



Onion Creek Metro Park Master Plan

Randy Scott, Park Development Coordinator
City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department

Presentation to Open Space, Environment and
Sustainability Committee

May 27, 2015



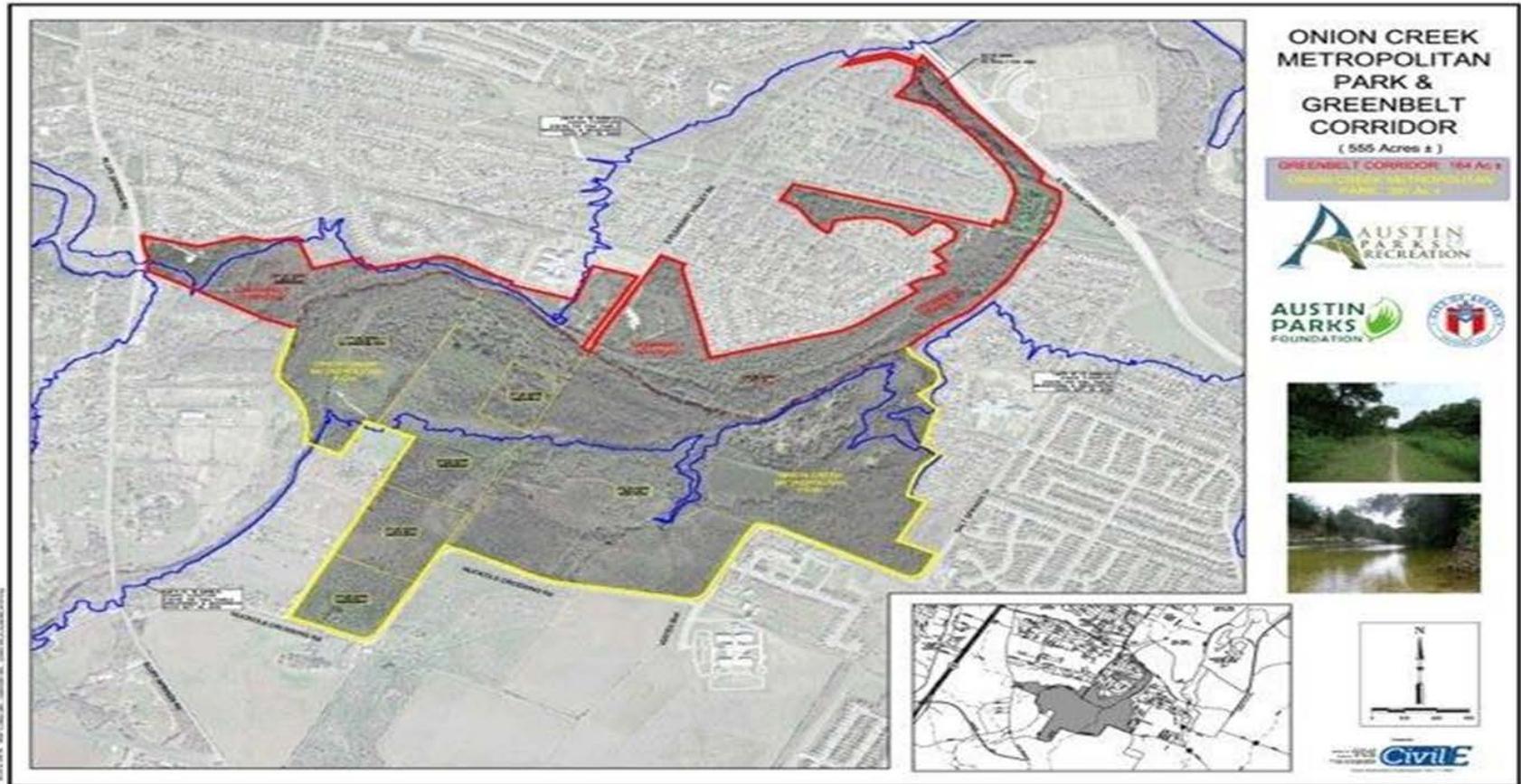


Onion Creek Metro Park

- Presentation Purpose – Staff requests Committee Action to recommend to the City Council the adoption of the Metro Park Master Plan.
- Presentation Outline
 - Park Background
 - Partnership Agreement
 - Public Engagement Process
 - Master Plan Components
 - Implementation Plan
 - Next Steps



Park Background -Existing Conditions



Park Background



- The Onion Creek Metro Park (OCMP) is 555-acres of parkland located in southeast Austin, south of Onion Creek
- 180 of the 555-acres is a part of the Onion Creek Greenbelt
- The park is relatively flat, wooded and undeveloped
- Purchased by the City of Austin in 2000 with 1998 Parkland Acquisition Bonds



Partnership Agreement



- 2013, the Texas Legislature created a Municipal Management District (MMD) to provide ongoing funding for the Onion Creek Metro Park District (OCMP) through fees charged to homeowners in the adjacent Goodnight Ranch community
- 2014, Council approved a Consent Agreement between the COA, Onion Creek Metro Park District and Austin Goodnight Ranch L.P.

Partnership Agreement



- **Goodnight Contributions**

- Funding for a master plan for the metro park
- Annual funding for on-going maintenance of the City's initial investment in the park

- **City's Contributions**

- Construction of initial park improvements (Fall of 2017)
- Direct implementation of the master plan through future bond dollars



Public Engagement Process

- March 4, 2014: Visioning Workshop, Mendez Middle School
- September 11, 2014: Opportunities and Constraints Workshop, Blazier Elementary
- December 4, 2014: Scenarios Workshop, Blazier Elementary
- March 12, 2015: Presentation of Final Draft Plan, Widen Elementary
- April 28, 2015: Unanimous approval by Parks and Recreation Board



Master Plan Components



- Topographic ribbon following creek and forest bends
- Ribbon pathway to active and passive recreation areas
- Connection from the Metro Park to the Greenbelt and the Buyout Area
- Active recreation areas south of the creek
- Passive recreation areas near the creek

Master Plan Amenities



- Green ovals are multi-purpose fields
- Ribbon trails surround the fields
- Orange ovals are wildflower meadows and prairie grass areas for passive recreation and nature observation
- Pavilions, restrooms, pedestrian bridge over Onion Creek adjacent to the Greenbelt (Buy Out Area)



Master Plan-Active Area (south)



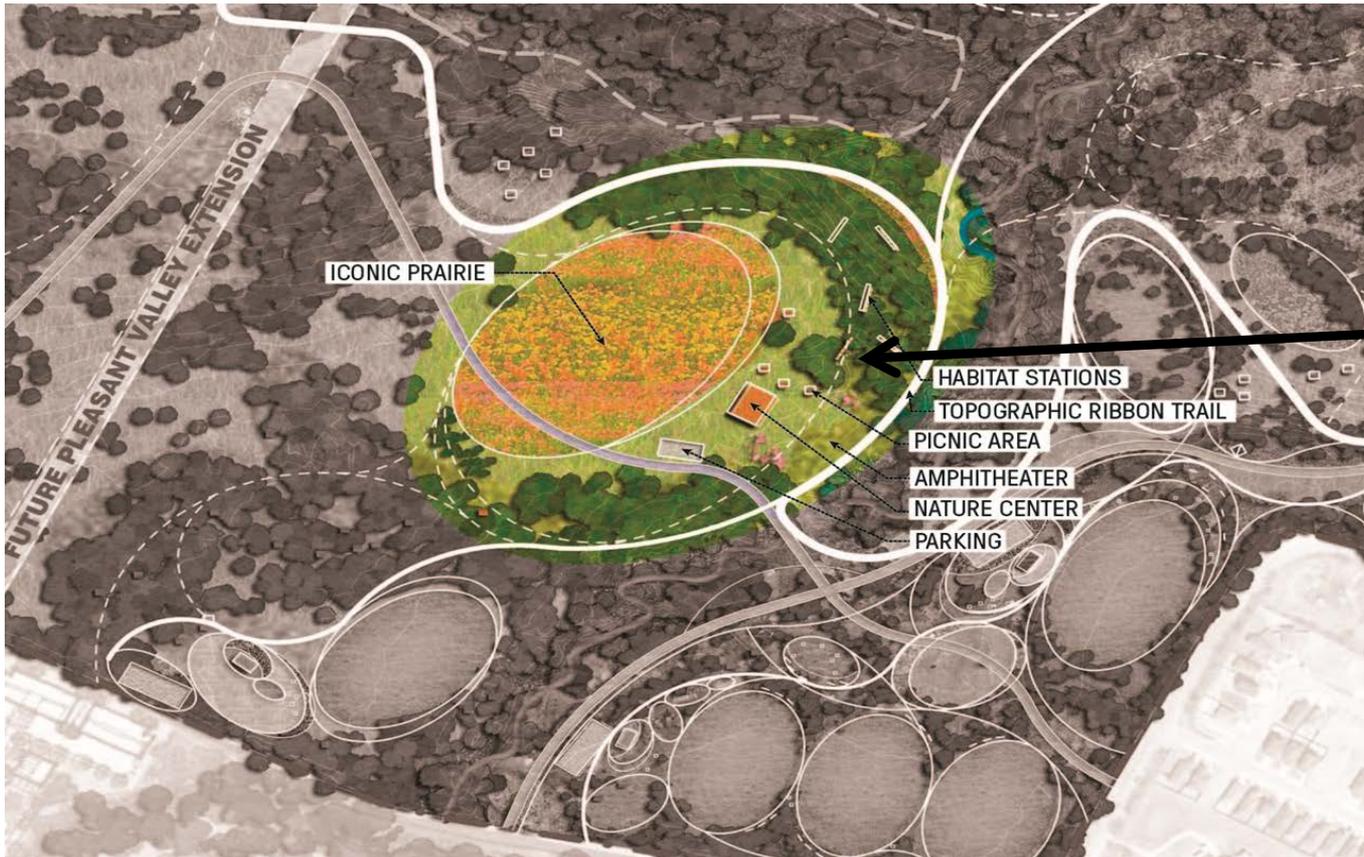
- Two primary entrances at the southeast corner of the park
- Active playfields, trails, fitness stations and large playground

Master Plan-Community Event Area



- Great Lawn and Event Center for concerts/movies in the park, picnic grove with parking/unloading area

Master Plan-Nature Center



- Community Event Area which includes an Amphitheater for performances and education lectures
- Native grass and habitat observation areas

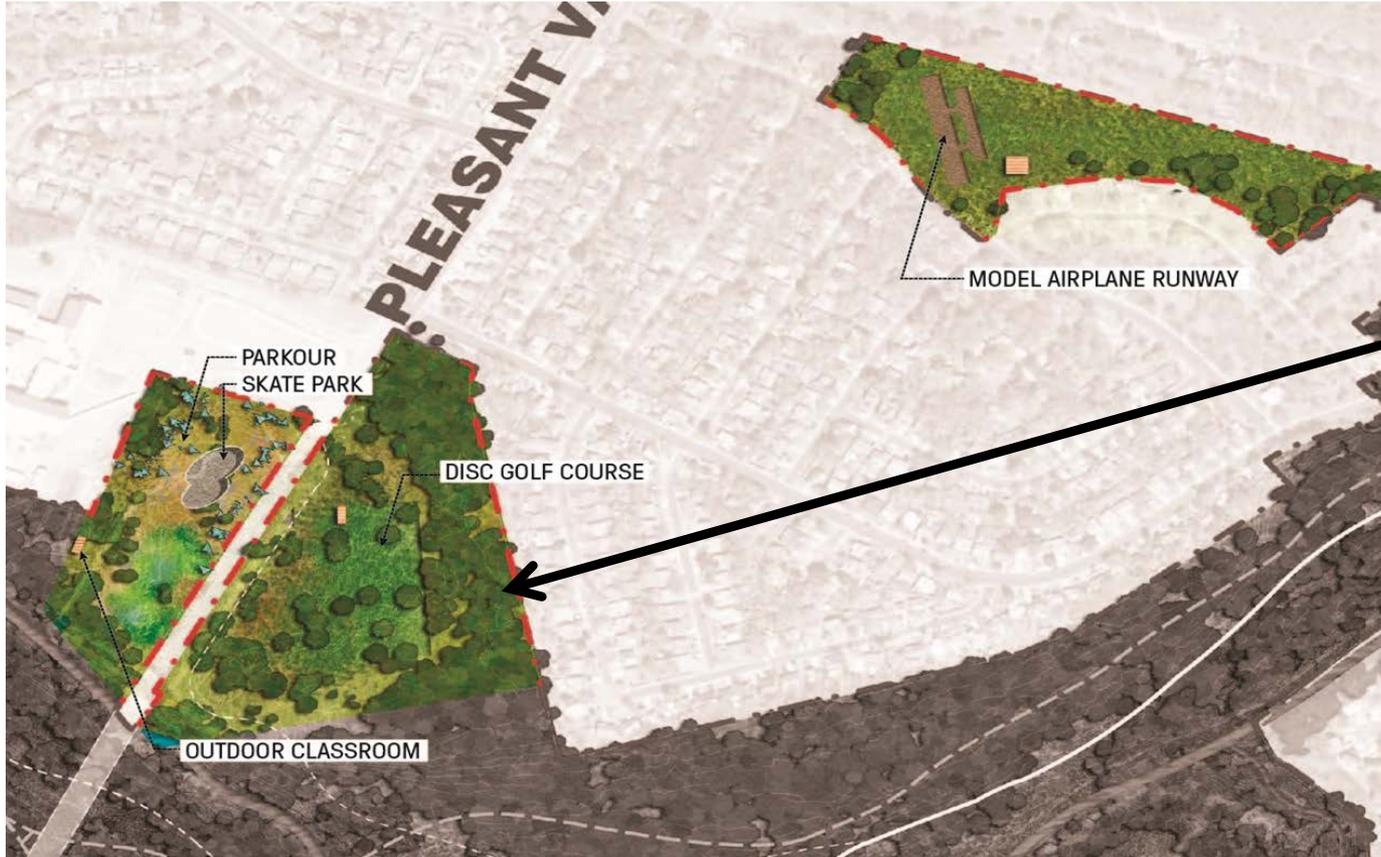
Master Plan-West Meadow Area



- Wildflower Meadow and picnic areas
- Bridge crossing Onion Creek



Master Plan – Active Area (north)



- Skate Park and Model Airplane Facility, and Disc-golf course
- Outdoor classroom for adjacent Perez Elementary School

Staff Request

- Staff Requests approval by Open Space and Environmental Sustainability Committee to forward the Onion Creek Master Plan to Council for adoption



Next Steps



- June, 2015: Present the Onion Creek Master Plan to the Council for adoption
- Phase I Park Development - Engineering and Permit Drawings
- Phase 1 Site Plan Submittal
- Bidding/Contracts
- Complete construction of Phase I by 2017



Project Team



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