



# **Minutes Dallas County Trail and Preserve Program Board Meeting**



**October 3, 2024  
9:00 a.m.**

**Dallas County Records Building**  
Innovation Training Room, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
500 Elm Street, Dallas, TX 75202

**Members Present:** Ed Koppman, William Freeman, Philip Hiatt Haigh, Rick Kopf, Fred Washington, Kiphani Allen, Raja Chaudhry, Rick Kopf

**Members Absent:** Rinkesh Desai, Javier Vilchis, Amy Martin, Andy Jones

**1. Call Meeting to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Board Chair Ed Koppman at 9:05 a.m.

**2. Welcome/Introductions**

**3. Public Comment**

No members of the public provided comment.

**4. Review and Approval of the August 15, 2024, Minutes**

Mr. Freeman made a motion to approve the August meeting minutes and Mr. Haigh seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**5. Status of Trails**

Cypress Waters Trail

The project was advertised on September 6<sup>th</sup> and two Pre-Bid Meetings have been held. ROW easements are being finalized between the City of Dallas and the developer. Dallas County will open bids on October 10<sup>th</sup>.

Chalk Hill Trail

Consultant work orders for Phase 1 and Phase 2 were approved in August. The Phase 1 kickoff meeting was in September and the consultant will begin preparing the 95% submittal for TxDOT on Phase 1.

Heritage Trail

Construction began in June and is 30% complete.

### Campion Trail

The Phase 1 southern segment concrete pavement is complete. Dallas County has reviewed the 100% Phase 2 plans. The final plans and environmental are pending USACE approval and agreements.

## **6. Status of County Preserves**

### Staff Update

The Open Space Coordinator position was transitioned from ARPA funding to the County General Fund. A Park Ranger position was approved for FY2025. The Park Ranger position is anticipated to be posted in January.

### Parks and Open Space Property Requests

Trinity River Mountain Creek, Rowlett Creek, and Palmetto-Alligator Slough preserve all currently have ongoing utility easement requests.

### Parks and Open Space Projects and Activities

Dallas County purchased a restroom facility for Cottonwood Creek Preserve. The City of Wilmer will be installing a disc golf course, parking and lighting in conjunction with the restroom. Goat Island East is being surveyed by Halff Associates to help staff determine what measures may be needed to ensure compliance with the Texas Aggregate Quarry and Pit Safety Act. Staff will be implementing biannual preserve inspections this year, the first one taking place at the end of October. There was a question on how, and if, preserve projects will be prioritized. Mia Brown, the Open Space Administrator, explained that preserves will not be prioritized against each other. Projects will be completed in order of when our management partners' participation and program budget align, with emphasis on priority as listed in the Open Space Plan.

### Past Events

On September 21<sup>st</sup>, 13 volunteers, including DORBA volunteers, removed 300 tires at Goat Island Preserve. The Parks and Open Space staff also had an outreach table at the opening weekend of the State Fair of Texas on September 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>.

### Future Events

On October 19<sup>th</sup>, a non-profit group, Umu Igbo Unite, will be conducting trail maintenance at Paul S Dryer Preserve at Windmill Hill. Staff will also have an outreach table at the Harvest Heritage Festival at Cedar Hill State Park on the same day. On November 9<sup>th</sup>, there will be a habitat restoration workday at Cedar Mountain Preserve in partnership with the City of Cedar Hill's Fall Beautification Day.

## **7. Proposal of Future Agenda Items**

Mr. Haigh proposed the next TAPP Board meeting be held at Joppa Preserve pending weather.

**8. Upcoming Events/Board Meetings**

a. Next TAPP Board Regular Meeting: December 5, 2024

**9. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 10:03 a.m.