



MEDIA CONTACT:

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Northern Walnut Creek Trail, Phase 1

FACT SHEET

Objective:

Create a segment of the Walnut Creek Trail System, from Balcones Park at Amherst and Duval Lane to Walnut Creek Metro Park, that will eventually connect with the Southern Walnut Creek Trail and the Austin to Manor Trail (currently under construction). This trail network will provide a multi-use, alternative transportation route for cyclists as well as a recreational asset for walkers, runners and for family recreation.

Background:

The Northern Walnut Creek Trail, Phase 1 is a significant part of the Parks and Recreation Department's (PARD) Walnut Creek Trail System, which will eventually connect north Austin with the Colorado River. The 3.2 mile long Northern Walnut Creek Trail, Phase 1 will eventually extend the northern segment of the Walnut Creek Trail system to IH-35 with the construction of the 1.7 mile Phase 2, which is now in preliminary design.\

The Northern Walnut Creek Trail, Phase 1 will be 10 feet wide concrete with 2 feet wide shoulders, including 4 trailheads and 9 creek crossings, which include bridges and low water crossings. The trail follows an east-west route from the western edge of Balcones Park along Amherst Drive along and across Walnut Creek to the western edge of Walnut Creek Metro Park. There will be major trailheads at Balcones Park, Walnut Creek Metro Park and Gracywoods Park.

Funding for the trail comes partially from the American Resource Recovery Act and is administered by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). The trail will conform to American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) guidelines for construction. TxDOT is providing a grant in the amount of \$1.996 million and the City is providing a match as outlined below:

Funding Source	Amount
TXDOT Grant (ARRA)	\$ 1,996,261.00
1998 GO Bonds P2 (Parks)	\$ 3,514,014.00
2006 GO Bonds P3 (Parks)	\$ 1,713,827.00
2006 GO Bonds P1 (Public Works)	\$ 410,000.00
Parkland Dedication	\$ 230,000.00
CIP Contingency Reserve	\$ 1,198,850.00
Total	\$ 9,062,952.00

Project Dates:

June 2012	Stakeholder meetings held
December 2012	Design phase completed
April 2013	Construction start date
September 2013	Estimated completion date

Financial figures/Projected Costs:

Low Bid or \$5,643,325.98 plus 5% contingency of \$282,166.00 for a total of \$5,925,491.98 for council approval. The project is expected to be completed within the approved budget.

Project lead:

Richard Duane (PWD), Project Manager: 974-7730

Robert Brennes, Sponsor Department (PARD) Representative: 974-9472