

City of Austin YBC Urban Trail

July 28, 2015

City Project Manager: Jessica Salinas, PMP
City Urban Trails Program Manager: Nadia Barrera, AICP, PMP
Halff - Consultant Engineer: Shawn Bertram, PE



YBC Urban Trail



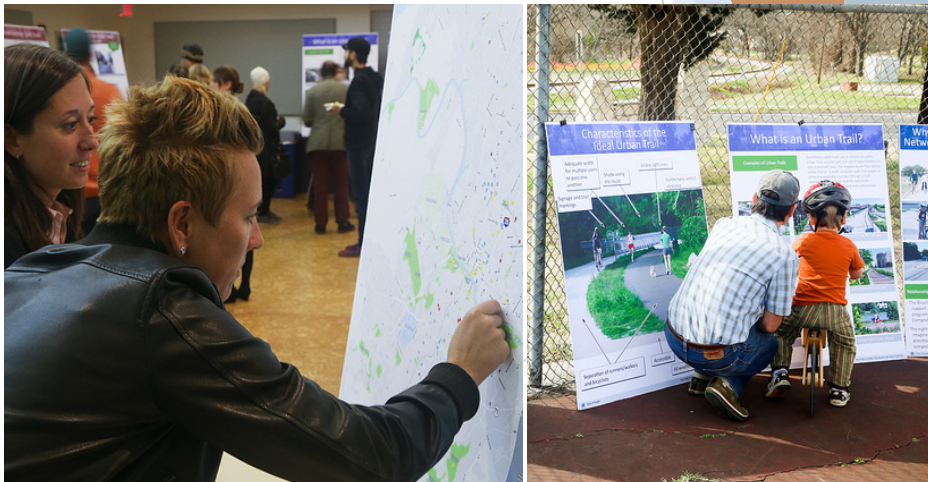
YBC Project Team

- ❑ City Project Manager-Jessica Salinas
- ❑ City Urban Trails Program Manager-Nadia Barrera
- ❑ City of Austin Departments
 - ❑ Parks and Recreation Department- DAnn Williams
 - ❑ Watershed Department- Erin Woods
 - ❑ Austin Police Department- Sergeant Rob Tucker & Officer Jeffrey Binder
 - ❑ Public Works Information Office- Alexandria Bruton
- ❑ Project Consultant & Subconsultants:
 - ❑ Halff Associates- Shawn Bertram (Project Engineer)
 - ❑ Randal Endsley, Jeffrey Nagy, Jim Carrillo, Brian Binkowski
 - ❑ Baer Engineering-Environmental Investigations and Report
 - ❑ Jennifer Lueckemeyer, Leilani Williams
 - ❑ Crespo Engineering-Drainage and Water quality support
 - ❑ Eckermann Engineering-Utility investigation and coordination
 - ❑ MWM Engineering-Surveying and Parcel information



Open House Objective

- ▶ Inform
 - ▶ Explain the overall project (15-20 mins)
- ▶ Interact
 - ▶ 7 Interactive Boards (30 mins)
- ▶ Input
 - ▶ Written comments from public with formal question & response session (20 mins)
- ▶ Conclusion
 - ▶ Discuss future meetings & post online information (5 mins)



YBC Urban Trail



Definition of an Urban Trail

“A citywide network of non-motorized, multi-use pathways that are used by bicyclists, walkers and runners for both transportation and recreation purposes”.

- ▶ Initially defined by the 2009 Bicycle Master Plan
- ▶ Follows guidance and recommendations from Imagine Austin
- ▶ Considers definitions used by other communities
- ▶ Confirmed by Citizen Advisory Group and Technical Advisory Group



Urban Trail Goals for Austin

1. Provide **easy access** to urban trails for both transportation and recreation users from all parts of the City
2. Link and **connect** all urban trails to the on-street bicycle network, sidewalk network, transit stops and bike share stations
3. Ensure **adequate trail width** to accommodate both recreation and transportation uses
4. Incorporate **trail amenities and features** to create a sense of whimsy
5. Provide adequate resources to **maintain and operate** Urban Trails in Austin
6. Ensure that all Urban Trails are **context-sensitive** and **environmentally sustainable**



Existing Urban Trails in Austin

- ▶ Boardwalk Trail at Lady Bird Lake - 1 mile
- ▶ Country Club Trail - 0.6 miles
- ▶ Johnson Creek Trail - 1 mile
- ▶ LAB - 6 miles total (about 2 miles of Urban Trail)
- ▶ Shoal Creek Trail - 2.5 miles (5th St. to 31st)
- ▶ Southern Walnut Creek Trail - 6 miles
- ▶ Northern Walnut Creek - 8 miles
- ▶ US 290 Sidepath to Manor - 5 miles

- Austin has about **300 miles of trails** of all types.
- About **30 miles** of existing trails are defined as Urban Trails



Southern Walnut Creek Trail



Surface Material

All-weather, hard surface, that can accommodate a wide range of users



Concrete



Asphalt



Crushed
Granite (w/
StaLok)



Porous
Pavement

and others...



YBC Urban Trail



Trail Evaluation

The YBC Trail was identified as a Tier 1 Urban Trail utilizing the UTMP Prioritization Criteria.

UTMP Prioritization Criteria

- ▶ Proximity to Attractors/ Destinations
- ▶ Residential population of Census Tract within ½ mile
- ▶ Connectivity
- ▶ Community support

Criteria		Points	Score
Proximity to Attractors/Destinations		Check all that apply	
3 or more Major Employers within 1/2 mile from route (Major Employer = over 250 at one location)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	30	30
3 or more public and private schools (grades K-12) within 1/2 mile from trail	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	25	25
Transit Facility within 1/2 mile (BRT, Rail, Bus, Park and Ride)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	20	20
Direct access to Bike Share	<input type="checkbox"/>	5	0
Direct access to Central Business District	<input type="checkbox"/>	20	0
Direct access to University of Texas or any other higher education institution	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	20	20
Direct access to public places (parks, libraries, other civic uses)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	20	20
Direct access to Imagine Austin Centers	<input type="checkbox"/>	15	0
		Total	115
Residential Population of Census Tract Within 1/2 mile		Check Only One	
Population > 8,000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	30	30
Population ≥ 4,000 < 8,000	<input type="checkbox"/>	25	0
Population ≥ 1,000 < 4,000	<input type="checkbox"/>	20	0
Population ≥ 500 < 1,000	<input type="checkbox"/>	15	0
Population < 500	<input type="checkbox"/>	10	0
		Total	30
Connectivity		Check all that apply	
Completes barrier in trail	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	30	30
Completes gap in existing on-street sidewalk or bicycle facility	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	30	30
2 or more existing or planned trails connected by the proposed trail	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	20	20
		Total	100
Community Support		Check all that apply	
Recommended by another adopted plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	30	30
Adopted in Neighborhood Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	20	20
		Total	50
		Grand Total	295
		Out of 335	
		88%	

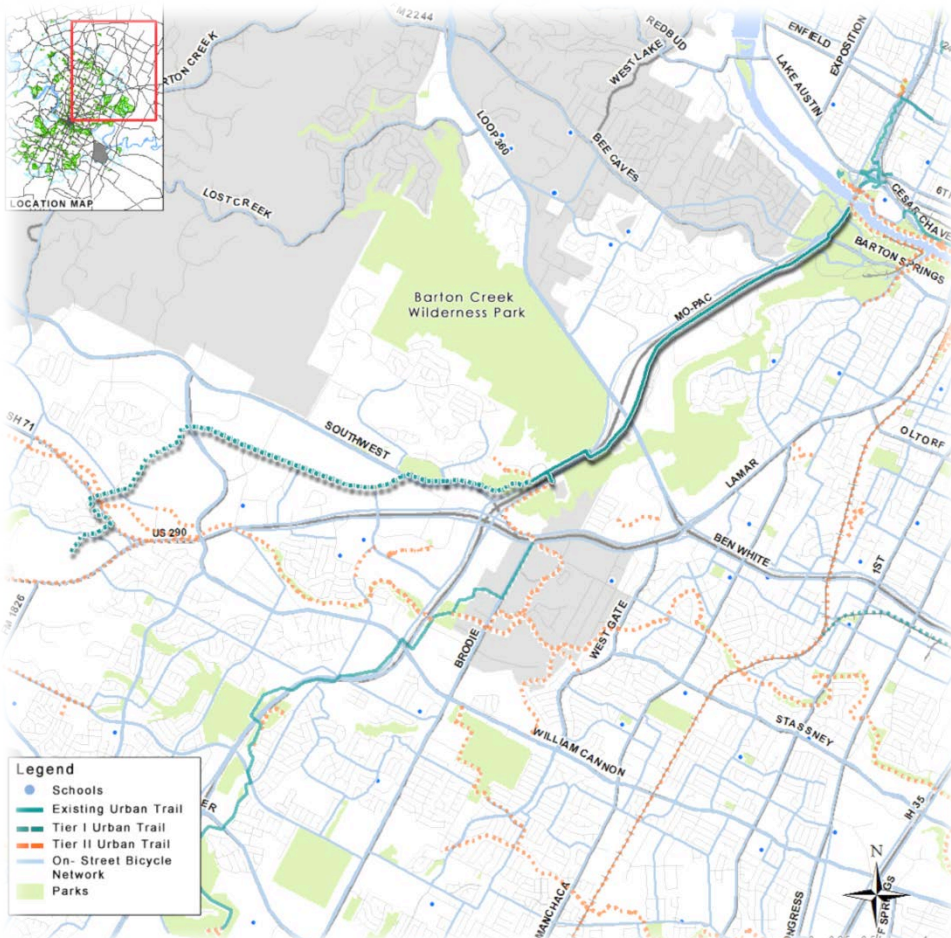


YBC Urban Trail



Consulting Team's Role

- ▶ Evaluate the last leg of the Barton Corridor as defined in the Urban Trail Master Plan
- ▶ Provide the City of Austin a preferred alignment based on all constraints including public input presented



- Barton Corridor consists of the Stratford to Barton Springs Connector, the Mopac Bicycle and Pedestrian Bridge, and the Proposed YBC Urban Trail



YBC Urban Trail

Project Schedule

Data Collection

- Preliminary field reconnaissance
- Preliminary environmental review
- Identify preliminary alignments

January-June 2015

Public Input

- Open house & information session

July-August 2015

Analysis

- Utilize public input to identify preferred and alternative alignments
- Survey alignments

September-October 2015



YBC Urban Trail



Project Schedule

PER

- Prepare a Draft Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Consideration Investigations Report
- Present Draft PER to the public and discuss preferred alignment

October-December 2015

Revise PER

- Incorporate stakeholder feedback and comments into report

December-January 2015

Finalize

- Finalize recommendations and implementation strategy
- Hold final meeting with the public to present final report
- Coordinate with City to conclude final PER

January-February 2015-2016



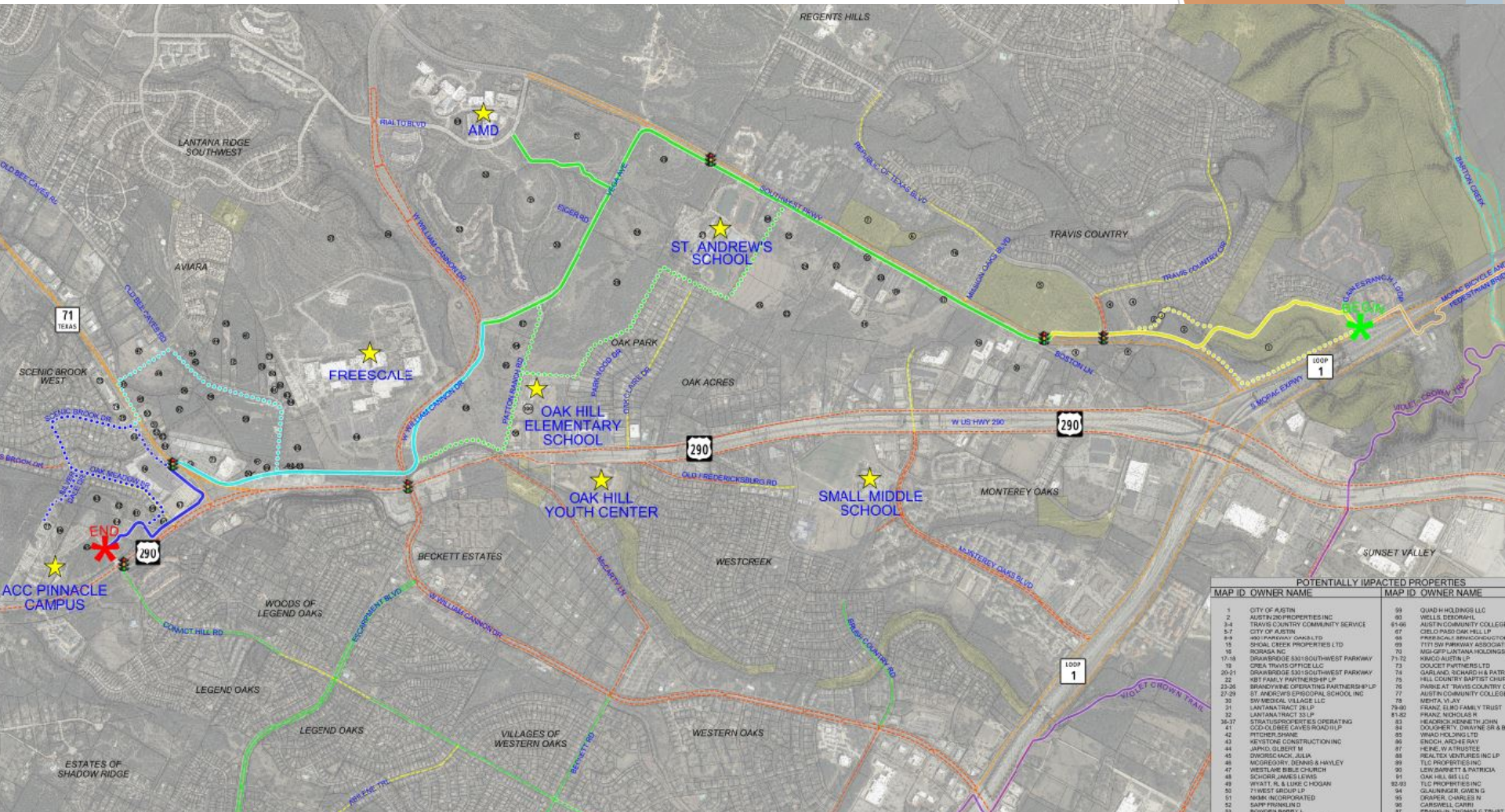
YBC Urban Trail



Team Process

- ▶ Analyzed the Oak Hill Trails Association (OHTA) alignment
- ▶ Developed a modified trail alignment using pre-identified criteria
 - ▶ Environmental impacts
 - ▶ Topographic conditions
 - ▶ Safety concerns
 - ▶ Land constraints
 - ▶ Integration into existing connectivity network
 - ▶ Accessibility to nearby schools, neighborhoods & major businesses
- ▶ Engaged in discussions with TxDOT to understand the US290/SH71 West project and its potential impact
- ▶ Met with various stakeholders to gauge interest



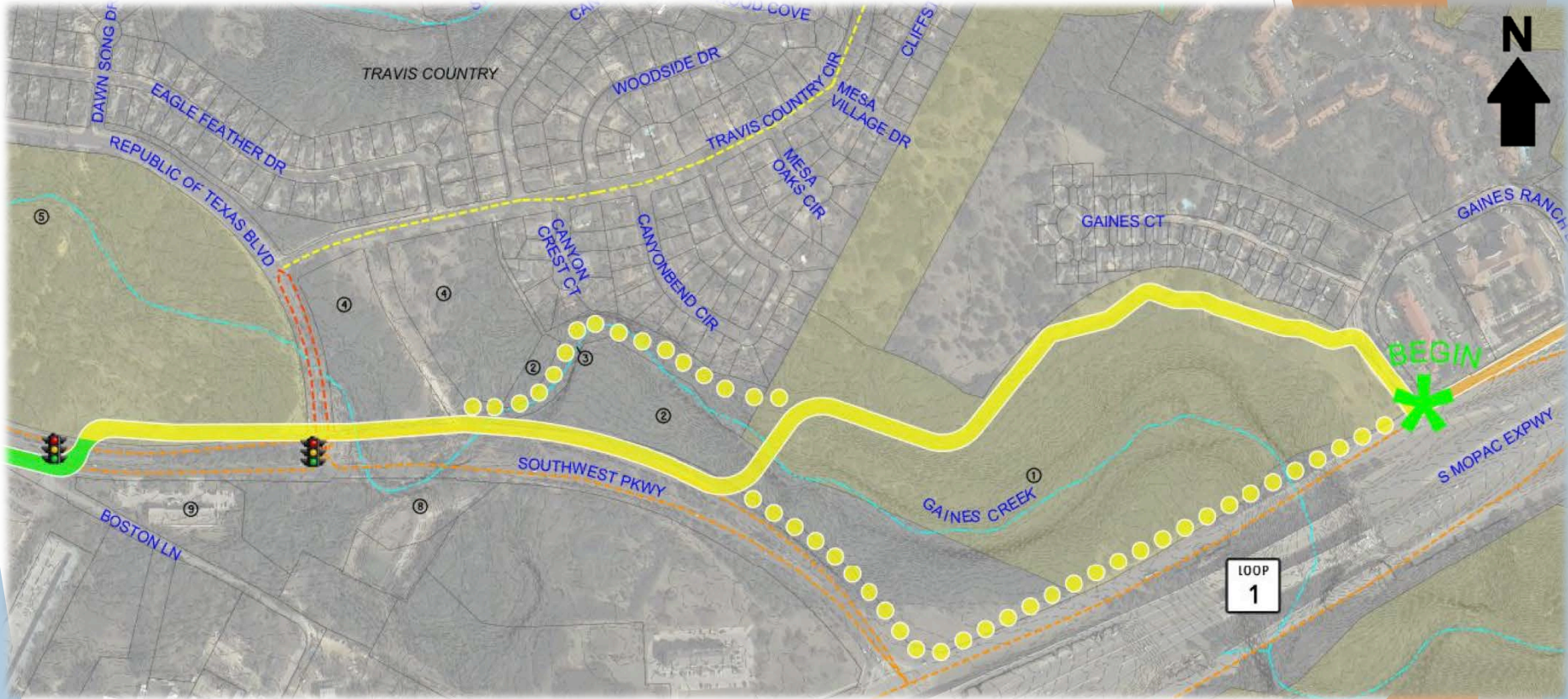


YBC Urban Trail



Segment 1

Mopac Pedestrian Bridge to Southwest Parkway crossing
(1.01 Miles)



Mopac Pedestrian
Bridge

Gaines
Creek
Greenbelt

Southwest
Parkway

Southwest
Parkway
crossing

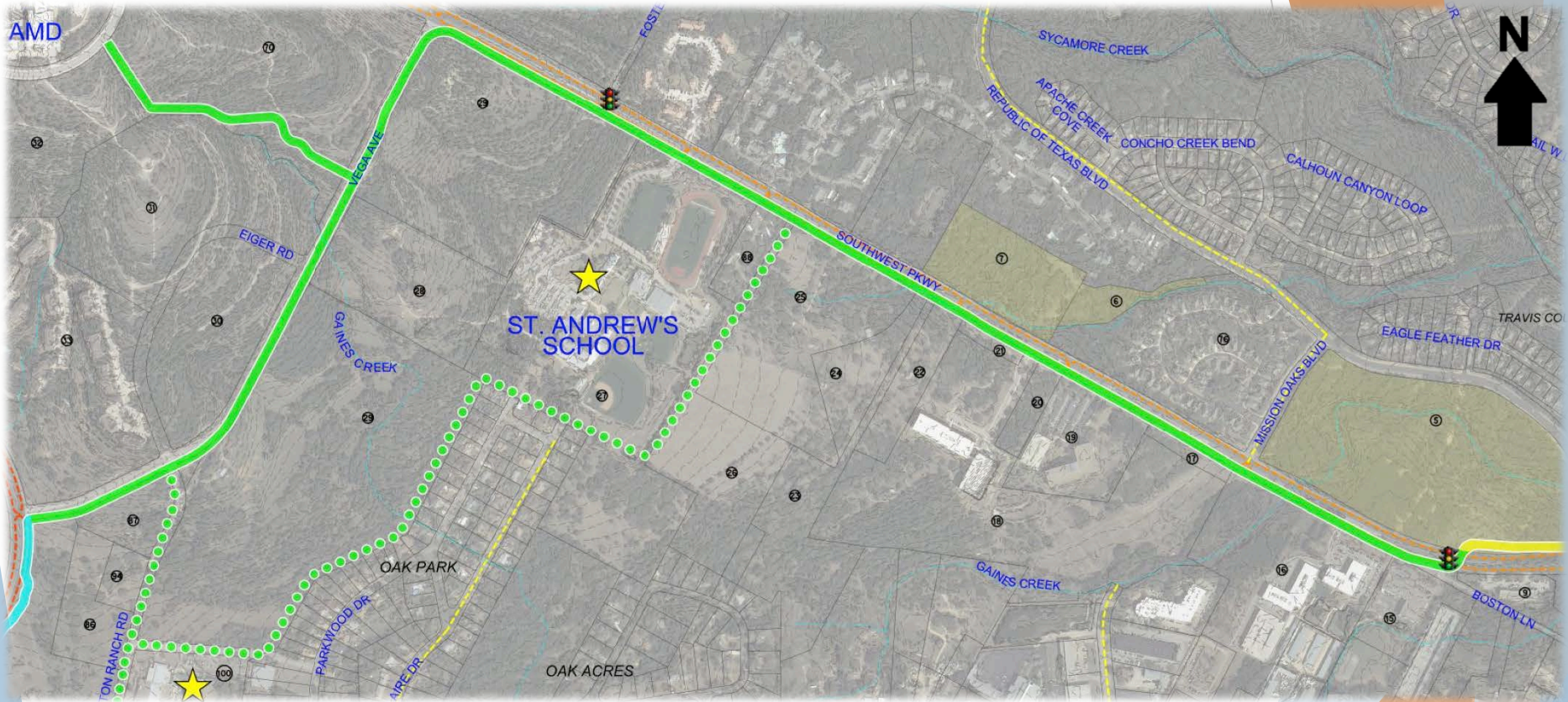


YBC Urban Trail



Segment 2

Southwest Parkway crossing to William Cannon intersection
(2.18 Miles)



Southwest
Parkway crossing

Vega Avenue

Rialto
connection

William
Cannon
intersection

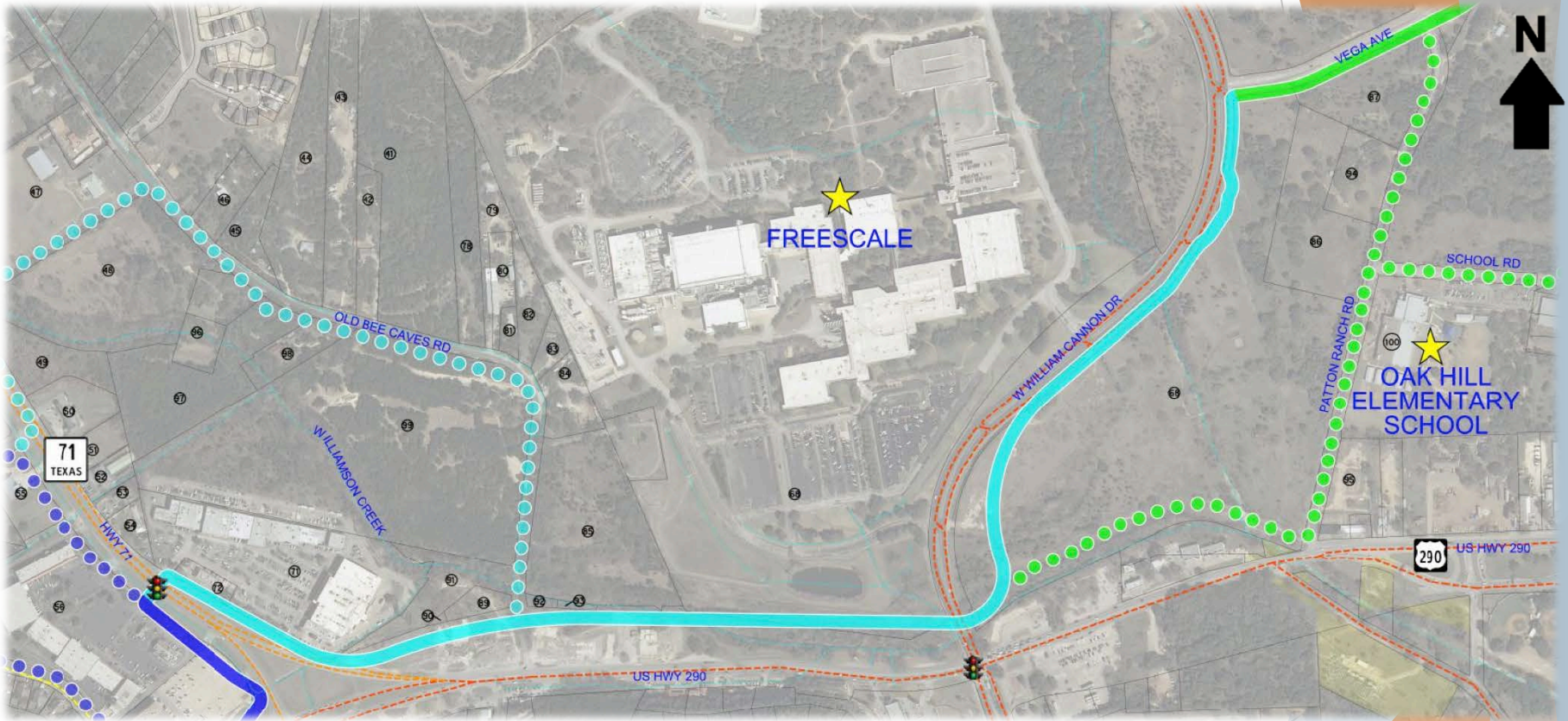


YBC Urban Trail



Segment 3

William Cannon intersection to SH 71 & U.S. 290 crossing
(1.27 Miles)



William Cannon
intersection

William
Cannon

U.S. 290

SH71 &
U.S. 290
crossing

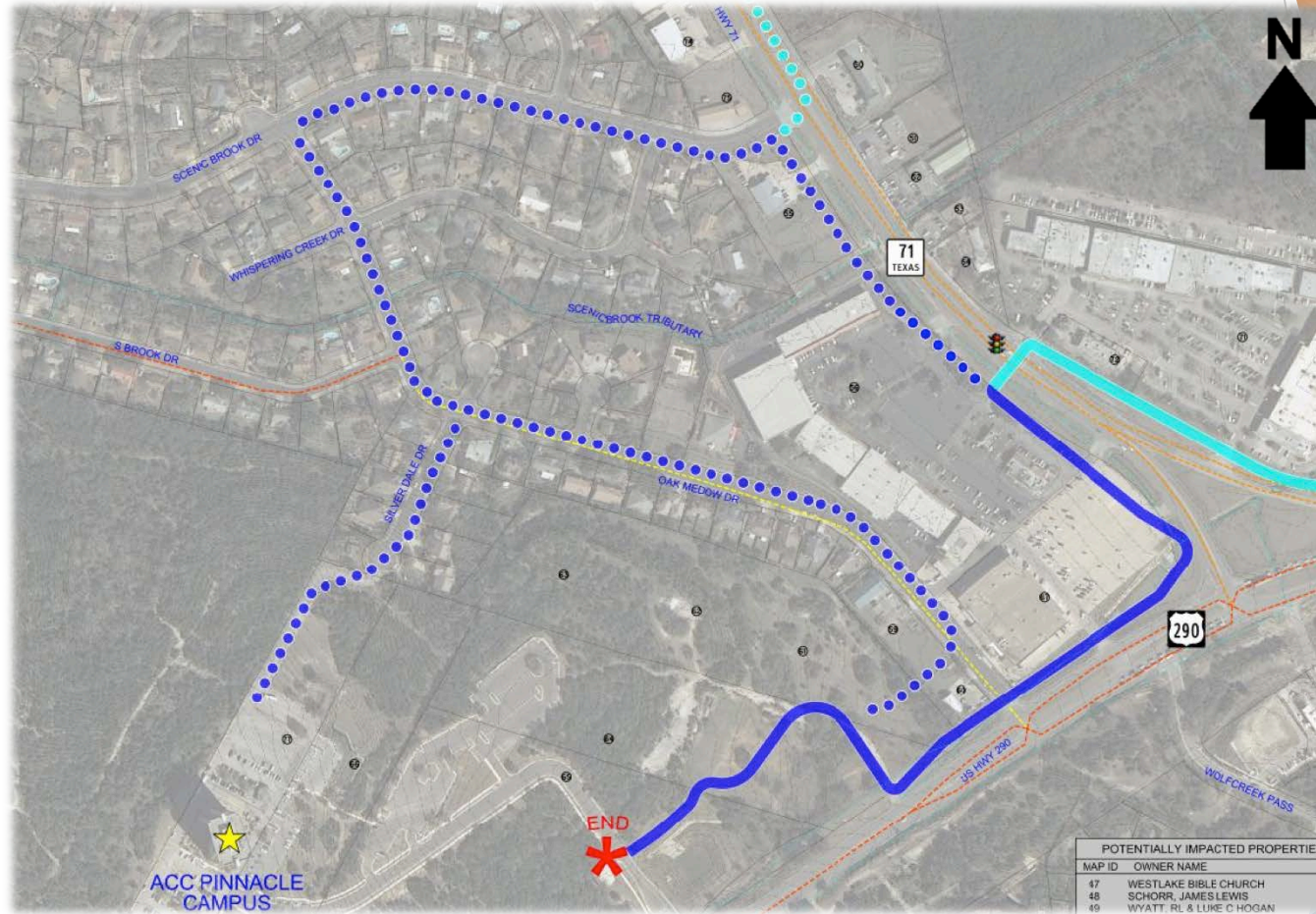


YBC Urban Trail



Segment 4

SH 71 & U.S. 290 Crossing to ACC Pinnacle Campus (0.52 Miles)



SH71 & U.S. 290
crossing

U.S. 290

Oak
Meadow
Drive

ACC
Pinnacle
Campus



YBC Urban Trail



Proposed Sections



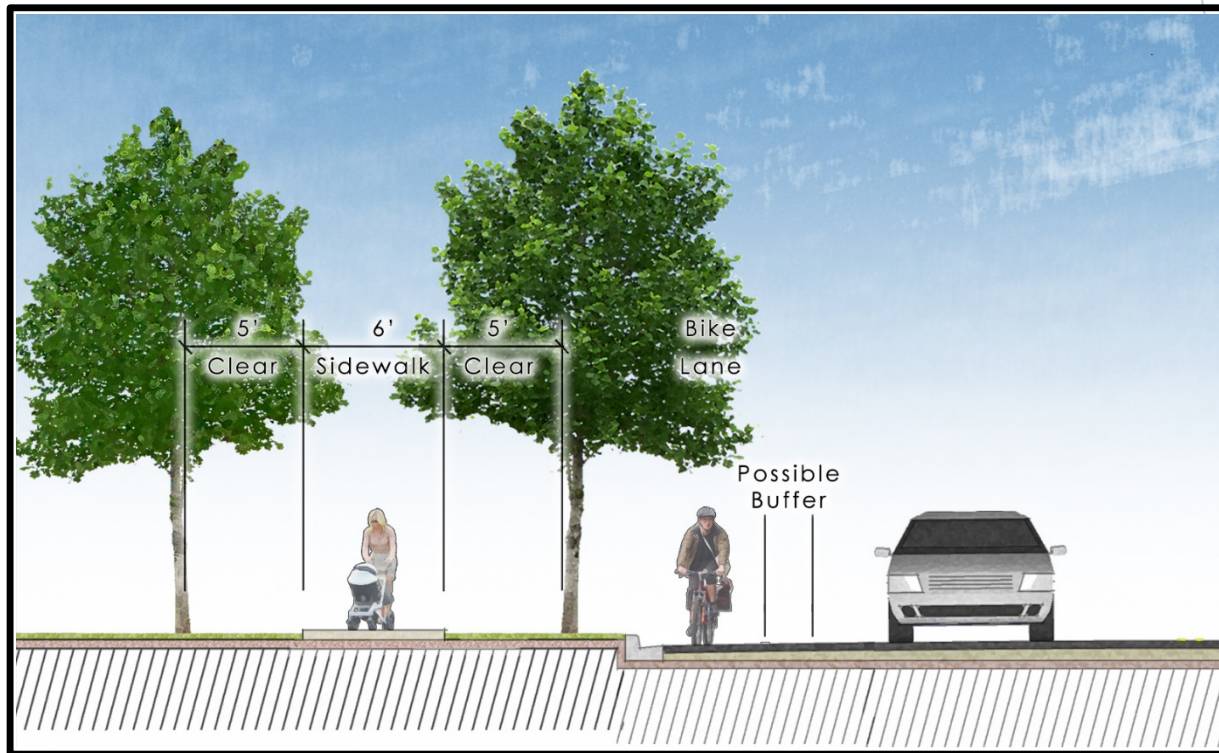
Shared use path



YBC Urban Trail



Proposed Sections



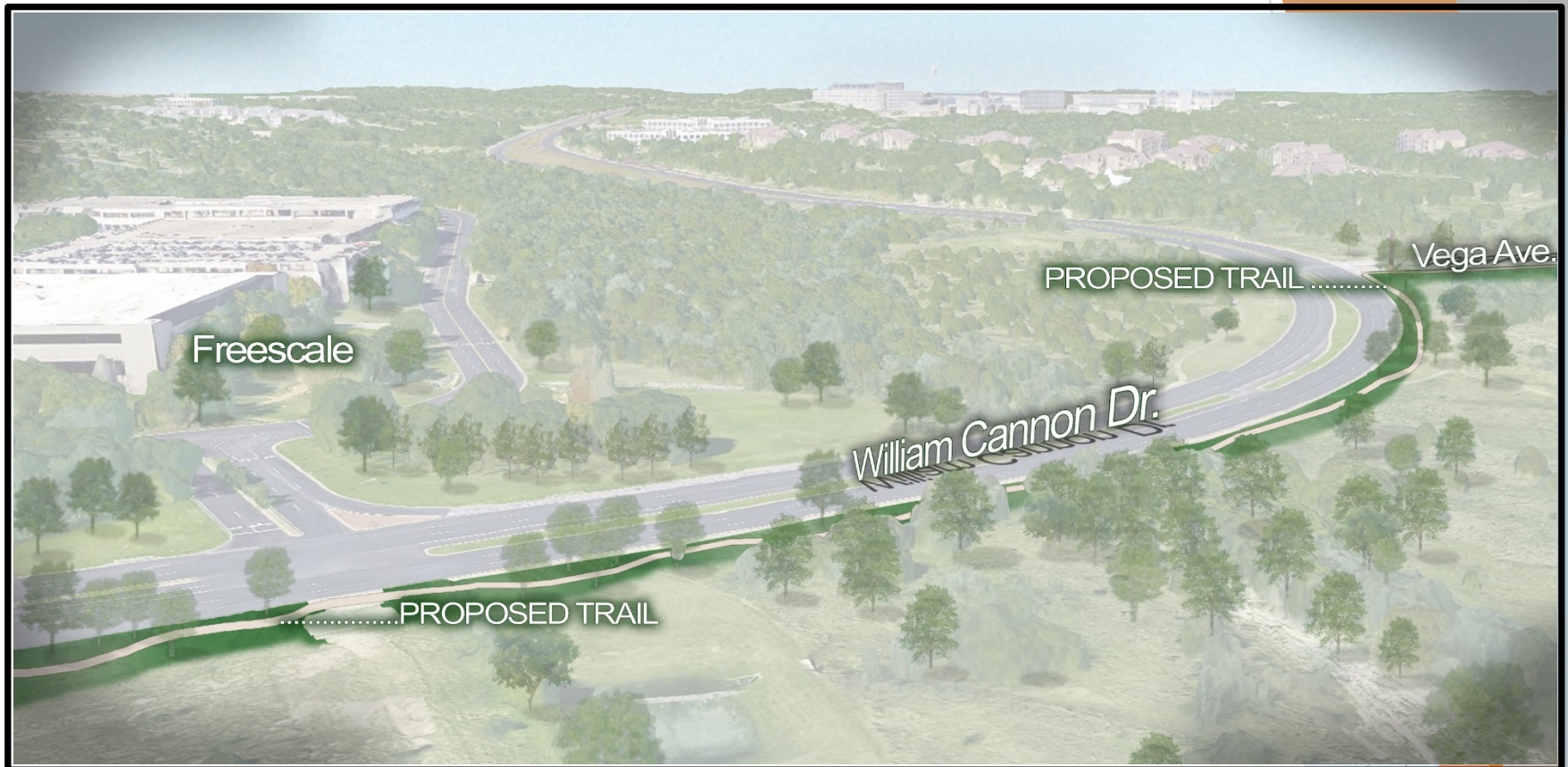
Sidewalk with separated bike lane



YBC Urban Trail



Potential Alignments – William Cannon Drive



YBC Urban Trail



Potential Alignments - Southwest Parkway



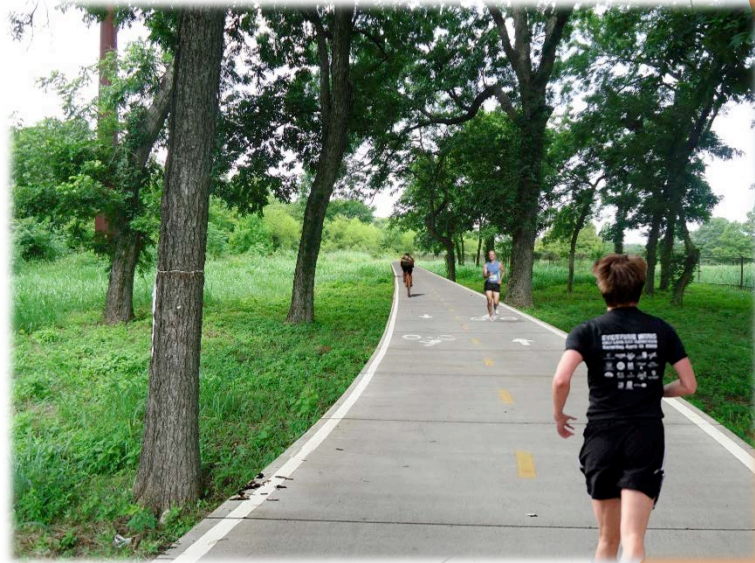
YBC Urban Trail



Before



After



YBC Urban Trail



Before



After



YBC Urban Trail



Before



After



YBC Urban Trail



Conclusion:

➤ Future Meetings

- Open House (same as today): August 4th - ACC Pinnacle Campus
- Draft Preliminary Engineering Report: November 2015 - TBD

➤ Website Information:

www.austintexas.gov/ybctrail

➤ Primary Contact:

Jessica.Salinas@Austintexas.gov

