Summary of Second Public Meeting  
Tuesday, April 3, 2018

The Little Walnut Creek Greenbelt master plan initiative aims to develop a park plan for the 206-acre greenbelt by summer 2018. In order to reach this goal, a total of three public meetings will be held in East Austin to determine area residents’ priorities for the greenbelt.

The first public meeting was held the afternoon of Saturday, February 25, 2018 at Givens Recreation Center and had forty attendees.

The second public meeting was held the evening of Tuesday, April 3, 2018 at Pecan Springs Elementary School, and had twenty-five attendees. The meeting included a brief presentation and seven public input stations. The stations were staffed by community planners from National Park Service RTCA (Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program), Pecan Springs-Springdale Neighborhood Association (PSSNA) volunteers, Families in Nature staff, and Asakura Robinson’s director of urban design. The venue was provided by the Austin Independent School District and refreshments were donated by PSSNA.

Presentation (5:00-1:15 pm):
NPS staff provided a brief overview of the park, highlighting its current conditions, potential, and the planning process. The presentation also summarized the feedback gathered through the first public meeting and ongoing community survey.

Stations (5:15-7:00pm):

Station one presented general information about the greenbelt and the planning process.

In station two, participants ranked the priorities they believe are most important to consider when creating the Little Walnut Creek Greenbelt park plan. Votes and comments included in page two.

Station three allowed participants to suggest programming and activities for park users of different ages and with different interests. Results in page three.

Station four, prepared by Asakura Robinson, included a large-format map of the greenbelt with suggested access points. Participants were invited to comment on the feel, appearance, and ideal location of these gateways. Results in pages four and five.

Station five, prepared Families in Nature, allowed adults and children to get to know the nature and wildlife of the region and greenbelt. Participants were able to touch, feel, and learn about plant and animal species present in this area.

Station six, also prepared and staffed by Families in Nature, allowed children to discuss and draw the greenbelt improvements they would like. Common themes included play areas, creek access, and trails. Some of the children’s drawings are included in page six.

Station seven included a second large map of the greenbelt and a large blank sheet for participants to contribute any additional comments not captured in the other stations. Most of these comments identified desired amenities and trail designs, closely resembling responses to the trail and amenities stations in the first public meeting. Comments are included in page seven.
Little Walnut Creek Greenbelt
Master Plan Initiative | Iniciativa de Planificación

Feedback from the first meeting revealed that different priorities exist for the Little Walnut Creek Greenbelt. For example, while some future users want to see more recreational use along the creek, others want the creek area to remain untouched; some people would prefer the area to remain as natural as possible while others would prefer increased access and a robust trail network.

Which of the following are your priorities for the Little Walnut Creek Greenbelt?

Identify them using the numbered dots provided, with 5 for the most important and 1 for the least important. Use post-its to add any comments or other priorities.

**Increased Access**
- Need connectivity to Walnut Creek Trail
- Trails to Tannehill, Northeast Dr, Rogge Ln, Norwood Hill
- Connect Norwood Hill Rd to enter park
- Bike racks

**Conserve Natural Environment**
- Limit park developments, designate areas to conserve
- Enhance the beauty of the creek, design to enhance its natural feel

**Additional Trails**
- More natural or paved trails
- More native and rare plants

**Water Quality/Stream Health**
- Protect the creek, limit toxic waste to creek
- Protect/rehabilitate creeks, limit trash to creeks

**Park Development**
- Playgrounds, recreation facilities, restrooms, bike trails, dog park

**Priorities**

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-需改进：
  - 5 IS MOST IMPORTANT
  - 1 IS LEAST IMPORTANT

**Other Priorities**
- Riding trails for horses
- Wildlife, tree and plant monitoring
- Prioritize improving biodiversity, tie wildlife monitoring to family outings

www.austintexas.gov/department/little-walnut-creek-greenbelt-master-plan-initiative
Park activities can play a key role in turning little-used parks into cherished community destinations. Successful and inclusive park programming provides engaging educational and recreational options for all age groups.

What are some activities or programs which could get the people below to visit and enjoy the Little Walnut Creek Greenbelt?

### Families
- Species identification trail with labels synced with app like i-Naturalist
- Bird blind - collaborate with Travis Audubon Society (2)
- Hike-and-learn trails
- Family fitness
- Playground (2)
- Movies in the park
- Guided nature walks (2)
- Picnic area (2)
- Multi-use stage area for events
- Orienteering
- Interpretive signage (2)
- Bouldering
- Lean-to or simple shelter
- Disc golf
- Pet-friendly areas
- Vista points
- Native plant groves
- Native prairie education
- Places to see the creek (with low impact to habitat)

### Children
- Signage
- Orienteering
- Park ranger-type programming
- Clean facilities
- Hiking (2)
- Natural play area
- Disc golf
- Nature education (plants, animals, riparian ecosystem)
- Splash pad
- Playground
- Afterschool and weekend programming
- Species identification
- Sports fields (2)
- Nature trails
- Outdoor classroom (2)

### Adults
- Bioblitz wildlife and tree surveys - could be part of Nature in the City Challenge (2)
- Hike and bike soft trails
- Walking trails (2)
- Bike and hike trails (2)
- Dog park
- Board game tables
- Exercise equipment
- Dog run
- Shower
- Bathroom (2)
- Sports fields
- Disc golf
- Amphitheater
- Safe spaces for homeless to be
- Off-leash dog area
- Trail markers (2)
- Educational signage
- Birding
- Picnic area

### Seniors
- Seating (2)
- Vista points
- Clean and accessible facilities
- Bird watching classes
- Nature walks
- Gently sloped paths (2)
- Hiking days coordinated with senior citizen homes
- Accessible trails
- Disc golf
- Trails separate from mountain bikers
- No disc golf (already available at Bartholomew)
Which trailhead would you arrive at?
- Trailhead 1: 7 votes
- Trailhead 2: 6 votes
- Trailhead 3: 9 votes
- Trailhead 4: 4 votes
- Trailhead 5: 4 votes

What do you want to do once you get there?
- Mountain bike (4 votes)
- Hike (5 votes)
- Single-track trails, not big concrete urban trails (2 votes)
- Walk dog
- Off-leash dog areas
- Dog park
- Birdwatch (2 votes)
- Sit
- Listen to music
- Take pictures

Do the entries have names?
- Yes, local flora/fauna names (3 votes)
- Yes, named after natural features like "Cedar Elm - West entry" or instead perhaps the trails have names that correspond with the entrance names. (2 votes)
- Geographically-orienting names (direction and street names) (2 votes)

What do you see when you arrive?
- Signage (6)
- Bike racks (4)
- Maps (2)
- Benches
- Cooling off showers
- Shade structures
- Doggy bag dispenser
- Bathroom
- Water fountains
- Trailhead
- Vegetation

Which entrance is the main entrance?
- Trailhead 1: 3 votes
- Trailhead 2: 3 votes
- Trailhead 3: 6 votes
- Trailhead 4: 3 votes
- Trailhead 5: 3 votes

Which style of trail and trail head is the best fit for Little Walnut Creek Greenbelt?
- Style 1: 2 likes, 1 dislike
- Style 2: 1 like
- Style 3: 1 like, 1 dislike
- Style 4: 1 like
- Style 5: 3 likes
- Style 6: 3 likes
- Natural, rugged, modern, Rustic.
- Should blend in, not stand out.
- Should have clear symbols.
Station 6: Children’s Vision for the Greenbelt

A hiking trail that goes straight and then turns.

Cecily, 4
Station 7: General Comments

Sorted by Theme

**Trails**
- Add a section of the park dedicated to BMX trails of different difficulties.
- Natural surface trails (2)
- Mountain bike trails in steeper areas
- Mile markers on trail
- Trail maps
- Accessible sections
- Designated biking and hiking areas
- Minimal paving
- Paved path from Springdale to Rangoon
- Creek access
- Allow off-leash dogs
- No off-leash dogs

**Amenities**
- Designated dog park to protect native wildlife (3)
- Drinking fountains (2)
- Bathrooms (2)
- Parking
- Recreational Fields
- Playground
- Tower viewing area
- Bird blinds for bird watching
- Emergency Phones
- Panic button

**Partnerships**
- Collaborate with AISD and environmental education groups
- Archaeology and artifact walks with local geologists
- Arrangement to use trails going through land belonging to The Reserve/ESC Region 13
- Contact local mountain bikers to design trail

**Access**
- Connect to Walnut Creek Trail (2)
- Connect to East Link.
- Crosswalk near 51st St and Rangoon

**Park Development**
- Keep as natural as possible (5)
- Create thorough conservation and impact mitigation plan prior to any development.
- Keep development/amenities near 51st St
- Ensure 1835 Project people restore affected habitat
- Habitat restoration and removal of invasives
- Allow commercial development in periphery to pay for park maintenance and amenities
- Long-term monitoring