

MINUTES Dallas County Trail and Preserve Program Board Meeting



May 9, 2024 9:00 a.m.

Dallas County Records Building Innovation Training Room, 7th Floor 500 Elm St, Dallas TX 75202

Members Present: Ed Koppman, William Freeman, Rick Kopf, Fred Washington, Javier Vilchis, Amy Martin

Members Absent: Rinkesh Desai, Philip Hiatt Haigh, Kiphani Allen, Andy Jones

1. Call Meeting to Order

Luis Tamayo, Director of Planning and Development, began the meeting at 9:07 am.

2. Welcome/Introductions

3. Public Comment

No members of the public provided comment.

4. Dallas County Open Space Plan Systemwide Recommendations

Kendall Howard with Halff Associates reviewed the plan goals of Enhance, Connect, Protect, and Manage and went over the proposed list of themes for the systemwide recommendations. The recommendations will fall under the themes of safety and security, funding resources, maintenance, partnerships, program administration, resource management, access, and awareness. Luis Tamayo then took board members through a series of exercises where they were given five minutes per theme to write down any comments, ideas, or feedback on notecards regarding the corresponding recommendations. The members highly favored the proposed themes and agreed the recommendations were more comprehensible when sorted this way. Major points of discussion centered around prioritizing recommendations. Board members expressed that the need for a park ranger, and partnerships that foster awareness and funding, should take precedence. Halff will use the notecard comments to edit and finalize systemwide recommendations.

Upcoming Event Announcements

• Dallas County Parks and Open Space Program, in collaboration with the City of Dallas, are hosting a National Trails Day Event at Joppa Preserve

on Saturday, June 1st, from 8:30 am – 11:00 am. Volunteers will be removing invasive species and litter.

• Texas Conservation Alliance, in collaboration with Preservation Society for Spring Creek Forest and Dallas County Parks and Open Space, are holding a prairie restoration workday and wildflower tour on Saturday, May 11th, from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.

5. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am.