

Dallas County Trail and Preserve Program Board

August 4, 2022

Public Works & Trails Update



Public Works Update

- MCIP 7th call for projects approved 100+ projects including trail projects – December 2020
 - Meeting with all cities to determine program years and agreements
- P&D Trail Program responsibilities transfer to PW effective January 1st 2021
- Dallas County Mobility Plan published on PW website
 - PW presented to TAPP Board at June 3rd meeting
- NCTCOG led Southern Dallas County Regional Veloweb Trail Study
 - PW invited NCTCOG to present on final study results at August 5th 2021 TAPP Board meeting
- PW continues assessment of transferred trail projects and attending meetings with our agency partners and stakeholders
- Public Works completed briefings for the Commissioners and the Judge on Redistricting updates in Spring 2022



Public Works Trail Updates

- **Cypress Waters Trail**

- City of Dallas executed Amendment to ILA in June through. There after County executes the same through Commissioners Court in August 2022. (ROW/Easement documents)
- Amendment to Work Order for consultant approved by Commissioners Court

- **Chalk Hill Trail**

- Met with NCTCOG for potential grant funding opportunities
- Recently reviewed potential project phasing with the City
- Supplement for Engineering Services Contract is under review to finalize Final PS&E for Phase 1 and Phase 2
- City is working on the ROW at south end of the project (Phase 3)
- Contract Administrators are reviewing the Amendment to ILA with Civil DA's office.

- **Campion – Elm Fork Extension**

- Phase 1 – From River Hills to Fraiser Dam (90% Design)
 - City is working on Agreements with City of Dallas and USACE
- Phase 2- From Fraiser Dam to California Crossing (Dallas County Participation)
 - Plans are currently at 50%.

- **Heritage Trail**

- ILA is expired
 - County will continue to coordinate with City of Mesquite
 - City is coordinating with TxDOT on improvements within State Corridor that must be complete prior to finalizing design

STATUS OF COUNTY TAPP TRAIL PROJECTS

April 7, 2022
ACTIVE PROJECTS



#	PROJECT	CITY	COUNTY FUNDING	DESCRIPTION	STATUS
1	Campion to MacArthur Extension	Irving	\$6,000,000	Extends northern segment of Campion Trail another two miles to create a continuous nine-mile trail that also reaches Dallas and Coppell.	Phase 1 (City Funded) City Wrapping up plans to be submitted for approval of CORP. Phase 2 (County Participation) – Awaiting 50% plan submittal from City.
2	Under 80 Trail	Mesquite	\$2,500,000	Creates a continuous 15-mile trail by building a 1.3-mile segment that joins together a 3.6-mile of existing trail in Mesquite with another 4.4 miles which then connects with another 5.7 miles in Garland.	About 95% of design has been completed. ILA needs to be amended.
3	Cypress Waters	Dallas	\$3,000,000	Will create 7 miles of trail into new mixed-use development in far Northwest Dallas. The trail will also connect to the future DART Silver Lane Station at	95% of design submitted by Consultant.. County's Civil DA is reviewing the contract book to be submitted to TXDOT. Resolving Utility Conflicts before making 95% submission to TXDOT. Amendment to ILA to include ROW boundary Survey has been executed.
4	Chalk Hill Trail	Dallas	\$6,700,000	Utilizes an abandoned four-mile rail corridor to create the first trail in the western part of Dallas; trail will connect with older neighborhoods, a DART station, and the rapidly developing Pinnacle Park area.	Coordinating with Engineering Consultant to divide the signed and sealed plans into developing PS&E packages in Phases. Coordinating with Consultant to put together Phase 1 and Phase 2 PS&E packages. Met with NCTCOG about potential grant funding opportunities.

Parks & Open Space Update

Welcome Katie!

- Katie Christman is our new Open Space Coordinator, who will stand up a volunteer program for the Parks & Open Space Program.
- Prior to joining the Open Space team, Katie worked at Dogwood Canyon Audubon Center managing their academic/public programs and live animal collection. A certified Indian Trail Master Naturalist and North Central TX Master Birder, you can find Katie enjoying the outdoors as much as possible.



Open Space Preserve Property Requests

Utility Easement Requests

- Cottonwood Creek
- Muddy Creek
- Trinity River – Mountain Creek
- Goat Island
- Rowlett Creek

Road Projects

- Spring Creek Forest
 - Holford Road Reconstruction – Will elevate bridge over Spring Creek, add a turning lane and entrance lighting, and create a pedestrian connection between Spring Creek Park and Spring Creek Forest Preserves.

Preserve Project Updates

- Cottonwood Creek Preserve
 - City of Wilmer is exploring the possibility of adding a disc golf course, to be designed by Brian Lamoreaux, member of the Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA) and designer of the Lester Lorch course. County staff are working with the City on a plan for preserve amenities.
- Lester Lorch Park
 - County staff are exploring options with the City of Cedar Hill for composting restroom facilities in the next FY.
- Paul S. Dryer Preserve at Windmill Hill
 - County staff have hired a vendor to construct the new monument sign. Installation is expected in September. A rededication will be scheduled after installation is complete.
- Goat Island Preserve
 - The Park & Open Space Program is partnering with the Dallas County Fire Marshal and Road & Bridge District 3 for a plan to remove tires.
- McCommas Bluff Preserve
 - County staff are working to engage a surveyor to resolve a boundary encroachment.

Open Space Plan

DALLAS COUNTY OPEN SPACE PLAN 1991

*"We have not inherited
the earth from our
fathers, we are
borrowing it
from our
children."*

Native American Saying



- The last Dallas County Open Space Plan was completed in 1991 by Half Associates.
- A Request for Proposals was released June 30th. Proposals are due August 25th by 2:00 p.m.
- A contract with the selected vendor is anticipated to be signed in December.

Soft-Surface Trails

Amy Martin

Dirt Trails & DCOS: An Untapped Potential

Part 1: The Benefits

Amy Martin

author, *Wild DFW: Explore the Amazing Nature Around Dallas-Fort Worth* (Timber Press early 2023)

GreenSourceDFW, senior features writer

Ned Fritz Legacy, researcher/writer







DON YOUNG

TANDY HILLS NAURAL AREA (



I was moved by Amy's piece sharing what is usually a devastating injury and how hiking on dirt trails was instrumental in her recovery of body, mind and spirit. Soft surface and dirt trails enhance and enrich the outdoor experience and I implore the city to commit more resources to bring people closer to nature and all the benefits that nature provides. ~ Connie Koval

I am impressed with all the wild spaces that still exist within the city limits. I hope that Dallas parks and county leaders will consider installing more natural-surface trails to allow walkers and runners better access to these healing spaces. ~ Suzanne Tuttle

I can hike all day on dirt paths and not hurt a single bit at the end of the day. I can walk a mile on paved ground and my hips and lower back kill me. Yes, I have the correct shoes. ~ Stephanie Gonzales.

What a wonderful story. I have a degenerative form of arthritis and can walk miles on dirt but only short distances on paved trails without pain setting in. ~ Jennifer Clark Jones

Thanks for the story. I had done the same after a severe broken ankle: 2 plates, 3 pins and 9 screws. My surgeon suggested that I walk on uneven surfaces to help heal and keep ligaments moving. I went from not being able to walk to complete mental and physical healing in the back woods in the local nature preserve. It literally saved my soul. ~ Tara Neer





STALIN SM

PIEDMONT RIDGE





JULIE CUSTER

HAGERMAN NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE



DIANE WETHERBEE

CLEAR CREEK NATURAL HERITAGE CENTER



DANIEL KOGLIN

McCOMMAS BLUFF



NICK DIGENNARO

HEARD NATURE SANCTUARY



DANIEL KOGLIN

GOAT ISLAND PRESERVE



SONIAN FOREST – BRUSSELS



STALIN SM

OAK POINT NATURE PRESERVE

Wild DFW

Explore the Amazing Nature Around Dallas-Fort Worth

~ Amy Martin

~ Timber Press ~ winter 2023

Wild-DFW.com (in process)

Facebook@WildDFW

Instagram@WildDFW

Photo: Julie Custer

Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge

DMN Trails Editorial- Dallas' Bike Momentum is Rolling

Philip Haigh



Next Meeting –
October 6th, 2022

See you next time!