222/Park Rd that have tried and failed at this. Selling boat gas on the water would be a huge hit.

There is nothing proposed for our pets. What about a fenced pet park like Round Rock's Dog Depot?? I have to drive out of Austin to take my dog to a nice large park.

With the addition of quality amenities to the park I strongly support a noise ordinance to insure quality visits for all. No loud bass speakers and music at reasonable decibel.

The number one thing you should fix is blocking city park road with the traffic. If you improve the park this will just get worse. You need to move the turnaround to inside the park and not disturb the neighborhood.

I'm concerned about the swimming docks and platform. The waves are extremely strong around there and I can't comprehend the strength and support it would take to create and maintain.

The overall plan looks great, but I don't want the park to feel over developed. One of the great things about this park is that you really feel like you are out of the city in nature.

PLEASE move forward with all due haste to improve the park entry process -- to avoid the horrible traffic buildup at the Park entrance. I like the idea of moving the gate closer to the heart of the Park and facilitating the opportunity to turn around when the Park is full. But please continue to seek ways to mitigate the impacts on the access roads, surrounding roads, and neighborhoods.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GREAT WORK!

WHAT IS UP WITH THE HELICOPTER PAD? I WORRY ABOUT THE NOISE AND POLLUTION./

Plant large well established trees not small insignificant trees that will take years to grow.

ENSURE : the LATF recommendations are used in the planning effort.

Q6 What is your overall impression of the Circulation, Tent and RV camping improvements?

Answered: 84 Skipped: 2



Strongly Like Like Neutral Dislike Strongly Dislike

Strongly Like	Like	Neutral	Dislike	Strongly Dislike	Total
14%	27%	19%	10%	30%	
12	23	16	8	25	84

Q7 On a scale of 1 - 10, where 1 is do NOT support and 10 is fully support, do you support switching the tent camping area with the RV camping area while adding improved pads and electrical pedestals for RV campers?



■ Do NOT Support ■ 2 ■ 3 ■ 4 ■ 5 ■ 6 ■ 7 ■ 8 ■ 9 ■ Fully Support ■ N/A

Do NOT Suppor	t 2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Fully Support	N/A	Total
34%	4%	2%	1%	6%	11%	7%	7%	5%	18%	4%	
28	3	2	1	5	9	6	6	4	15	3	82

Q7 Additional Comments

Additional Comments:

Although we never camp at City Park, it makes great sense to allow tent campers to be as far away as possible from RV campers & generators. Good idea.

The RVs will pay the most and have no waterfront.

Keep park natural. Have seen other parks ruined with emphasis on RV vs tent camping. Need to provide support for people who can only afford tents. RVs want air conditioning and then everyone just listens to generators and/or air conditioners running all night. It ruins the point of going to the park to be close to nature. RVs need more pavement. For RV campsites you do have, back-in RV campsites are preferable as pull-thru just increases amount of pavement.

We bring our trailer and love parking it along the lake. Could you please fix the electrical and upgrade it to 50 amp? seems like this would really take away the appeal of the lake side camping for rvs.

I do not want to see additional campers - especially RV campers - attracted to Emma Long park. RV campers are especially destructive, although all campers are destructive at even low densities.

Provide adequate restrooms and places where campers can deposit trash. Provide regular trash collection to avoid smells and avoid attracting scavengers and rodents.

As an RV owner, I would like to have an RV space that is not centered in the main traffic pattern as shown above, although I do like the pull thru layout. Offering RVs sites on the water would be nice as well.

Leave as is. What is the reason for making changes? Are there problems that you are addressing?

I'm neutral on the circulation. I totally support putting tent camping down by the water, with somewhat smaller camp sites so it's accessible to more people. I also support putting the tent camping in the deepest shade since they don't have A/C. I'd like the waterfront camp sites to include tent trailers as well (with or without utilities). They are closer to tents than RVs. I think locating the children's play area and the family camping area so far away from each other is problematic. I question whether the park will be as appealing to RV patrons if they're all parked up by the tree line, far away from the water. I also question putting all the new recreational facilities next to the RVs and not between the tents and day use areas.

It is not really fair to make the waterfront area ALL tent or ALL RV camping.

concern would be the increased RV traffic on the curvy city park road to get to there

I'm a former tent camper, now I have small RV, but strongly believe there should be a place for tent campers that is not right next to RV's and their bright lights and generators.

the problem we have is that there is a backup on Pearce road at the park entrance. that really needs to be the focus to solve on traffic flow.

What I have always loved about Emma Long is that the RV spots were always next to the water, the new plan does away with that. My family and I RV camp there at least once a month because of the fact that we are on the water and we can park our boat in the water overnight near the RV.

Yes, seems greater capacity for both rv and tents closer to shore would be beneficial

Add more - dont remove existing!!

I come there to camp to be right on the water/ Also cant leave my boat there overnight away from trailer.

Finally, I appreciate the design changes for the utility/RV camping areas. Although you may get push-back on the location change (due to RV campers wanting to be closer to their moored boats), I feel this optimizes the land use better for different RV/camper configs and the added boat docks & parking should be sufficient -- on new walking paths at that!

Adding waste hook ups to the RV sites

the issue of circulation is at Pearce Rd, where people back up. Fix that problem, put electronic signage at 2222 indicating park capacity.

just add more RV spots, don't take away existing. they are already mixed use with tents.

Please add MORE utility camping. Don't take away existing spots at the expense of relocation. Utility camping is FULL every weekend and lots of austinites are turned away.

Please dispense with the individual fire rings throughout the camping and RV areas!!! The park is heavily wooded and is surrounded by preserves and neighborhoods. It is located in a High Risk area for wildfire, and (as you know from AFD asking you to limit attendance to 500 max vehicles) has one ingress/egress which is 5 miles of 2-lane (24ft width) roadway with many, many sharp curves. If a fire ring must be a feature of the park, consider having a Community fire ring in an open space, such as near the concessions building.

When I come I usually bring my camping trailer and this would be a huge disappointment. If you are going to add more spots that is great, but don't take away the waterfront.

Q7 Additional Comments continued

seems like a waste of money. i have been down there a few times and camping on the water in my trailer is great. roads in camping loop in really bad shape.

This doesn't add any new sites and it is always booked full on the weekend. Very hard for me to find a spot. Why would you remove the existing sites? Why not just add the new ones? Also pull thru doens't make sense and uses way to much space for this park - add more back in sites. Having 40+ total trailer sites would awesome.

There is no reason to flip flop the RV and tent camping spots. The tent camping spots are only used on the weekends while the RV spots remain full much more often. There is room for far more tent camping spots where the current spots are, making the park accessible to more people!!

Water access is highly desired by a lot of campers. If tent only camping by the water would allow more overall sites on the water, I would support that. But I do like the extra big paved spots near the water to park multiple vehicles as well.

We use the rv spots a lot on the water. If they are moved away from the water I would no longer visit the park This proposal of "swapping" tent and RV areas is completely nonsensical and detrimental to the consistent income providers. The park makes the majority of income year round from the RV sites. We pay the higher fee and choose to stay here because it's desirable to be by the water. The pads and electrical are already in place--make improvements to the existing space instead of reconfiguring it all. Tent camping in the Texas heat is a deterrent and would only be in use for half the year at best. And certainly tent camping would not provide consistent daily revenue as does the nearly always full capacity RV sites. Giving up the premium waterfront part of the park for exclusive tent camping would be devastating.

This would be a huge cost and a major downgrade for all RVers. RV sites are already mixed use and often have tents, they have 50-amp power already, they have water already, and the dump station has plenty of room and is easy to get in/out of. All the RV camping needs is the pavement to be repaired and for the main power coming into the park to be upgraded - sites already have 50amp wiring!

I strongly disagree and believe this will have an absolutely detrimental impact to the usage and experience of Emma Long. The Spots along the water are always mixed use and consist of both RVs, trailers, and tents. Removing RV spots along the water would make the park totally the undesirable. RVs spots by design are mixed use, often allow tent campers, and this swap would be a huge hit financially as well since RVers/Trailers will be much less likely to stay for midweek day.

I would like to see some tent sites that have water & electric & some of these be for larger tents

yes I support the moving of the RV along the Bluff area . I believe that it will save the city of austin money Installing new electrical cable and electronical boxes and water lines then repairing the old damaged and worn out electrical lines and electrical boxs that are out Dated in the RV area .

The RV area needs improved pads and electrical. Makes most sense for the tent camping to be in the trees.

A company may want to get a lease for a specific area to create GLAMPING as a commercial

use.

Indiffernt; maybe you have a reason

Q8 What is your overall impression of the proposed boat ramp and water access improvements?

Answered: 82 Skipped: 4



Strongly Like Like Neutral Dislike Strongly Dislike

Strongly Like	Like	Neutral	Dislike	Strongly Dislike	Total
21%	50%	22%	4%	4%	
17	41	18	3	3	82

Q9 On a scale of 1 - 10, where 1 is do NOT support and 10 is fully support, do you support the following improvements to the boat launch area?

Answered: 82 Skipped: 4



■ Do NOT Support ■ 2 ■ 3 ■ 4 ■ 5 ■ 6 ■ 7 ■ 8 ■ 9 ■ Fully Support ■ N/A

	Do NOT Support	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Fully Support	N/A	Total
Paved parking lot with overflow area	2.44% 2	1.22% 1	2.44% 2	2.44% 2	9.76% 8	7.32% 6	7.32% 6	13.41% 11	13.41% 11	36.59% 30	3.66% 3	82
Boat tie dowr areas	6.10%	2.44% 2	0.00% 0	3.66% 3	15.85% 13	7.32% 6	10.98% 9	13.41% 11	8.54% 7	24.39% 20	7.32% 6	82
Separate vehicular parking areas	2.50% 2	1.25% 1	1.25% 1	3.75% 3	12.50% 10	5.00% 4	8.75% 7	15.00% 12	12.50% 10	32.50% 26	5.00% 4	80
Improved boat ramps and docks	3.75% 3	1.25% 1	1.25% 1	3.75% 3	10.00% 8	5.00% 4	13.75% 11	21.25% 17	3.75% 3	30.00% 24	6.25% 5	80

Q9 Additional Comments

Additional Comments:

Am concerned about adding so much impervious cover.

Is pervious cover not durable enough?

Pavement would be nice, but not a necessity.

how any people launch their boats at emma long?

Too many boats disturb aquatic wildlife. Too many boat owners and their vehicles disturb wildlife dwelling on land. Provide adequate restrooms and places where boaters can deposit trash. Provide regular trash collection to avoid smells and avoid attracting scavengers and rodents.

Why are these changes being made?

I would try to avoid too much pavement too close to the water where run-off from the cars (oil, etc) would flow easily down to the beach and swimming area.

I don't have a boat, but it looks like it's an improvement over what's there now. Is the boat launch used mainly by campers or by day use people?

concerns would be if you build it they will come, nice that not many boats launch from here!

I'm not a boater, but I like to see boating areas for people who can't afford to own lake property.

boat docks would be great but why not put them where the boulder shoreline protection already is?

Please don't block the flow of boat traffic on that curve of the lake, no wake enforcement is a good thing but also no loitering/ traffic jams out there .

What about the noise and danger of motorboats screaming and chugging up and down a long, single waterway the whole time the park is open? That's the ONLY reason we don't go there often.

See comment above regarding area to left of far left boat ramp if you are looking at the lake. This area needs to be improved and maintained. One of the best places to picnic and let children play is the beach shore line. Use to be two or three picnic tables there no only one as I recall.

These are all strongly needed, as the current layout is inefficient and dangerous during busy periods

boat docks need to be near ramps

boat docks should be closer to ramp

This was discussed, but please designate the additional boat docks as for Municipal use. There needs to be office space for Lake Patrol AND quarters for on-site supervisor (especially overnight, and preferably one capable of programming events such as sky watching, identifying bird calls, etc). There also needs to be a marine fueling station here, to help alleviate traffic to the only one currently at mile 1 and to generate revenue that can help maintain the park. I REALLY like moving the huge dumpsters out of the boat launch area (although I still don't understand why so many are needed). Suggest rotating the concession building to be more parallel with the lake and perpendicular to the boat launch area as there could be a need for it to separately serve the boat dock traffic and the park visitors (considering fees are charged for admission to the park). I do NOT like the traffic circle---wide/long vehicles run over them, they require more space and impervious cover, and it's not needed where proposed---better to just have the roadway split to boat launching left and park use right.

when I go fishing i'm often out by myself and launching a boat, then tying up, then pulling out a trailer is the challenge. The boat docks need to be close to the launch so that i can tie up my boat and pull out my trailer.

Boat ramp ties need to be closer to shore to be effective

Love it all! This area of the park needs some serious attention. Just be sure the parking by the boat docs is for TRAILER parking only - cars with trailers! I hate it when people who don't have boats take up the parking spaces that should go for people towing boats.

The boat docks are not located in a usable way. When you launch your boat, you need to temporarily tie it up and then pull out your trailer. The current approach does not make this feasible at all. Please consider putting new docks inbetween the current launch points.

The location of the new docks inconvenient. Why not put them in between the ramps?

Q9 Additional Comments continued

I am a heavy boat user. I don't think people will be able to park two rows of trailers in the main area. Today there is just one row. Switching to diagonal I suspect is not going to work, since there isn't enough room to park a boat trailer. The jetski trailers will be fine, but the larger boat trailers won't fit.

During peak times, there are more than 7 trailers parked in the exiting dirt overflow area. I would prefer devoting more space in overflow to trailers.

Boat launch area should be safe with easy access but not so much as to encourage additional boat traffic in area. Needs kayak launch area and area for fishing

In addition to walking paths, what about having bike paths? it would be great to have a smooth surface (like asphalt or packed dirt) to ride bikes on. However, I would not like the same paths to be used for pedestrians -- the two could have bad collisions! And I would not like to encourage people to ride their bikes all the way from 2222 to the entrance of the park. But if someone could get a bike there without endangering themselves and others to get there (by riding on City Park Road), it would be nice to have for leisurely bike riders.

I do not think you should have canoeing or kayaking. The area around the bend is very dangerous. Boats swing into that area.

I'd like to wait for the presentation. Space will need to be incorporated for Commercial use for a gas station, Lake Patrol , and other commercial uses.

Not a boater

Q10 Do you have any other comments about the Vision Plan for Emma Long Metropolitan Park?

Answered: 37 Skipped: 49

Comments

This looks very good. Thanks for the hard work.

The park is great the way it is, but it could have more trees in open spaces. It would be worth it to raise entrance fee on weekends. Don't let people park outside and walk in. We would all like to enjoy the park without the huge crowds on weekends. Enforce no littering rules.

One of the things I have enjoyed most about Emma Long Park is that it is so natural and NOT over-run just boaters. I also see no need for a commercial enterprise - like the store. It isn't that far of a drive to a store; the park is not in the middle of nowhere! Also, I see no sense in using resources to have "planned activities" when the best part of camping is the family time it encourages. Having planned activities may take away from that.

Would be great to reserve a spot online so that we don't get turned away on busy weekends.

I don't like any of it. My first priority is the wildlife, not the people.

Add a second swim area for adult lane swimming.

Is there any though to changing the current method of securing RV sites? First come first serve (and in person) does not seem effective.

What is the cost of the proposed changes?

I'm concerned about the number of people using the park if all the campsites are fully occupied, available parking, etc. It looks like it would be very crowded. OTOH, no one uses the central lawn, so anything there would be an improvement.

do something to eradicate the sand burrs also. Wish you'd allow food trucks on weekends.

1. You need additional turn-around sign locations for people who fail to see the one at 2222/CP Rd.

2. You need to get AFD Union politics out of the picture and set up automatic aid agreement for ESD#4 to be called on all Emma Long Park EMS and fire emergencies. Lives and property are at stake and are more important than AFD union politics (and donations to campaigns). Most of the calls are EMS (not structure fires requiring interior attacks) and therefore do not require 4-man crews as AFD union insists upon. I will remind my neighbors of this at election time.

more trees and picnic tables near swim area. The two or three that are there are always taken.

it would be great to see you add new utility camping spots but leave the ones on the water as well.

No

More restroom facilities. Lines get so bad and it's hard when you have children who wait until the last minute. Not to mention they won't use port o potties.

Gas station?

Boat septic pump out station?

Seems like this park is under maintained when it charges an entrance fee and camping fee. I would appear to be able to be self supporting or even a profit center. I proposed you allow private vendors that meet quality standards serve the park for camping supplies, concessions and so forth. Allow ski/water sports type camps to run out of the park. More access for City youth to experience water sports.

I really love this park!

There were many other requests that are not shown here. Things like bike lanes on City Park Rd, signs so visitors can find the park instead of wandering around the neighborhood, etc.

Assume that outdoor plumbing will be upgraded as well: rinsing showers, drinking fountains, etc.

The plan doesn't indicate the type of childrens play -- will it be a commercial playscape structure or a natural play structure(s)? I believe the trend is toward natural play structures (or hybrid) that incorporate local materials (limestone boulders, cedar/oak timber, etc.)

City Park Road can barely handle peak travel. If commercial development is allowed at 2222 and City Park Road, traffic issues will increase.

Please put electronic signage at 2222 that show whether park is full or how many spots are left. This would eliminate a huge problem of people driving all the way into park only to be turned away. This has happened to us many times.

The preliminary plan reflects some sound planning expertise and much consideration. Sincere thanks for the effort you all have put into this plan.

Q10 continued

the real problem is having reliable information at 2222 on whether the park is open/full or not. What is being proposed to address that? thanks.

There are some minor things - repave the roads, improve the trails, upgrade the electrical facilities, etc. - that could go a long way to improve the park. It does NOT need a major overall and redesign. People enjoy it AS IT IS. Don't break a working park.

Please keep RV sites as water front.

This is the only park in Texas that has the RV spots so close to the water. If they are moved I think you will loose a lot of RV traffic. I will probably start visiting other parks if they are moved

I like a lot of the improvements surrounding play and recreation areas, which will be highly utilized I'm sure. I've been here for long stretches of time while RV camping and the true bottleneck for everyone is gaining access to the park on busy days and I don't see how that is addressed in the plan. The info and details regarding payment and the collection method needs to be addressed, for sure. The pay station hardly contains info/instruction and it takes a long time to get a car through. Once you're in the park there's really no circulation issue getting around.

Some areas of my concern were not specifically addressed in the proposal so I unwanted to point out: pot hole repair, managing fire ants (a HUGE problem in the RV area), keeping trees trimmed for boats and RVs, garbage cans without attract birds/raccoons/other wildlife.

pleae do not swap and displace the RV / Trailer camling area for Tent use only!

I like the idea of an electronic sign at 2222 & city park Rd. for updating camping status remotely.

We live in the neighborhood and as others living here, we feel the parking and entrance on summer weekends and holidays is an upmost priority. Children in the street, trash left, long lines for us to get home.

This park is a gem for the city. Thank you Emma Long for the forward thinking to have so much land dedicated to public use!!!

Seems this park is filled to capacity most of the summer and many are turned away, so why spend a significant amounts of money when's this will not meet the needs of more families and citizens.

Also traffic on the winding road is dangerous. Many accidents on weekends.

How about funds being used for bike lanes and walking paths along beautiful City Park Road?

Need to fix the parking on city park road before any other improvements are considered

Needs better restrooms, more places to dispose trash and recycle or compost

I love the walking paths -- but what might they be made of? Could it be a surface that's easy to walk on, even with wheelchairs or strollers? Would it be possible to have a smooth surface? Something other than decomposed granite would be great!

the vision needs to incorporate the next 50 years for the citizens of Austin and the continued population increase.

Roads in and out need improvement

Q11 Please include your email address to receive updates about the Emma Long Vision Plan.

The survey had 47 respondents leave their email address to receive updats on the Emma Long Vision Plan

Onsite Survey Results

In an effort to reach those that use the park and might not be aware of the Vision Plan process, the team visited the park to ask park users to take a survey on site. The team visited the park on Sunday, March 20 and Saturday, March 26 as attendance was anticipated to be high on these weekends. IPads and paper surveys were used to collect responses and a bilingual Spanish speaker was available to help explain the project. Team members collected 78 English survey responses, 9 Spanish survey responses and had 51 open ended responses.



Q1 How often do you visit the park?

Q2 What is your zip code?

Answered: 85 Skipped: 1



Zip Code	# of Responses
78759	6
78704	4
78731	4
78666	3
78730	3
76543	2
76943	2
78641	2
78660	2
78721	2
78942	2
78744	3
78745	3

Zip Code	# of Responses
78723	2
78728	2
78753	2
78754	2
78758	2
29730, 33567, 75052, 76542, 76934, 77007, 78028, 78610, 78613, 78628, 78640, 78662, 78663, 78669, 78670, 78703, 78705, 78719, 78724, 78726, 78729, 78732, 78737, 78738, 78741, 78742, 78747, 78749, 78750, 78752, 78764, 79701, 79750, 79757, 787241, 787641, BC, Canada	These zip codes received only one response

Q3 On a scale from 1-10, 1 is do

NOT support and 10 is fully support, do you support adding a camp store that could provide supplies such as ice, sunscreen, firewood, hamburger buns, etc. for park users?



Answered: 85 Skipped: 1

Do NOT Support	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Fully Support	N/A	Total
2%	0%	0%	0%	4%	1%	4%	6%	0%	84%	0%	
2	0	0	0	3	1	3	5	0	71	0	85

Q4 If new or additional opportunities for the following recreational activities were added to the central lawn area, what would be your level of support on a scale from 1-10? 1 is do NOT support and 10 is fully support.



Do NOT 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 Fully N/A Total Support Support 0% 9% 0% 0% 0% 5% 7% 7% 4% 67% 1% Playscape 8 0 0 0 0 4 6 6 3 57 1 85 Improved volleyball 9% 5% 0% 2% 11% 4% 5% 9% 1% 47% 7% courts and nets 8 2 3 40 6 85 4 0 9 4 8 1 53% 1% Tree plantings 15% 8% 1% 2% 4% 2% 5% 5% 4% 13 3 2 45 1 85 7 1 2 4 4 3 0% Shaded pavilions/group seating 8% 1% 2% 4% 6% 4% 1% 8% 6% 60% 7 1 2 3 5 3 1 7 5 51 0 85 19% 5% 0% 1% 9% 4% 5% 4% 2% 51% 1% Walking paths 16 4 0 1 8 3 4 3 2 43 1 85

Q5 If the RV campsites were switched with the tent camping area while adding improved pads and electrical pedestals for RV campers, what would be your level of support on a scale from 1-10? 1 is do NOT support, 10 is fully support.

Answered: 85 Skipped: 1

100% 80% 60% 40% 20% 0% 5 N/A Do NOT Support Fully Support Do NOT Support 2 3 9 Fully Support N/A 4 **5** 6 7 8

Do NOT Support	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Fully Support	N/A	Total
32%	2%	2%	1%	5%	6%	4%	6%	1%	27%	14%	
27	2	2	1	4	5	3	5	1	23	12	85

Q6 What would be your level of support if the following improvements were made in the boat launch area, on a scale from 1-10?1 is do NOT support, 10 is fully support.



Answered: 84 Skipped: 2

Do NOT Support	2	<u> </u>	1	5	6	7	8	9	Eully Support	N/A
		0	— —					0		

	Do NOT Support	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Fully Support	N/A	Total
Paved parking lot with overflow area	2% 2	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	2% 2	2% 2	6% 5	4% 3	5% 4	24% 20	55% 46	84
Boat tie down areas	5% 4	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	1% 1	1% 1	4% 3	4% 3	2% 2	27% 23	56% 47	84
Separate vehicular parking areas	5% 4	1% 1	0% 0	0% 0	4% 3	1% 1	5% 4	2% 2	0% 0	25% 21	57% 48	84
Improved boat ramps and docks	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	4% 3	0% 0	0% 0	2% 2	2% 2	32% 27	60% 50	84

Q7 Do you have any additional comments?

Answered: 51 Skipped: 35

lesponses weet! hanks so much st time visitor! Certainly not the last! yfirst time here and I love it!! Thank you! mprove bike access my improvements that would make the experience better like parts; hike and bike area allow campers to use tents closer to water. fore campsites fore restrooms, hammocks fore restrooms, hammocks fore restrooms, hammocks load ti down along shoreline. fore campsites, online reservation, enforcing checkout rules lasketball courts leservation system, trim grass on shoreline, upkeep, if you improve boat area it takes away from park concept. Veeding behind tent camping fore boat docks/ramps, more tent camping fore boat boave feminine products, shaded pavilions need to be reserved and close to water, bigger
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lowers everywhere and natural shadding
Ceep same vibe. Been coming since 3 yrs
oilet seats
ike it as is.
leed Attendant at gate, for questions and map of trails, need trails to be marked
Restroom needs updating. Shower near rv sites. Not enough portapottys
leed walking paths for trips to the restroom etc. right now have to walk through campsites etc. to get there.
fore port a potties
nprove electrical, don't move RV areas, reservations

Q7 continued

Upgrade rev hookups

Concerned with advance reservation system. People will reserve all the weekends. Raise price to avoid. 50 fair.

Will be Willing to move rev if sewer hookups are included

Improve pads and electrical but don't move RV area

Keep rev where it is. Only place for on the water camping

Q8 Please include your email address to receive updates about the Emma Long Vision Plan.

The survey had 18 respondents leave their email addresses to receive updates on the Emma Long Vision Plan.