



Minutes Dallas County Trail and Preserve Program Board Meeting



April 6, 2023

9:30 a.m.

**Samuell-Grand Recreation Center
6200 E. Grand Avenue, Dallas TX 75223**

Members Present: Ed Koppman, William Freeman, Philip Hiatt Haigh, Rick Kopf, Kiphani Allen, Andrew Albert Jones, James Curl

Members Absent: Rinkesh Desai, Fred Washington, Javier Vilchis, Amy Martin

Call Meeting to Order

Board chair Ed Koppman called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.

1. Welcome/Introductions

2. Public Comment

There was no public comment given at the meeting.

3. Review and Approval of the February 2, 2023 Minutes

Mr. Freeman made a motion to approve the February 2023 minutes as presented and Mr. Kopf seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

4. Status of Trails

Micah Baker, Senior Transportation Planner with the County Public Works Department, provided the trails update.

- Cypress Waters Trail
 - The County met with the City of Dallas in February and April. The County will be requesting TxDOT input on the Public Easement Dedication.
- Chalk Hill Trail
 - The County received TA Set-Aside funding from NCTCOG for \$3.4 million in construction.
 - The County is awaiting draft funding agreement from TxDOT to secure funding.
 - The City of Dallas is working on the right of way (ROW) at south end of the project (Phase 3).

- Heritage Trail
 - Public Works is coordinating with TxDOT on improvements and will hopefully move into construction this year (2023).
 - The city has finalized plans for the trail outside TxDOT right-of-way (ROW).
 - The city is coordinating with TXDOT on improvements within the state corridor.
 - The county has reviewed and commented on these plans.
 - The City of Dallas will bid the project and begin construction in 2023.

- Champion Trail
 - Phase 1 – From River Hills to Frasier Dam (100% design)
 - a. This trail is split into two phases due to ROW issues.
 - b. The city is planning to bid the southern segment in Spring 2023.

 - Phase 2 – From Frasier Dam to California Crossing (Dallas County Participation)
 - a. Dallas County has reviewed 50% plans and provided comments.
 - b. The city anticipates 100% plans to be completed later this year and bidding phase two in 2024.

5. Status of County Preserves

Mia Brown, Open Space Administrator, provided the county preserve update

- Road Projects
 - Spring Creek Forest
 - The current plans are to elevate the bridge over Spring Creek, add a turning lane, entrance lighting, and create a pedestrian connection between the preserves along Holford Road.

- Cottonwood Creek Preserve
 - County staff are working with the City of Wilmer on a plan for preserve amenities. The City of Wilmer is working on passing a parks and rec ordinance.
 - Dallas County has received ARP funding to add a prefabricated restroom.
 - The City of Wilmer is in discussion with the County to add a disc golf course to the preserve. This disc golf course will be designed by Brian Lamoreaux, a member of the Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA).

- Goat Island Preserve

- The Parks & Open Space Program is partnering with the Dallas County Fire Marshal and other organizations for a plan to remove tires.
- McCommas Bluff Preserve
 - County staff are working with the Civil District Attorney's Office on a potential boundary encroachment. The boundary survey is underway (half complete). A preliminary survey should be finished within the next week.
- Upcoming Events
 - Dallas County Parks and Open Space will have a booth at EarthFest at the Alan E. Sims Recreation Center in Cedar Hill on April 15th.
- Open Space Plan Updates
 - Halff Associates was awarded the Open Space Plan contract in March 2023.
 - The last Dallas County Open Space Plan was completed in 1991 by Halff Associates.

6. Presentation: Halff Associates

Kendall Howard and Abel Verdi from Halff Associates, discussing the Dallas County Open Space Plan.

- The plan will be laid out in six phases taking about 18 months to complete.
- Halff will be holding interviews with County Commissioners and the County Judge within the next few weeks.
- Halff will also begin meetings with preserve management partners and hold stakeholder listening sessions.
- Halff will be meeting with the TAPP Board in July to have a visioning discussion.

7. Proposal of Future Agenda Items

There were no proposed future agenda items.

8. Upcoming Events/Board Meetings

Next TAPP Board Meeting: June 1, 2023

9. Adjourn

Mr. Freedman motioned to adjourn at 10:24 am, seconded by Mr. Kopf. The motion was approved unanimously.