



Parks and Recreation Board

Land, Facilities and Programs Committee

West Austin Neighborhood Park Master Plan

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History and Justification

Park History

- 3.32 acres
- Dedicated in 1930
- 1930 West Austin Tudor Revival Shelter House attributed to Hugo Kuehne
- Old West Austin Neighborhood and West Line National Register Historic District
- Friends of West Austin Park established in 2009.

Master Plan Process Justification

- West Austin Park received funds from major downtown event in 2007 and sought public input and guidance.
- Community desire for long-term vision for park
- Adopted plan will assist with fundraising efforts
- Meets goals of the 2010 PARD Master Plan and Imagine Austin objectives – “Park within 5 walking miles of a residence”





Issues and Needs Analysis



- Accessibility issues
- Basketball court needs relocation
- Historic walls collapsing
- Erosion and poor access at dog park
- Water fountain leaking
- No public art in park
- Drainage issues
- Ball field not level
- Lack of shade and seating
- Major erosion along eastern hillside
- Swings poorly sited
- Trees in poor condition
- No nature play/imaginative play area





Public Engagement Process

- Summer, 2008—An online survey was posted by the OWANA Parks Committee to gather input on the park.
- Fall, 2009—Friends of West Austin Park forms and engages TBG Partners to develop a conceptual master plan for the park.
- 2010-2011—Multiple public meetings and an online survey held to develop a master plan for West Austin Park.



- Final revision of master plan was presented to OWANA General Membership in December, 2011.
- An updated master plan document was supported by the OWANA Steering Committee on October 7, 2013.





Community Priorities

- Shade
- Seating
- Access Improvement (e.g., better drainage for east entrance)
- Beautification
- Maintenance/Repair Existing
- Attention to all recreational uses (e.g., Active, Passive)





Master Plan Overview -Including Area Sections





Park Phases and Implementation Plan

1. Plaza Area and Existing Playground (Area 2)
 - A shade structure with seating is being planned for the park center, near the play scape area and pool entrance. The neighborhood has secured over \$22,500 for this project and has preliminary construction plans for the project.
 - Relocating existing basketball court and swing set, using existing large boulder to create (diagonally) sloped climbing wall, etc.
2. Terraced Garden (Area 1)
 - Stakeholders feel that there is the need for more seating and a 'quiet space' in the park. The hillside area on the northwest side of the park has been designated to become a contemplative garden with shade and seating areas.
3. Natural Playground (Area 3)
 - This area will add a natural play are to the park and has also been designed to address the need of "older" children (i.e., 7-12) who do not have a targeted play area. Natural materials (e.g., rock, wood) will be used in the construction of this area.



Park Phases and Implementation Plan



4. Amphitheater Area (Area 4)

- This phase includes replacing/repairing existing, failing walls, reducing wall height for safety, addressing draining issues and flooding in the east entrance area of the park , creating a seating amphitheater, etc.

5. Open Field (Area 5)

- This phase included addressing draining issues with the baseball diamond and grass area. It also included changes to improve the entrance at the south side of the park such as removing the chain link fence, adding a natural hedge, dirt berm or other natural barrier/border.

6. Off-Leash Area (area 6)

- Improvement to the dog park area including additional seating, addressing draining age issues, adding a permanent fence, (all current fencing was installed as temporary), adding a north gate, etc.

*It should be noted that currently no funding for these improvements is available.

