

**ONION CREEK MASTER PLAN
PUBLIC MEETING SUMMARY**

Thursday, March 12, 2015
Widen Elementary School
6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Meeting Overview

The Onion Creek Master Plan Project Team held the fourth and final Public Meeting to present the Final Draft Master Plan to the community. The Public Meeting was held on Thursday, March 12, 2015, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The purpose of the meeting was to share the final draft version of the Master Plan and answer stakeholder questions regarding the next steps for the project.

A 45-minute presentation was given by the lead planner who explained the vision for the Master Plan and the different components of the project. After the presentation there was another 45 minutes for individual discussions with team members about the Master Plan. Illustrative boards explaining the Project were placed in the back of the room in order to provide more information to the public.

Park users and residents near the project area were invited to the meeting via emailing list, invitation letters (sent to mailing lists from the City of Austin Parks Department and residents near the study area), emails, yard signs and fliers. Fifty one people signed in for the Public Meeting.

Public Meeting Materials

Attendees were greeted and offered a project fact sheet and frequently asked questions document.

Presentation

The presentation covered the results of the public surveys and stakeholder input where the community expressed the desire to preserve and enhance the rich natural aspects of the park. The presentation highlighted the major areas of park and provided an overview of the 46 key activities included in the Master Plan as follows:

- The Great Lawn
- Playfields and Recreation
- Heritage Areas
- Nature Education Center
- Trials for People and Horses

- Meadows
- Restoration Zones

The City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department representative shared the overview of how the park was acquired and the current funds allocated for initial improvements to the park. The City of Austin has budgeted an estimated \$1 million to make improvements to

The planning team also provided poster board exhibits displaying detailed drawings of the final Master Plan. These boards included images to help the public envision how the ideas in the Master Plan might be designed into the project.

Public Meeting Feedback

The purpose of this meeting was to present final ideas for the Master Plan and report on how the input received was reflected in the vision for the park.

The summary of input received is provided below:

- **Dog Park:** Interest in where a dog park would be located. Design suggestions included a controlled/fenced in, off leash area.
- **Trails/park connectivity:** The addition of equestrian trails were appreciated by several attendees. There was a concern addressed about the location of a pedestrian bridge to link X to X
- **Impacts of Flooding:** Multiple attendees raised their concerns about how much construction will be made in the park that may cause runoff in the area. This area is very sensitive to future flooding. Concerns were also raised about the creek crossings during a flood.
- **Parking:** Attendees expressed a previously heard concern about security in the area of and placement of parking, particularly near the current residential area.
- **Additional neighborhood meeting in Spanish:**
- **Active Areas** - Participants shared that they wanted to make sure that the great lawn areas be kept passive and that the park not become a festival space.
- **Implementation of the Master Plan** - Several participants questioned how they could keep track of the progress of the plan and how the ideas were going to be funded and implemented.



Open House Photos



