



Summary Report of Community Meeting #2

December 11, 2019

Austin Parks Foundation is partnering with the City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department and the community to design a Park Master Plan for Scenic Brook Pocket Park. An important priority is to gather community feedback and public input to shape the master planning process.

The second public meeting was held from 6:30pm- 8:00pm on Wednesday, December 11, 2019 at the Oak Hill Travis County Community Center. Approximately 11 people were in attendance. The agenda for the meeting included a presentation given by the Austin Parks Foundation on the current status of the master planning process, an open Question and answer session concerning the development of the park, and then a survey activity that measured the public's feedback of a preliminary park layout.





Presentation: Master Planning Process and Preliminary Park Layout



Katie Robillard of Austin Parks Foundation gave a presentation reviewing Austin Parks Foundation's mission and the goals of the master planning process. Feedback from Community Meeting #1 were also reviewed including results from the Design My Park Activity and the Online Survey.



Scenic Brook Pocket Park

Park Master Planning

Watershed restrictions affecting the park’s development were also discussed in detail. Due to the location of the park within both the Barton Springs Water Quality Transition Zone and the Barton Springs Critical Water Quality Zone, development is limited and these City of Austin restrictions had a significant influence on the preliminary park master plan layout.

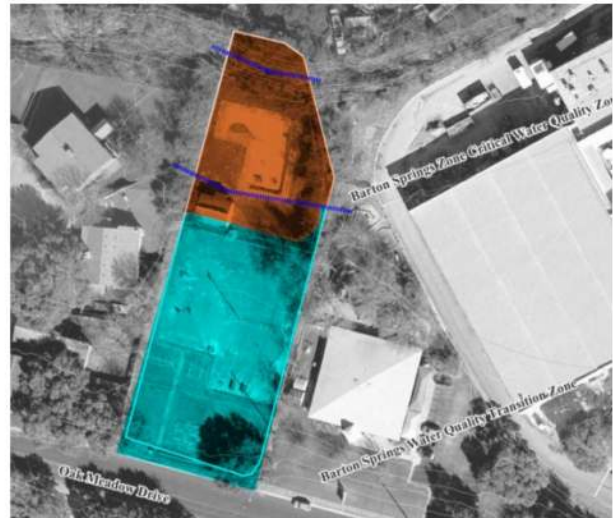
WATERSHED RESTRICTIONS

COA Code references: section 1.5.3, section 1.5.4 and section 25.8.26

Impervious Cover Restricted to total of 1000 square feet (500 square feet in WQTZ and 500 square feet in CWQZ)

100’ offset from tributary that limits anything other than a trail within this setback

-  Barton Spring Water Quality Transition Zone
-  Barton Springs Critical Water Quality Zone
-  100’ Creek Offset



In the preliminary park layout, key themes and park elements were introduced that highlighted the community’s thoughts for the design of the park alongside alternate layout options. A phasing recommendation for developing the park was also presented.



Plan Alternates



SPORT COURT OPTION

ALTERNATE LAYOUT



Scenic Brook Pocket Park

Park Master Planning



NATIVE GRASS AND SITE RESTORATION
Incorporation of areas with wildflowers and native grasses to provide seasonal interest and wildlife habitat while improving overall site health and eco system of park.



COMMUNITY GARDEN PLOTS
Small area to allow communal gardening within the neighborhood and community.



SKATE FEATURE WALLS
Located along the connection trail, a series of elements to provide challenge and recreation for park users using bikes, skateboards and scooters.



INFORMAL PICNIC AREA UNDER HERITAGE OAKS
Utilizing the precious shade and comforting qualities of an existing heritage oak tree in the park.



NATURE PLAY ELEMENTS
Tucked in nooks throughout site to promote connection to nature and exploration of all ages by incorporating natural play elements



FENCE WITH MURAL
To help express the community and park identity, a mural along western property line is proposed.



SHADE TREES
Strategically placed native shade trees to provide shade and habitat for wildlife.



FLEXIBLE PLAY LAWN
Maintained centrally located lawns allow many uses, including daily informal play and relaxation.



CLIMBING WALL
Sited to utilize the required fall surface of the adventure play area, vertical wall would provide additional activity with little impact on the impervious cover limitations.



PERFORMANCE SPACE
Using the slope of the site, the lower loop trail widens to create an informal performance space with an associated flexible lawn space (within the 100' creek setback)



PARK SIGN
A much needed standard element to establish, welcome and identify the park as a usable community space.



SPORT COURT- OPTION
Located centrally on the plan, this flexible hard surface would provide space in the park for many year round activities



ADVENTURE PLAY EQUIPMENT
With a focus on challenge for older children, teens and adult fitness and play options



SCENIC BROOK POCKET PARK

Key Park Elements

DECEMBER 11, 2019
COMMUNITY MEETING #2





Activity: Online Survey



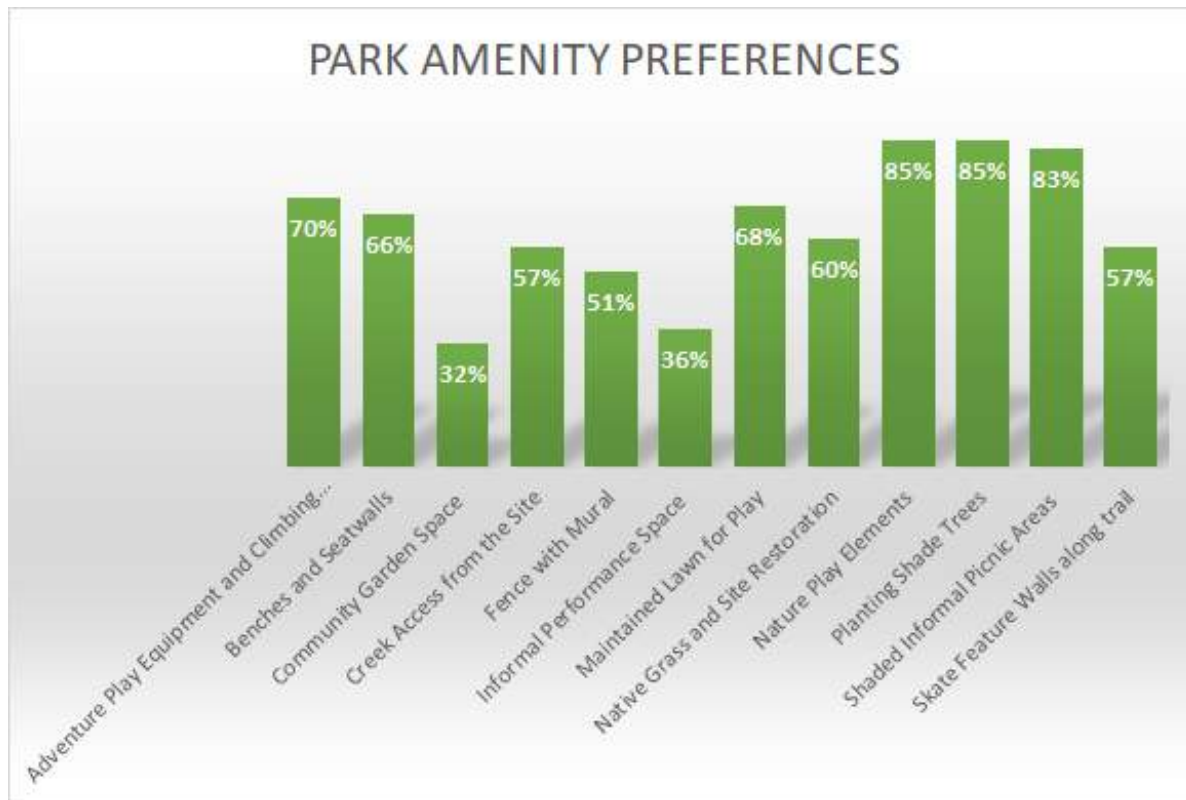
The attendees at the meeting had the opportunity to participate in an online survey asking for their feedback and opinions about the preliminary park layout. The survey remained open for two weeks following the community meeting allowing community members who were not able to attend the meeting in person to provide feedback and 49 responses were collected in total.

Online Survey Results - Community Meeting #2

Most importantly, the online survey results indicate that the public envision Scenic Brook to have a sense of community and safe place to bring children. Sense of community was further stressed as an important value along with providing the community with the sense of open space.



As shown in the chart below, many of the amenity options shown on the preliminary plan, were preferred by the community members who took the survey.



Amenities receiving the highest number of votes included nature play elements, planting shade trees and informal picnic areas.

When asked about the alternative plan options, only 33.3% of the responses preferred the plan alternative that showed a larger community garden closer to the street while 66.7% of the responses preferred the original plan location on the garden.

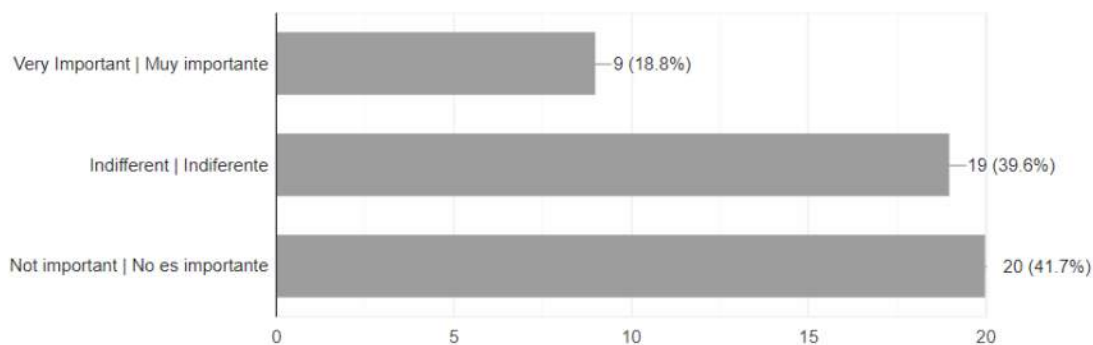


A plan including a sport court was included for comment. It was noted that this option would exceed the site's allowable impervious cover square footage and would most likely require additional support from council members and the Save Our Springs Alliance to be considered a viable option. The majority of the responses (81.3%) either were indifferent or found the inclusion of the sport court not important to them.

How important is it to you that the park master plan includes a basketball/ sport court? |
¿Qué tan importante es para usted que el plan maestro del parque incluya una cancha de
basketball / deportes?



48 responses



Additional open comments included:

- Good shade, water fountains would be good
- Electricity
- I would add a few more skate feature walls. Water fountains. Definitely want a community garden- maybe expand the preliminary park layout version community garden to encompass "O", benches and seats walls. Definitely want natural play elements, creek elements, an electrical outlet would help toward the community gathering aspect of the place. Mini amphitheaters are a great idea.
- Love the skate feature, and would love to see 1-2 more spots along the loop trail. Water fountains would be great. Definitely want a community garden; I like it where it is, but maybe fill the space all the way to the path? While a sport court would be fun, I don't like it for this project: expensive, complicated due to impervious, hard to maintain; also the proposed features are more unique. The big kid play stuff sounds great, including parkour features. I love the mini



amphitheater, and hope we can get electricity connection there. A sail shade element near seating would be great, especially until shade trees grow.

- Overall the plan is fantastic. I'm absolutely blown away! Never dreamed it could be this cool!
- I feel like the community garden has been unmaintained and unused previously. I would recommend removing that from the plan.
- Accessibility which it did not have before
- A splash pad or some kind of water feature would be great.
- Please be as natural as possible! Parks should not have much pavement or groomed space, they should be little pockets of nature in the city.
- Windmill Run Park already has options for younger children, I was hoping for something for youth/teens and adults to enjoy. I am confused about the impervious issues. We previously had a pool, basketball court and tennis courts coverage.
- I would like to see a gated area for dogs, doggy bag stands so people can pick up after their dogs, and a concrete skate park for skateboarders.
- The community garden sounds like a good idea. It would be nice to gather some feedback about how well these have done long-term in other neighborhoods.
- I wish it could have a splash pad!
- Walking trail.
- Childrens swings, slide, and safety baby swings. This is what I would like to see.
- Exclusion of any "amenities" that have caused an increase in crime or unacceptable gathering in other parks - courts, skate parks, e.t.c
- I'd like to see the inclusion of play equipment that is distinctive from that in the nearby Windmill Run Park, to provide for variety. Also, rather than including a basketball court, for which Council approval would be needed, another option could be to include a soccer and/or baseball field.
- Could the sport court be moved up to where the community garden section is an option one?
- The closest basketball court is in Dick Nicholls. Many of us have hilly driveways which prevent a home basketball hoop. The focus needs to be on fitness and places to sit in the shade.
- So excited to see a option for skating and concrete paths for riding bikes, boards, etc.
- Since there are no sidewalks in our neighborhood, I would like to see a skatepark for bmx, rollerblades, scooters and skateboards.
- More areas for small children to play and not areas for older children or adults
- I was hoping to see a small area for dogs.



- That it "fit" with the needs of the neighborhood. I would love to see a dog park area, but not sure my neighbors also wish for this?
- We already have a playscape style park with a creek and hiking. The rest of Austin has multiple skateparks, yet nothing Southwest. Our older kids need a place to play! How about a skatepark or even a pump style park like San Marcos built.
- Very excited!
- Just very appreciative of everyone involved in this entire process.
- My biggest hope is that I'll have a place to safely bring my dogs where there will not be off-leash pets running around and causing fights.
- Expand open shaded spaces
- That it is well-maintained and fits everyone in our community
- Let's get fundraising! Let's start phase 1 in January.
- Keep the transients out and dogs must be on a lease connected to an adult only!
- Have you considered using artificial turf instead of natural grass for the open play area? The quality of these products have gone way up in recent years and I have seen a difference at playground restaurants and other venues in how well kids respond to them. It would be less lawn care maintenance and would be usable throughout the summer, whereas keeping the grass green and usable takes a lot of resources.
- I question who will be maintaining a community garden. Please let the focus be fitness, play, and shade, not gardening.
- I'm just happy it's being done!
- Should've named Millie Anderson Park.
- Please don't use recycled tire chips, rubber chips, or synthetic turf. It's toxic and often contains lead.
https://www.ehhi.org/chemicals?fbclid=IwAR0PU2igy7teOpadnyls6mKBcf-o_n6zCbIVMxXzpOr4mirwc3Apalb0SOw
- Shade and beautiful trees!