

Cypress Creek Nature Preserve Masterplan

City Council and Parks Board Presentation 9.19.2019



ALVARADO
WORKS



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PLANNING AND URBAN DESIGN

Daniel Alvarado _ Founding Principal

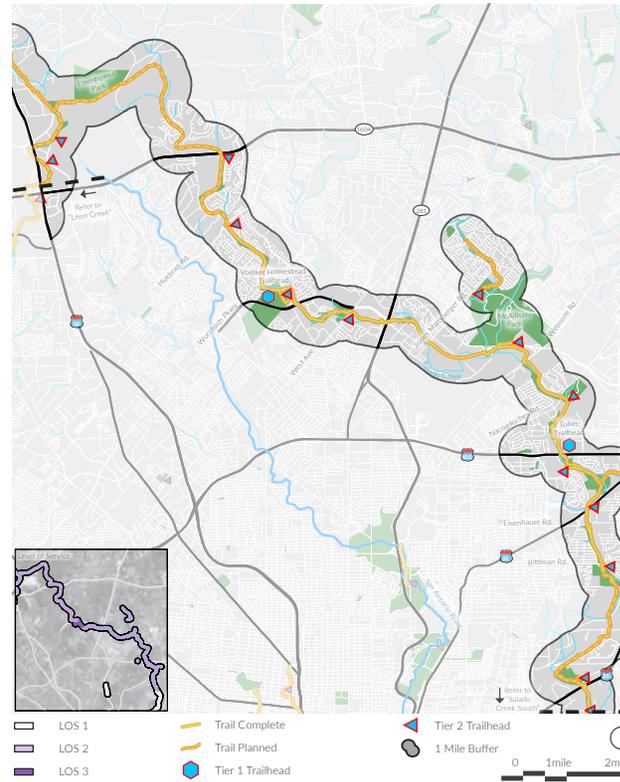


Trail Design Guidelines



**Williamson Creek
Greenbelt Park, Austin**

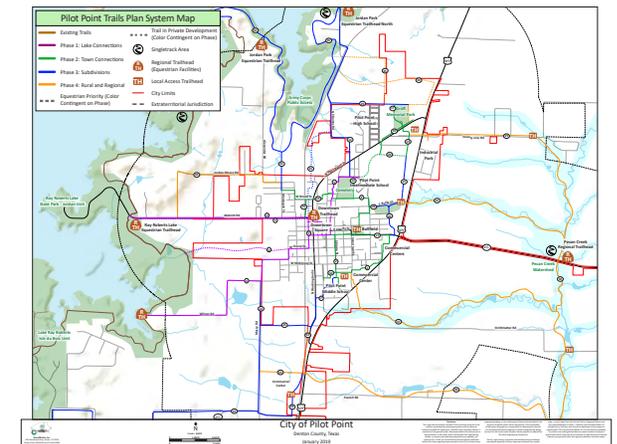
SALADO CREEK NORTH



**San Antonio Trail Design
Strategies**



**Woodcreek North Water
Neutral Development Plan**



Pilot Point Trail Masterplan

Presentation Contents

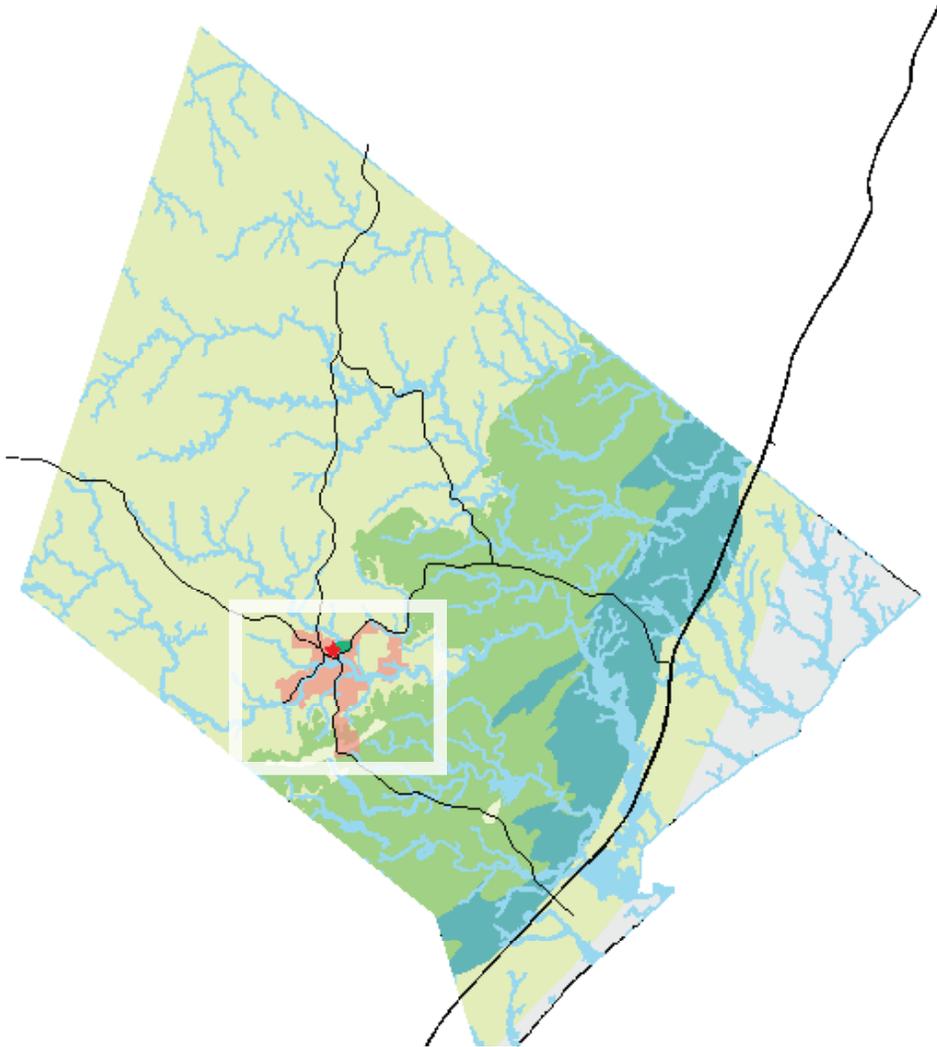
- **Plan Introduction, Timeline and Conservation Easement**
- **Community Engagement Efforts and Results**
- **Environmental Assessment**
- **Proposed Trail Alignment and Renderings**
- **Signage Plan and Design Guidelines**
- **Stewardship and Maintenance Plan**
- **Stormwater Mitigation Concepts**
- **Capital Improvement Plan and Funding Sources**



Why Plan?

- **Protect the Creek and Riparian Forest**
- **Maintain or Improve Flood Resiliency**
- **Address Community Concern**
- **Clarify Stewardship Structure**
- **Educate and Inspire the Public**
- **Maintain Public Space for Recreation and Reflection**





Conservation Easement

- No permanent structures except reasonable signage
- No use of power tools
- No land clearing or alterations to the ecology
- Footpath should make minimal impact on ecology
- No commercial use of Preserve
- No Swimming in the Creek

Trailhead Count Results

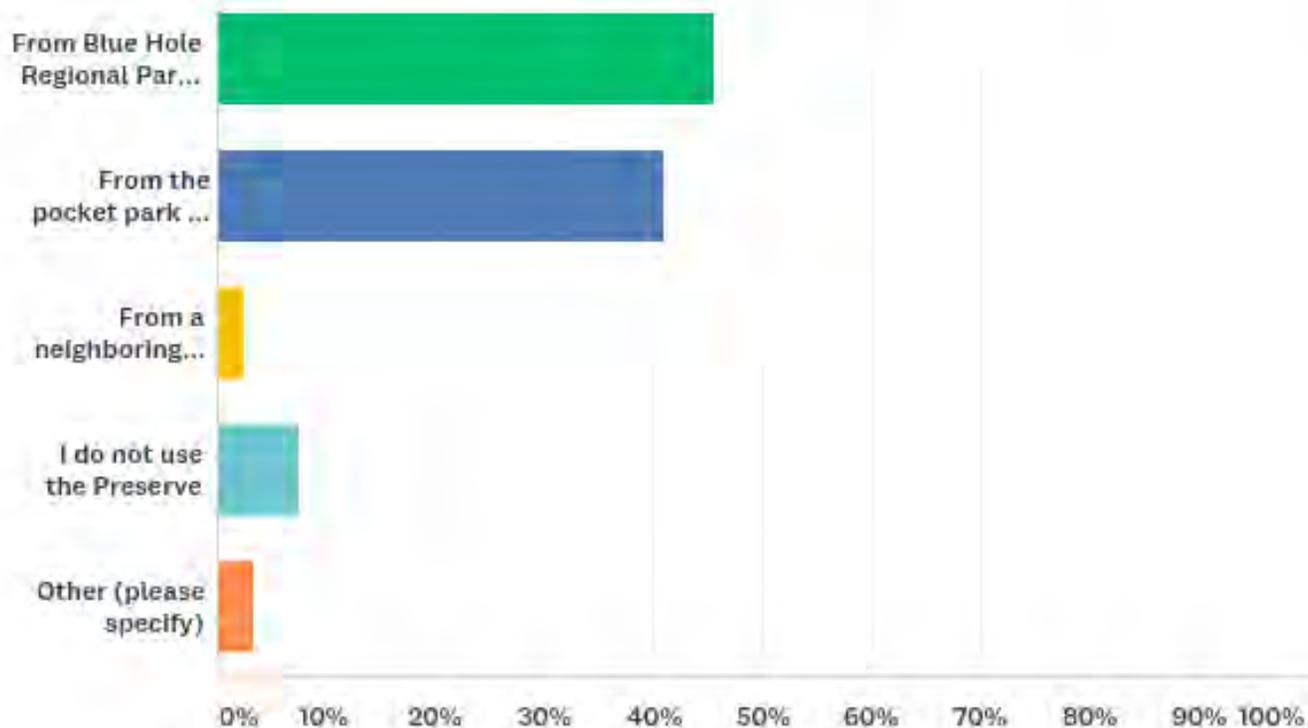


	Blue Hole Entrance (Scout Trail)	Blue Hole Entrance (Creekside Trail)	Pocket Park Entrance (Square)
Thursday, March 14 9 AM - 10 AM	1	0	5
Thursday, March 14 1 PM - 2 PM	1	18	78
Friday March 15 9 AM - 10 AM	0	0	0
Friday March 15 1 PM - 2 PM	1	9	35
Sunday March 17 1 PM - 2 PM	5	23	82

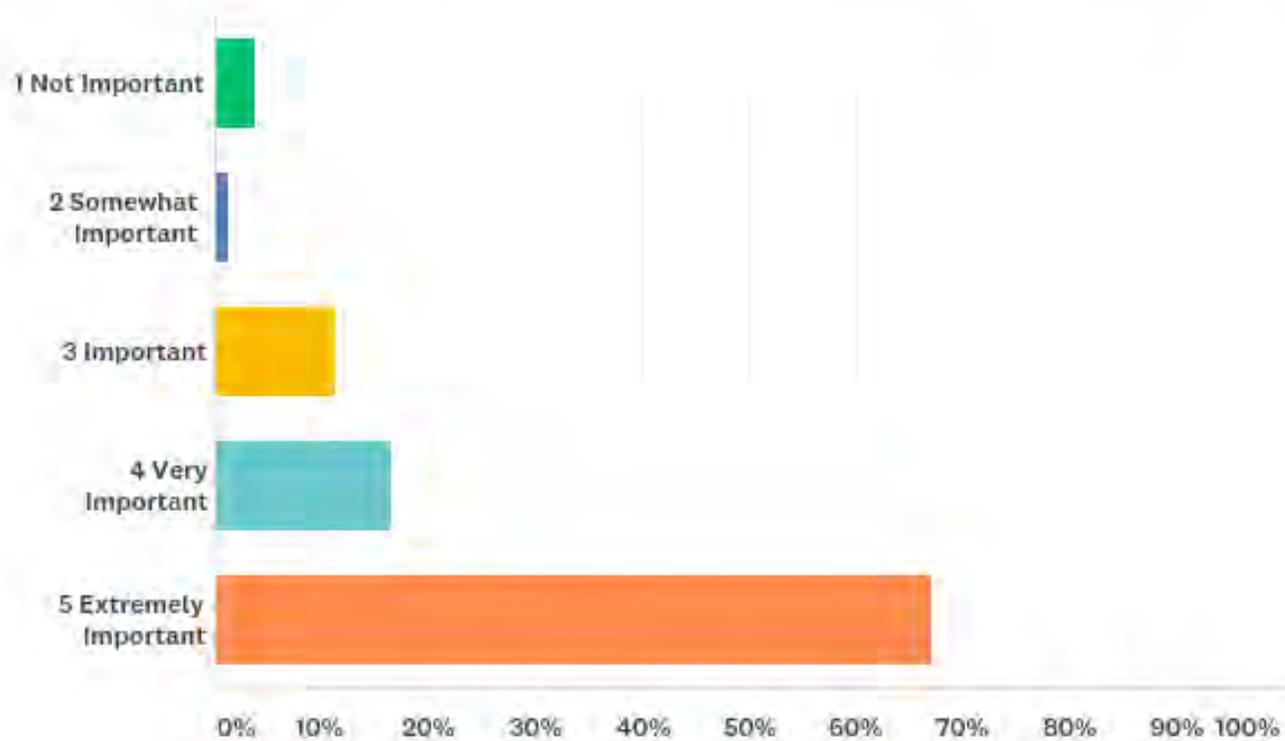
Community Survey Results

- **237 Responses**
- **50 - 70 Majority Age**
- **70% Women**

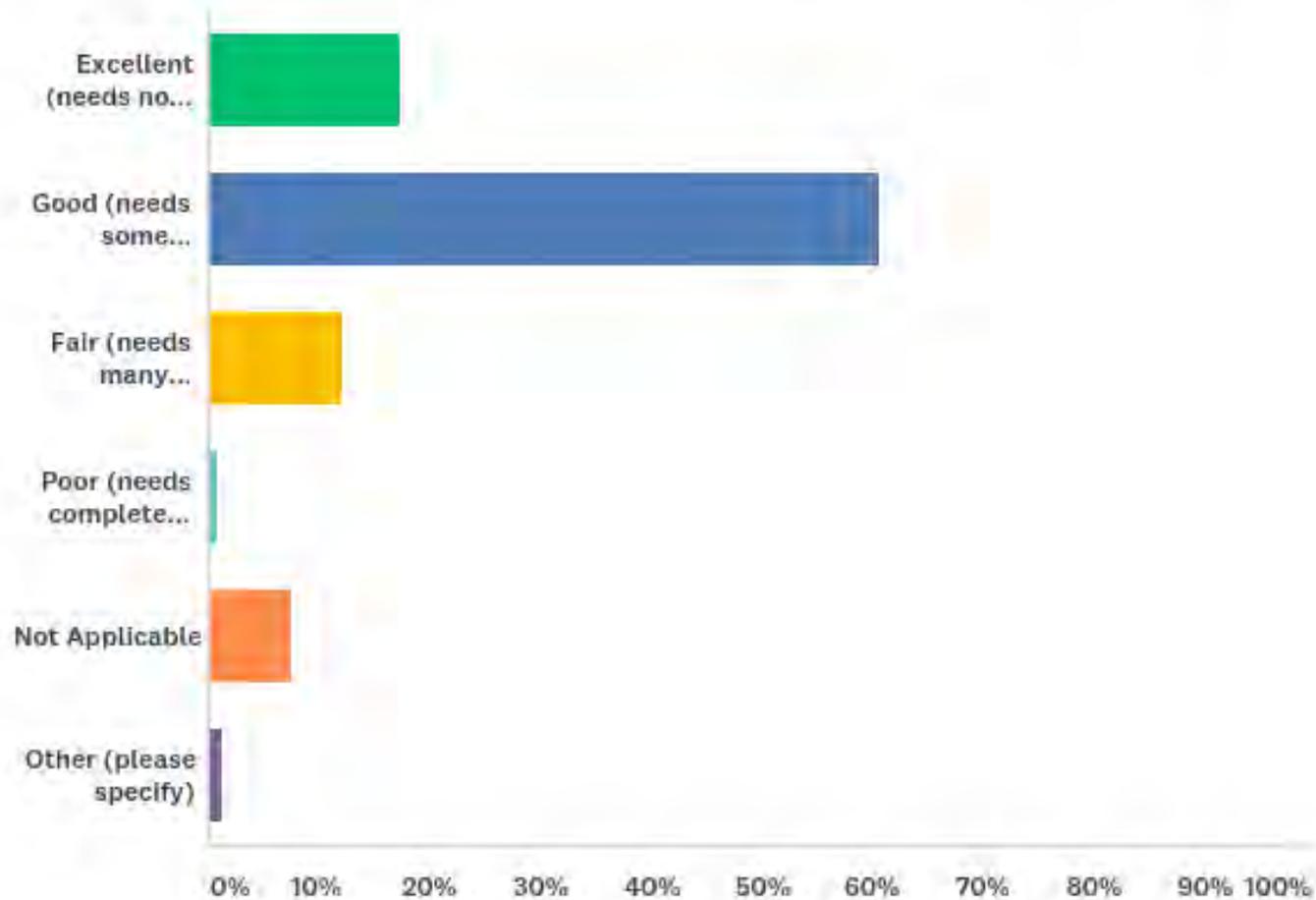
Q6 When using the Preserve, where do you typically enter the property?



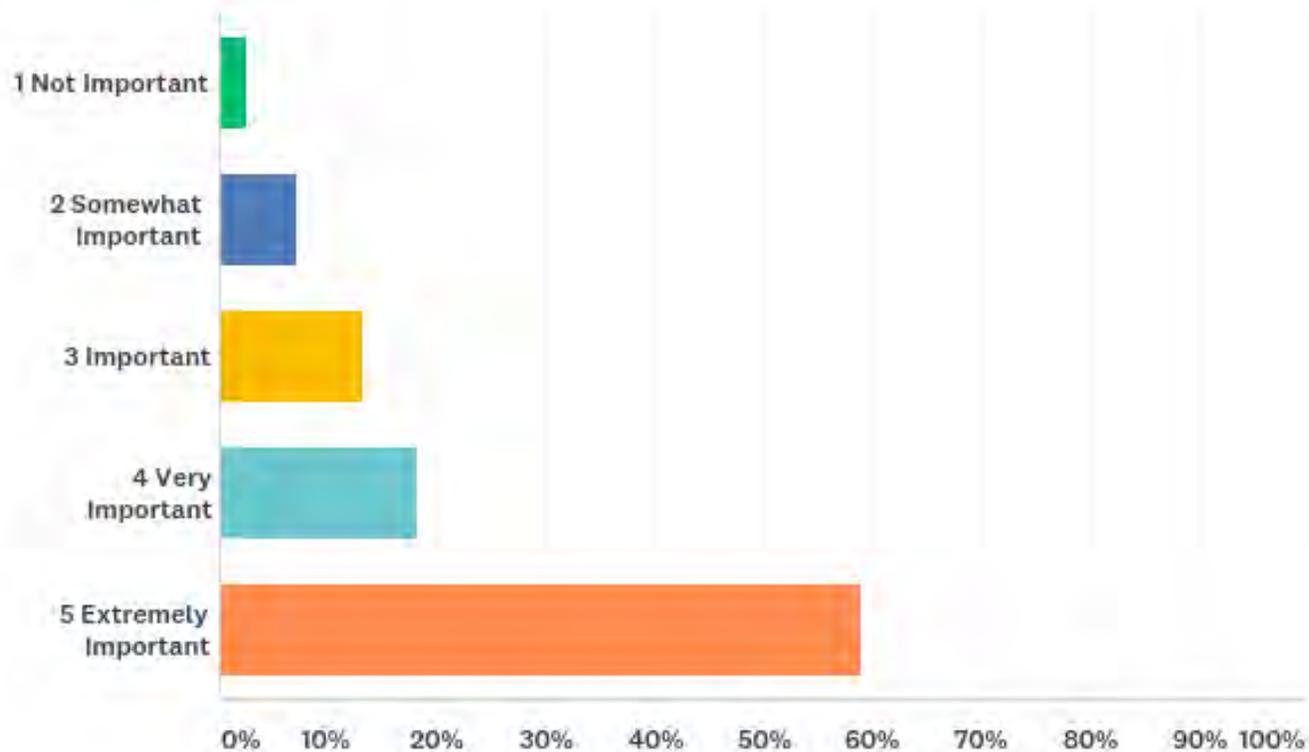
Q8 On a scale of 1-5, how important is public access to trails on the Preserve?



Q7 In general, in what condition do you consider the Preserve?



Q9 On a scale of 1 – 5, how important are views of Cypress Creek to your experience of the Preserve?



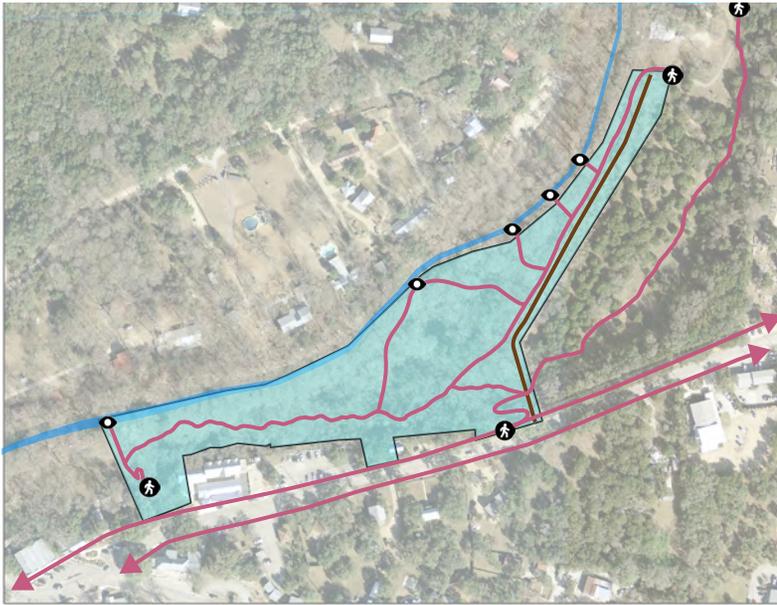
- **95% Consider Public Access important**
- **90% Consider Views of the Creek Important**
- **90% Want Signage**

Community Engagement



- **Community Meeting #1: Held Saturday, 3.30.19**
- **Community Meeting #2: Thursday 4.11.19**
- **Stakeholder Stewardship Meeting: Held Friday, 4.19.19**

- **Locals identify very closely with experience of walking along creek**
- **Cypress Creekside Trail woven deeply into the history and fabric of Wimberley**
- **Hays County Master Naturalists and other volunteers can easily muster dozens for maintenance and invasive removal**



Trail alignment Draft #1

Draw Your Ideal Trail Alignment and Trailheads

LEGEND

- Floodplain
- Preserve
- Trails
- Wall
- Creek
- Trailhead

Notes

- Waving along path - away from cypress roots
- points of water

Sensitive Area Protection Measures

Man-made	Man-made and Natural	Natural only

Handwritten notes:

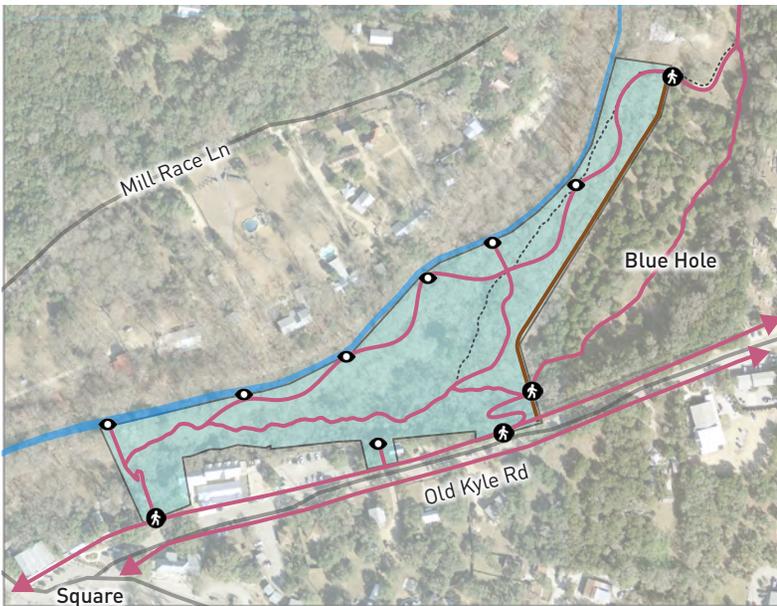
- Lateral displacement essential
- Combination of both
- Stakeholder Meeting = who is going to maintain trails
- outlaw paths
- DAVID BAKER
- FENCING = man-made
- Apple - distinction

Signage Design and Information

Modern	Rustic/Traditional

Handwritten notes:

- modern looks like it will last longer
- SIGNS - showing tourists the rules on all entrances



Trail alignment Draft #2

Draw Your Ideal Trail Alignment and Trailheads

LEGEND

- Floodplain
- Preserve
- Trails
- Wall
- Creek
- Trailhead

Notes

- Benches on creek side of trail to give trail users an intimate, quiet experience on trails while sitting.
- Open, welcome Stewardship group w/ welcome.

Sensitive Area Protection Measures

Man-made	Man-made and Natural	Natural only

Handwritten notes:

- Trail Design to bring people where they should go, and keep them out of sensitive areas.
- Firm, but friendly signage.
- Give trail an early creek viewing station at each end.
- Native planting & naturalistic low railings

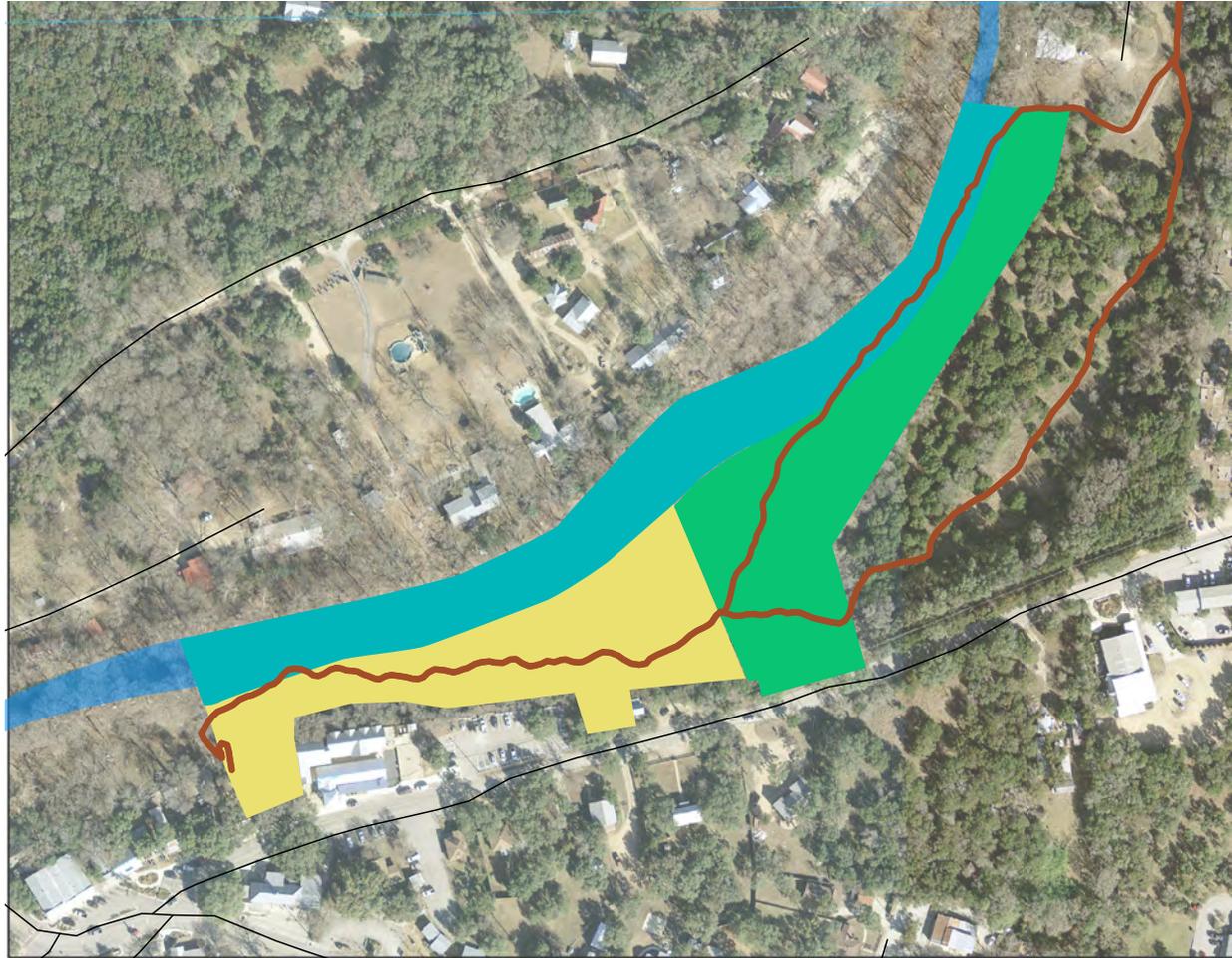
Signage Design and Information

Modern	Rustic/Traditional

Handwritten notes:

- Minimal, but necessary signage.
- Firm, but friendly.
- Differentiate preserve from park w/ entrance signs or art.

Native/Invasive Plant Survey



Riparian



North



Creek



South



Trails

South Zone



Black Walnut



Yaupon Holly



Chinese Ligustrum



Nadina, or Heavenly Bamboo

North Zone



Box Elder



Mustang Grape



Virginia Creeper



Japanese Honeysuckle

Riparian



Bald Cypress



Inland Sea Oats

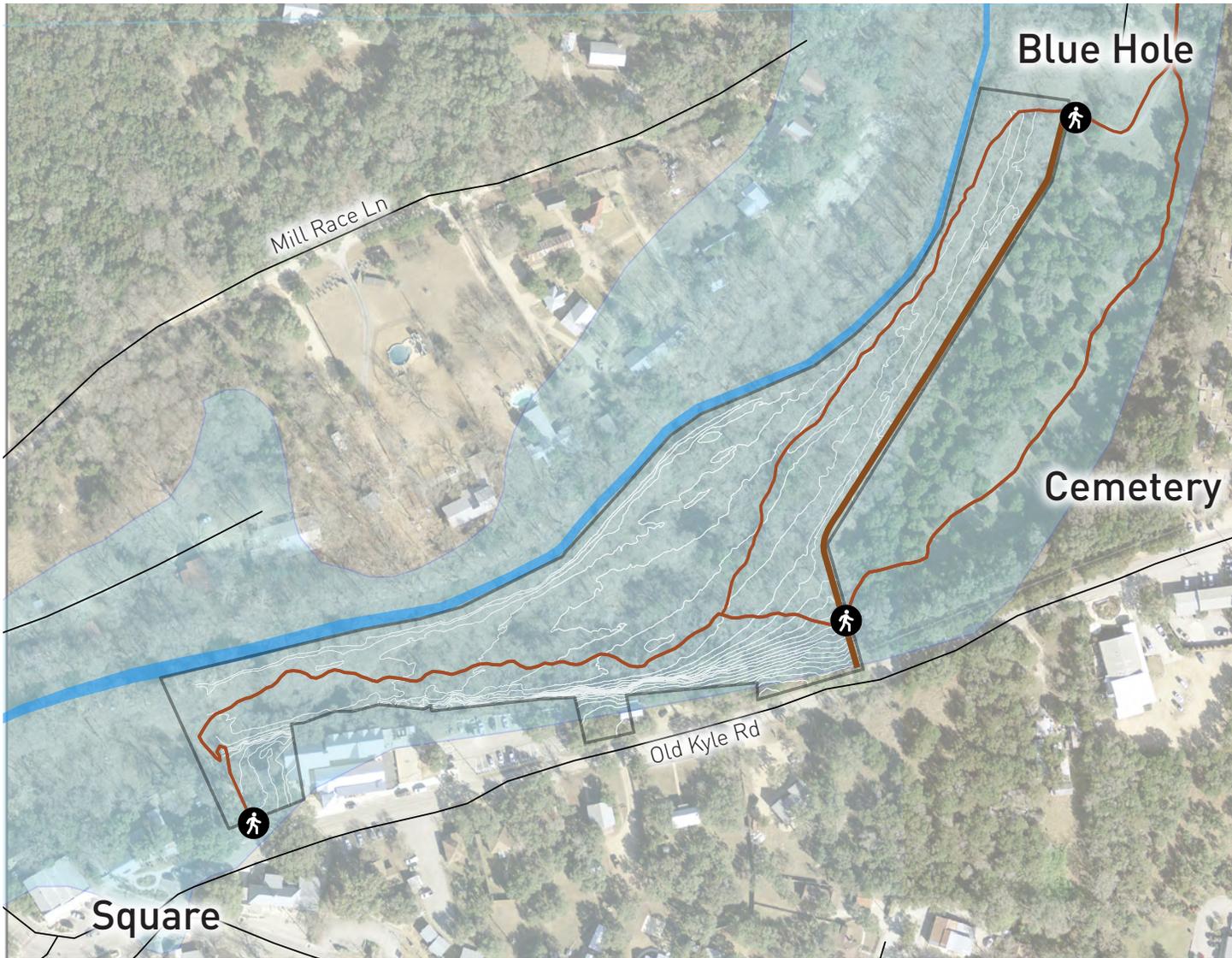


Mexican Buckeye



Chatterbox Orchid

Existing Conditions



LEGEND

-  Floodplain
-  Preserve
-  Trails
-  Wall
-  Creek
-  Trailhead



Existing Conditions



Cypress Tree Root Damage on Creekside Trail



Stormwater Outfall Erosion



Wimberley Square Stormwater Outfall



Old Kyle Rd Stormwater Outfall

Roadway Conditions

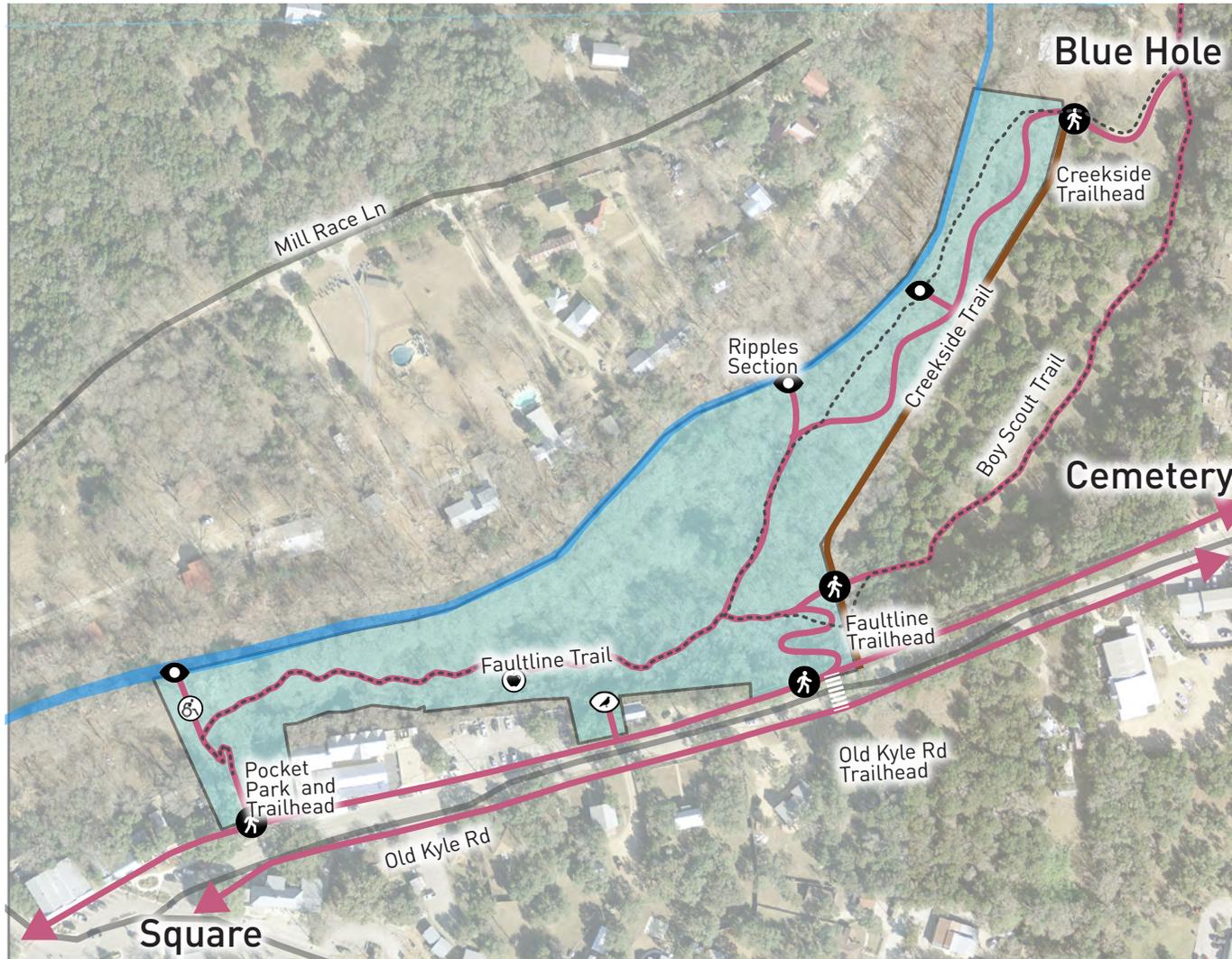


Old Kyle Rd Adjacent to the Preserve



Where the Sidewalk Ends (on Old Kyle Rd)

Proposed Trail Alignment



-  Preserve
-  Proposed Trails
-  Existing Trails
-  Historic Wall
-  Scenic View
-  Trailhead
-  ADA Accessible
-  Birdwatching Area
-  Outdoor Classroom

Proposed Trail Design

New Creekside Trail Alignment Parallel to Rockwall



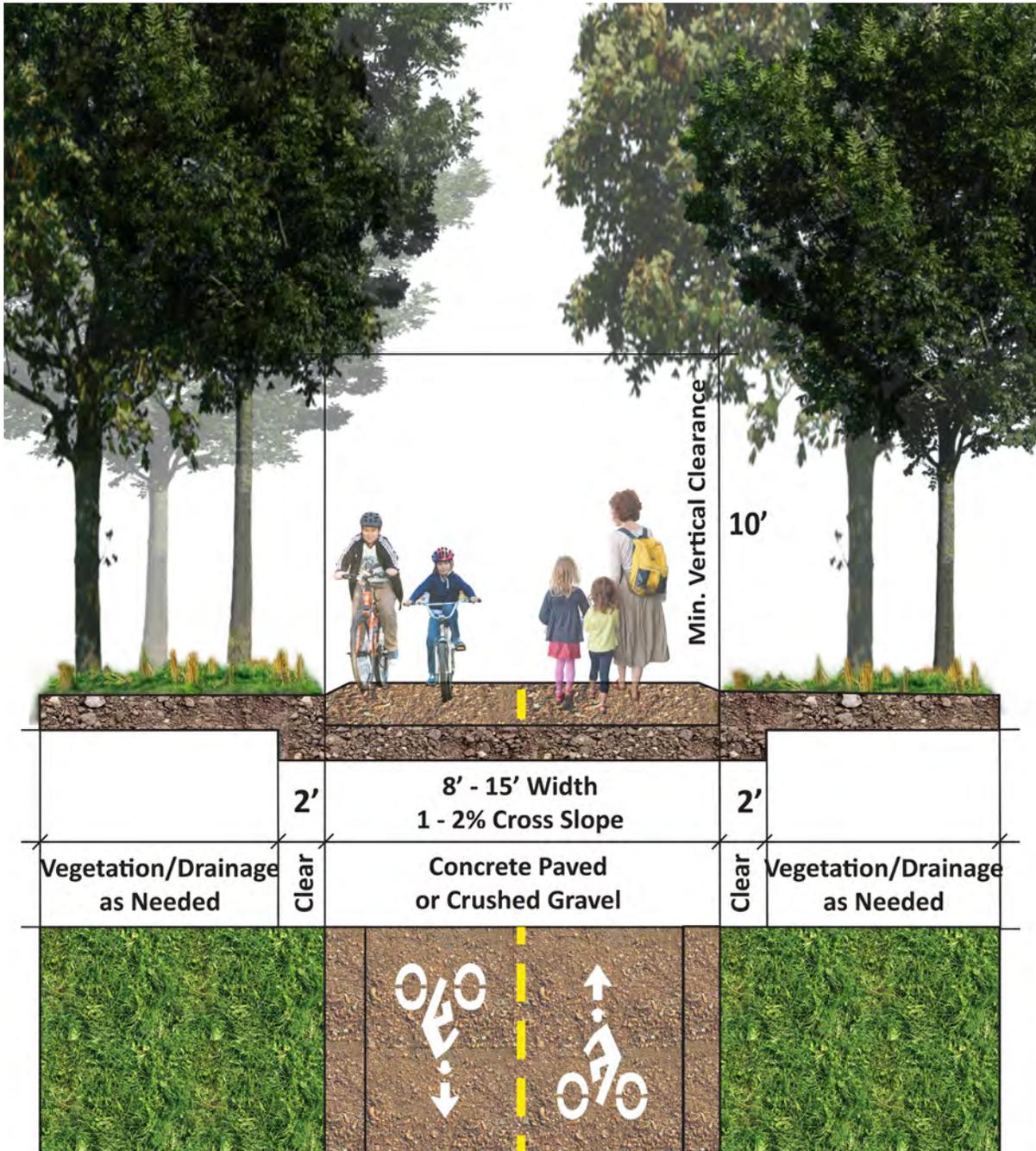
**Creekside Trail and
Ripples Viewing Area**



Old Kyle Rd Shared-Use Path and Trailhead



Shared-Use Path Design Guidelines

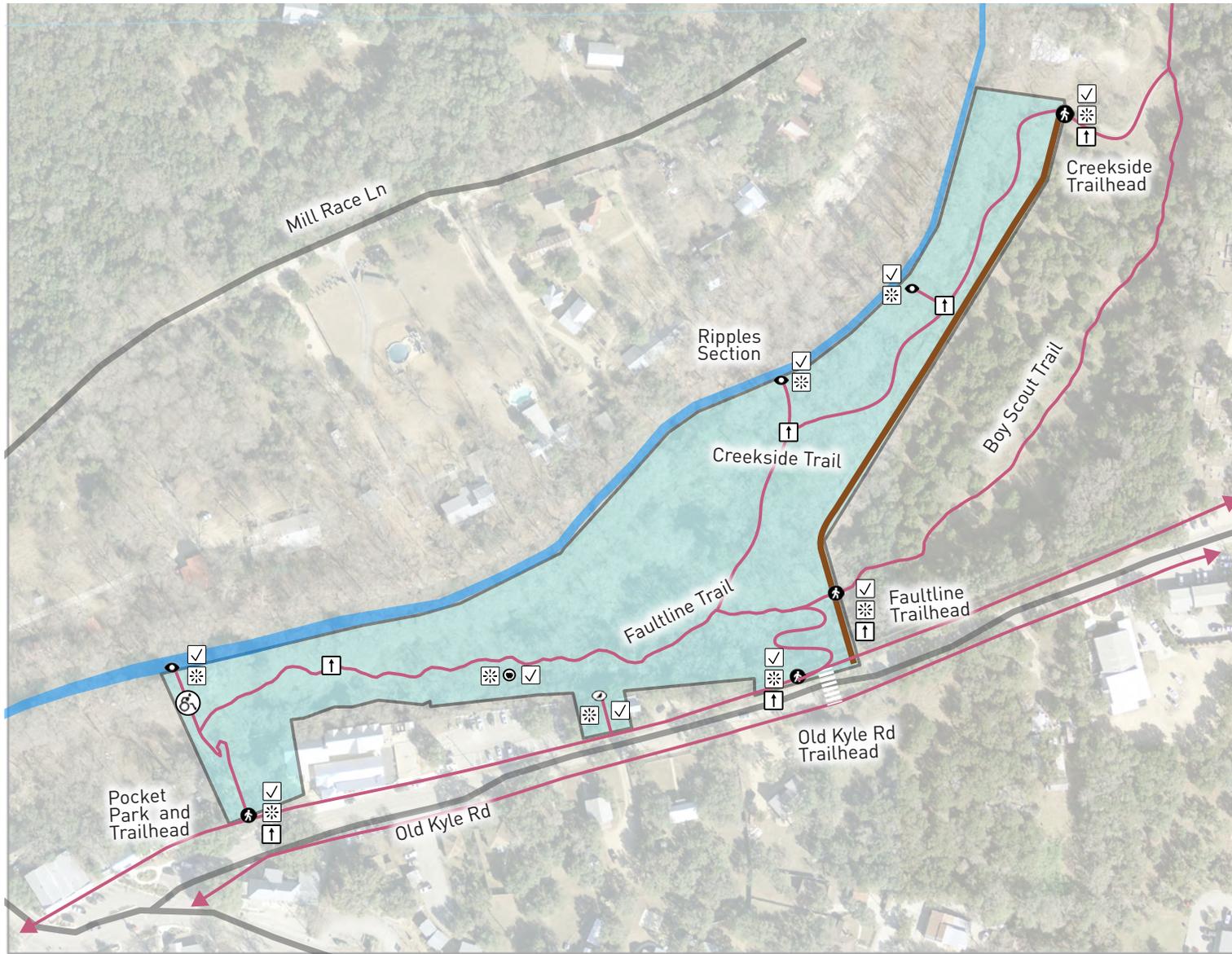


Andy Goldsworthy Environmental Art



Patrick Dougherty Woven Stick Sculptures

Signage and Wayfinding



Wayfinding

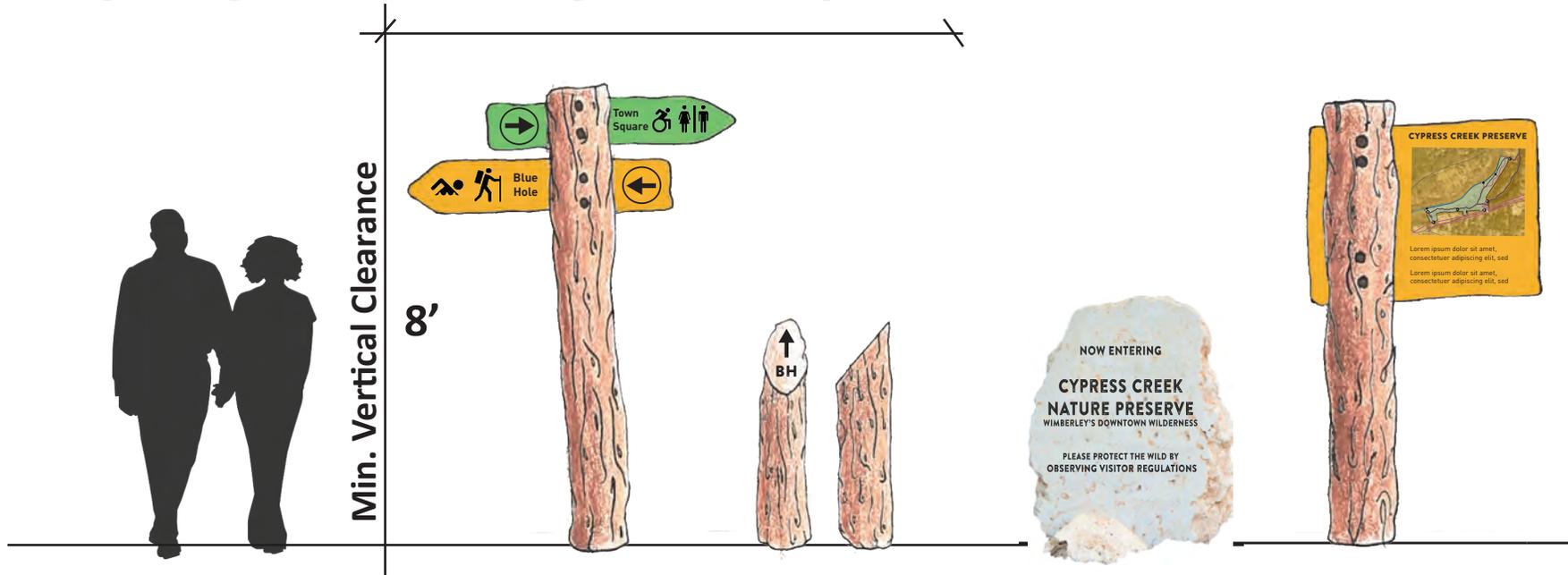


Rules and
Regs

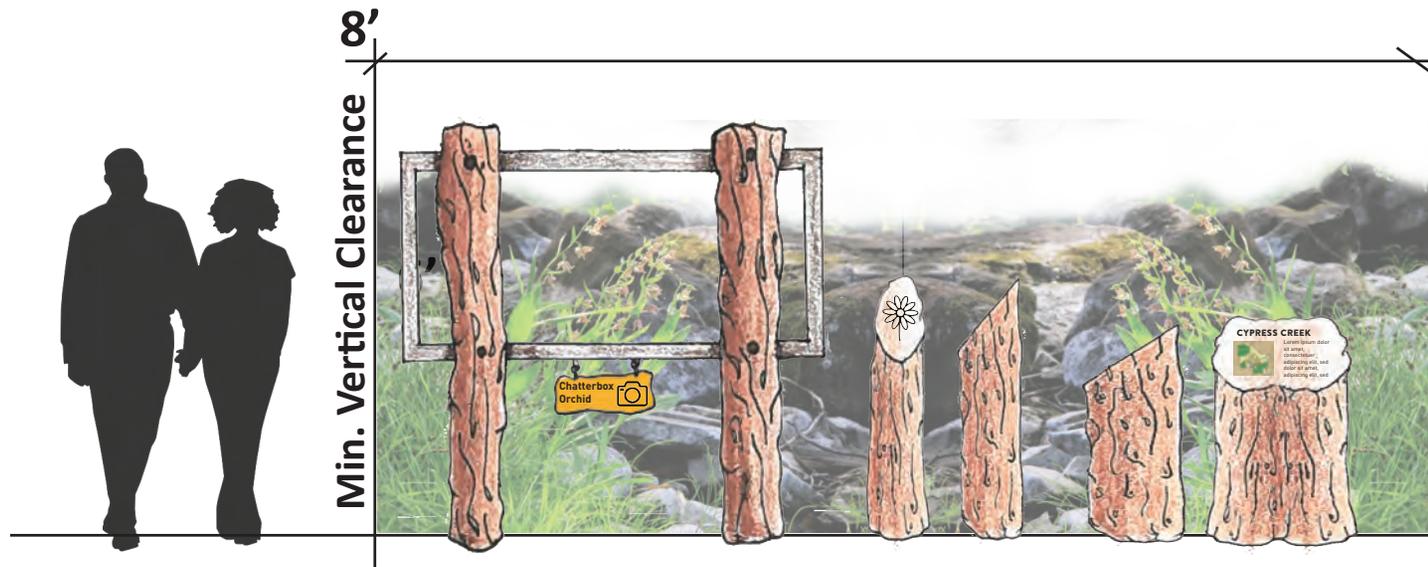


Interpretive

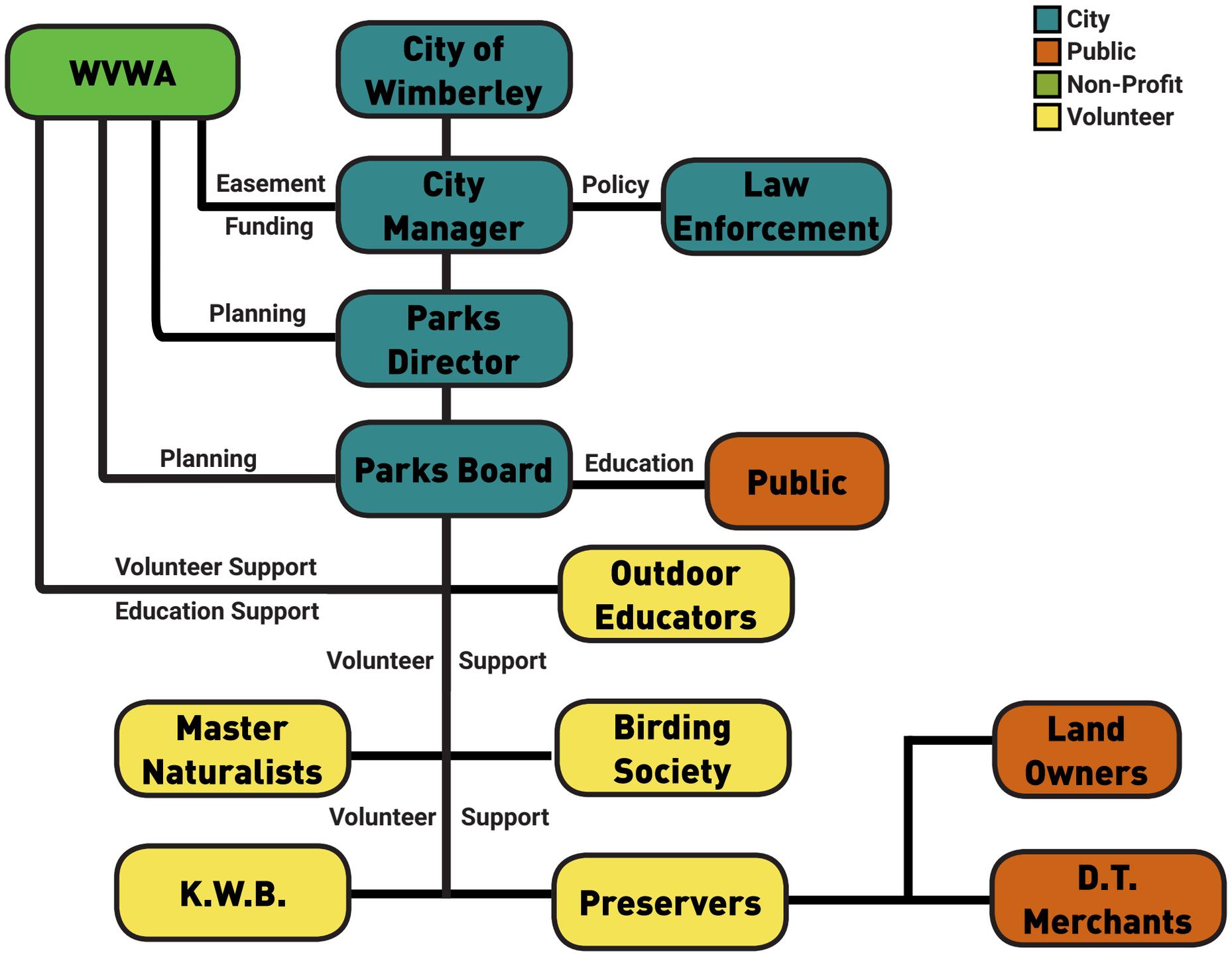
Signage and Wayfinding



Wayfinding and Rules Signage



Interpretive Signage

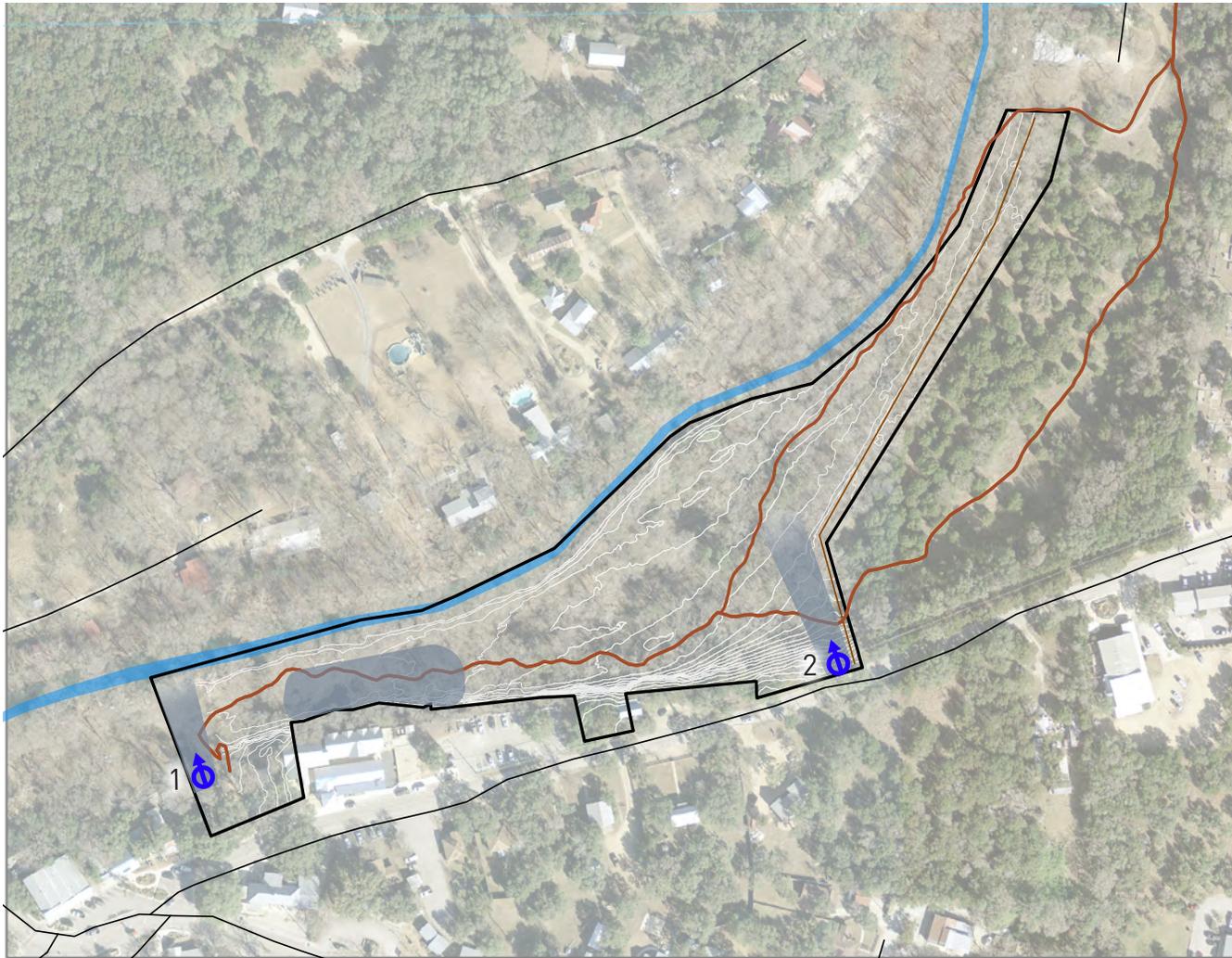


Maintenance Schedule

- City
- Public
- WVWA
- Volunteer

Weekly	Monthly	Quarterly	Annually
Assessment of preserve resources for damage, such as social trails, vandalism, or erosion.	Pocket Park landscape maintenance conducted by Keep Wimberley Beautiful	Master Naturalists native/invasive species survey	Third Party review of easement condition and report to City Council. Includes invasive/native species survey.
Cleaning of Pocket Park restroom facilities and Pavilion		Review habitat restoration areas and relocate trail alignment protections (natural fencing, signage) as needed	
		Review effectiveness of stormwater mitigation efforts, adjusting as needed	Parks internal review of Masterplan CIP progress,
		Wimberley Outdoor Educators produce and install seasonal interpretive material for Pocket Park Kiosk	Apply for grant funding for preserve CIP projects

Stormwater Mitigation



Stormwater
Outfall

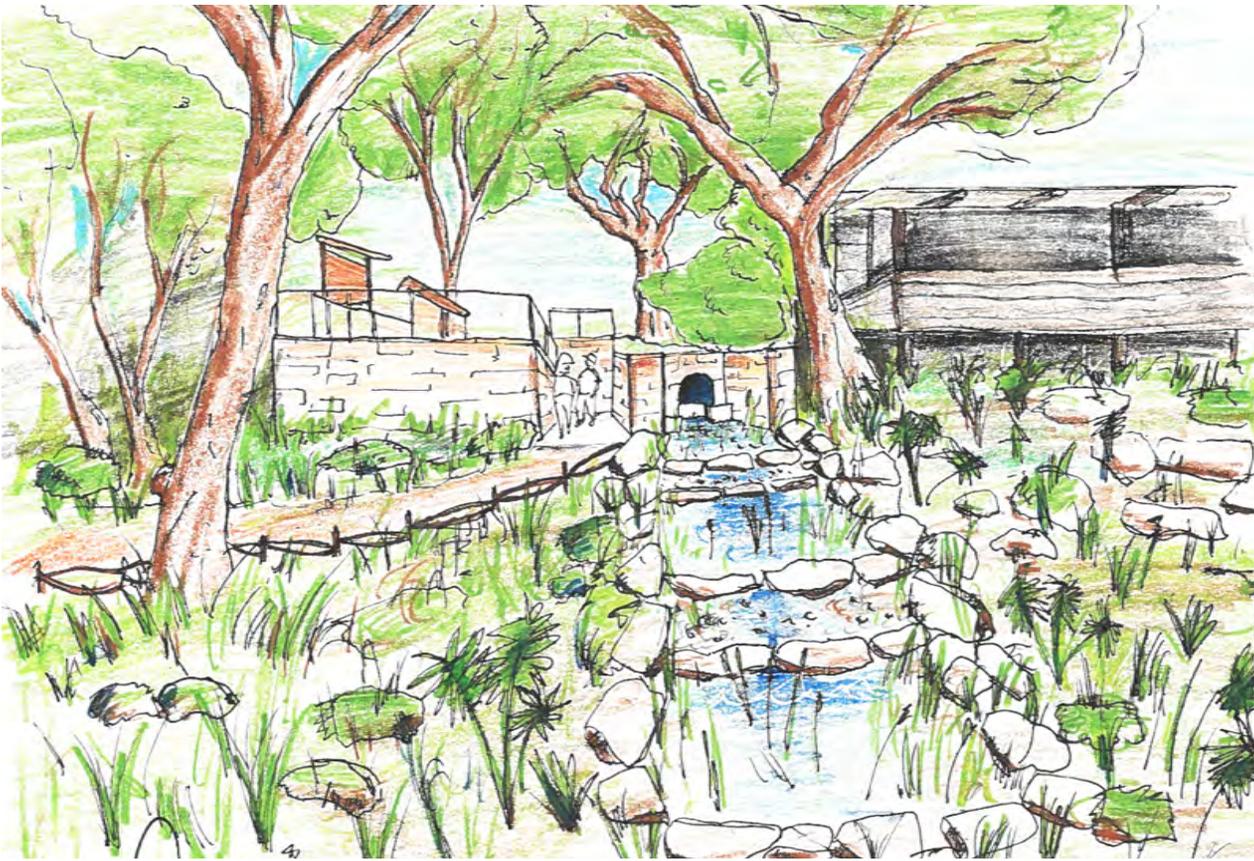


Drainage
Area



Existing
Trails

Outfall #1



Outfall #2



Capital Improvements Plan

Project Description	Time frame	Lead Org	Estimated Cost	Funding
Trail realignment: move trail off riparian bank in upper section of preserve, add viewing nodes along upper section	2019 - 20	City and Master Naturalists	\$1,000 - \$3,000 for labor, natural materials	TPWD, GEN, LOCAL
Artistic trail protection barriers: Develop pilot project with WVWA and local artists, develop program for rotating installation of nature based barriers	2019 -20, Ongoing	City, WVWA	Volunteer labor, Staff	GEN, LOCAL
Riparian Restoration: repair and armor eroded areas along creek bank, seed/ plant native plants	2019 - 20	City and Master Naturalists	\$250 - \$1000 for seeds and seedlings, Volunteer labor, Staff	TPWD, GEN, LOCAL
Implement Signage Plan: Hire a signage and wayfinding fabrication firm or fabricate in house using local materials and artisans	2019 - 21	City	\$10,000 - \$50,000, Depending on quality and fabricator	TPWD, GEN, LOCAL
Create Trailhead gateways for both Creekside Trailhead and Boy Scout Trailhead. Move Boy Scout trailhead off slope.	2020 - 21	City and WVWA	<\$500 for Volunteer Labor, \$500 - \$1000 for hired artist	GEN, LOCAL
Engineer and construct Green Stormwater outfalls based on concepts provided in this plan. May require reiterations and maintenance after rains	2020 - 2022, ongoing	City and WVWA	\$10,000 - \$40,000 Depending on Engineering need, labor, materials	TPWD, TWDB, GEN, LOCAL
Engineer and Construct Birdwatching Outpost off of Old Kyle Rd	2021- 2023	City, Wimberley Birding Society	\$10,000 - \$25,000 depending on design	TPWD, GEN, LOCAL
Engineer and Construct Shared-Use Path along Old Kyle Rd, Construct Old Kyle Rd Trailhead and connector trail	2022 - 2024	City	\$20,000 - \$60,000, depending on paved/unpaved, engineering need	TPWD, CDBG, GEN, LOCAL
Conduct seasonal native/invasive plant Surveys	Ongoing	Master Naturalists	Volunteer labor	LOCAL, TPWD
Conduct semi-annual/as needed invasive species removal campaigns	Ongoing	Master Naturalists, City	Volunteer labor, staff	LOCAL, TPWD, GEN

GEN = City of Grapeland Municipal Funds;
 CDBG = Community Development Block Grant Program;
 Local = Donations from private citizens, organization, and local businesses;
 TPWD = Texas Parks & Wildlife Department;
 TxDOT = Texas Department of Transportation,
 TWDB = Texas Water Development Board

Funding Sources

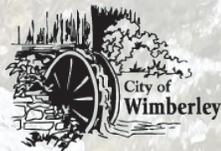
Project Type	Deadline	Organization	Program Name	Description	Grant/ Loan Amount	Local Contribution
Infrastructure	August 31	Texas Parks & Wildlife (TP&W) www.tpwd.state.tx.us	Small Community	Funds can be used for development or rehab of any public outdoor recreation facilities. City would be required to self-administer the project.	Up to \$75,000	1 to 1 match. Can be cash, land, or in-kind.
Infrastructure	February 15; September	Keep Texas Beautiful	Bring Back the Monarchs to Texas	KTB offers several grant opportunities though their programming may change. BBMT funds may be awarded to nature centers, schools, educational groups and other to help fund development of Monarch demonstration gardens or Waystations on public sites in their immediate areas.	Up to \$400	A written report submitted by July 30
Infrastructure	August 31	TP&W	Outdoor Recreation	Funds can be used for development or rehab of any public outdoor recreation facilities. Must have master park plan completed by May 31st to apply.	Up to \$400,000	1 to 1 match. Can be cash, land, or in-kind.
Infrastructure	October 12, February 15	Lowes	Toolbox for Education Grants	Funds can be used for a variety of projects including reading gardens, vegetable gardens, fitness areas, school landscaping projects, nature trails, and playgrounds. Applicants are limited to K-12 schools or parent-teacher organizations. www.toolboxforeducation.com	\$2,000 to \$5,000	No match required.
Programming	February 1	TP&W	Outdoor Outreach	Funds can be used to purchase supplies and equipment for outdoor programs. No construction allowed.	Up to \$40,000.	No match required, but match improves chances of funding.

Thank you for your input and support!

Contact: Daniel Alvarado at Alvaradoworks@gmail.com



ALVARADO
WORKS



— WATERSHED
ALLIANCE
LAND • WATER • CONNECTION