

# Dallas County Trail and Preserve Program Board

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June 1, 2023

# Public Works & Trails Update

# PUBLIC WORKS UPDATES



- P&D Trail Program responsibilities transfer to PW effective January 1<sup>st</sup> 2021
- Dallas County Mobility Plan published on PW website
  - PW presented to TAPP Board at June 3<sup>rd</sup> 2021 meeting
- PW continues assessment of transferred trail projects and attending meetings with our agency partners and stakeholders
- Dallas County adopted updated Metes and Bounds for the new Commissioner District Boundaries in November 2022
- Dallas County Awarded TA Set-Aside Funding for Chalk Hill Trail and Central Trail in December 2022 from NCTCOG
- Public Works assisted with several TxDOT TA Set-Aside Support Letters for our Partner Cities for the current Call for Projects

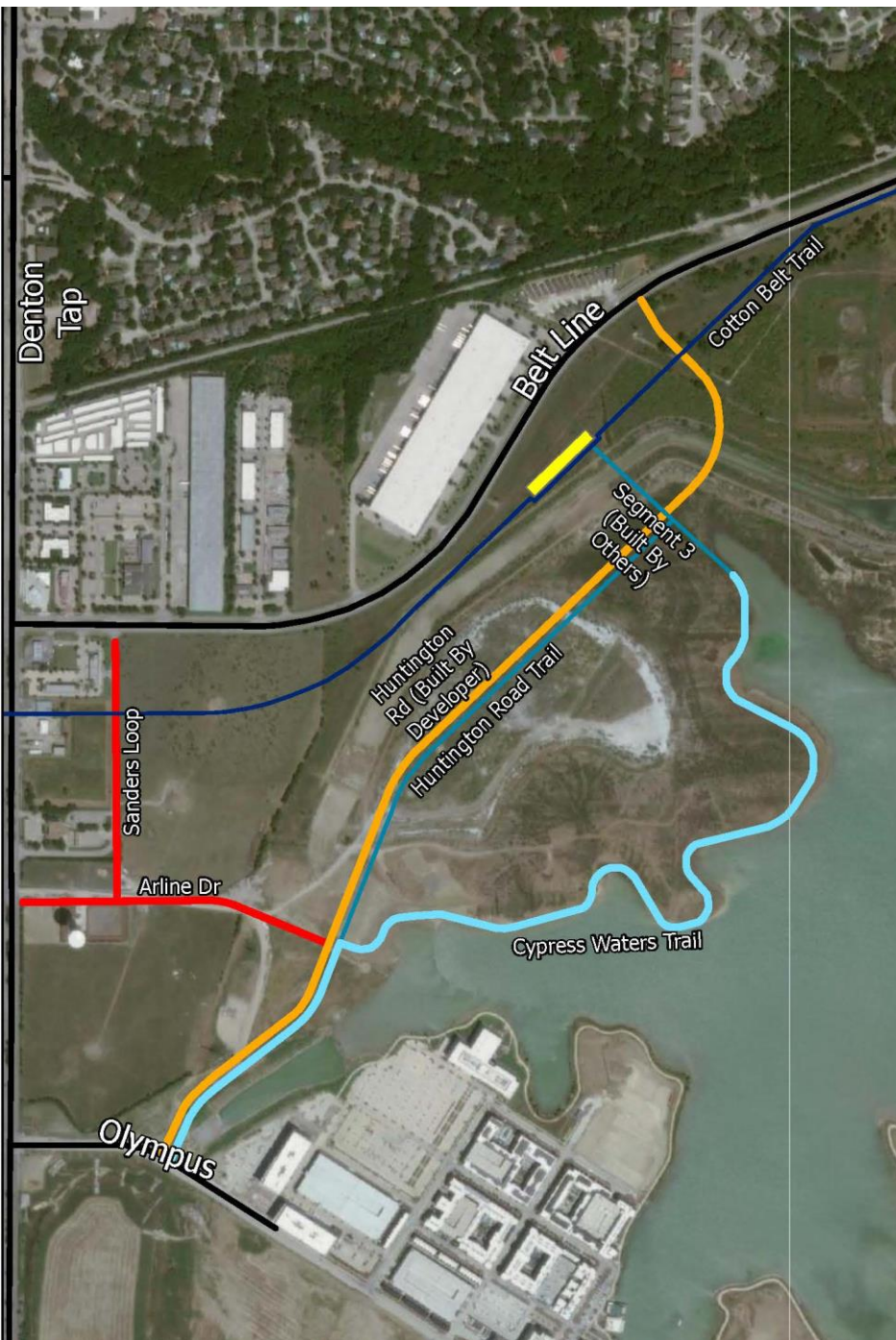
# Cypress Waters Trail

## Project Scope:

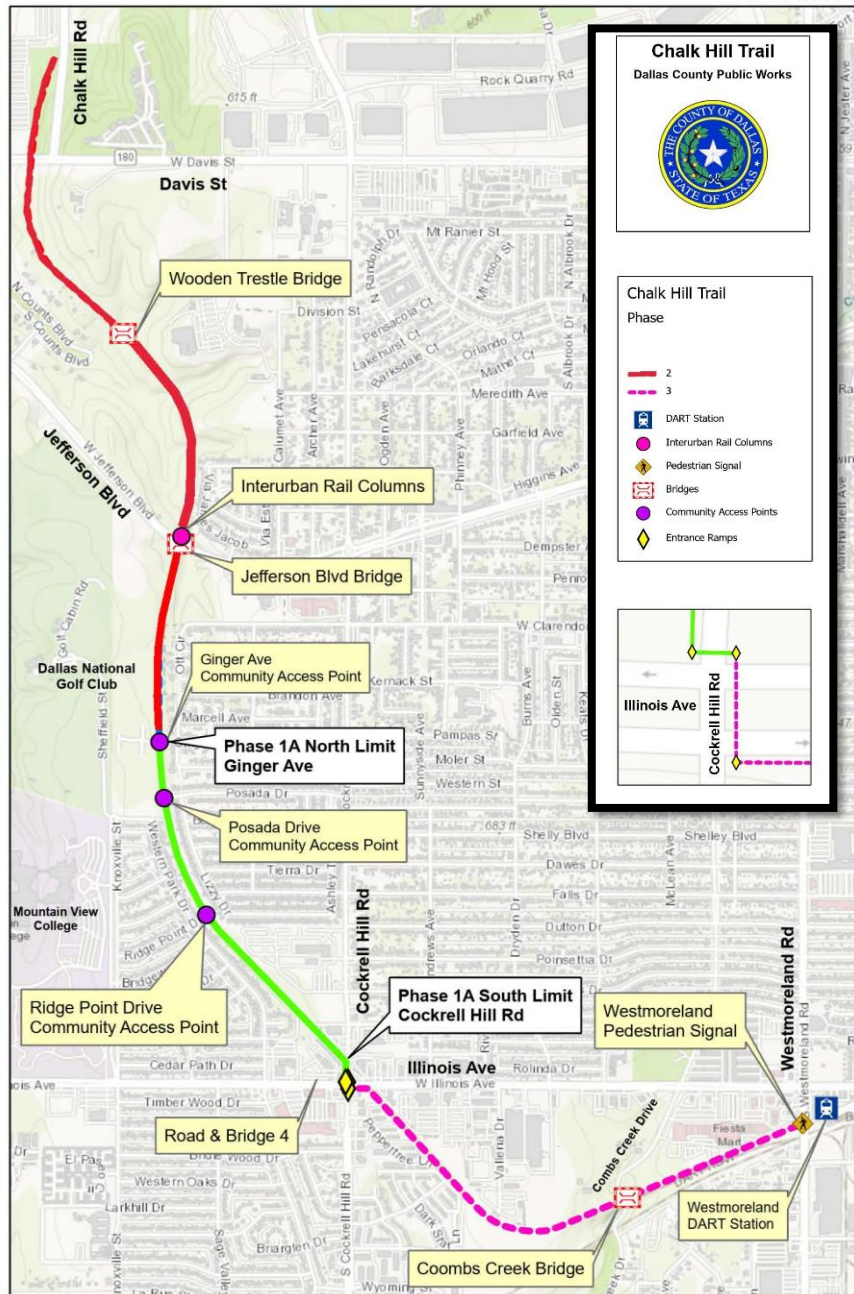
- New Construction of 12 feet wide reinforced concrete trail that includes cross drainage structures and trail safety appurtenances.

## Status Update:

- City of Dallas executed Amendment to ILA in June. ILA was fully executed through Commissioners Court in August 2022.
- ROW easements are still being negotiated between City and Developer
  - Meeting is scheduled with the City and County on June 16<sup>th</sup> to inform City of TxDOT requirements for easement
  - City will be responsible for drafting new easement document for execution with Developer
- County consultant has created a ROW Easement Exhibit for City review







# Chalk Hill Trail

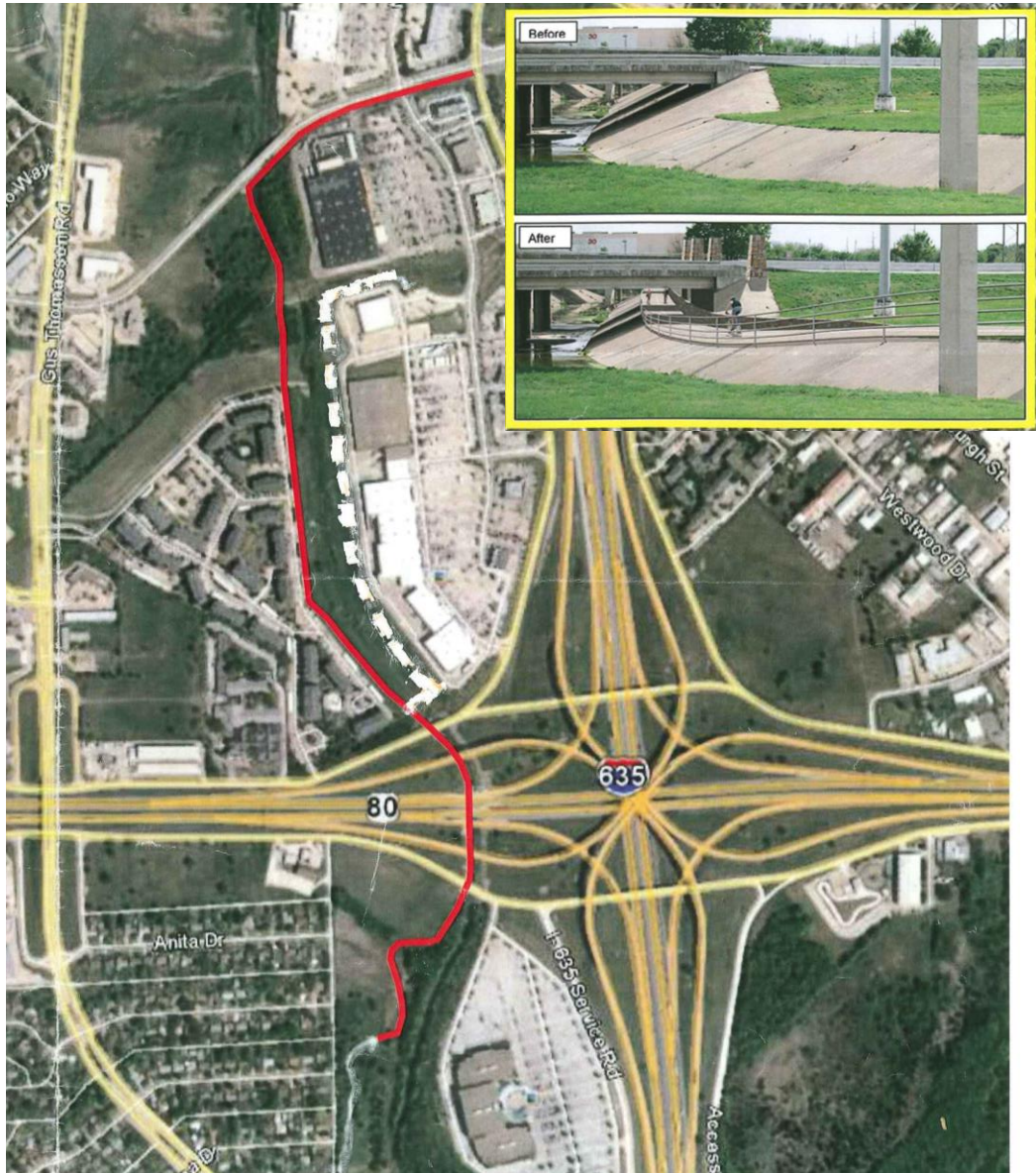
## Project Scope:

- New Construction of 12 feet wide reinforced concrete Trail with access trails and sidewalk to neighboring communities, 3 bridges, cross drainage culverts and other trail safety appurtenances.

## Status Update:

- Received TA Set-Aside funding from NCTCOG for \$3.4 million in Construction Funding
- Awaiting draft AFA from TxDOT to secure funding
- Design is on hold pending AFA execution and TxDOT Review
- City is working on the ROW at south end of the project (Phase 3)
- City of Dallas is submitting a TxDOT TA Set-Aside application for part of Phase 3
- Contract Administrators are reviewing the Amendment to ILA with Civil DA's office.

# Heritage Trail (Under 80 Trail)



## Project Scope:

- New Construction of 12 feet wide reinforced concrete Trail with 2 pedestrian bridges and parking amenities.

## Status Update:

- Coordinating with City on PSA Execution
  - Currently under review by DA
- City has finalized plans for trail outside TxDOT ROW
- County has reviewed and commented on these plans
- Estimated to Begin Construction in 2023 (City Led)
- City is coordinating with TxDOT on improvements within State Corridor



# Campion Trail

## Project Scope:

- New Construction of 12 feet wide reinforced Concrete Trail includes construction of three bridges, 6 low water crossings and 2 boardwalks.

## Status Update:

- Phase 1 – From River Hills to Frasier Dam (100% Design)
  - Split into two phases due to ROW issues
  - Southern segment was bid in April and will be awarded in June by City
  - City is working on Agreements with City of Dallas and USACE for remaining section.
- Phase 2- From Frasier Dam to California Crossing (Dallas County Participation)
  - Dallas County has reviewed 50% plans and provided comments.
  - City anticipates 100% plans to be completed later this year and bidding phase 2 in 2024



# Parks & Open Space Update

# Open Space Preserve Property Requests

## Utility Easement Requests

- Trinity River – Mountain Creek
- Goat Island
- Rowlett Creek
- North Mesquite 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.
- Goat Island Preserve
  - The Park & 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 Dallas County Civil District Attorney's Office, Dallas Parks & Recreation Department, and Dallas Water Utilities on a potential boundary encroachment. The boundary survey is complete.

# Upcoming Events

Dallas County Parks & Open Space staff will be at Cedar Ridge Preserve on Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> for National Trails Day. North Texas Master Naturalists will give guided hikes. Come check out the event and say hi!

**National Trails Day June 3rd**  
Follow Cedar Ridge Preserve on FB and IG for more info

**Hiking Tours at Cedar Ridge Preserve**  
Celebrate the day by taking a hike together!

**Natural History of North Texas & Cedar Ridge**  
9:00-11:00 am----Adults Only

**Native Plants---Kid-Friendly**  
8:00-8:45  
9:00-9:45  
10:00-10:45

**CEDAR RIDGE PRESERVE**  
Managed by Audubon Dallas

**Audubon Dallas**  
Connecting People With Nature

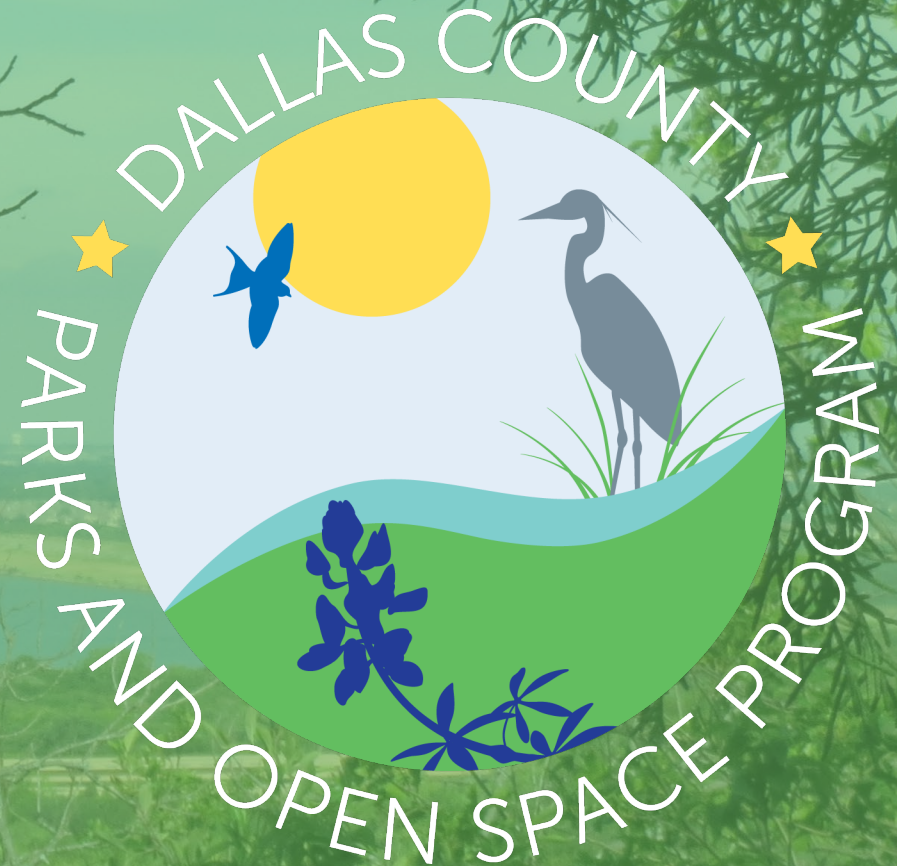


# DALLAS COUNTY OPEN SPACE PLAN

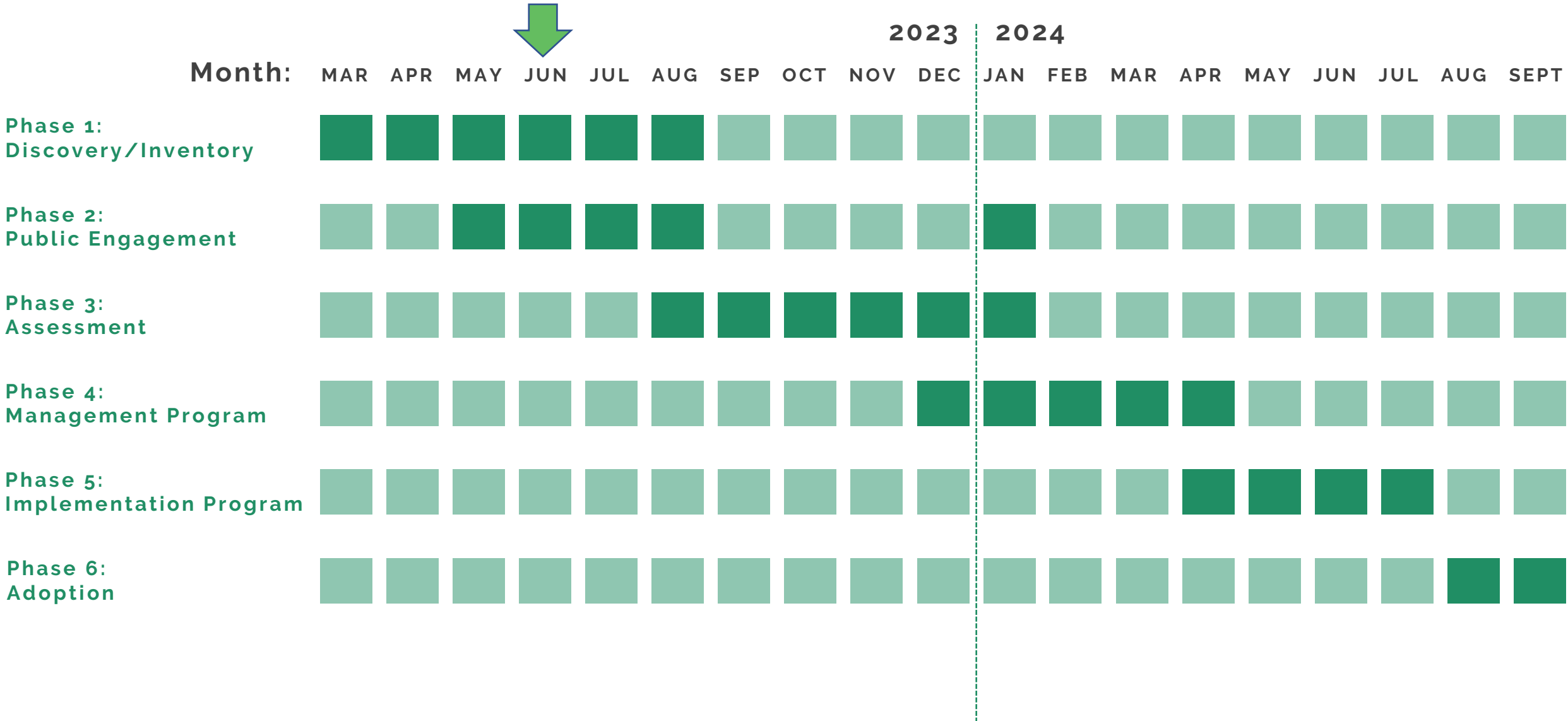
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TRAIL AND PRESERVE PROGRAM BOARD  
PROJECT BRIEFING #2

June 1, 2023



# PROJECT TIMELINE

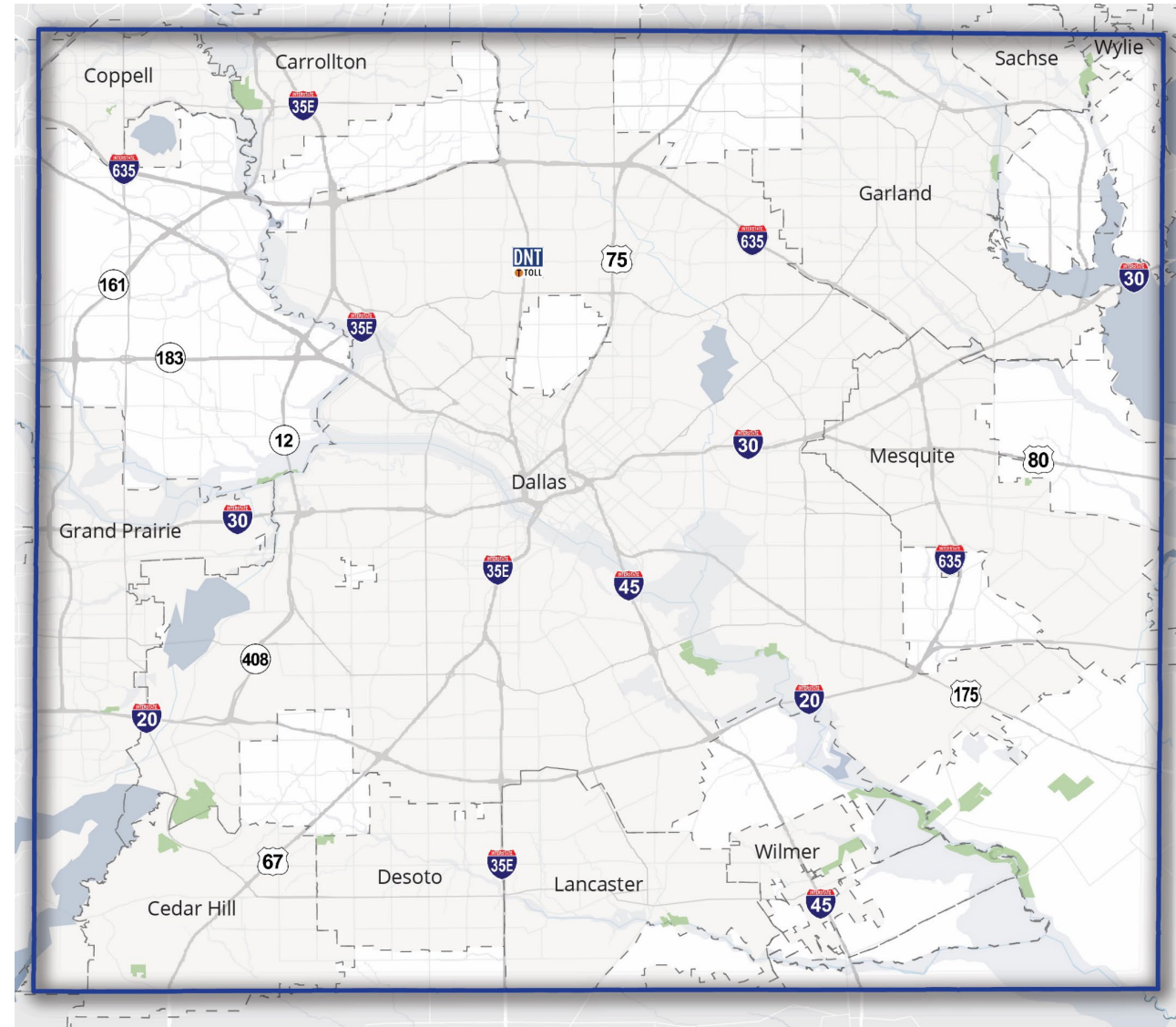


Schedule is tentative and subject to change.



# PRESERVE SYSTEM SNAPSHOT

- 21 Preserves across Dallas County
- 4,085 Acres total
  - 3,740 acres - County
  - 345 acres - Cities
- 32% of preserve acreage is in unincorporated Dallas County
- 14 Preserve Management Partners
  - Cities of Carrollton, Cedar Hill, Coppell, Dallas, DeSoto, Garland, Grand Prairie, Irving, Lancaster, Mesquite, Sachse, Wilmer, Wylie
  - Dallas ISD Environmental Education Center



# INITIAL OBSERVATIONS

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Diverse Habitats

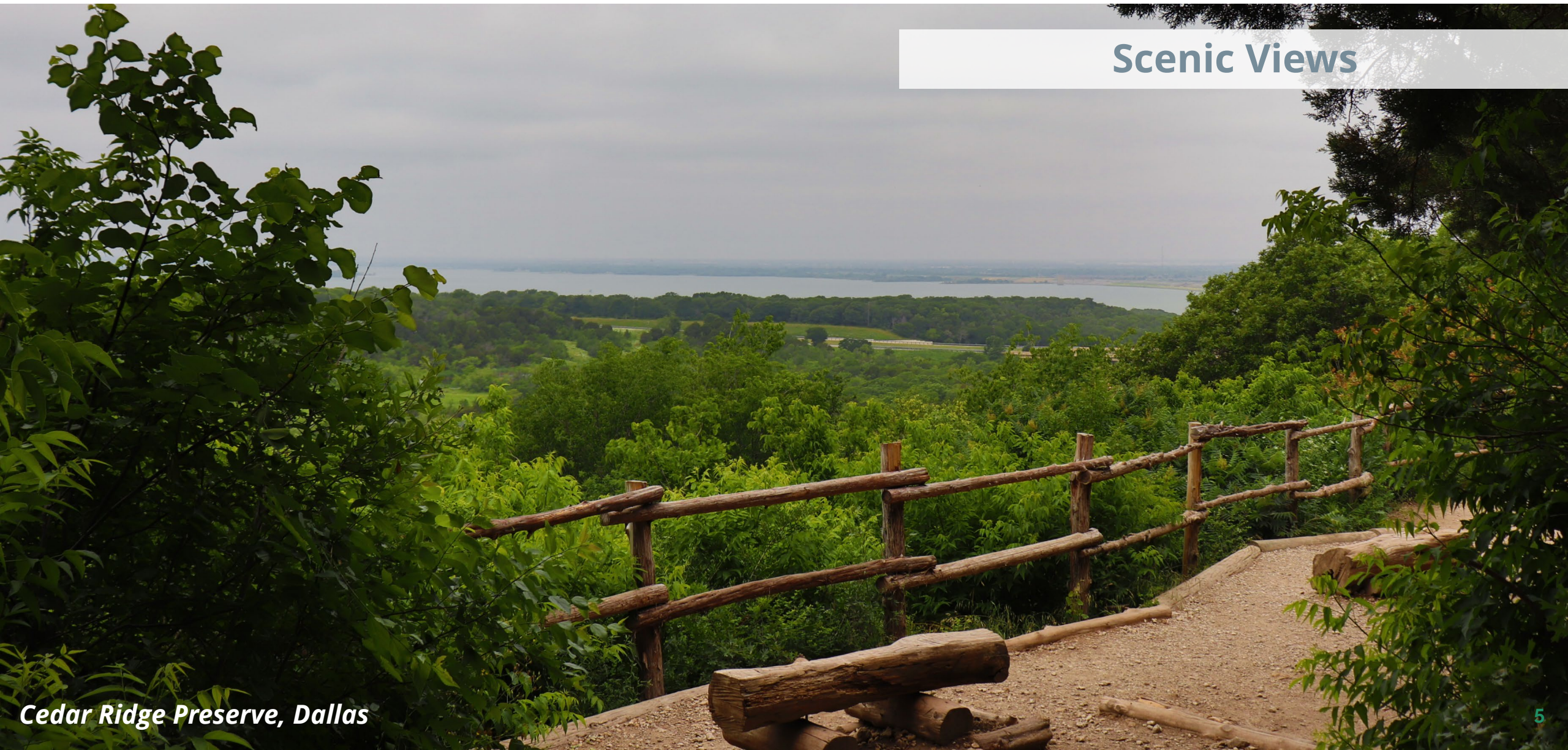


*Lester Lorch Park, Cedar Hill*



# INITIAL OBSERVATIONS

## Scenic Views









# INITIAL OBSERVATIONS

Well-Used Trails





# INITIAL OBSERVATIONS

## Dedicated Partners

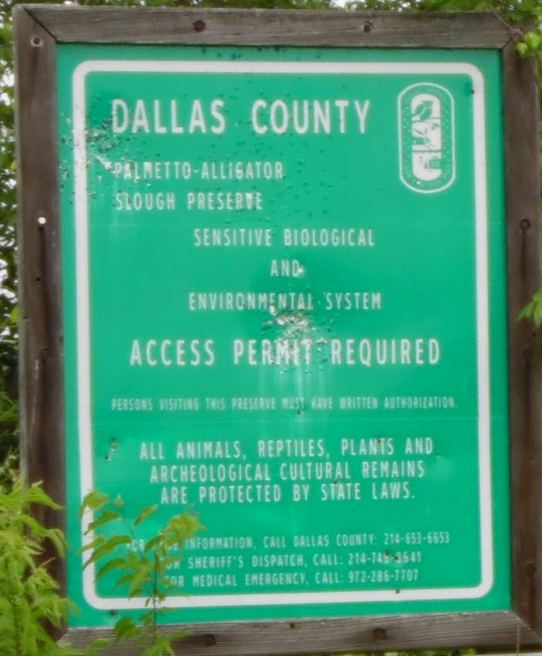


Rowlett Creek Preserve, Garland



# INITIAL OBSERVATIONS

## Conflicting Signage





# INITIAL OBSERVATIONS

Outdated Amenities



*Tenmile Creek Preserve, Lancaster*



# INITIAL OBSERVATIONS

## Dumping/Litter Issues





# INITIAL OBSERVATIONS

ADA Compliance





# ISSUES & OPPORTUNITIES

## COMMON ISSUES

**Safety/Security**  
**Lack of Awareness**  
**Poor Wayfinding**  
**Inconsistent  
Signage**  
**Maintenance**  
**Hard to Access**

## OPPORTUNITIES

**Increased Marketing  
& Outreach**  
**Volunteer  
Partnerships**  
**Policy Updates**  
**Signage Overhaul**  
**Access  
Improvements**

# ENGAGEMENT EFFORTS

## COMPLETED

- County Leadership Interviews

## IN PROGRESS

- Preserve Management Partner Meetings
- Preserve Intercept Surveys

## UPCOMING

- TAPP Board Visioning Session - JUNE
- Stakeholder Listening Sessions – JUNE
- Countywide Survey – JULY/AUGUST
- Public Open House Meetings - AUGUST

## PROVIDE YOUR INPUT!



Scan the QR code to provide feedback on your experience with this preserve.

Your input will help inform recommendations for the Dallas County Open Space Plan.

Learn more about the plan at [www.dallascounty.org/parks](http://www.dallascounty.org/parks)





# CONTACT INFORMATION

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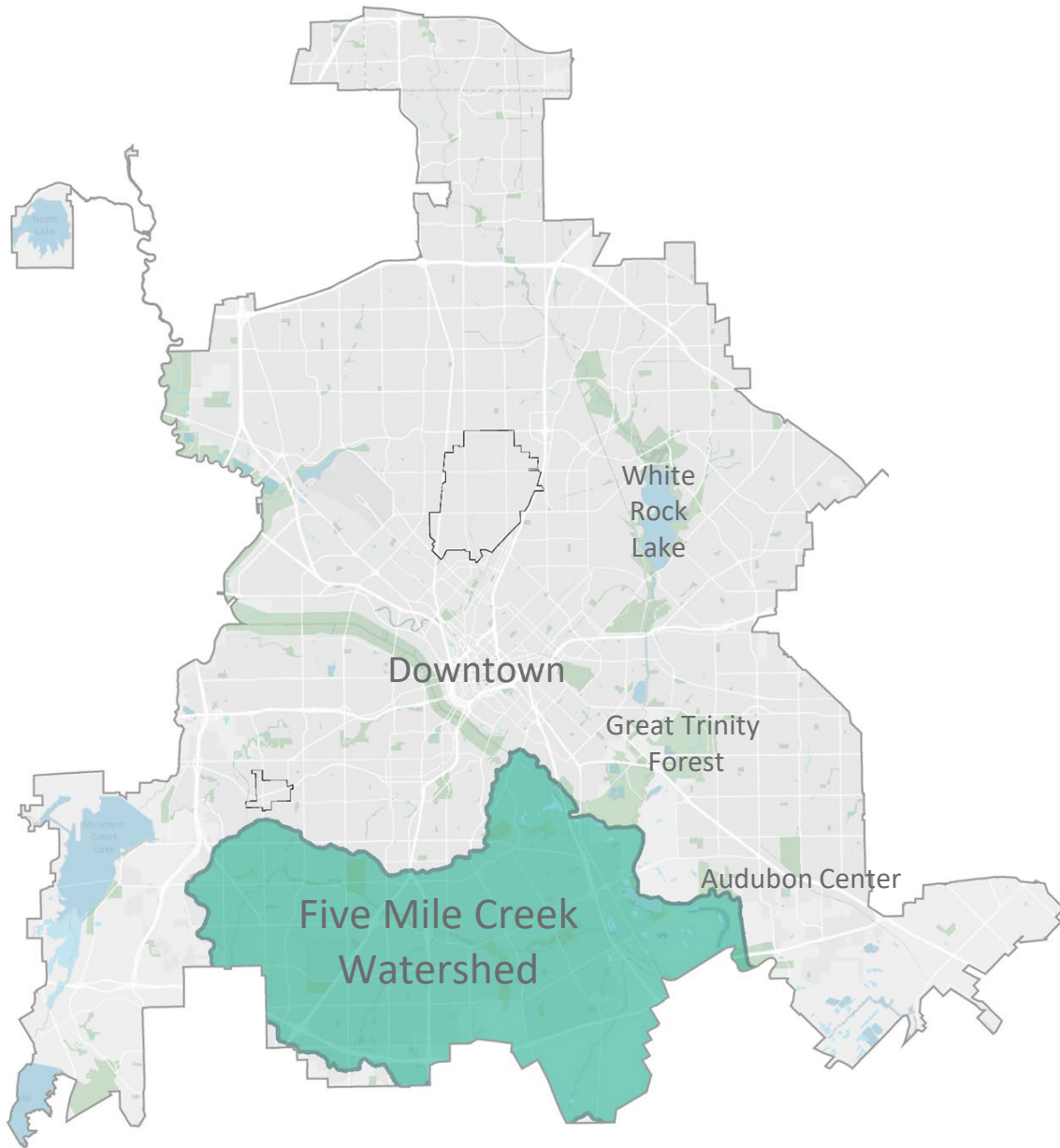




# Five Mile Creek Greenbelt

*A greenbelt for all of Dallas*





# Five Mile Creek

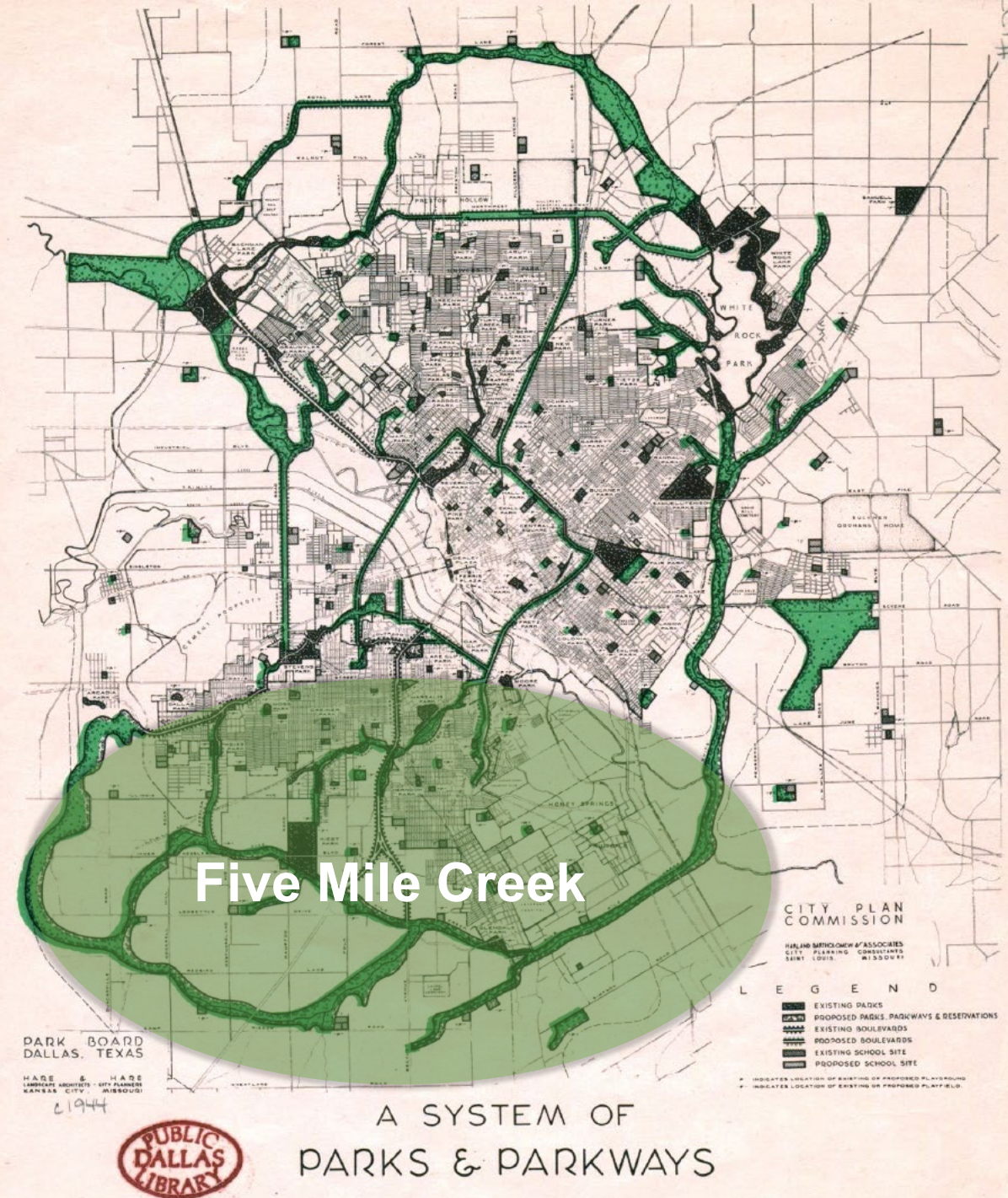
## BY THE NUMBERS

Total Population	186,297
Children	56,942
Seniors	25,318
Low-Income Households	51%
African American	61%
Hispanic	33%
White	20%
Percentage of residents with 10MW park access	54%

# A vision **80 years** in the making

“It is reasonable to visualize Five Mile Creek Parkway developed in a manner comparable to certain sections of Turtle Creek Parkway...”

*Dallas Parks Director L.B. Houston discussing  
“The Bartholomew Plan” for Five Mile Creek, 1954*





# Picking up the torch

- 2019, City of Dallas adopted a new master plan for parks and trails across the Five Mile Creek watershed
- TPL developed the master plan with input of local residents
- TPL purchased 125 acres of land for 3 new parks along Five Mile Creek
- Ready to begin work on 16.9-mile spine trail

## South Oak Cliff Renaissance Park

*opened in 2021*



## Judge Charles Rose Park

*will open in 2023*



## Woody Branch Park

*will open in 2025*



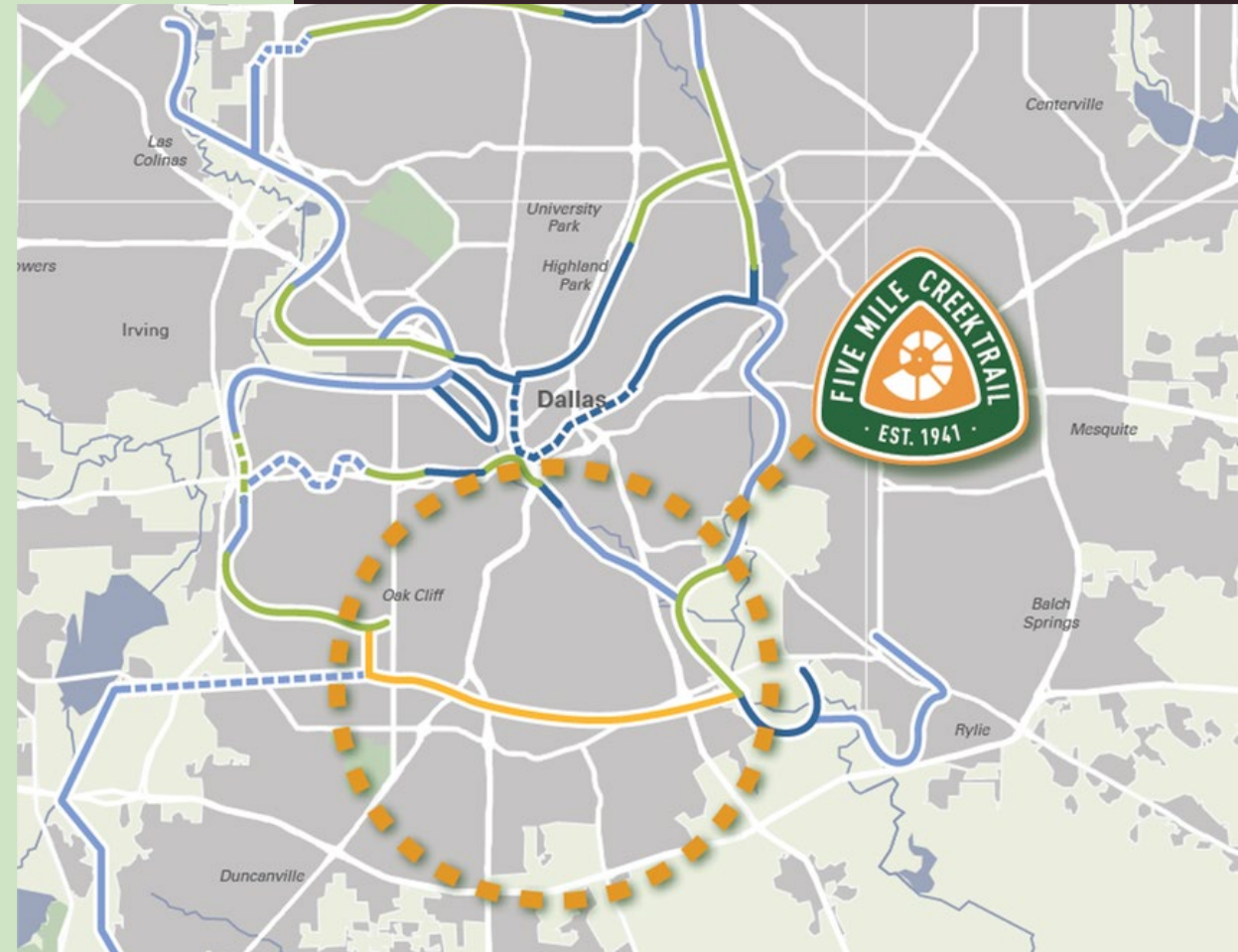






# Our Vision: A greenbelt for all of Dallas

A new 16.9-mile hike-bike trail across the Five Mile Creek watershed, connecting **Chalk Hill Trail** to **The LOOP Dallas**. The trail will provide **connection for Oak Cliff to the city's existing trail system**, while creating new opportunities for all of Dallas to enjoy the natural beauty of Five Mile Creek.





**A healthier,  
greener, and  
more connected  
Dallas is within  
our reach**

Every **\$1** invested  
generates **\$2.90**  
economic impact

**16.9 miles**

new multi-modal  
bicycle and  
walking trails

**3 new  
parks**

along 5 mile  
creek trail

**186,297  
PEOPLE**

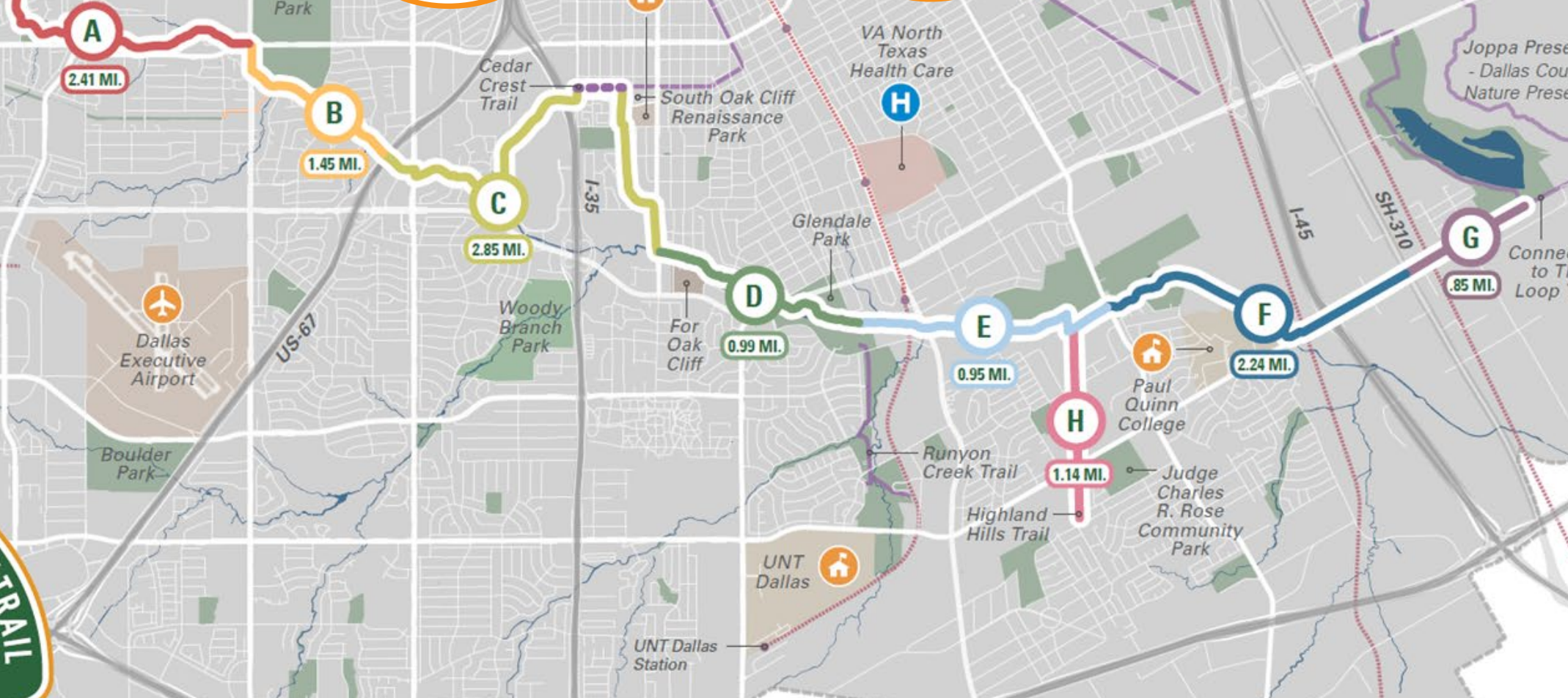
within the  
watershed

**16.9 miles**  
**NEW TRAILS**

**8**  
**TRAIL SECTIONS**

**LEGEND:**

	PROPOSED TRAIL		WATER (CREEK/LAKE)
	OTHER TRAILS		DART STATION
	HIGHWAYS		INFRASTRUCTURE
	RAIL LINE		AIRPORT
	PARK / GREEN SPACE		SCHOOL
			HOSPITAL



\* Mileage indicates new trail construction

# Five Mile Creek Trail Connection Points

By connecting to the city's existing trail network, the trail will connect these amenities to not only the **185,000 residents of the area**, but all **1.3 million residents of Dallas**.

**17** parks

**2** colleges and higher education

**2** light rail stations

**3** hospitals within 10-minute walk

**10** schools within 10-minute walk

**100+** bus stops within 5-minute walk

# Driving Equitable Economic Development

For every **\$1 invested** in the Five Mile Creek trail, **\$2.90 in economic impact** will be returned to the local economy.

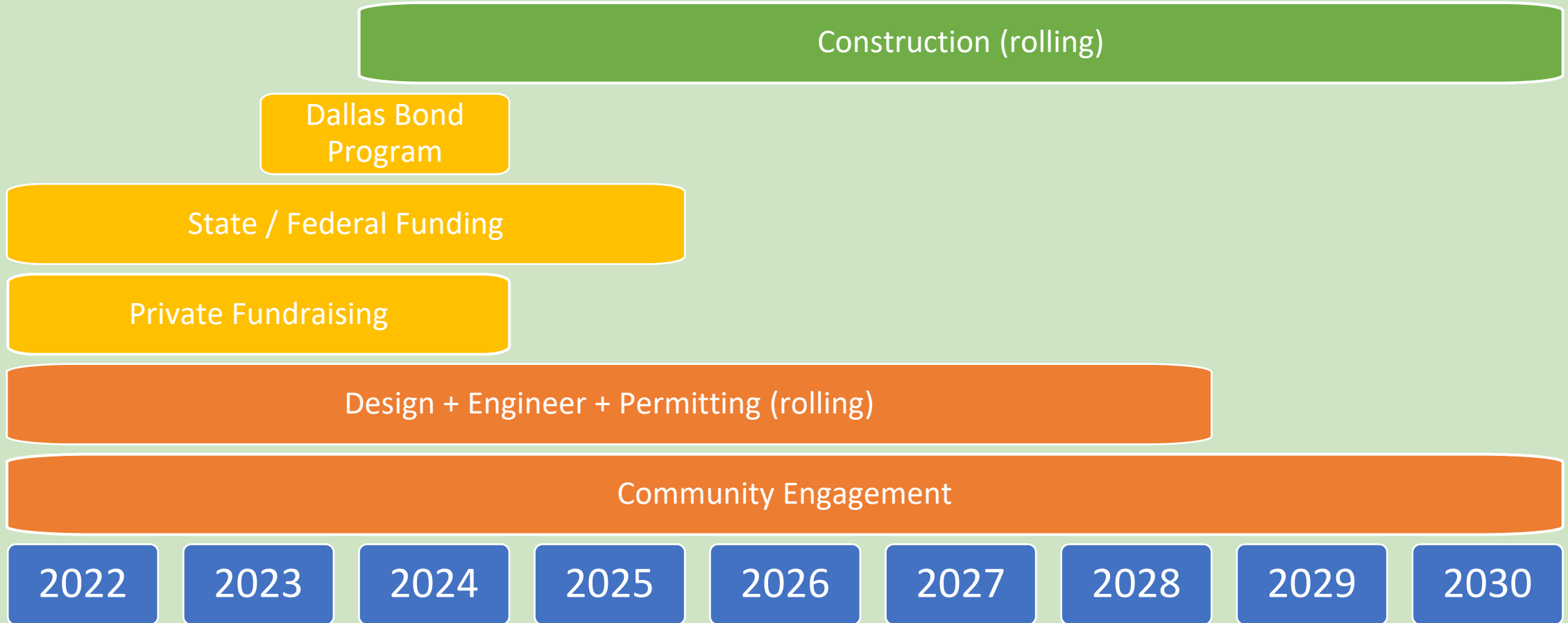
**2.9 to 1** benefit-to-cost ratio

Key benefits include:

- **Reduced health care costs**
- **Recreation and tourism**
- **Trail users supporting local businesses**
- **Transportation and mobility**
- **Creating opportunities for new businesses**



# Project Timeline



# Making the vision **a reality**

- Total amount to-be-raised is **\$70 million**
- Three-pronged funding strategy:
  - Local funds
  - State and Federal grants
  - Private philanthropy

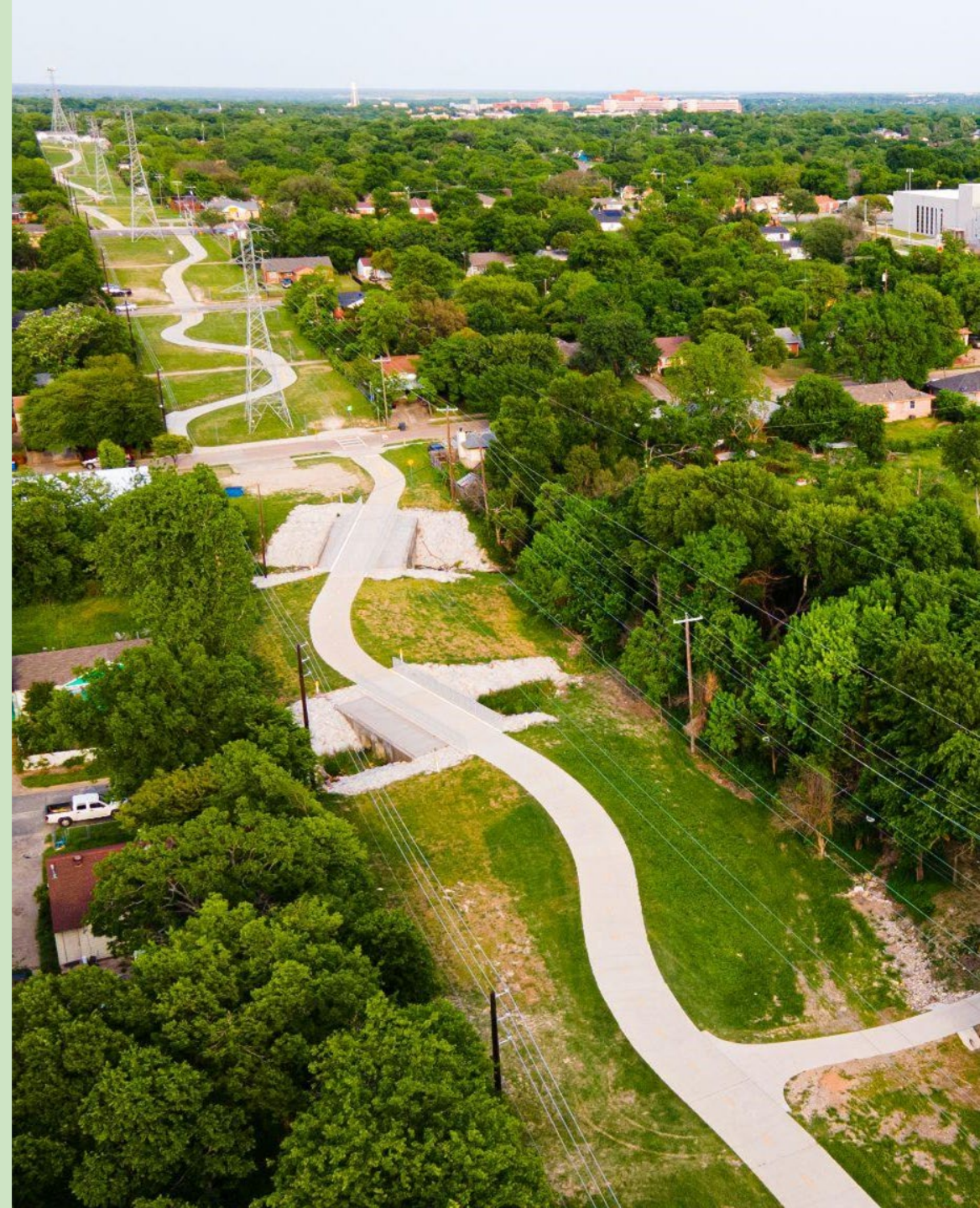




# State / Federal Funding

There is an unprecedented amount of state and federal funding for trails and greenways in the places that need them most:

- **Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside** is administered by TxDOT and has ~\$200 million available for bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure
- **Re-Connecting Communities Act** provides \$195 million for transportation projects that reknit areas divided by highways
- **Outdoor Recreation Legacy Program** allocated \$192 million for park and trail projects in 2022
- **Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)** program—\$1.4 billion of the \$2.2 billion for urban trail equity
- **Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)**—\$3 billion for natural climate solutions, such as trails and parks



# Spring 2023 State / Federal Grant Strategy

Grant Program	TxDOT Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program	US DOT RAISE
Timeline	Due: January 27, 2023 Decision: October 2023	Due: February 28, 2023 Decision: Fall 2023
Segment	Zone A	Entire Trail
Purpose	100% Design & Construction	30% Design + environmental, survey, geotech, community engagement
Request Amount	\$6,275,516	\$8,045,328
Funding Available	\$5 million (minimum) \$25 million (maximum) \$200 million (total)	\$5 million (minimum) \$25 million (maximum) \$114 million (total)
Local Match	20%	20%



# Community Committee

- TPL is forming a Community Committee to guide the project forward and ensure deep engagement and connection with local residents
- Open to anyone interested in serving





The Time  
is **Now**





**Contact:**

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Director of Parks and Schoolyards

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# Next Meeting August 3, 2023

See you next time!



[dallascountyparksopenspace](https://www.instagram.com/dallascountyparksopenspace)



[Dallas County Parks & Open Space](https://www.facebook.com/DallasCountyParksAndOpenSpace)

