

Waller Creek

Design Plan, 05.24.2018 Update



The image is an aerial photograph of a city grid with Waller Creek running vertically through the center. The creek is highlighted with a green line. Several areas are circled in different colors: an orange circle at the top, a green circle in the middle, a blue circle at the bottom, and a pink circle at the very bottom. Lines connect these circles to text labels on the right. The labels are: Waterloo Park (orange dot), Connectivity: 5th-11th St (green dot), The Refuge (yellow dot), Creek Delta & Palm Park (blue dot), and Pontoon Bridge (pink dot). The background shows a grid of streets and buildings, with some areas shaded in light green to indicate parkland or undeveloped land.

Waterloo Park

Connectivity: 5th-11th St

The Refuge

Creek Delta & Palm Park

Pontoon Bridge



Central Health Brackenridge Redevelopment Site



Waterloo Park

The largest in the Chain of Parks, Waterloo will be a central gathering space for the City of Austin. Within the park, visitors will enjoy a civic lawn, a 5,000 capacity performing arts venue, food service, unique hill country gardens, wetlands, and extensive nature-based play areas. This link will also offer a connection to Symphony Square, restoration of the creek from 11th St. to 15th St., and improvements to the adjacent open spaces along Red River St.

Waterloo Park





Connectivity: 5th to 11th Street

Connecting Waterloo Park and the Creek Delta will be achieved through trail improvements between 5th and 11th Street along the creek. An extensive network of protected, universally accessible trails will pass through an ecologically restored creek providing visitors with a unique experience of nature in the city.



The Refuge

A completely new park between 7th and 9th Street will be created where the current Austin Police Department Headquarters and Municipal Court are located. The Refuge will offer an immersive natural experience for visitors to engage with the creek. This will provide a vital programmatic space to connect all members of our community, especially children, to meaningful experiences in nature.



Creek Delta & Palm Park

Creek Delta will be the gateway to the Waller Creek District. It will connect Lady Bird Lake and the beloved Ann and Roy Butler (Butler) Trail system with Palm Park and downtown Austin. Stretching from Lady Bird Lake to 4th Street, the Creek Delta meanders through a densely urban environment creating opportunities for diverse natural landscapes and a stable channel within Waller Creek. The hike and bike trail will follow the path of the creek, allowing users to experience the natural ecology of the creek and the lush tree canopy. At strategic locations, the trail system will connect at street level sidewalks, the expanded Downtown MetroRail Station, on-street bike infrastructure, and the Rainey Street District.



Palm Park (detail)

Within the Creek Delta Link, the historic Palm Park will be revitalized. Calling on the history of surrounding neighborhoods, Palm Park will be an important gathering place for families and children in the center of our city. The park will feature nature-based playscapes, splash pads, picnic and grilling areas, and provide connections to nearby East Austin.

Palm Park: Creek Restoration

Re-imagined relationship between Waller Creek and the city



Before

View: Facing northeast from Waller Creek into Palm Park



After



Pontoon Bridge

A unique bridge will connect the north and south shore of Lady Bird Lake and the Butler Trail System to the Waller Creek District. Once complete, the bridge will open up access to downtown, the University of Texas, and beyond. Residents of South Austin will be able to walk or bike from the South, off of the busy streets, all while enjoying a restored Waller Creek.