AGENDA

Introduction

Stakeholder Meeting #1 Summary

Goals

Design Concepts

Stakeholder Feedback
TEAM EXPECTATIONS AND ROLES

City of Austin

- Fund

Austin Parks & Recreation Department

- Manage, Direct

Veterans Park Stakeholders

- Inform, Consent, Input, Feedback

Design Workshop, Inc.
Prime Design Consultant

- Facilitate, Design, Collaborate

Consultant Team:
- Structures Engineering
- Encotech Engineering
- Urban Design Group

- Design, Collaborate
PROJECT BACKGROUND

- The 2012 Bond initiative provides funding to design space for these memorials and future memorials at Veterans Park.

- Veterans Park is physically connected to the American Legion Post 76, although not administered as one site.

- The Post is not part of the City of Austin’s Park and Recreation Department.

- Site will contain three war memorials previously located at Waterloo Park that honor the:
  - Korean War
  - Vietnam War
  - Hostile Action in Beirut
SCOPE

- Accommodate formal and informal veterans events and observances as well as casual use by the public
- Plan for potential future memorials
- Work with the City of Austin Commission on Veterans Affairs to plan for the needs of the local veterans community
- Work with the adjacent American Legion Post 76 to create a seamless and strong relationship between the park and the existing circulation, retaining wall, flagpoles and structure
- Maximize accessibility and connect to surrounding context
- Utilize the existing concrete sidewalk on Veterans Drive and plan for connectivity to the nearby Capital Metro bus stop and the Roy and Ann Butler Hike and Bike Trail
- Address the drainage catch basin area on site
- Develop and prepare conceptual, schematic, design development and construction documents
THE MONUMENTS

Korean War

Vietnam War

Hostile Action in Beirut

IMAGES FROM ORIGINAL LOCATION AT WATERLOO PARK
PROJECT GOALS SURVEY RESULTS

IN YOUR OPINION, WHAT DO YOU FEEL ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT GOALS FOR THIS SITE? THEY MAY BE RELATED TO THE MEMORIALS, THE SITE EXPERIENCE, PROGRAM AND USE, OR SOMETHING ELSE.

- “A place of honor and remembrance”
- “A place for veterans to enjoy”
- “Visibility”
- “Connected”
- “Authentic”
- “Integrated with Lady Bird Lake”
- “Should honor those who have served in all areas”
- “A sense of solitude”
- “I hope the site evokes reflection in an intimate and comfortable surrounding”
- “Park should be aesthetically pleasing from a distance to invite passers-by”
- “Park should be well lit”
- “Simple, attractive, usable”
- “More trees”
- “Comfortable space for ceremonies and quiet reflection”
- “Preservation of the historical setting”
- “Accessible to all, especially veterans with limited mobility”
- “Inviting to family with young kids needing play space, like sliding down a grassy slope”
- “Place memorials in a reflective space while keeping other areas open for public use”
PROJECT GOALS

HONOR THE MONUMENTS

Monuments should be situated on the site in the same manner so all current and future monuments have an equal presence.

Space surrounding monuments should provide for or encourage reflection.

ENHANCED EXPERIENCE FOR ALL

The park should be used to stroll, lounge, and reflect.

The park should be accessible to all users.

ACTIVATED SPACES

The park should be flexible to accommodate a variety of events or gatherings.

The park should be visible from multiple vantage points to increase awareness of the park.
SURVEY RESULTS

WHAT ELEMENTS ON THE EXISTING SITE ARE IMPORTANT TO KEEP IN THEIR CURRENT FORM? (SELECT ALL THAT APPLY)

- Trees - 79%
- Walkway and stairs from the American Legion to park - 67%
- Flagpole location - 62%
- Retaining walls - 52%
- Lawn space - 43%
- Path circulation - 21%

WHICH WORDS BEST DESCRIBE THE TYPE OF USE YOU SEE FIT FOR THIS SITE? (SELECT UP TO 4 ANSWERS)

- Reflective - 76%
- Passive (bird watching, walking, sitting) - 54%
- Everyday - 51%
- Special event - 41%
- Daytime - 30%
- Informal - 24%
- Structured - 19%
- Group - 16%
- Stimulating - 13%
- Nighttime - 13%
- Formal - 13%
- Active (playground, sports, concerts) - 11%

LIST THE THREE MOST IMPORTANT PROGRAMMING OPPORTUNITIES YOU SEE FIT FOR THIS PARK.

- Reflective
- Event space
- Historic signage
- Quiet seating spaces
- View of lake
- Trees/Shade
- Shaded seating
- Open lawn/Open space
SURVEY RESULTS - TOP 4

WHICH AESTHETIC STYLE IMAGES BEST ALIGN WITH YOUR VISION FOR THIS SITE?

CLASSIC AUSTIN - 65%

NATURAL - 43%

CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS (CCC) - 38%

REFINED - 32%
SURVEY RESULTS - TOP 6

WHICH MATERIAL IMAGES BEST ALIGN WITH YOUR VISION FOR THIS SITE?

- DECOMPOSED GRANITE - 50%
- REGULAR STONE - 47%
- IRREGULAR STONE - 42%
- GRAVEL - 22%
- LARGE BOULDERS - 22%
- PAVERS - 19%
**SURVEY RESULTS**

**DO YOU THINK THE MEMORIALS SHOULD BE GROUPED TOGETHER ON SITE OR EACH HAVE A DEDICATED SPACE OF THEIR OWN?**

- Dedicated space of their own - 70%
- Grouped together - 25%

**RATE ON A SCALE FROM 1-5 HOW IMPORTANT IS IT THAT ALL CURRENT AND FUTURE MONUMENTS BE PLACED ON SITE IN THE SAME LEVEL OF TREATMENT AS EACH OTHER.**

- 1 - Not important, monuments can be treated differently - 14%
- 2 - Somewhat important - 14%
- 3 - Neutral - 3%
- 4 - Important - 19%
- 5 - Very important, all monuments should be treated equally - 44%

**IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE THAT IS IMPORTANT FOR US TO KNOW ABOUT THIS SITE?**

- Adequate lighting
- Access
- Site should include more than 3 monuments
- Trees to screen MoPac
SITE INVENTORY

Key Takeaways:
- Potential connections
- High noise levels
- Visibility to surroundings
- Drainage and slope

Legend:
- Site boundary
- Building
- Paving
- Traffic
- Water flow
- Existing cannon monument
- Existing flagpole

Notes:
- Dense undergrowth, exposed limestone, steep slope, continuous tree canopy
- Existing retaining wall, existing easement, existing sidewalk, existing sewer line, existing drain inlet
- Parking lot, existing sewer line, existing drain inlet, existing sidewalk, existing easement, dense undergrowth, exposed limestone, steep slope, continuous tree canopy

SITE INVENTORY
DEVELOPMENT OF DESIGN

ARCH
Focuses on dramatic form

BERM
Focuses on seclusion and intimate reflection space

ORGANIC
Focuses on sinuous curves and the creation of a variety of spaces
OPTION ONE
MONUMENT LOCATION

ATLANTA STREET
PARKING LOT
VETERANS DRIVE

MONUMENT LOCATION

MONUMENT
SEATING
OPTION ONE
PROMENADE

PARKING LOT
ATLANTA STREET
VETERANS DRIVE

10'X10' TENT
OPTION ONE
OPEN/FLEXIBLE LAWN

PARKING LOT

ATLANTA STREET

LAWN
8,120 SF
600 PEOPLE STANDING
220 PEOPLE SITTING

VETERANS DRIVE
OPTION ONE
ACCESS TO LEGION PARKING
OPTION ONE
SLOPED HILL BEHIND PROMENADE
OPTION ONE
ENTRY AT INTERSECTION

VETERANS DRIVE
OPTION TWO

ORGANIC

Legend

* Monument Location

Bench
OPTION TWO
MONUMENT LOCATION

ATLANTA STREET

SEATING

SLOPED PLANTING AREA

MONUMENT
OPTION TWO
PROMENADE

PARKING LOT

ATLANTA STREET

VETERANS DRIVE

PARKING LOT
OPTION TWO
OPEN/FLEXIBLE LAWN

- LAWN: 5,800 SF
- 440 PEOPLE STANDING
- 170 PEOPLE SITTING

PLANTING AREA

PARKING LOT

ATLANTA STREET

VETERANS DRIVE
OPTION TWO
ACCESS TO LEGION PARKING
OPTION TWO
SLOPED HILL BEHIND PROMENADE
OPTION TWO
ENTRY AT INTERSECTION

ENTRY PLAZA

VETERANS DRIVE

ATLANTA STREET
WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK!
MONUMENT LOCATION
WHICH MONUMENT LAYOUT DO YOU PREFER MOST?

OPTION 1
A. Monuments placed along a central promenade

OPTION 2
B. Monuments placed within secluded viewing areas
OPTION 1
Where would you place the three monuments? (Place the letter of the location next to the image of the monument)

Korean War
Answer: ________

Vietnam War
Answer: ________

Hostile Action in Beirut
Answer: ________
MONUMENT LOCATION

OPTION 2
Where would you place the three monuments? (Place the letter of the location next to the image of the monument)

A
B
C
D
E
F

Korean War
Vietnam War
Hostile Action in Beirut

Answer: _______  Answer: _______  Answer: _______
PROMENADE
WHICH PROMENADE DO YOU PREFER THE MOST?

OPTION 1
A. Wide promenade with formal row of trees and space for flexible use

OPTION 2
B. More intimate with framed views to lawn
WHICH LAWN SPACE DO YOU PREFER MOST?

**OPTION 1**
A. Visually open with multiple entrance points

**OPTION 2**
B. Secluded with focused entrance points
ACCESS TO LEGION PARKING

WHICH PATH EXPERIENCE DO YOU PREFER MOST?

OPTION 1
A. Direct path lined with handrails and ornamental trees

OPTION 2
B. Meandering path with ornamental trees and planting
SLOPED HILL BEHIND PROMENADE

WHICH SLOPED HILL CONDITION DO YOU PREFER MOST?

OPTION 1

A. Sloped planting area with seasonal interest

OPTION 2

B. Sloped lawn for picnics and lounging
PARK ENTRANCE AT INTERSECTION

WHICH INTERSECTION ENTRANCE DO YOU PREFER MOST?

OPTION 1
Intimate entrance at intersection

OPTION 2
Plaza-like entrance at intersection
OVERALL PLAN
OVERALL, WHICH PLAN DO YOU PREFER MOST?

OPTION 1

OPTION 2
THANK YOU FOR YOUR INPUT!

Additional questions or comments?
Contact D’Anne Williams
danne.williams@austintexas.gov
or
visit the project website at
http://www.austintexas.gov/department/veterans-park-plan