



Waller Creek Conservancy
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August 7, 2014

Tom Meredith
Vice President
Waller Creek Local Government Corporation

RE: Creek Show Light Night 2014

Dear Tom:

Per Section 6.01 (see below) of the Waller Creek District Joint Design, Development, Management and Operation Agreement, the City and the LGC are responsible for approving, accepting, displaying and determining the maintenance of any public art for the District.

Section 6.01 **Commissions.** The City and the LGC will be responsible for approving, accepting, displaying and determining the maintenance of any public art for the District to ensure consistency with the Design Plan. The City waives the requirements of the City Code related to public art, including the requirements of the City Cod Chapter 7-2 for a separate approval of public art by the Arts Commission, however, plans for public art will be presented to Arts Commission.

The conservancy is requesting approval of five installations (four temporary; one semi-permanent) in conjunction with its Creek Show program, which promotes community engagement via art and design. Brief descriptions and renderings of the installations are attached. Questions regarding the installations can be addressed at the August 14 meeting.

These light-based installations are planned between 5th St. and 8th St. along Waller Creek. The installations will be revealed during a free, public event on November 13. Some of the installations will remain on display through November 16. All of the installations have been designed by Austin-based architects and landscape architects.

WCC staff is working with City of Austin staff in a number of departments including but not limited to Parks and Recreation, Watershed Protection, Economic Development and the Austin Center for Events and will facilitate the necessary permits for each installation in compliance with City codes and ordinances.

These installations will be presented to the Arts in Public Places Panel and the Arts Commission during their September meetings.

Additionally, WCC staff has reached out to business owners along this stretch of the creek to inform them of the upcoming installations and the community kick-off event that will take place this fall. They have all been extremely supportive of this effort to bring positive attention to Waller Creek.

I would be happy to address any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Meredith Bossin
Director of Programs and Business Operations
Waller Creek Conservancy

CC: Melanie Barnes, Sue Edwards, Elaine Hart, Melba Whatley



The Creek Show Light Night 2014 installations have been reviewed and approved.

Mr. Tom Meredith	Date
Vice President, LGC Representative	
Waller Creek Local Government Corporation	

Ms. Sue Edwards	Date
Assistant City Manager	
City of Austin	



Installation 1: Light Bridge

Murray Legge of Legge Lewis Legge

Light Bridge is composed of repeated hanging rope or wire elements that include segments of electroluminescent wire (EL wire). Segments of EL wire are arranged to create a glowing three-dimensional volume/image of a bridge hovering in space over the river. The vertical elements will be lightly weighted and connected at the bottom to prevent tangling while allowing movement. Light Bridge will sway slightly in the breeze, giving the volume a shimmering spectral presence. This lightweight piece would be suspended from wire or rope rigging secured from adjacent existing structures or trees in locations not accessible to the public.

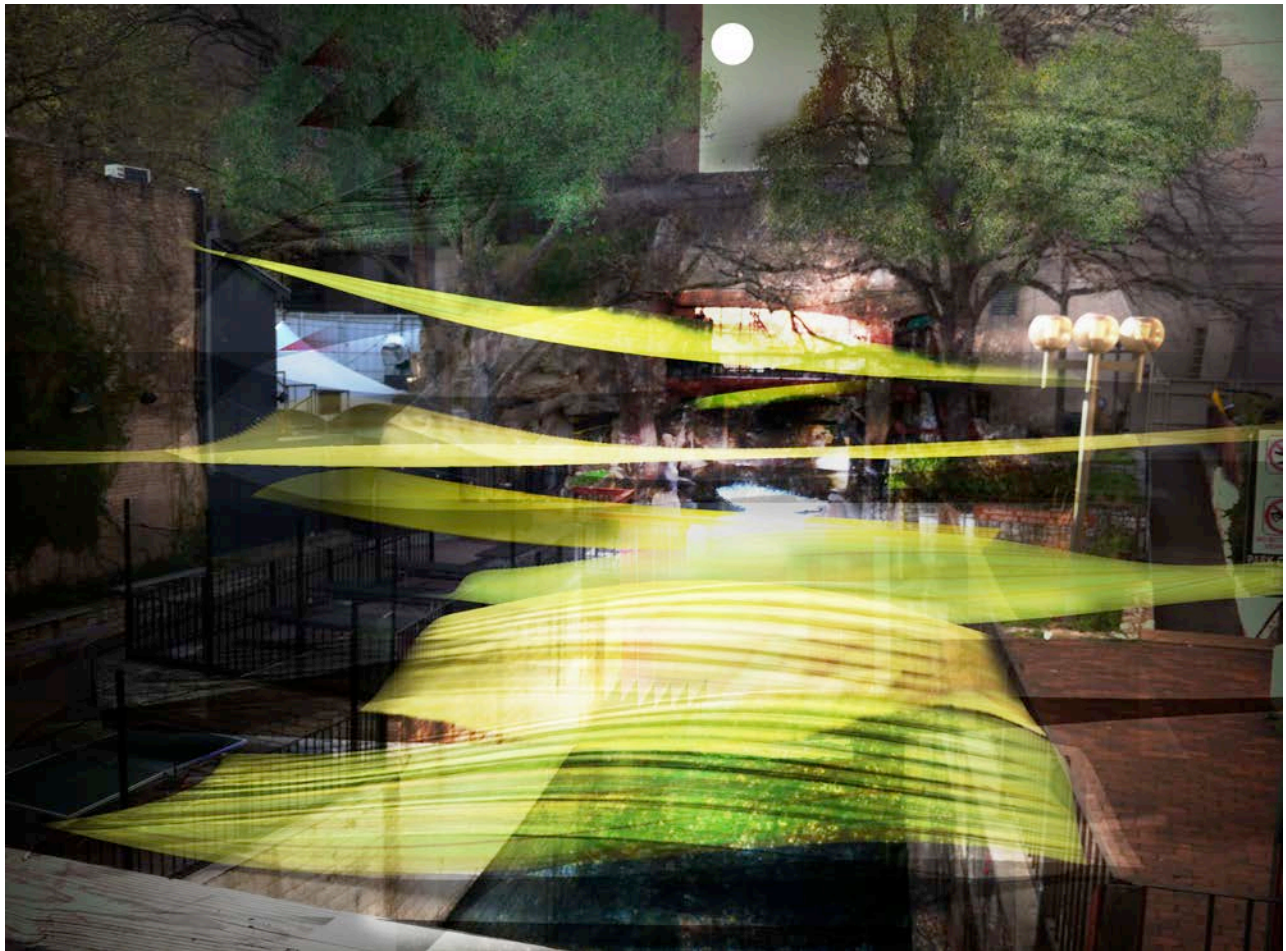




Installation 2: Flow

Steven Spears of Design Workshop

Flow is a kinetic installation that aims to capture and reveal wind patterns within the Waller Creek corridor, while providing shade and shadows. Strategically located south of 6th St., the horizontal tapestries will emulate the flow, rhythm, and surface of the creek at the 6th St. grade level, allowing for automobiles and pedestrians to view and interact with the piece. Up-lit from below, the lightweight tapestries will change color, creating an ever-changing landscape for humans to interact with and investigate.





Installation 3: Tracing the Line

Burton Baldrige of Burton Baldrige Architects

Tracing the Line is an interactive and ephemeral installation that is neither landscape nor architecture, but encourages participants to trace a portion of the creek, and urges us all to contemplate the potential and future of the Waller Creek redevelopment. An orchestrated event that highlights a section of the creek's untapped spatial and social potential, Tracing the Line consists of a series thin illuminated tubes emerging from the creek, each containing an ultra-bright LED flashlight, anchored at approximately 10 foot centers with their tops aligned at a single datum. The tubes will sit atop black pvc pipe, but the glowing portions of the tubes will grow, from north to south to a maximum length of eight feet describing a wedge that matches the estimated eight feet of grade the installation spans. Although the views within the creek are often obscured, the winding line of suspended luminaires should become increasingly visible as the evening progresses into night, from the north side of 6th Street, to the south side of 9th.

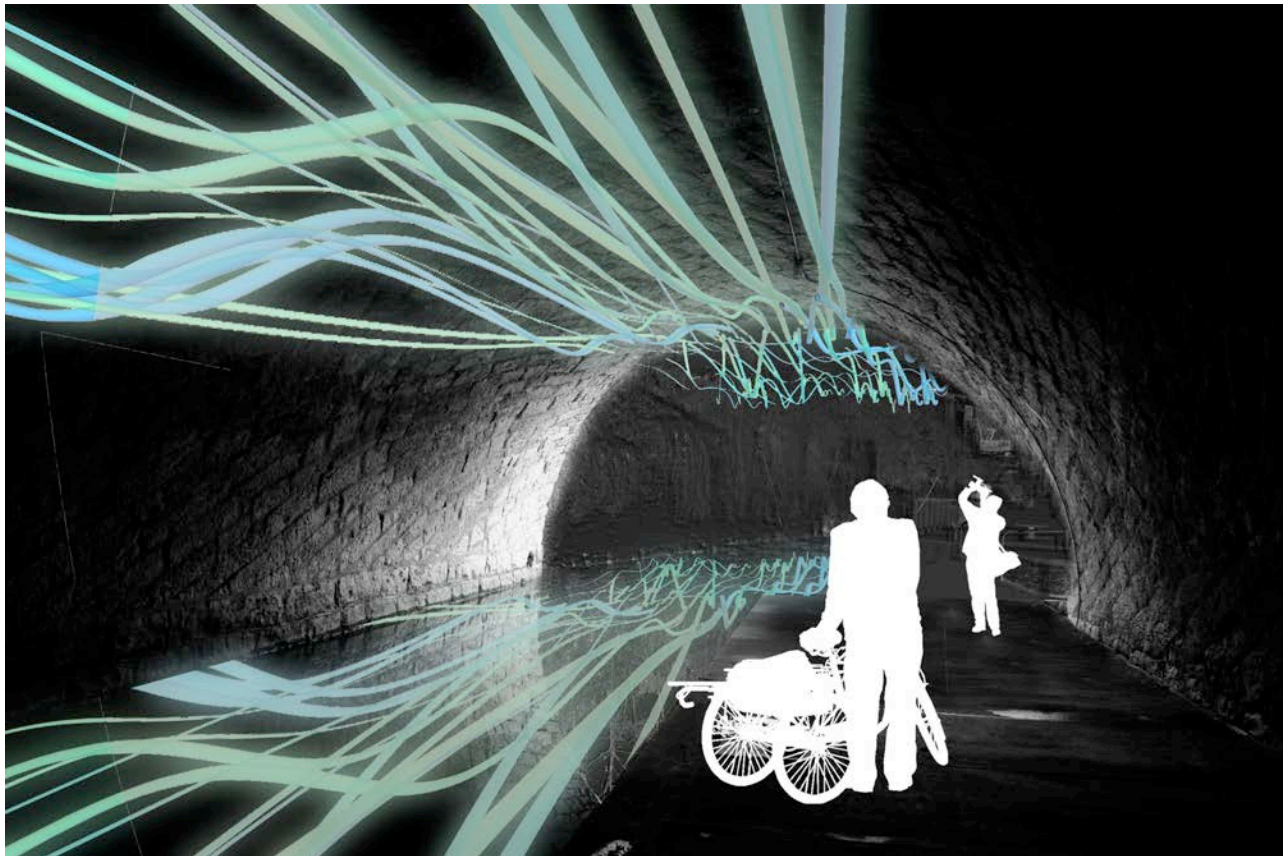




Installation 4: High Water Mark

Lucy Begg and Robert Gay of Thoughtbarn

High Water Mark is a manifestation of an invisible line that will soon be erased—Waller Creek’s 100-year floodplain. Sitting approximately 20 feet above typical water levels in the creek, the floodplain has stunted growth within 28 acres of downtown for decades. High Water Mark will make tangible a fragment of this disappearing floodplain, with a compelling 100-foot long installation of fluid EL wire, suspended above the creek at and under the 7th St. bridge. The bridge is a hidden gem of spectacular double curvature stonework, and High Water.





Installation 5: Hidden Measures

Jason Sowell, Landscape Architect and UT Assistant Professor

The construction of the flood diversion tunnel has transformed Waller Creek into an artificial, engineered “natural” system. In so doing, the creek that is seen from the city is now but one component of a complex hydrologic infrastructure that is largely invisible and inaccessible. Hidden Measures reveals the physical dimensions of this infrastructure and makes legible the impacts that this system imparts to the creek’s hydrology. The installation utilizes photoluminescent paint stenciled to sidewalks and walls to expose the locations of the creek and the diversion tunnel; disclose data related to functions that the infrastructure performs; and highlight events that have occurred within the creek.

[Rendering not available; design plan and details to be presented at August 14 meeting.]