



J.J. Seabrook

Stream Restoration, Rain Garden, and Urban Trail Project



The JJ Seabrook Project improves water quality and stream function while creating a unique sense of place for the local community. The project was guided by neighborhood visionaries and implemented by a multidisciplinary team led by Watershed Protection and including the Public Works, Parks and Recreation, and Transportation Departments. The project goals included: (1) restoring a stable, functional, and ecologically sustainable creek system by creating a complex riparian landscape and reconnecting the creek by replacing a culvert with a pedestrian bridge; (2) reducing pollution from urban runoff by providing rain gardens and vegetative swales within the contributing watershed and removing unnecessary impervious cover; (3) creating bicycle and pedestrian connectivity and calming vehicular traffic by reusing a vehicular roadway as an urban trail; (4) providing a park trail system for the community to better utilize the greenbelt; and (5) creating an aesthetically-pleasing place for the local community to enjoy in a natural setting.

Before



Mowed, dredged channel with turfgrass banks.

After



Restructured channel with riffle/pool complex and native riparian vegetation.



The project is located in Austin, Texas, within the JJ Seabrook Greenbelt and along the adjacent roadway. Project boundaries include Manor Road to the north, Martin Luther King Boulevard to the south, Palo Pinto to the west, and Pershing Drive to the east.

**Approximate total suspended solids (TSS) removed by two rain gardens and removal of 18,000 square feet of impervious cover*

- Construction substantially completed in October 2015
- 900 feet of stream restored
- 1,200 feet of urban trail added
- 2,250 feet of park loop trail created
- 1,800 pounds of water pollution removed *per year* *
- One culvert removed
- One spring daylighted

Before



Before construction, a culvert and street bisected the park

After



A bike/pedestrian bridge replaced the culvert and hydrologically reconnected the stream

Before



Site of rain garden at Denver Avenue on City of Austin property before construction

After



The rain garden captures and cleans storm water from the adjacent road and the bike/pedestrian trail

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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