



Onion Creek Metropolitan Park Master Plan

Parks and Recreation Board
City of Austin-Parks & Recreation Department
Randy Scott, Park Development Coordinator
April 28, 2015



Onion Creek Metro Park



PARK BACKGROUND

The Onion Creek Metro Park is 555-acres of parkland located in southeast Travis County, just south of Onion Creek. The city-owned park is relatively flat, wooded and sits undeveloped. The 180-acre Onion Creek Greenbelt is north of the Onion Creek, which is 79 miles in length. The Onion Creek Metro Park was purchased by the City of Austin in the late 1990s, making it the largest city-owned park in Austin. Nearly 15 years later, a new funding source creates an opportunity for long-term, ongoing maintenance to be used to build and maintain the parkland.

POTENTIAL ONGOING FUNDING SOURCE

Once improvements to the park are made, as described in the Master Plan, funding for maintenance and operations costs can come from a newly formed Onion Creek Park District. The Park District was created in 2013 by the Texas Legislature specifically to provide ongoing funding for the Onion Creek Metro Park through fees charged to homeowners in the yet to be developed adjacent Goodnight Ranch community.

HISTORIA DEL PARQUE

Onion Creek Metro Park forma 555 hectáreas de zonas verdes situadas en el sureste de Travis County, justo al sur de Onion Creek. El parque, cuya propiedad permanece a la ciudad, es relativamente plana, arbolada y se encuentra sin desarrollar. Esta ubicada dentro de los 211 kilómetros cuadrados de la Cuenca de Onion Creek donde la longitud total del arroyo es de 79 millas. Los 180 acres del Onion Creek Greenbelt se encuentran al norte de Onion Creek, y Metro Park se extiende sobre 2.5 millas del arroyo. Onion Creek Metro Park fue comprado por la ciudad de Austin a finales de 1990, lo que lo convierte en el parque más grande de la ciudad de Austin. Casi 15 años después, una nueva fuente de financiamiento crea una oportunidad para que el mantenimiento a largo plazo continúe y se utilice para construir y mantener el parque.

POSIBLE FUENTE DE FINANCIAMIENTO

Una vez que se realicen los mejoramientos en el parque, como se describen en el Plan Maestro, la financiación de los costos de mantenimiento y de operaciones pueden provenir de un recién formado Onion Creek Park District. El Park District fue creado en 2013 por la Legislatura de Texas específicamente para proporcionar una financiación continua para el Onion Creek Metro Park a través de las cuotas cobradas a los propietarios de viviendas en la futura comunidad Good Night Ranch.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

- OCMP Website: www.austintexas.gov/onioncreekpark
- SpeakUpAustin.org
- Austin 311 (24/7)

CONTACT US

- Email: onioncreek@makingthingsclear.com
- 512.646.1478

Location: Southeast Austin
Size: Master Plan includes 550 acres
Current Use: Mostly Undeveloped



Partnership



550 acres (Onion Creek Metro Park and Onion Creek Greenbelt)

Proposed Partnership agreement:

- PARD Contributions**

Construction of Initial Park Improvements (Fall 2017)

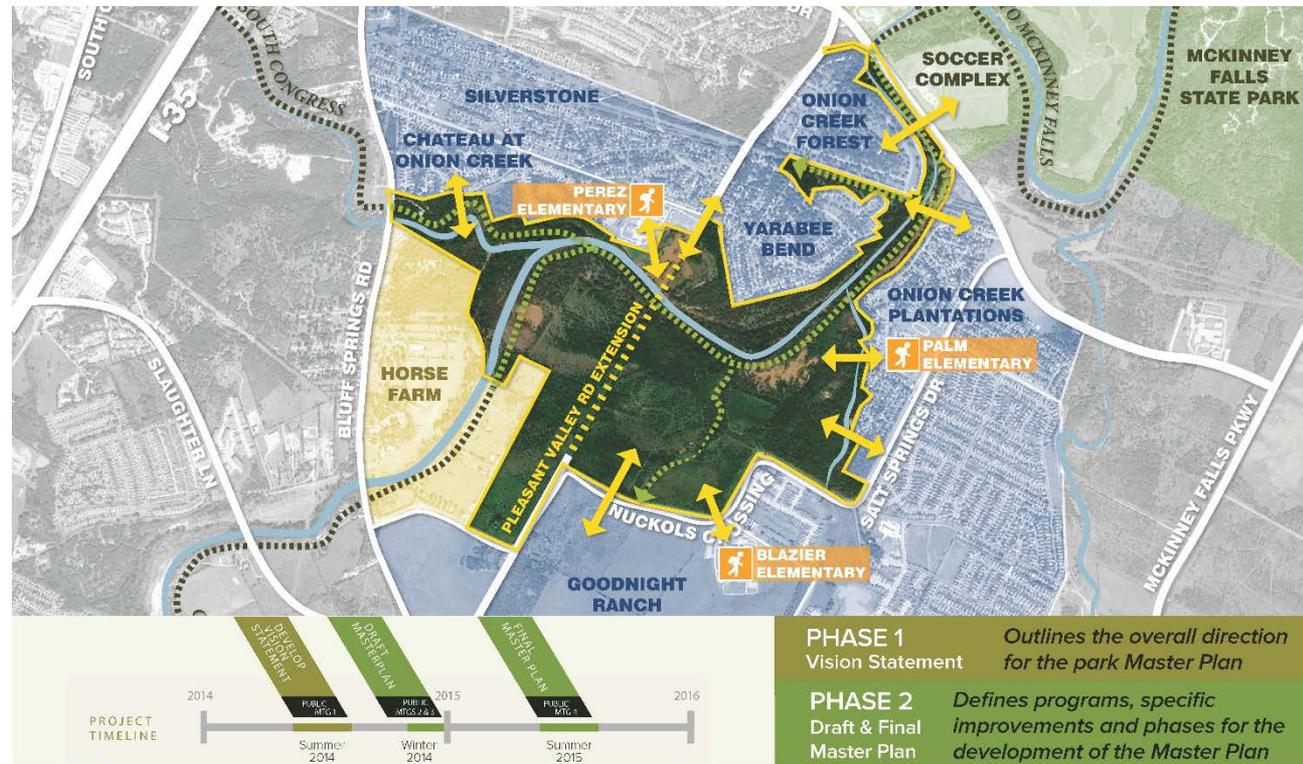
Direct implementation of the Master Plan through bond process and PARD revenues

Construct improvements on a phased schedule

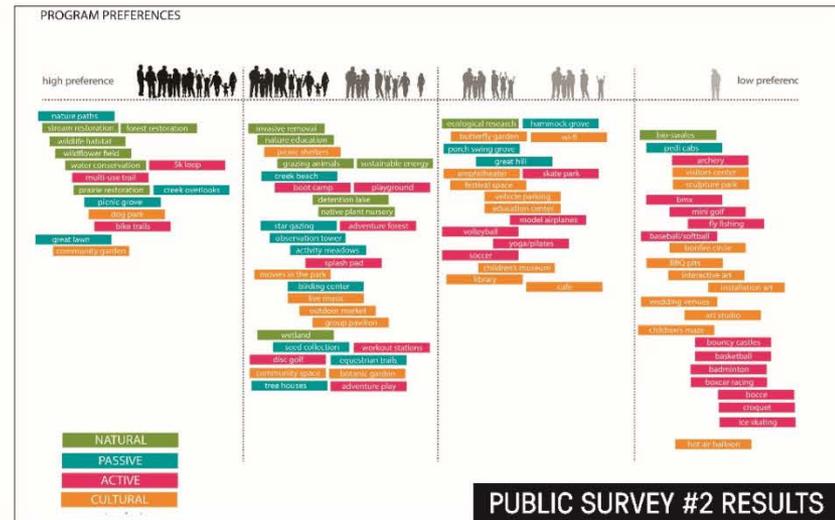
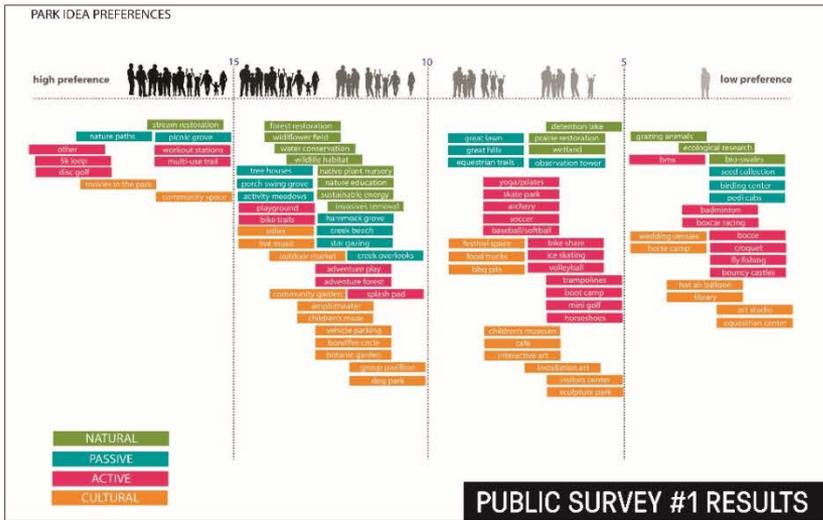
- Goodnight Contributions**

Provide funding to complete a master plan for the Metro Park

Annual funding for maintenance of the initial park improvements until the District can fully fund



Public Engagement Process



WHO + WHAT + WHEN + HOW

Public Survey Results came from comment cards filled out in person at the previous meetings as well as from online surveys that went live on the City of Austin's website after the public meeting for a period of several weeks. These results were compiled and analyzed by the team, which influenced the program distribution in the draft master plan.

"Would like to see a **food garden** with low maintenance plants such as blackberries, figs, ect."

"The high preference for natural, passive and active activities in the public input. It was good to see that reflected in the plan with **developed areas near roads and natural areas by the creek**"

"The park should remain as **NATURAL** as possible..."



"Multi-use for **diverse population**..."

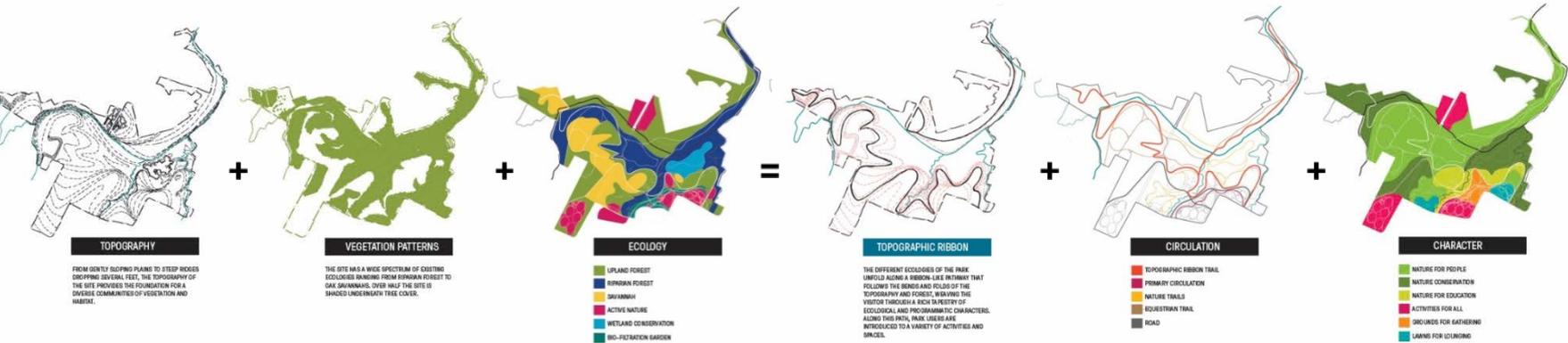
"It is well thought out and works to meet the **needs of many park patrons**. It uses land that would otherwise be vacant"

"Want a quite place to meditate, dream and **enjoy nature** with lots of benches



PUBLIC SURVEY #3 RESULTS

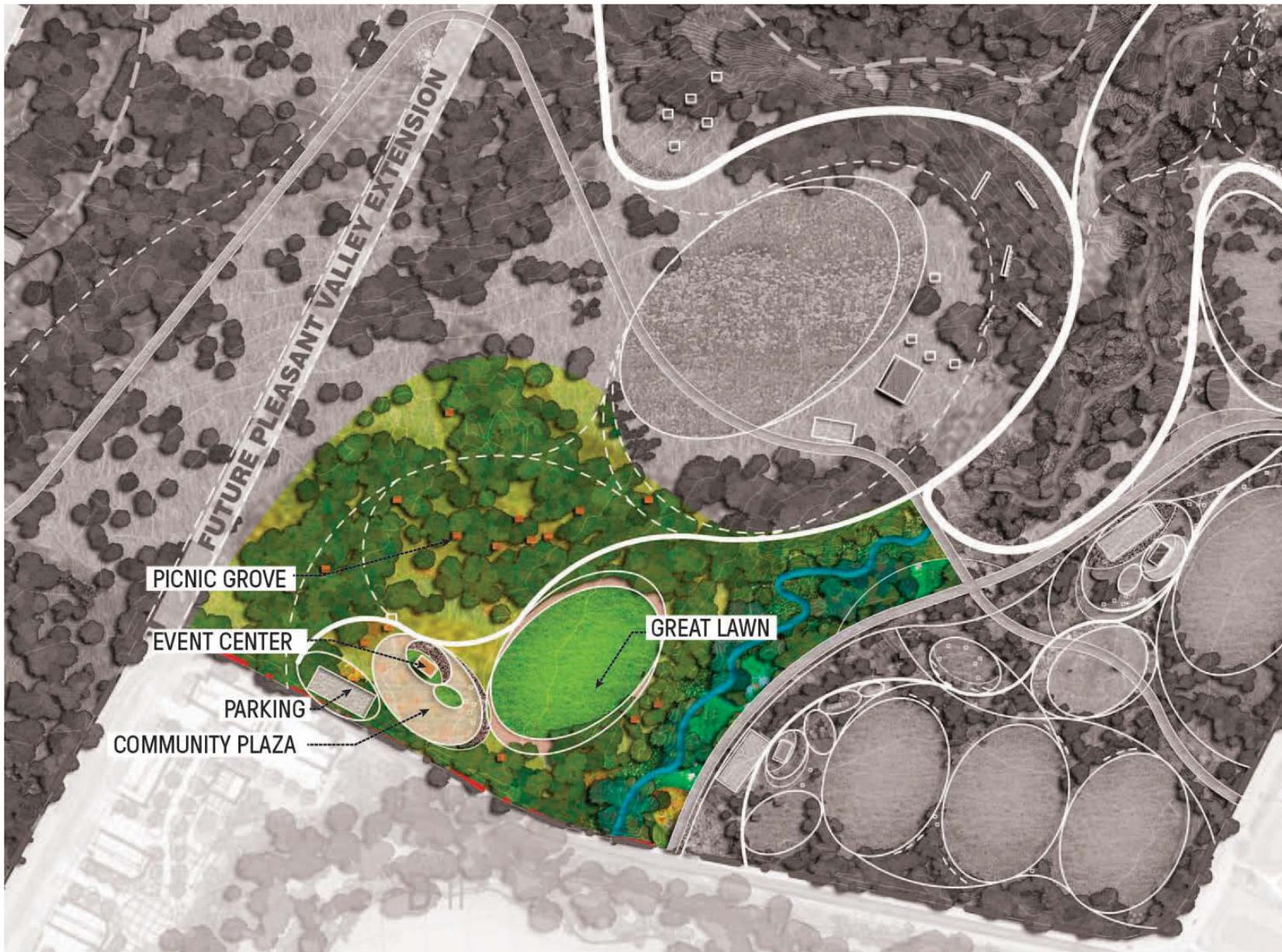
Site Analysis



Master Plan



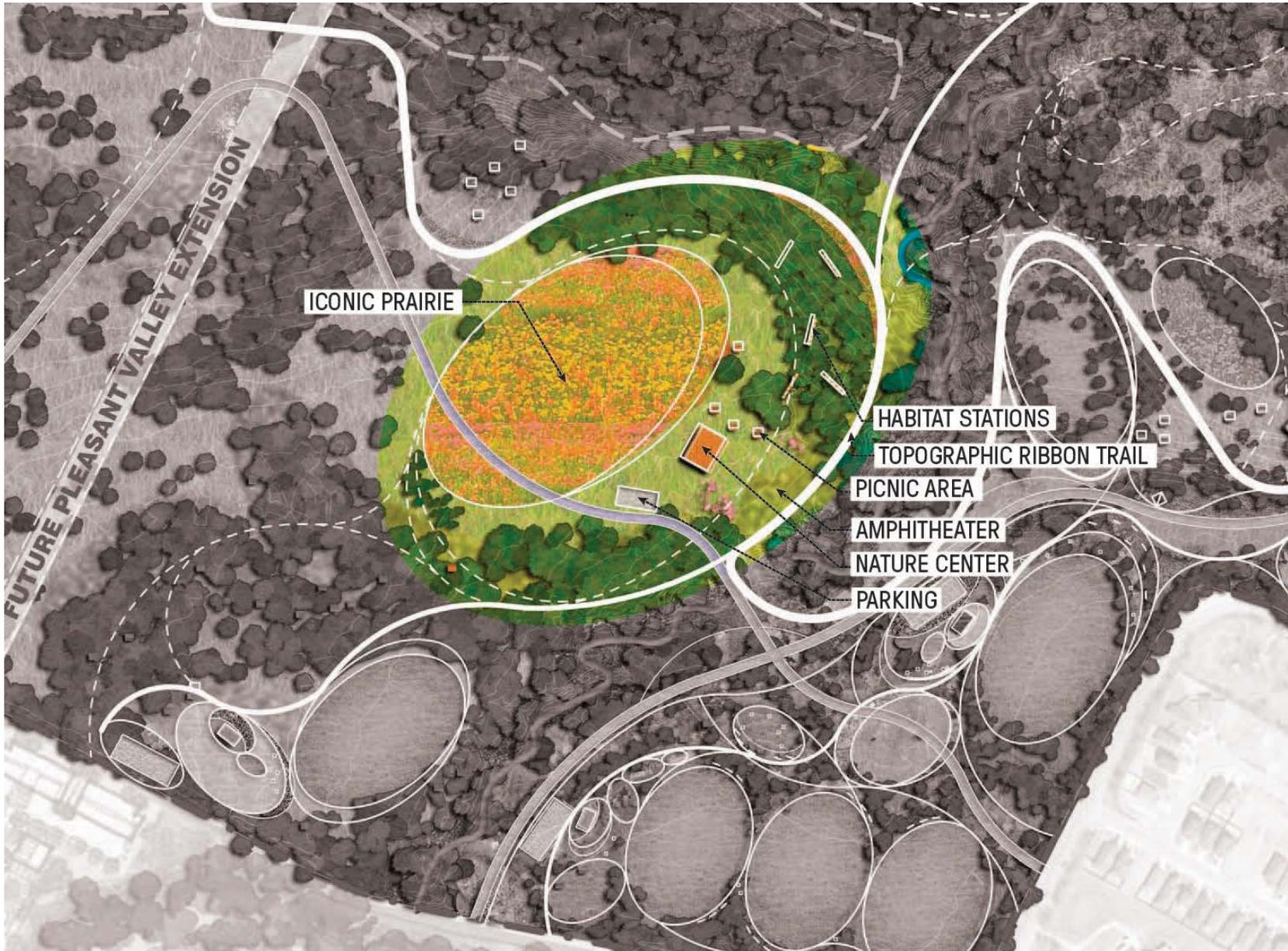
Community Events Area



Playfields and Recreation Area



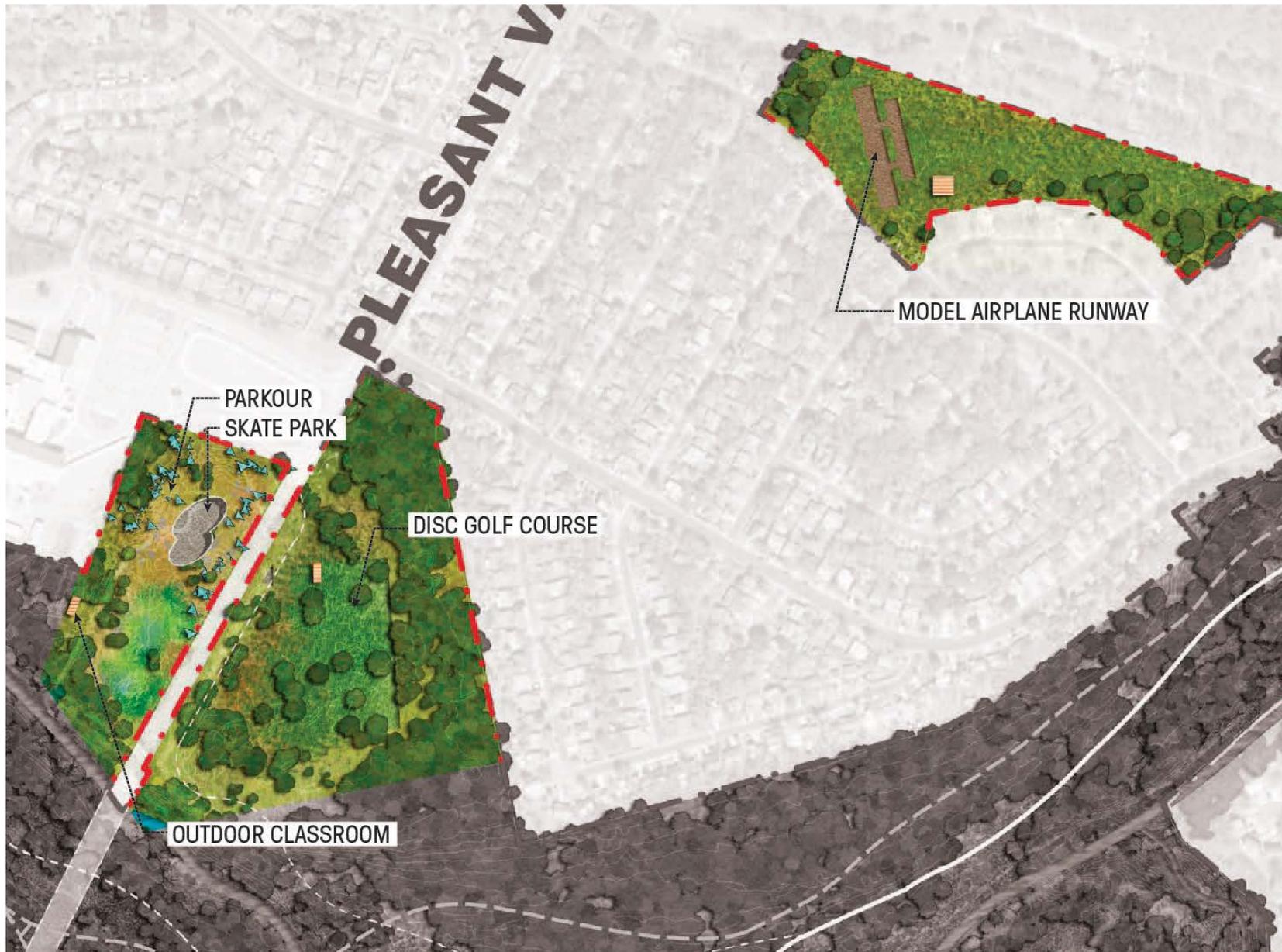
Nature Center Area



West Meadow Area



Area North of Onion Creek





Implementation Plan & Next Steps

- April 13, 2015: Land and Facilities of the Parks Board
- April 28, 2015: Parks and Recreation Board
- April 29, 2015: Open Space Committee
- May, 2015: Present the Master Plan to Council
- Engineered and Permit Drawings
- Site Plan Process
- Bidding/Contracts
- Construction of an opening phase complete in 2017

Action being requested: Make a recommendation to the Parks Director to recommend to the adoption of the Master Plan for Onion Creek Metropolitan Park

