

A U S T I N

Red River Canopy Walk

Land, Facilities & Programs Committee
Austin Transportation Department
June 8, 2015



Project Information

Project Name	Red River Canopy Walk
Parkland Affected by Project	Waller Creek Greenbelt (City of Austin Lot 5, Block 10)
Area of Parkland Needed for Permanent Use	0.049 acres (2,115 sq.ft.)
Area of Parkland Needed for Temporary Use	0.2028 acres (8,832 sq.ft.)

Request

Grant the temporary and permanent use of parkland for an elevated pedestrian walk to improve access and connectivity to the public greenbelt and civic buildings.

Chapter 26: Purpose & Need

- Purpose of Project:

The temporary and permanent use of parkland for an elevated pedestrian walk to improve access and connectivity to the public greenbelt and civic buildings.

- Public Use:

Pedestrian and ADA accessible access to City of Austin parkland, Convention Center, and safe passage to public rights-of-way.

Texas Parks & Wildlife Code – Chapter 26

Chapter 26, Section 26.001 states:

- *A [city] department... may not approve any program or project that requires the use or taking of any public land designated and used... as a park, recreation area, scientific area, wildlife refuge, or historic site... unless [it is determined that]:*
 - *There is no feasible and prudent alternative to the use or take of such land; and*
 - *The program or project includes all reasonable planning to minimize harm to the land, as a park, recreation area, scientific area, wildlife refuge, or historic site, resulting from the use or taking.*



Austin Convention Center

This aerial photograph shows the Austin Convention Center, a large white building with a distinctive circular tower, situated on the left side of the frame. To its right is a large, empty, light-colored lot identified as the Fairmont Hotel Site. Further to the right is a green, wooded area labeled Palm Park. A road runs horizontally across the middle of the image. Red arrows originate from the bottom of the image and point towards the Convention Center, the Hotel Site, and the intersection with Lady Bird Lake. Another red arrow points from the top left towards the Convention Center. The labels are enclosed in red-bordered boxes.

Palm Park

**Fairmont Hotel
Site**

**Substandard sidewalk to
Convention Center and
Hotel**

**At-grade crosswalks to
Convention Center, Hotel
and Lady Bird Lake**



Austin Convention Center

**ADA accessible path to
Convention Center, Red
River ROW, and Waller
Creek**

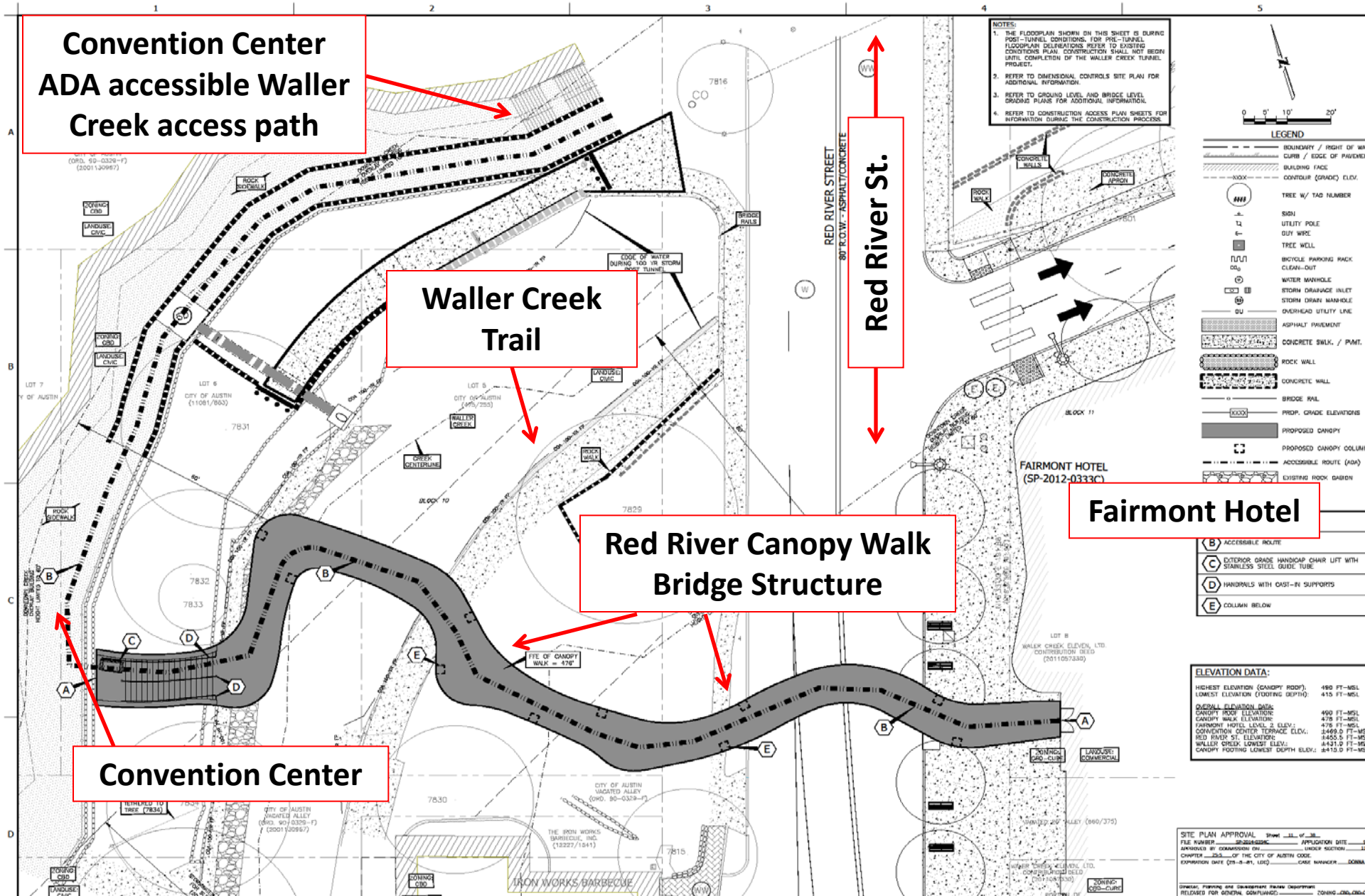
Palm Park

**Fairmont Hotel
Site**

**At-grade connection to
Cesar Chavez; below-
grade connection to
Waller Creek and Lady
Bird Lake**

**Above-grade access to
Convention Center and
Fairmont Hotel**

Canopy Walk Diagram



Permanent Use of Parkland: .049 acres (2,115 sq. ft.)







Chapter 26: Mitigation

- Estimated Value of Improvements Proposed:
 - ACC Terrace Ramp to Red River
 - Red River Ramp to Waller Creek
 - \$500,000 Total Construction Value
- Estimated Value of Parkland Utilized:
Pending Third Party Appraisal
- Proposed Mitigation Fee:
On-Going Negotiations

Questions?

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