



Duck pond & bald cypress tree at park. Courtesy of friendsnorthwestpark.com

Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park Vision Plan

Prepared for

Austin Parks and Recreation Department (PARC)

by

RVi Planning + Landscape Architecture

APPENDIX A – REPORTS & DATA

1. City of Austin ADA Transition Plan
2. Beverly S. Sheffield Drainage Map
3. Beverly S. Sheffield demographic data
 - a. Internet Access
 - b. Low-income and LEP
 - c. Minority Population
4. Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) - Northwest Park Dam Site Plan A
5. Beverly S. Sheffield NW District Park Wastewater Pipeline Renewal Draft Scope

2015 Parks and Recreation Department Transition Plan
Public Facility ADA Self-Assessment Survey
 City of Austin, Texas

Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park

7000 Ardath St.
 Austin, TX 78757

Inspection Date: 10/27/2015 *Item Number includes photo

ITEM NO.	GIS ID	BARRIER	CODE HEADING 2012 Texas Accessibility Standards	VIOLATION	RECOMMENDED ACTION	QUANTITY	BUDGETED COST	PRIORITY LEVEL
1*	Parking Lots: 46, 118, 119	Accessible Parking	208.2 Minimum Number	There are 9 compliant accessible spaces, 2 non-compliant accessible parking spaces, and 0 compliant van accessible spaces provided. A minimum of 8 standard accessible spaces. Of those, a minimum of 2 need to be van accessible spaces.	Ensure the correct amount of accessible parking spaces meet the minimum requirement.	2	\$ 1,800	1
2*	Parking Lots: 46	Accessible Parking	208.3.1 General	There are 0 compliant accessible parking spaces provided in this lot.	Ensure dispersion of accessible parking spaces.	2	\$ 3,200	1
3*	Parking Lots ADA Mark: 33, 34	Accessible Parking	502.4 Floor or Ground Surface	There are 2 accessible parking spaces that have an excessive slope.	Repave the accessible space to have a compliant slope.	2	\$ 3,200	1
4*	Parking Lots ADA Mark: 33, 34	Accessible Parking	502.6 Identification	There are 2 accessible parking spaces that do not have signage.	Provide compliant signage.	2	\$ 900	1
5*	Assembly Area: 70	Accessible Route	206.2.2 Within a Site	The bleacher is not on an accessible route.	Construct a compliant accessible route.	50	\$ 1,500	1
6	Door Gate: 5	Accessible Route	206.2.2 Within a Site	The accessible route to the concessions door has an excessive vertical change in level.	Reconstruct the accessible route to be compliant.	1	\$ 200	2
7	Sport Court: 622	Accessible Route	206.2.2 Within a Site	The only baseball field is not on an accessible route.	Construct a compliant accessible route.	100	\$ 3,000	2
8*	Trail ADA Route Point: 478	Accessible Route	302.1 General	The accessible route is not a compliant material.	Reconstruct the accessible route to have a material that is stable, firm, and slip resistant.	200	\$ 6,000	1
9*	Other Features: 2	Accessible Route	403.3 Slope	The accessible route to the concessions counter has excessive cross slopes.	Reconstruct the accessible route to have a compliant slope.	20	\$ 600	2
10*	Trail ADA Route Point: 17	Accessible Route	403.3 Slope	The accessible route to the swing set has an excessive cross slope.	Reconstruct the accessible route to have a compliant slope.	5	\$ 150	2
11*	Trail ADA Route Point: 477	Accessible Route	403.3 Slope	The accessible route has an excessive running slope.	Reconstruct the accessible route to have a compliant slope.	30	\$ 900	1
12*	Trail ADA Route Point: 548	Accessible Route	403.3 Slope	The accessible route has an excessive running slope.	Reconstruct the accessible route to include ramps.	4	\$ 28,000	1

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13	Trail ADA Route Point: 549	Accessible Route	403.3 Slope	The accessible route has an excessive cross slope.	Reconstruct the accessible route to have a compliant slope.	40	\$ 1,200	1
14*	Trails: 1788, 2313, 2314, 2317-2320	Accessible Route	403.3 Slope	The accessible route has excessive running and cross slopes.	Reconstruct the accessible route to have a compliant slope.	540	\$ 16,200	1
15*	Trail ADA Route Point: 14, 15, 16, 18, 19	Accessible Route	302.3 Openings	The accessible route has excessive horizontal openings.	Reconstruct the accessible route to be compliant.	19	\$ 3,800	1
16*	Trail ADA Route Point: 20, 21	Accessible Route	403.4 Changes in Level	The accessible route has excessive vertical changes in level.	Reconstruct the accessible route to be compliant.	3	\$ 600	1
17*	Assembly Area: 21, 70	Assembly Area	221.2.1.1 General Seating	There are 0 compliant wheelchair spaces. This does not meet the minimum required number.	Provide the correct amount of wheelchair spaces.	Not Verified	\$ 1,800	2
18*	Parking Lots Curb Ramp: 6	Curb Ramp	405.2 Slope	The curb ramp has an excessive running slope.	Reconstruct the ramp to have a compliant slope.	1	\$ 1,400	1
19*	Curb: 3	Curb Ramp	405.2 Slope 406.3 Sides of Curb Ramps	The curb ramp has excessive running and flare slopes.	Reconstruct the curb ramp to be compliant.	1	\$ 900	1
20*	Parking Lots Curb Ramp: 5	Curb Ramp	405.3 Cross Slope	The curb ramp has an excessive cross slope.	Reconstruct the ramp to have a compliant slope.	1	\$ 1,400	1
21*	Door Gate: 6	Door	404.2.4.1 Swinging Doors and Gates	The concessions door has an excessive vertical change in level in the pull side maneuvering clearance.	Reconstruct the ground surface of the maneuvering clearance.	1	\$ 1,900	2
22*	Restroom: 5, 107	Door	404.2.4.1 Swinging Doors and Gates	The restroom doors have an excessive slope in the pull side maneuvering clearance.	Reconstruct ground surface of maneuvering clearance to have a slope not to exceed 2% in any direction.	2	\$ 3,800	1
23*	Door Gate: 6	Door	404.2.5 Thresholds	The concessions door has an excessive threshold.	Reconstruct the door to have no greater than 1/2" maximum threshold.	1	\$ 450	2

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24*	Restroom: 108, 109	Door	404.2.5 Thresholds	There are 2 doors that have an excessive threshold.	Reconstruct the door to have no greater than 1/2" maximum threshold.	2	\$ 900	1
25*	Restroom: 108, 109	Door	404.2.7 Door & Gate Hardware	There are 2 doors that do not have compliant hardware.	Replace with compliant hardware.	2	\$ 600	1
26*	Drinking Fountain: 125	Drinking Fountain	211.2 Minimum Number	There is no hi drinking fountain.	Add a drinking fountain meeting the hi requirements.	1	\$ 2,700	2
27*	Drinking Fountain: 124	Drinking Fountain	307.2 Protruding Objects	The drinking fountain is a protruding object.	Relocate out of circulation path, install where the lowest edge is at 27" maximum, or add cane detection.	1	\$ 450	2
28*	Drinking Fountain: 125	Drinking Fountain	602.2 Clear Floor Space	The drinking fountain does not have compliant knee space.	Remount the drinking fountain to provide knee space.	1	\$ 500	2
29*	Drinking Fountain: 124	Drinking Fountain	602.6 Water Flow	The drinking fountain is not functional.	Fix the drinking fountain.	1	\$ 4,200	2
30*	BBQ Pits: 38, 116, 151, 220	Grill	226.1 General	There are 0 compliant grills and 4 non-compliant grills.	Ensure 5% of all grills are compliant.	1	\$ 1,000	3
31*	Other Features: 163	Lavatory / Sink	307.2 Protruding Objects	The lavatory is a protruding object.	Add cane detection below the lavatory while maintaining compliant knee space.	1	\$ 300	1
32*	Restroom: 108, 109	Lavatory / Sink	606.3 Height	There are 2 lavatories not mounted at the required height.	Remount the lavatory to meet appropriate dimensions.	2	\$ 1,000	1
33*	Other Features: 163	Lavatory / Sink	606.5 Exposed Pipes and Surfaces	The lavatory pipes are not insulated.	Insulate the lavatory pipes.	1	\$ 220	1
34	Mutt Mitt: 130, 131, 132, 133	Pet Dispenser	308 Reach Range	The 4 pet dispensers are not with an accessible reach range.	Relocate at least one element to be within the accessible reach range.	1	\$ 200	3
35	Playground: 152	Playscape	1008.4.4 Entry Points and Seats	The swing set seat is not at a compliant height.	Replace the swing with a compliant one.	1	\$ 3,500	2

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36	Playground: 56	Playscape	240.2.1 Ground Level Play Components	There are 7 accessible elevated, 4 non-accessible elevated, and 1 accessible ground play component. Based on the count of 11 elevated play components, at least 4 ground accessible play components are required.	Add compliant ground components.	3	\$ 3,600	2
37	Playground: 6	Playscape	240.2.2 Elevated Play Components	There is 0 accessible elevated and 2 non-accessible elevated play components. Based on the count of 2 elevated play components, at least 1 accessible elevated play component is required.	Replace the playscape.	1	\$ 55,000	2
38	Swimming Pool: 12	Pool	242.2 Swimming Pools	The swimming pool has no compliant means of entry.	Construct at least two accessible means of entry.	2	\$ 9,000	2
39	Swimming Pool: 12	Pool	242.3 Wading Pools	The wading pool does not have an accessible means of entry.	Construct an accessible sloped entry into the wading pool.	1	\$ 7,000	2
40*	Ramp: 6	Ramp	405.2 Slope 405.3 Cross Slope	The ramp has an excessive running and cross slope.	Reconstruct the ramp to have a compliant slope.	1	\$ 7,000	2
41*	Ramp: 6	Ramp	405.8 Handrails	The ramp does not have compliant handrail extensions.	See comment #40.			
42*	Other Features: 163	Service Counter	308 Reach Range	The back of the serving counter is not within an accessible reach range.	Replace the counter.	1	\$ 1,200	3
43*	Other Features: 1	Service Counter	904.4 Sales and Service Counters	The concessions counter is not mounted at a compliant height.	Remount the counter to be at an accessible height.	1	\$ 1,200	3
44*	Restroom: 5, 107-109	Signage	703.4.2 Location	The restroom signage is not in a compliant location.	Relocate signage.	4	\$ 800	1
45*	Picnic Tables: 73, 75, 176, 177, 378, 483, 689, 793, 798, 843, 844	Table	226.1 General	There are 0 compliant tables and 11 non-compliant tables. This does not meet the minimum required number.	Provide the correct amount of accessible dining spaces.	Not Verified	\$ 6,000	3

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46	Protruding Object: 10, 11, 12, 13, 14	Vegetation	307.2 Protruding Objects	The vegetation is a protruding object.	Trim the vegetation.	7	\$ 1,050	2
47*	Restroom: 5, 107	Water Closet	604.5 Grab Bars	There are 3 grab bars are not in a compliant location.	Relocate the grab bar.	3	\$ 750	1
48*	Restroom: 108, 109	Water Closet	604.7 Dispensers	There are 2 hand dryers that are not in a compliant location.	Relocate the dispenser.	2	\$ 1,400	1
49*	Restroom: 5, 107	Water Closet	604.7 Dispensers	There are 2 water closet toilet paper dispensers that are not in a compliant location.	Relocate the dispenser.	2	\$ 400	1
Budgeted Repair Cost							\$ 192,870	
Design Cost							\$ 48,218	
Project Management							\$ 60,272	
Contingency							\$ 45,204	
Proposed Budget							\$ 346,563	

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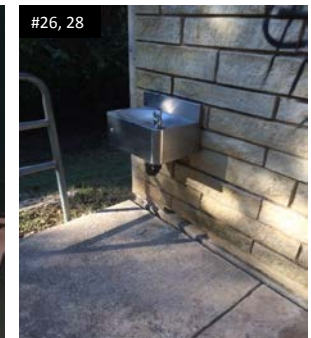
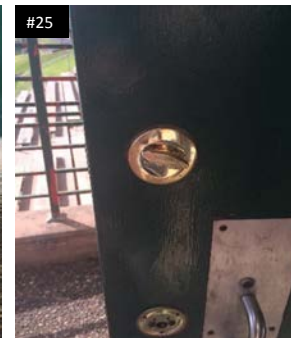
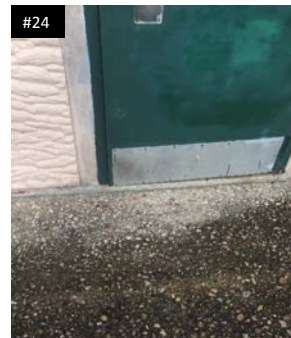
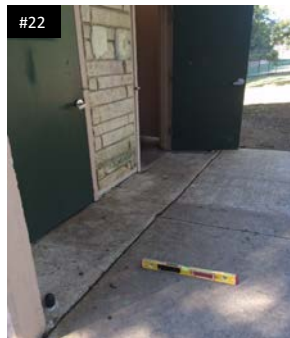
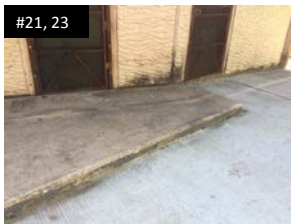
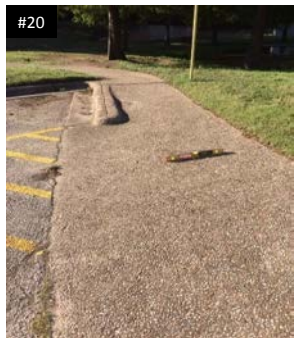
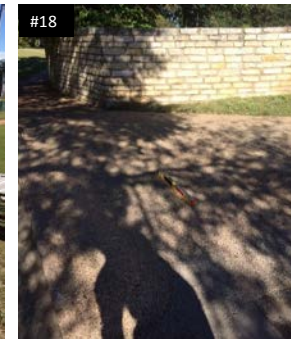
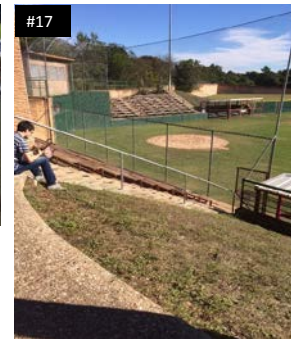
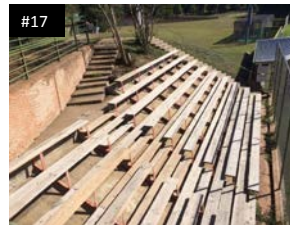
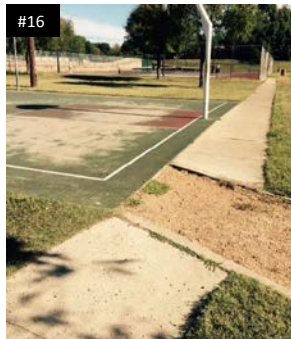
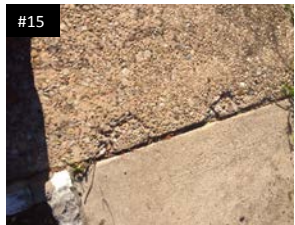


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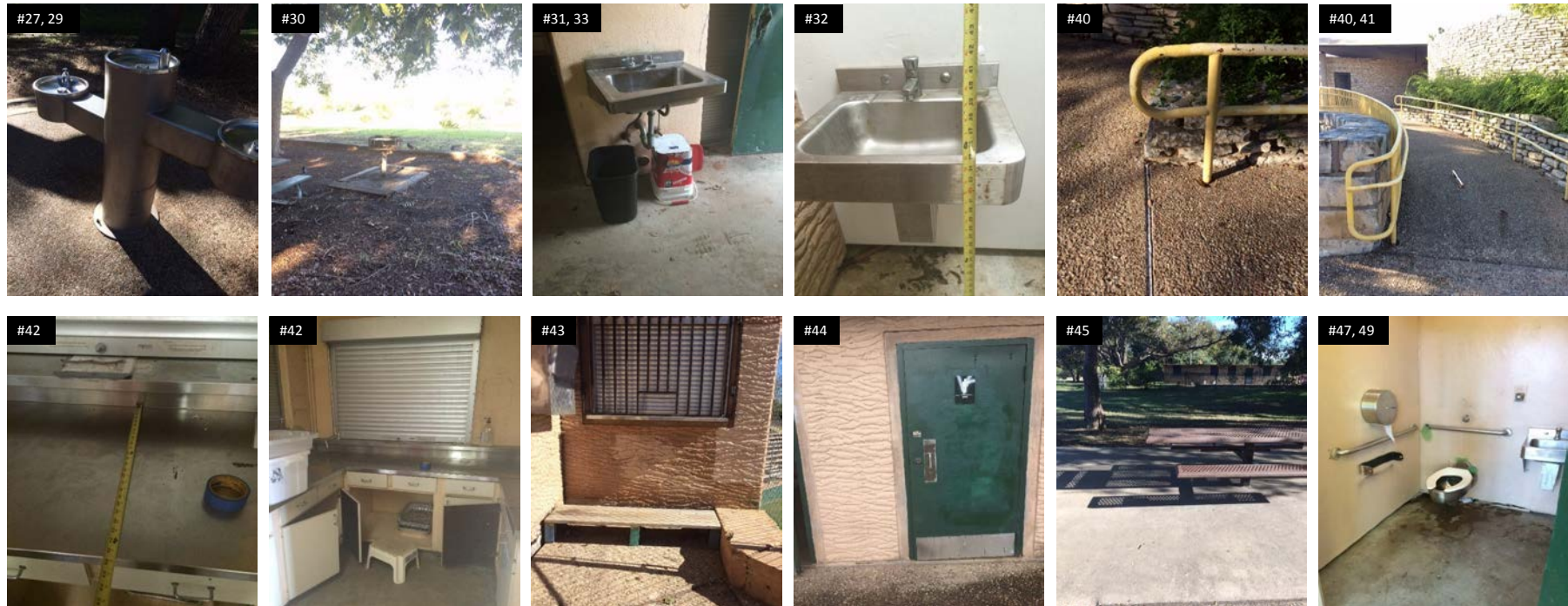
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Internet Access - Demographic Characteristics for Beverly S. Sheffield Park (Two-Mile Radius)				
Census Tract	Block Group	Total Population	No Internet Access	Total % Population with No Internet Access
1.01	1	347	36	10
	2	541	-	-
1.02	1	740	47	6
2.05	1	832	48	6
	2	1238	126	10
	3	279	15	5
2.06	1	596	31	5
	2	298	9	3
	3	771	100	13
15.01	1	675	-	-
	2	601	15	2
	3	449	21	5
	4	592	13	2
15.04	1	1212	-	-
	2	354	17	5
	3	586	73	12
	4	732	52	7
15.05	1	354	19	5
	2	730	66	9
	3	737	68	9
	4	550	37	7
17.07	1	941	62	7
	2	1134	117	10
	3	443	32	7
17.18	1	1015	-	-
	2	617	-	-
	3	392	36	9
	4	883	93	11
17.51	1	282	5	2
	2	690	53	8
17.52	1	790	59	7
	2	734	35	5
	3	647	111	17
18.17	1	653	97	15
	2	832	135	16
	3	795	24	3
18.18	1	629	123	20
	2	889	219	25
	3	616	20	3

Source: ACS 2019 5-yr Estimate Table B28002

Low-income and LEP - Demographic Characteristics for Beverly S. Sheffield Park (Two-Mile Radius)

Census Geography		Income ¹		Limited English Proficiency (Speak English Less Than Very Well) ²				
Census Tract	Census Block Group	2021 DHHS Poverty Threshold for a Family of Four	Median Income	Total Population 5 yrs and over	Spanish	Indo-European	Asian and Pacific Islander	Other
1.01	1	\$26,500	\$110,703	767	-	-	-	-
	2		\$169,492	1405	-	-	-	-
1.02	1		\$183,167	1525	5	-	-	-
2.05	1		\$95,357	1443	-	-	-	-
	2		\$63,750	1839	39	-	41	-
	3		\$112,083	548	-	-	-	-
2.06	1		\$105,833	1262	-	-	-	-
	2		\$165,556	687	-	-	-	-
	3		\$53,438	1244	42	28	-	-
15.01	1		\$88,221	1244	-	-	-	-
	2		\$125,540	1614	104	-	-	-
	3		\$130,597	990	3	-	-	-
	4		\$117,431	1357	-	11	17	-
15.04	1		\$91,596	2300	24	-	37	-
	2		\$83,571	758	-	-	-	-
	3		\$111,944	1291	19	-	-	-
	4		\$143,750	1830	6	-	-	-
15.05	1		\$107,027	663	-	-	14	-
	2		\$52,273	1433	2	-	-	-
	3		\$68,024	1463	-	30	-	-
	4		\$77,639	1018	-	-	-	-
17.07	1		\$56,188	1524	21	-	-	-
	2		\$92,321	2477	-	-	30	-
	3		\$130,391	1072	6	-	-	-
17.18	1		\$54,676	1863	-	-	143	-
	2		\$116,908	1552	-	-	-	-
	3	\$51,694	825	18	-	23	-	
	4	\$101,305	1675	-	-	-	-	
17.51	1	\$116,667	604	-	-	-	-	
	2	\$137,574	1461	18	6	9	-	
17.52	1	\$27,212	1338	36	47	146	-	
	2	\$61,506	1254	11	-	128	-	
	3	\$42,256	1127	-	28	167	-	
18.17	1	\$38,159	1079	37	-	-	55	
	2	\$48,194	1217	-	-	31	-	
	3	\$102,285	1651	6	-	-	-	
18.18	1	\$44,583	1827	567	-	-	-	
	2	\$55,347	2570	801	-	87	-	
	3	\$76,912	1511	159	-	-	-	

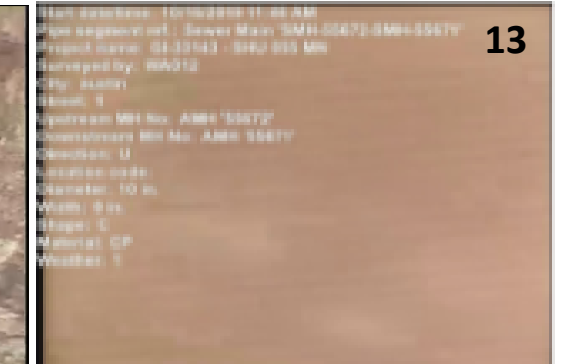
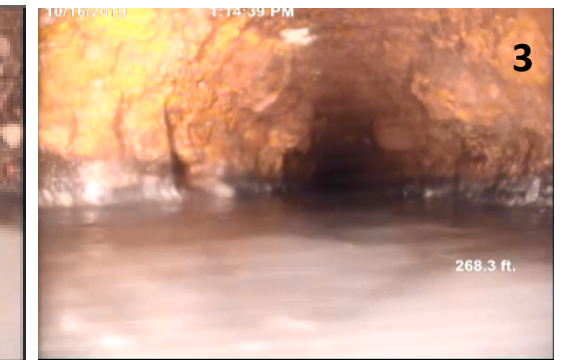
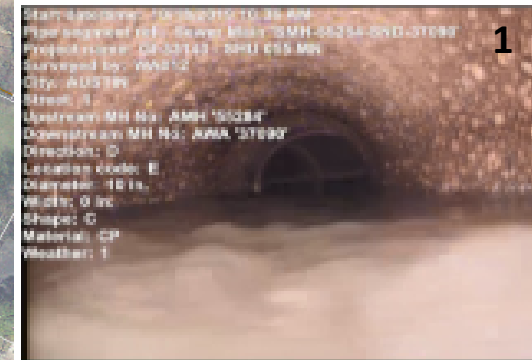
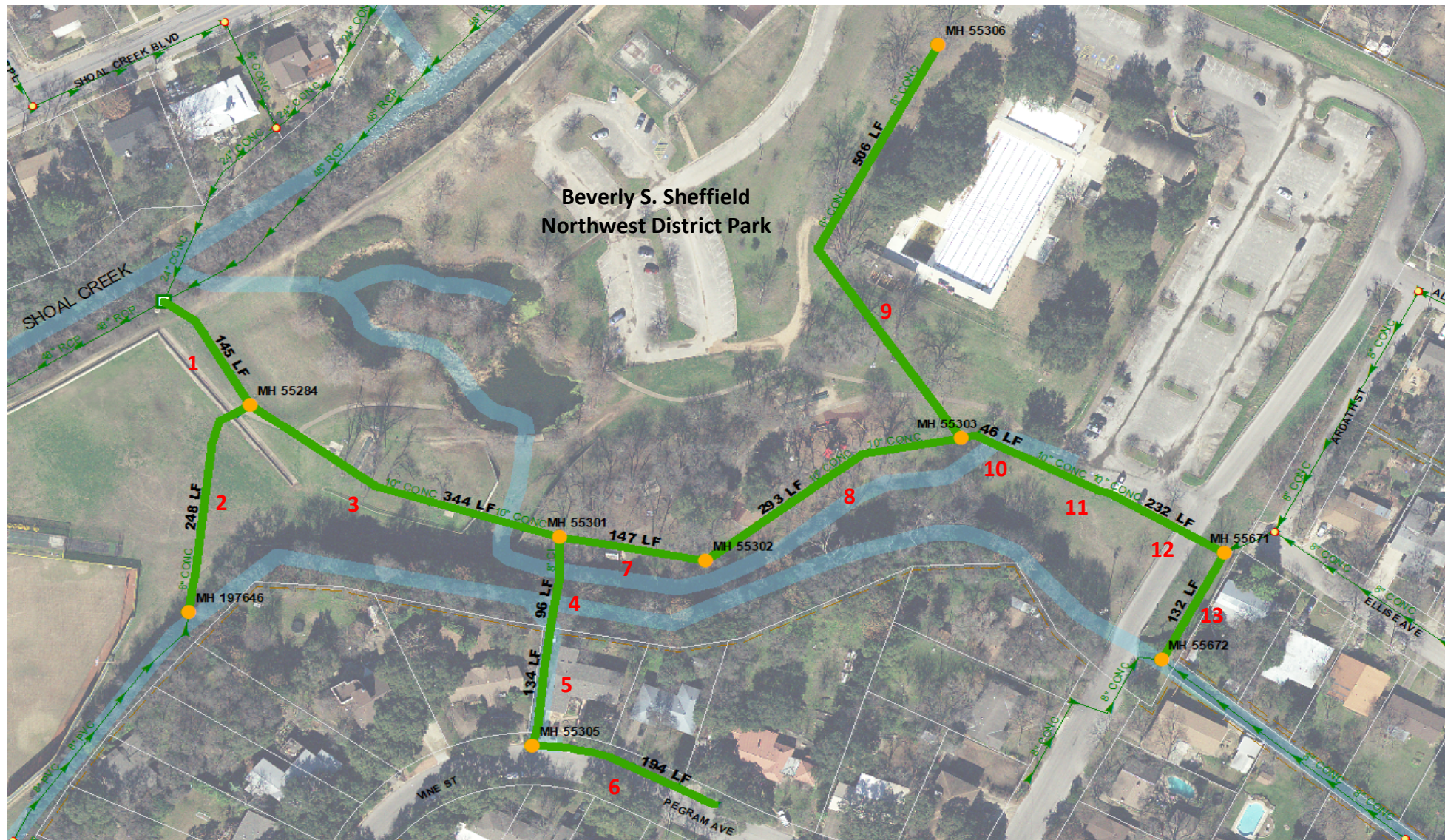
¹ ACS 2019 5-yr Estimate Table B19013

² ACS 2019 5-yr Estimate Table B16004

Minority Populations - Demographic Characteristics for Beverly S. Sheffield Park (Two-Mile Radius)

Census Tract	Block Group	Total Population	Not Hispanic or Latino							Hispanic or Latino of Any Race	Total Minority Population	Total % Minority Population
			White	Black or African American	American Indian and Alaska Native	Asian	Pacific Islander	Other Race	Two or More Races			
1.01	1	812	684	11	-	-	-	-	-	117	128	16
	2	1466	1210	-	17	-	-	-	30	209	256	17
1.02	1	1544	1347	15	-	-	59	-	23	100	197	13
2.05	1	1477	1194	-	-	-	54	-	17	212	283	19
	2	1905	1025	84	12	-	199	-	114	471	880	46
	3	548	434	-	-	-	19	-	30	65	114	21
2.06	1	1331	1156	-	-	-	69	-	54	52	175	13
	2	784	673	20	-	-	-	-	-	91	111	14
	3	1260	823	78	-	-	18	-	20	321	437	35
15.01	1	1333	1090	48	-	-	70	-	19	106	243	18
	2	1764	1362	42	-	-	97	-	30	233	402	23
	3	1093	1020	-	-	-	-	-	26	47	73	7
	4	1392	1283	-	-	-	17	-	-	92	109	8
15.04	1	2527	1324	28	-	-	187	-	17	195	776	48
	2	826	728	-	-	-	-	-	-	33	65	12
	3	1522	1192	1	-	-	19	-	12	276	330	22
	4	1958	1670	52	-	-	33	-	-	60	143	15
15.05	1	709	520	-	-	-	-	-	31	27	131	27
	2	1515	1216	-	-	-	59	-	-	36	204	20
	3	1502	1257	2	-	-	28	-	31	-	184	16
	4	1055	949	21	-	-	16	-	-	48	21	10
17.07	1	1580	1245	80	-	-	47	-	-	35	173	21
	2	2615	1794	75	-	-	90	-	-	32	624	31
	3	1091	851	-	-	-	-	-	-	21	219	22
17.18	1	1949	730	175	-	-	584	-	-	22	438	63
	2	1650	1377	-	-	-	20	-	-	11	242	17
	3	825	744	1	-	-	43	-	-	-	37	10
	4	1821	1694	41	-	-	-	-	-	-	86	7
17.51	1	647	586	10	-	-	-	-	10	-	41	9
	2	1556	1354	-	-	-	16	-	-	28	158	13
17.52	1	1450	507	38	55	-	367	-	-	107	376	65
	2	1325	706	53	-	-	388	-	-	-	178	47
	3	1155	549	-	-	-	411	-	-	15	180	52
18.17	1	1154	585	118	-	-	18	-	-	-	433	49
	2	1238	856	13	-	-	66	-	-	114	189	31
	3	1713	1505	-	-	-	28	-	17	33	130	12
18.18	1	2060	405	-	-	-	16	-	-	16	1623	80
	2	3077	878	19	-	-	130	-	-	71	1979	71
	3	1577	889	47	-	-	54	-	-	64	688	44

Source: ACS 2019 5-yr Estimate Table B03002



ANALYSIS

- These selected 8"-10" conc. and DI pipes consists of **structural failures (advanced corrosion and broken pipe) within a public park**. Defects observed in this project area are similar to noted defects that have resulted in large SSOs.
- **Relaying** is proposed for these segments to ensure no SSO failures occur in the future.

EXISTING CONDITIONS & HISTORY

Existing Defects:

- Segments in selected area consists of advanced corrosion, surface aggregate projecting and visible, hole soil visible, broken pipe, crack and fracture multiple, and encrustation.

Previous SSO History in Area:

- No history of SSOs.

Risk Details:

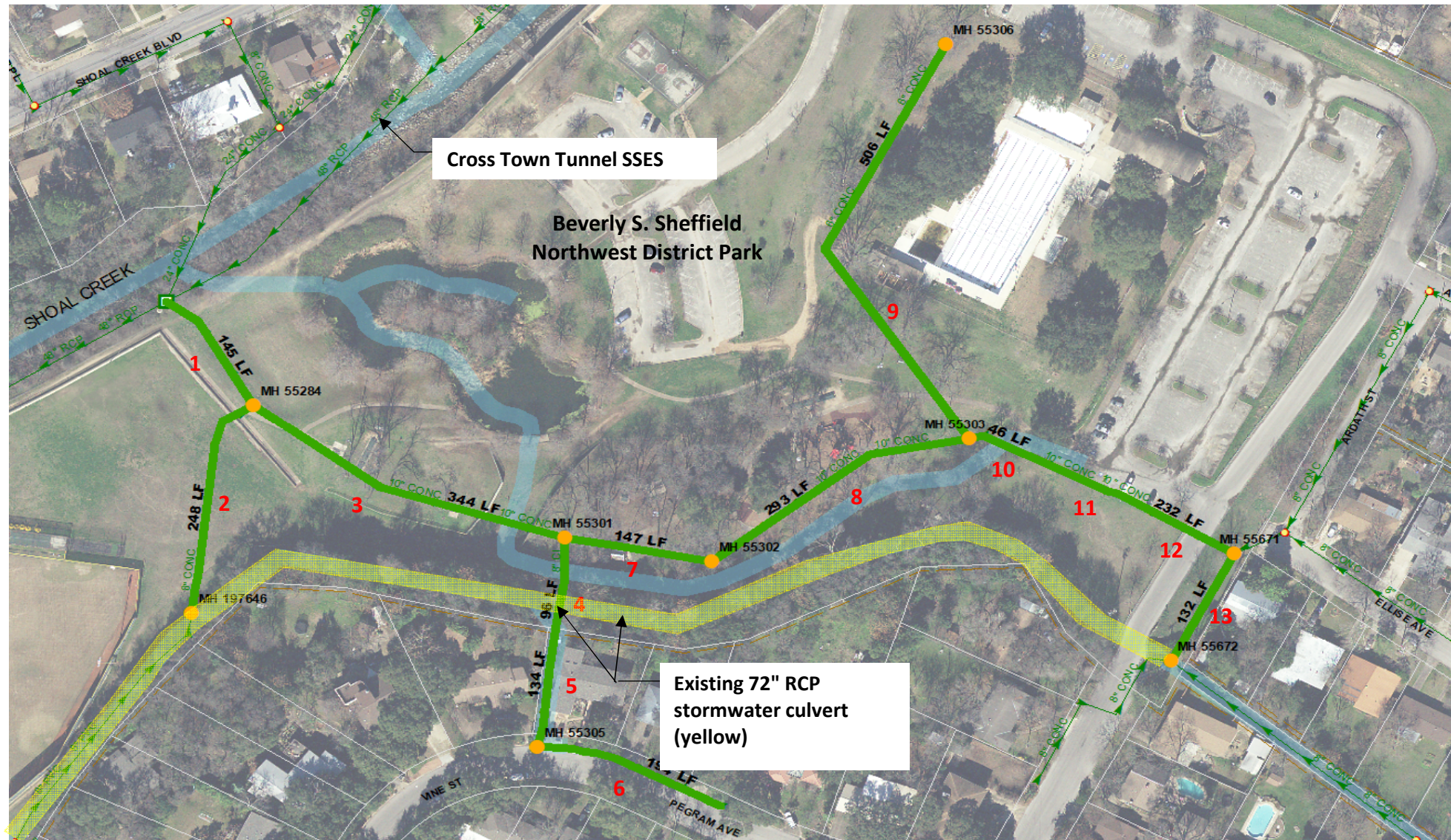
- Selected area is located in a park and near a creek and ponds.

LEGEND

- Existing SM
- Existing SM MH

DRAFT SCOPE

Adjustments to proposed scope may be made after coordinating with additional AW Teams and outside COA Departments.



LEGEND

- Existing SM
- Existing SM MH

Rehab Recommendation & Construction Feasibility

Rehab Recommendation:

- Re-inspection of all segments is needed. Propose DUC inspection.
- Propose relay of all segments.

Project Infrastructure Details:

- Wastewater: 2,531 LF of 8 and 10" dia./*\$1,148,000 (Relay of all segments)

Group Coordination:

- Systems Planning: Coordination needed. **Capacity layer notes selected project pipe at over 180% capacity.**
- Watershed: Coordination needed for crossing 72" stormwater culvert.
- PARD: Coordination needed.

Environmental Considerations

- This project is located in a waterway, 25-year flood plain, 100-year flood plain and Critical Water Quality Zone (CWQZ).
- A tree survey will need to be completed.

Engineering Considerations:

- Segment 5 is located within private property. No easement data is shown within GIS. Easement research is required.

*Cost Estimate:

- No formal cost estimate completed. Costs shown in title are based off \$52.29 per inch foot value provided by IMD.

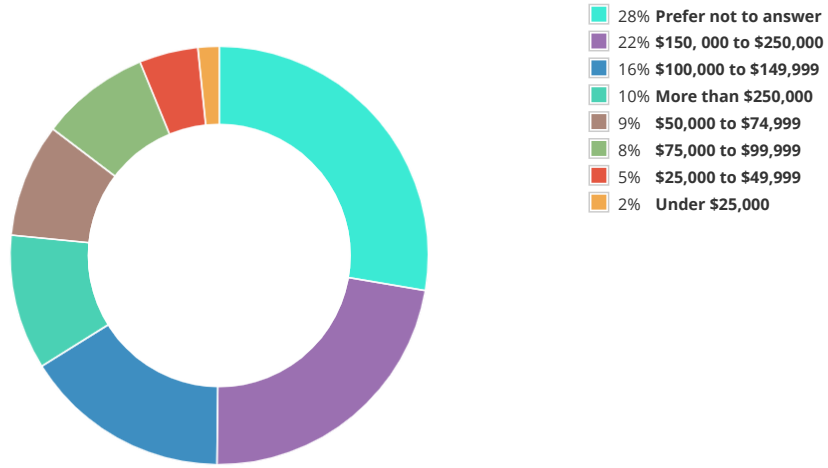
DRAFT SCOPE

Adjustments to proposed scope may be made after coordinating with additional AW Teams and outside COA Departments.

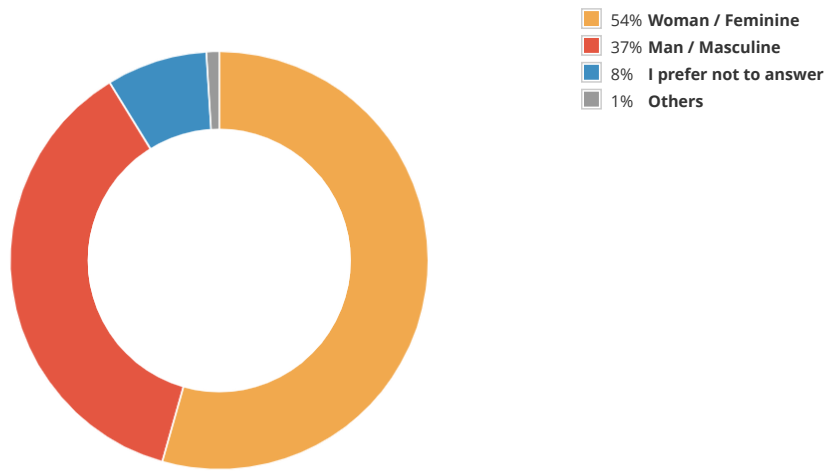
APPENDIX B – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

1. Survey Results
2. Pop-up/Tabling Meeting notes
3. Public Comments

Sheffield Northwest Park Vision Plan Community Survey



307 respondents



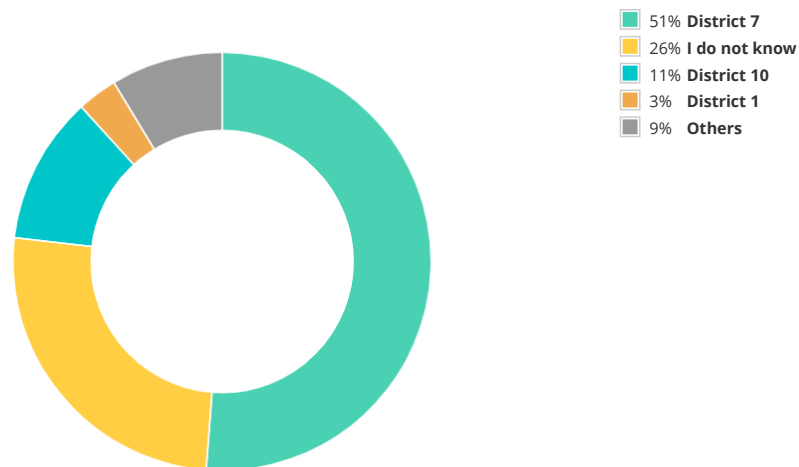
307 respondents

76%	White	160 ✓
15%	I prefer not to answer	32 ✓
7%	Hispanic or Latinx	15 ✓
3%	Asian or Asian American	6 ✓
2%	Biracial, Multiracial, or not listed	5 ✓
0%	Black or African-American	1 ✓
0%	American Indian or Alaska Native	0 ✓
0%	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0 ✓

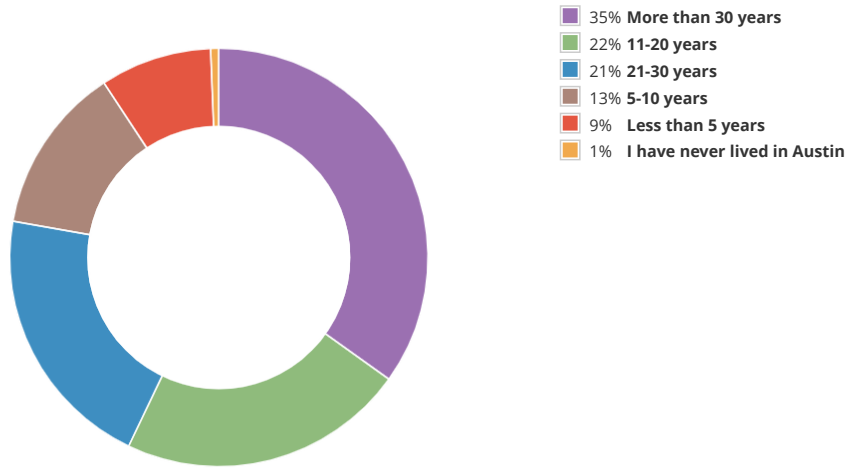
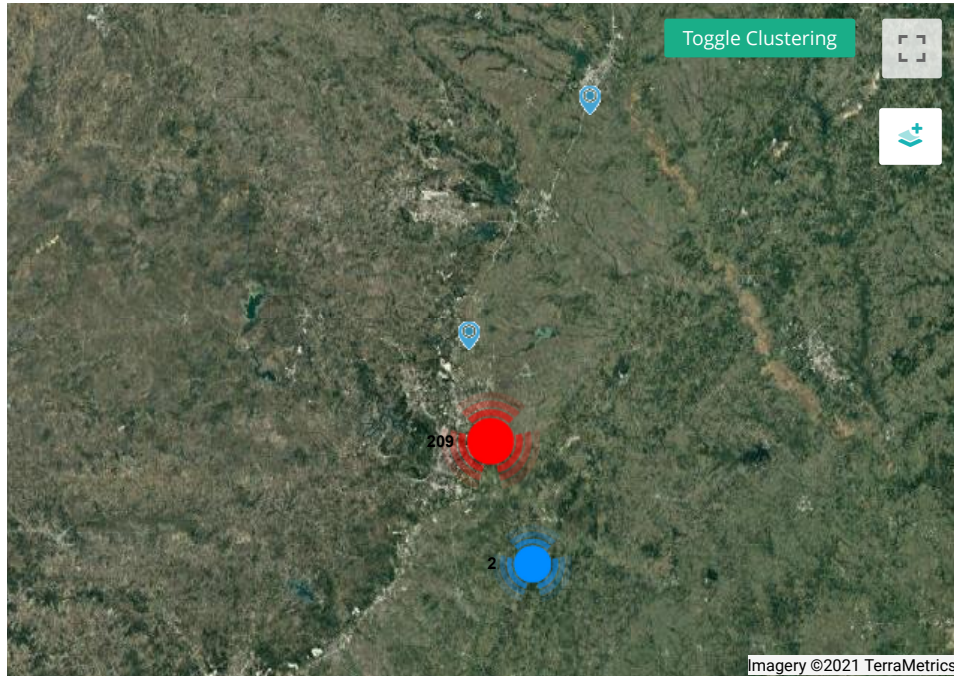
211 Respondents



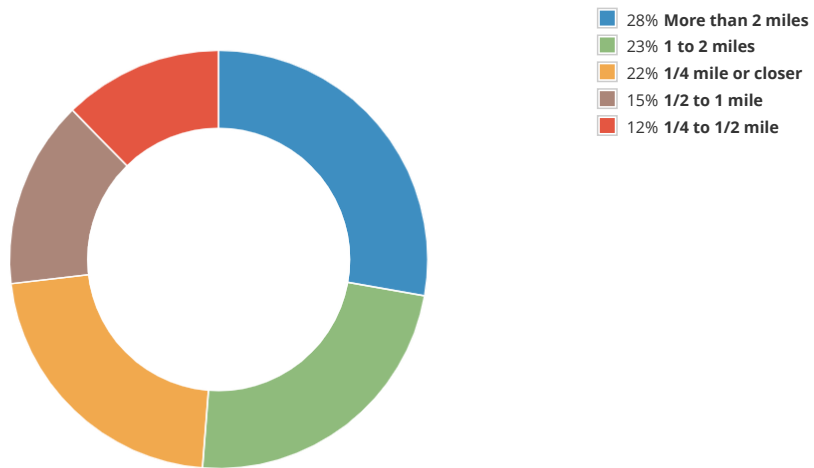
316 respondents



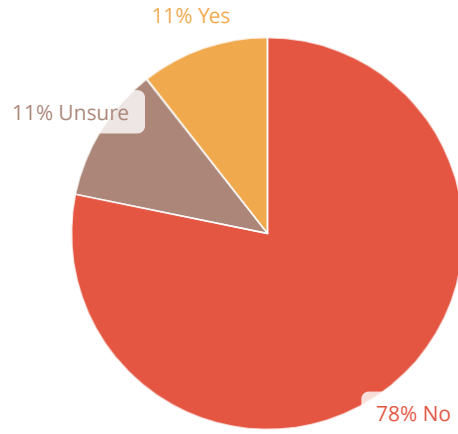
289 respondents



324 respondents



324 respondents



312 respondents

34%	Interesting programming/types of activities	78 ✓
29%	Other	66 ✓
17%	More lighting	38 ✓
14%	A more recognizable entrance / better signage	32 ✓
13%	Feeling welcome and comfortable	30 ✓
13%	Distance from home	29 ✓
13%	WiFi access	29 ✓
11%	Inclusivity and diversity	25 ✓
10%	Better access for people with different abilities	22 ✓
6%	Adequate parking	14 ✓
6%	Better visibility	13 ✓
5%	Making the park easier to find	12 ✓

227 Respondents

Wildflower area/ native plant garden to support birds and pollinators

5 months ago

[+ 27 Agree](#)

bmx pump track

5 months ago

[+ 17 Agree](#)

Improve the pond, it often has a lot of scum or algae.

5 months ago

[+ 25 Agree](#)

Bird and wildlife friendly plantings. Pond not full of algae.

5 months ago

[+ 22 Agree](#)

Shoal Creek wooded area & the pond are very beneficial for migrating & resident birds and birder watchers. PLEASE KEEP SOME NATURAL AREAS FOR THE BIRDS & CRITTERS. Please do not make it all mowed and manicured. Many many birders visit the pond daily. AND enforce leash law!

5 months ago

[+ 15 Agree](#)

Totally agree on both points!

5 months ago

Totally agree on both points!

5 months ago

Pool needs to be improved and upgraded. Not removed.

5 months ago

[+ 11 Agree](#)

This really isn't an amenity or activity but I would like enforcement of leash law.

5 months ago

[+ 11 Agree](#)

I love the idea of making this location a haven for pollinators and birds!

5 months ago

[+ 10 Agree](#)

I would love to see more tails and nature play in the park, and the pond cleaned up and made more sustainable.

5 months ago

[+ 10 Agree](#)

more trees and trails

5 months ago

[+ 10 Agree](#)

Reduction in parking to increase green space.
Keep the pond.

5 months ago

[+ 9 Agree](#)

The runoff into the pond is contaminated with motor oil and automotive fluids, as well as debris in the parking lot. The environmental quality of the pond is questionable; I have taken and had an environmental lab analyze the samples.. This has become a wild life area and is used by migrating birds.

5 months ago

[+ 8 Agree](#)

Pool open to 9pm daily, pool calendar extended to early October (it's still hot in October).

5 months ago

[+ 8 Agree](#)

water circulation for the pond to prevent algae, wildlife friendly plants

5 months ago

[+ 8 Agree](#)

aeration of pond and aeration of pond

5 months ago

[8 Agree](#)

Multi-use trails with connectivity throughout the entire park.

5 months ago

[8 Agree](#)

Additional plantings that are bird- and pollinator-friendly.

5 months ago

[8 Agree](#)

we love NW park. The pond needs a major clean up.

5 months ago

[8 Agree](#)

LET's plant for shade and wildlife (birds). Let's "re wild" in places

5 months ago

[8 Agree](#)

Algae removed from pond. Cars not broken into so often

5 months ago

[8 Agree](#)

aeration of pond and ducks in pond

5 months ago

[6 Agree](#)

I would just like to see expanded trails and much more nature play in the park! I also would really like the pond to be cleaned up and made more sustainable.

5 months ago

[6 Agree](#)

#1 problem with the park is lack of enforcement of leash laws. This contributes to an unpleasant and unsafe atmosphere that affects all of the amenities at the park. Beyond that, I would love to see the pond cleaned up and more natural amenities like this included in the new design (pollinator habitat, etc). We see so much unusual wildlife in the park and at the pond - it needs to be protected. Please don't add more concrete - even taking out some of the existing parking would be good.

Also, it would be great if the reservable picnic table party area were not directly next to the playground. I have seen people setup sound equipment with GIGANTIC speakers right next to, and pointed at, the playscape. This means that it is no longer a community park accessible to everyone because it is being taken over by just that group (in one case it was the HEB company picnic that was terrorizing the ears of my small child).

The playground equipment is also pretty lackluster. It needs an upgrade because it is not very accessible to kids of all ages and abilities. With the loss of the Lucy Read park playground in the neighborhood we really need some bigger and better play equipment at Northwest Park.

5 months ago

[6 Agree](#)

Additional seating along the trail and near the open play areas. The Pond needs much love - remove surface plants, add a circulator to get the water moving, remove big rocks that have fallen into the pond, remove big trees limbs that make kids use to cross to the island, remove the poison ivy. Connect the trails in the park and add multiple ways down from the levee on the creek

5 months ago

[6 Agree](#)

Please keep the raw land & do not put concrete down.

NO DOG PARK. The dogs are too rough off the leash & bring shady ppl that do not watch their dogs. Parking on Pinecrest is already a problem with ppl trying to get to NW Park.

Can something be done to remove the algae at the pond. it looks so nastea.

5 months ago

[6 Agree](#)

Since the pond is spring fed, it would be nice to have the spring water fall down off a fountain into the pond so people can see the beautiful spring water come up out of the ground to be delivered into the pond.

5 months ago

[6 Agree](#)

expanded pool hours with lap swimming, upgrade pond area with trails and native landscaping

5 months ago

[5 Agree](#)

An area of the park with some shade and comfortable seating (benches?) organized in a way that individuals (including elders) can have easy access, hang out, enjoy being outdoors, observe nature and what's going on at the park and possibly socialize. It would be nice to have the park be a destination where one could relax, and possibly make new friends.
Also - I wish the pool were open for more days and longer hours.

5 months ago

[5 Agree](#)

Keep more areas in natural state, decrease mowing

5 months ago

[5 Agree](#)

improvement to the pool, open more hours, open earlier in the spring and stay open later in the fall. Extend pool hours to early mornings (for those who work) and stay open later in evenings and EVERY DAY!

5 months ago

[5 Agree](#)

purple martin bird houses and such. Put signs up reminding people that dogs MUST remain on leash.

5 months ago

[5 Agree](#)

More native plants, less mowed grass/lawn. It would be great to enhance connections between the pond and the creek to visualize the water's pathway, as well as perhaps including an informational plaque about the history of the park and how it relates to the 1980's flooding and flood control at large.

5 months ago

[5 Agree](#)

please make the pond lovely again!!!!

5 months ago

[5 Agree](#)

I would like enforcement of leash laws.

5 months ago

[5 Agree](#)

Enforce leash laws

5 months ago

[5 Agree](#)

A bike track (pump track).

5 months ago

[5 Agree](#)

Skate park and pump track. Free pool entrance. Free splash pad

5 months ago

[5 Agree](#)

Skatepark and BMX pump track

5 months ago

[5 Agree](#)

NO OFF LEASH DOG AREA. PPL ARE SHADY & WILL NOT CONTROL THE DOGS.

5 months ago

[5 Agree](#)

Skate/BMX Park, Mountain Bike pump track, more trails.

5 months ago

[4 Agree](#)

we need a skate park!

5 months ago

[3 Agree](#)

disagree

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

I wish the mowers would be trained on when to mow the wildflowers ...Last year the bluebonnets were fabulous yet they were mowed at the wrong time ...soooooo this year there were very very few. Timing is everything for the bluebonnets and other wildflowers.

5 months ago

[4 Agree](#)

Wildlife is being negatively affected by the large and very loud Camp Gladiator classes held on the banks of the pond (I have observed this many times). Please require those types of classes to be in an area away from the pond.

5 months ago

[4 Agree](#)

Pool updates
Skate park area

5 months ago

[4 Agree](#)

Clean the pond so the fish, turtle and ducks can live there. Austin has so many expensive vanity projects but won't keep this pond clean or remove the ball moss from the trees. GRRR....

5 months ago

[4 Agree](#)

The pool could use repairs and more lap lanes. There are a large number of lap swimmers there when it is open, more than there are lap lanes.

5 months ago

[4 Agree](#)

Shade sails or shad over the play structures, all abilities items for children's playground, older child play structure, like the ones out by dell diamond. Some sort of dome for climbing. More boulders, the kids love climbing them
Ans hiking "in the woods". Covered picnic area that can be rented out. Some
Adult trail exercises. A fence around the little toddler area so they don't toddle down the hill when mom or dad turns their head. Hillside ampitheater for movies. More covered seating at the pool. Or seating in general at the pool. Fire ant treatment especially at the pool.

5 months ago

[4 Agree](#)

Sidewalks that connect around the park

5 months ago

[4 Agree](#)

More trails. Bentonville is a lovey example and we have a lot of catching up to do.

5 months ago

[3 Agree](#)

Hiking trail : paved trail for nice way to walk or loop around entire park; from baseball field to pool there is not continuity

5 months ago

[3 Agree](#)

Bmx pump track!

5 months ago

[3 Agree](#)

BMX pump track

5 months ago

[3 Agree](#)

pump track

5 months ago [3 Agree](#)

Pump Track for BMX

5 months ago [3 Agree](#)

BMX Pump Track please!!!

5 months ago [3 Agree](#)

bm pump track,
Improve the pond

5 months ago [3 Agree](#)

Pump track for bike skills development

5 months ago [3 Agree](#)

Bike skills park

5 months ago [3 Agree](#)

Mountain biking trails

5 months ago [3 Agree](#)

BMX and skate park

5 months ago [3 Agree](#)

Skatepark.

5 months ago [3 Agree](#)

Bicycle pump track and skills area would bring this park up to the standard seen around the country and allow for a safe, healthy activity offered very little.

5 months ago [3 Agree](#)

BMX Pump track PLEASE!!!

5 months ago [3 Agree](#)

There are a lot of kids in the area that skate and BMX. Would be great if there was part of the parks for that.

5 months ago [3 Agree](#)

BMX Pump Track

5 months ago [3 Agree](#)

Skateboard park and BMX park/pump tracks!!!! The older kids need a place to exercise and most ride bikes/skateboards/scooters!!!

5 months ago [3 Agree](#)

Wildflower area/ native plant garden. Natural areas not overly maintained to allow for migratory birds

5 months ago [3 Agree](#)

Skate and Bike Track

5 months ago [3 Agree](#)

BMX & MTB Pump Track and Bike Skills Park

5 months ago [3 Agree](#)

BMX and MTB pump track/trails/skills park

5 months ago

[3 Agree](#)

Skatepark either on the existing basketball court or on a new plot of concrete. I go just about everyday and very rarely see the court get used for basketball and for the longest time there were no nets on the basketball goals. I have seen many people go there to Bike, Skate, Scooter and roller skate and all from the ages of 5-50 on the basketball court working on tricks. I see this as a opportunity to bring the neighborhood together to build a skatepark for children and adults alike and to give a safe space to do these activities. The cost would be very minimal. I have spoken in depth to many members of the community about this and have even spoken about how it could take inspiration from Patterson park and the 9th street BMX park where it is community built, labor and funded by the community that would use it as well

5 months ago

[3 Agree](#)

Pocket skate park

5 months ago

[3 Agree](#)

Native plants to support birds and pollinators, especially Monarch butterflies. Keep some natural areas without mowed lawn.

5 months ago

[3 Agree](#)

no reason to mow the sloped banks on the east and south side of the baseball field area, let it go back to nature. We need a natural nature place in Allandale,

5 months ago

[3 Agree](#)

Bmx pump track for kids

5 months ago

[3 Agree](#)

Pump track for bmx

5 months ago

[3 Agree](#)Bike park/roller park
Gagaball pits

5 months ago

[3 Agree](#)

pickleball courts - separate from tennis courts

5 months ago

[3 Agree](#)

Great idea! Good thinking! It is the newest, hottest phase!

5 months ago

bike lanes! Can't get enough

5 months ago

[3 Agree](#)

Wall for street art would be great.

5 months ago

[2 Agree](#)

Nor pump tracks would be great

5 months ago

[2 Agree](#)

Kids bicycle trail/track. There are few opportunities for places for kids to learn off-road biking. (The flood control basin areas at Sheffield could be dual purposed to include mountain bike skills learning areas). I represent Austin Ridge Riders Mountain Bike Club and we have a variety of of ideas/proposals for Austin Parks that we are currently discussing with Austin Parks Foundation.

5 months ago

[2 Agree](#)

We must keep and enhance NW Park's natural areas, as it gives life, space and beauty to Austin. It provides relief from the city life. The wooded areas in Northwest Park are homes to many Owls, Hawks, many Birds, and other animals. I have many fine pictures of Owls, Hawks, and Birds taken in the Park. The Pond and creek provides nesting for Wood Ducks and many other birds. Northwest Park is officially listed as an Austin-area Birding Site by Texas Parks and Wildlife. Please make the park more natural, put in trees on the slopes, and along the divisions of functional areas. Leave the Pond and the mature wooded Creek area ALONE. Bring back the natural Spring near the parking lot path to the picnic tables, it was mistakenly filled in during last remodel of NW Park. Austin Water is planning to redo the Shoal Creek Dam in Northwest Park, which is along the west edge of the road to the baseball parking lot, PLEASE do not let them make a Huge Cement covered Monument like they did to Dog Park, challenge them to keep the wooded habitat . Shoal Creek is fed by several springs along the creek. Please keep bicycles off paths and trails. They are a safety hazard to pedestrians on paths, there are other areas in Austin far better suited for dirt bikes.

5 months ago

[2 Agree](#)

Control of off leash dogs and bikes kept away from pedestrians especially with children.

5 months ago

[2 Agree](#)

Agree 100%.

5 months ago

We need a fountain in the pond to help keep the algae down and to help oxygenate the water

5 months ago

[2 Agree](#)

Art murals on the dam walls

5 months ago

[2 Agree](#)

Pullup bars, exercise station

5 months ago

[2 Agree](#)

Two things: 1) possibly a public mural project on some of the large concrete retaining walls between the pond area and baseball field. Something bright and colorful tied in with some other program (like HOPE Outdoor Gallery). 2) a robust wildflower patch would be great, perhaps just some more attention paid to cultivating more and more variety of flowers where wildflowers are already growing well. More color overall basically.

5 months ago

[2 Agree](#)

Wildflower and native plant area. Have a bike path connection at all entrances

5 months ago

[2 Agree](#)

Something to discourage theft in the parking lot. Lots of cars broken into.

5 months ago

[2 Agree](#)

Water slides but don't eliminate diving board..also a place where kids are allowed to dive in off the side of the pool (there are very few places in Austin where kids can learn to dive in). Also, some steps into the pool are so good for beginning swimmers.

5 months ago

[2 Agree](#)

The pond really needs attention. The algae and duckweed choke out the fish and plants. I think it needs an aeration device to keep the water from being so stagnate and unhealthy

5 months ago

[2 Agree](#)

Off leash dogs are a problem in this park. I would LOVE to see a gated, off-leash zone behind the baseball fields

5 months ago

[2 Agree](#)

Adding rocks would help the trails remain usable when they become so muddy, like some of the other trails in town. Adding more wildflowers and perennials would bring more wildlife to the part.

5 months ago

[2 Agree](#)

Better connection from Shoal Creek Blvd/Park Drive to the park for people walking, wheeling, or biking.

5 months ago

[2 Agree](#)

Less car center design overall

5 months ago

[2 Agree](#)

Disagree.

5 months ago

Dog waste friendly bins

5 months ago

[2 Agree](#)

Separate pickle ball courts not on tennis courts, more shade in pool area, more pool hours, pool bathroom doors

5 months ago

[2 Agree](#)

Butterfly garden area

5 months ago

[2 Agree](#)

A clubhouse for tennis

A stage for concerts

5 months ago

[2 Agree](#)

Please no electrified or amplified bands places in NW park. It is surrounded by residents, the base carries through the walls.

5 months ago

[3 Agree](#)

Pool bathroom & park bathroom improvements. Public art or sculptures.

5 months ago

[2 Agree](#)

Shade for the playground

5 months ago

[2 Agree](#)

More interpretive info re the pond.

5 months ago

[2 Agree](#)

Splash pad

5 months ago

[2 Agree](#)

I have noticed a lot of poison ivy along trails and near where kids like to explore and play. These areas need better maintenance

5 months ago

[2 Agree](#)

I would reduce the size of the large parking lots which were designed in the 1950s. They are never fully used and at least half of the asphalt could be converted to green areas.

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

Pump track

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

Skate park features (in drainage field area): If a pump track or other Facilities are installed it would be easy to set forth some skate park concrete features and rails to integrate into the overall park design or box pump track area. There are a lot of children of all ages who enjoy skating and scooters.

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

more seating with backs, pool open year round, wildflower area/native plant garden to support birds and pollinators. Maintain the pond, which is often stagnant and scummy

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

BMX/Skateboard area

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

Convert portion of parking area to more green space.
Convert park to acoustic music only.
Add aerator to pond- dangerous with algae- young children do not realize it is water and run out and fall in.
Enforce leash laws- reason safety marked above- my dog has been attacked several times by off leash dogs.

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

Pond maintenance is important to fish and wildlife.

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

hard surface BMX, MTB, Skate, Scooter pump track and skills park

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

Pump track

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

Pump
Track

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

Pump track

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

Skatepark and Pumptrack. Preferably a park built by a company called Evergreen. They are the best quality that skaters like.

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

BMX and Mountain bike pump track and bike skills area similar to what San Antonio has built at McAllister park.

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

I agree we need a concrete pump track or park so Bikes, Skateboard and roller skates have a place in North Austin to do these activities

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

BMX & MTB pump track and trails. Bikes are booming and the city needs to provide more venues for legal riding in the city! Providing this type of resource gives riders young and old a safe place to learn & progress their skills and build connections within their community.

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

BMX Pump Track!

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

Bike pump track

5 months ago [1 Agree](#)

Disc golf. BMX / pump track.

5 months ago [1 Agree](#)

Dedicated pickleball courts and a bxm pump track

5 months ago [1 Agree](#)

Pump track for bikes! And is something wrong with the pond - it seems to be suffocating in algae?

5 months ago [1 Agree](#)

We need pump tracks

5 months ago [1 Agree](#)

Mtb skills park or velosolutions pump track

5 months ago [1 Agree](#)

skate park

5 months ago [1 Agree](#)

Bmx pump track for all skill levels would be amazing!

5 months ago [1 Agree](#)

A velosolutions asphalt pumptrack will be an excellent addition to the park given how often people bike to and from the park as well as the cycling improvements made in the neighborhood, especially Shoal Creek.

5 months ago [1 Agree](#)

Better bike connections through the park

5 months ago [1 Agree](#)

As a birder, I'd like to see native plant landscaping to attract hummingbirds as well as native trees and shrubs of different densities and heights to attract birds and provide them places of retreat and safety.

5 months ago [1 Agree](#)

Please keep large open fields. Great for kite flying, frisbee throwing, and all other free forms of play.

5 months ago [1 Agree](#)

More Trees planted on the slopes. Limit mowing so natural grasses can take over. Leave the mature wooded Shoal Creek flood plane for nature, birds, as is. Make improvement to the pool, get rid of the fire ants. Keep Bicycles off the nature paths, they are a hazard to people.

5 months ago [1 Agree](#)

Less parking—convert it to greenspace

5 months ago [1 Agree](#)

Improve pool.

5 months ago [1 Agree](#)

NW Park Pool is fantastic, we have to keep the pool, My kids spent their school summers there, and learned to swim.

5 months ago

Converting the open field next to the baseball field into an offleash area for dogs

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

disagree, we have Dog Park a huge off leash area for dogs already. I do not like strange dogs coming up to me.

5 months ago

Permanent metal ping pong tables. It would be a great activity for all ages!

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

One concern is safety in the parking lots. There have been many reports of cars being broken into, so that is always on my mind when I visit the park.

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

Upgraded restrooms with changing tables for infants.

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

Shaded Splash Pad!

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

more open pool hours for lap swimming

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

More water fountains, extended pool hours

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

The open area next to the baseball fields is perfect for an off leash area of the park. It is great for throwing g balls and not worrying about your dog going into water if having to hike up a super steep slope like at the other park off Shoal Creek. Please protect the trees. Please protect and improve the wildflower areas.

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

please take dogs to dog park, it is across the street. NW Park is for people, and needs to be poop free.

5 months ago

[2 Agree](#)

More Pickleball courts

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

Pool bathroom updates

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

Improvements to the pool is high on my list, but as not listed as an option. The bathrooms/changing rooms especially could use some improvement.

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

The pool is key, and must be kept.

5 months ago

Running and walking trails would be a great addition. The ballpark takes up way too much land given how rarely it is used. That land should be repurposed for pickup uses

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

There could be such a nice running or walking trail here. The ballpark takes up way too much land given how little it is used. That space could be used in such better ways

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

Totally disagree, I walk in the park several times a week, lots of ways to go. Keep the Ballfield

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

Solar shade canopies, electric bike rental and electric car charging. Transit dropoff. Recycling. Ban on BBQ for air quality. Tiny library %3

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

Pickleball courts added. Permanent and dedicated courts with dedicated nets. Shade would be great too like clay madsen! Thanks so much!

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

Pickleball courts

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

Designated Pickleball courts

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

more pickleball courts please
bathroom near courts
water near courts

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

More pickleball courts please!!!

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

More Pickleball Courts

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

More pickleball!!!

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

More Pickleball courts

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

More pickleball courts, outside of tennis, so we do not have to compete for court space. Improve the pond! It's beautiful but needs care and cleaning/aeration.

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

We need more pickleball courts in this area.

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

Pickleball courts and court times expanded!!! Pickleball is for all ages and is something that can be played all year round. There are not enough Pickleball courts in the Austin area, nor are they advertised enough or open for all. Can't emphasize this enough.

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

Pickleball courts

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

Longer trails
 Better playground
 Ball field available to public when not in use
 Parking lot is mowed dead feeling zone, add wildflowers or reduce?
 Loved the informal dirt bike park, make formal

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

Put the informal dirt bike park in the Dog Park area, there is a lot of room there.

5 months ago

[2 Agree](#)

A POOL THAT RETAINS THE MELTING POT NEIGHBORHOOD CULTURE AND ACTIVITIES OF ITS PAST. AND LOWER THE RACIST POOL FEES.

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

Leashless area for dogs

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

Totally disagree - there is one right across Shoal Creek already.

5 months ago

Amphitheater

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

totally disagree. Electronic amplified Bands are too loud, the park is surrounded by residents, the Bass carries through walls.

5 months ago

A dog park

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

Sand volleyball courts

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

It would be nice to have "real" pickleball courses. We often get there and the tennis courts that are also marked for pickleball are used for private tennis lessons

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

More pickle ball courts

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

Properly lined pickleball courts

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

Please have lines painted on Pickle ball courts in a yellow paint.

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

Splash pad and play equipment for older kids.

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

Fenced-in, off-leash dog area. Across the bridge in the strip of land parallel to Shoal Creek Blvd would be a good spot. Great Northern is unsafe because it's unfenced and part of a bicycle trail. With the addition of density there are more dogs who need places to run, and this will be the only way to obtain leash compliance in the park, imo.

5 months ago

[1 Agree](#)

THANK YOU to all the friends, neighbors & volunteers that are taking care of the park & working on meeting the needs of the neighborhood. Thank you, thank you! We ALL appreciate you working on this survey.

5 months ago

1 Agree

Please renovate the bridge crossing the creek

5 months ago

1 Agree

the city never put in the boards for the walkway, they need to.

5 months ago

Unleashed dog area

5 months ago

1 Agree

NO UNLEASHED DOG AREAS

5 months ago

6 Agree

Totally disagree. Dog Park is across the street. Leave this park for people.

5 months ago

1 Agree

Allow off-leash dog walking, at least early in the morning when young children are not playing on the playgrounds. Many people let their dogs run and chase balls or frisbees in the morning in the open area adjacent to the baseball diamond. Please keep bicycles out of this park. From past experience, cyclists race through the park training for earth bike races. They expect pedestrians and dogs to get out of their way; they do not signal their presence when approaching from the rear. One cyclist actually told an 83-year-old woman to move her little dog out of his way. When bikes are given access, they feel they have the right of way. Please keep them out of this park. Finally - Please DO NOT hurt the pond when considering detention issues. How about providing solar aerators for it?

5 months ago

1 Agree

Disagree, Dog park is across the street. Keep NW Park for people, and no dog poop.

5 months ago

1 Agree

1. Expand pickleball to all four tennis courts (and possibly even the basketball court) with lines drawn in a color more visible than black. Or have a separate infrequently used area of the park dedicated to pickleball courts with permanent nets, which will preclude the need for #2 below. (I believe 8 pickleball courts should be the minimum available given the number of people currently playing and it being the fastest growing sport.)
2. Have enough portable pickleball nets for all courts and the ability to check one out.
3. Have a reservation system for all courts so people are assured of a time slot when they arrive and don't have to wait during busy times like they currently do. (1.5 hours seems reasonable for tennis and pickleball.)
4. Install a very high covering over all courts to provide shade in summer so they will be better utilized. The material could be similar to the one that is currently used to provide shade over the seats on the tennis courts there. (I believe there is a park in East Austin that has successfully done this for years on its basketball court.)
5. Install a flexible, transparent curtain-type barrier that can be drawn from fence to fence between each tennis court to help prevent balls going far or onto adjacent courts.
6. Regularly monitor and maintain all courts, fences, gates, and lights — including the automatic adjustment of lights to park hours as soon as daylight saving time begins and ends.
7. Keep restrooms open and maintained during all hours that park facilities and courts are available for use.
8. Provide security during all park hours to prevent car burglaries and misuse of facilities, including courts.
9. Keep all park facilities free of charge so that they will continue to be well utilized.

5 months ago

Recommend trail become off-leash area for dogs. Note that we only have one offleash area in Allendale/Rosedale/Crestview/Brentwood (Great Northern). Austin is expanding in population & access for offleash areas has been greatly reduced. 1) Great Northern property is unfenced, swampy, & not appropriate currently as an offleash dog area; 2) Pease Park's offleash trail has never been repaired from flooding so access has been reduced over 50% (& requires fighting traffic); and 3) Auditorium Shores area has been reduced; 4) Other popular offleash areas further out often have algae that could kill dogs, so cannot be used as offleash areas moving forward (plus have parking/access/traffic issues). Thanks!

5 months ago

I would like to see the pool better maintained. I am not sure why that was not included in the survey but it is a REALLY important part of the park and the closest affordable pool for 100's of people in central austin.

5 months ago

protect and prioritize natural areas, beautiful mature trees, places for wildlife
 upgrade restrooms
 keep pool open longer
 maintain pond
 space for community garden

5 months ago

Volleyball courts, trails that connect for running, more pickle-ball courts, older kid playground equipment

5 months ago

Please keep the mature wetlands along the creek, and at the pond, it is native habitat to migratory birds, turtles, fish, etc. The creek is spring fed along there from the Edwards Aquafir. Please consult with COAs wildlands conservation guidelines for both areas. The unfortunate renovation of Dog Park, across Shoal Creek Blvd from NW park, took out 70% of the tall trees, ruining the habitat there. Please do not put in a dirt bike track in NW park, that can go into the open areas of Dog park, a large area, like the BMX dirt bike track at 9th street and shoal Creek flood plane. Please enhance the nature and natural side of NW Park, reduce mow areas, plant trees on the slopes. Please keep bicycles off the park paths for the safety of our young and old pedestrians, the bikes create a hazard. NW Park is a place for People and nature, the dogs already have Dog Park to walk and run in across the street. NW Park is a place where my kids grew up exploring nature, and going to the pool. Love the pool!

5 months ago

open pool year-round, maintain the pond which is too often stagnant and scuzzy, provide more seating with back support.

5 months ago

Improve restroom access and cleanliness, more trash cans or more trash pick up. More native plants and better care of the pond!

5 months ago

Also- require deposit for reserved space and return if space left clean. Easter was a disaster for park cleanliness.

5 months ago

improved signage for wheelchair accessible areas; better wheelchair and walker and elderly pathways to viewing and picnic areas

5 months ago

Would love to see a small skate park or pump park added! Or even just a stand alone mini-ramp, like at Patterson Park.

5 months ago

Mountain biking trails run alongside the creek connecting to the already existing trail along the wooded area.

5 months ago

bmX pump track

5 months ago

NA

5 months ago

Might be nice to have an ice cream stand or some type of treat for visitors.

5 months ago

Pump track and skills area for BMX

5 months ago

We need dedicated pickleball courts. Please consider converting one tennis court into 4 dedicated pickleball courts.

5 months ago

Benches or natural berms for sitting to attract more people who aren't as physically mobile or who just like being in a park to relax, read a book, etc.

5 months ago

I think a ton of the parking can be reclaimed for better uses, possibly even developed to house people who might not otherwise afford this neighborhood.

5 months ago

Exercise equipment.

5 months ago

Affordable housing on half the parking lot. 50 story towers to piss off wealthy nimbys in the area

5 months ago

Pump track

5 months ago

More stuff for dogs. Have the pool open. Allow for a pool pass for Allendale Neighborhood residents.

5 months ago

BMX pump track, skate park.

5 months ago

Park could use another basketball court.

5 months ago

modernized pool and splash pad

5 months ago

BMX and mountain bike pump track and skis park

5 months ago

There is an open area between two of the water retention walls that forms a semi enclosed area. Close it off with fencing and make it available for off leash dog stuff.

5 months ago

Improved bathroom. Re-dedicated space to wildflowers (there use to to be a nice wildflower space but it's dwindled the past 3-4 years.

5 months ago

Labyrinth

5 months ago

n/a

5 months ago

get rid of the baseball field and repurpose the land

5 months ago

The baseball field is fantastic, the games are packed, wonderful night games there and please bring back the concession stand!

5 months ago

Just clean up the creek!!!

5 months ago

Leave the Creek all natural, it is a mature forest area now. Pick up trash - yes.

5 months ago

[2 Agree](#)

Just clean up the creek!

5 months ago

I'm sorry, but this survey makes little sense. How can the park be meeting anyone's needs with the construction going on??????

5 months ago

sand volleyball; clean up pond

5 months ago

I love the pool! It is great just how it is. But the pool bath house needs a complete remodel.

5 months ago

It's been a while since I looked, but a few smaller reservable tables might be nice. Last time I looked, reservable tables seemed mostly for very large groups.

5 months ago

I grew up going to this park in the 1970s! It's big and beautiful and with a little effort, could be fabulous

5 months ago

Free entrance fee for the pool!

5 months ago

More wildlife habitat; better lighting; healthier pond; for the space NOT to be an off-leash dog park

5 months ago

MORE PICKLEBALL COURTS

5 months ago

Please add more pickleball courts - it is the fastest growing sport in america and we do not have enough courts here in austin, please help so we can play pickleball at the park!

5 months ago

Shade for playground

5 months ago

Lighted courts

5 months ago

My primary activity at the park in recent months has been pickleball, and I appreciate that there are 4 lined courts for pickleball. However, the dark painted lines are very difficult to see, necessitating the addition of tape. It would be very helpful for the lines to be repainted with a visible color, such as light - medium blue. Yellow would make it difficult to call yellow balls in or out. Additionally, the cracks in the courts allow ground water to seep up into the playing area after a rain, so a fix for that would be nice.

5 months ago

Splash pad, keep pond healthy, improve park bathrooms,

5 months ago

Please line all tennis courts for pickleball. More courts would be used if added.

5 months ago

Pickleball stand alone court

5 months ago

Pickle Ball Courts

5 months ago

All of the tennis courts need to be lined for pickleball (only half are). The ability to turn on the lights at 9 when they go off because they forgot to reprogram them for day light savings time. Dedicated pickleball courts would be AMAZING. There really aren't courts in this area of town and it's gotten very popular over COVID. Call Lincoln at Austin Tennis & Pickleball Center for numbers or Northwest Rec that got very popular before COVID.

5 months ago

Some fitness equipment along walking/running trail. More shaded areas for sitting

5 months ago

I live along a park boundary and I want to strongly discourage the expansion of any park use that increases noise or any type of amplified sound in the park. This park is predominantly situated in a bowl-shaped pit for critical flood management purposes. Amplified sound is a menace to the surrounding homes in this type of configuration. Our homes are older & have little insulation from the sound. If there are loud activities (including park visitors that play music during their visit), it severely negatively impacts my quality of life and the experience of other, respectful park patrons.

5 months ago

upgraded basketball area. more open space for kite flying.

5 months ago

Improve the pond, it often has a lot of scum.

5 months ago

Clean up and stock fish in the pond. There are so many dogs off leash and some aggressive that we do not go to the playground because of this. There are 30-50 dogs throughout the day that are off leash. Especially near the baseball fields. There isn't any enforcement at all. It's a shame. We live right next to the park.

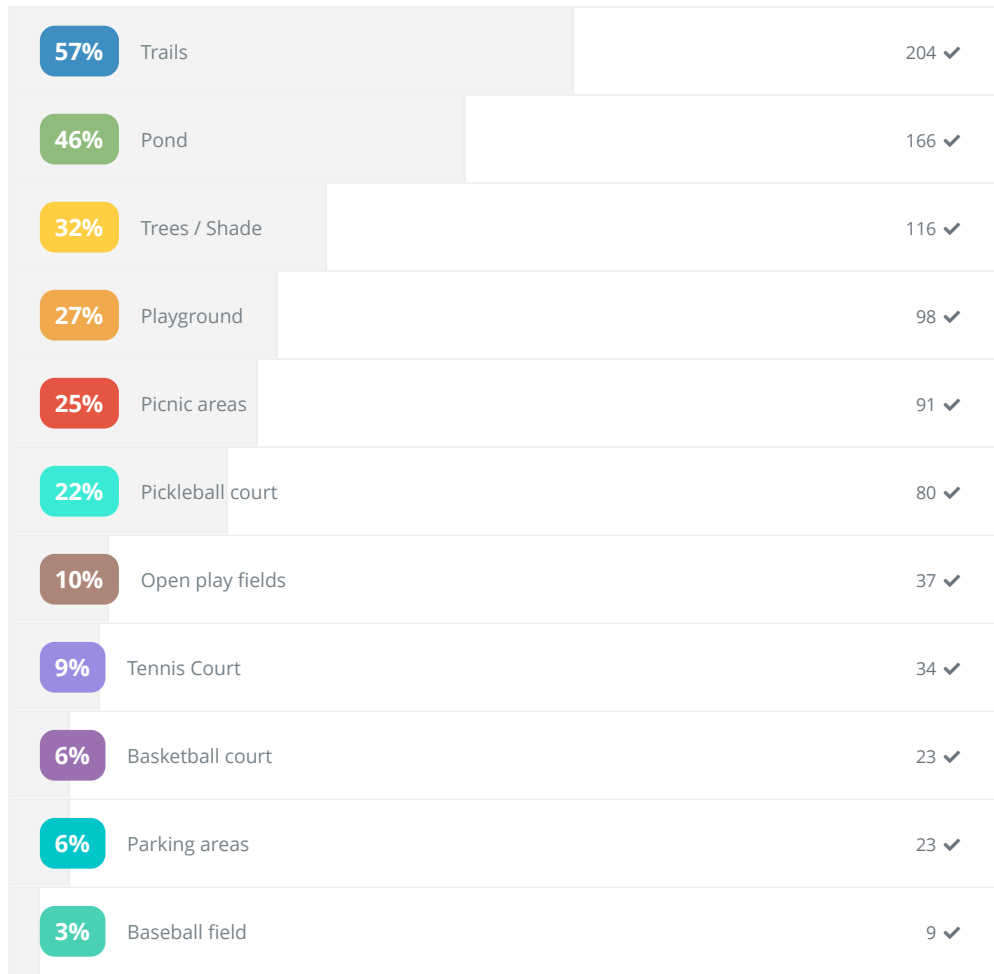
5 months ago

Safety. There are often unsafe people hanging out in woods or parked. Algae from pond is a complete bummer. And trash in the pond.

5 months ago

47%	Active Recreation (Sports fields, courts, courses; playscapes; personal watercraft access)	Rank: 1.70	155 ✓
72%	Environmental/Nature (Natural areas and preserves, open lawn)	Rank: 1.73	239 ✓
71%	Passive Recreation (Multipurpose trails, nature-play, picnic areas)	Rank: 1.85	233 ✓
40%	Play areas for children (playgrounds, nature play, adventure play)	Rank: 1.97	133 ✓
15%	Arts and History (Historical interpretation such as signs and features art in public spaces)	Rank: 2.75	51 ✓

330 Respondents



360 Respondents

	1 (Does not meet needs)	2	3	4	5 (Meets needs well)
Natural areas	4% 1 (Does not meet needs)	10% 2	32% 3	30% 4	24% 5 (Meets needs well)
Parking areas	3% 1 (Does not meet needs)	3% 2	12% 3	23% 4	58% 5 (Meets needs well)
Reservable picnic areas (near playground)	3% 1 (Does not meet needs)	7% 2	28% 3	26% 4	36% 5 (Meets needs well)
Open picnic areas (near pool)	4% 1 (Does not meet needs)	7% 2	30% 3	26% 4	34% 5 (Meets needs well)
Seating	3% 1 (Does not meet needs)	12% 2	30% 3	26% 4	30% 5 (Meets needs well)
Sport courts or fields	7% 1 (Does not meet needs)	7% 2	25% 3	29% 4	32% 5 (Meets needs well)
Walks and trails	7% 1 (Does not meet needs)	20% 2	28% 3	25% 4	20% 5 (Meets needs well)
Playgrounds	4% 1 (Does not meet needs)	10% 2	29% 3	27% 4	29% 5 (Meets needs well)
Open play areas	2% 1 (Does not meet needs)	7% 2	28% 3	28% 4	34% 5 (Meets needs well)
Safety	2% 1 (Does not meet needs)	9% 2	22% 3	34% 4	33% 5 (Meets needs well)
Restrooms	20% 1 (Does not meet needs)	25% 2	27% 3	16% 4	11% 5 (Meets needs well)
Water fountains	20% 1 (Does not meet needs)	32% 2	25% 3	12% 4	11% 5 (Meets needs well)
Trash removal	5% 1 (Does not meet needs)	16% 2	33% 3	25% 4	21% 5 (Meets needs well)
Pool	3% 1 (Does not meet needs)	8% 2	31% 3	28% 4	30% 5 (Meets needs well)

293 respondents

52%	Walking / Running	200 ✓
45%	Swimming	172 ✓
39%	Free play (un-organized activity in open areas)	151 ✓
31%	Riding (bikes, scooters, skates, etc.)	119 ✓
30%	Social gatherings (family, friends, group parties/picnics, etc.)	116 ✓
28%	Picnicking (individuals and families)	108 ✓
27%	Dog walking	105 ✓
26%	Passive (sitting, contemplation, etc.)	100 ✓
26%	Wildlife viewing	99 ✓
21%	Pickleball	81 ✓
13%	Tennis	49 ✓
9%	Community gatherings (movies in the park, school field trips, group meetings, etc.)	36 ✓
5%	Fishing	21 ✓
4%	Baseball	17 ✓
4%	Other	15 ✓
2%	Outdoor classes	8 ✓
2%	Team play (organized activity in open areas)	6 ✓
2%	Volleyball	6 ✓
2%	Soccer	6 ✓

383 Respondents



390 Respondents

92%	Walk, Jog, or Run	359 ✓
31%	Personal Bicycle or Electric-Assist Bicycle	119 ✓
3%	Personal Vehicle	10 ✓
2%	Other	6 ✓
1%	Scooter or Bicycle Rental/Share	4 ✓
1%	Wheelchair, Mobility Aid, or Power-Driven Mobility Device for Accessibility Assistance	3 ✓
1%	Personal Electric Vehicle (personally owned e-scooter, OneWheel, Segway, etc.)	2 ✓
0%	Public Transit	0 ✓
0%	Rideshare	0 ✓

389 Respondents

49%	Bike / Running / Walking Trail connection to the park	162 ✓
39%	Better maintained or safer sidewalks	130 ✓
29%	Bike lanes along the route	96 ✓
16%	Better lighting or visibility along the route	54 ✓
15%	Other	50 ✓
12%	Better connecting transit routes to the park	38 ✓

330 Respondents

59%	Personal Vehicle	240 ✓
50%	Walk, Jog, or Run	202 ✓
40%	Personal Bicycle or Electric-Assist Bicycle	163 ✓
2%	Other	9 ✓
1%	Scooter or Bicycle Rental/Share	6 ✓
0%	Wheelchair, Mobility Aid, or Power-Driven Mobility Device for Accessibility Assistance	2 ✓
0%	Public Transit	2 ✓
0%	Personal Electric Vehicle (personally owned e-scooter, OneWheel, Segway, etc.)	2 ✓
0%	Rideshare	1 ✓

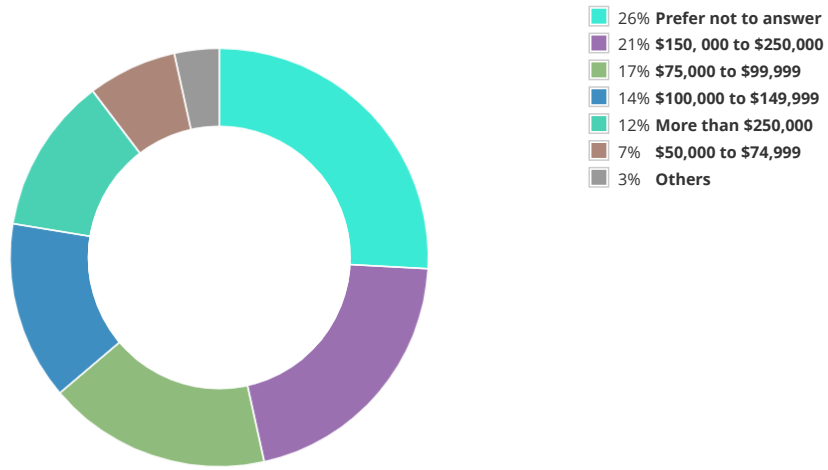
406 Respondents

Project Engagement

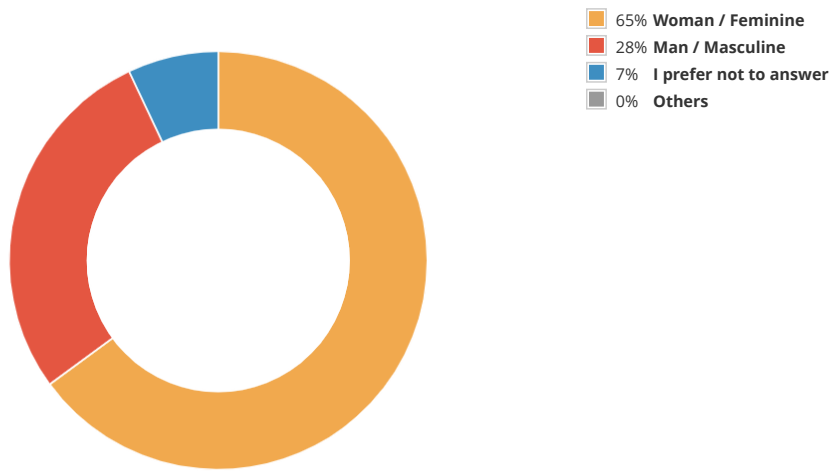
VIEWS	PARTICIPANTS	RESPONSES	COMMENTS
1,386	423	12,869	518

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Sheffield NW District Park Community Survey #2



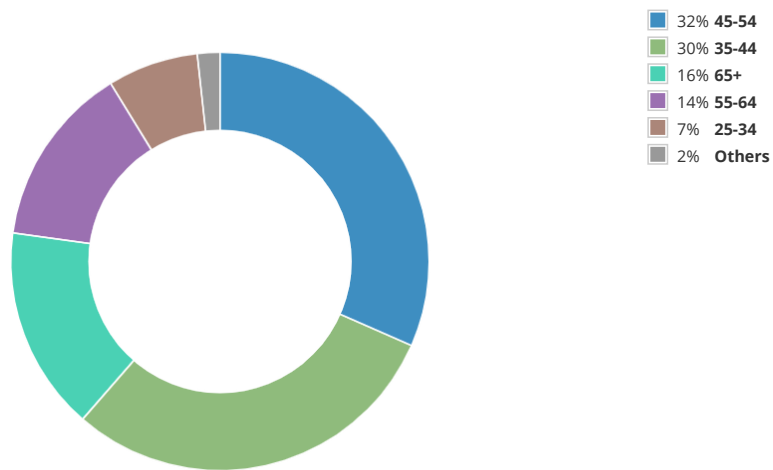
58 respondents



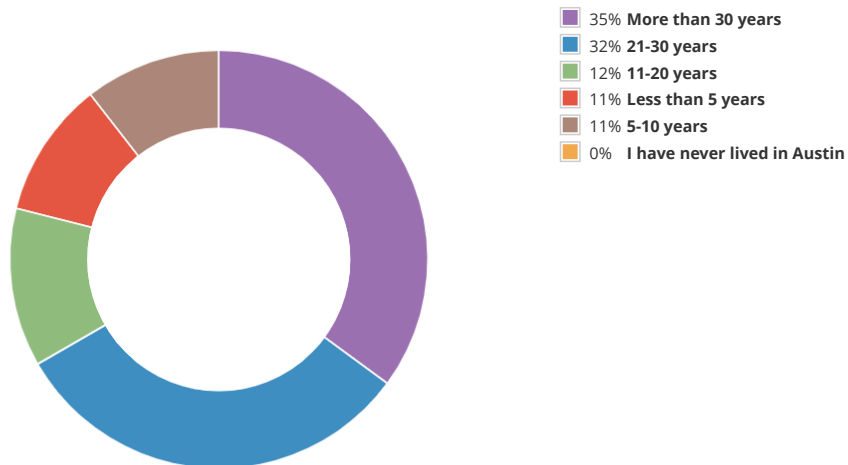
57 respondents

78%	White	39 ✓
14%	I prefer not to answer	7 ✓
4%	Hispanic or Latinx	2 ✓
4%	Biracial, Multiracial, or not listed	2 ✓
2%	Black or African-American	1 ✓
2%	Asian or Asian American	1 ✓
0%	American Indian or Alaska Native	0 ✓
0%	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0 ✓

50 Respondents

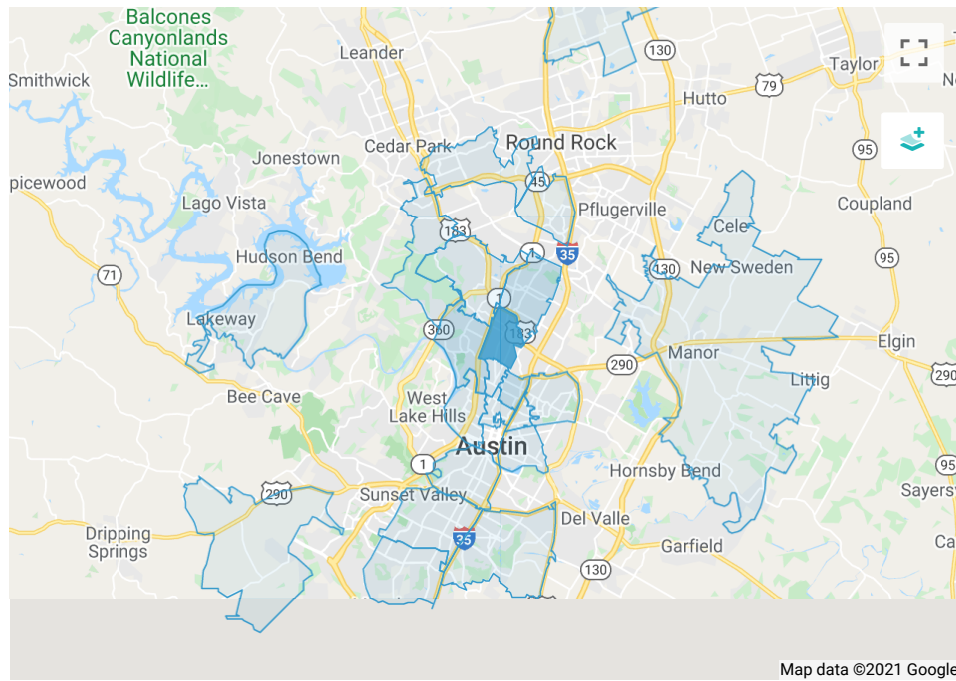


57 respondents



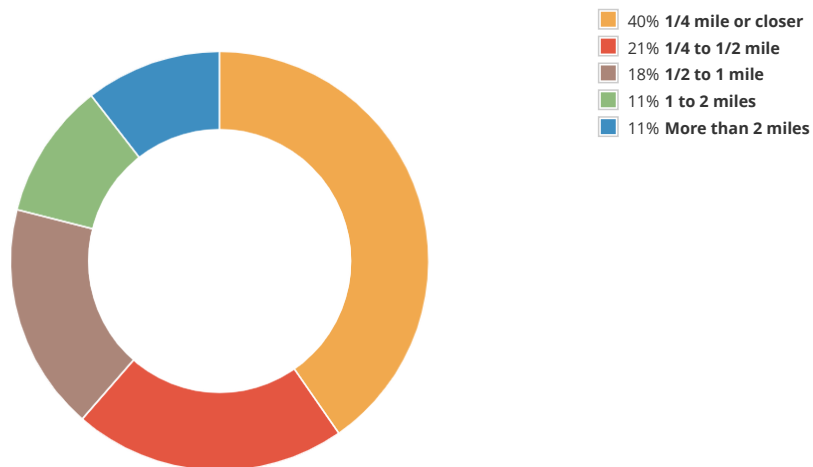
57 respondents

Participant Zip Code Map



69%	Walk or wheelchair	37 ✓
48%	Bicycle	26 ✓
44%	Personal vehicle	24 ✓
2%	Public transit	1 ✓
2%	Personal Electric Vehicle (scooter, one-wheel, etc.)	1 ✓
0%	Other	0 ✓

54 Respondents



57 respondents

Convert existing impervious cover to grasslands and native habitats

4 months ago

6 Agree

Reduce parking, narrow the roads, remove asphalt.

4 months ago

6 Agree

Less parking and asphalt. Also less lighting. The tennis court lights are so incredibly bright and harmful for wildlife. The lights also trespass all the neighbors that face the park. Ramsey park tennis court lights are fewer with a less bright yellow color that face away from the houses. More trees especially by the tennis courts and along the houses.

4 months ago

4 Agree

Preservation of wildlife

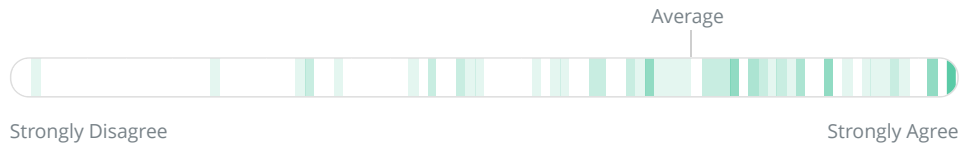
4 months ago

3 Agree

Maintain the Austin vibe

4 months ago

3 Agree



Nature

4 months ago

2 Agree

Community

4 months ago

2 Agree

Nature

4 months ago

1 Agree

Natural beauty

4 months ago

1 Agree

Nature

4 months ago

1 Agree

Project Engagement

VIEWS	PARTICIPANTS	RESPONSES	COMMENTS
384	111	574	245

Loading more report objects...

Sheffield NW District Park Community Survey #3: Park Concepts

SURVEY RESPONSE REPORT

07 June 2021 - 06 July 2021

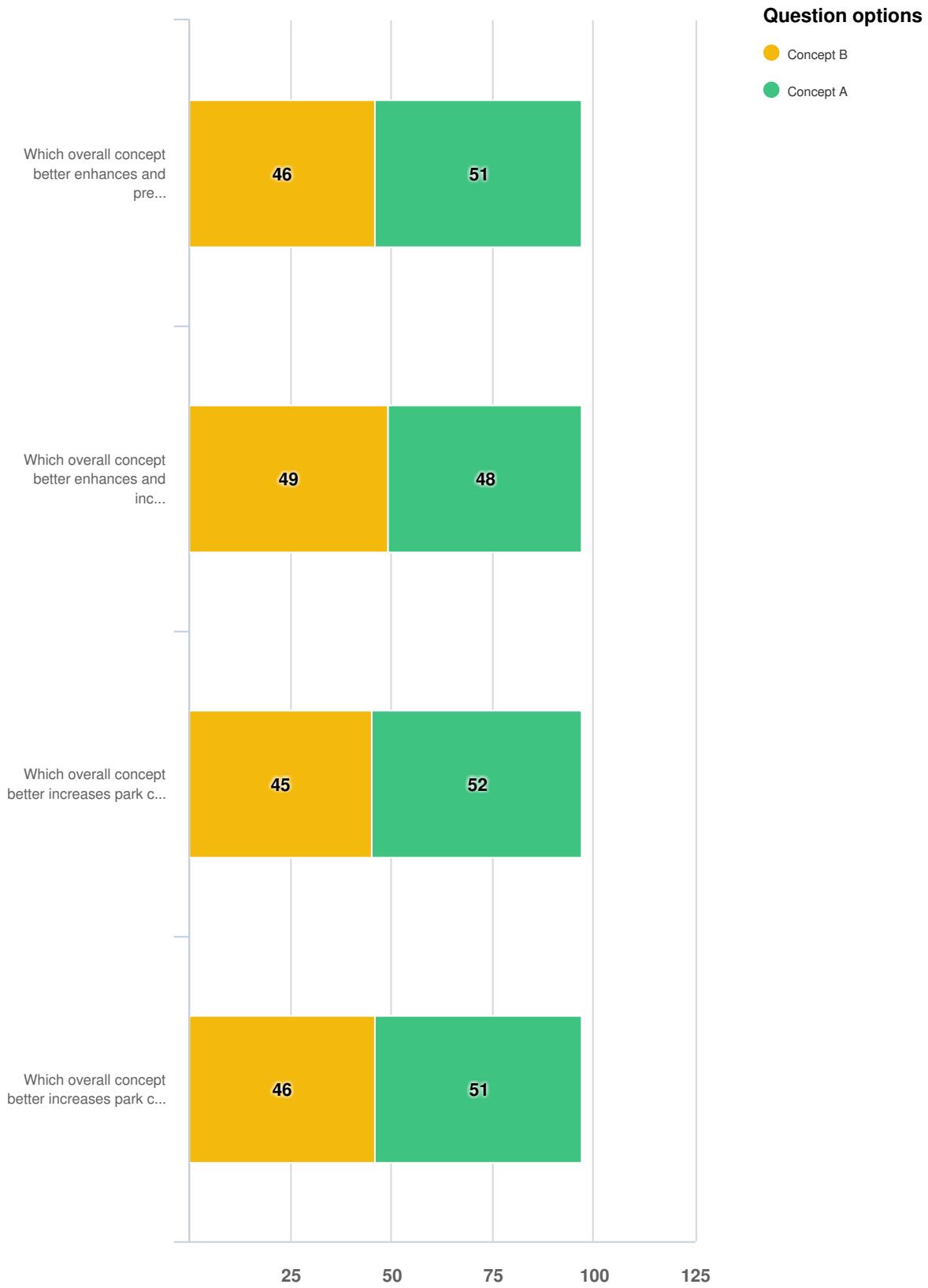
PROJECT NAME:

Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park Vision Plan



—
SURVEY QUESTIONS
—

Q1 Preferences according to Planning Values



Mandatory Question (97 response(s))
 Question type: Likert Question

Q1 | Preferences according to Planning Values

Which overall concept better enhances and preserves park natural amenities?

Concept B : 46

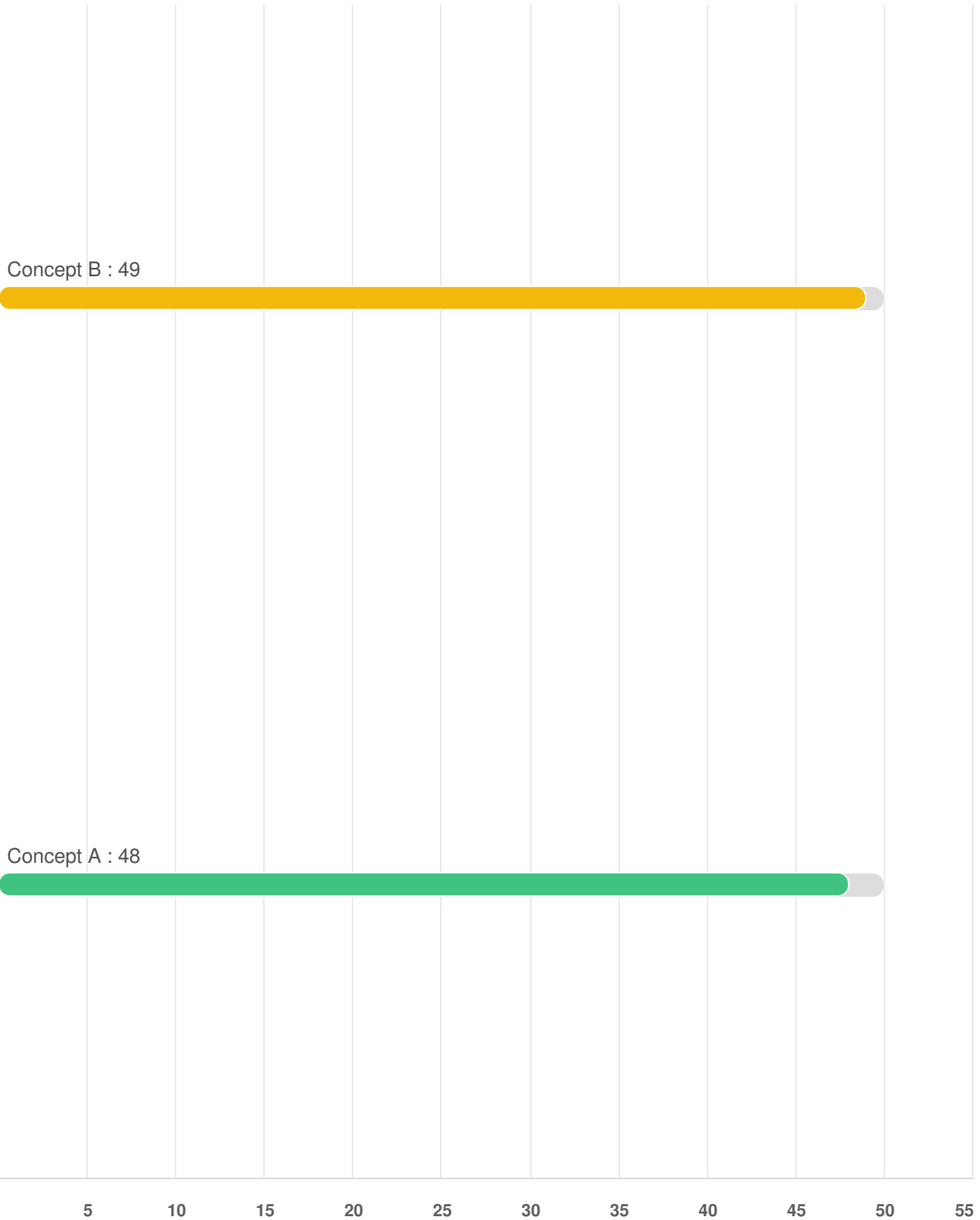


Concept A : 51

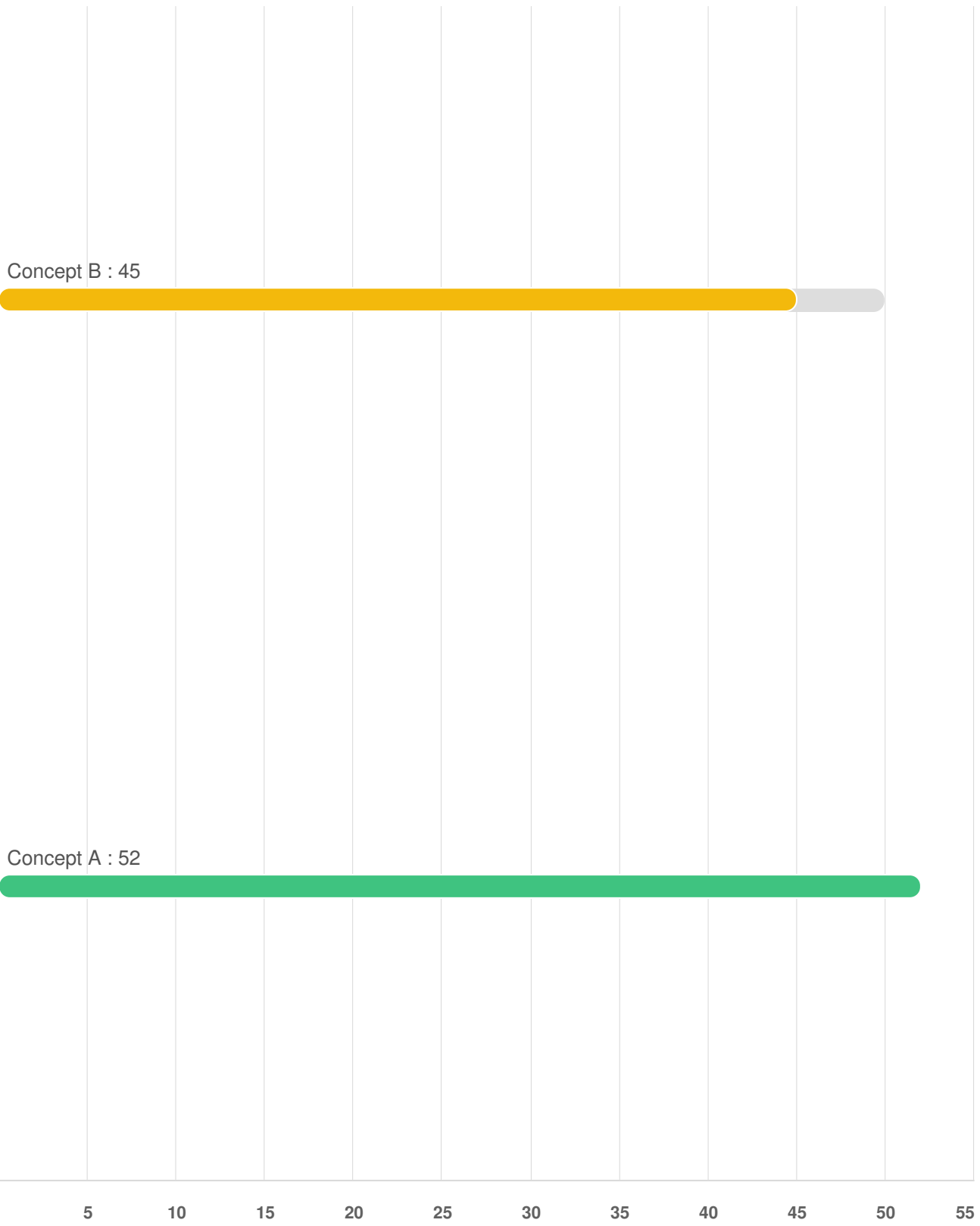


5 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45 50 55

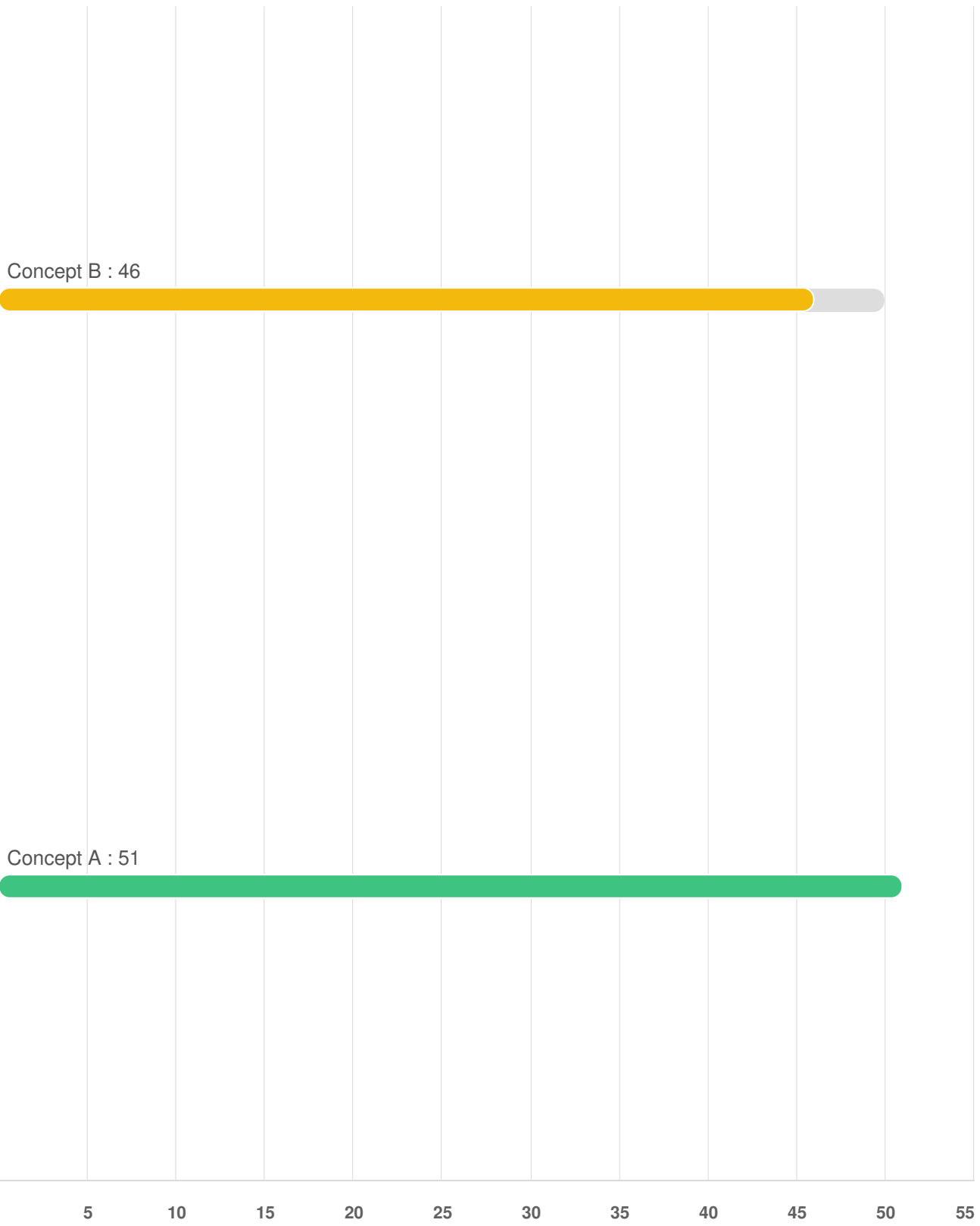
Which overall concept better enhances and increases recreational amenities (active and passive)?



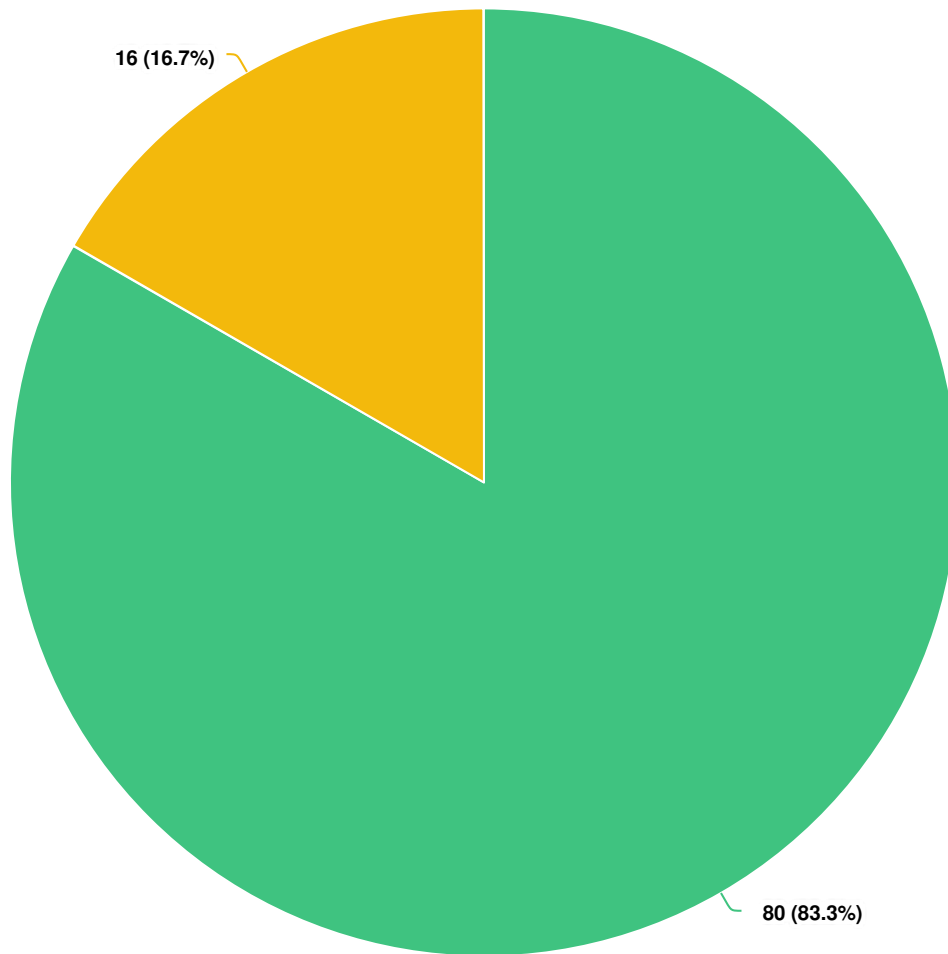
Which overall concept better increases park connectivity and park identity?



Which overall concept better increases park connectivity and park identity?



Q2 What is your path circulation within the park preference?

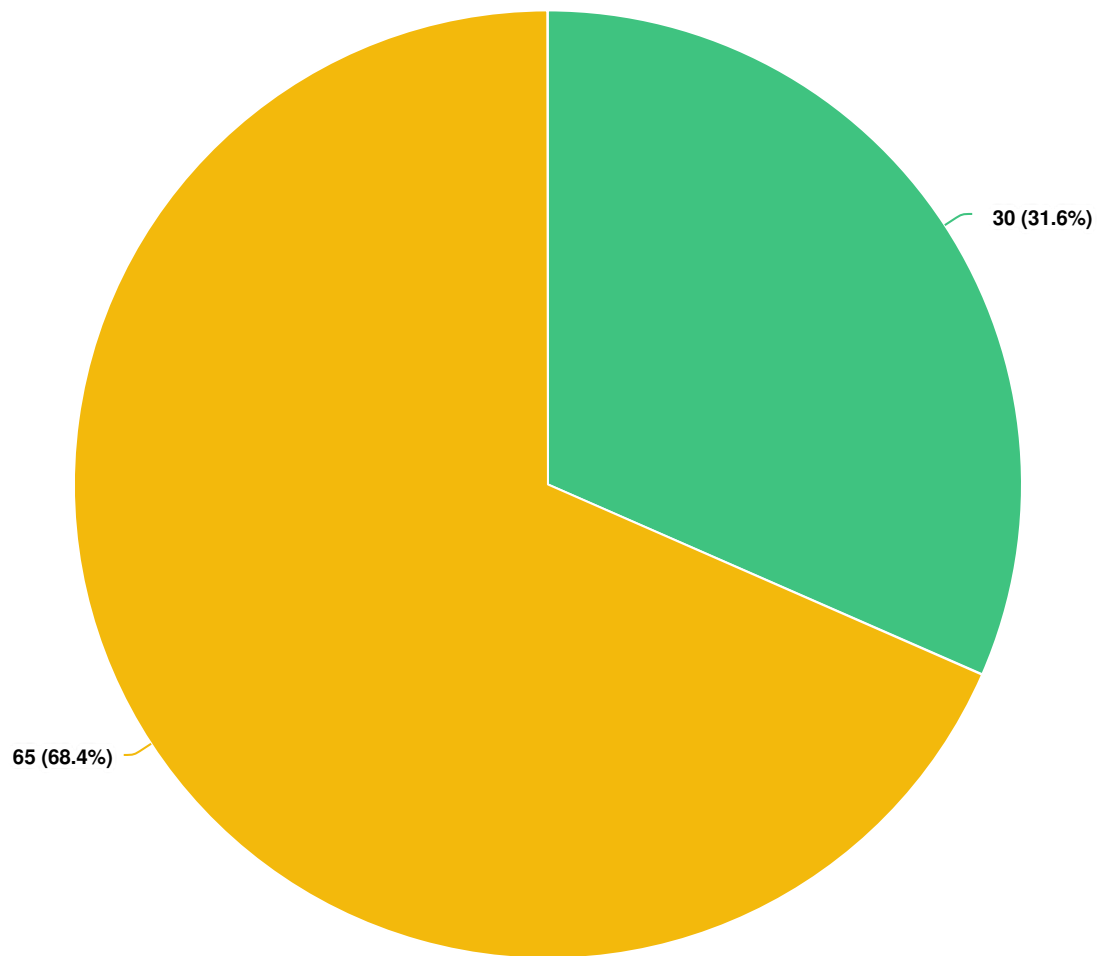


Question options

- Organized circulation
- Organic circulation

*Optional question (96 response(s), 1 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question*

Q3 How would you prefer to engage with the pond?

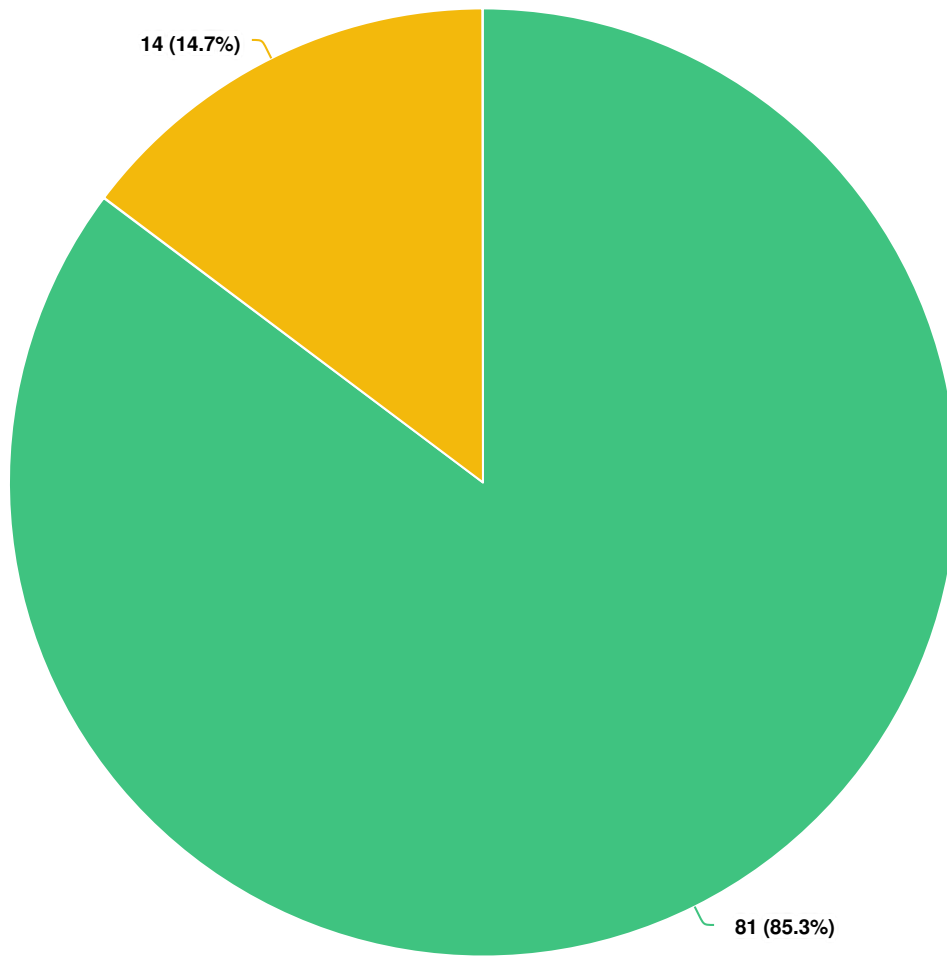


Question options

- Boardwalk
- Overlook

*Optional question (95 response(s), 2 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question*

Q4 How would you prefer the pavilion layout?

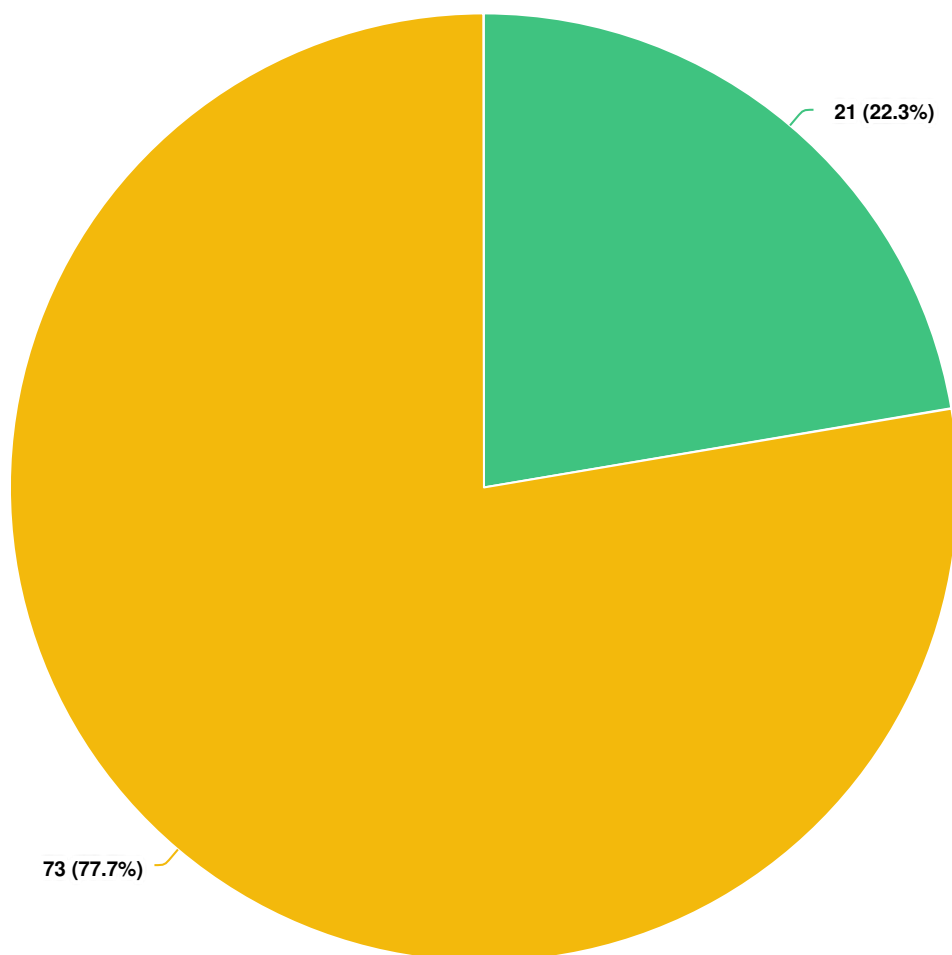


Question options

- One large centralized pavilion
- Multiple smaller-sized pavilions

*Optional question (95 response(s), 2 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question*

Q5 Which style perimeter park circulation do you prefer?



Question options

- Pedestrian-based (pedestrian paths, less pass-through park roads)
- Vehicular-based (drop-offs, dedicated park roads)

*Optional question (94 response(s), 3 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question*

Q6 | Is there a planned amenity at the park that we are missing in the matrix?

Anonymous
6/16/2021 07:15 PM
Less parking and electric car charging, ebike station. Recycling and waterless urinals in bathrooms.

Anonymous
6/17/2021 08:55 AM
No. Really like (1)the bike park and (2)better use of green space in B!

Anonymous
6/17/2021 09:14 AM
The list of amenities and the prioritization looks great. I'm personally very excited to see the upgrades to this park get kicked off.

Anonymous
6/17/2021 10:28 AM
splash pad, disc golf

Anonymous
6/17/2021 03:06 PM
Disc golf baskets. Activity rising in popularity, but underrepresented in this part of town.

Anonymous
6/17/2021 03:26 PM
Tennis court improvements, enhanced lighting, potable water access (fountain/dispenser)

Anonymous
6/17/2021 03:28 PM
better tennis court maintenance...additional space for pickleball courts...visible parking to deter the frequent break ins..

Anonymous
6/17/2021 04:05 PM
Can't tell on diagram - but fully fence off tennis courts

Anonymous
6/18/2021 08:08 AM
Not that I see.

Anonymous
6/18/2021 12:58 PM
What happened to tennis and pickleball courts?

Anonymous
6/18/2021 03:10 PM
I want to make sure there's bike paths in and around the park and plenty of spaces to park bicycles.

Anonymous
6/18/2021 07:52 PM
Splash pad Off leash area for dogs

Anonymous
More trash cans and dog poop bag

6/18/2021 09:06 PM

stations

Anonymous

6/20/2021 10:44 AM

YEAR-ROUND swimming at NW
Park

Anonymous

6/22/2021 06:11 PM

The pool should be utmost priority.

Anonymous

6/23/2021 04:32 PM

This survey present two choices only,
so participating it makes an implicit
assumption that we approve of either
choice. This survey is flawed from its
conception, and inputs from it should
not be used to determine the public's
needs.

Anonymous

6/23/2021 05:33 PM

Secure bicycle parking.

Anonymous

6/24/2021 11:36 AM

I know the pool is a separate project
through Aquatics, but it would be
helpful to include updates to the
facility as a part of this process as
well. It is a huge draw to the park and
greatly affects each aspect discussed
as a part of this comment
opportunity.

Anonymous

6/24/2021 04:37 PM

creek access for both choices

Anonymous

6/24/2021 07:42 PM

Covered basketball court, splash
pad, sand volleyball court,

Anonymous

6/24/2021 09:09 PM

More water fountains. Easier access
from intersection of Greenlawn and
SCB

Anonymous

6/24/2021 09:36 PM

Swimming pool Food truck/snack
area?

Anonymous

6/24/2021 10:14 PM

Swing sets in multiple places
throughout the park. Not just in one
place. Swinging under big trees is so
wonderful! More swings!

Anonymous

6/25/2021 11:23 AM

Splash pad

Anonymous

6/26/2021 02:56 AM

Swimming pool

Anonymous

6/28/2021 04:37 PM

There are a lot of dog walkers in the park, especially in the mornings before any small kids get there. There are a lot of people who like to throw balls and frisbees to their dogs. Please have an area for them. Also, high school kids love playing frisbee/ultimate in the area by the baseball fields. Please keep an area for that kind of impromptu playing. I like that the field is not designated as a soccer field. The big field seems less territorial, if it is not seemingly dedicated to one particular activity.

Anonymous

6/28/2021 04:38 PM

Splash Pad

Anonymous

6/28/2021 10:19 PM

would love to have a water feature/splash pad

Anonymous

6/30/2021 05:17 PM

Running Trails!

Anonymous

7/01/2021 11:05 PM

More shaded benches on the tennis courts. Restrooms and servicing should be a much higher priority, public art should be lower. We have a huge graffiti tagging issue and the city is not cleaning up tags. As everything else is happening the cleanup will fall The neighborhood

Anonymous

7/02/2021 10:18 AM

The Bike Playground would benefit of having a broader range of skill uses. For example, two pump tracks, plus a variety of "accessories". Recommend reaching out to the biking community for input.

Anonymous

7/02/2021 05:13 PM

Resident input in earlier sessions had a lot of instances asking for pickle ball courts and I assume that means with dedicated nets like at

Pan Am park. Maybe that could be worked into the design and, if possible, not take away a tennis court as there is usually a queue for tennis already with 4 courts (reducing down to 3 courts is my concern).

Anonymous

7/05/2021 08:03 AM

Pickleball courts - it has been extremely popular for years and deserves some dedicated courts, away from the four tennis courts which are also usually full of tennis players

Anonymous

7/05/2021 06:33 PM

better lighting throughout the park, Teenager/older children's unstructured activity area, and fix the baseball parking lot. This parking lot doesn't work well as a car park, serves as a drug dealers heaven because it is hidden from everything, and has mega potential as a pump track IMHO

Anonymous

7/06/2021 01:18 AM

I can't think of any.

Anonymous

7/06/2021 11:49 AM

Not that I can think of at the moment.

Anonymous

7/06/2021 12:42 PM

Splash pad

Anonymous

7/06/2021 12:50 PM

"Official" pathing connecting Shoal Creek blvd area on the southside to rest of park. Currently, it is a well-trodden walking path that may be susceptible to erosion long term.

Anonymous

7/06/2021 03:36 PM

Splash pad.

Optional question (39 response(s), 58 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Q7 | What other comments or questions do you have for the project team?

Anonymous

6/16/2021 07:15 PM

Could we please eliminate some parking to encourage walking and active modes? Permeable pavement in these areas please. Is it possible to remove the baseball field or make it multi use as it likely gets low usage and blocks the flow and use of the park? Thank you

Anonymous

6/17/2021 05:28 AM

Eliminate as much parking as possible. Narrower roads. Cars ruin parks. Otherwise looks really nice, thanks.

Anonymous

6/17/2021 08:55 AM

This could definitely be the best park in Central Austin if we could encourage funding and organization. Just excited and hopeful for the progress. Thank you!

Anonymous

6/17/2021 09:00 AM

I love aspects of both proposals - nice job!

Anonymous

6/17/2021 09:14 AM

I am a strong advocate for including kids bike park facilities. I have been working with the neighborhood to develop support for a bike park project for the last few years and am confident that it will be widely valued and utilized. Back in 2019 I posted a poll on Nextdoor to evaluate interest in a standalone pump track in the neighborhood and the poll received 226 votes with 66% of the votes supporting a project like this. Given the growing traffic activity through residential areas as Austin continues to grow, having a safe place for kids to enjoy bikes is a high priority for me.

Anonymous

6/17/2021 10:06 AM

Reduce vehicular parking, and increase bicycle parking! Concept A includes too many new parking spaces. This park has great potential to be a neighborhood-oriented hub of activity, and handing over space to parking only reduces that potential. There is plenty of nearby on-street

parking for major events. The proximity and direct connections to the Shoal Creek bikeway and east-west route on Justin Lane have positioned Sheffield to be a major cycling destination if properly designed.

Anonymous

6/17/2021 10:28 AM

Beautiful design. I would love to take the circular drives of B and add them to plan A. I also love the idea of a community orchard/garden, but I do wonder if there is a plan for maintenance. If a fruit orchard is planned, it definitely needs to be taken care of because it will attract bugs.

Anonymous

6/17/2021 12:36 PM

please don't over-develop this park...especially the pond. Many, many animals and birds are there...in fact, I was 5 feet from a green heron this morning, and a blue heron last week. The contingents of morning park-walkers love watching the hawks and owls. We're a little nervous that overdoing it will ruin much of what makes the park such a beloved oasis.

Anonymous

6/17/2021 03:06 PM

Love what you're doing!

Anonymous

6/17/2021 03:26 PM

Keep the park feeling organic and not over-designed or artificial.

Anonymous

6/17/2021 03:28 PM

more tennis, pickleball and security..... too many break ins...

Anonymous

6/18/2021 08:08 AM

Prefer to maximize greenery over any big cement lots due to parking, buildings, etc. Basically, trying to keep it as natural and nature-oriented as possible.

Anonymous

6/18/2021 12:17 PM

Please don't take away any tennis courts. COVID has only made pickleball and tennis more popular. Pickleball courts are smaller yet more

people play at a time (most people play doubles pickleball). Currently 2 of the 4 tennis courts are lined with 2 pickleball courts each (people must bring their own nets and they do!) That means 8 players playing pickleball in the same space that 2 tennis players (singles) or 4 tennis players (doubles) play. You COULD layout 4 pickleball courts on one of the tennis courts that are currently built (going N/S vs. them being E/W right now). You would have to put a fence to keep the balls off the tennis courts. If all 4 current tennis courts were lined for pickleball (PLEASE!) and all were filled with players that would be 32 pickleball players. FYI

Anonymous

6/18/2021 07:06 PM

I love the idea of a bike course for kiddos shown in concept A. There are so many cyclists that ride through the park.

Anonymous

6/18/2021 07:52 PM

I like the concept of plan B better, however I would chose plan A based on parking alone. Yes, it disrupts the space, but the parking areas to playground in Plan B seem difficult to manage with small children. (I've parked in the larger lot east of the pool and had to wrangle a toddler and all his stuff before. It's doable, but I only had one kid. With multiple, it just seems like it might be too much hassle.)

Anonymous

6/18/2021 09:06 PM

More toddler swings added to the play ground right now there is 3 it would be great if there were at least 4 if not six and better shaded where the toddler and bigger kid swings were

Anonymous

6/19/2021 05:53 PM

Concept B cannot be viewed; the URL is bad.

Anonymous

6/20/2021 10:44 AM

Please consider enlarging the pool, heating it, and putting an enclosure

Anonymous

6/20/2021 02:28 PM

over it in the winter to facilitate year round swimming.

Great work. Thank you! Mire granite sand and less impervious coverage ala Lady Bird Lake hike and bike trail.

Anonymous

6/22/2021 06:11 PM

Thank you for all of your support!

Anonymous

6/23/2021 04:32 PM

My wife, my dogs and myself are frequent visitor to Northwest Park. We walk the entire park. The changes proposed here are really, really, really disappointing. Please make minor tweaks to improve the existing park. The plans presented here are economically wasteful, and will decrease my enjoyment of the park.

Anonymous

6/24/2021 08:38 AM

My strong preference for Plan B is because I think the boardwalk idea for the pond will be disruptive to wildlife-- I have seen boardwalks executed well in much larger spaces. I think having people walk so near/ on the island will constantly cause turtles and birds to seek shelter where there isn't a lot of extra shelter to be found. I hope you'll reconsider this particular element if Plan A moves forward.

Anonymous

6/24/2021 04:37 PM

no dog park! They smell, are not kept clean and or not a good addition, especially next to the pond. This will lead to run off E. coli pollution, algae blooms and eutrophication/die off in the pond. Also, on concept B, we love that there will be creek access, but cannot see that marked with the number on the map.

Anonymous

6/24/2021 09:36 PM

There are several features/pictures of both designs above that look great, and I'm not sure the questions you asked allowed me to pinpoint what I

like about them. I really like the option of an interactive music spot/playground for kids. The large sand pit and updated playground looks awesome. I also love a lot of the design elements of the kids play area that is near the Long Center, including the tunnels, adult porch-swing type structures, and kids slides. Having shaded areas for sitting for adults would be much appreciated. I'm super excited about this project!

Anonymous

6/24/2021 10:14 PM

Add more swings to all your parks! Along trails and throughout the park space. Not just in one place by the play scape. Swinging is so relaxing especially under these big beautiful oaks in Austin. More swings for us adults who don't want to swing with the kids.

Anonymous

6/25/2021 11:23 AM

Please enforce off leash dogs. This is why the kids and I don't use the park anymore and we live next to it.

Anonymous

6/25/2021 02:03 PM

The current shade structures at the tennis/pickleball courts are very inadequate, and I can't see that they are improved in either concept proposal. I also hope that improvements will include re-surfacing of those courts, new nets, and repairs to the fencing. While I appreciate that pedestrian-based circulation may help to minimize impervious ground cover and thus save some of the landscape, it can also hinder easy use of some of the spaces. For example, getting to a space for a chosen activity with carried items may require a longer distance. And, for someone with a mobility impairment, it might limit access to some of the park's amenities. A recent visit to a new park in Williamson County demonstrated that such a circulation

implementation meant that a lot of walking was required to visit all the spaces.

Anonymous

6/28/2021 04:37 PM

As someone who overlooks the park and uses it and sees how it is used everyday, I like Concept A the best. It betters the current uses of the park, as well as adding some great items. I particularly like the boardwalk (there are more bird watcher than you would think) and the new bridge that is closer to the off-leash park across SCB. The kids bike area and the community orchard are great ideas in the underutilized sections. I could go either way with what y'all did with the parking area next to the pond. I think area in Concept B would be utilized more. It takes the place of the very used field in the front. I think you could incorporate a board walk into the Concept B area. It's hard to tell from the plan, if you are planning to enlarge the pond, I am all for that. I love our pond. Lastly, wildflowers! We love the wildflowers on the hillsides and the neighbors actively seed them. I would love to see areas of the native grasses that the parks department do not mow. Thanks!

Anonymous

7/01/2021 11:05 PM

Please make fixing the pool the top of the priority list. It is so needed in this area

Anonymous

7/02/2021 05:13 PM

Highly suggest not having the bathrooms right near the pond, those two areas should be separate. Dogtrot design is great just not placed at the pond. Also suggest the lighting even at tennis courts be hooded so that it does not cause unnecessary light pollution for the neighborhood. Thank you for this process, I know it is a big project with lot of diverse input for this beloved park.

Anonymous

7/03/2021 10:23 AM

Too many parking spaces in both plans....no one would ever design that much parking for this space if starting from scratch. We're anchored to the existing layout and that's what is driving the amount of parking in the proposed plans. 99% of the time, the parking lots at the park are mostly empty.

Anonymous

7/03/2021 02:21 PM

All bridges/walkways along and across the creek need to be wide enough to support 2-way ped and bike traffic (14ft+). As-is the bridge is way too narrow. Also why does a park in a neighborhood next to one of our best bikeways half a mile from the 803 stop need like 400 parking spaces, y'all do know the world is burning right?

Anonymous

7/05/2021 12:56 PM

POSITIVES: natural pond; native habitat; pedestrian & bike connectivity from neighborhood & throughout park; modern playscapes; shade; public art. NEGATIVES: restroom near pond; concession plaza; food truck court.

Anonymous

7/05/2021 05:52 PM

Nice work! Thank you

Anonymous

7/05/2021 06:33 PM

Concept A and Concept B are presented as mutually exclusive, but in reality, they are not. For example, the pump track could exist in both since concept B shows no amenity filling that southwest area. Likewise, the 2nd ped bridge is not shown in Concept B, but it should be in both concepts. Both of these amenities should exist in both concepts. BTW, Watershed protection has told us over and over that no structures can be built in the southwest corner on the creek west of Shoal Creek Blvd. because of flood risk - it seems disingenuous that Concept A places

the pump track here. Also, why did both designs not address the baseball parking lot? It is a much-underutilized space that needs some TLC. I love the gateway entrance structures, the removal of parking, and love concept B's meandering footpaths. It is a difficult job the project team has tackled. There are no easy answers. I do feel the team did capture the desires of the community that spoke up. I am not sure that the desires are represented in the concepts.

Anonymous

7/06/2021 01:18 AM

Please do not allow food trucks. They make the park less natural and contribute to trash.

Anonymous

7/06/2021 11:49 AM

I do not like Plan B where a tennis court is eliminated. We need four tennis courts with two courts striped for pickle ball (with dark blue lines). We play pickleball in the morning and we greatly outnumber the tennis players. Last Thursday we had 17 players on two of the tennis courts (that's four pickleball courts). The morning tennis players mostly come and practice their serves by themselves or there will be a game going with 2 people. Last Thursday while we had 17 pickleball players there were only 3 tennis players. We play for two hours, the tennis players might play an hour. What would be best would be if we had our own separate pickleball courts (at least four courts). P.S. On the question of how long I have lived in Austin, it didn't allow me to type in "all my life (68 yrs.), I was born in Austin".

Anonymous

7/06/2021 12:23 PM

I prefer concept A because (1) it makes the pond more accessible for the handicapped, by having parking closer; (2) it doesn't have the food truck area, which I fear would increase litter; (3) it adds a bridge to

Shoal Creek Blvd. across the street from the path to the dam, which makes another nice walking route; and (4) it adds a play area across Shoal Creek Blvd. from the entrance to the baseball field parking. I don't understand the function of the shade structure along the path behind the tennis courts. I would omit that from concept A. In concept B, I don't understand the function of the overlooks. I would prefer that the park become more wooded and shaded rather than more open. For the same reason, I wouldn't devote space to the "great lawn", which would require more care and wouldn't have enough function to compensate.

Anonymous

7/06/2021 12:42 PM

Love the boardwalk idea but otherwise prefer B

Anonymous

7/06/2021 03:31 PM

Please leave open space for in-park activities of the user's choosing.

Anonymous

7/06/2021 03:44 PM

I strongly oppose a bike playground or any type of bike ramp or playground that is suggested in the area in Concept A. Any bike ramps or playgrounds should be moved inside the park. This area suggested is not directly connected to NW Park. It is a very small plot of land outside of NW Park on Shoal Creek Blvd, a VERY busy road. In addition, this small plot of land has very little (if any) parking and is surrounded by houses. In addition, the creek runs behind it and a child could easily fall in. This area is a HORRIBLE and DANGEROUS area to have bike ramps or a playground. Cars and bikes go very fast down Shoal Creek around the blind curve next to this land. With little parking, people will have to park across the street in front

of houses and cross the road. Very dangerous. And the owners of these homes will likely oppose the extra people, noise and traffic that a bike playground or anything else will bring. Leave the bike ramps and playground out of the Shoal Creek Blvd neighborhood street and instead put them inside NW park itself.

Anonymous

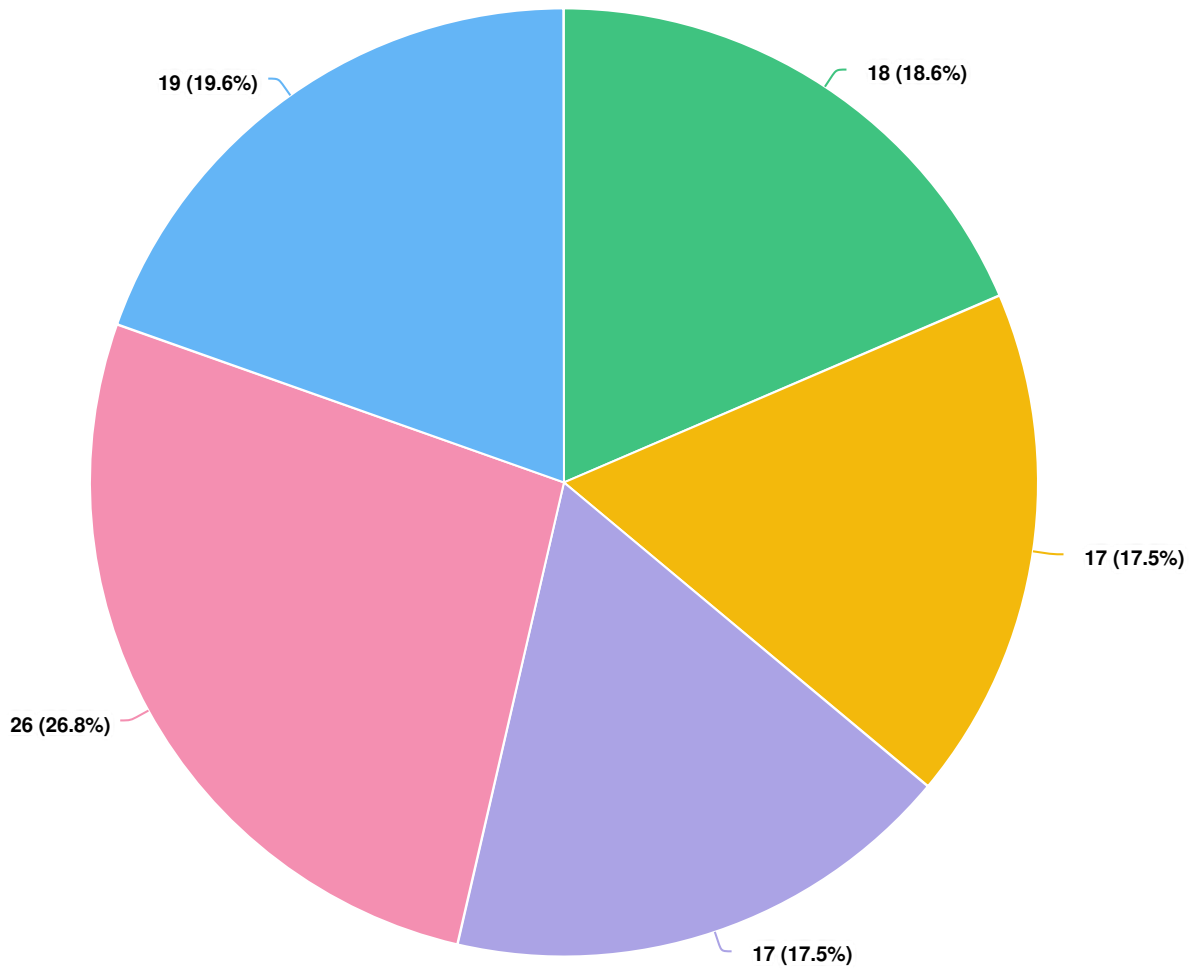
7/06/2021 05:22 PM

Please keep the park as green, natural and shaded as possible. Allow visitors to experience nature without worrying about vehicles; it should be a respite from Austin traffic.

Optional question (42 response(s), 55 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Q8 How close do you live to the park?

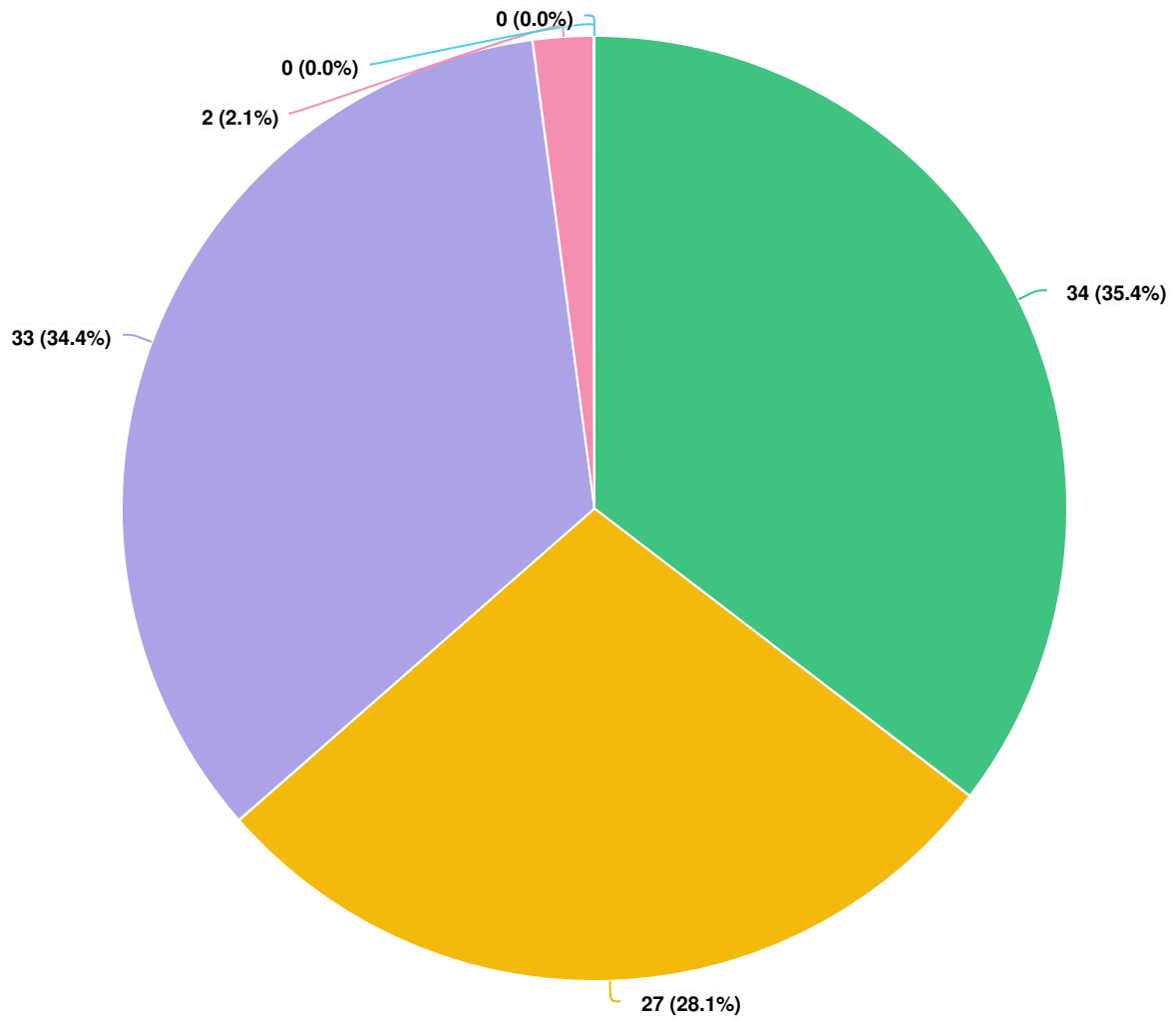


Question options

- More than 2 miles
- 1 to 2 miles
- 1/2 to 1 mile
- 1/4 to 1/2 mile
- 1/4 mile or closer

Optional question (97 response(s), 0 skipped)
Question type: Dropdown Question

Q9 What mode or modes of transportation do you use to get to the park?

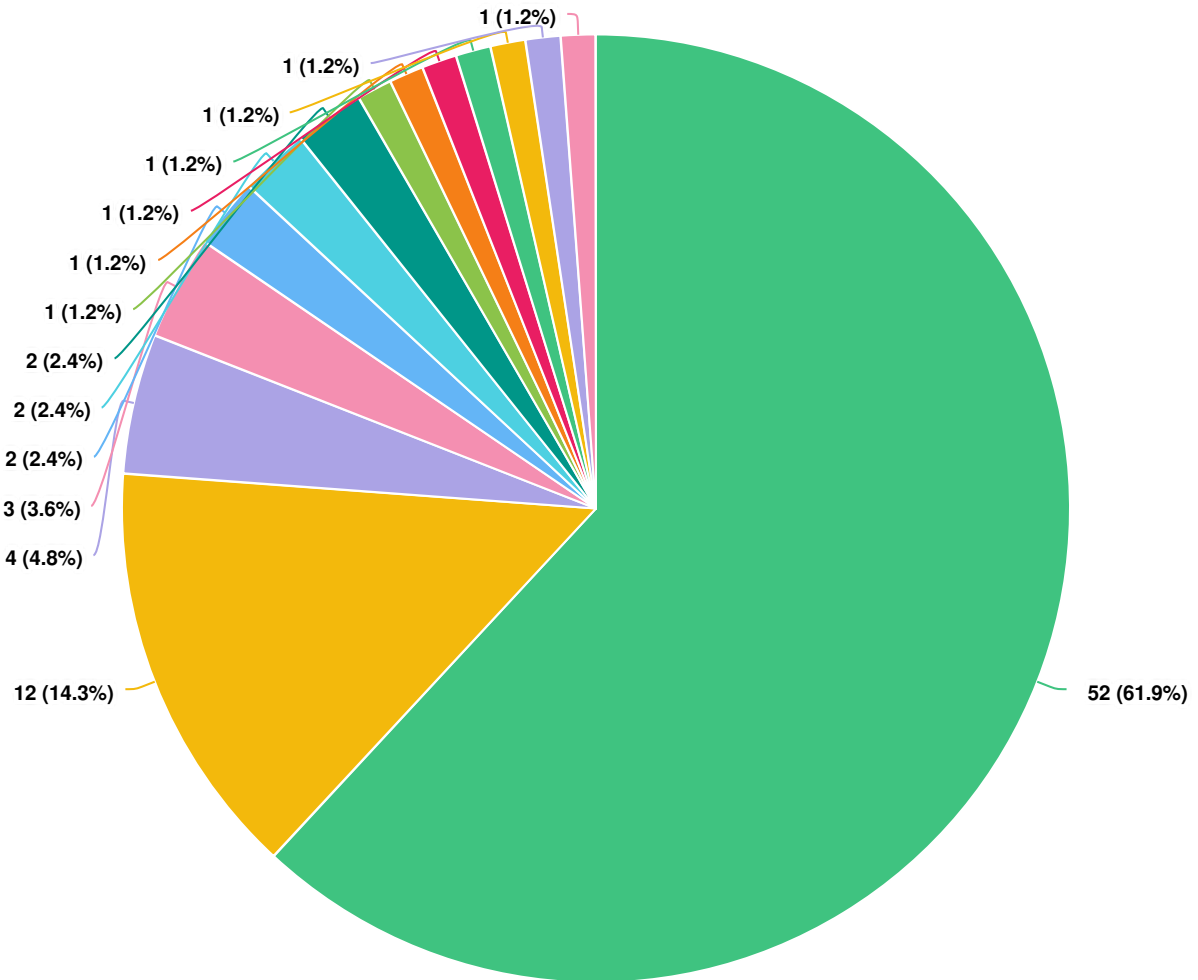


Question options

- Other
- Personal Electric Vehicle (scooter, one-wheel, etc.)
- Public transit
- Walk or wheelchair
- Bicycle
- Personal vehicle

Optional question (96 response(s), 1 skipped)
Question type: Dropdown Question

Q10 | What is your zip code?

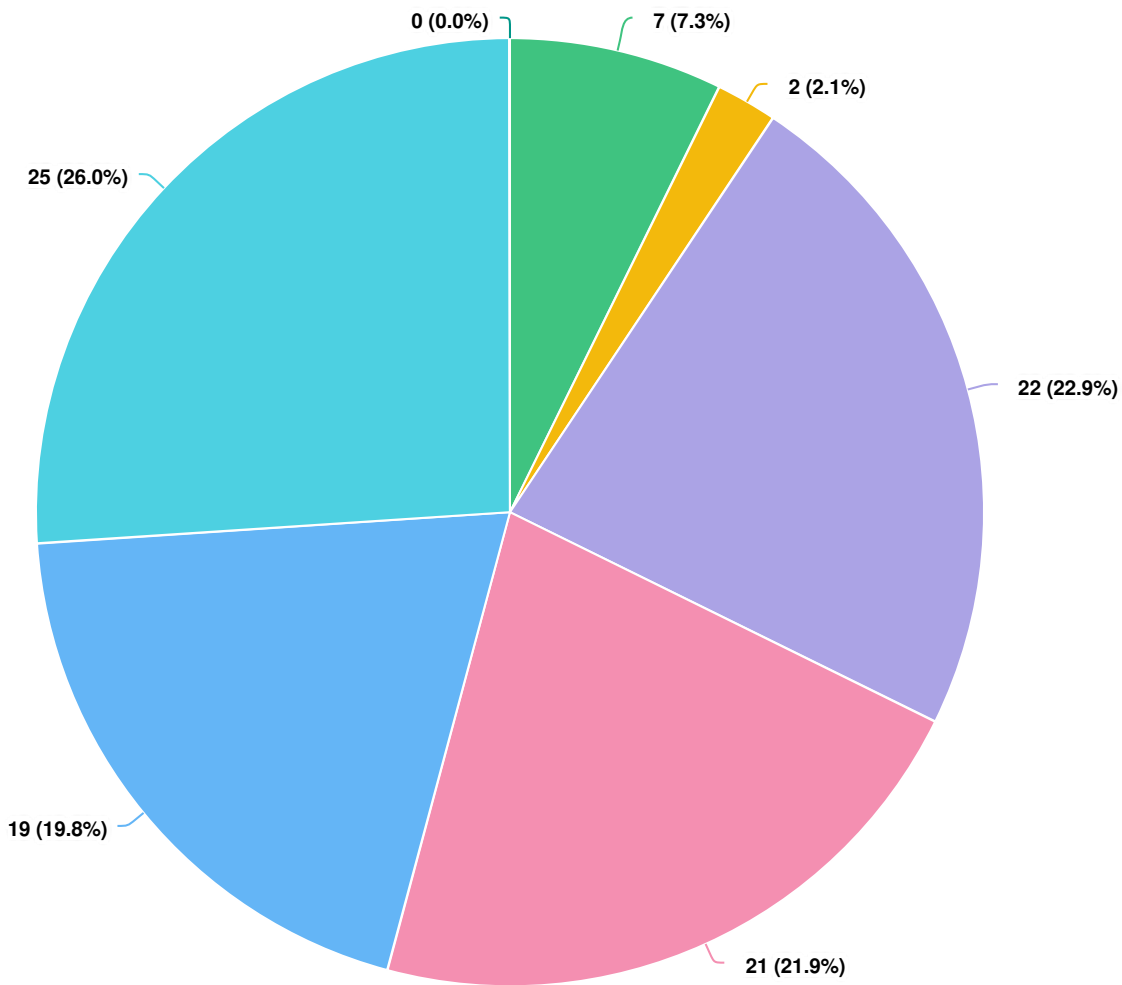


Question options

- Austin, TX 78701
- Austin, TX 78705
- Austin, TX 78727
- Austin, TX 78723
- Austin, TX 78754
- Austin, TX 78704
- Austin, TX 78745
- Austin, TX 78703
- Austin, TX 78759
- Austin, TX 78750
- Austin, TX 78758
- Austin, TX 78756
- Austin, TX 78731
- Austin, TX 78757

Optional question (84 response(s), 13 skipped)
 Question type: Region Question

Q11 How long have you lived in Austin? If you do not currently live in Austin, please mark how long you lived in Austin previously if at all.

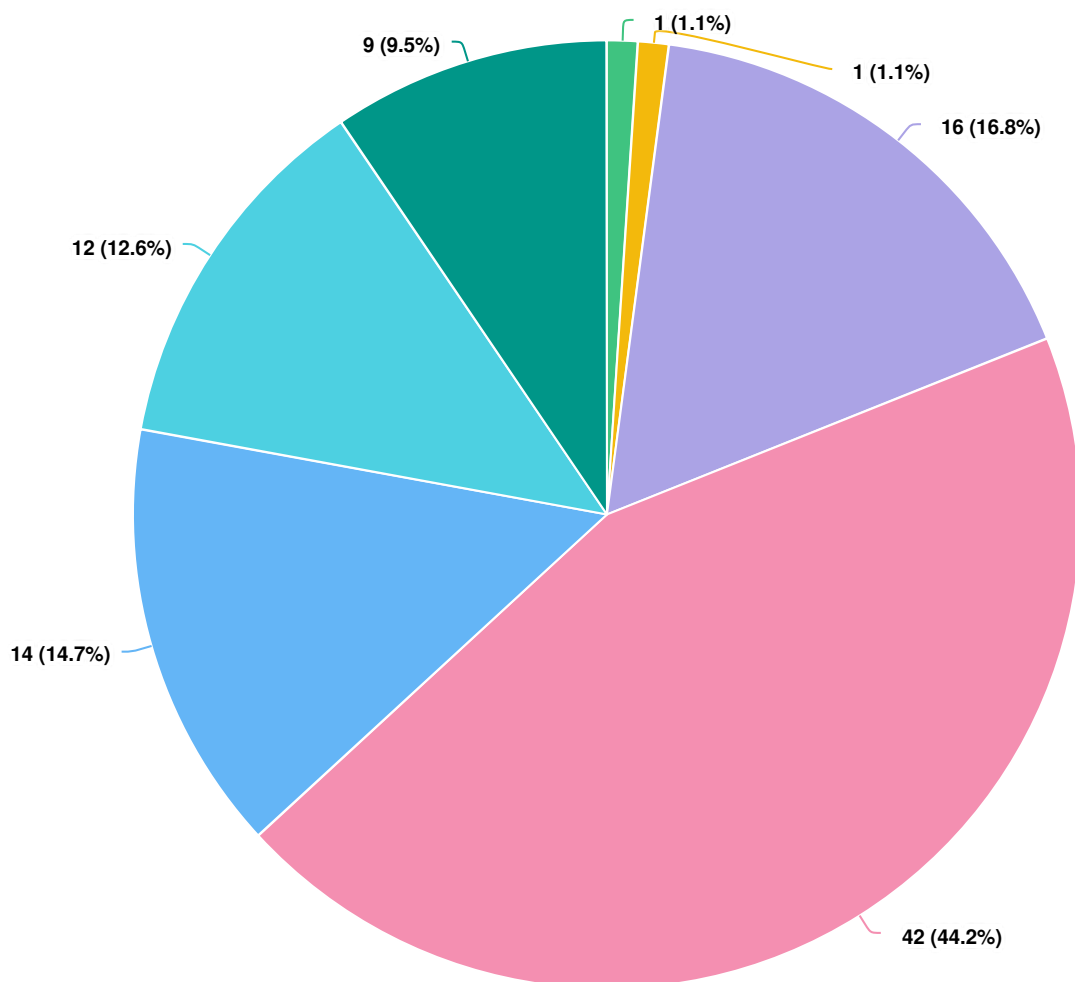


Question options

- I have never lived in Austin
- More than 30 years
- 21-30 years
- 11-20 years
- 5-10 years
- Less than 5 years
- Less than 5 years

*Optional question (96 response(s), 1 skipped)
Question type: Dropdown Question*

Q12 What is your age range?

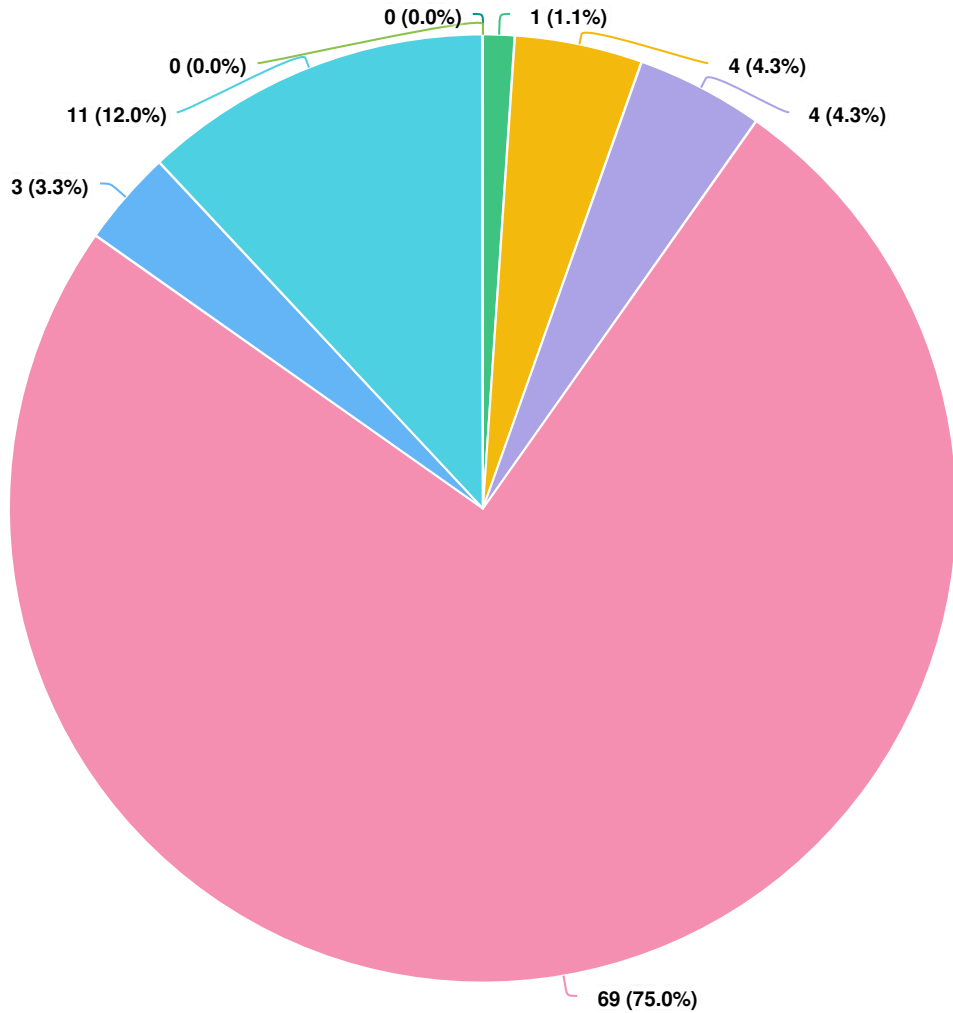


Question options

- 65+
- 55-64
- 45-54
- 35-44
- 25-34
- 18-24
- 17 or under

Optional question (95 response(s), 2 skipped)
Question type: Dropdown Question

Q13 What is your race/ethnicity?

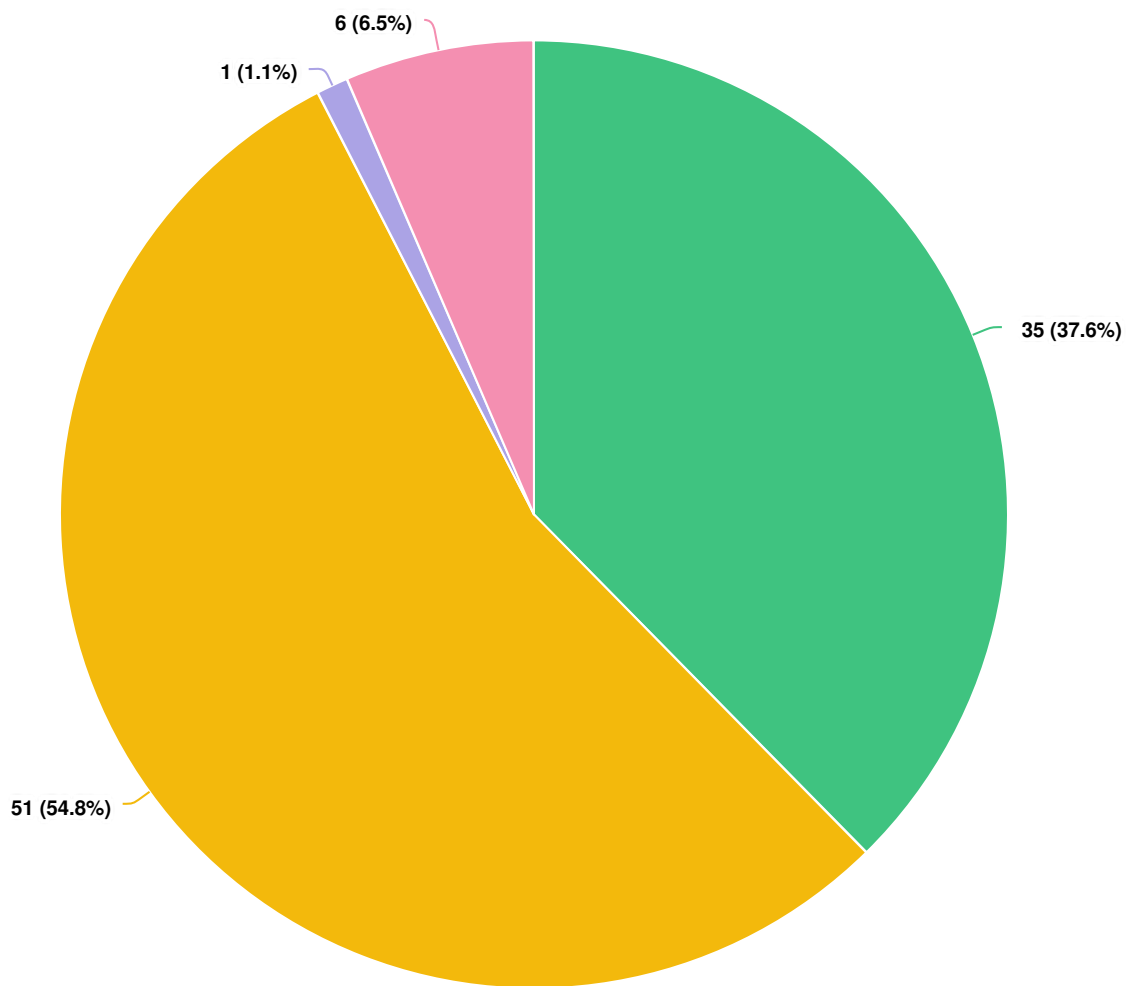


Question options

- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- Black or African-American
- I prefer not to answer
- Biracial, Multiracial, or not listed
- White
- Asian or Asian American
- Hispanic or Latinx
- American Indian or Alaska Native

Optional question (92 response(s), 5 skipped)
Question type: Dropdown Question

Q14 What is your gender?

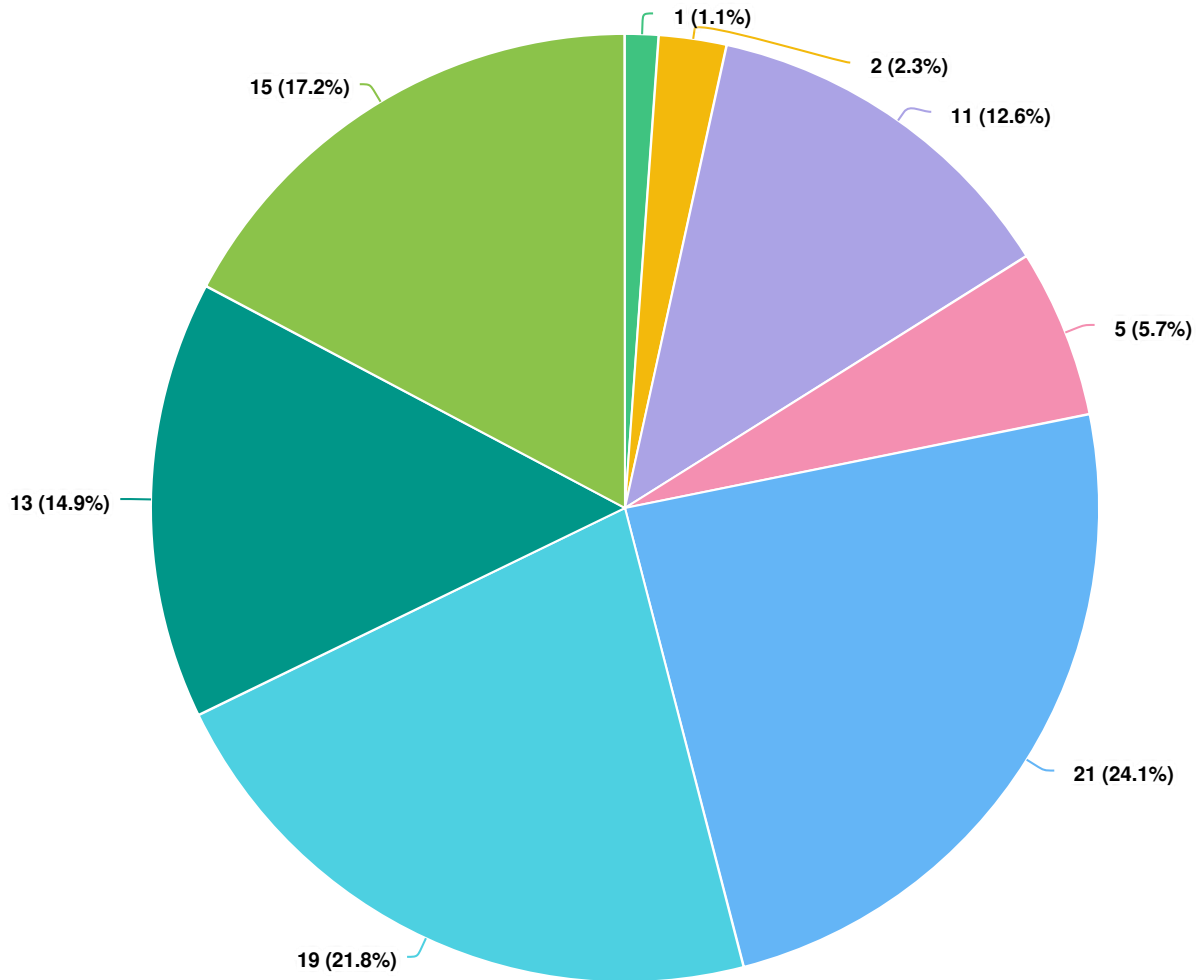


Question options

- I prefer not to answer
- Non-binary
- Female
- Male

Optional question (93 response(s), 4 skipped)
Question type: Dropdown Question

Q15 What is your approximate household income?



Question options

- Prefer not to answer
 More than \$250,000
 \$150,000 to \$250,000
 \$100,000 to \$149,999
- \$75,000 to \$99,999
 \$50,000 to \$74,999
 \$25,000 to \$49,000
 Under \$25,000

Optional question (87 response(s), 10 skipped)
 Question type: Dropdown Question

Q16 | **What language or languages are spoken at home?**

pamquack English
6/16/2021 01:39 PM

Anonymous Eng
6/16/2021 07:15 PM

Anonymous English
6/17/2021 05:28 AM

Anonymous English
6/17/2021 05:31 AM

Anonymous English
6/17/2021 08:55 AM

Anonymous English
6/17/2021 09:00 AM

Anonymous English
6/17/2021 09:14 AM

Anonymous english
6/17/2021 09:24 AM

Anonymous English
6/17/2021 10:06 AM

Anonymous English
6/17/2021 10:28 AM

Anonymous English
6/17/2021 10:52 AM

Anonymous english
6/17/2021 11:22 AM

Anonymous English
6/17/2021 12:36 PM

Anonymous English, Spanish
6/17/2021 01:15 PM

Anonymous English

6/17/2021 03:06 PM

Anonymous English

6/17/2021 03:26 PM

Anonymous english

6/17/2021 03:28 PM

Anonymous English

6/17/2021 08:03 PM

Anonymous English

6/18/2021 12:17 PM

Anonymous English

6/18/2021 01:48 PM

Anonymous English

6/18/2021 03:10 PM

Anonymous English

6/18/2021 04:11 PM

Anonymous Englisj

6/18/2021 07:06 PM

Anonymous English

6/18/2021 07:52 PM

Anonymous English a

6/18/2021 09:06 PM

Anonymous English

6/18/2021 09:24 PM

Anonymous English

6/19/2021 07:22 AM

Anonymous English, fluent cussing

6/19/2021 05:53 PM

Anonymous English

6/20/2021 10:44 AM

Anonymous English Korean

6/20/2021 12:35 PM

Anonymous English

6/20/2021 02:28 PM

Anonymous English

6/20/2021 09:48 PM

Anonymous Spanish/English

6/21/2021 11:09 AM

Anonymous English

6/21/2021 12:54 PM

Anonymous Korean

6/21/2021 01:51 PM

Anonymous English

6/22/2021 06:11 PM

Anonymous English

6/23/2021 12:11 PM

Anonymous English

6/23/2021 02:05 PM

Anonymous French

6/23/2021 04:32 PM

Anonymous English

6/23/2021 05:33 PM

Anonymous English

6/23/2021 09:13 PM

Anonymous English

6/24/2021 08:38 AM

Anonymous English

6/24/2021 11:36 AM

Anonymous English

6/24/2021 12:57 PM

Anonymous 6/24/2021 03:25 PM	English
Anonymous 6/24/2021 04:37 PM	english
Anonymous 6/24/2021 05:21 PM	English
Anonymous 6/24/2021 06:28 PM	English
Anonymous 6/24/2021 09:09 PM	English
Anonymous 6/24/2021 09:36 PM	English
Anonymous 6/25/2021 03:53 AM	English
Anonymous 6/25/2021 01:04 PM	English and Chinese
Anonymous 6/25/2021 02:03 PM	English
Anonymous 6/26/2021 02:56 AM	English, Filipino, Chinese
bdonley 6/26/2021 10:35 AM	English, spanish
Anonymous 6/26/2021 12:38 PM	English
Anonymous 6/28/2021 04:37 PM	English
Anonymous 7/01/2021 11:05 PM	English
Anonymous 7/02/2021 05:13 PM	English and some Spanish

Anonymous English

7/03/2021 02:21 PM

Anonymous English, Japanese

7/03/2021 09:24 PM

Anonymous English

7/05/2021 08:03 AM

Anonymous English, Spanish

7/05/2021 12:56 PM

Anonymous english,spanish

7/05/2021 06:33 PM

Anonymous English

7/05/2021 07:13 PM

Anonymous English.

7/06/2021 01:18 AM

Anonymous English

7/06/2021 11:49 AM

Anonymous English

7/06/2021 12:23 PM

Anonymous English

7/06/2021 12:42 PM

Anonymous English

7/06/2021 12:50 PM

Anonymous English

7/06/2021 02:40 PM

Anonymous English

7/06/2021 03:01 PM

Anonymous English

7/06/2021 03:31 PM

Anonymous English

7/06/2021 03:36 PM

Anonymous

English

7/06/2021 05:51 PM

Optional question (75 response(s), 22 skipped)

Question type: Single Line Question

Sheffield NW District Park Community Survey #4

SURVEY RESPONSE REPORT

03 August 2021 - 24 August 2021

PROJECT NAME:

Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park Vision Plan



SURVEY QUESTIONS

Q1 | **What do you like most about the draft final vision plan?**

Anonymous
8/04/2021 11:07 AM
increase in park space by reclaiming some of the concrete- a new pool! new playground area - it looks great!

Anonymous
8/04/2021 04:04 PM
Inclusion of the pickle ball courts, enlarged pond, additional paved sidewalks, less pavement

Anonymous
8/04/2021 04:25 PM
addition of pickleball courts

Anonymous
8/04/2021 04:59 PM
I think the bike playground is a great idea. In the past, various parts of the park have been made into improvised bike areas so there is obviously a desire for one..

Anonymous
8/04/2021 06:56 PM
It supports multiple sports and activities without appearing too commercialized.

Anonymous
8/04/2021 07:11 PM
The pool has s still there

Anonymous
8/04/2021 08:16 PM
Better car entrance from Shoal Creek near baseball park

Anonymous
8/04/2021 08:18 PM
that you moved the bike playground inside the park this is safer for kids

Anonymous
8/04/2021 08:23 PM
Better car entrance from Shoal Creek near baseball park

Anonymous
8/04/2021 08:29 PM
Better car entrance from Shoal Creek near baseball park

Anonymous
8/05/2021 09:50 AM
I like it. Are we keeping the wildflower area on the shoal creek side?

Anonymous 8/05/2021 06:46 PM	Decreased parking spaces and impervious cover. Reclaimed green space.
Anonymous 8/05/2021 07:32 PM	A swimming pool that is open
Anonymous 8/06/2021 10:56 AM	less parking, more landscaping
Anonymous 8/06/2021 12:51 PM	Better pedestrian paths
Anonymous 8/07/2021 09:18 AM	Paved walkways, improved pond
Anonymous 8/07/2021 10:41 AM	I love the addition of the bike playground, the large platform and stairs on the other side of the bridge, and the path created along the pool parking connecting the west and east sides of the park.
Anonymous 8/07/2021 11:52 AM	Can't find anything I think is an improvement.
hmilller 8/07/2021 12:01 PM	I love the paved paths, more green and less parking lot, pickle ball, larger pond, more picnic areas, better restrooms and new playground
Anonymous 8/08/2021 02:25 PM	Thank you for including REAL pickleball courts!
Anonymous 8/09/2021 07:37 AM	It looks great. We love the expanded pond, new picnic areas with shade and the bike playground. Also like less parking. The parking is never an issue and more park space is great.
Anonymous 8/10/2021 08:48 AM	The trees and natural areas that it leaves in place and/or enhances.
Anonymous 8/10/2021 08:33 PM	There are many things, but I especially like the pond and habitat expansion, overlook and boardwalk. I also like the stairs, that's it's an accessible route, and bridge. The limestone retaining wall and

bike playground are also great additions.and bi

Anonymous

8/11/2021 02:45 PM

1. Where are the Tennis courts? 2. highly used Picnic area must be by playgrounds 3.restroom at BB field please. 4. rest looks OK. 5.Add more trees

Anonymous

8/11/2021 06:55 PM

rightsizing the parking (among several other good things)

Anonymous

8/11/2021 08:34 PM

Overlook; pond & habitat expansion; boardwalk; stairs; accessible route; bike playground; limestone retaining wall

Anonymous

8/12/2021 01:18 PM

Bike playground, boardwalk, expanded pond area

Anonymous

8/13/2021 01:13 AM

Replacing vegetation with riparian vegetation to restore the creek and increasing shade in the park.

Anonymous

8/16/2021 02:04 PM

Pond & habitat expansion & boardwalk, stairs down the hill from the bridge, accessible route throughout the park, expanded bridge, bike playground, limestone retaining wall.

Anonymous

8/18/2021 04:57 PM

I like the "bike playground". just hope the design is cool. Im also happy about the parking lot changes. And i like that "entry monument" is #1 on the list. Fingers crossed for the monument.

Anonymous

8/18/2021 06:14 PM

Removal of some parking ; boardwalk

Anonymous

8/18/2021 08:55 PM

Leaving the tennis and picnic spaces

Anonymous

8/19/2021 12:11 PM

Does not appear to dramatically change the existing park.

Anonymous

8/19/2021 12:21 PM

Reduction in parking spaces to maximize open space

Anonymous

8/19/2021 12:38 PM

More green space

Anonymous

8/19/2021 12:40 PM

Proposed pond and habitat expansion

Anonymous

8/19/2021 07:03 PM

expansion of the pond

Anonymous

8/19/2021 07:26 PM

Plan for the area around the pond.

Anonymous

8/19/2021 11:58 PM

The dedicated pickleball courts. I hope that these will have good quality permanent nets and lighting, and fenced in to contain balls. Transparent screens to separate the courts would be ideal to prevent balls interrupting play in adjacent courts.

Anonymous

8/20/2021 06:36 AM

bike park

Anonymous

8/20/2021 07:17 PM

Larger healthy pond

Anonymous

8/20/2021 07:20 PM

expansion of pond

Anonymous

8/21/2021 06:17 AM

enlarged pond

Anonymous

8/21/2021 06:56 PM

I appreciate that you are trying to improve the park like improving the bridge over Shoal Creek and updating the playground itself.

Anonymous

8/21/2021 07:16 PM

Pond expansion + boardwalk, bridge expansion, bike playground, bike/ped connections throughout

Anonymous

8/21/2021 09:26 PM

Stairs in multiple areas

Anonymous

8/21/2021 10:08 PM

Improved mobility around the park.

Anonymous

8/22/2021 10:12 AM

The bridge.

Anonymous

8/22/2021 10:54 AM

It seems to have some added picnic areas that somewhat "expand" the park into what's been unused land. And it appears that real trails are being added for walking, biking, etc. vs. just

Anonymous

8/22/2021 11:53 AM

NW still stay a park. However, it is disturbing to allow Watershed Protection to take over a major a part of design. Moreover, not one at PARD or WPD totally owns the current "mish-mash" of ideas. AND it is not fully funded -- S

Anonymous

8/22/2021 12:19 PM

It mostly leaves the park alone

Anonymous

8/22/2021 12:38 PM

Renovated playscape

Anonymous

8/22/2021 12:43 PM

I love the refresh, and that the pool is staying and getting redeveloped

Anonymous

8/22/2021 12:53 PM

Playscape and pickle ball courts!

Anonymous

8/22/2021 12:55 PM

The new pool, addition of pickle ball courts

Anonymous

8/22/2021 02:22 PM

Replacement of asphalt parking spaces with grass

Anonymous

8/22/2021 06:06 PM

I like that you kept the duck pond in the plan - but it does need better care to keep the wildlife and children safe

Anonymous

8/22/2021 06:24 PM

pool and addition of pickle ball courts

Anonymous

8/22/2021 08:55 PM

Expanded green spaces and reduction of parking for cars

Anonymous

8/23/2021 10:42 AM

Getting new play scapes

Anonymous

8/23/2021 01:25 PM

additional multi-purpose open spaces, new improved pedestrian bridge at current location, reduced asphalt, improved more central location for comfort station.

Anonymous

8/23/2021 01:35 PM

Good flow among the parts, attention to natural spaces

Anonymous

8/23/2021 02:09 PM

Adding pickleball courts, improving playscape, adding shade

Anonymous

8/23/2021 02:52 PM

Keeping the present bridge and improving it. Stairs on the Ardath berm leading into the park. Reduced parking. Fewer trails.

Anonymous

8/23/2021 08:47 PM

Its emphasis on native plants. And its removal of parking spots in favor of more green space. Additionally, its commitment to keeping the island and enlarging and deepening the pond.

Anonymous

8/23/2021 09:16 PM

Bigger pond

Anonymous

8/24/2021 05:24 AM

Increasing the pond size

Optional question (67 response(s), 13 skipped)

Question type: Single Line Question

Q2 | What do you dislike about the draft final vision plan?

Anonymous

8/04/2021 11:07 AM

the space on the west side of Shoal Creek could use a little more pizzazz - maybe some walking trails amongst the wildflowers to walk and enjoy that area more.

Anonymous

8/04/2021 04:04 PM

removed the second entry point along shoal creek/great northern dam, little investment in the southern out parcel (it is so overgrown with invasive trees under hardwoods and long the creek)

Anonymous

8/04/2021 04:25 PM

like it

Anonymous

8/04/2021 04:59 PM

I was hoping the dirt trails along the west edge of the park would be paved.

Anonymous

8/04/2021 06:56 PM

It appears that removal of large trees may be required to provide 2 large open green spaces.

Anonymous

8/04/2021 07:11 PM

Does Austin need so many pickle ball courts?

Anonymous

8/04/2021 08:18 PM

concerned about grills in the pocket park off the main Northwest Park, across from Shoal Creek. There are currently no trashcans in that area.

Anonymous

8/04/2021 08:23 PM

The elliptical multi-use field is not appropriate for sports. Its shape does not lend itself to sports and is not shaded.

Anonymous

8/04/2021 08:29 PM

The elliptical multi-use field is not appropriate for sports. Its shape does not lend itself to sports and is not shaded. It also appears you have reduced the number of tennis courts to add pickleball courts. Pickleball players take over tennis courts.

Anonymous

8/05/2021 09:45 AM

There's still only one pedestrian/bike bridge! This plan lacks a more direct connection to the trail from Great Northern Dam/Far West Blvd. Too much parking - let's remove as many spaces as possible to actively promote alternative modes of arrival.

Anonymous

8/06/2021 10:56 AM

Reduced number of tennis courts & toilets. Currently pickleball players compete with tennis players for use of the courts, but at least, when the pickleball players leave, the courts can again be used by the waiting tennis players.

Anonymous

8/07/2021 09:18 AM

I live on Albata Ave and worry about more cars parking on our street when parking in the park is reduced.

Anonymous

8/07/2021 10:41 AM

I don't really dislike anything! It's a great plan.

Anonymous

8/07/2021 11:52 AM

1. Entrance "monuments" what a waste of money!

hmiller

8/07/2021 12:01 PM

Would love a staircase from Ellise into Ardath (already used by neighborhood but needs to not be dirt)

Anonymous

8/08/2021 02:25 PM

Did the bridge over the creek get changed - the metal bridge is not friendly to dogs.

Anonymous

8/09/2021 07:37 AM

Nothing. It's great.

Anonymous

8/10/2021 08:48 AM

The removal of the large cypress trees on the edge of the pond. We HAVE to stop killing trees when they're inconvenient or get in the way. We need to plan around them instead. Any pond plan should leave them in place.

Anonymous

8/10/2021 08:33 PM

There is no dedicated bike connection to Shoal Creek Blvd.

Anonymous

8/11/2021 02:45 PM

1. Picnic areas, used a lot, moved into hot sun, far away from playscape, bad move. 2. use crushed granet for paths not concrete. 3. overlook#2 at BB fields looks down into peoples back yards 4. put water fountians back in at BB field, and tennis courts

Anonymous

8/11/2021 06:55 PM

from plan, can't tell if the proposed trails/walkways will adequately join the south part of the park (around baseball field) to the main park area. I think that disconnection has limited the park's use.

Anonymous

8/11/2021 08:34 PM

Would like to see more hike & bike access points into the park & signs pointing the way in

Anonymous

8/12/2021 01:43 PM

The entry monument. Unless it's commissioned art by a local artist.

Anonymous

8/13/2021 01:13 AM

Does not include an amenity for performing arts

Anonymous

8/16/2021 02:04 PM

You dropped access to the great northern hike & bike trail.

Anonymous

8/18/2021 04:57 PM

I feel like the southern tip and the NW picnic areas with small shade structures seem kinda random. I think these spots would be great spaces for public art. Sad that there is no mention of "splash pad", ever park needs free access to water fun- TX HEAT!

Anonymous

8/18/2021 06:14 PM

Liked the idea of orchard trees and wonder if this could be included amongst the picnic area

Anonymous

8/18/2021 08:55 PM

Mucking with the pond. It seems poorly thought out, given that this is an established wild life area. There is no reason to disturb the trees; there was too little thought given to the problem. It sounds more like an engineer's mechanical solution.

Anonymous

8/19/2021 12:21 PM

There should be more of a reduction in parking to provide for more open space. Parking is almost never utilized, most users are local and walk or bike to the park.

Anonymous

8/19/2021 12:38 PM

Are there multiple places to park and lock bicycles?

Anonymous

8/19/2021 12:40 PM

The reduction in parking numbers don't add up. How often is parking filled? What impact will reducing those spaces have?

Anonymous

8/19/2021 07:03 PM

no access to the creek

Anonymous

8/19/2021 07:26 PM

I liked the additional entry concepts from Shoal Creek Boulevard that are not on this version.

Anonymous

8/19/2021 11:58 PM

I see no plans for providing shade over the pickleball courts, which could significantly expand the playable hours and the number of people using the courts. Clay Madsen Rec Ctr (Round Rock) and Dreamland (Dripping Springs) have successfully done this.

Anonymous

8/20/2021 06:36 AM

more parking spaces?

Anonymous

8/20/2021 07:17 PM

No splash pad

Anonymous

8/20/2021 07:20 PM

#13 picnic area. This area is heavily used by dog walkers as a dog bathroom.

Anonymous

8/21/2021 06:17 AM

lose of bald cypress trees around pond. They CAN be saved if the island is enlarged on the south side and tree islands or peninsulas created to allow them to remain. They are established tall trees that provide shade. Algae does not like shade. Save em.

Anonymous

8/21/2021 06:56 PM

Adding too many things to one park! You don't have to cram it all in the same place. More cars, less parking spaces - they will park on our narrow streets! No pickle ball or bike track. Keep all trees and plant more. Keep pond natural!

Anonymous

8/21/2021 07:16 PM

Needs a bike path from shoal creek blvd around the baseball area into the park

Anonymous

8/21/2021 09:26 PM

Looks like one walking trail is replaced by a retaining wall

Anonymous

8/21/2021 10:08 PM

Expansion of the pond that will remove large trees. Don't do it!

Anonymous

8/22/2021 10:12 AM

Picnic areas are almost out of the park, and far from the restrooms. A larger pond would likely make it harder to enjoy, and the survival of the cypresses could be in jeopardy. EVERY tree in the park should be kept.

Anonymous

8/22/2021 10:54 AM

I'm disappointed that the baseball field continues to use so much space for so few people's use - same with pickle ball. It doesn't seem like there is a continuous walking path. Parking may be unnecessarily \$\$ vs. other changes.

Anonymous

8/22/2021 11:53 AM

Staff has ignored NW park for decades and they continue by making the park 'theirs' and then asking for our comments. It should have been the other way around -- USERS first.

Anonymous

8/22/2021 12:19 PM

Details of Pond enlargement. Picnic areas seem removed from the main park area, none near kids play features. Too much of the park is 'planned', dedicated places.

Anonymous

8/22/2021 12:38 PM

Would like to see more picnic areas

Anonymous

8/22/2021 12:43 PM

Nothing really new. An area for live music might have been fun

Anonymous

8/22/2021 12:53 PM

N/A

Anonymous

8/22/2021 12:55 PM

It would be nice to incorporate a soccer field. It seems like the Baseball Diamond isnt used that much: if that area were converted into 2 soccer fields zoned into the local soccer leagues then maybe it would get more use

Anonymous

8/22/2021 02:22 PM

plans to remove mature cypress trees on the south side of the pond for the supposed purpose of flood control water retention. Also, removing trees on the eastern bank of Shoal Creek to supposedly reduce erosion on that slope, which makes no logical sense

Anonymous

8/22/2021 06:24 PM

Removing large bald cypress trees around pond . Doesn't seem advantageous to inject another dept of which the sold purpose is flood management (not pond maintenance) into the Park to care for pond.

Anonymous

8/22/2021 08:55 PM

Wish there were more space allocated for restoration of wild grasses.

Anonymous

8/23/2021 10:42 AM

The bike park will not be used. It will be a combination of too difficult for young riders, or too easy/boring for advanced riders, so it will end up being nothing for anyone. It will have a high initial use, but then nobody will use it.

Anonymous

8/23/2021 01:25 PM

overly destructive pond enlargement, bicycle park(really bad idea at park entance and impactful to neighbors

Anonymous

8/23/2021 01:35 PM

The removal of 8 mature bald cypress around the pond. That means removing 1/3 of these established trees to expand the pond? That is not a good tradeoff for shade or wildlife-- it is way too many.

Anonymous

8/23/2021 02:09 PM

No information about pool improvements

Anonymous

8/23/2021 02:52 PM

A disaster pond plan that impacts the wildlife and birds and destroys 8 or more trees. The community wants to keep and improve the pond. Save the rookery and wetlands.create a solution that will make the pond and water improved.

Anonymous

8/23/2021 08:47 PM

I do not like the plan to cut down mature cypress trees to build the boardwalk. I also do not like the addition of extra parking spaces at the section of greenbelt to the south of the park. This spectacular migratory bird habitat near the creek.

Anonymous

8/23/2021 09:16 PM

Too much development on the small tract sw of shoal creek blvd. also, we really should get rid of as many invasive plants as possible.

Anonymous

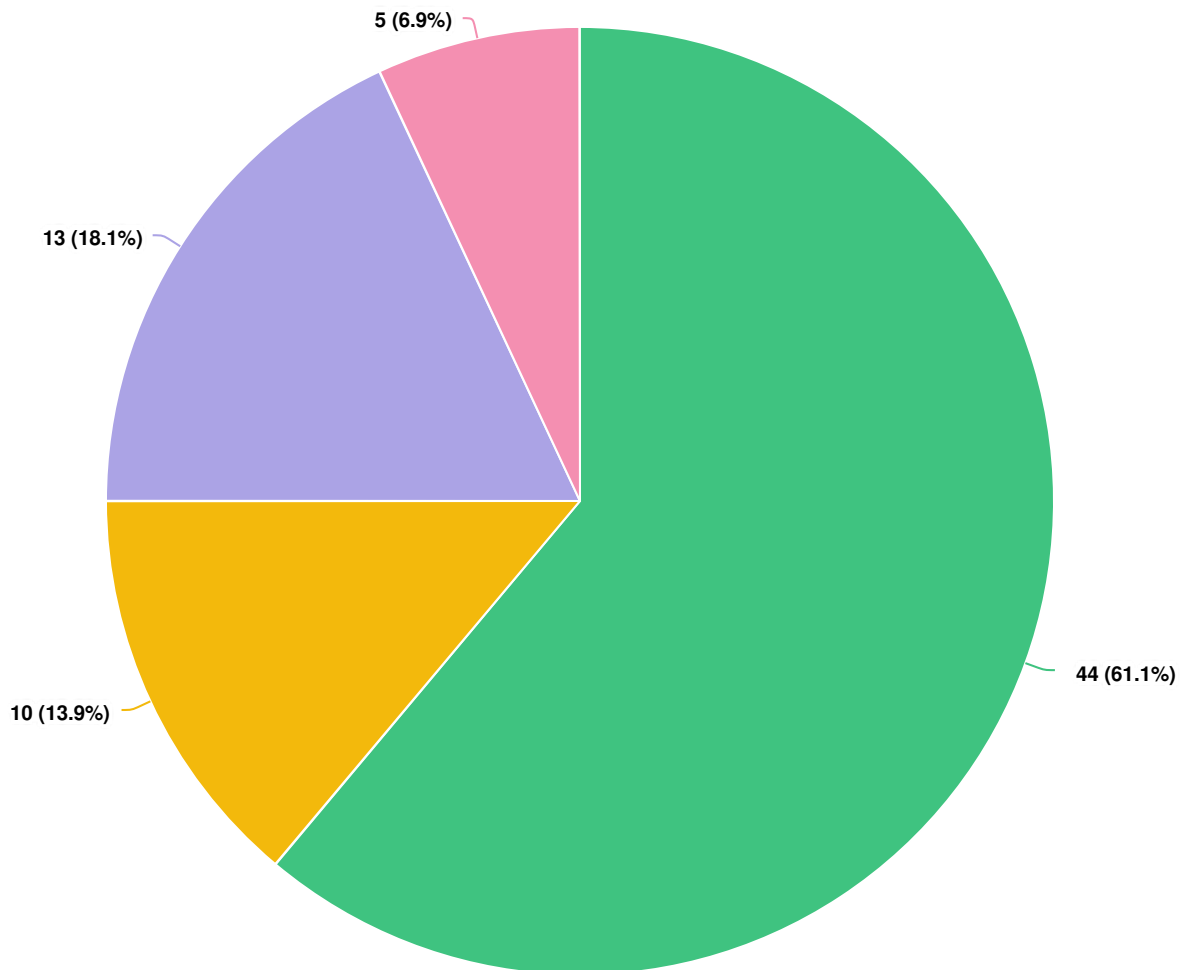
8/24/2021 05:24 AM

Nothing, it all looks really good

Optional question (61 response(s), 19 skipped)

Question type: Single Line Question

Q3 Which of these playscape themes do you prefer?

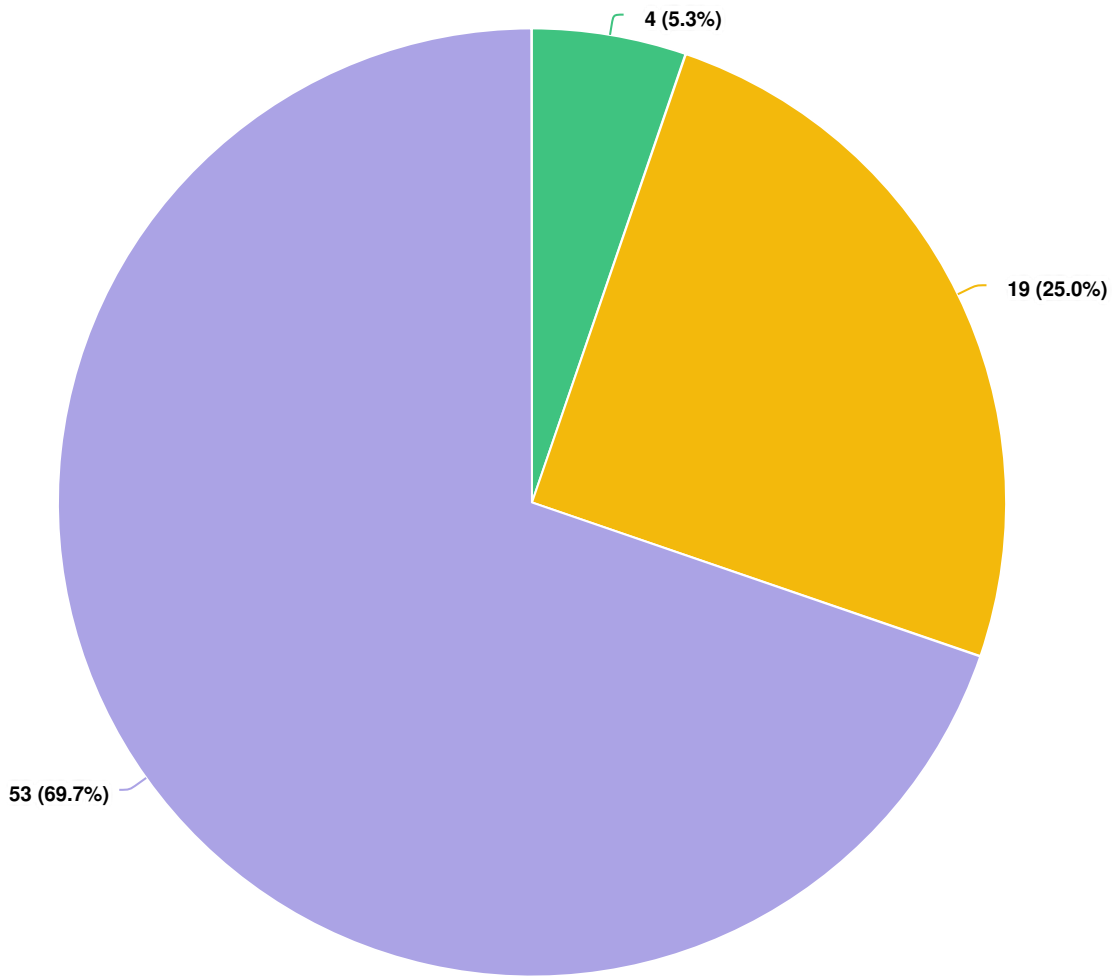


Question options

- Nature-based playscape
- Plants and animals found in the park
- Colorful component-based play structures
- Other (please share in comment question below)

*Optional question (72 response(s), 8 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question*

Q4 Do you prefer the park's open spaces to be:

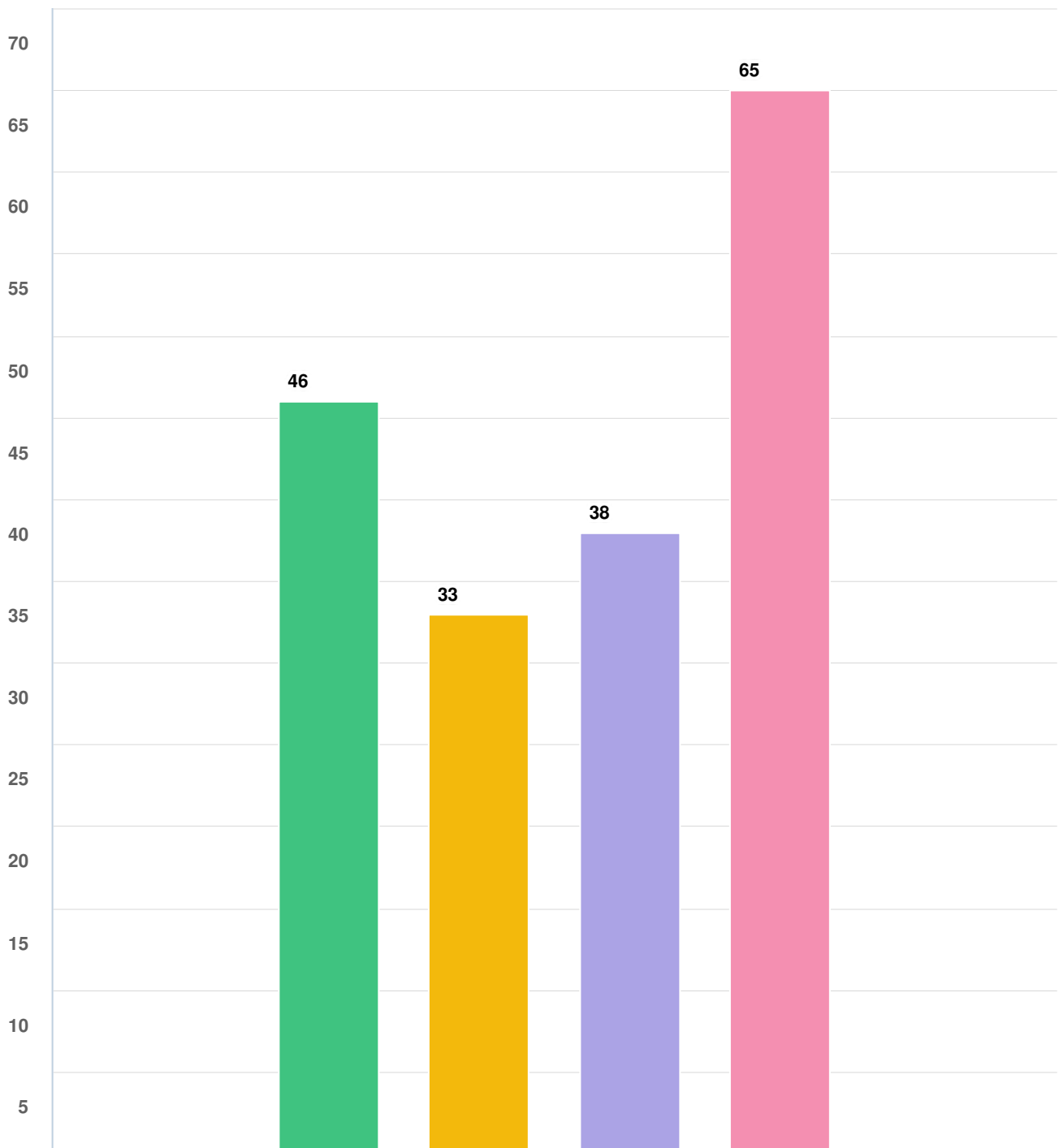


Question options

- Maintained turf grass
- Native tallgrass and wildflowers ("grow zones")
- A mixture of both

*Optional question (76 response(s), 4 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question*

Q5 There are several opportunities for interpretive storytelling or signage in the Park. Please mark the ones you would like to see.



Question options

- Hydrology: How water, floods, and drainage work in and around the park
- Beverly S. Sheffield: Who was he?
- Historical and cultural resources of the park
- Flora and fauna: Habitat and inhabitants of the park

Optional question (74 response(s), 6 skipped)
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q6 | What other stories would you like to see told about Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park?

Anonymous
8/04/2021 11:07 AM
the sign saying how the granite was mined here for the first capital building is pretty interesting.

Anonymous
8/04/2021 04:06 PM
Any historical events that happened around there, like who gave the land to the city originally.

Anonymous
8/04/2021 07:11 PM
Stories about the swim lessons and the patches! We have one from the '60s

Anonymous
8/04/2021 08:23 PM
Who was Beverly Sheffield

Anonymous
8/04/2021 08:29 PM
Hydrology

Anonymous
8/05/2021 09:50 AM
History and contributions

Anonymous
8/05/2021 06:46 PM
The flood mitigation components of the park are a fascinating, little-known-secret. I would love to see the function of the park brought to the forefront for visitors to learn more about the parks' role and Shoal Creek.

Anonymous
8/07/2021 10:41 AM
I would love a story about Austin's municipal pools and the planners that had a vision. Austin is so unique because of all the pools that we offer - not many towns (like Waco) have this.

Anonymous
8/07/2021 11:52 AM
NONE I don't go to the park for a history or natural science lesson. It will just become a target for graffiti. I am old enough to know who Sheffield was, but money can better be used for other things in the park, not glorifying who it's named after.

Anonymous
8/07/2021 08:55 PM
Some months ago, someone on the Allandale list serve said she and her brothers and their friends carved their names in a rock

somewhere along the eastern border of the park, although as I recall, this occurred before it was a park. Not sure if it was still a quarry at that time. It would be nice to preserve that rock.

Anonymous

8/09/2021 07:37 AM

Fossils and prehistoric information about the area.

Anonymous

8/10/2021 08:33 PM

Hydrology and the history of the park.

Anonymous

8/11/2021 02:45 PM

How the pool was spring fed

Anonymous

8/11/2021 08:34 PM

High dive days

Anonymous

8/12/2021 01:43 PM

Birding information

Anonymous

8/18/2021 04:57 PM

The Dazed and confused baseball scene! Architectural design of the swimming pool building (its a cool building)

Anonymous

8/18/2021 08:55 PM

First, it is hydrology ! Stories are quickly dated unless they are directly related to the specific space. Don't be "cutsie".

Anonymous

8/19/2021 07:26 PM

History of the neighborhood/indigenous peoples through original land grant family to city of Austin/modern development.

Anonymous

8/20/2021 07:20 PM

the shoal creek pliosaur

Anonymous

8/22/2021 12:43 PM

N/A

Anonymous

8/22/2021 12:55 PM

Historical information about North Central Austin

Anonymous

8/22/2021 02:22 PM

Regarding playscapes, I would like to see a mixture of both "nature-based" elements and "colorful-components". I think the

durability and maintenance requirements of any components should be taken into consideration, (i.e., metal versus plastic, through-colored concrete versus surface-painted fiberglass, etc.).

Anonymous

8/22/2021 02:46 PM

Anonymous

8/22/2021 08:55 PM

Pre-Austin stories about how the creek was used; local American Indian interaction with the creek; common fossils found in the creek area; description of how the creek was formed and Texas natural history for this area.

Anonymous

8/23/2021 01:25 PM

story of the quarry and small associated community need better more culturally appropriate name for park. Bev Sheff is not relevant. some discussion of function of detention facility and story as to how it evolved. This was a neighborhood initiative in large measure

Anonymous

8/23/2021 02:09 PM

What has this park meant to the community over the years? What events have been hosted in the park, for example?

Anonymous

8/23/2021 02:52 PM

Shoal creek prehistory

Anonymous

8/23/2021 08:47 PM

Historical stories about indigenous life in the area.

Anonymous

8/23/2021 09:16 PM

Migratory bird display.

Anonymous

8/24/2021 05:24 AM

History of North Austin. Importance of parks/greenbelt as wildlife corridors

Optional question (30 response(s), 50 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Q7 | **What other comments or questions do you have for the planning team?**

Anonymous

8/04/2021 04:04 PM

Is there an opportunity to add another set of restrooms?

Anonymous

8/04/2021 06:56 PM

Please leave the park as natural as possible. Will the reduced parking be adequate for the number of users projected for the renovated park?

Anonymous

8/04/2021 08:18 PM

Will an email blast be sent out announcing the final plans that will be presented to the Parks Board?

Anonymous

8/04/2021 08:23 PM

Where are the picnic tables?

Anonymous

8/04/2021 08:29 PM

Please do not add a lot of signage. It is visual clutter. I recall when a sign that said "Pond below" was installed at the children's playscape. It was removed within a week. . . But, many of us early morning walkers got a good laugh out of it.

Anonymous

8/05/2021 09:50 AM

Add a splash pad. Please!!!!!!

Anonymous

8/05/2021 06:46 PM

I'm very interested in the commitment to riparian buffer zones for the pond and Shoal Creek and designing the boardwalk in a way that decreases foot traffic around the pond. Signage to explain the function of the riparian zones and vegetation would also be great to see. Thanks for this great plan!

Anonymous

8/06/2021 10:56 AM

are there enough toilets?

Anonymous

8/06/2021 12:51 PM

I hope the larger pond does not become an algae-infested eyesore

Anonymous

8/07/2021 10:41 AM

For the the bike playground, I HIGHLY suggest an asphalt pump track (visit Paris, TX!) and contracting Clark & Kent or Velosolutions or going to Bentonville and using their design teams. You want to make it progressive enough for lots of ages to enjoy (including adults heehee)

Anonymous

8/07/2021 11:52 AM

Having a shade pavilion #14 in the middle of the trail is a really stupid idea. As it is,* I often have to stand in the sun & wait while families, dogs, or bicyclists cross the bridge or gather to cross the bridge - blocking the path. Add a shelter will just congest the path more. *I live 3 houses from the park & walk my dog 2 time every day, rain or shine. I circle inside the park 1-2 times every day, plus I lead a kids bird walk in the park every Saturday. So I know each area very well.

Anonymous

8/07/2021 08:55 PM

My wife is sensitive to the sun, has very fair skin, and has had several skin cancers. It's important for her and no doubt for others that the shade structures you install really do provide complete shade, not just filtered shade. On the topic of shade structures, I don't understand the purpose of the shade structure proposed for behind the tennis and basketball courts. Is it intended for those just walking past, or is it a place to hang out, with seating and maybe even tables? If it's just to shade those walking past for a minute or two, I suggest it's not worth the cost. I'd put the money into something else. I made this comment before, but I'll try to be more cogent this time. It's very good that people come from some distance to use the park. One such use is basketball. Before the pandemic, during all but the coldest times, substantial groups would come to the area around the basketball court. There would be a big group on the court, and a similar-sized group socializing in the parking lot, playing music from car stereos, and hanging out with family including children. I think the parking lot next to the basketball court should be larger, and the oval lawn should be smaller, to be sure this type of activity is still accommodated.

Anonymous

8/08/2021 02:25 PM

Please line all the tennis courts for pickleball. By the time the park is finished pickleball will only be more popular and the 2-3 courts will not be enough. Currently 8 people can play pickleball in the space that 2 people play tennis. On weekday mornings pickleball players way outnumber the tennis players. It's nice to have a place to play free pickleball. Too many businesses are opening courts and charging \$30-\$40/hr. THANK YOU FOR ALL THE HARD WORK!

Anonymous

8/09/2021 07:37 AM

A 30 min timer button with clear markings on the tennis courts. To cut down on light pollution/save electricity from the bright lights when the courts are not in use. Also proper alignment of the light so they point down and away from the houses facing the park. Ramsey park is a great example of lights that are less obnoxious for the houses close to the courts.

Anonymous

8/10/2021 08:48 AM

At a recent briefing, the planner said "In order to have the pond we want, those cypress trees have to come out." I want to reiterate that for many of us, the "pond we want" isn't a pond without those trees. Planting new ones and waiting 20 years just isn't a reasonable option. Cypress trees grow just fine in water. Plan around them, not over them.

Anonymous

8/11/2021 02:45 PM

1. Please avoid using concrete on pathways, it makes it hot, we need the relief from concrete, and invites bicycles to speed on primarily pedestrian pathways causing conflicts, use crushed granet, wood chips,..... 2. Move the picnic area back over to the playgrounds. The picnic area is highly used, every weekend, by many families while the kids play at the playgrounds, birthdays etc. Major Mistake.

Anonymous

8/11/2021 06:55 PM

I like many elements of the plan - the picnic areas dispersed around the park including across Shoal Creek Blvd., the boardwalk feature to better define the pond/walkway interface, keeping a good amount of parking (I hope!) while reducing the amount of asphalt that is almost always empty

Anonymous

8/12/2021 01:43 PM

Outdoor yoga and creative arts for social gathering opportunities.

Anonymous

8/13/2021 01:13 AM

Would like to see innovative uses of diverting runoff/sewage water

Anonymous

8/18/2021 04:57 PM

I like "nature based" the most out of the playscape options given, but Im yet to be impressed by any of the nature based playscapes that I've seen. The new Peas Park play area looks nice, but honestly seems kinda boring. They dont even have a slide! Kids like to climb, and slide, spin, bounce, run, and make forts- I hope the NW Park playscape is more than a bunch of nicely sanded, imported logs stuck together. The other trendy playscape equipment i've been seeing is the "spider web" playscapes- they seem more visually interesting than physically interesting (my kid is still to young to enjoy them)

Anonymous

8/18/2021 08:55 PM

Please take your cues from residents, not from passing fads that you heard about at the last planners conference. People feel

patronized when you do some thing "cutsie" in their park. We don't want to be Disney World. Tradition is fine.

Anonymous

8/19/2021 12:38 PM

Make sure there a several places to park and lock bikes! Each different play zone (pool, playscape, ball field, pond) needs its own bike rack. Make sure bikes can access all of them from the neighborhood streets.

Anonymous

8/19/2021 11:58 PM

Please continue to have lines for two pickleball courts on each tennis court and expand it to all four tennis courts. This will allow pickleballers to set up their own nets and maximize tennis court usage when the dedicated pickleball courts are full. Based on current trends, I expect pickleballers to far outnumber tennis players.

Anonymous

8/20/2021 07:20 PM

need to do something about the dog bathroom at #13 before it will be a viable picnic area. Also proximity to nearby houses could cause noise issues.

Anonymous

8/20/2021 09:52 PM

I like the idea of a nature-based playscape only if it has no treated wood. Otherwise, I'd want a playscape with a variety of play possibilities not made of wood. Also, whatever playscape goes in, the ground material needs to be non-toxic. That is essential. Please, please, have all picnic tables have 100% full shade structures, not dappled shade. It will allow more use during the hottest time of the year. Please propose alternative designs that will protect the pond habitat and wildlife, improve water quality, and not remove trees. Please preserve park trees. Avoid cutting down any tree for a pickle ball court, for example.

Anonymous

8/21/2021 06:17 AM

Save the bald cypress !!!

Anonymous

8/21/2021 06:56 PM

Please do not crowd the park with everything! Leave lots of open natural space. Some fun things can go in other nearby parks; it doesn't all have to go here. Do not create parking issue for the neighborhood. Keep the pond natural although improved. Your plan will hurt pond habitat and nature.

Anonymous

8/21/2021 07:16 PM

When you expand the pond, be sure to replant decent-sized cypress trees.

Anonymous

8/21/2021 10:08 PM

Please don't tear down any big trees!

Anonymous

8/22/2021 10:54 AM

I know it doesn't snow here often, but there are GREAT hills for sledding in the park and it looks like one is being changed to stairs. My biggest comment is that too much space is being set aside for the benefit of too few people. (Baseball, pickle ball.) You don't see this at places like Mueller or Butler where all of the spaces can be used by just about anyone. The baseball field is a huge swath of land used by a small number of (mostly) teenage boys. Seems like such a loss to the community in terms of open green space and all the other ways it could be used. Why is that remaining a priority? Also we were really hoping with all of the space a nice walking loop/paths would be incorporated but it's hard to tell from the map if that is happening.

Anonymous

8/22/2021 12:19 PM

Playscapes - simpler is better Open space care - suited to 'use' No wild flowers under picnic tables.

Anonymous

8/22/2021 12:38 PM

Splash pad please!

Anonymous

8/22/2021 12:43 PM

Is there a way to introduce something to keep the water clean. The pond always has algae and smells making it unappealing

Anonymous

8/22/2021 12:55 PM

It would be nice to incorporate a splash pad

Anonymous

8/22/2021 02:22 PM

Shade is very important -- the more trees the better. Ideally, create mostly a natural, "urban woodland" for kids to explore, native plants & animals to inhabit, and adults to quietly contemplate. Provide more and easier access to the creek, (as a potentially perfect "natural playscape"), including making a serious effort to restore the creek's natural state and habitats in the areas bordering the park, to the greatest extent possible.

Anonymous

8/22/2021 02:46 PM

Like Zilker Park, Northwest Park is a mecca for graffiti felons. NWP hosts tags dated as far back as 2016 , and up to 12 square feet in size. Graffiti that was reported via the 311 app on June 12, (Its My Park Day), is still there today on August 22. Three tags in plain

sight that were pointed out to volunteers on June 12 are also still there. One of the tags is MORBID, another is ALL ME. Some of the aging graffiti is slowly going away because the old paint underneath it is peeling away. Please install new signs sparingly because they are graffiti magnets, just like the signs along Austin trails and bikeways. The 311 app has a failure rate of over 90 percent when used to request graffiti removal in NW Park, but Austin 311 has shown no interest in investigating or fixing that. It is a too-well-kept secret that there is a 311 mobile app, and that it is a tool to report graffiti. This Sept 2014 YouTube demo of the 311 app does not even speak of using the app to report graffiti: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gwG8CyYV-OM> PARD urgently needs anti-graffiti volunteers to scout the parks and trails weekly to find and report graffiti. Please remind PARD Director Kimberly McNeeley about our meeting on his subject about 4 years ago. Thank You, George Yanker > Citizen member of Austin's 2016 Graffiti Task Force. > Photographer with about 18,000 photos of Austin graffiti vandalism.

Anonymous

8/22/2021 02:58 PM

I do not want any trees taken out! We need them for shade and coolness. I do not want concrete brought in. We need coolness and not added heat. I like the idea of Parks and Wildlife managing the pond with native fish species and plants so that children can see the beauty that Mother Nature provides us now.

Anonymous

8/22/2021 06:06 PM

Regular upkeep of the park, parking lots, pavement and equipment at least once a month fall, winter & spring and then the park, parking lots, pavement, equipment, ballpark, pool, tennis and basketball courts weekly during the summer would be great.

Anonymous

8/22/2021 06:24 PM

I am concerned that the current plan will likely seriously impact the existing wetland pond habitat, displace wildlife, and remove 8 bald cypress. Please revisit this part of the plan.

Anonymous

8/22/2021 08:55 PM

Really appreciate your work and efforts here.

Anonymous

8/23/2021 01:25 PM

Tall grass is an inappropriate model for native grass/wildflower/low maintenance areas. Mid-grass is more appropriate - except along Shoal Creek and other wetlands upland was a little bluestem- live oak savannah.

Anonymous

8/23/2021 01:35 PM

Please reconsider the plans for the pond. Removing 8 of 23 mature bald cypress is a terrible idea.

Anonymous

8/23/2021 02:09 PM

I'm most interested in the pool upgrades, so I'll look for information on that online. Is there a separate survey for that?

Anonymous

8/23/2021 02:52 PM

Plant more long lived native shade trees. Create undesignated park space. Save existing pond wetlands, animals, and birds!

Anonymous

8/23/2021 07:22 PM

My neighborhood park for over 25 years, Beverly Sheffield Park, is near and dear to my heart! Please take long-standing community members concerns and suggestions into consideration. I believe that: PARD should propose alternative designs that will protect the pond --habitat and wildlife --improve water quality --not remove trees! No pond plan should adversely impact habitat and wildlife!! PARD could sensitively integrate the existing pond/habitat into a new downsized wet pond while utilizing the ECM guidelines. The NWPark Vision Plan is community driven. Survey feedback concerning the duck pond was to: --maintain the pond and improve it. --keep the pond Please improve and enhance shade within the park and preserve park trees. Thank you, Donna Rose

Anonymous

8/23/2021 08:47 PM

Please leave cattails and brush in place for pondside wildlife. There's been a lot of cutting recently, which has diminished the heron and egret population this summer. This park provides a remarkable environment for migratory warblers, flycatchers, Orioles, thrushes, wrens, sparrows, and many others. Native grasses, flowers, and fruit trees (especially mulberry trees) attract an abundance of animals.

Anonymous

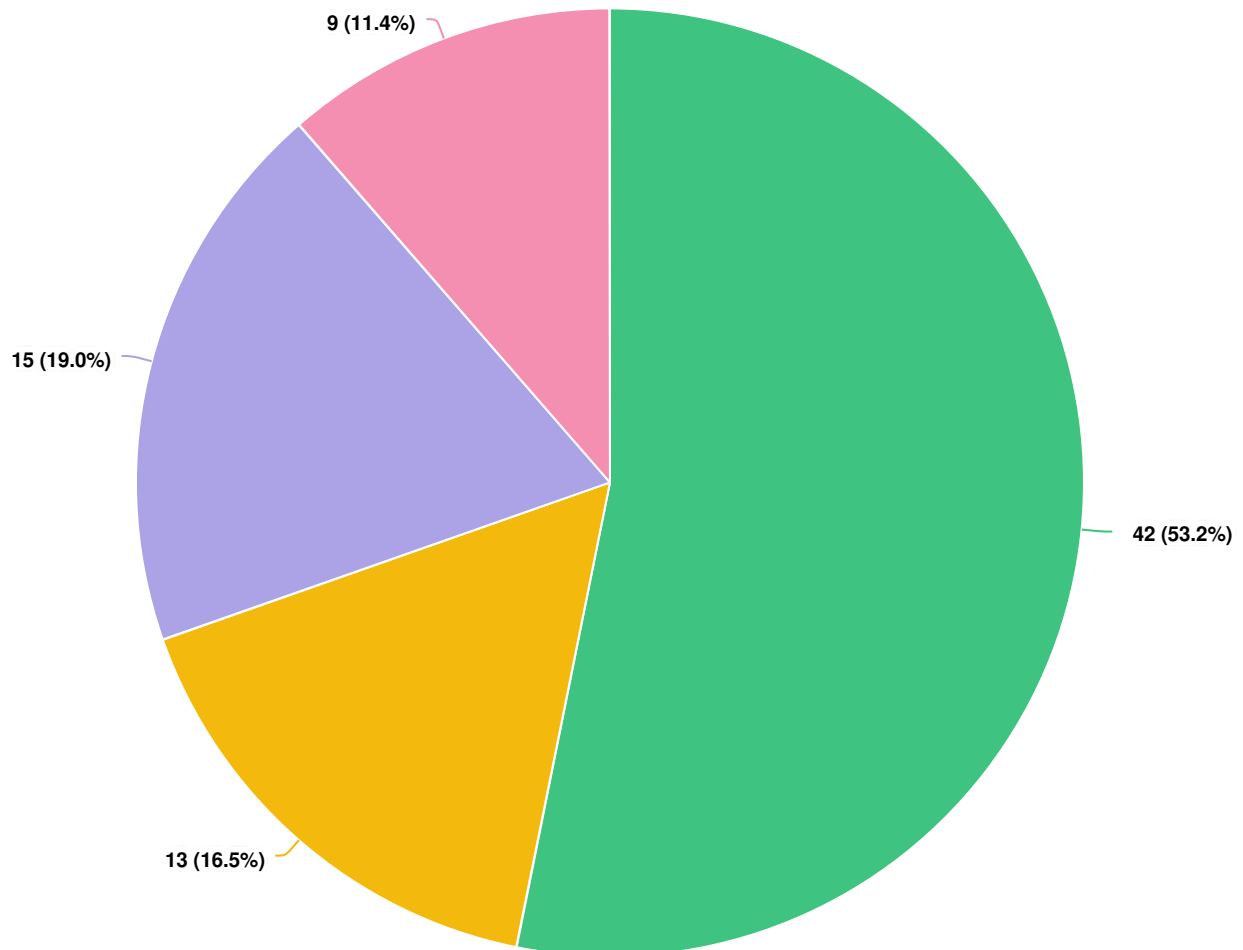
8/23/2021 09:16 PM

The shoal creek corridor is largely inaccessible. It could be the biggest asset.

Optional question (47 response(s), 33 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Q8 How close do you live to the park?

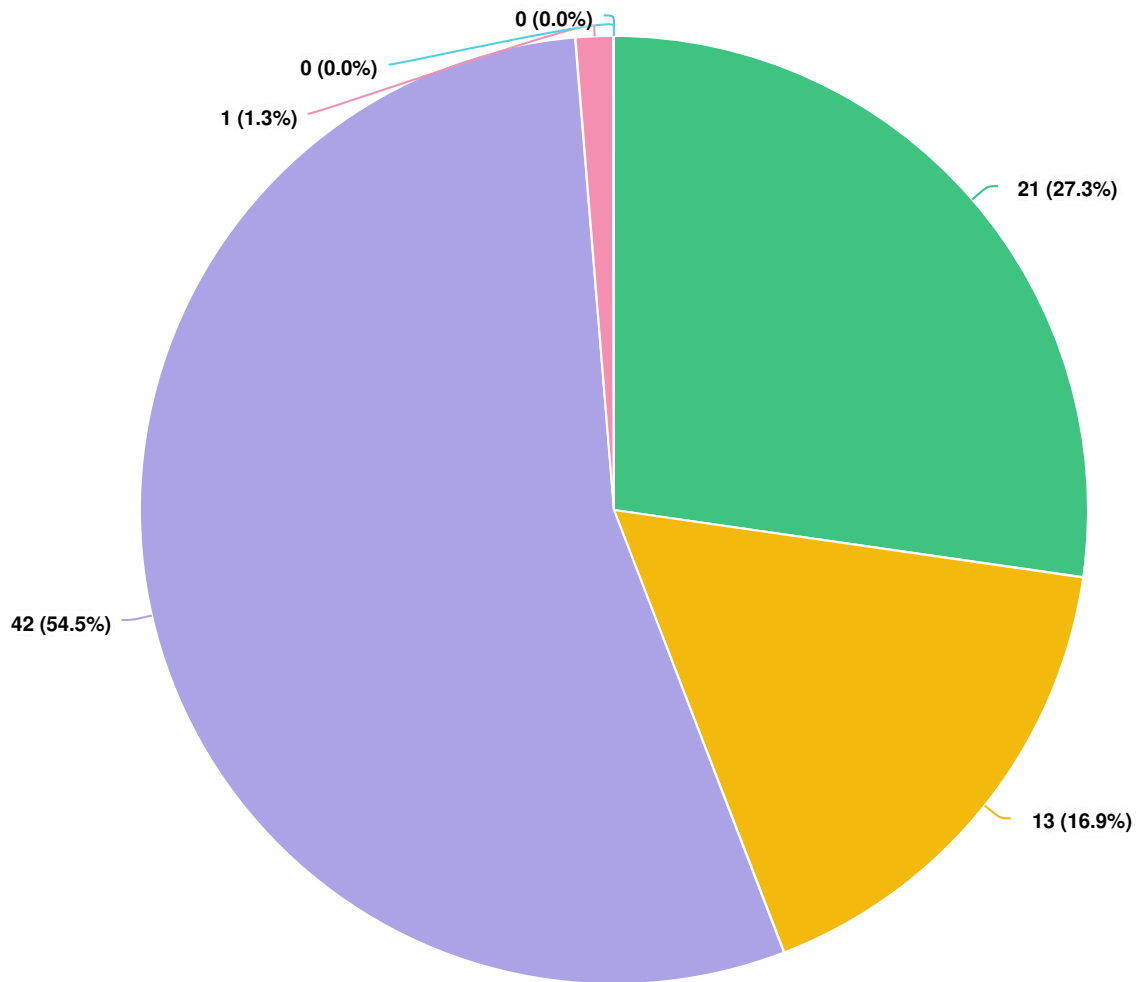


Question options

- 1/4 mile or closer
- 1/4 to 1/2 mile
- 1 to 2 miles
- More than 2 miles

Optional question (79 response(s), 1 skipped)
Question type: Dropdown Question

Q9 What mode or modes of transportation do you use to get to the park?

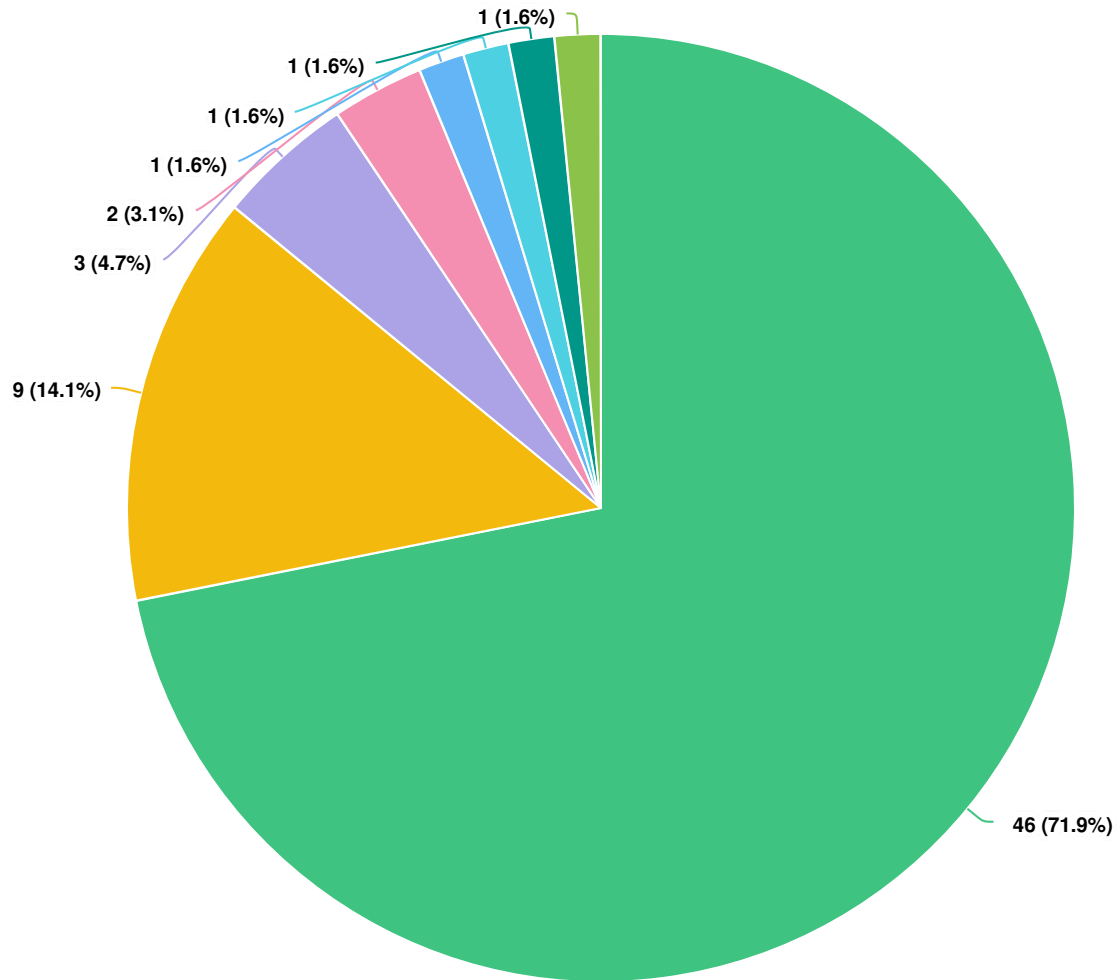


Question options

- Personal vehicle
- Bicycle
- Walk or wheelchair
- Other
- Public transit
- Personal Electric Vehicle (scooter, one-wheel, etc.)

Optional question (77 response(s), 3 skipped)
Question type: Dropdown Question

Q10 What is your zip code?

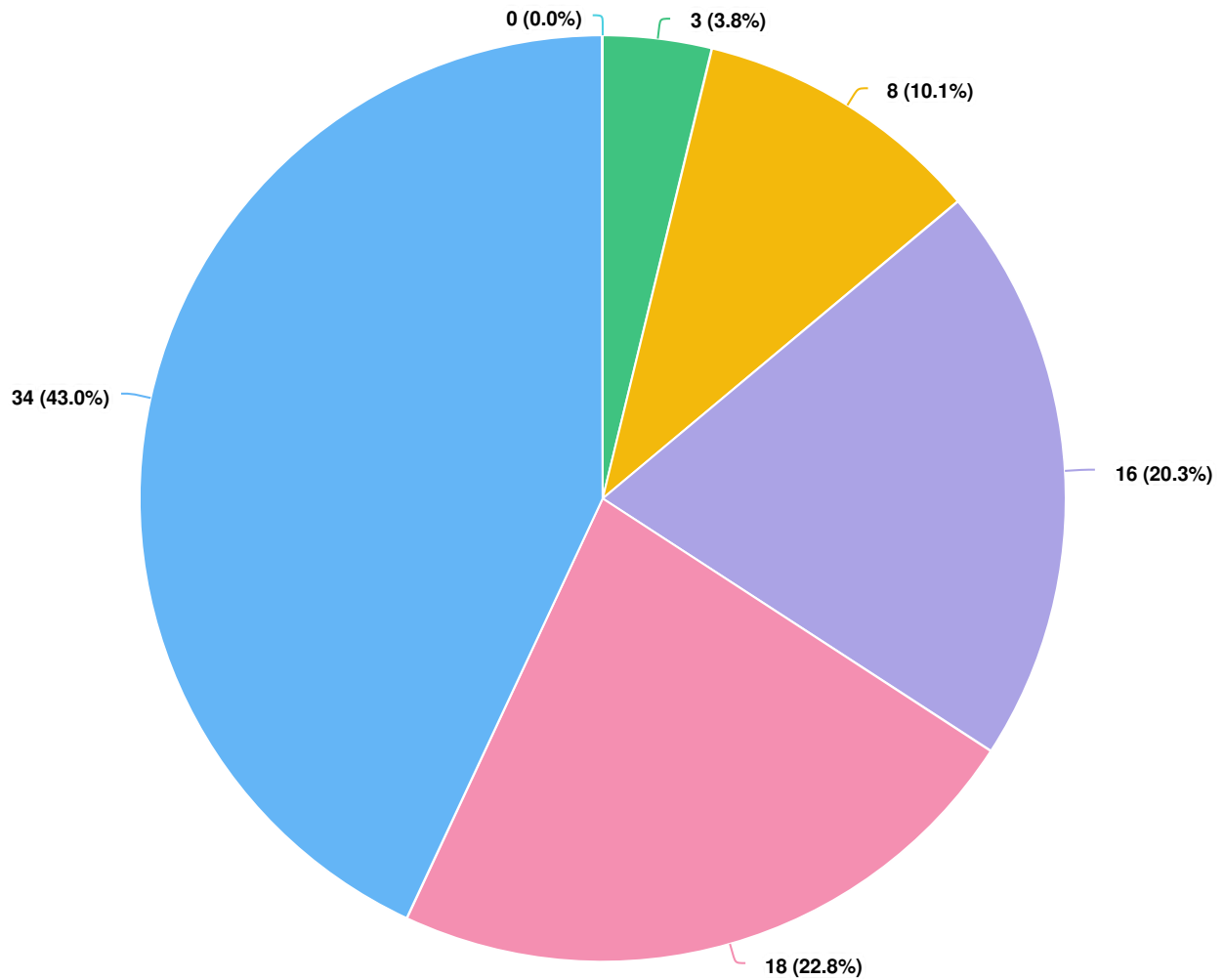


Question options

- Austin, TX 78757
- Austin, TX 78731
- Austin, TX 78756
- Austin, TX 78703
- Austin, TX 78758
- Austin, TX 78704
- Dale, TX 78616
- Austin, TX 78745

Optional question (64 response(s), 16 skipped)
Question type: Region Question

Q11 How long have you lived in Austin? If you do not currently live in Austin, please mark how long you lived in Austin previously if at all.

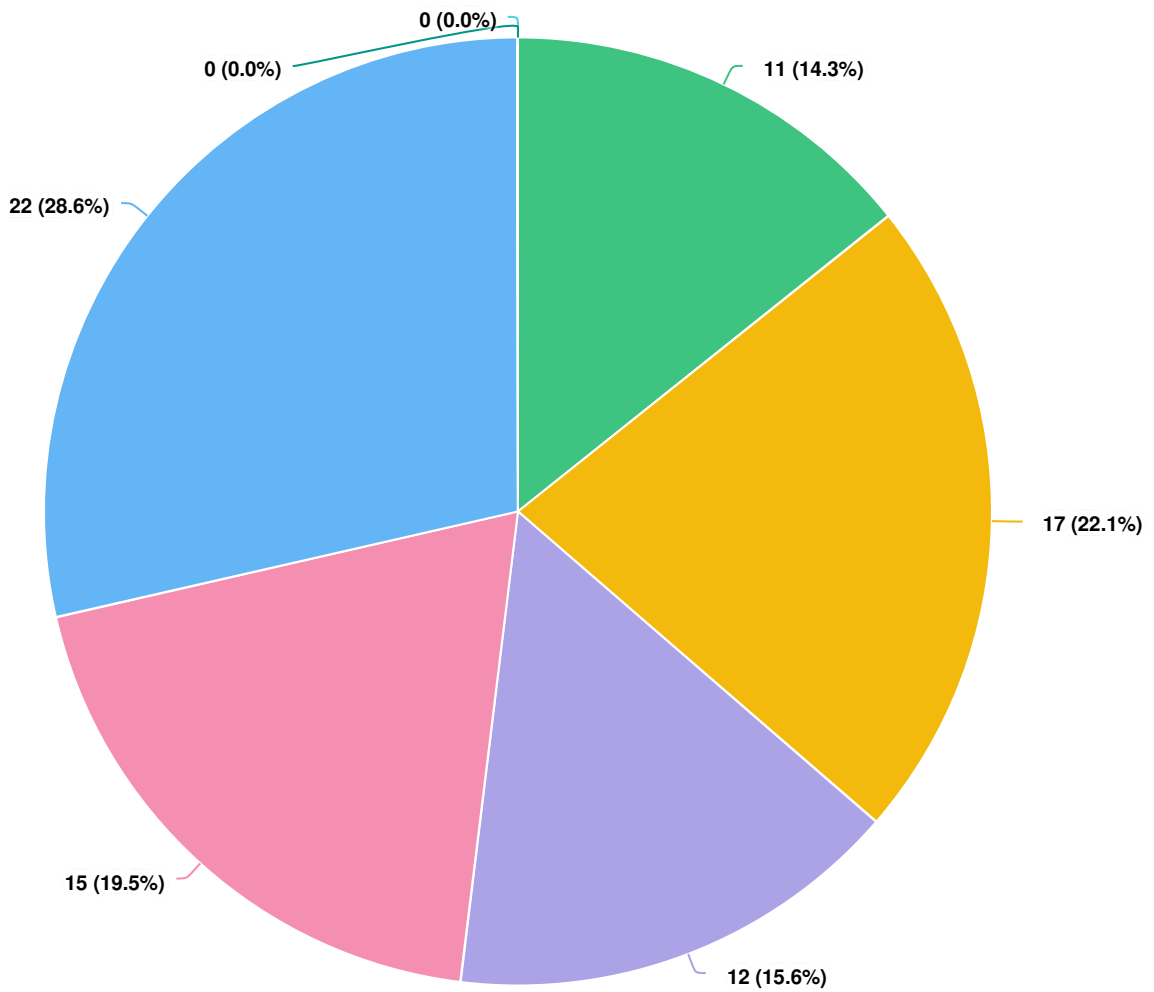


Question options

- Less than 5 years
- 5-10 years
- 11-20 years
- 21-30 years
- More than 30 years
- I have never lived in Austin

Optional question (79 response(s), 1 skipped)
Question type: Dropdown Question

Q12 What is your age range?

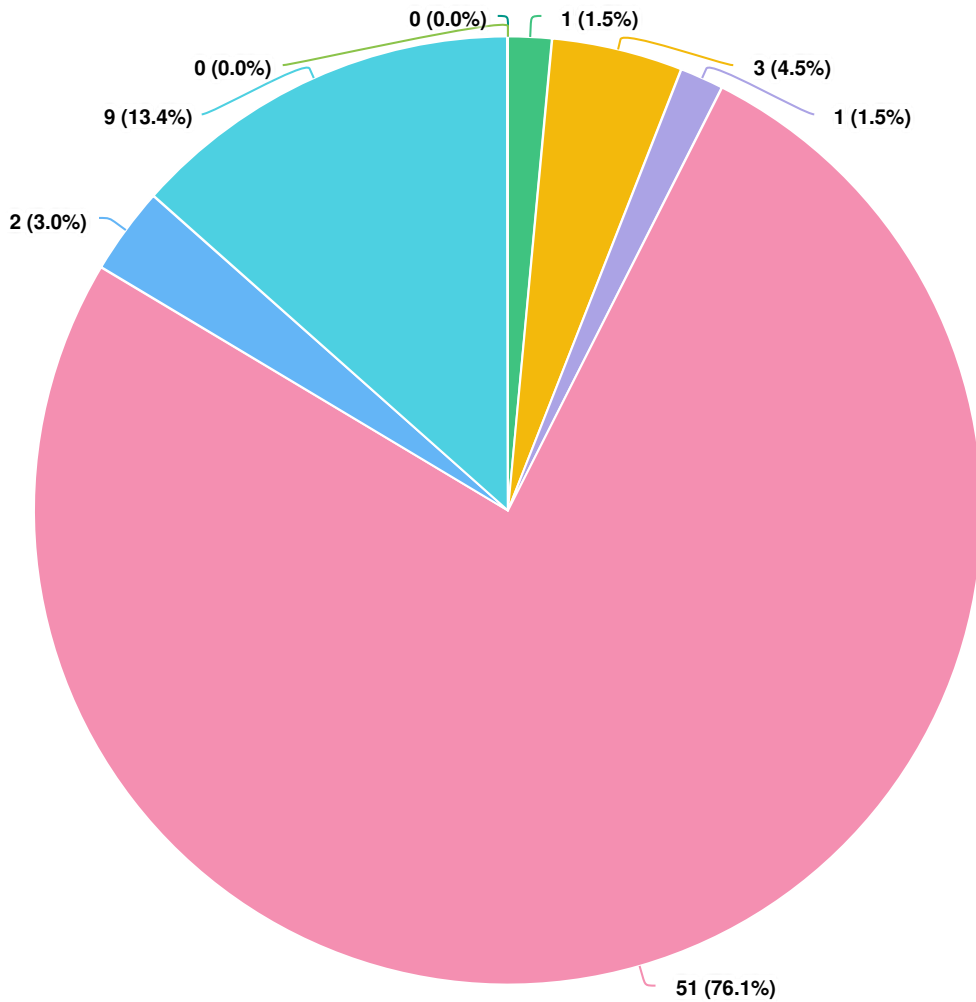


Question options

- 25-34
- 35-44
- 45-54
- 55-64
- 65+
- 17 or under
- 18-24

Optional question (77 response(s), 3 skipped)
Question type: Dropdown Question

Q13 What is your race/ethnicity?

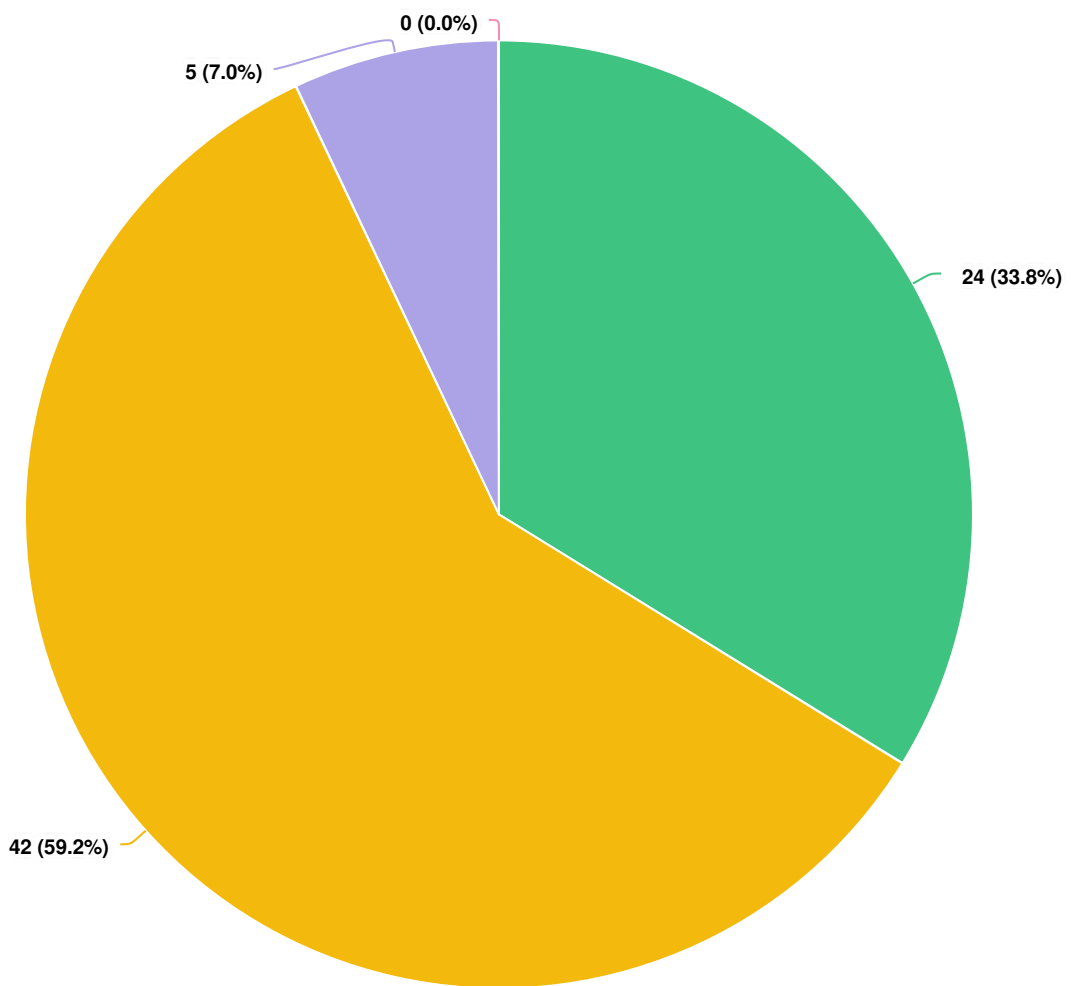


Question options

- Black or African-American
- Hispanic or Latinx
- Asian or Asian American
- White
- Biracial, Multiracial, or not listed
- I prefer not to answer
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander

Optional question (67 response(s), 13 skipped)
Question type: Dropdown Question

Q14 What is your gender?

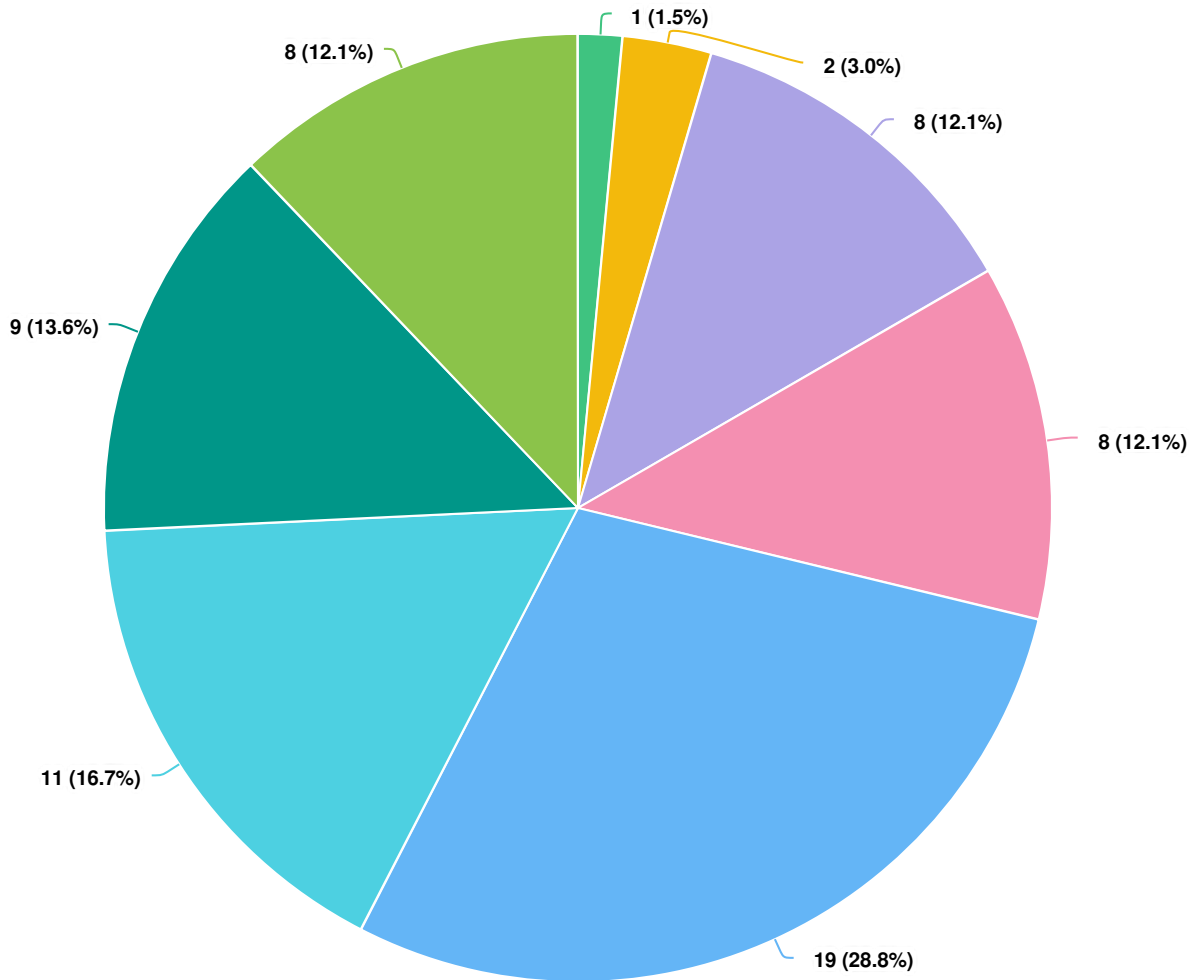


Question options

- Man
- Woman
- I prefer not to answer
- Non-binary

*Optional question (71 response(s), 9 skipped)
Question type: Dropdown Question*

Q15 What is your approximate household income?



Question options

- Under \$25,000
- \$25,000 to \$49,000
- \$50,000 to \$74,999
- \$75,000 to \$99,999
- \$100,000 to \$149,999
- \$150,000 to \$250,000
- More than \$250,000
- Prefer not to answer

Optional question (66 response(s), 14 skipped)
Question type: Dropdown Question

Q16 | **What language or languages are spoken at home?**

Anonymous English
8/04/2021 11:07 AM

Anonymous English
8/04/2021 04:04 PM

Anonymous english
8/04/2021 04:25 PM

Anonymous english
8/04/2021 04:56 PM

Anonymous English
8/04/2021 04:59 PM

Anonymous English, dog
8/04/2021 07:11 PM

Anonymous English and Spanish
8/04/2021 08:16 PM

Anonymous English
8/04/2021 08:23 PM

Anonymous English
8/04/2021 08:29 PM

Anonymous English
8/05/2021 09:45 AM

Anonymous English.
8/05/2021 09:50 AM

Anonymous English
8/05/2021 10:54 AM

Anonymous English

8/05/2021 06:46 PM

Anonymous English

8/05/2021 07:32 PM

Anonymous english

8/06/2021 10:56 AM

Anonymous English

8/06/2021 12:51 PM

Anonymous English

8/07/2021 09:18 AM

Anonymous English

8/07/2021 10:41 AM

Anonymous English

8/07/2021 11:52 AM

hmillar English

8/07/2021 12:01 PM

Anonymous English

8/07/2021 08:55 PM

Anonymous English

8/08/2021 02:25 PM

Anonymous English and Swedish

8/09/2021 07:37 AM

Anonymous English

8/10/2021 08:48 AM

Anonymous English

8/10/2021 08:33 PM

Anonymous English

8/11/2021 06:55 PM

Anonymous

8/11/2021 08:34 PM

English Spanish

Anonymous

8/12/2021 01:43 PM

English, Mandarin

Anonymous

8/13/2021 01:13 AM

English

Anonymous

8/16/2021 02:04 PM

english & spanish

Anonymous

8/18/2021 04:57 PM

english

Anonymous

8/18/2021 06:14 PM

English and Spanish

Anonymous

8/18/2021 08:55 PM

My great grandfather was the financial manager for the railroad to Bastrop and Houston. My granddather attended the German boy's school on Castle Hill. They lived in Waterloo, across from City Hall and watched as the new Capitol was built.

Anonymous

8/19/2021 12:21 PM

English

Anonymous

8/19/2021 12:38 PM

English

Anonymous

8/19/2021 12:40 PM

English

Anonymous

8/19/2021 07:03 PM

English

Anonymous

8/19/2021 07:26 PM

English

Anonymous

8/20/2021 06:36 AM

English

Anonymous

8/20/2021 09:52 PM

English

Anonymous

8/21/2021 10:53 AM

English

Anonymous

8/21/2021 06:56 PM

English

Anonymous

8/21/2021 07:16 PM

English & Yiddish

Anonymous

8/21/2021 09:26 PM

English

Anonymous

8/21/2021 10:08 PM

English

Anonymous

8/22/2021 10:12 AM

English

Anonymous

8/22/2021 10:54 AM

English and Spanish

Anonymous

8/22/2021 11:53 AM

English, Spanish, German and 30 computer languages

Anonymous

8/22/2021 12:38 PM

English, Mandarin

Anonymous

8/22/2021 12:43 PM

English

Anonymous

8/22/2021 12:53 PM

English

Anonymous

8/22/2021 12:55 PM

English, Mandarin

Anonymous

gibberish

8/22/2021 02:22 PM

Anonymous English

8/22/2021 02:46 PM

Anonymous English

8/22/2021 02:58 PM

Anonymous English/Spanish

8/22/2021 06:06 PM

Anonymous English

8/22/2021 06:24 PM

Anonymous English

8/22/2021 08:55 PM

Anonymous english

8/23/2021 10:42 AM

Anonymous English

8/23/2021 01:35 PM

Anonymous English

8/23/2021 02:09 PM

Anonymous English

8/23/2021 07:22 PM

Anonymous English

8/23/2021 08:47 PM

Anonymous English

8/23/2021 09:16 PM

Anonymous English

8/24/2021 04:51 AM

Anonymous English

8/24/2021 05:24 AM

Optional question (66 response(s), 14 skipped)

Question type: Single Line Question

Notes from the 8/7/21 Pop-up

Community feedback

Area 2/creek – would like more access to the creek if possible

Area 3 – multipurpose field

- There is not enough room for pick-up baseball – is it possible to expand the field to accommodate that use?

Area 5 – Pond

- several comments that the limestone wall near the dam was intended to be a waterfall. Could that be a part of the new design?
- Several people expressed support for keeping cypress trees

Area 7 – Is there an explicit plan to protect “carving rock”?

- Save the turtle (playground structure)
- Save the existing restroom – could be repurposed as a kiosk or interpretive area
- Tic tac toe is unplayable can it be repainted (will send maint request)
- Lots of graffiti in the area can we add signage or require picnic-ers to report graffiti

Area 10 Pickleball

- Distance between courts is too short
- Needs shade area
- There is typically 6-8 pickleball players in the park at a time

Area 12 – Like the expanded bridge.

- Concern about not enough pool parking
- Would like to keep parking/not have people parking in the neighborhood

Area 17 – bike playground

- Support this
- Like to have something like the Bentonville, AR example

Area 18 – Don’t understand what the limestone wall looks like – can you show an example

Area 19 – Add pedestrian entry at Elise Street (people already enter here and there is a goat trail leading into the park)

- This area currently has spring wildflowers – would like to keep them

Baseball parking – move dumpsters so they don’t impede drainage during flooding events

- Make lighting dark sky compliant

- Create more activation in this area
- Bike playground or picnic area could be in this area

Soccer – can there be a more clear area for soccer, with temporary, movable goals?

Overall

- Add a medium sized pavilion somewhere
- Would like a “village square”-type area for aging in place – somewhere I can go everyday and meet neighbors and have my coffee etc.

Notes from the 8/22/21 Pop-up

Community Feedback

Attendees:

Jospeph Reynolds, Mary Fero, Fred Scott, Joe Jones, Michael Dziak, Kerry Kimbrough, Greg Pierce, Julie Lame, Deborah Femat, Ranleigh Hirsh, Cynthia Keohane

Area 3 - Multipurpose Field

- Make sure the area can support use as a practice soccer field
- North Austin Soccer Association uses
- Dog owners also use
- Can it have more shade
- Is the multi-use area with the oval-shaped path around it large enough to support field play?

Area 5 - Pond

- Concerned about cypress trees/keep cypress trees (several)
- Need to first understand why pond quality has degenerated – has this study been done?
- Details of how maintenance will be worked out are very important – will Watershed provide a decent level of service to keep the pond as a recreational/natural amenity? They don't do this for other ponds – water quality mission takes precedence over aesthetics/human interface/habitat
- Keep the trees when enlarging the pond
- Concern about whether pond is a watershed asset or a PARD asset – should be first and foremost a recreational asset
- Ask for PARD budget to maintain the pond
- Neighborhood contact team for the pond will be set up – neighbors like to work on pond projects and it has been a unifying community focus in the past.

Area 6 – Restrooms

- What will be done with old restroom? Will it be repurposed or kept as a restroom
- Need for more facilities – do a study to see how many restrooms are needed

Area 13 – Ancillary spaces

- Provide good signage and wayfinding, better park ID signage
- Add benches

Area 17 – Bike playground

- Leave the area for more spontaneous things (soccer, yoga, dogs)
- Bike “racing” has been a problem in the park in the past (by adults not kids)

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Area 18 – Path/retaining wall

- How does this area work? Is it paved? Is there space for a path there?

Baseball parking

- Needs more activation to prevent nefarious activities

Parking overall

- Would like to see permeable pavers to protect water quality

Natural Character

- Keeping the park natural should be the overriding focus
- Should look at other means to improve natural function (adding mulch, soil restoration)





Dear Darcy,

Last night the Allandale Neighborhood Association Board of Directors adopted the attached resolution regarding the Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park Vision Plan. This resolution underscores our tremendous appreciation for the park and its treasured place at the heart of Allandale.

Neighbors and friends come to Northwest Park to enjoy nature in the midst of the city; to celebrate special occasions; to picnic and play; to walk, bike and swim; to play sports from baseball to basketball, tennis and pickleball; to relax at the pond's edge, and to delight in the aquatic and avian wildlife that have thrived in that habitat. The site's rich history also has made it an important part of Austin for generations.

In its 65-year history, Northwest Park has functioned under two plans: the original plan devised when the city purchased the land in 1955, and another in 1987, after the park was re-engineered and converted to serve as a retention pond. The changes brought about in 1987 dramatically altered the landscape of the park, and the pond has experienced increasingly adverse effects in recent years.

Given this new once-in-a generation opportunity to re-envision this beloved park, we are highly interested, motivated and eager to help devise a plan to provide improved amenities while remaining true to its original vision to honor the natural elements and history of this area. We also are conscious of the close proximity of neighbors who live adjacent to the park on all sides and want to assure that their voices and concerns are heard when it comes to adding features that could impinge on the privacy and peaceful enjoyment of their homes.

This resolution is meant to underscore ANA's commitment to supporting neighborhood participation and involvement and to ensure that impediments do not hinder that participation. We would welcome the opportunity to meet with you and other members of the Vision Plan team to further discuss our concerns, to share ideas, and to hear more about the proposals that PARD has put forward thus far. We look forward to talking with you in the near future.

Thank you and best regards,



Dear Kimberly,

I urge you to amend the Vision Plan for Beverly Sheffield NW District Park to both improve the duck pond (aerators, regular maintenance, etc.) AND protect the mature bald cypress trees around the pond. I was troubled to hear that the existing plan would either remove the trees to expand the pond or make no improvements to the pond whatsoever. In my opinion, neither option is desirable.

I live in Crestview, on the other side of Burnet Road, and my family and I visit the park often.

Ms. Nuffer,

Thank you for coming out to Northwest District Park on Saturday morning to discuss the Park Vision Plan and to receive input from the park users.

My name is Paul Medrano. I spoke to you about the pickleball courts. As I mentioned on Saturday, the proposed layout of the three pickleball courts was not going to work because it did not provide enough room to play. I gave you a copy of the USA Pickleball Association minimum outdoor court play area dimensions. The Park Vision Plan showed the courts abutting one another with no safety zone in between the courts. The 30' x 60' is the minimum play area for a 20' x 44' outdoor pickleball court. A better and safer overall playing area for each court is 34' x 64'. There also needs to be a fence that surrounds the pickleball courts, just like there is on the tennis courts, only not as high.

In the absence of a surveyed drawing of the proposed pickleball area, I went out with my 100' measuring tape to create a scaled drawing. I have attached a PDF of my drawing. My drawing shows the three pickleball courts with the safe playing zone to create a 30' x 60' play area. As you can see, tree #5049's canopy gets in the way. The existing canopy on the tennis court also gets in the way. My layout doesn't show any benches or shade structures, which would be needed. These of course will take up more room, which could be accomplished with some adjustments. These adjustments would not affect tree #5048 or the existing light pole.

I would welcome the opportunity to meet with you or your designed to discuss these issues, which are difficult to discuss in a email. I know this is a highly unusual request. Let me assure you I know all about public input procedures, project schedules and budgets. I am not like the elderly gentleman on Saturday who wanted to get rid of the vegetation around the pond and wanted PARD available on a minute's notice to come and deal with the graffiti in the park.

I am a retired architect, who retired from the City after 24 years of managing CIP Program projects in the Public Works Department. Many of those years were spent developing PARD CIP Projects with Stuart Strong.

I would welcome the opportunity to meet in person to discuss the needs of the pickleball players of Northwest District Park. We greatly out number the tennis players.

Thank you for your time.

I live 1/2 block from the park at 2507 Ellise Ave and I use the park at least 3 times a week.

Improvements I agree with:

1. Replace the bridge with a walker friendly surface
2. Replace the west side stairs by the basketball court
3. Replace the bathrooms with modest sized bathrooms and 2 water fountains
4. A safer walking entrance to the park from Albata St, #1
5. A walkway behind the baseball outfield, #15
6. A walkway on the northside hill but not next to the homes adjoining
7. A new playscape with areas for separate ages

Concepts not needed:

1. No boardwalk around the pond. It's a disturbance to the wildlife habitat.
2. No fruit trees, #13. Native, low maintenance tree varieties please.
3. No second bridge on the south side, #16. The existing bridge has an excellent location for crossing and those funds could be used for other needs.
4. Do not remove the baseball field's back fence. This should be debated with the Baseball League.
5. Add more picnic tables, particularly on the west side of the pool outside the fence.
6. No food trucks!
7. 172 parking spots will not accommodate the pool attendance numbers

Thank you .

I introduced myself to you this a.m. & said I would be sending you comments. This is the 1st of more to follow. I have lived in Brentwood &/or Allandale for over 30 years and have come to the park regularly since the early '80s. I now live 3 houses from the park, walk my dog in the park up to 2x day - looking at birds, butterflies, etc & I lead a 9-11 yr old bird walk in the park most Saturdays. I am a Serious bird watcher, previous Travis Audubon Board member, certified Master Naturalist, bird guide for Road Scholar for trips to Copper Canyon, bird guide for The Nature Conservancy in West TX 11 years and have worked monitoring birds in Big Bend National Park in 1995. SO I am ALWAYS watching the birds & habitat around me! And at my senior age, NW Park is where I go daily.

I am very concerned about your plans for the park habitat & pond! Are you aware that "Shoal Creek Beverly Sheffield NW Park" is an international ebird.org Hotspot? See this website: <https://ebird.org/hotspot/L520032?yr=all&m=&rank=hc> ((If this does not work try going to [ebird.org.texas/travis county hotspots.](https://ebird.org.texas/travis%20county%20hotspots))) Call me if you need help as the ebird website can be difficult to find hotspots:) In short, some of the best birders in Austin area at this site weekly & most live around here. Most of them are more serious birders than I am now. And all of us have documented huge numbers of species and some very rare birds around the pond & sometimes along Shoal Creek, but it is so toxic, few birds are seen the creek area. There are 537 complete checklists for this Hotspot with 177 species documented. Two species of herons have nested successfully on the island for the last few years. And NOTE, this species nest in trees, not sedges and water plants as shown in your photos of Mueller.

I know numerous people on 5 streets around the area that are very upset about your taking out the cypress trees - even just on the East side of the park. Are you ready for environmentalists chained to trees? ? ? Typical of Austin - spend buckets of money putting something in and then take it all out and start over 40 years later. (Yes, I was here for the 1981 flood & the mini flood (c.2017?) when water was 2+ ft deep on the tennis courts & from the courts to the pond was a big lake.) What happened to the plan to make a waterfall on the steps across from the pond in Shoal Creek to circulate water from the pond? That would have controlled the algae.

I appreciate that Shoal Crk Conservancy paid to attempt to get the algae out of the pond; however, I do NOT like that there were two teams of men banging around in a metal boat & running a loud pump to suck algae out of the water for 2 days monthly while two species of herons & other species were trying to nest on the island. When could they feed their young with all the activity? I know for a fact that a Green Heron was on a nest before they came in May & abandoned that particular nest on the NE side immediately after they were there! But they did successfully raise a brood of chicks this summer. Birds lives are short; where will these species nest and thrive in the years and years it will take PARD to complete this project and wait for trees to grow back?

Drew

The latest NW park final draft plan shows removal of some of our beautiful cypress trees from around the pond

And was disturbing to see.

Our park pond, framed with cypress trees, is the natural centerpiece of NWPark. It is the place to watch darting dragonflies,

birds, turtles and fish and a natural draw for children. It needs improvement. But at what cost? Where do the fish, birds, and turtles go when

the pond is drained to create an administratively correct water quality pond? The current draft enlarging the pond shows

removal of many trees and I believe the number given during the presentation was 6-8. One is too many.

How can a natural feature be improved upon when removing

The very elements which are the basic part of it's appeal and also a major park asset? Tree removal for park improvements is unacceptable.

Surely there is a way to Improve the water quality, trail, and preserve the trees and wildlife habitat of the pond. Creative solutions must be explored.

Your attention to this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Peggy Maceo

Allandale

Darcy,

First of all, thanks for listening to Austin Ridge Riders and likeminded neighbors throughout the Vision Plan Process.

A little off-topic, but I personally, am an attorney with Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, and we do a lot of meetings with the public, so I understand the challenges you are facing.

The big picture is that our club wants kids-biking and adult mountain biking (including BMX style) in various places in the Austin area. If it turns out that Sheffield is not the best place, that is ok with me as long as we get some solid commitments with other vision planning for other parks—at the moment our group plans on having some high level meetings with PARD management on the topic.

As far as Sheffield though, I'm very agreeable to different scale designs. I grew up in Austin (in Barton Hills), and as a resident in Crestview (Nextdoor to Allandale) with two small children I'm very attuned to the proliferation of family biking in the Crestview and Allandale area but with a corresponding lack of kids-biking destinations. Yet, at the same time, I recognize that a certain scale facility is worth the effort, while a too-toned-down facility may not yield the PR benefits we seek. Small kids BMX and MTB spots tend to succeed when they are next to adult facilities; but on their own, they tend to fail for lack of context. So, all this to say, I am open to some very high level discussions, that will be occurring alongside City-wide efforts.

I think certain areas of Sheffield, such as reclaiming existing asphalt parking may prove to present the most advantages with the least drawbacks. I totally recognize that Area 17 is currently used by dog training clubs, and frankly, Austin Ridge Riders does not want to be in direct opposition to dog owners. I do think there are still several areas of the park (including very close to Area 17—existing asphalt) that could work for the “Bicycle Playground.”

Thanks for listening!

Cullen
Austin Ridge Riders

Thank you for your VM and follow-up e-mail. We are all doing well on our end. I hope that continues to be the case in the future. I wanted to share some updates from the team below. I hope it's helpful. I have placed comments in RED and in BLUE.

Just to provide you additional information to add on to Charles' comments, PARD is currently discussing how the best way to address public participation in a master planning process in the near future. We are experimenting with other current planning processes and trying to see what is working and not working before we begin another master planning process like NW District Park , which is high on our list of priorities. We should have a clearer idea as to what our master planning process will look like come June 2020. In the meantime, please feel free to contact me with any specific questions.

Ricardo Soliz

Division Manager – Park Planning
Austin Parks and Recreation Department
512-974-9452
Ricardo.Soliz@austintexas.gov

Ricardo – We had tentatively planned to start the NW master plan mid-year (June or July) with the hope that Watershed's project would be far enough along to go somewhat in parallel. Even if the Watershed project was behind, we felt that we should start the master plan process anyway, but given our current state we should probably discuss further.

Darcy – Do you know how Watershed's project is going?

Thanks.

Charles Mabry, PLA

Parks and Recreation Department | City of Austin

Hi All,

I checked in with Annabell when we received the CAPPs. Watershed is currently working on finalizing the consultant's proposal for final PER, so they are still very early in their process.

I've asked to see the proposal when it's ready to share, and will provide an update at that time.

Thanks,
Darcy

Hi, Ricardo and Darcy. I hope you and the rest of your team are doing well. We definitely have found ourselves in uncharted territory - trying to stay isolated, or at least within safe social distance.

During this time, the parks have provided some ability for people to get out, at least for a walk. I'm happy to report that on a rare walk, I observed that the pond was continuing to provide enjoyment and solace for children and adults who pause to gaze into the water and look for fish, turtles, frogs and birds.

I had to take a break from the park for a while, and I'm sure you have been grappling with your own personal and workplace challenges. But now I'm following up on the voice message I left for Ricardo this morning, and would welcome the opportunity to speak with either of you about what you see on the horizon (if you do) for Northwest Park.

This was prompted in part by a message I received from an Allandale resident who wrote to inform Ranleigh, Kata and myself that she recently submitted a CAPP related to tree planting around the pond. I also wanted to touch base about the environmental review being undertaken as part of the dam restoration project and my recently gained understanding of what a "water quality" designation actually means.

I am generally available (no pressing social engagements!) and would appreciate talking with you at your convenience.

Take care, and thank you,

Allendale Neighborhood Association Parks Committee
Friends of Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park

p.s. Don't recall if I gave you any update on the Spring It's My Park Day activities. Though it seems like a lifetime ago, it was a huge success - nearly 90 volunteers. Here are a few photos. The 20 yards of mulch for the playground and trail restoration was particularly appreciated after our heavy spring rains. And most impressive was the hillside erosion control project to shore up the hillside with the planting of 116 native grass plants, topped with 10 yards of nutrient mulch. Here are a few photos - hope you enjoy.

And, here's a new baby turtle ... trying to keep the life cycle going.

Hello:

I have lived next to Northwest Park for nearly nine years. I am so happy to see our beloved park is getting a facelift:) However, I am concerned about one of the proposed changes.

I see on Concept A that a bike playground is suggested on land that is not directly connected to the park, but rather on a small plot of land that is on Shoal Creek Blvd. It is my understanding this land is protected greenbelt and that houses were once on this land before those houses were flooded and never rebuilt due to flooding concerns.

I am very concerned that a bike playground or any type of playground or bike ramp is suggested for this small plot of land for a variety of reasons. I request that any new bike playgrounds or any playgrounds or ramps are included inside Northwest Park and not in the small plot of land on Shoal Creek Blvd. Using this land on Shoal Creek Blvd for a bike playground is dangerous because:

-The land is on Shoal Creek Blvd and is not connected to the park itself or a parking lot. Shoal Creek Blvd is a very busy road with many, many cars and many bikers. Because this land has nearly no parking connected to it, people will have to park across the street in front of houses and cross Shoal Creek Blvd. This is very dangerous.

-The creek runs just behind the proposed bike playground with no barrier. A child could easily fall in.

-The plot of land is surrounded by houses. Expect many homeowners to complain about the extra crowds, parking, noise, trash etc.

-There is a lot of wildlife in and near that small plot of land that will be disrupted.

-The plot of land can flood if Shoal Creek gets too high.


Again, I am not opposed to the addition of a bike playground itself, I just feel that the placement of the bike playground in the small plot of land on Shoal Creek Blvd is very dangerous and very disruptive for the neighboring homes. Please move the bike playground inside the park. I know there are groups that are asking for bike ramps and that is awesome but the proposed placement is not safe or neighborhood friendly.

Thank you for listening,

Hi, I attended a couple of the vision plan meetings. I wanted to make sure you saw my comment in the chat about signage TO NW Park (as opposed to signage IN NW Park).

It's really incredible that now, there is only one sign to the park on Daugherty. There should also be signs on Burnet Rd and Shoal Creek Blvd at least. IMHO, there could be signs on Richcreek and other streets as well. Whatever drives more people to the park.

Community Activated Park Projects (CAPP)

Date Submitting Application	Thursday, May 16, 2019
Partner Organization or Neighborhood Group Name:	Friends of Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park
Community Activated Project Proposals with a budget over \$2,000 are reviewed on a quarterly basis by the PARD Review Committee (projects with a budget under this threshold will be reviewed on a monthly basis). Applications must be received by the last day of the previous quarter to be reviewed in the upcoming quarter. Indicate the quarter you are applying for review. If you are applying for an APF grant, please apply 3 weeks prior to the APF deadline and your proposal will be reviewed for feasibility.	April
Contact Name for Project Proposal	MARY FERO
Secondary Contact	RANLEIGH HIRSH
Park/Facility Name:	Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park
Location of Project in Park:	Pond
Email	mefaus@aol.com
Phone Number	(512) 922-8947
Please choose the option(s) below that best describe the project you are proposing:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landscaping • Additional Park Features • Park/Trail Enhancements • Other
If "Other", please describe:	The Friends of Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park proposes a series of projects aimed at restoring, maintaining, protecting and preserving the pond at Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park. Please see Addendum for details.
Which choice below best describes the current phase of the project you're proposing:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Idea • Applying for Funds • Design/Conceptual • "Shovel Ready" • Other
Have you been in contact with anyone from PARD on this project proposal? If yes, please provide name:	Kerri Thompson, Jodi Jay
Written Description of the Proposal:	
Please see Addendum attached under "Before Picture" for more extensive details ...	
<p>The Friends of Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park proposes a series of projects aimed at restoring, maintaining, protecting and preserving the pond at Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park. This multi-purpose and multi-pronged objective requires communication, planning and work in tandem with the City of Austin to re-establish the pond's accessibility, restore its natural beauty, and reinvigorate its habitat to support wildlife. The ultimate goal is to ensure continued enjoyment of the pond, which has existed at least since the surrounding 31 acres of parkland was acquired in 1955. This call for attention and action is due to the severe degradation of the water quality and physical structure of the pond.</p> <p>In the short-term, we stand ready to take action on measures (such as volunteer efforts to remove plant growth and to install an aeration system) that could literally breathe new life into the pond. In the long-term, work to restore the pond should include dredging, rebuilding the retaining wall and, most significantly, ensuring a permanent source of water.</p> <p>Major capital improvement projects planned for the park by the Watershed Protection and Aquatic departments may enhance opportunities to achieve our objectives to significantly restore or rebuild and re-channel the pond. Alternatively, they could threaten its very existence unless the future of the pond is built into the planning for these other major projects.</p>	
Before Picture: Please provide a picture of the park/area/equipment you're proposing to improve.	 pondatnwpark_cappaddendum_05162019.pdf <small>809.34 KB · PDF</small>
Draft Long-Term Maintenance Plan:	Semi-annual, ongoing volunteer efforts (in conjunction with It's My Park Day / Keep Austin Beautiful) to maintain the area surrounding the pond will include mulching, removal of invasive species on the bank, continued planting of beneficial native plants as needed, removal of invasive aquatic plants – requiring support from PARD if water entry is required.
Desired Project Timeline:	Work to remove duck weed and alligator weed – as much as can be reached from the bank – could be organized in the very near term. Installation of an aeration system within weeks. Other major projects will involve planning efforts of City staff in Watershed Protection and Aquatic departments in a multi-year restoration effort.
Project Proposal Funding Plan:	Grant funding would be requested for purchase and installation of aeration system needs. Restoration and rebuilding of pond and ensuring a permanent future water source would be done in conjunction with major capital improvement projects scheduled for the park and pool. These projects would require City funding and support.
Design: Do you have a professional designer to develop detailed plans and cost estimates for the project or will you be requesting PARD support?	We have not engaged a professional designer for aeration system installation at this point, given the need for PARD approval and input into the plans. Initial ballpark estimates for purchase and installation were approximately \$7-10,000.
Project Management: Do you have a professional designer or project manager to manage and implement the project or will you be requesting PARD support for project management?	PARD support would be required for approval installation and maintenance of the aeration system.

If applicable, please list any resources or needs you are seeking from PARD to assist with implementing this project concept: Please see Addendum

PARD strives to leverage community resources and collaboration opportunities to further the mission of the department. Please provide information on how you see this project as an opportunity to collaborate with other partners. Indicate which partners and why?

The following list includes organizations that we can reach out to for volunteer support and collaboration on educational and recreational activities. Representatives of most of these groups have been involved in previous volunteer activities, and a restored pond would provide opportunities for additional recreation and educational focus. Recently, for example, a local fishing organization distributed flyers at a local school related to fishing lessons and suggested this pond as a practice location. In past years, the pond was stocked and fishing derbies were held, sponsored by Austin Aqua Festival and local scouting organizations. There also is a lot of interest from photographers, birders and simply parents with young children who are interested in seeing fish and turtles in a natural setting.

Friends of Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park
Allandale Neighborhood Association
Neighborhood associations within the district area
Adopt-a-Park groups, specifically Austin Contractors and Engineers Association
Local Scout groups
Fishing and wildlife organizations
Local schools

Is there community support for the project from the neighborhood and other park users/stakeholders? Explain.

In the past two years, there have been several volunteer works days to support the pond. Dozens of volunteers have eagerly participated at each event, and we anticipate increased enthusiasm as efforts to restore the accessibility and beauty of the pond begin to be realized.
In past years, scouts were involved in pond clean-up efforts, employing canoes to help remove debris. Visitors to the pond regularly offer to help, and we look forward to being able to offer them the opportunity to participate once PARD has approved a plan for community participation.

City Council affirmed both a strategic vision and six strategic outcomes to guide the City of Austin over the next 3-5 years. Listed below are the strategic outcomes. Please choose the outcome(s) that best align with your project proposal.

- Economic Opportunity and Affordability
- Mobility
- Safety
- Health and Environment
- Culture and Lifelong Learning
- Government that works

Explain how:

Maintaining the pond at Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park serves the needs of a broad segment of Austin's population. Easily accessible by pedestrians, bicyclists, drivers and bus riders, people from areas well beyond the immediate vicinity visit the park and it is common to see people from many areas and backgrounds enjoying the pond. The popularity of such water features is evident in newer ponds such as at the Mueller development and Central Park.

Eliminating the solid-appearing surface of vegetation and restoring the retaining wall and sidewalk areas will ensure safe approach for young children.

Maintaining clean water supports the natural habitat and will ensure that children and pets can safely enjoy being near the pond. Cleaner water may also improve the water discharged into Shoal Creek.

The habitat of birds, turtle and fish provide a natural learning environment for children. Parents teach children how to fish. Photographers share photos of interesting species, including macrophotography of insects. The serenity of simply sitting by the pond to read, picnic or relax in quiet contemplation offers respite from the increasingly urban setting in which we find ourselves in Austin.

Working together with the various departments that have input or jurisdiction over the pond - PARD, Aquatic, Watershed Protection - provides the ability to leverage funds already targeted for improvements at the park. This is unique opportunity for city departments to coordinate planned major projects to incorporate funding and restoration work for the pond.

We hope this document can begin the conversation that leads to collaborative action among City staff and neighborhood supporters to ensure that the pond is restored and will remain a vibrant part of Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park in perpetuity.

I have read and understand the PARD Review Committee reviews project proposals on a quarterly basis and I have provided all applicable information requested. Yes, I understand.

CAUTION: This email was received at the City of Austin, from an EXTERNAL source. Please use caution when clicking links or opening attachments. If you believe this to be a malicious and/or phishing email, please forward this email to CSIRT@austintexas.gov.

08-06-21

Greetings,

This is about the tree removal and other changes being considered at Sheffield NW Park in Allandale. I've lived and worked in Austin a long time, paid humongous property taxes, served in government offices, and currently serve on the Allandale Neighborhood Association Board.

Please see the attached photos I took of a snowy egret earlier this year. I visit the park and I urge you not to do anything to remove any trees or do anything to disturb the tree canopy. I heard that there is discussion about removing several bald cypress trees in or near the pond, and frankly I cannot imagine why. Cypress trees thrive well enough in watery areas (such as the swamps of New Orleans).

I encourage you and all the team working on this Vision Plan to visit the entire park in person, on foot, in order to have a better grasp of what might actually need improving for safety needs or pond aeration (badly needed!), and what can frankly be left well enough alone. The natural setting and flow of the park is an essential part of its charm.

I sent this email in, as part of my input, I left out the Pond as one of the most important nature areas of North West Park !

It is definitely a keeper, it brings a cool, calm, and most beautiful feature to the Park, it is spring fed by Edwards Aquifer

There seems to be a well/spring in the pond(?). State Well Number 5843105 is shown in the Pond at Texas Water Development Board. (data is from 1973 when GPS was not around then...) COA should have better info. The well/spring head may be at the pool, near the filters(?) The pool used to be spring fed, and they would dump the pool water down the creek in the old days.

<https://www3.twdb.texas.gov/apps/waterdatainteractive/GetReports.aspx?Num=5843105&Type=GWDB>

The Pond is a great place to relax, decompress. Usually there are various wild birds there. What some people call slime my daughter says is really small plants with 2 leaves that float on top, they it sell at fish stores for aquariums. The plants clean the water.

I'm attaching some photos at the NW Park Pond that I have taken, reduced in size. (If you want to use any, I can send full size)

Three Turtles on the Island
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron
Green Heron
Wood Duck
In the Shoal Creek wooded flood way, a Barred Owl

I do like your work at Pease Park

Hi Justin, Darcy

I thought I would send you this so you could forward it on

North West District Park Plans

I just noticed in the latest plan that the picnic area was moved way across the creek.

The current picnic area is used every weekend by many families for birthdays, etc and the kids go and play on the playscapes next to the picnic area. Just go and check any Saturday or Sunday. It also gives Adults sitting areas for the playscapes.

This is one of the major uses of the park, and imperative the two stay together, it is a family thing. Lunch or dinner with the family in the park next to the playscapes.

I can see how this relationship of picnic area and playscape got lost in the planning process, but we should take the time to correct it, it will be seen as a major mistake.

I sent this email in, as part of my input, I left out the Pond as one of the most important nature areas of North West Park !

It is definitely a keeper, it brings a cool, calm, and most beautiful feature to the Park, it is spring fed by Edwards Aquifer

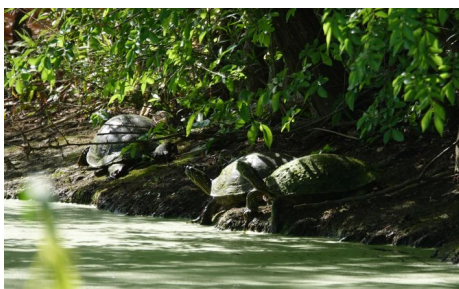
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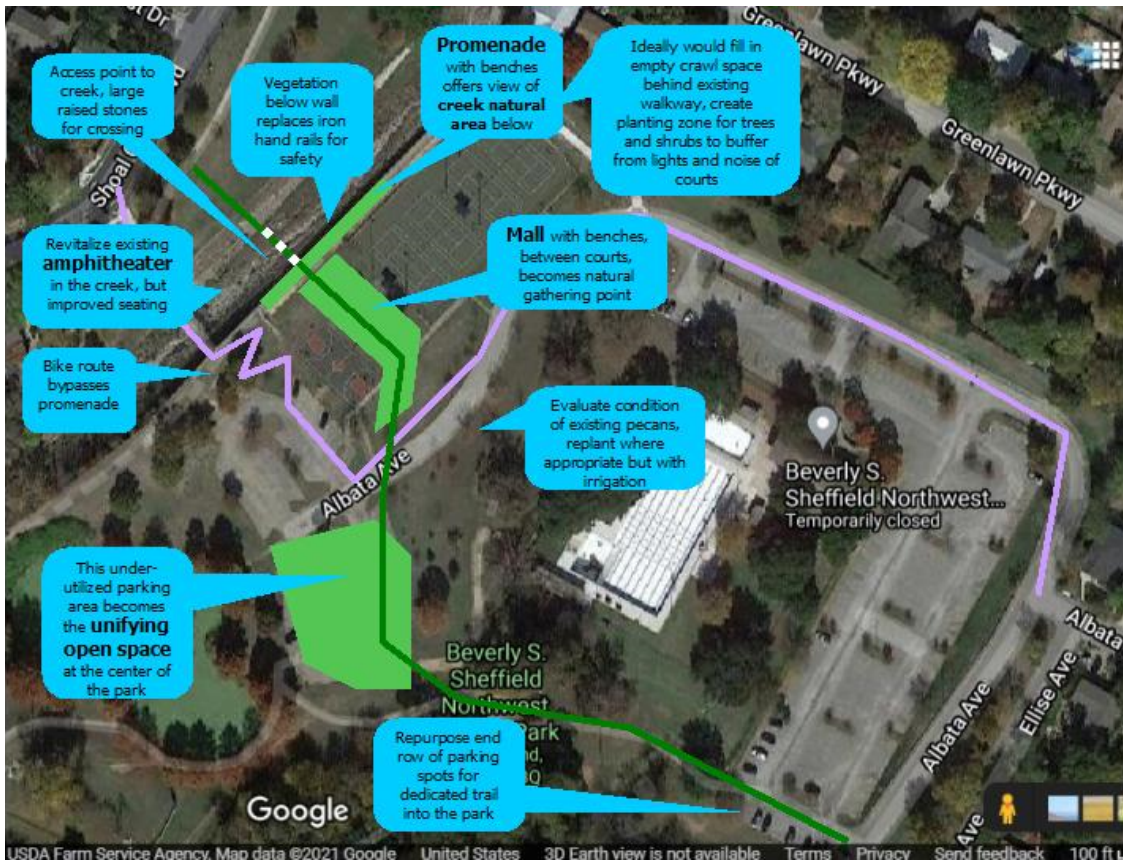
I'm attaching some photos at the NW Park Pond that I have taken, reduced in size. (If you want to use any, I can send full size)

Three Turtles on the Island
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron
Green Heron
Wood Duck
In the Shoal Creek wooded flood way, a Barred Owl



I do like your work at Pease Park

Hi Darcy, I worked this up after looking at the project values draft. It speaks to all of the main ones - connectivity, nature, recreation.



Darcy,

Is there any space in the Sheffield Park plan to put a permanent ping pong table? Maybe on the west side of the creek where there will just be a couple picnic tables?

I had brought up an older issue of needing wood planks put on the Bridge across Shoal Creek in NW Park.

Attached are two photos, one of the bridge at Silverway with the boards, and the other of the NW Park Bridge without the boards. I believe both bridges were put in about the same time (1986?) Somehow they got forgotten.

Without the boards, slippery when wet, looking down 25 feet is scary for some, extra noise, and not professional for a City Park.

Perhaps a placing a Park sign at this entrance like the others ?



Dear All,

At our ANA board meeting last week, an elderly neighbor approached me about the trails on the walking path on the dam - from the concession stand to the pedestrian bridge. One area nearest the concession stand turns into a rather large pool when it's wet, and several other areas have standing water and get very muddy. I've attached some photos (lacking pix near the foot bridge and along the middle of the path).

There's also a problem with the muddy, washed-out area close to the bench on the southwest edge of the pond (opposite the parking lot) - though that may fall into a different category of potential solutions.

The man I spoke with walks daily and said he's been trying to get something done for years. While these concerns may be addressed in a much grander way in the new master plan, it would be great to get something done in the short term. Could the City provide some fill dirt and gravel for the trail in the areas that are the worst?

I spoke briefly with Annabell Ullary in Watershed about this, and it didn't raise concerns for her as long as it didn't impact the dam.

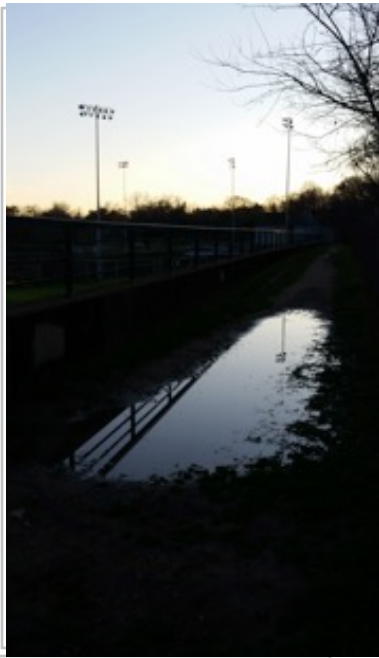
Would you please let us know what might be done and whether there is anything ANA or Friends of the Park could do to help keep the trails passable?

Thank you for your consideration.

p.s. please excuse if you've received multiple copies of this emails. I had trouble sending.

Photos - Left to Right

1. Trail at concession stand 2. Trail end (above open field) toward concession 3. Middle of trail 4. Trail end nearest pond 5. Southeast area of pond



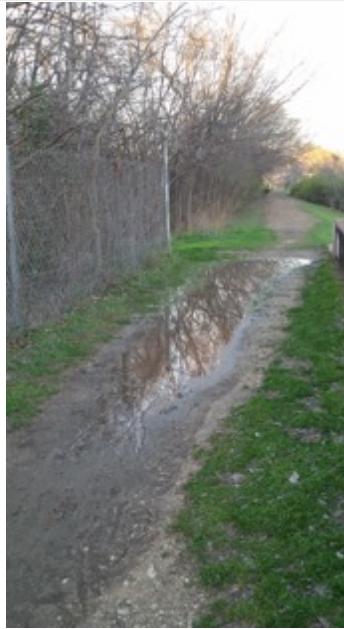
1.

2

3.



4.



5.



*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

I'm concerned about the proposal that enlarges the pond at the expense of cypress trees.

I'm familiar with the park. I was on the Allandale Neighborhood Assn board when it was decided to excavate and provide Shoal Creek flood flow retention. How that came about is a longer story for another e-mail.

I'm also familiar with the pond as it is now. Last October I took water samples when we did a water quality study to look at contaminants.

You should change your plans and not impact the cypress trees. If you need volume, you can dredge deeper in other less sensitive places. If you need surface area, you have lots of shoreline that will leave the trees unaffected.

Listen to the Neighbors. Stop publishing polls/surveys that check a box for 'public engagement' and then do what you want. Yes, working with the public is messy, yes there are multiple opinions, but your place in things is as "Public Servant". You are expert servants, but it is often that some in the neighborhood are more expert than you. That story goes as far back as the excavation of the park, and the City abandoning its' plan to channelize the Shoal Creek after the 1981 Memorial Day Flood. Allandale supplied the experts for the approach that was adopted - flood water retention/detention.

We should exchange opinions so that you understand the neighbor's views.

We can have other discussions, like the idea of routing traffic through a parking lot.

Good afternoon,

My name is Lauren, and I am the social media manager for Austin Transportation. I got some community feedback that I'd like to pass on to you:

Hey! I don't think I'll be able to attend the community meetings in regards to the Beverly Sheffield NW Hills Park, so here's a few suggestions I have for the area: Add recycled tire trails to all the current dirt trails, they get far too muddy with even the slightest amount of rain Formalize the path at the back of the park (and make it out of tires or some other similar material) and make sure the barriers to it don't get put up again Keep the little BMX hill things! Some kids made a bunch of little BMX hills out of clay being stored there (for some reason) and I'd love to see them stay

Ms. Nuffer,

Thank you for your reply email. As I mentioned the drawing showed the minimum court requirements. The court dimensions are a safety issue.

I would also like to discuss with the design team the location of the benches and the shade canopies. These have to be located in a way different than with the ones on the tennis courts.

Our group would be willing to contribute to the cost of removing the tree and planting new ones in the park. I know donations cannot go directly into the CIP Funding, so we could contract it out with a company approved by your team and the City Arborist.

Thanks so much for meeting in the park with us last week and for this follow up email. I have shared it with the design team, who will follow up with you if they have more questions.

Best regards,

Darcy

Darcy Nuffer, RLA, ISA-TX, LEED AP

Landscape Architect

Park Planning

Parks and Recreation Department

512-974-9460

Darcy.Nuffer@austintexas.gov

Ms. Nuffer,

Thank you for coming out to Northwest District Park on Saturday morning to discuss the Park Vision Plan and to receive

input from the park users.

My name is Paul Medrano. I spoke to you about the pickleball courts. As I mentioned on Saturday, the proposed layout of the three pickleball courts was not going to work because it did not provide enough room to play. I gave you a copy of the USA Pickleball Association minimum outdoor court play area dimensions. The Park Vision Plan showed the courts abutting one another with no safety zone in between the courts. The 30' x 60' is the minimum play area for a 20' x 44' outdoor pickleball court. A better and safer overall playing area for each court is 34' x 64'. There also needs to be a fence that surrounds the pickleball courts, just like there is on the tennis courts, only not as high.

In the absence of a surveyed drawing of the proposed pickleball area, I went out with my 100' measuring tape to create a scaled drawing. I have attached a PDF of my drawing. My drawing shows the three pickleball courts with the safe playing zone to create a 30' x 60' play area. As you can see, tree #5049's canopy gets in the way. The existing canopy on the tennis court also gets in the way. My layout doesn't show any benches or shade structures, which would be needed. These of course will take up more room, which could be accomplished with some adjustments. These adjustments would not affect tree #5048 or the existing light pole.

I would welcome the opportunity to meet with you or your designed to discuss these issues, which are difficult to discuss

in a email. I know this is a highly unusual request. Let me assure you I know all about public input procedures, project schedules and budgets. I am not like the elderly gentleman on Saturday who wanted to get rid of the vegetation around the pond and wanted PARD available on a minute's notice to come and deal with the graffiti in the park.

I am a retired architect, who retired from the City after 24 years of managing CIP Program projects in the Public Works Department. Many of those years were spent developing PARD CIP Projects with Stuart Strong.

I would welcome the opportunity to meet in person to discuss the needs of the pickleball players of Northwest District Park. We greatly outnumber the tennis players.

Hi, Annabell. I'm sorry it has taken such a long time for me to respond to your last email. It would be an understatement to say that the past couple of months have been anything but normal. I don't doubt that you have stayed busy nonetheless.

I recently noticed that PARD updated the link to the Vision Plan for Northwest Park with targeted dates for upcoming community outreach events. I plan to let folks know about these opportunities in the *Allandale Neighbor* April newsletter. I've recently communicated with Darcy Nuffer and also wanted to touch base with you to see if there is any specific information from your department that I might include for the benefit of Allandale residents. Clearly, knowing more about potential changes to the park will provide better understanding and context to enable more meaningful comments from area residents during the Vision Plan process.

As I recently shared with Darcy, I would be remiss not to again mention my concerns about converting the "amenity" pond into a stormwater collection basin. When I previously asked about the biological impacts of doing so, I didn't receive an answer to address that concern. To the contrary, Watershed Protection's web site features a pond maintenance brochure that cautions against recreational activities associated with stormwater ponds.

<https://www.austintexas.gov/department/field-operations>

Wet pond

This type of control has a permanent pool of water. It is designed to capture and hold stormwater runoff to allow settling of suspended solids and removal of pollutants through plant uptake. These controls are not meant for recreational activities such as swimming and fishing.

Although people don't swim in the pond, dogs often do, and small children frequently have their hands in the water. In years past, fishing derbies were held here, and families from past to present have brought children to the pond to learn to fish.

I've mentioned that before the 1984 re-engineering of the park there were springs in the park. It still seems that it would be worthwhile to explore supplementing the pond with well water, as is done in a very successful way at the pond in the Travis Country subdivision.

This project will have an impact for the coming decades. I'm thankful for your work to protect Austin residents and safeguard property from flooding; I only hope that your solutions also will ensure the future enjoyment of the park and the pond as it was envisioned from its inception 65 years ago. I've had countless conversations with people at the park about the pond, and I can assure you it remains a well-loved feature. We look forward to receiving more information and continuing to work cooperatively with you as the work evolves.

Mary,

The final analysis of the current state of the dam, from an engineering perspective, is well on its way. We are expecting to have a draft report from our engineering consultant, HDR, Inc., within the next couple of weeks. The draft report and analysis will be reviewed by Watershed Protection staff and HDR (the consultant) will be continuing coordination efforts with permitting agencies/departments. The final report for this evaluation phase is expected around mid-summer.

To provide specific answers to your questions I have copied them into this email and added a response in red:

- When will you identify to the public the area in which the project work will focus? The main focus of the project from Watershed Protection (WPD) is the dam embankment that is between Shoal Creek and the Park. There will also likely be some work around the concrete flumes near the tennis court and around the duck pond, but at this time I do not know the extent of this work. This final analysis is needed to identify, in more detail, the extent of the work that is needed to bring the dam up to TCEQ standards. Once this analysis is completed WPD will be able to share more specifics about the maintenance and modernization work that is needed.
- When will you identify to the public the scope of the work? The scope of work for the Northwest Park Dam Maintenance and Modernization project is to bring the dam into compliance with TCEQ standards.
- When will you release information to the public about the firms contracted to work on this project? As I mentioned at the start of this email, HDR, Inc. is the current engineering consultant on this project.
- Finally, the project web page mentions your coordination with PARD in the new master plan process. Have you decided how Watershed will be involved with the Vision Plan process for Northwest Park, which I understand is scheduled to begin in the coming weeks? I have had monthly meetings with PARD staff in order to coordinate both department's efforts to improve the conditions in and around this park. These coordination discussions have included coordinating project schedules, ideas about public outreach, and the

interaction/overlap between the two projects. At this time there have been high level planning discussions, but now that PARD has their consultant on board and HDR is halfway through WPD's final analysis, PARD and myself can work on ironing out more of the details on how this coordination will work, internally and to the public.

As always please let me know if you have any additional questions or if you want to schedule a time to talk more about this project.

Thank you,

Annabell Ulary, P.E., CFM

City of Austin - Watershed Protection Department

Watershed Engineering Division

annabell.ulary@austintexas.gov

Please note, as a response to COVID-19 I am currently teleworking and have limited access to my desk phone. If you would like to discuss any information in this email, please schedule a time with me via email to meet/talk virtually.

Good morning, Annabell. I hope this finds you well.

Neighbors are inquiring about the Shoal Creek - Northwest Park Dam Rehabilitation and Modernization Project, and I'm writing to ask if you have any updates to share.

Previously you indicated that you were unable to release details about the project to the public. But, of course, folks want to know what is planned for the park and the pond and how that may affect what is happening in their own "back yards."

This past year, in particular, there has been a significant increase in park use, and it seems folks have developed a new appreciation for the jewel that sits in the middle of our neighborhood.

To that end:

When will you identify to the public the area in which the project work will focus?

When will you identify to the public the scope of the work?

When will you release information to the public about the firms contracted to work on this project?

Finally, the project web page mentions your coordination with PARD in the new master plan process. Have you decided how Watershed will be involved with the Vision Plan process for Northwest Park, which I understand is scheduled to begin in the coming weeks?

Thank you as always for your consideration and assistance, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Dear Darcy,

thank you and your team for the great pop-up meeting last Saturday. What unusual times we are experiencing. I do hope that everyone in your world is COVID-19 free and will continue to remain healthy despite this horrible variant.

The concepts I picked up on, and wanted to pass along:

- What happened to the waterfall feature that was in the original plan for the pond? circa 1988ish with the original remodel for flood control
- Is there a possibility to have solar panels act as the shade over the walkway along the creek bed, behind the tennis courts. The revised plans indicate some type of awnings for shade. Solar panels might be used to provide electricity for the amenities in the park

thanks again. I look forward to following this project to completion. Please contact me if there is anything I can do to assist a smooth transition process.

Thank you so much for the feedback, and for your continued commitment to the park and its vision. Please reach out to me if you have additional questions or concerns as the plan moves forward.

Best regards,

Darcy

Darcy Nuffer, RLA, ISA-TX, LEED AP

Landscape Architect

Park Planning

Parks and Recreation Department

512-974-9460

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Dear Darcy,

Thank you again for providing the community with the feedback and details of the plans for Beverly Sheffield NW District Park. I am in 100

% support of the final revisions and will be happy to lend my voice to discussion if you need me in the future.

I really am grateful for your understanding about not having that second bridge across Shoal Creek tributary. Your work is greatly appreciated.

Good Day Ms. Nuffer,

The pdf on the Parks website has a black dash-dot line around the parameter of the park that includes the watershed area immediately adjoining my property and the watershed off-leash dog park across Shoal Creek Blvd. I noticed the website has taken down the plans from the programs page. Hopefully the new plan will appear soon so that I can gain clarification before the August 3rd meeting.

Can you please provide official clarification for the plans?

1) Is there a proposed hike and bike trail around the perimeter of the park, including a trail behind the homes on the west side of the creek waterway? There is currently a trail on the raised levee in the park (we LOVE that trail). However, putting a trail immediately across the creek on the residential property lines is of grave concern for our natural ecosystem and the property values of the homes along the west side of NW Park.

2) Is there a proposed bridge between 6903 and 6905 Shoal Creek Blvd to connect the hike and bike trails to the park? Is this bridge absolutely necessary considering there is already a bridge in place less than one city block from that site? Yes, I am aware the existing bridge does not meet ADA specifications and is planned for revision. Money well spent. I was confined to a wheelchair and assistive devices for walking 2 years ago, and could not enjoy the amenities at that time.

I recognize the plans are undergoing final preparations and may have changed since the original posting on the website. I would appreciate your answering my concerns. My husband has a disability and medical conditions that will be impacted by the exhaust and dust from the machinery required to build the proposed bridge next to our home. If the bridge does go in, what is the timeline? We will have to relocate for the duration of construction. Thank you for working with the neighbors to develop a plan to improve our green spaces.

Dear Darcy,

Thanks for your note! We really enjoyed the meeting (even though Alice spilled soup on herself halfway through) and feeling that the parks department is listening to us even though we're kids.

Yahoo on the playground replacement! We are definitely planning on staying involved through the process. If there's any testing that you need, my parents say we're really good testers. In the meantime, we'll keep on drawing pictures of our ideas and tune into the next meeting.

Thank you all so much for your feedback, and for sharing your thoughts and ideas for the playground at Sheffield Northwest Park in our community meeting today. We rely on feedback like yours to make important decisions about our parks.

While I don't have a schedule for the playground replacement yet, my supervisor was able to confirm that we already have funding set aside for this purpose. That means updating the playground is likely to happen sooner than other parts of the vision plan. We'll be reaching back out to the community for ideas when we have a better idea of the schedule, and we hope you will stay involved.

We also hope you'll keep sharing your thoughts on the park vision plan as we move forward with concepts in the next few months.

Thank you!
Darcy

Elle, Alice, and Jack,

Thank you so much for sharing your thoughts! We can't wait to connect with you in just a few minutes as well.

We appreciate the comments you have shared with us. I'm copying Darcy Nuffer who is the project manager. She is going to explain the planning process for everyone during the meeting, and I hope we can answer a few of your questions. As the meeting goes on, we will ask some questions, and you will also get to ask some more questions.

We look forward to talking soon.

Sincerely,

Justin Schneider

Community Engagement Specialist

Austin Parks and Recreation Department

(512) 974-6572 – Office

(512) 974-6723 – Media Line

he/him/his

www.austintexas.gov/parks

Dear Parks Department,

Thanks so much for letting us join the community meeting! We're super excited for the updates to the park.

We have just a couple questions:

Mary,

We understand appreciate the ANA Board's passion for the future of Sheffield Northwest District Park, and are happy to meet to discuss your concerns regarding the vision plan process. Please let us know some times your members are available over the next few weeks and we will find a meeting time that works for everyone.

Best regards,
Darcy

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Dear Darcy,

Last night the Allandale Neighborhood Association Board of Directors adopted the attached resolution regarding the Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park Vision Plan. This resolution underscores our tremendous appreciation for the park and its treasured place at the heart of Allandale.

Neighbors and friends come to Northwest Park to enjoy nature in the midst of the city; to celebrate special occasions; to picnic and play; to walk, bike

Thanks so much for these comments. As we continue to incorporate community feedback on the vision for the park, we hope you will attend one of the meetings scheduled for next week to review the draft vision plan. Please feel free to reach out to me if you have additional comments or questions.

<https://austintexas.gov/sheffieldNWpark>

Best regards,
Darcy

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Hi,

I live adjacent to the park (right next to the pool parking lot on the north side), and obviously the park changes that are coming are important to me. I hope in the process you will consider how close this park is to neighboring homes. For families on Greenlawn Parkway and Shoal Creek Blvd, it

literally is our back yards. We already live on busy streets in front of our homes, so having the park in the back become more active is not necessarily a welcome development for us. Rather than changing so much, why not just improve what's there.

Please consider:

- no addition of loud noise sources. This means no amphitheater(s) with loud events, no food truck parking with loud generators & exhaust fumes pumping out all day long on weekends; no addition of a space for events with amplified sound, and no clattering concrete skate park area. I have misophonia and loud bass from events like that and droning generator sounds are significant triggers for me (and others with misophonia). I really fear what these changes to the park might mean for my situation and I BEG you not to make this into an event venue for any amplified sound. You truly are in the middle of an old neighborhood, despite your classification of this as a district park.

- promote wildlife and bird habitat. MANY park users love the nature and amazing shade that much of the park has, so please do not reduce the bit of wilderness we do have here in the park. Paving all of the pathways is not the only option; why not keep them more natural? How does the song go,... "pave paradise, put up a parking lot." Don't be that guy.

- consider dark skies. Light pollution is unwelcome and the current lighting is not adequately shielded. Please consider

dark sky-friendly lighting both for the benefit of nearby homes and because it is the right thing to do.

- finally make that pedestrian bridge south of Greenlawn out of a paw-friendly surface. Every day people carry their dogs across that thing or have to avoid it altogether because it's not paw-friendly. I've been wanting that change for 20 years.

- improve the steps that lead from the Shoal Creek side down to the basketball court.

Thanks for your involvement on this project and thanks for keeping us park neighbors in mind as you seek to reimagine the park we already love.

Thank you for taking the time to provide feedback on the draft vision plan, and for your continued stewardship of the park and its natural assets. We've heard from the community that the pond is in need of improvement in order to really flourish. Where we are now, at the vision plan level, the vision for the pond is a healthy, functioning pond with improved wildlife habitat and water quality. The design team is providing a broad-level look at how to achieve that goal, however, details about any changes to the pond, such as tree removals, will need more study in later phases of design and implementation. At this stage, it is important for us to understand the community's needs and wants so that we develop a project that will deliver them. The feedback we have heard regarding the trees helps us with this process.

Please continue to reach out to us with questions and concerns about the draft vision plan. We'll be in the park for another pop-up on Sunday, August 22 from 10am – noon, if you would like to chat in more detail, or you can call anytime.

Best regards,
Darcy

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The latest NW park final draft plan shows removal of some of our beautiful cypress trees from around the pond
And was disturbing to see.

Our park pond, framed with cypress trees, is the natural centerpiece of NWPark. It is the place to watch darting dragonflies, birds, turtles and fish and a natural draw for children. It needs improvement. But at what cost? Where do the fish, birds, and turtles go when the pond is drained to create an administratively correct water quality pond? The current draft enlarging the pond shows removal of many trees and I believe the number given during the presentation was 6-8. One is too many. How can a natural feature be improved upon when removing the very elements which are the basic part of it's appeal and also a major park asset? Tree removal for park improvements is unacceptable. Surely there is a way to Improve the water quality, trail, and preserve the trees and wildlife habitat of the pond. Creative solutions must be explored.

Your attention to this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Peggy Maceo
Allandale

Thank you for taking the time to provide feedback on the draft vision plan for Sheffield Northwest Park. We understand that many neighbors have a long relationship with this park, and are grateful for the knowledge and insights you bring. At the vision plan level, the vision for the pond is a healthy, functioning pond with improved wildlife habitat and water quality. The design team is providing a broad-level look at how to achieve that goal, however, details about any changes to the pond, such as tree removals, will need more study in later phases of design and implementation. At this stage, it is important for us to understand the community's needs and wants so that we create projects that will deliver them. Thanks for helping us with this process.

If you would like to chat more about the pond and park, we will be having another pop-up event from 10am - noon on Sunday, August 22. Please join us if you can.

<https://austintexas.gov/sheffieldNWpark>

Best regards,
Darcy

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08-06-21

Greetings,

This is about the tree removal and other changes being considered at Sheffield NW Park in Allandale. I've lived and worked in Austin a long time, paid humongous property taxes, served in government offices, and currently serve on the Allandale Neighborhood Association Board.

Please see the attached photos I took of a snowy egret earlier this year. I visit the park and I urge you not to do anything to remove any trees or do anything to disturb the tree canopy. I heard that there is discussion about removing several bald cypress trees in or near the pond, and frankly I cannot imagine why. Cypress trees thrive well enough in watery areas (such as the swamps of New Orleans).

I encourage you and all the team working on this Vision Plan to visit the entire park in person, on foot, in order to have a better grasp of what might actually need improving for safety needs or pond aeration (badly needed!), and what can frankly be left well enough alone. The natural setting and flow of the park is an essential part of its charm.

Thank you for taking the time to provide feedback on the draft vision plan for Sheffield Northwest Park. We understand that many neighbors have a long relationship with this park, and are grateful for the knowledge and insights you are bringing to this process. As this is a vision plan, the vision for the pond is a healthy, functioning pond with improved wildlife habitat and water quality. The design team is providing a broad-level look at how to achieve that goal, however, details about the width, depth and any potential tree removals will need more study in later phases of design and implementation. At this stage, it is important for us to understand the community's needs and wants so that we create projects that will deliver them.

If you would like to chat more about the pond and park, we will be having another pop-up event from 10am - noon on Sunday, August 22. Please join us if you can.

<https://austintexas.gov/sheffieldNWpark>

Best regards,
Darcy

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I'm concerned about the proposal that enlarges the pond at the expense of cypress trees.

I'm familiar with the park. I was on the Allandale Neighborhood Assn board when it was decided to excavate and provide Shoal Creek flood flow retention. How that came about is a longer story for another e-mail.

I'm also familiar with the pond as it is now. Last October I took water samples when we did a water quality study to look at contaminants.

You should change your plans and not impact the cypress trees. If you need volume, you can dredge deeper in other less sensitive places. If you need surface area, you have lots of shoreline that will leave the trees unaffected.

Listen to the Neighbors. Stop publishing polls/surveys that check a box for 'public engagement' and then do what you want. Yes, working with the public is messy, yes there are multiple opinions, but your place in things is as "Public Servant". You are expert servants, but it is often that some in the neighborhood are more expert than you.

That story goes as far back as the excavation of the park, and the City abandoning its' plan to channelize the Shoal Creek after the 1981 Memorial Day Flood. Allandale supplied the experts for the approach that was adopted - flood water retention/detention.

We should exchange opinions so that you understand the neighbor's views.

We can have other discussions, like the idea of routing traffic through a parking lot.

Hello Barbara and Joe,

Thank you for taking time to provide your feedback on the draft final vision plan for Sheffield Northwest Park.

At this stage, the pond proposal is a vision, based on the [planning values](#) that were developed through community feedback at the start of the vision planning process. Once the vision moves into the implementation stage, any future design improvements to the pond, including potential construction impacts, will be reviewed with these planning values in mind to ensure the design meets the community's vision. PARD will continue to engage with the community and receive feedback throughout the implementation stage.

Please feel free to contact me if you have additional questions or concerns.

Best regards,
Darcy

Darcy Nuffer, RLA, ISA-TX, LEED AP

Landscape Architect

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Parks and Recreation Department

512-974-9460

Darcy.Nuffer@austintexas.gov

Hello Darcy and Drew,

My husband Joe and I are excited about the vision plan for Sheffield Northwest Park and appreciate your effort to involve the community. We live on Albata Ave, which leads into the park from the east.

We have one concern we'd like to raise, which is the solution PARD is proposing to improve the

pond, presented on Aug 5th. We think more consideration needs to be given to the impact the construction of a wet pond will have on the existing pond. We'd like to see PARD propose alternative designs that will protect the pond habitat and wildlife, improve the water quality, and not remove any of the trees.

The pond at Sheffield NW Park is a sensitive ecosystem, and it requires sensitive care. Please consider the community's desire to preserve our pond and park trees.

Mary,

Thanks for your comments on the concept plans presented at the June 15 community meeting. Your comments will be helpful to the design team as they work to incorporate feedback from the initial concepts into a draft final concept plan.

Regarding your feedback on the survey and the last community meeting, we understand that the online format has its limitations, and we continue to encourage stakeholders to provide additional comments like the ones you have given here. The move to virtual events over the past year has been a learning process, and we continually work to improve our community engagement and provide meaningful opportunities for park users to express their vision for the park. To that end, PARD recently set up a “pop-up” table in the park to talk with park users more directly, and we are working to set up more of these types of events so we can continue to have discussions as the vision plan moves forward. These tabling events will be announced on the project webpage, and we’ll also send an email update once the dates have been set.

Regarding the lack of detailed information in the plans, I wanted to reiterate what was said in the meeting, that the plans illustrate big-picture future visions for the park rather than finalized, detailed plans. They are meant to solicit response from the community, and the final draft vision will likely contain elements from both plans. The ideas that do not capture community interest will not make it into the draft final plan.

Please feel free to reach back out to me with additional comments or questions. If you would prefer to meet to discuss anything in more detail please let me know some times you are available and I will coordinate with staff and the design team.

Best regards,
Darcy

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Darcy.Nuffer@austintexas.gov

Dear All,

Living a couple of blocks from Northwest Park since 1988, I've played with children and grandchildren and gone for many walks at the park through the years. Having worked closely on issues and projects related to the park and the pond for the past four years, I have been actively encouraging neighbors and park visitors to participate in the Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park Vision Plan.

After what appeared to be a promising start, and despite extensive efforts by park friends and neighbors to assure meaningful citizen input for the Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park Vision Plan, many would-be participants are now feeling stymied and frustrated. A lack of detailed information about the distinctions of Concepts A & B and the inability to participate in Survey #3 unless making a forced choice between the two proposals is more than disheartening. It begs belief that a survey would be created that refuses to allow any comments without doing so.

This dilemma is exacerbated by the fact that aspects of both proposals disregard the main priority stated by past participants: to maintain the park in its most natural state to the greatest extent possible.

There are aspects of Community Meeting #2 that contributed to the difficulty in accessing needed information, which I would be happy to discuss in more detail. However, at this time, the most meaningful thing that could be done would be to provide more information – and time – for the public to respond to the survey.

In order to gain meaningful input, there should be a short description related to each numbered amenity on the concept diagrams. The few words included in the map legends are insufficient and subject to misinterpretation.

The need for additional information and further explanation was stated repeatedly during the Community Meeting in which these Concepts were presented. These concerns have not been addressed, and despite conversations to discern the impact of these proposals among many who have closely followed this process from its inception, many questions remain.

I hope you can recognize that the assessment you have solicited will be

skewed by a lack of participation from many people who have supported this park for years and, alternatively, by others who are making a choice based on best guesses without a full understanding of the proposals or their impact.

I submit the following comments in lieu of participating in Community Survey #3, which would force choices that are not a true representation of my preferences.

Thank you for your consideration of these concerns.

Comments submitted in lieu of participating in Sheffield Northwest District Park Community Survey #3, which would force choices that are not a true representation of my preferences.

Allowed to express my opinions in a survey, my comments would have addressed the following aspects of Concept A and Concept B proposals for the Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park Vision Plan.

ENTRY MONUMENTS

Concepts A & B #1 – Both designs will add entry markers. Will there be historical or other educational markers?

PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE

Concept A #16 – It's unclear when the proposal arose for a new bridge to connect directly to Great Northern retention pond. The immediate neighbors strongly object due to the invasively close proximity to their homes and because it will disturb established wildlife habitat.

Concept B #13 – Community members have requested that the existing bridge be rebuilt to eliminate the see-through aspect of the walkway and eliminate its shakiness. I have been told that there were bolts missing.

OVERLOOK

Concept A #2 – near new bridge. Unclear what this is designed to achieve. Anyone walking on the high trail today has a view at any point along the way into the park.

Concept B #2 – near concession area; view appears to be toward backyard of homes on Shoal Creek Blvd and would require removal of trees, which these homes rely on for privacy.

ARRIVAL, OVERLOOK, STAIRS, ACCESS (EXISTING PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE)

Concept B #13 - Rather than a community orchard (Concept A #13), an alternative would be to create an additional picnic area with shade structures – a pleasant, and requested, use of this space. Seeing benches and/or picnic tables along Shoal Creek would be a further visual cue to the park's presence.

PLAYFIELD / EVENT LAWN

Concept A #3, Concept B #3 – Unclear why Concept B is identified as Event Lawn (only). It appears that both **Concepts A & B** can accommodate both uses (playfield/event lawn). This is an example of a designation suggesting a choice without a difference between the two designs.

GRAND STAIRS / GRAND OVERLOOK (STAGE/AMPHITHEATER)

Concept A #12 & Concept B #12 – The areas have similar end results. More detail on an amphitheater design (Concept B) would be needed to make a decision on this concept. Neighbors opposite the park obviously would be affected by noise concerns.

POND

Both **Concept A #5 and Concept B #5** expand the pond and turn it into a stormwater retention pond that will be under the auspices of Watershed Protection, despite the statement in a previous Community Meeting that this would remain a park amenity. I have asked (verbally and in writing), but have yet to receive specific information about the potential impact on kids and dogs (not to mention aquatic and avian wildlife) from toxin accumulations. Watershed Protection's web site, however, features a pond maintenance brochure that cautions against recreational activities associated with stormwater ponds.

“Wet pond *This type of control has a permanent pool of water. It is designed to capture and hold stormwater runoff to allow settling of suspended solids and removal of pollutants through plant uptake. **These controls are not meant for recreational activities such as swimming and fishing.**”*

<https://www.austintexas.gov/department/field-operations>

And, per Watershed Protection's more recent updates related to algae: "The risk may also be elevated at stock ponds or stormwater ponds. Although these ponds may be attractive, their water quality tends to be poor and is not suitable for recreation at any time for either people or pets." <https://www.austintexas.gov/page/algae>

I recognize that since the 1984 takeover of the parkland by Watershed Protection, the pond has been subjected to extensive parking lot runoff,

but it seems that neighbors and park users in general should expect a reasonable explanation of the effects of a larger stormwater pond at the center of a park filled with children who love to explore the pond and dogs who like to jump in.

POND BOARDWALK OR PAVILION

Concept A #9 - Travis Audubon Society expressed an adverse opinion about the boardwalk going through nesting areas. It appears that the boardwalk also would traverse the island, which is the only truly protected area for both avian and aquatic species. This is a bad design for this park.

Concept B #4 – A pond pavilion is noted, but there is no detailed information to explain where or what this designation represents.

RETAINING WALL WITH BERM

Concept A #4 – Current configuration? No explanation provided.

DOG TROT RESTROOM OR PAVILION

Concept A #6 - This turns a restroom into the prominent feature in this area and blocks the view of the pond. A positive aspect of this drawing is that it leaves intact 47 parking spaces for ease of access to picnic areas that are used by reservation for large parties.

A restroom and water fountains (YES!) across from the basketball and tennis courts might be a more desirable location.

GREAT LAWN

Concept B #6 – Removes all parking spaces, eliminating ease of access to picnic areas that are used by reservation for large parties. At least some of the parking spaces maintained in Concept A #6 should be retained in Concept B.

PLAYSCAPE / AND PICNIC AREA

Concept A #7 – The Disneyesque theme and design of the playground equipment is not in sync with the community request to keep the park as natural as possible. Contemporary equipment is desirable, but the “whimsical” features presented here are out of touch with this site.

Concept B #7 – Contrary to the features in Concept A, the photos depicting the playground vision for Concept B reflect a sad lack of creative design. Sand, bamboo sticks and hewn cedar stumps do not appear as appealing amenities (and may raise safety concerns as well). Leaving the area around the playground in a natural state, while adding modern and attractive equipment should be standard options for playground planners.

It's unclear why Concept B mentions a picnic area and Concept A does not,

unless that is an oversight, as picnic areas are not otherwise clearly designated in Concept A.

ROCKY PICNIC NATURE PLAY AREA

Concept B #11 – This shows a granite trail in the area of the wooded hillside. This area should be left in its natural state for exploration; a granite path is not desirable.

BASKETBALL COURT (Relocated?)

Online Survey #2 identified planning values that included: Support existing active recreation uses (baseball, tennis, pickleball, pool). Not sure why basketball (and its highly used court) was omitted from this list.

Concept A #8 – indicates that the basketball court will be relocated. Why? and where? This is an area that would benefit from additional shade structures, but no new structures are included in this area.

Concept B – It appears that the basketball and tennis courts will remain in their existing location; no explanatory notes about the basketball court are included.

SHADE STRUCTURES

Concept A – No additional shade structures except the proposed “Shade Canopy” #14 on the high trail.

Concept B #8 – Structures noted in miscellaneous, random locations, but none in the area of the basket ball court, as noted above. Additional structures throughout the park would be beneficial in summer and could serve as rain shelters, depending on composition.

SHADE CANOPY

Concept A #14 - Many of the comments previously submitted requested leaving the park in as natural a state as possible. This design coincides with the playground design of Concept A. Trees, rather than manmade shade canopies would be preferable.

FOOD TRUCK COURT

Concept A – Not included.

Concept B #9 – WHY? Allowing food trucks at a couple of events each year might be desirable, but we are aware of no request for permanently located food trucks. This will take up valuable space at a central area of the park near the pond. Again, this is a feature that should not be a factor in the selection of one concept versus the other.

ENHANCED PEDESTRIAN ARRIVAL

Concept A #10 – No explanation noted.

Concept B #10 – The arrival area near Ardath entrance cuts into the open play area as provided in Concept A, #18. Most desirable to maintain the open play area. A separate drop-off area in a parking lot is unnecessary.

OPEN PLAY AREA / SMALL PLAY AREA

Concept A #18 – Front of park, seems to be as existing.

Concept B #19 – Small .. or larger .. play area could remain (as existing) in both A & B.

ACCESSIBLE ROUTE

Concept A #15 – It is unclear to what extent routes through the park will be concrete. Requests have been to limit use of concrete.

SHOAL CREEK TRAIL

Concept B #15 - People are unable to identify where this is per the map or what materials will make up this trail.

CREEK ACCESS

Concept B #14 – Although this is noted in the legend as #14, it is not depicted on the map, and there is no explanation.

WILDFLOWER GARDEN

Concept B #16 – Puzzling as to why there is not an identical proposal in both concepts .. either include in both or leave as is, which might be preferable in order to manage mowing in a center area of the park. In other words, this can be accommodated in either concept since the space is left open in Concept A (as existing).

BIKE PLAYGROUND

Concept A #17 – Located on the west side of Shoal Creek Blvd, this could be included in either Concept A or B. Although a bike play area is featured in the **Concept B** photo collection, there is no bike play area designated in Concept B.

RAIN GARDEN

Concept A #20 – Included near bike playground. Nothing noted in this area on Concept B. Could be included on both (or neither).

COMMUNITY ORCHARD

Concept A #13 - A previous request to create a community orchard was

submitted to COA, but was proposed to be located on the west side of Shoal Creek Boulevard. Creating an additional picnic area with shade structures would be a pleasant – and requested – use of this space adjacent to the existing pedestrian bridge. Seeing benches and/or picnic tables along Shoal Creek would be a further visual cue to the park.

TRAIL / PATH COMPOSITION

Concept A #11 and B #18 – References in each concept design describe Decomposed granite connector trail (TYP). Not clear if these trails coincide.

Concept B #17 -- Main loop trail-paved (TYP)

Similar language should be reflected in both concepts. Listing in only one (Concept B) suggests a distinction that does not appear to exist.

MYSTERY FEATURE

Concept A #21 – This number is marked on the map, but is not noted in the legend.

Thank you for your consideration of these concerns.

Thank you for the information overview provided today with your presentation of the final draft plan. While there are questions and concerns that remain, I appreciate your responsiveness in melding the two plans to address community feedback. I've talked to others today who share that feeling.

We look forward to continuing to work with you as the plan is tweaked before its presentation to the Parks and Recreation board.

David,

Thank you for the email. I will make sure that this information is included with other feedback for the vision plan.

All your points are in alignment with the vision plan recommendations. This vision plan is an overall park concept that will set up these individual projects in the park, and with each of these projects there will be additional detailed design, which will include community engagement.

The vision plan recommendations for the pond include a detailed study of the pond functions to provide a comprehensive pond design, maintaining the existing size, preserving habitat and preserving trees. As you alluded, in order to make specific recommendations, we need more information such as the new pool mechanical design, drainage patterns, current pond depth, habitat, vegetation and water sources (verifying the location and condition of the spring well) among many other factors. As funding becomes available, PARD will put together a design team for the pond specifically and require the proper expertise such as engineers, landscape architects, pond designers, biologists, and hydrologists to address the pond issues.

Regarding the boardwalk, it will also need to go through a more detailed design. Design modifications can be made to reduce its impact on the pond.

The full vision plan report is under internal review, and I anticipate it will be posted on the project web page within a few weeks. PARD will send out an email to stakeholders when it is available for review and additional feedback.

Thanks.

Charles Mabry, PLA
Parks and Recreation Department | City of Austin
512-974-9481 office | 512-789-0032 mobile

Charles:

After learning from you that Darcy is no longer project manager for the Sheffield Northwest Park Vision Plan, we are writing to ensure that you are aware our submission of September 14. This information was sent in response to the C of A's Environmental Commission Chair facilitated zoom conference of September 8, during which we discussed pond alternatives.

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Our efforts are driven by the fact that the pond is the most important natural feature of the park. It is a functioning wetland habitat for animals and migratory birds, bordered by baldcypress trees planted in 1986. We believe this icon of Northwest Park deserves special attention.

Based on your recent emails, we understand that PARD now is committed to maintain the pond in its current footprint and to preserve all the baldcypress.

The option we are proposing (our alternative to PARD's "Option 0" offered at the 9/8 meeting) would improve the pond with minimal adverse impact and with reasonable cost.

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Important features of this option:

- does not deepen the pond but calls for sensitive hydraulic dredging and disposal of the accumulated pond fine sediments
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I am still reviewing TCEQ's Dam Safety Rules and the City's plans for bringing large yellow iron into the ball park and park area to do some sort of work on the dam. There are questions about why it has not been continually maintained during its decades-long lifetime, since it is such a key part of the flood control system on Shoal Creek in the Allandale neighborhood area. I believe it is time that I call and discuss this project with TCEQ to learn what their concerns and expectations are regarding this work.

I am also very concerned that City staff continues to refer to the pond as a "Water Quality" pond. They seem to be quite myopic about its actual position in the ecological scheme of the park. They continue to focus on its use as a location where swimming pool effluent can release chlorine before flowing into Shoal Creek, where the chlorine would kill both plants and animal life. For one thing, the pond and environs have become a wildlife refuge for turtles, herons and other birds, wild cats, foxes and other wildlife, such as migratory birds, that require water and vegetative cover. Additionally, it is the collection point for all run-off for the entire park area, including roads and parking lots, as well as for the surrounding roads, such as Ardath.

As a result of all the roadways draining into the pond, storm events have carried motor oil, gasoline, transmission and other auto fluids, cigarettes, plastic, food waste and particulates into the pond along with the rainwater. Late last year, I collected water samples from the pond for analysis by a professional environment laboratory.

I believe that before excavating any pond sediments, the Watershed staff should sample pond sediments to determine whether or not they are RCRA hazar

Northwest Park hosts giant ragweed up to 18 feet tall that has a heavy seed crop on it. Downstream of the ragweed is the pond and the soccer field. Is this something that the NW Park vision plan for the pond should address?

See the first seven attached pictures of our NW Park giant ragweed,

The 1200 block of the Shoal Creek Trail also has giant ragweed on the east creek bank that blocks the view of the creek. See the eighth attached picture.



Hi, Some further input on the Spring at North West Park, and a Question on Picnic Tables.

On the Well 5843105, (really a Spring) there are two reports on the same website (detailed info below***).

1. The Scanned Document the original report by Gunnar Brune, and includes his map of the spring location.
2. Then under the number 5843105 there is a 2020 transcribed version of the original, perhaps a switch to digital format, and the spring location is listed by GPS which is near the entrance of the outfall pipe at the duck pond.

However, this GPS location is different from the indicated position on the map of the original report by Mr Brune, which is about 500 feet to the SE.

The location I remember back in 1985 by the retaining wall was near 30.34850 -97,74088.

I found yet another location for the spring at

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In any case, the Duck Pond was/is Spring fed. Perhaps a pipe could be run from Spring to the duck pond to enhance inflow.

Question on Picnic Tables if they are going to stay there. The NW Park Vision Plan map does not show the picnic tables at all. The existing tables are used every weekend for birthdays, events, and it is important they be located next to the playscapes and swings for the children. The current NW Park Vision Plan Map shows the picnic areas far away from the playcapes.

*** Details website info on Spring (Well Reports); If you go to the Texas Water Development Board website,

<https://www.twdb.texas.gov/>

Under Data& Apps choose Map Resources

this should get you to Water Data Interactive, then choose Groundwater Data Viewer

Zoom in onto Northwest Park, click on the dot

This brings up two documents for the State Well Number:

1. 5843105 (is the 2020 digitized version

Dear Members of the Parks and Recreation Board:

I live just down the street from Northwest Park, and I treasure the pond and the environment it provides. It attracts a variety of wildlife to the middle of Austin. My favorite is the Green Heron who fishes along its margin. Please support the least intrusive option for the pond at Northwest Park, preserving the island and the existing trees. Please also recommend an aeration system and a water supply in dry weather and an adequate maintenance budget. I hope we can continue to have this little wild piece of Northwest Park and preserve it for our community and for the wildlife. Thank you.

Hello, I am a 24 yr. Crestview and then Allandale resident, who loves and uses Northwest Park. I want to protect but improve the pond, the wetland and save the cypress trees. I do not like the idea of converting to an engineered water-quality pond in which a new habitat will take decades to mature. Let's preserve the pond by giving it air and un-chlorinated water and enjoy it as it is.

Good afternoon,

I write to advocate for a carefully considered restoration and improvement plan for conserving the natural setting of Beverly S. Sheffield NW District Park, situated in the Allandale neighborhood of Austin.

I urge you to adopt a plan that carefully conserves the natural pond, island, trees and habitat, and includes a sufficient budget for maintenance responsibility by the City. It does not need to be transformed into a brick-and-mortar type outdoor space that resembles a hotel resort or business complex green park or commercial theme park.

Pond preservation advocates believe the PARD should do an in-depth study to address natural-conservation improvements to the pond while maintaining the pond footprint and preserving all existing trees, pond aerators, native plantings, and a boardwalk. Other alternatives for water quality "wet pond" options may sound okay or look all right on paper, yet they would remove trees and the island, which pond advocates oppose.

The pond has been a longtime source of great enjoyment to kids, families and other adults who appreciate the trees, birds, frogs, fish and turtles. Snowy egrets, blue herons and other birds visit the pond. (See attached .jpgs). If done properly, these improvements will foster public appreciation of clean air and water, wildlife and serene green space for many years to come.

The Audubon Society states these priorities clearly: "Natural habitat and open spaces are disappearing at an alarming rate. Protections for wildlife, natural places, and clean air and water are in jeopardy. By protecting birds, we're also safeguarding the Western hemisphere's great natural heritage for future generations, preserving our shared quality of life and fostering a healthier environment for us all." See <https://www.audubon.org/conservation>

Please keep these priorities in mind as you develop the plans for improving and preserving our Northwest District Park.

Park Board Members,

I have lived in Allandale for over 20 years and I visit the park several times a week. I have attended several of the planning meetings and am very pleased that improvements are coming to our park. One area of concern for me and several of my neighbors though, is the proposed plan for the pond. It is an iconic part of the park and I believe we can improve the pond without destroying the trees. Careful hydraulic dredging could be used to deepen the pond and the well dug by the city could be activated to add a water source. A waterfall cascading down from the west side off the hill could be used to add aeration while keeping the same foot print of the pond and preserving every one of the Cypress trees. An annual budget for maintenance would ensure the upkeep.

Dear Parks Board Members,

I'm writing you to express my concern about the plans to improve the pond at Sheffield Northwest Park. I've heard about different plans being considered, and I believe it's very important to do the least invasive changes to the pond, which would be to maintain the same footprint, not expand it; preserve the trees; have a maintenance budget for the pond, and add an aeration system and water supply for the pond.

I have lived nearby on Albata Ave since 1998, and visit the park multiple times each week, usually on morning walks. The pond is one of my favorite features of the park. As I walk along the path below the bald cypress trees, I often see beautiful water birds and turtles there.

Thank you for considering input from neighbors like me. I'm excited that there will be improvements made to the pond, and ask that the revitalization be done in a way that does not harm the pond's natural habitat.

Dear Parks Board Members,

As a homeowner in Allandale, I am writing to ask you to protect the pond at NW Park, and all of the animals and native plants that call it home.

I truly enjoy watching the birds and wildlife living there, and hope to see the pond, trees and habitat protected.

I request the following:

- * Natural-conservation improvements to the pond
- * Maintain the pond footprint
- * Preserve all existing trees.
- * Create a source for supplemental water in the driest months of the year and to provide a means to aerate the pond.
- * Native plantings, and removal of Invasive plants.
- * A waterfall on the stepped limestone blocks to create both a focal point and a system to move and aerate the water.

I am very concerned with the proliferation of non-native plants, including a ton of Poison Ivy and Ragweed in the park.

It would be very nice to remove these invasive poison and/or allergy inducing plants.

Dear Director McNeeley and Ms. Nuffer,

I'm writing to respectfully share my opposition to the Parks and Recreation Department's plan to improve and expand the pond at Northwest Park under the management of the Water Protection Department.

I am privileged to live in a house that backs to Shoal Creek in Allandale. Northwest Park was a favorite place to visit before I had kids; now even with the kids older, one of us is visiting the park for some reason, even just to walk through it, on a weekly basis. Our favorite way to visit the park is picnic dinner on a blanket beside the pond, in the company of the bald cypress trees. This is the only place nearby to enjoy these native trees that used to dominate the banks of the creeks here. Wood ducks also visit the pond seasonally, turtles of many varieties can be observed here, and despite the pond's struggles with over-saturation of nitrogen and not enough oxygen, sometimes we're even able to observe fish.

I read in the Allandale newsletter that the Parks and Recreation Department is promoting a plan to replace this pond with a \$1.9 million project to convert it into a working water-quality pond that will expand the pond, but eliminate established habitats, including wetlands and the beloved bald cypresses, to do so. It is hard to see this as an improvement, rather than taking steps at a fraction of the cost to carefully dredge and restore the pond that we already have.

I would like to add a word about my experiences with the Watershed Protection Department. I have been trying for many years to protect native tree starts along Shoal Creek behind our house so that they are allowed to mature into trees whose roots will protect the banks, and whose growth will help to control invasives and provide needed shade and habitat along the creek. My biggest victory is a Mexican Sycamore, which now stands 15 feet tall. Being at home, due to the pandemic, when the crews came by to clear out all the vegetation along the cre

Dear Members of the Parks and Recreation Board,

I've lived less than a block away from Northwest Park for almost thirty-five years. The pond is its most wonderful feature, attracting wildlife to the middle of Austin. Please support the least intrusive option for the pond at Northwest Park, maintaining its present size rather than expanding it, and preserving the island and all existing trees. Please also recommend an aeration system and a water supply in dry weather and an adequate maintenance budget. I value the large cypress and other trees at the pond and the habitat that the pond has provided for wildlife. I hope we can continue to have this little bit of wild piece of Northwest Park and preserve it for our community and for the wildlife. Thank you.

I urge you to amend the Vision Plan for Beverly Sheffield NW District Park to both improve the duck pond (aerators, regular maintenance, etc.) AND protect the mature bald cypress trees around the pond. I was troubled to hear that the existing plan would either remove the trees to expand the pond or make no improvements to the pond whatsoever. In my opinion, neither option is desirable.

I live in Crestview, on the other side of Burnet Road, and my family and I visit the park often.

Hello Darcy

October 2, 2021

Resurrecting a Spring at Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park

A feature of Northwest Park, before the park was overhauled in 1985-6, was an active spring next to the parking lot entrance and path onto the picnic tables (see map). The spring, three foot in diameter, was partially bricked on one side, with active water flow in the sands. Dogs loved it. This water flowed on around the back side next to the cliff, where the deep gully is now, to the pond. The area where the spring flowed into the pond was usually quite muddy. During the overhaul in the 80's this spring was covered up, I think it was to get rid of the muddy areas, but the spring is still there about 2 to 3 foot down, with lush vegetation growing above it. Older residents remember this

spring as you entered the Park.

I think this spring is identified as, or associated with, State Well No. 58-43-105. There is a Chemical Water Analysis Report by the Ground Water Data and Protection Division, Texas Water Development Board on February 16, 1973, attached. The Spring is 10 Gallons per min, at a temperature of 70 degrees, PH of 7.9 from the Edwards Aquifer. The original report was reformatted in 2020, with a GPS location for the pond was added at that time.

In my limited internet search of what was available to me, I did not find the other springs that may fed the pool or the pond. But I am sure there are, as there are springs in the Creek. When I moved into the neighborhood, I had heard that the Pool was spring fed and they changed the water weekly by releasing it down Shoal Creek.

We have an excellent opportunity at this time to tie in nature, residents, and City of Austin by resurrecting this small spring back as an excellent park feature, that ties it in to Barton Springs etc.

All this would take is an exploratory dig at the spring location for evaluation, and bricking it in would be low cost.

Current plans for the park show new concrete sidewalk over this spring. I think the contractor does not have knowledge of the existence of this spring, however I think it is very low cost to move the sidewalk and revive the spring to the benefit of all.

Thank you for the email. I will make sure that this information is included with other feedback for the vision plan.

All your points are in alignment with the vision plan recommendations. This vision plan is an overall park concept that will set up these individual projects in the park, and with each of these projects there will be additional detailed design, which will include community engagement.

The vision plan recommendations for the pond include a detailed study of the pond functions to provide a comprehensive pond design, maintaining the existing size, preserving habitat and preserving trees. As you alluded, in order to make specific recommendations, we need more information such as the new pool mechanical design, drainage patterns, current pond depth, habitat, vegetation and water sources (verifying the location and condition of the spring well) among many other factors. As funding becomes available, PARD will put together a design team for the pond specifically and require the proper expertise such as engineers, landscape architects, pond designers, biologists, and hydrologists to address the pond issues.

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Charles Mabry, PLA

Parks and Recreation Department | City of Austin
512-974-9481 *office* | 512-789-0032 *mobile*

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Important features of this option:

- does not deepen the pond but calls for sensitive hydraulic dredging and disposal of the accumulated pond fine sediments
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- calls for the ability to supplement pond with fresh water during periods of low rainfall
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- creates a focal point, stepped waterfall aeration and pond water circulation feature on the WSW pond berm which also contains the dry-stacked stone feature and also houses the pond outfall pipe
-

- does not change the pond configuration as that would unnecessarily impact baldcypress trees whose roots extend into the pond and stabilize the pond margins
-
- We do not concur that removal of a pinch point will improve circulation; rather, removal requires additional adverse impact and habitat disturbance. See hydraulic dredging
-
- does not call for the pond perimeter curb replacement. Most of the limestone blocks should be manually removed and could be placed in deeper water for fish habitat, OR, salvaged and reused elsewhere in the park
-
- We do not support the intrusive boardwalk as it compounds maintenance needs, is intrusive and costly
-
- Alternatively, we suggest several small 'boardwalks' from ADA trail access to margins of pond
-
- Investigate increasing pond drainage area by regrading such that the 'Duckpond Channel' drains into pond. Currently it drains to the ballfield. This will impact proposed trail from parking lot to and past pond and may require boardwalk to allow for runoff/spring discharge into pond. Capturing this area could restore ~ 17AC to the pond's urban 'watershed'
-
- investigate Spring 105 as possible supplemental water source. See Brune 1973. Suggest restoring Spring 105 if practicable

Our option will require fine tuning once the design and engineering is undertaken. During the berm stabilization project, the impacts to the pond must be mitigated with appropriate environmental BMP precautions taken; likewise for all general construction in NW Park that may affect the pond.

Because the swimming pool and pond are related and because the pool is being redesigned and upgraded, it would be prudent and beneficial to consider the need for supplemental water for the pond and some water aeration and circulation with the mechanical capabilities of the adjacent new and improved pool facilities.

We urge you and your team to give serious consideration to our approach which we believe has merit and will satisfy the desire of our

community to improve the pond while maintaining the established habitat and saving taxpayer dollars. Our approach also has minimal impacts to fish, wildlife and habitat.

We would welcome the opportunity to discuss our approach in greater detail. An on-site visit with you would be especially welcome and instructive.

Northwest Park my whole life. Being retired now, I love to take my dog walking there and visit the pond several times a month.

One year I saw a nest of baby ducks in a limb overhanging the pond from a tree in the center island. The beautiful bald cypress trees provide a shelter for a lot of wildlife and wonderful shade for visitors. I many times see green herons, egrets, and yellow crowned night herons at the pond. These things are priceless!

Today I took my dog walking there and saw an elderly man enjoying fishing in the pond. It is almost completely covered in algae when I went today and I did not see any of the above mentioned birds there.

With all of the development and loss of wildlife habitats (large yards are disappearing throughout our neighborhoods as they are being covered with houses, landscape fabric and rocks!) we need to care even more for our parks and the habitat that they can provide for our wildlife. Not to forget the emotional benefits and escape they provide us humans.

I was born in 1955, so I have seen the park when it was in its prime and it used to be so well maintained. Surely in our city budget we can find funds to better care for all our parks. They seem to be quite neglected lately.

Please improve and maintain the existing pond and preserve the wonderful cypress trees that surround it.

Thank you.

I'm told that PARD is promoting a plan to convert the pond in NW Park to a water-quality pond managed by the Watershed Protection Department. It's said that trees will be killed, fish, turtles and birds banished and wetlands destroyed. This would not be an improvement! It will make things worse! I want an improvement!

To understand the heat this idea generates in Allandale, you have to know that before COA botched the flood control improvements to the park, in the 1980's, there was a wonderful little pond there with herons, ducks, fish and other sorts of aquatic life. It never got scummy or covered by duckweed. Afterwards, we got the scum and duckweed covered mess you see today.

Please do your part to scupper the Frankenstein plans to make the pond into a water-quality facility!

Thanks for your attention to this matter!

I have not seen any plans to control any type of vegetation, except for the excavation of decades-old cypress trees during the excavation of the 'so called' dam.

I am still reviewing TCEQ's Dam Safety Rules and the City's plans for bringing large yellow iron into the ball park and park area to do some sort of work on the dam. There are questions about why it has not been continually maintained during its decades-long lifetime, since it is such a key part of the flood control system on Shoal Creek in the Allandale neighborhood area. I believe it is time that I call and discuss this project with TCEQ to learn what their concerns and

expectations are regarding this work.

I am also very concerned that City staff continues to refer to the pond as a "Water Quality" pond. They seem to be quite myopic about its actual position in the ecological scheme of the park. They continue to focus on its use as a location where swimming pool effluent can release chlorine before flowing into Shoal Creek, where the chlorine would kill both plants and animal life.

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Late last year, I collected water samples from the pond for analysis by a professional environment laboratory.

I believe that before excavating any pond sediments, the Watershed staff should sample pond sediments to determine whether or not they are RCRA hazardous wastes that must be carefully stored and disposed, under strict rules. The soil sediment contents may also affect the personal protective equipment that OSHA requires for any personnel working in or near the area.

I understand that staff is currently revising the original plan.

This is still disturbing since they have NEVER characterized the entire park area before they developed a plan to up-date and redesign the park. As you mentioned, there should have been a survey of plant and animal life at the park. Data should have been compiled about the geology and hydrology of the parkland, which is a part of the Edwards recharge zone. This information would have helped them to understand the assets and strong points of this parkland and how to avoid any potential pitfalls. It would have avoided project cost over-runs and the need for some redesign and delays for collecting basic environmental data.

Re: [allandale-neighborhood-austin] UPDATE: The Pond at Northwest Park: An Opinion of Concern
Sat 10/23/2021 10:33 PM

Northwest Park hosts giant ragweed up to 18 feet tall that has a heavy seed crop on it. Downstream of the ragweed is the pond and the soccer field. Is this something that the NW Park vision plan for the pond should address?

See the first seven attached pictures of our NW Park giant ragweed,

The 1200 block of the Shoal Creek Trail also has giant ragweed on the east creek bank that blocks the view of the creek. See the eighth attached picture.

Thanks,
George - neighborhood watch volunteer



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This brings up two documents for the State Well Number:

1. 5843105 (is the 2020 digitized version of the 1973 report)
2. Scanned Documents (Scan of original 1973 report, by Gunnar Brune which shows different location for the spring than GPS by 500 feet to the SE)

below are direct URLs to each of the reports;

1. The Original by Gunnar Brune 1973 Version;

<https://s3.amazonaws.com/wellpdfs/documents/5843105/5843105.pdf>

2. The 2020 Version;

<https://www3.twdb.texas.gov/apps/waterdatainteractive/GetReports.aspx?Num=5843105&Type=GWD>
[B](#)

Thank you Gordon Thompson

>

> Thank you for the email. Darcy Nuffer is no longer with the City so I will be helping to finish up the Sheffield NW Park Vision Plan.

>

> I will pass this spring information along to the designers to make sure this spring is recorded in our park features. The research by the Environmental Consultant did turn up the well 5843105, but they are showing its location to be near the pond. I will ask that they verify the location of the well. Regarding this spring that you are showing, it should not be a problem to re-align sidewalks to avoid the spring. The Vision Plan is only conceptual so features such as springs will need to be accounted for in the detailed design of the park.

>

> We should have the draft vision plan report posted on the web page in about two weeks for everyone's review.

>

> Let me know if you have any additional questions.

>

> Thanks.

>

> Charles Mabry, PLA

> Associate Project Manager

> Park Planning Division

> 2015 15th Street, Denver, CO 80202

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> 303.733.3333

> cmabry@denvergov.org

> The first attached note, Display #1, I sent to Darcy, but did not hear back, I hope she is doing OK. This is about an overgrown spring that is still active, one which we can recover, and then feature as part of NW Park. Additionally it could supply makeup water to the Duck Pond as it did before. I see it as a win-win, a natural feature that was exhibited in the park before 1986, a real tie in to the Edwards Aquifer (Display #2) and Barton Springs.

>

> For more background see original Display #1 "Resurrection a Spring Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park".

>

> I enjoyed the walkabout in the Park this Saturday, and David found and located sections of the old Retaining wall for the Spring.

>

> On Sunday, David and I went back to where the spring is and did some more searching, later that day I took more photographs.

>

> We found ;

> 1. The short retaining wall to keep dirt out of the Spring, was probably build in 1956, what remains extends about 25 to 35 feet made with field

> flagstone and cement construction, about 2 to 3 foot high. It is on

> the NW side of the Spring flow, a GPS location point for the wall is

> 30.3484197

> -97.7410321 . see Display #6

> 2. The Spring area itself is covered over in Giant Ragweed plants, 15 footers!, which also identify the spring location. see Displays #3,#4,#5

> 3. The Spring itself is buried at most 2 to 3 feet down, by my estimation and memory, covered over by erosion of nearby dirt from missing retention

> wall, and runoff from the parking lot. This is probably is a result of design changes of parking lot runoff in the 1986 Park redesign, and missing retaining wall.

>

> I cut a path across the Giant Ragweed patch (a rectangle about 100' by 15' Display #3), and another path into the Giant Ragweed patch from the sidewalk.

> We encountered standing water and wet ground (it had rained last week

> ground anyway), and most all is filled in loose dirt. This patch is

> in a gully about 4 feet in depression, about 10 to 15' feet wide, and

> more than 100 foot long. I think the Spring is about 3 to 8 feet

> further in (away from the

> sidewalk) from where the marked Stake is, and the Spring may issue water from several locations along that gully.

>

> If this spring's flow rate is still 10 gallons per min, it can provide makeup water to the duck pond, as it did before.

>

> Nearby, there is also an overlook with stairs up to it, from the 1956 design, to the right of the entrance to the picnic tables from the parking lot, IT provides a great view of the both the spring and park.

>

> There is historical evidence of the Spring: Display #2, and many aerial views of the park showing Spring to Duck Pond water connection.

> There is several Eye witness accounts of the Spring and its location There is the physical evidence it is still there, Giant Ragweed, damp ground, etc.

>

> The present Vision Plan shows cement sidewalks being build over the Spring location. However, it seems these proposed sidewalks can easily be moved to preserve the Spring. The Ragweed can be removed, the spring dug out, and then bricked in such a fashion such that parking lot water and erosion of the spring itself is greatly diminished.

^

> Displays

- > 1. "Resurrection a Spring Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park"
- > 2. Original NWPark Well Schedule (Spring) 5843105
- 3. NWPark Spring
- > Area X marks the Spot (or close to it)
- 4. NWPark Spring Covered w
- > Giant Ragweed (middle of picture)
- 5. NW Park Spring view from Overlook
- > (covered by Giant Ragweed)
- 6. NW Park Spring Retaining Walls

I've been working with Darcy and Drew Carman, but just forwarding / cc'ing because this is such a high profile park and has some amazing opportunity for a high-profile bicycle success story.

Thanks!

Cullen

Drew, Darcy,

I just spent some time on my bike, soaking in the rays on a wonderful day in Northwest District Park.

I know you both have been doing tons of work on this park's Vision Plan, but I would love to discuss the possibility of the "bicycle playground" area being at Area #19 in the vision plan map rather than Area #17.

I am cc'ing one of the country's best skatepark and bike park designers, who I just met with last week, Mike McIntyre, Action Sports Design.

Ideally I would love to meet with all three of you on-site some time in the next couple of months, before the Vision Plan is finalized and presented to the Parks Board.

Here are my reasons for preferring Area #19 over Area #17:

- Area #19 is already in a "basin" created by historical quarry activity. Basins are well known in skatepark design and BMX/MTB trail design as being desirable.
- Area # 19 could use hard surface track, ideally socially coated concrete (which Mike McIntyre can discuss further)—and if we reclaim some of the old asphalt parking lot there is no net increase in impervious cover. In contrast, Area #17 is currently green space.
- Area #17 is very close to a residence and has also been used in the past by neighbors for dog training meetup. I don't love the idea of taking that green space. I would much rather rehabilitate the "ugly" parking lot in area #19.
- The size of Area #19 is much better suited to a very cool *long* design. I've learned from experience that square pump tracks are not that great. The better design is a really long rectangle or long triangle.

Thanks for listening. I would love to make the bicycle aspect of the park the best it can be.

Cheers,

Drew, Darcy,

I just spent some time on my bike, soaking in the rays on a wonderful day in Northwest District Park.

I know you both have been doing tons of work on this park's Vision Plan, but I would love to discuss the possibility of the "bicycle playground" area being at Area #19 in the vision plan map rather than Area #17.

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Thanks for listening. I would love to make the bicycle aspect of the park the best it can be.

Dear Members of the Parks and Recreation Board:

I live just down the street from Northwest Park, and I treasure the pond and the environment it provides. It attracts a variety of wildlife to the middle of Austin. My favorite is the Green Heron who fishes along its margin. Please support the least intrusive option for the pond at Northwest Park, preserving the island and the existing trees. Please also recommend an aeration system and a water

supply in dry weather and an adequate maintenance budget. I hope we can continue to have this little wild piece of Northwest Park and preserve it for our community and for the wildlife. Thank you.

Hello, I am a 24 yr. Crestview and then Allandale resident, who loves and uses Northwest Park. I want to protect but improve the pond, the wetland and save the cypress trees. I do not like the idea of converting to an engineered water-quality pond in which a new habitat will take decades to mature. Let's preserve the pond by giving it air and un-chlorinated water and enjoy it as it is.

Good afternoon,

I write to advocate for a carefully considered restoration and improvement plan for conserving the natural setting of Beverly S. Sheffield NW District Park, situated in the Allandale neighborhood of Austin.

I urge you to adopt a plan that carefully conserves the natural pond, island, trees and habitat, and includes a sufficient budget for maintenance responsibility by the City. It does not need to be transformed into a brick-and-mortar type outdoor space that resembles a hotel resort or business complex green park or commercial theme park.

Pond preservation advocates believe the PARD should do an in-depth study to address natural-conservation improvements to the pond while maintaining the pond footprint and preserving all existing trees, pond aerators, native plantings, and a boardwalk. Other alternatives for water quality “wet pond” options may sound okay or look all right on paper, yet they would remove trees and the island, which pond advocates oppose.

The pond has been a longtime source of great enjoyment to kids, families and other adults who appreciate the trees, birds, frogs, fish and turtles. Snowy egrets, blue herons and other birds visit the pond. (See attached .jpgs). If done properly, these improvements will foster public appreciation of clean air and water, wildlife and serene green space for many years to come.

The Audubon Society states these priorities clearly: ***"Natural habitat and open spaces are disappearing at an alarming rate. Protections for wildlife, natural places, and clean air***

and water are in jeopardy. By protecting birds, we're also safeguarding the Western hemisphere's great natural heritage for future generations, preserving our shared quality of life and fostering a healthier environment for us all."

See <https://www.audubon.org/conservation>

Please keep these priorities in mind as you develop the plans for improving and preserving our Northwest District Park.



Park Board Members,

I have lived in Allandale for over 20 years and I visit the park several times a week. I have attended several of the planning meetings and am very pleased that improvements are coming to our park. One area of concern for me and several of my neighbors though, is the proposed plan for the pond. It is an iconic part of the park and I believe we can improve the pond without destroying the trees. Careful hydraulic dredging could be used to deepen the pond and the well dug by the city could be activated to add a water source. A waterfall cascading down from the west side off the hill could be used to add aeration while keeping the same foot print of the pond and preserving every one of the Cypress trees. An annual budget for maintenance would ensure the upkeep.

Dear Parks Board Members,

I'm writing you to express my concern about the plans to improve the pond at Sheffield Northwest Park. I've heard about different plans being considered, and I believe it's very important to do the least invasive changes to the pond, which would be to maintain the same footprint, not expand it; preserve the trees; have a maintenance budget for the pond, and add an aeration system and water supply for the pond.

I have lived nearby on Albata Ave since 1998, and visit the park multiple times each week, usually on morning walks. The pond is one of my favorite features of the park. As I walk along the path below the bald cypress trees, I often see beautiful water birds and turtles there.

Thank you for considering input from neighbors like me. I'm excited that there will be improvements made to the pond, and ask that the revitalization be done in a way that does not harm the pond's natural habitat.

Dear Director McNeeley and Ms. Nutter,

I'm writing to respectfully share my opposition to the Parks and Recreation Department's plan to improve and expand the pond at Northwest Park under the management of the Water Protection Department.

I am privileged to live in a house that backs to Shoal Creek in Allandale. Northwest Park was a favorite place to visit before I had kids; now even with the kids older, one of us is visiting the park for some reason, even just to walk through it, on a weekly basis. Our favorite way to visit the park is picnic dinner on a blanket beside the pond, in the company of the bald cypress trees. This is the only place nearby to enjoy these native trees that used to dominate the banks of the creeks here. Wood ducks also visit the pond seasonally, turtles of many varieties can be observed here, and despite the pond's struggles with over-saturation of nitrogen and not enough oxygen, sometimes we're even able to observe fish.

I read in the Allandale newsletter that the Parks and Recreation Department is promoting a plan to replace this pond with a \$1.9 million project to convert it into a working water-quality pond that will expand the pond, but eliminate established habitats, including wetlands and the beloved bald cypresses, to do so. It is hard to see this as an improvement, rather than taking steps at a fraction of the cost to carefully dredge and restore the pond that we already have.

I would like to add a word about my experiences with the Watershed Protection Department. I have been trying for many years to protect native tree starts along Shoal Creek behind our house so that they are allowed to mature into trees whose roots will protect the banks, and whose growth will help to control invasives and provide needed shade and habitat along the creek. My biggest victory is a Mexican Sycamore, which now stands 15 feet tall. Being at home, due to the pandemic, when the crews came by to clear out all the vegetation along the creek made it possible to save the sycamore. Over the years I have tried to reach someone from WPD who would respond to my inquiries about preserving native trees along the creek, but so far no luck. I am concerned that any future maintenance of the pond by WPD will be similar to what happens along Shoal Creek, prioritizing water management over preserving historic and beneficial habitats or responding to the concerns of affected citizens.

Thank you for your consideration and for your and your staff's hard work for Austin.

Dear Members of the Parks and Recreation Board,

I've lived less than a block away from Northwest Park for almost thirty-five years. The pond is its most wonderful feature, attracting wildlife to the middle of Austin. Please support the least intrusive option for the pond at Northwest Park, maintaining its present size rather than expanding it, and preserving the island and all existing trees. Please also recommend an aeration system and a water supply in dry weather and an adequate maintenance budget. I value the large cypress and other trees at the pond and the habitat that the pond has provided for wildlife. I hope we can continue to have this little bit of wild piece of Northwest Park and preserve it for our community and for the wildlife. Thank you.

Dear Parks Board Members,

As a homeowner in Allandale, I am writing to ask you to protect the pond at NW Park, and all of the animals and native plants that call it home. I truly enjoy watching the birds and wildlife living there, and hope to see the pond, trees and habitat protected.

I request the following:

- * Natural-conservation improvements to the pond
- * Maintain the pond footprint
- * Preserve all existing trees.
- * Create a source for supplemental water in the driest months of the year and to provide a means to aerate the pond.
- * Native plantings, and removal of Invasive plants.
- * A waterfall on the stepped limestone blocks to create both a focal point and a system to move and aerate the water.

I am very concerned with the proliferation of non-native plants, including a ton of Poison Ivy and Ragweed in the park.

It would be very nice to remove these invasive poison and/or allergy inducing plants.

Charles,

We are continuing to talk with folks and to accumulate information about the pond, and I trust you are as well. As part of our outreach, we are going to be meeting with Kimberly McNeeley at the pond on It's My Park Day. Before we talk with her, we'd like to meet you there to be able to more easily point out areas we've mentioned and talk in a more relaxed setting than a board meeting. We'd also like to hear your thoughts about the latest proposals for the pond.

I know you're stepping up to coordinate this project toward the end of the vision planning, but it's really just the beginning of the real process for restoring the pond. We appreciate your responsiveness to concerns we've raised and remain hopeful for a solution that honors community priorities to leave the park and the pond in as natural a state as possible, to protect the trees and habitat, and to find ways to refresh and replenish the pond as needed.

We hope we can meet to continue our discussion about ongoing concerns and opportunities. We will work to accommodate your schedule, so please let us know of your availability.

Charles;

We did not have a chance to meet last evening. we should have.

Anyhow, i mentioned to Drew that i would meet on-site and go over the water/spring/known hydrology issues as i know them and transfer that knowledge to you for your use in further planning.

Your call. I have looked into the issue fairly extensively and am willing to share. It may help you fine tune additional more detailed hydrological consultation.

Let me know.

I am flexible on times and live a block from the park.

October 30, 2021

Drew Carman, PLA
Director of Park Planning and Design
RVi Planning + Landscape Architecture
1611 West 5th Street, Suite 175
Austin, TX 78703

Re: Site Visit to Assess Potential Spring Location at Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park

Dear Mr. Carman,

On October 22, 2021, Hicks & Company's Senior Ecologist and Professional Geologist revisited the area at Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park that was referenced by Mr. Gordon Thompson in an email dated October 18, 2021, as the potential location of a spring. A spring has not been previously documented at this location and is not shown on historical topographic maps. As discussed in the 2019 Shoal Creek Characterization Report, it is likely that more springs/seeps existed in the Shoal Creek watershed in the past, but urbanization and associated increases in impervious cover have altered the hydrology of the area and decreased the natural infiltration of rainwater into the groundwater system, potentially resulting in lower overall baseflow of springs.

The area referenced by Mr. Thompson appears to be within an older meander of Shoal Creek that underwent modification during park construction and re-routing of Shoal Creek. Currently, this area appears to be a swale that picks up drainage from the parking lot adjacent to the pool. Standing water was documented in the upper reach of this investigation during the October 22, 2021, field visit, which likely resulted from recent rainfall. The water was pooled and not flowing. Sample pits were dug throughout the area of standing water, and no indication of fresh water mixing with muddy surface water was observed that could potentially indicate spring water flowing to the surface. See photos on pages 2 and 3.

The plants in this area are primarily facultative species, which are recognized as occurring in both wetlands and uplands to varying degrees. No species were observed that would indicate the area in question holds water for extended periods of time. The entirety of the swale feature and the rest of the park around the pond were investigated, and no surface expression of a spring was observed. Additionally, investigators were unable to locate the well documented at this location.



Photo 1: Overview of area revisited



Photo 2: Sample pit dug in area of standing water



Photo 3: Upslope start of surface water



Allandale Neighborhood Association • P.O. Box 10886 • Austin, Texas 78766

**Resolution Requesting the Austin Parks and Recreation Department
to Provide Additional Information and Access for Comments to be Submitted
on the Vision Plan for Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park**

Whereas, the City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department has embarked upon a process to establish a new Vision Plan for Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park; and

Whereas, the purpose of the Vision Plan is to gather community input to develop a plan to guide future development in the park; and

Whereas, the objectives include engaging community stakeholders in visioning the park's future and creating a plan to guide phased implementation of desired park updates and features; and

Whereas, community stakeholders are engaged through community surveys, small groups discussions, community meetings and feedback on Vision Plan concepts; and

Whereas, a lack of information and/or clarity in proposed concepts can impede meaningful stakeholder participation; and

Whereas, survey restrictions that limit the ability to provide feedback on proposed concepts can effectively silence the voices of community stakeholders; and

Whereas, proposals lacking sufficient explanations can mislead stakeholders who are attempting to provide direction to city planners; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Allandale Neighborhood Association Board of Directors hereby requests the City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department to provide information to clarify the distinctions included in the proposals presented to stakeholders in the alternative concepts for the Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park Vision Plan, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that stakeholders be provided the opportunity to participate in surveys by offering comments or expressing concerns without being forced to endorse a particular plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the comments submitted by stakeholders to serve as guiding principles for the Vision Plan be honored, respected and justly incorporated in plans developed by Austin Parks and Recreation Department in the development of future changes in Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the stakeholders of Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park be given sufficient time, information and ability to comment on the final proposal, previous survey limitations notwithstanding, before it is adopted and submitted for final approval to the City of Austin Parks and Recreation Board.

Allandale Neighborhood Association Board of Directors Adopted: July 7, 2021

Submitted: Mary Fero, Chair, Parks, Recreation and Greenspace Committee

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Charles,

Thank you and Drew so much for coming to meet us at the park yesterday to get a better understanding of our concerns however unsuccinctly they were presented. This group does represent a large, vocal, passionate community that loves the park who is focused on the pond and has been for many years. I got involved in 2016 and they were already formed. With the delays over the levee work and the hold on the pool replacement, many are frustrated with the process of trying to get improvements done to the park. The vision planning was to most another delay not understanding or choosing not to understand PARD's improvement process.

As you could see the pond does need TLC but is a functioning pond when rains are good. Drew's design for the park is inspired. I truly appreciate the PARD team redirecting the design away from a water quality function and saving those 30+-year-old massive cypress trees. I am writing you today about the design of the boardwalk over the pond. As your data shows a majority of people want the boardwalk myself included. The boardwalk will take pressure off the pond edges where people continually pull out any plants added to mark the edge of the pond. And what kid doesn't want to sit on the boardwalk looking into the water. It is a great design that will allow safer access to the water for all. Please don't remove the boardwalk from the design. I am betting it is the first thing most people will gravitate to when viewing the pond.

It must be difficult to balance all these disparate points of view of the park redesign. At least these folks really care about their park! I know your heart is in the design of the playscape replacement which is funded. We are very excited by that being the first project.

In the future, I think it might be helpful to gently remind everyone that the vision plan only sets the vision for allowed future projects in the park. Each project included in the vision plan will have a detailed design with implementation specifics, funding, and construction schedules along with all the director and board approvals to move forward. I felt we were getting into design specifics yesterday during our discussion.

Again, thank you for meeting with us yesterday,

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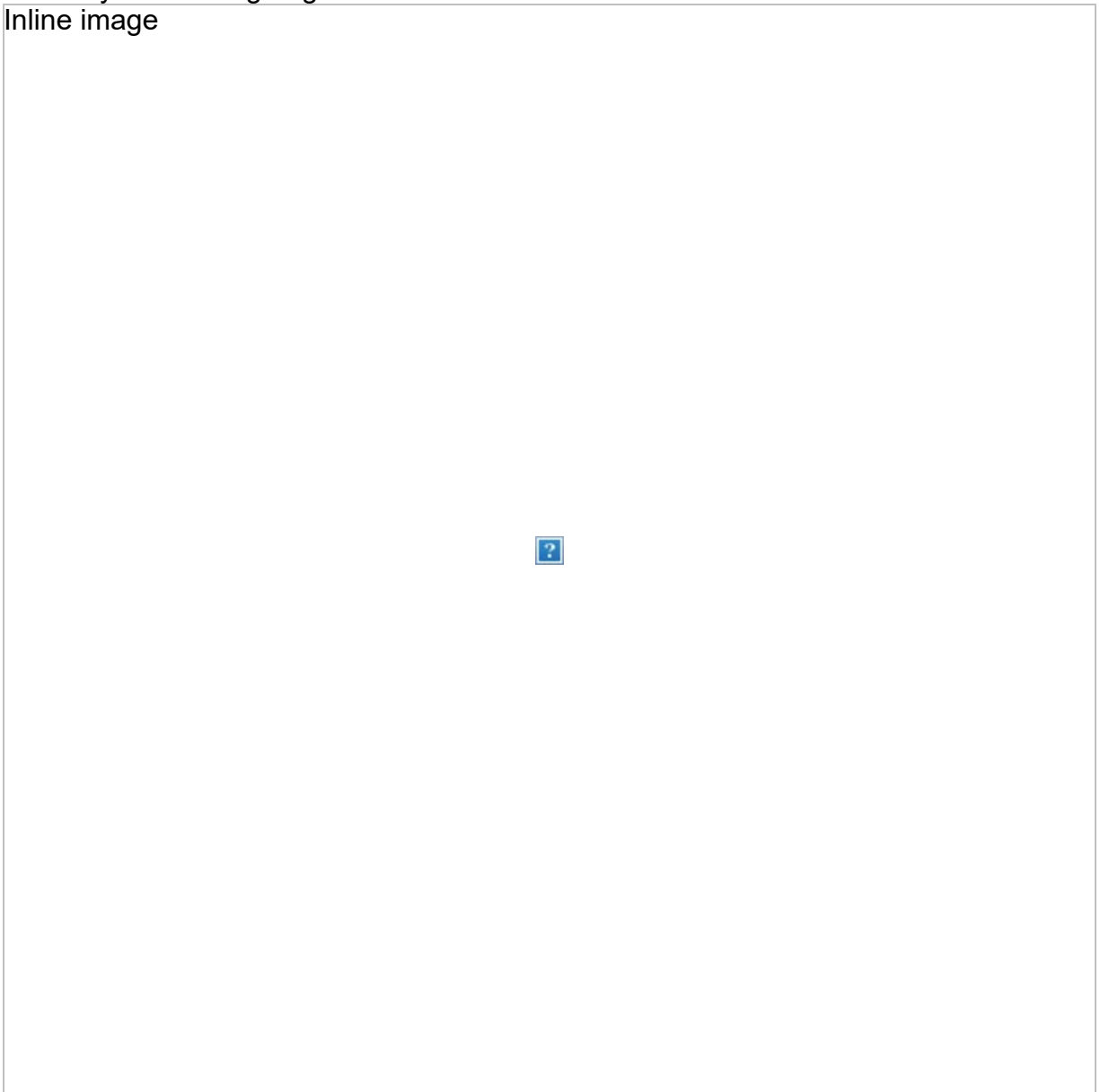
Hi, I had some feedback on the park plan. I'm confused by the plan showing a bike lane (singular) on the access road (pages 110 and 111).

How does a single lane serve active transportation users? How do bikes leave the park?

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In looking at your south entrance to NW Park and the baseball field, I would like to suggest an entrance to the "trail" that traverses behind the baseball field. There currently is a damaged guard

Inline image



rail (Att. 1) that easily could be opened (Att. 2 - another entrance to the trail) allowing hikers and bikes to access the footpath that goes behind the baseball field. This

could be accomplished immediately as maintenance and not influence the cost of the project.

Inline image



Thank you for your attention to this message.

Thank you for sharing your input. I've forward it to additional team members to take into consideration as the plan development proceeds. I appreciate you taking interest in the project.

Best Regards-

Kimberly McNeeley, CPRP
Director, Austin Parks and Recreation
512-974-6722

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Morning all,

My mother sent me an article on the issues and potential solutions for the pond at Northwest park. I am very familiar with the pond as I fished there as a child in the 70's. Back when Aquafest was a part of the Austin culture they even had a fishing derby there. As kids will be kids, we would pull an all-nighter the night before the derby and fish the freshly stocked pond. We never really caught much, but we had fun.

It was interesting to read in the article that the pond was originally a backwash lagoon for the pool. I hadn't thought about it, but it makes a lot of sense now. I question the statement ab out it being illegal. It's my understanding that it is legal, it would just need to be permitted through the Federal program for discharges (National Pollution Discharge Elimination System), but I don't have all of the facts.

As a registered professional engineer and licensed water distribution system operator, I feel like I have an interesting option for the pond that is somewhat of a hybrid of the solutions presented.

From the article, it is presented that

- the pool cannot be backwashed into the pond due to the chlorine level
- the pond has low DO
- the pond has a history of fish kills
- the pond will have water quantity and quality issues
- the pond has a volume issue due to sediments

Solving the chlorine issue is fairly simple. Sodium bisulfide can be added to the backwash discharge to eliminate any chlorine residual. This process is used by virtually every wastewater plant in the country and the equipment and technology is readily available. I am not aware how often the pool must perform its backwash cycle or the volume generated, but it would certainly help reduce the quantity concerns. The operation of this process would fall on the pool personnel. Backwashing into the pond will also save the City the cost/burden of discharging to the wastewater collection system.

The low DO can be simply addressed as well. Although I like the idea of a fountain/waterfall, I envision this as an additional operation concern. There are a lot of moving parts that would need to be in place and we all know, moving parts break. We have water suppliers in our area that use floating solar powered aerators to increase DO in lakes and ponds. Given the green energy concerns that are often highlighted in Austin, this seems like a great solution. Increasing the DO will also support reduction or elimination of the fish kills and increase water quality. The equipment would need to be managed and repaired, but they are fairly simple and effective devices.

The article mentions dredging the ponds which is needed in all impoundments over time. Disposal of the sediments is just something that will have to be dealt with. It'd be a one time investment that seems necessary whatever is the chosen option.

That's all I've got; dechlorinate the backwash, install solar aerators, dredge the sediment...

Best of luck with the project.



Help save the environment: think before you print.

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Not to put too fine a point on it, but wouldn't it have been better if PARD had collected data and ideas before listening to Watershed Protection pontificate about "the waterquality pond" and draglines and dams?

It seems that the first plan was to tear up Jack and hope it looked like a McDonald's parking lot playground. That was shocking and appalling when it was presented at the Allandale NA meeting and roused the troops to chain themselves to the trees to protect the wildlife.

Who is so out of sync? I doubt that it is Matteo.....

One more time, I would like to urge City Management and staff to get out of your castle and come see what is going on. We have Transportation talking about wild-eyed ideas on Burnet Rd. without understanding that that is where our residents earn their living and get \$\$ to send kids to college and pay taxes and mortgage. We don't want a bunch of national chain stores on our Main Street. Then there is the hot mess on Shoal Creek Blvd that has led to about one bike accident a month, usually due to speeding. It is no longer a neighborhood facility, due to virtual racing by the spandex speeders. All of this comes on the heels of the CodeNEXT debacle, with City staff dismissing and attempting to deceive and mislead the neighbors, many of whom are lawyers, scientists, doctors, engineers and financial officers and professors.

The debates about The Grove quickly showed that Allandale and Rosedale had the ability to field experienced, senior professionals in modelling, transportation, engineering and architecture that out-classed the lowest bidders that the developer hired to fool City staff.

The real problem with these recent scenarios is that they undermine any confidence at residents may ever have had in our City staff and senior leadership management. Nearly all of us have been senior managers ourselves and we know the signs and smells to staff running amok, appearing without preparation and presenting a project with a FIRE, AIM presentation and no sign of preparation and data collection to show that they are READY to move forward.

When is someone going to pull up their sock and arrive at Allandale NA and other NA meetings properly prepared and truly ready to listen to concerns.

All of us have jobs, businesses, families, and aging parents that take a significant amount of our time. We don't need to spend time doing city staff's work -- that is why we pay our taxes, some of the highest in the City and much more than developers are contributing. PLEASE ! Think before you come out to Allandale with a half baked, destructive plan that we need to spend time analyzing and trouble shooting.

I have already taken and analyzed water samples from the pond. Have you? That pond collects all the auto drippings for a mile around. Is that safe for an animal habitat and refuge? Where does the water in the pond come from when the pond is not dumping chlorinated water into the pond? No one can find me the piping diagram? Has anyone done a geology study or resistivity study? Do you expect us to do that for you ?

Please get the senior managers together and make plans to think before you send staff out to tell us what you are going to do to our neighborhood.

Sincerely,

On Nov 4, 2021, at 5:29 PM, Austin Parks and Recreation Department <nwparkplanfeedback@austintexas.gov> wrote:

[View this email in your browser](#)



Sheffield Northwest Park Vision Plan Update

The Draft Final Vision Plan report and appendix for Sheffield Northwest District Park is now available to view on the project [website](#). The report contains recommendations for phasing the projects shown in the [Draft Final Vision Plan](#) and will provide broad-level, preliminary cost estimates for recommended work.

If you would like to further engage with the plan and provide feedback, there will be a Draft Vision Plan Presentation to the Parks and Recreation Board on November 30 beginning at 6 p.m. Community members can also provide feedback on the Vision Plan report by emailing nwparkplanfeedback@austintexas.gov

The plan has been developed through a months-long visioning process that gathered community feedback through meetings, surveys, and pop-up events. A record of the community engagement events and backup materials can be found on the project [website](#).

Background Information

Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park is a 31-acre park in the Allandale neighborhood. The park, originally called Northwest District Park, was named after former director of the Parks and Recreation Department, Beverly S. Sheffield in 2001. Park amenities include baseball fields, basketball and tennis courts, a pool, rentable picnic spaces, a duck pond, and trails along Shoal Creek.

PARD has been gathering community input over the past several months and is working to refine a Vision Plan based on the planning values developed through stakeholder engagement. The final draft plan will include recommendations for phased implementation of desired park updates and features.

The park has a long history. We invite community members to share your stories on [Speak Up Austin](#). As Austin Parks and Recreation Department continue the Vision Planning process, we hope you will share your stories to help guide this process.

Please note that the aquatic center (pool area) is a separate project and is a concurrent project. More details are available in the [Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest](#)

[Municipal Pool project webpage.](#)



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Good Afternoon

It is nice to virtually meet you. Thank you for your feedback. I have copied two colleagues to ensure your feedback is received by the planning team. I want to assure you additional work is still underway as it relates to planning for the pond. In fact, I plan to meet some community members at the park tomorrow (November 6th at 8 am) in celebration of It's My Park Day and to walk the pond area to personally hear feedback. I have communicated with Mary Fero, David Riskind and Peggy Maceo. If you are available I would welcome the opportunity to meet you in person.

Please know the team will consider your input. Happy Friday.

Best Regards-

Kimberly McNeeley, CPRP
Director, Austin Parks and Recreation
512-974-6722

To Whom it may Concern,

I am writing to express my concern about the \$1.9 m project to convert our pond to a water-quality pond managed by the Watershed Protection Dept. This is not what has been requested by the community.

We want to preserve the pond and improve it: to save the trees, fish, turtles and birds that use these wetlands. This means making the water well operational in order to provide supplemental water during dry periods and to improve the water quality. It also means improving the circulation and aeration by designing and building a waterfall feature near the old well bore. Careful hydraulic dredging could produce a deeper pond as well. These improvements would be significantly less expensive than the plan being considered - \$200K or less.

Please vote to protect and improve the existing wetland, save the cypress trees and maintain this pond as a treasure for wildlife and for the community in future years.

Hi

Thank you for the feedback. This drainage pattern that you are referencing would stay much the same. The channel would remain to the south of the playground area and drain towards the pond. There are some proposed trails that would require small bridges or culverts to allow the drainage to travel to the pond.

Please let me know if you have any additional questions.

Thanks.

Currently, rainwater drains from the east side parking lot along a channel that runs along the south edge of the playground and empties into a field that eventually drains into the pond. The vision illustration seems to show that this channel will no longer exist. So where will the water go? Can you clarify?

Regards,

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Please vote to protect and improve the existing wetland, save the cypress trees and maintain this pond as a treasure for wildlife and for the community in future years.

I tried to send this to Darcy Nuffer, the project manager, but the address failed.

Thank you.

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Thanks for all the hard work so far on the draft vision plan!

Looking at the plan, there seems to me to still be way, way, way too much parking! In the six years I have been going to the park, I have never seen the parking in the east lot (east of the pool) more than 10% utilized.

I feel like that space has so much potential to be reimagined if we de-anchored from it being a big, flat, hot and unused parking lot.

I feel certain that if this park was being designed from scratch and with a blank canvas, it would be designed with less parking than in the current plan and I hope that as part of this redesign we can permanently change the ratio of parking to green space in this important green space in our city!

Thank you!

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [NW Park Plan Feedback](#)
Subject: A few suggestions
Date: Thursday, January 13, 2022 4:37:52 PM

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

1. Area for Tai chi and yoga which could also double for for reading to a group or playing music to a group. Would need to be in a shaded area and ground/floor would need to be a soft asphalt like childrens playgrounds, level. This space would need to accomodate @ 10 people but for listeners of stories or audiences they could be out in a grassy area around it.

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From:
To:
Cc:
Subject: Bike Playground - Sheffield NW District - Support and Comments letter
Date: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 8:55:36 AM
Attachments: [Rock Solid Support Letter - Sheffield NW District Park.pdf](#)

Hi Charles,

As a local Austin resident and professional trail contractor, I wanted to include an official letter of support (attached) for the Sheffield NW District Park project. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. Thanks!

--

Links contained in this email have been replaced. If you click on a link in the email above, the link will be analyzed for known threats. If a known threat is found, you will not be able to proceed to the destination. If suspicious content is detected, you will see a warning.

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [NW Park Plan Feedback](#)
Subject: Draft vision plan
Date: Saturday, December 11, 2021 4:41:10 PM

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Hello,

I was looking at the final draft and was wondering how many pickleball courts will be included? I see 2 on the PDF, but I fear that would be too little. Please please please put in at least 4 permanent courts.

thanks. any info you had on this matter is much appreciated!

[REDACTED]
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[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Sent: Sunday, January 9, 2022, 3:32 PM
[Redacted]

Subject: Re: Bike track at Allandale

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Hi, [Redacted] Thank you for your email concerning the Sheffield Northwest District Park Vision Plan and for sharing your enthusiasm about the Wells Branch MUD bike track. To clarify, the article in the Allandale Newsletter mentioned that the original proposal to locate a bike track on the west side of Shoal Creek Blvd had been abandoned due to safety concerns related to that stretch of Shoal Creek Blvd. However, the current draft includes plans for a "youth bike playground" at the park near the Ardath entrance. My understanding is that this proposed plan is not intended for adults and teens, but rather for young children.

While I appreciate your sentiments, there are alternate and opposing views from the community regarding the bike track, which was alluded to in the article. Many park users have expressed a preference for the park to remain as natural a setting as possible - including retaining open spaces. Unlike the Wells Branch setting, which appears to have incorporated these amenities with more recent development, Northwest Park has been enjoyed for decades in large part due to its inviting and relaxed natural environment. Although the area now proposed for a bike pump track is currently used by scouting groups and for training classes, many park users and immediate neighbors in particular are concerned about increased activity at the park entrance and noise near homes where folks have lived for years.

This park is classified as a district park, but it would likely fall under the size guidelines of a neighborhood park - except for the land associated with the baseball field. In addition to active recreation that is currently offered, the park is a place of respite in the center of the city, with towering trees and places for relaxed conversation and contemplation - also important to our neighborhood, and increasingly harder to find. Beyond that, the targeted area also funnels natural water flow to the pond, helping to support it as a habitat for nesting birds and other wildlife.

Satisfying these competing objectives may be difficult, if not impossible. By contacting the park planning team, your views will be considered along with those of others who have been involved in the Vision Plan process. FYI, I previously had asked that if a bike track is to be located at the park, other options be considered, including moving it to the far side of the parking lot or the street that eventually will be reconfigured.

I appreciate your interest in the park and your support of and involvement in the neighborhood. Thank you again for sharing your thoughts. Please don't hesitate to follow up should you have further ideas you'd like to discuss. (note email [Redacted])

Thanks again,
[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Sent: Sun, Jan 9, 2022 1:04 pm
Subject: Bike track at Allandale

Hello [Redacted]

I am reaching out to you and the ANA Board because I saw in the December newsletter that the proposed bike track was eliminated from the NW park improvement projects.

Having lived in Allandale since 1996 I have enjoyed biking throughout the entire neighborhood on a fairly regular basis.

I now have 9 year old twins at Gullett, and we love biking as a family but many times find ourselves at other parks and trails throughout the city to get off the road.

Sometimes we go up to Wells Branch to use their skate park which is shared by kids and professionals alike.

I think our neighborhood would really benefit from a bike track because our neighborhood is all about biking.

The beauty of a bike pump track is that it's accessible to almost anyone and for all ability levels. You don't have to be an advanced rider—I have seen 2-year-olds shredding on a balance bike as well as adults on mountain bikes. It's a learning tool that's fun for everyone.

Our Northwest Park has so much to offer, but some of the large space items like the well-loved pool and baseball fields are used more occasionally than other spaces like the tennis/pickle ball courts and playground which see regular daily use.

A bike track would be a big plus for our families and likely provide enjoyment on a regular daily basis as well.

I hope the ANA will reconsider t.



Photo on Greenlawn courtesy the Statesman.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tree Pruning Questions?
Who do you trust
with the answers?

**Allandale's
Tree Pruning
Workshop
10 a.m. – Noon
Saturday, January 22, 2022
Shoal Creek Nursery,
2710 Hancock Drive**



Don't miss this! Love your trees!

Sponsored by Allandale
Neighborhood Association
Free to ANA members. Others \$5.

More information is available on the
flyer found on page 18!

aspects of the plan continue to raise concerns. Some of the most generally accepted features reflect updates to existing structures, designs, and functions; more disputed items seemed to arise from planners' vision of a new and different park.

As the draft report mentions, mid-century minimalist design distinguishes the structures and layout of the park. In 1956, Northwest Park provided Austin its first Olympic swimming pool, but also retained the relaxed charm and comfort of its natural setting. During this vision plan process, the values most appreciated and expressed about the park were community and nature – values that should guide the park's restoration and progress.

Park planners have adapted the vision plan to respond, at least partially, to community comments. There is still time to influence the plan before it is approved.

Some proposals received immediate and almost universal approval:

- wide access pedestrian bridge with a kid- and dog-friendly surface and expanded landing

- new playscapes for young and older kids
- dedicated pickleball courts
- a better-defined and accessible trail around park perimeter
- improved pedestrian access through the park
- more seating and shade structures
- removal of impervious cover
- park entrance signs

There also is enthusiastic support for replacing the pool and updating the changing rooms. Scheduled for 2024-25, construction for this Austin Aquatic Division project will be coordinated with the Parks department.

Some proposals were eliminated:

- a second pedestrian bridge; fabric shade coverings along the top of the dam
- a bike pump track on the western side of Shoal Creek Boulevard that raised safety concerns

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Thank you,

[Redacted signature block]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Subject: Concerning Parks & Recreation Bd. Hearing, 1-25-22, Item B.1. NW Park

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Dear Members of the Parks and Recreation Board,

I live less than a block away from Northwest Park and visit it regularly, mainly to walk around and enjoy the natural features. I would prefer that the park be as natural as possible, as an oasis for people and wildlife in the middle of an urban setting.

There are several proposals that would support the concept of a natural urban oasis. The current plan would maintain the present boundaries of the pond, which is excellent. Aeration is needed for for the fish and wildlife. The island, trees, and wildlife need to be protected. To that end, the boardwalk should not be built, as it's too intrusive, possibly harmful to roots, and unnatural. The bike pump track is a bad idea, as it would add impervious cover to an area that channels water to the pond, reduce the variety of uses of the present unstructured open area to one activity, restrict access to the area to only a small segment of the population, and possibly increase noise to very nearby homes. Please avoid putting in concrete paths, as they will impact trees in some areas and detract from the natural appearance of the park. Instead, please use permeable hard-pack paths in all areas, as they are accessible and durable. I support a natural, rather than a commercial appearance for all features of the park.

Please adopt a sensitive plan which preserves a natural haven in our city and include an adequate budget for the city to maintain it. Thank you.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

[REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, January 13, 2022 10:04 AM
To: Mabry, Charles <Charles.Mabry@austintexas.gov>
Subject: Re: NW Park Vision Plan Dec2021 comments/feedback

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Good Morning Charles,

I wanted to get these comments on proposed designs over to you sooner.

Thank you

[REDACTED]

Comments on Items in Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park Vision Plan 12/2021 Draft

A key Park goal/requirement is to enhance and preserve the parks natural beauty and amenities. "Throughout the engagement process, the design team heard support for preserving or enhancing the natural features and habitat of the park."

1. Boardwalk (page 113) Re-design Boardwalk to allow better pond access, please no fence.

Parts of the current proposed design:

- Excludes people from the waters edge, makes pond less accessible
- Bushes planted around pond to keep people away, greatly reduces viability of pond
- Diminishes natural pond experience
- Conflicts with preserving the Park's natural beauty and features

2. Playscapes. (page 152) Please use a safer Child Safe Design, and replace the proposed nature-based placescapes.

The current safe plastic playscapes are very well designed for child safety. The proposed nature-based playscapes as shown in three of the four photographs on page 152 show;

- Numerous fall hazards, where children can hit heir heads on hard logs, or rocks, concussion.
- Child Safety is paramount. Choosing material for sustainability is a feel-good.

3. Picnic Shade Shelters. (page 162) Please find a less dramatic design that does not block view

They look like bus stops, they cost a lot too.

They conflict with the natural look of the park, and will look very dated in 5 years.

They exclude the natural park view from one side. There is no BBQ grill.

It is recommended to use natural shade first, perhaps a sun shade only over the top, and have no vision blocking sides.

4. Pump Track (page 153) Please consider Removing Pump Track from Vision Plan

Conflicts with keeping the Park in a natural state as possible.

no adult supervision present, no protection from UV, no water nearby

Unaccompanied hangout at night, vandalize target

It is Attractive Nuisance, liability exposure, what is accident protocol?

Better left to private enterprise, similar to Putt-Putt, or the Yard Bar

Will require monthly maintenance and erosion correction

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TO: City of Austin Parks and Recreation Board Members

BC-Dawn.Lewis@austintexas.gov

BC-Laura.Cottam-Sajbel@austintexas.gov

bc-Richard.DePalma@austintexas.gov

bc-Sarah.Faust@austintexas.gov

BC-Nina.Rinaldi@austintexas.gov

BC-Lisa.Hugman@austintexas.gov

BC-Anna.DiCarlo@austintexas.gov

BC-Nancy.Barnard@austintexas.gov

BC-Kim.Taylor@austintexas.gov

bc-patrick.moore@austintexas.gov

cc: Charles.Mabry@austintexas.gov; Kimberly.McNeeley@austintexas.gov

FROM:

RE: Item B.1, Parks and Recreation Hearing 01-25-22

DATE: 01-24-22

Good afternoon,

I write to advocate for a carefully considered natural restoration and ecological improvement plan for conserving the natural setting of Beverly S. Sheffield NW District Park. While it has appeal for all of Austin, it is situated entirely within the Allandale neighborhood of Austin.

I favor proposals that promote the appearance and condition of the park as a natural preserve in the midst of an otherwise busy city. I urge you not to use the funds for a boardwalk, bike pump playground, and concrete pathways, and instead apply that budget money toward pond preservation and open-space uses. Its natural, open appearance is what gives NW Park its refreshing, family-friendly appeal to revitalize and calm the human spirit through exposure to nature without leaving town.

Pond Preservation. We appreciate that the current plan aims to maintain the current configuration and protect the habitat. We favor gathering information from a range of studies showing how best to improve water conditions and makeup water without harming trees and existing wildlife. Definitely, aeration of the pond is needed to promote healthy water conditions for the fish, wildlife, and people. Final decisions will require further public input following the studies. Plans for the pond may be affected by additional projects taking place at the park in the next few years: Shoal Creek Dam Restoration; swimming pool replacement; sewer line replacement (playground area). The neighborhood requests that the Board keep the community informed throughout the process about any RFP's, as well as any studies any updated plans.

I oppose aspects of the Vision proposals that would trend toward commercializing the appearance and use of the park with certain proposed changes, such as a boardwalk, concrete pathways, and a bike pump track playground. Allow me to explain:

No Boardwalk. Ground-level pathways that preserve current casual access to the pond's edge are more appropriate for this pond environment. Concerns remain that this proposal is outsized for a small pond and will alter the casual access and wildlife appeal of the pond. Necessary support pilings could interfere with surrounding tree roots. If the boardwalk is constructed of wood, it will deteriorate and need repairs; if it is concrete, it will create impervious cover and generate heat. Greater accessibility can be achieved without harming existing trees and wildlife, via a universal path with multiple low impact access points to the pond.

No Bike Pump Track Playground. This change would impair the unstructured open space we

especially need in our parks. This open, unstructured feature would be greatly missed by children and families, as this area currently is used for scout group meetings, dog training, soccer practice and exercise classes. These users likely represent a greater and more frequent number of users than those making occasional use of a bike pump track playground. Park goers and immediate neighbors are especially concerned about increased activity and noise from that activity in this open space at the Ardath Street entrance. Also, it would add impervious cover to a section of the park that funnels water toward the pond. This unstructured open space would be greatly missed and once it is gone, it is gone forever.

No Concrete Pathways. Adding a solid path of permeable hard-pack surfaces around the perimeter could help control erosion on top of the dam (levee) along the western edge of the park and aid in making the park more accessible. This a strong preference which would integrate permeable hard-pack surfaces through the park's interior, particularly in the playground/picnic cedar elm forest where concrete paths will adversely impact trees. As proven in other recently updated parks such as Pease and Waterloo, these permeable hard-pack paths are accessible and durable.

Playground. Neighbors in the mid-1980's raised funds and were intimately involved in selecting and implementing playground structures. The two options presented for the new playground equipment ranged from "Disney-like" to what was depicted as a pile of logs. Commenters preferred more compatible "natural" equipment. A middle-ground option is more desirable to achieve a balance in keeping with current structures. Some commenters also have expressed safety concerns about falls and head injuries with the log-pile design.

I urge you to adopt a plan that carefully conserves the natural pond, island, trees and habitat, and includes a sufficient budget for maintenance responsibility by the City.

The pond has been a longtime source of great enjoyment to kids, families and other adults who appreciate the trees, birds, frogs, fish and turtles. Snowy egrets, blue herons and other birds visit the pond. If done properly, these new features will foster public appreciation of clean air and water, wildlife and green space for many years to come.

The Audubon Society states these priorities clearly: "Natural habitat and open spaces are disappearing at an alarming rate. Protections for wildlife, natural places, and clean air and water are in jeopardy. By protecting birds, we're also safeguarding the Western hemisphere's great natural heritage for future generations, preserving our shared quality of life and fostering a healthier environment for us all." See <https://www.audubon.org/conservation>

Please keep these priorities in mind as you vote on plans for changing and preserving our Northwest District Park. It does not need to be transformed into a brick-and-mortar type outdoor space that resembles greenspace for a hotel resort or business complex, or a commercial theme park.

Respectfully,

██████████

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, January 9, 2022 1:02 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Bike track at Allandale

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Hello [REDACTED]

I am reaching out to you and the ANA Board because I saw in the December newsletter that the proposed bike track was eliminated from the NW park improvement projects.

Having lived in Allandale since 1996 I have enjoyed biking throughout the entire neighborhood on a fairly regular basis.

I now have 9 year old twins at Gullett, and we love biking as a family but many times find ourselves at other parks and trails throughout the city to get off the road.

Sometimes we go up to Wells Branch to use their skate park which is shared by kids and professionals alike.

I think our neighborhood would really benefit from a bike track because our neighborhood is all about biking.

The beauty of a bike pump track is that it's accessible to almost anyone and for all ability levels. You don't have to be an advanced rider—I have seen 2-year-olds shredding on a balance bike as well as adults on mountain bikes. It's a learning tool that's fun for everyone.

Our Northwest Park has so much to offer, but some of the large space items like the well-loved pool and baseball fields are used more occasionally than other spaces like the tennis/pickle ball courts and playground which see regular daily use.

A bike track would be a big plus for our families and likely provide enjoyment on a regular daily basis as well.

I hope the ANA will reconsider it.



Photo on Greenlawn courtesy the Statesman.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tree Pruning Questions?
Who do you trust
with the answers?

Allandale's Tree Pruning Workshop

10 a.m. – Noon

Saturday, January 22, 2022

Shoal Creek Nursery,
2710 Hancock Drive



Don't miss this! Love your trees!

Sponsored by Allandale
Neighborhood Association
Free to ANA members. Others \$5.

More information is available on the
flyer found on page 18!

aspects of the plan continue to
cerns. Some of the most gener-
ed features reflect updates to e-
structures, designs, and functio-
disputed items seemed to arise
ners' vision of a new and diffe-

As the draft report mentions:
ture minimalist design distingu-
structures and layout of the pa-
Northwest Park provided Aust-
Olympic swimming pool, but
retained the relaxed charm and
its natural setting. During this
process, the values most apprec-
expressed about the park were
and nature – values that should
park's restoration and progress.

Park planners have adapted
plan to respond, at least partia-
community comments. There is st-
influence the plan before it is :

Some proposals received in and almost universal appro

- wide access pedestrian bri-
kid- and dog-friendly sur-
expanded landing

Thank you,



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [NW Park Plan Feedback](#)
Subject: Northwest Park plan / parking
Date: Friday, January 14, 2022 4:49:51 PM

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Thanks again for all the work that has gone into improving the park!

My only comment is that there still seems to be way too much parking in the plan. I counted over 260 spaces, a reduction of only 20% from the currently very underutilized ~330 spaces.

Would love to see the planned parking in the center of the park be converted to more green space. It would be wonderful to be in the center of the park and not see cars / parking lots. And would love to see a portion of the east lot next to the pool converted to lawn / green space as well.

I don't think that this park would be designed with over 250 spaces if it was being designed from scratch today. And I personally can't think of any other similarly sized parks in the city with this much parking.

I hope the planning committee can take this once in a decade (or longer) opportunity to reclaim impervious cover / parking and convert it back to green space that will be used and loved by the community.

Thanks!

[REDACTED]
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From: [REDACTED]
To: [NW Park Plan Feedback](#)
Subject: NW Park Plan
Date: Sunday, January 9, 2022 10:07:21 PM

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Hello,

I have been trying to keep up with plans for updating Northwest Park. I did suggest that permanent ping pong tables be installed, or at least one. I saw a couple at the Butler Park near Dougherty Arts Center/ Palmer Events Center and they were being used. Please find a place to include a ping pong table.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [NW Park Plan Feedback; kimberly.mcneely@austintexas.gov](#)
Subject: NW Park pond
Date: Saturday, January 1, 2022 3:58:22 PM

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Hello. I had lived near the park for about 20 years. I love NW Park and even had my wedding celebration there. So I am so glad to see it being remodeled.

About the pond, There is a square of grass on the back side of it toward the courts. The pond could be expended to that area without removing any trees, just create narrow paths connecting the two ponds for water and turtles to go through. (it looks like it was part of the pond that may have been filled in). The bald cypress like to live near water and to have their feet wet. It is also nice that is not a deep lake like at Muller, but a shallow pond for creatures that like shallow waters.

Thank you.

[REDACTED]
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From: [REDACTED]
To: [NW Park Plan Feedback](#)
Subject: Open Multi-use lawn - Safety concern
Date: Saturday, December 18, 2021 5:26:13 PM

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Hello,

I love the vision for Northwest Park and I am looking forward to the many improvements and upgrades to such a wonderful space.

I'd like to share a safety concern that I hope is incorporated into the vision.

Today I saw a small child - couldn't have been older than 5 - walking along the edge of the large wall overlooking the Open Multiuse Lawn (Area 3 in the Concept Plan Draft Final). The child was on the *inside* of the fence, standing over a high drop to concrete below. They had walked up the concrete wall on the inside of the fence from ground level. Thankfully the child's father saw this and yelled at them to get back over the fence, but this can't be the only child who has walked up like that.

I see that the shape of the walkway around the area is set to change. I would like to share my feedback that I hope it is made into a shallow grade that eases up to the Overlook, rather than the sheer drop we have now or that in some way constructed to improve safety in what is currently a dangerous space.

Thank you very much for taking the time to listen to myself and everyone in the community and thank you for all of your hard work on this fantastic project.

Cheers,

[REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [NW Park Plan Feedback](#)
Subject: Park Planning Feedback
Date: Thursday, January 13, 2022 9:44:57 AM


*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

I feel it would be great to consider our climate goals in all parks; to have solar fields, electric car chargers and minimal, pervious pavement with walking/ bike/ transit connections to all nearby neighborhoods.

That's more green space for programming and enjoyment as well!

Thank you,
[REDACTED]

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From: 
To: [NW Park Plan Feedback](#)
Subject: Proposed NW Park Playscape Issues
Date: Monday, January 17, 2022 4:13:52 PM
Attachments: [NWParkVisionPlanPage152-1.jpg](#)
[NWParkVisionPlanPage152-2.jpg](#)
[NWParkVisionPlanPage152-3.jpg](#)
[PeaseParkLogPlayscape.jpg](#)

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NW Park Playscape issues

It would be a great loss to our kids to lose our current large plastic, interesting, and very safe playscape to a limited logscape.

In the public meetings on choosing playscapes, the most important item of SAFETY of these playscapes was not discussed, nor was utilization, nor was the depth of user experience, so the survey results must be disregarded on this choice as it was only based upon a few pictures.

I reviewed most of the NW Park Vision Plan, and I found the first 3 photos on page 152. Photos of children are always nice, however, view these photos with safety glasses on. All three photos show potential fall risks with possible head injury.

The first shows a child above 3 foot high (which itself is a safety problem), and with a hard log below. The second shows toddlers if they fell off, a hard log below. (logs must be spaced apart). The third shows a rock hopper, if a foot misses or slides his head or chin hits the rock.

What is the probability of a head injury? From these photos, assume the probability of a fall is 1 out of 100, and the probability of a head injury is 1 out of 50 that fall, so the probability of a head injury is 1 out of 5,000. This is way too high. The existing playscape in NW Park is designed to be very safe, and it is.

To see the Logs first hand, I went to Pease Park over the weekend and found the "Log Jam" under utilized, only 2 kids in 1/2 hour. The kids were not using it. Additionally it is only a single experience, kids would play on them for about 5 min. then move on. The only practical way to use the logs is by walking on top of them, balancing. In the case of a fall, there are many places where one will hit a log below them. Also the top log is much higher than the 3 foot max height for safety, see photo. This is a dangerous playscape. Majority of the children, about 13 of them, were on the slide next door.

The Vision Plan states that sustainable products like wood are preferred, over the large plastic components. However wood provides hard points in falls for head injury, as shown in the attached photos. Safety comes first.

The NW Park existing playscape is specifically designed for high safety, out of yielding plastic and metal, and provides many experiences for children. I believe most kids would much prefer and use something similar to what NW Park currently has, rather than the logs.

Before considering similar log pile in NW Park, I suggest getting a small review committee together to observe

safety hazards, utilization, and limited user experience of Log Jam. The same committee can discuss the hazards of propose rock hopping for children as shown in the third photo.

NW Park could use a tree house. Most would Love to have NW Park remain borderland wild, and preserve that spirit of exploration and nature.

Over the weekend on "Sunday Morning" with Jane Pauley, there was an interview with Kirsten Dunst, (Spiderman) who lives in Austin. She said they moved to Austin to get away from Hollywood, and because of the beauty of our Parks. (about 38:14 min in, currently at <https://www.cbsnews.com/sunday-morning/>)

Thank you for all your work on the parks!



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From: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Bike track at Allandale
Date: Sunday, January 9, 2022 3:31:42 PM
Attachments: [Screen Shot 2022-01-09 at 12.26.50 PM.png](#)
[04C3A018-2786-4540-B86B-5908BE3F45F0IMG_4368.jpeg](#)
[rachelGracieBiking.png](#)

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Hi, [REDACTED]. Thank you for your email concerning the Sheffield Northwest District Park Vision Plan and for sharing your enthusiasm about the Wells Branch MUD bike track. To clarify, the article in the Allandale Newsletter mentioned that the original proposal to locate a bike track on the west side of Shoal Creek Blvd had been abandoned due to safety concerns related to that stretch of Shoal Creek Blvd. However, the current draft includes plans for a "youth bike playground" at the park near the Ardath entrance. My understanding is that this proposed plan is not intended for adults and teens, but rather for young children.

While I appreciate your sentiments, there are alternate and opposing views from the community regarding the bike track, which was alluded to in the article. Many park users have expressed a preference for the park to remain as natural a setting as possible - including retaining open spaces. Unlike the Wells Branch setting, which appears to have incorporated these amenities with more recent development, Northwest Park has been enjoyed for decades in large part due to its inviting and relaxed natural environment. Although the area now proposed for a bike pump track is currently used by scouting groups and for training classes, many park users and immediate neighbors in particular are concerned about increased activity at the park entrance and noise near homes where folks have lived for years.

This park is classified as a district park, but it would likely fall under the size guidelines of a neighborhood park - except for the land associated with the baseball field. In addition to active recreation that is currently offered, the park is a place of respite in the center of the city, with towering trees and places for relaxed conversation and contemplation - also important to our neighborhood, and increasingly harder to find. Beyond that, the targeted area also funnels natural water flow to the pond, helping to support it as a habitat for nesting birds and other wildlife.

Satisfying these competing objectives may be difficult, if not impossible. By contacting the park planning team, your views will be considered along with those of others who have been involved in the Vision Plan process. Fyi, I previously had asked that if a bike track is to be located at the park, other options be considered, including moving it to the far side of the parking lot or the street that eventually will be reconfigured.

I appreciate your interest in the park and your support of and involvement in the neighborhood. Thank you again for sharing your thoughts. Please don't hesitate to follow up should you have further ideas you'd like to discuss. (note email:

[REDACTED]

Thanks again,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Sun, Jan 9, 2022 1:04 pm
Subject: Bike track at Allandale

Hello [REDACTED]

I am reaching out to you and the ANA Board because I saw in the December newsletter that the proposed bike track was eliminated from the NW park improvement projects.

Having lived in Allandale since 1996 I have enjoyed biking throughout the entire neighborhood on a fairly regular basis.

I now have 9 year old twins at Gullett, and we love biking as a family but many times find ourselves at other parks and trails throughout the city to get off the road.

Sometimes we go up to Wells Branch to use their skate park which is shared by kids and professionals alike.

I think our neighborhood would really benefit from a bike track because our neighborhood is all about biking.

The beauty of a bike pump track is that it's accessible to almost anyone and for all ability levels. You don't have to be an advanced rider—I have seen 2-year-olds shredding on a balance bike as well as adults on mountain bikes. It's a learning tool that's fun for everyone.

Our Northwest Park has so much to offer, but some of the large space items like the well-loved pool and baseball fields are used more occasionally than other spaces like the tennis/pickle ball courts and playground which see regular daily use.

A bike track would be a big plus for our families and likely provide enjoyment on a regular daily basis as well.

I hope the ANA will reconsider it.



Photo on Greenlawn courtesy the Statesman.



Thank you,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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