



Interpretive Placemaking Plan
TAG Meeting #1 NOTES
Wednesday, May 30 9-11 am
Issued: July 9, 2019

Welcome and Introductions (5 min.)

Katie Robillard, Austin Parks Foundation and Patti Summerville, Mueller Foundation

Purpose of meeting: to kick off the Interpretive Placemaking plan for EastLink. This will be a 6+ months of this process with the consultant team, led by McCann Adams Studio with Public City and Erin McClelland Museum Services, funded jointly by Mueller Foundation and Austin Parks Foundation

TAG meeting is being held because it's mostly comprised of

- Technical advisors from City Departments
- Also Potential park anchored liaisons and stakeholders
- Consultants that have worked on the project
- Other community resources that will guide this plan.

Went around the room- Individuals in attendance gave brief introductions.
And were asked to suggest any other people that should be involved in the process.

Purpose of Plan, Team Introduction, EastLink project background and TAG roles (10 min.)

Janae Spence, McCann Adams Studio (MAS) - Lead Consultant

Connecting people to these places

Renewed group of people that can contribute

Last large TAG was almost exactly three years ago

Make maps available after the meeting (**APF/ MAS to send out**)

Janae Spence gave update on Boggy Creek Trail/ Bridge

Invited everyone here to celebration for the completion of this gap

Upper Boggy Bash Held to be held on Friday, July 12th from 6-8pm

Miriam gave approach to Public City's work - groundwork to get people involved

Erin McClelland - connecting the public to the most significant and meaningful stories along the trail. Three people on team: EM, Angela Davis, Megan Harvey. Key story lines and themes and see how the community. PALS will be experts on focus areas

Definition of Placemaking: Creation of quality public spaces

Working from grassroots up.

Interpretive Placemaking Plan: Project Team, Scope and Timeline (15 min.)

Jana McCann, MAS; Erin McClelland, EMMS; and Meredith Powell, Public City

History of efforts/ gaps

D'Anne Williams gave an update on Holly Shores Trail - in permitting, potential Fall 2019 construction

6/10 Public input on alignment new segment improvements south of 12th Street with PW TAG 2- August (mid August)

TAG 3- Sept/ Nov timeframe

More interactive Activations- will be community driven and memorable

Project completion estimated at the end of year- December

Interactive Session: Potential Placemaking Opportunities and Scan of Adjacent or Intersecting Projects (50 min.)

All attendees

Walk through the parks/ trail to get input- South to North

Segment A notes: (Holly Shores/ Metz/ Pedernales

No park adopters at Metz

Metz- history of Recreation Center, Fiesta Gardens is now on the historic registry

- Kim McKnight- tell broader story about East Austin and the people that live there. Segregation and Integration. Tell neighborhood story. Sarah Marshall and EMMS to meet to go. Opportunity to bring forward the social injustice issues in this area.
- JS- connecting to trail at Metz. Long term vision on how ultimate connection with two way cycle track. Bike Polo request through NPP.
- D'Anne - discussions with artist community about Holly Shores
- Preservation Austin - restoration of mural at Holly Shores- AIPP project
 - Spots are available via GIS for mapping
- Cultural history - oral histories are important and ensuring long term residents
- Watershed comment- transition from dammed lake to river. Zebra mussel issue could be brought forward. Fishing is a
- Full restoration of Fiesta Gardens site (Kim Mck)
- Remaining gap along Metz
- Many sidewalk gaps still present, existing bike facility along Pedernales is much more developed.
- Drag boat races- narrative in historic registry nominations

Pedernales/ E. 5th

Pedernales/ E. 7th

- City effort to make 7th street connection to downtown with placemaking- Latin culture inspired monuments with local artist

- Historic Ballfield - 1931 Mexican baseball league at Parque Zaragoza, historic bathhouse and pool, band stand near playground, intentionally purchased, monk parakeets present and collection of heritage trees.
- Use baseball screen along Pedernales. Old sign at baseball field
- Wayfinding will be a separate plan but integral and informed by this process
- City healing as we grow- activation
- Get presentation or info from Kim McKnight's Adopt a Park presentation. (APF)
- Channelization of Boggy Creek- very dramatic moment - understand why that was done

Segment B

Nile Street @ Conley Guerrero

- No lighting in this area- only section that doesn't have lighting, best fireflies in Austin featured on NPR
- Three interpretive kiosks present (art) that speak to channelization and what is was like to flood. More permanent art (pink granite) near parking lot at Conley Guerrero
- Map existing placemaking in this are in plan
- Gilbert's umbilical cord is buried :)
- Boggy Creek unique pavilion with stone fireplace
- Conley pavilion- lots of celebrations (quenceneras)
- How heavily the neighborhood uses this area

Pleasant Valley/ Rosewood Park

- Old granite remnants near railroad tracks- from construction of Capital- potential to re-use
- Potential placemaking opportunity at columns - cool view/ shade.
 - Has had some TEMPO efforts

Hargrave st @ Millenium

- Highly underutilized
- Suggested to contact school- principal (invited but declined TAG 1)
- Juneteenth celebration at private park for people of color? (Kim McKnight)
- Poquito Creek - potential for day lighting to work with HACA (get more information from Kim McKnight)
- Seeps are present and are very different in East Austin than different. - near Pleasant Valley Overpass.
- Recent meeting about extending Pedernales bike way - talk about Tillery at Oak Springs. Spring present on watershed land across from the library. Open to public currently but homeless camp present

East 12th- Downs Mabson

- Improvements
- Lee Mabson

MLK rail station/ SFC

- Hortenz Lawson- started community garden in neighborhood (get info from SFC contact)

Segment C (Alexander/ Manor)

Manor placemaking opportunities

- Important for wayfinding on Manor
- Currently lots of redevelopment happening
- Planning improvements- as part of Airport corridor programs
 - First green wave project breaking ground summer of 2020
- Manor Rd. Merchants Association - reach out and talk with them (Jennifer Potter Miller)
 - Working for pedestrian hybrid beacon - current effort
 - Connect with Renee Orr with ATD
 - Two way bike way planned on Alexander (studying right now)
 - Talking with Active Transportation
 - Grackle Green pocket park on Manor
 - Willowbrook Breach
- Crossings have been recently improved to crossings at Patterson Park to get to Mueller safely
- 19 places have been identified along the trail and will be narrowed down, three locations to be designed as part of this planning effort.
 - Tilley St. Nodes- Jana talked through these potential locations
 - Events green in front of Austin Film Studio in this segment- first filmmakers in Austin
- PHB crossing to connect right into Bartholomew is very critical with safe routes to schools
- Travel Stories - tour guide for this project,
- Story Map geotagging is a great routing tool/ interface- as provided by the Goodman Group

Preview of Next Steps (5 min.)

Jana McCann, MAS