



Watershed Protection Ordinance (WPO): Stakeholder Meeting Development Patterns & Greenways

December 16, 2011

Meeting Objective

What code & criteria changes can we include in the Watershed Protection Ordinance to achieve our City vision as reflected by the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan?

Meeting Agenda

- **Introductions [5 min]**
- **The Vision – Alignment with the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan [10 min]**
- **Discuss examples of potential incentives & barriers to implementing the vision [15 min]**
- **Breakout Session – Identify potential incentives & barriers for the following themes: [70 min]**
 - Parks & Trails
 - Subdivision/Development Patterns
 - Transportation/Connectivity
 - Environmental Impacts
- **Full Group Review – Summarize potential incentives & barriers for each theme [20 min]**
- **Next Meeting – Focus on Parkland Dedication, Transfer of Development Rights, & Redevelopment**

The Vision: Imagine Austin Priority Programs

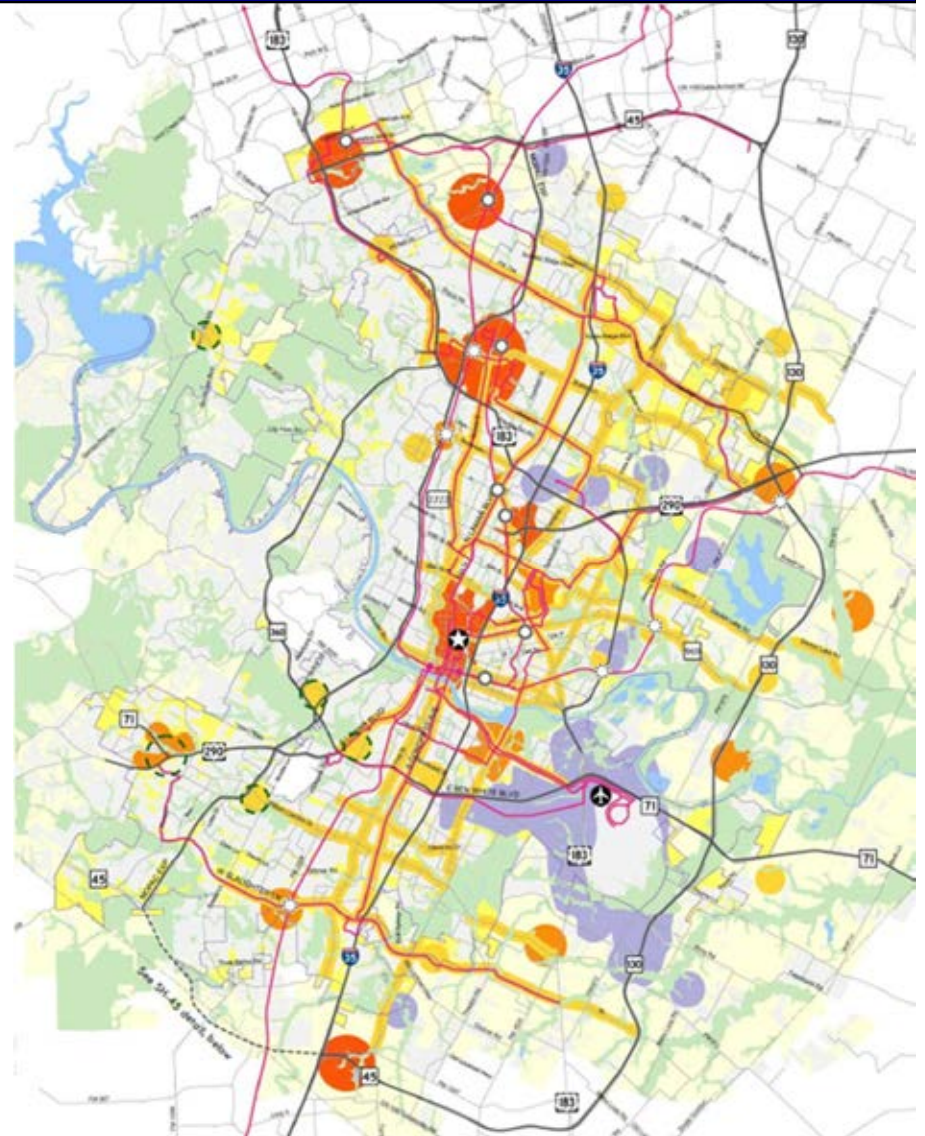
- **Create a green infrastructure program to protect environmentally sensitive areas and integrate nature into the city.**
 - **Create a comprehensive network of parks, waterways, greenways, trails, green streets, natural areas, and other “green” features (e.g., a healthy urban forest) throughout Austin.**
- **Sustainably manage our water resources.**
- **Change Austin’s development regulations and processes to promote a compact & connected city.**

The Vision: Imagine Austin Priority Programs

- **Develop and maintain affordable housing throughout Austin.**
 - **Promote affordable housing throughout Austin by continuing to encourage diverse housing types and reducing regulatory barriers**
- **Create a “Healthy Austin” program.**
 - **Promote nutrition, healthy food, and local food sources**
 - **Create a network of separated bicycle, walking routes, and trails**

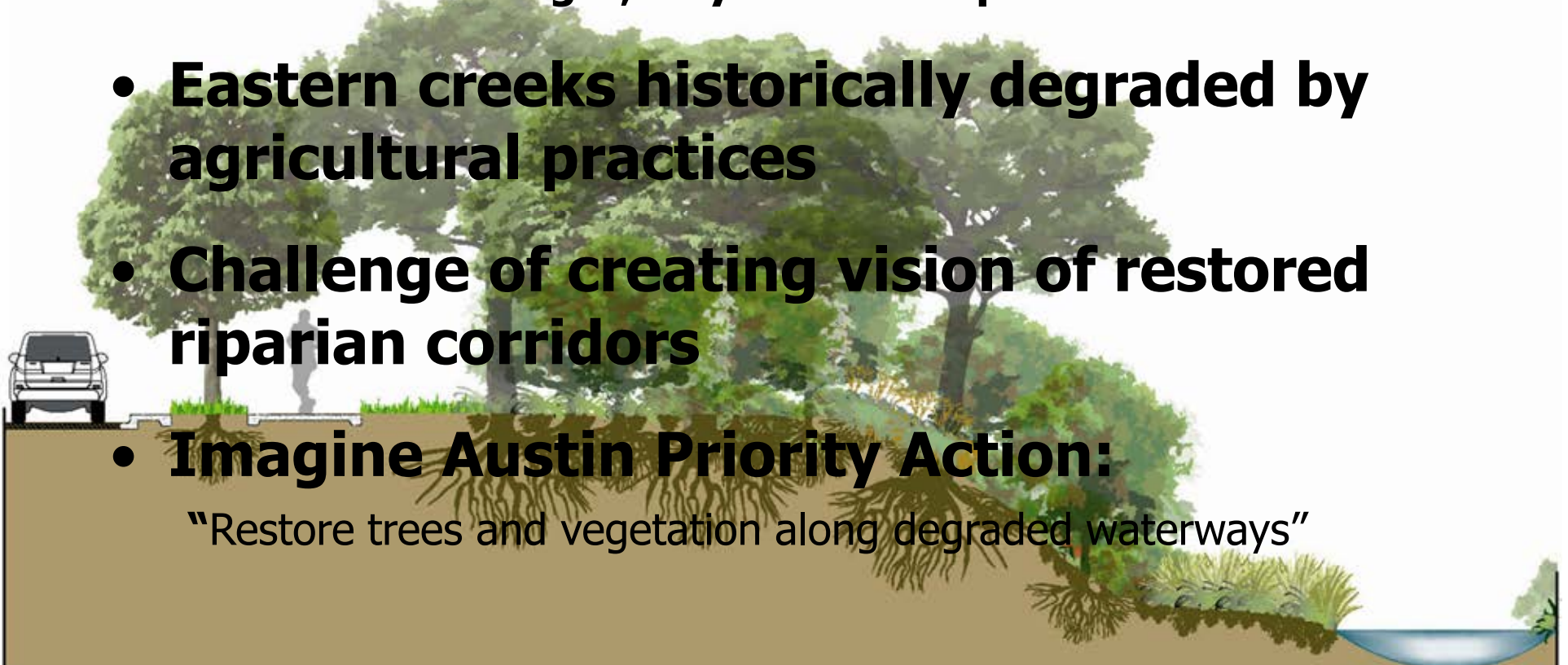
The Vision: Growth Concept Map

- Protects existing open space and natural resources such as creeks, rivers, lakes, and floodplains.
- Promotes infill and redevelopment as opposed to typical low-density “greenfield” development.
- Focuses new development in mixed-use corridors and centers accessible by walking, bicycling, and transit as well as by car.
- Provides parks and open space close to where people live, work, and play.

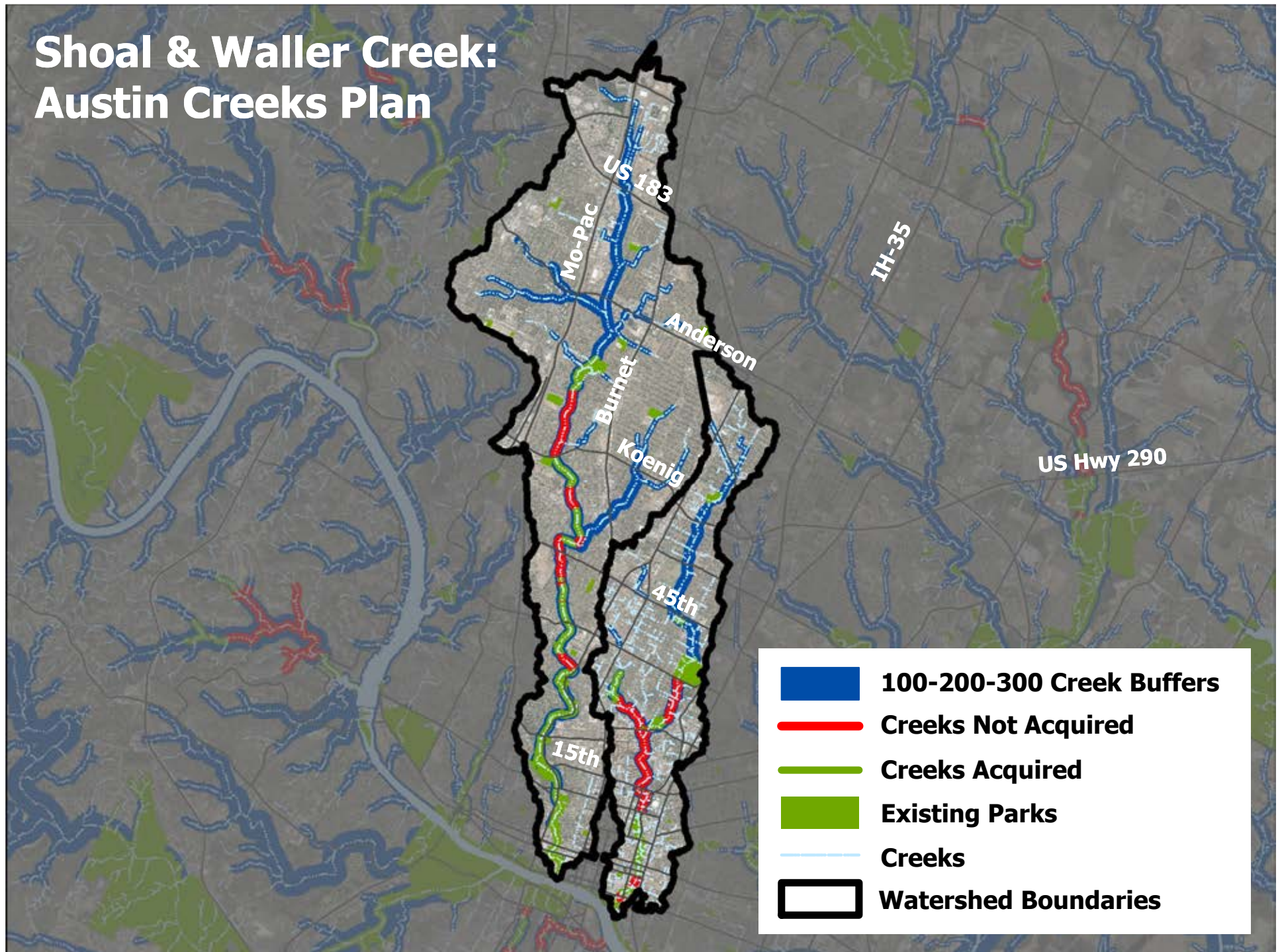


Creating a Vision for Eastern Creeks

- **Identify uniqueness of place: what is your community's essential DNA?**
 - Alan Greenberger, City of Philadelphia
- **Eastern creeks historically degraded by agricultural practices**
- **Challenge of creating vision of restored riparian corridors**
- **Imagine Austin Priority Action:**
 - "Restore trees and vegetation along degraded waterways"



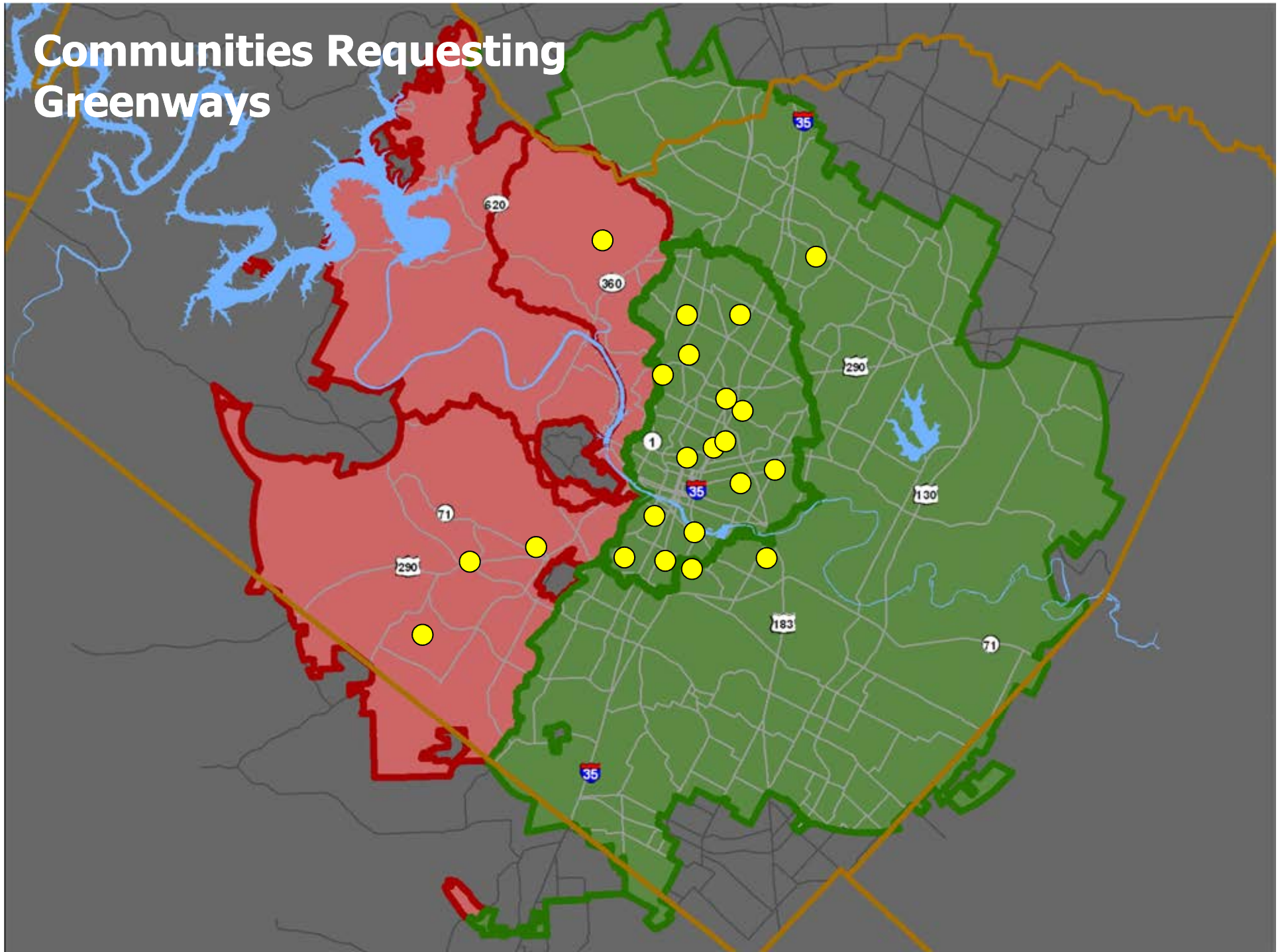
Shoal & Waller Creek: Austin Creeks Plan



Communities Requesting Greenways

1. Blunn: Stacy Park & Blunn Creek Preserve
 2. Boggy: Cherrywood Green
 3. Boggy: Oak Springs wetlands
 4. Boggy: Willowbrook
 5. Bull: Spicewood Springs
 6. Carson: Montopolis
 7. Country Club: Mabel Davis to Roy Guerrero
 8. Fort Branch: Springdale Park
 9. East Bouldin: Greenbelt
 10. Lady Bird Lake: Hike & Bike Trail on south bank
 11. Little Walnut: Heron Hollow
 12. Oak Hill: Multiple
 13. Shoal: Anderson Trail
 14. Shoal: Arroyo Seco
 15. Shoal: Greenbelt upstream of 45th Street
 16. Slaughter: Circle C/ La Crosse trail connection
 17. Tannehill: Bartholomew Park
 18. Tannehill: Ridgetop
 19. Waller: UT Greenbelt & Trail
 20. Walnut: Copperfield
 21. West Bouldin: Bouldin Meadows and COA WPD Tract
- Note: Partial List**

Communities Requesting Greenways



Themes for Discussion: Incentives & Barriers

- 1. Parks & Trails**
- 2. Transportation/Connectivity**
- 3. Subdivision/Development Patterns**
- 4. Environmental Impacts**

Trail Placement in Riparian Areas



Grand Oaks Neighborhood, South Boggy Creek

Skinny Streets



Shoal Crest Ave., Shoal Creek

Single-Loaded Streets



Willowbrook Reach, Boggy Creek

Breakout Groups

1. Parks & Trails

- Trail placement
- Parkland dedication

2. Transportation/Connectivity

- Skinny streets
- Stream crossings

3. Subdivision/Development Patterns

- Single-loaded streets
- Lot width/size
- Density
- Low-Impact Development (LID)

4. Environmental Impacts

- Trail impacts in riparian zones
- Wildlife habitat
- Critical Environmental Features (springs, wetlands, etc.)

Breakout Groups

- 1. Find a table**
- 2. Feel free to move around any time**
- 3. Write down your ideas**
- 4. Be as specific as possible**
- 5. Summarize ideas to share with the group**

Adoption Schedule

Stakeholder Meetings

Sep 2011 – April 2012

(Meetings approx. every two weeks)

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| 1. Creek Protection: | Sep 9, 23, Oct 7 |
| 2. Floodplain Protection: | Oct 21, Nov 4, Dec 2 |
| 3. Development Patterns & Greenways: | Dec 16 – Jan |
| 4. Improved Stormwater Controls: | Feb |
| 5. Mitigation Options (DDZ) +
Rule Simplification & Flexibility | Mar |
| 6. Draft Ordinance: | Apr |

Boards & Commissions

May – June 2012

City Council

August 2012

Travis County Commissioner's Court

Fall 2012

Contact Information

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**[www.austintexas.gov/watershed/
ordinances2.htm](http://www.austintexas.gov/watershed/ordinances2.htm)**