



Watershed Protection Master Plan: *Overview*

Environmental Commission, May 15, 2019

Watershed Protection Mission

“Protect the lives, property, and environment of our community by reducing the impact of flooding, erosion, and water pollution.”

Flooding



Public Safety

Erosion



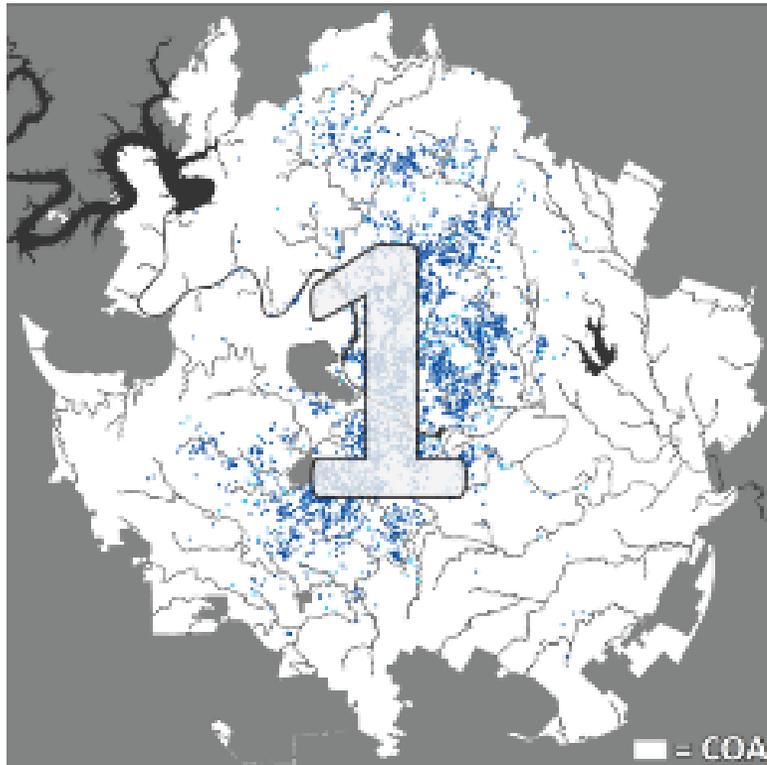
Property Protection

Water Pollution

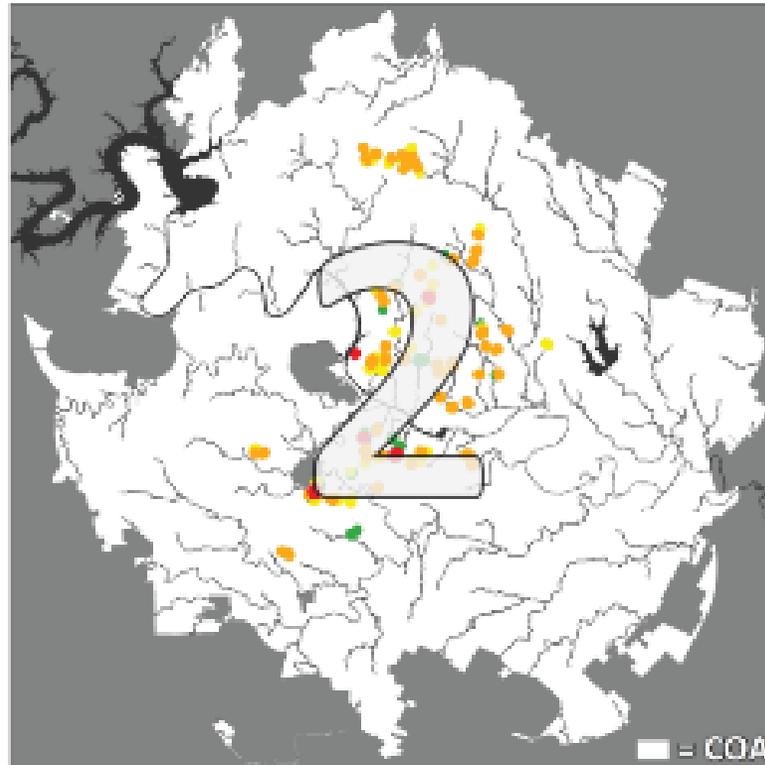


Environmental Protection

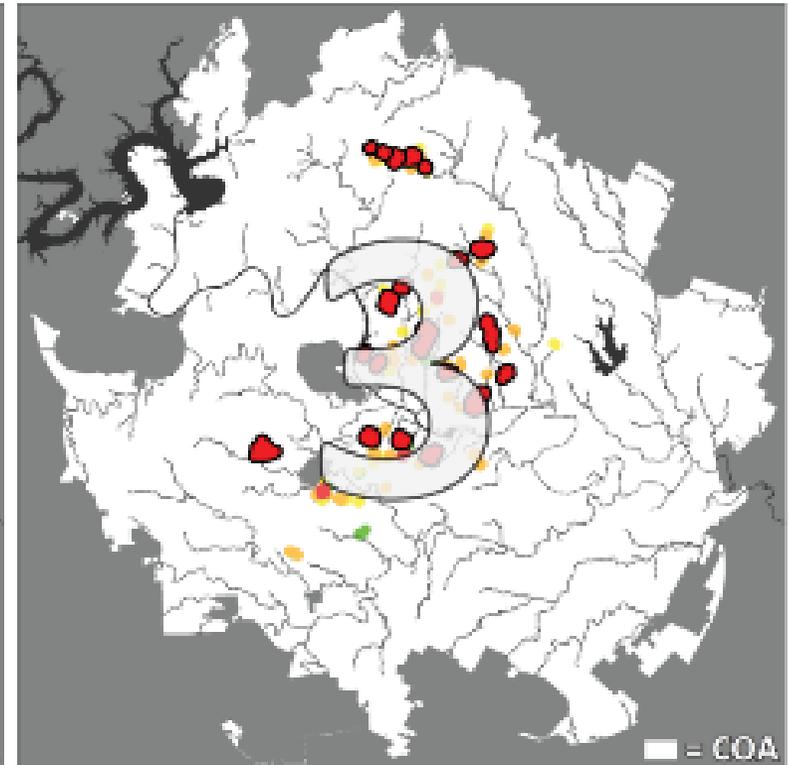
Problem Assessment



Collect Data



Generate Problem Scores



Prioritize Problems for CIP
Solution Identification

➤ Address Worst Problems First



Creek Flood – Structures & Roadway Crossings

Creek Flood Data – Structures



**Williamson Creek – Fairview & Radam
Neighborhood Home Buyouts**



Local Flood

Local Flood Data – Community Reports

Cherrywood Road Storm Drain Improvement



Local Flood Complaint Points by Type

- Building
- Yard
- Street

- Clusters of Five or More Complaints
- Identified Problem Areas
- 25-Year Floodplain
- 100-Year Floodplain

- Streets
- Creeks



0 300 600 Feet



This product has been produced by the Watershed Protection Department for the sole purpose of geographic reference. No warranty is made by the City of Austin regarding specific accuracy or completeness.



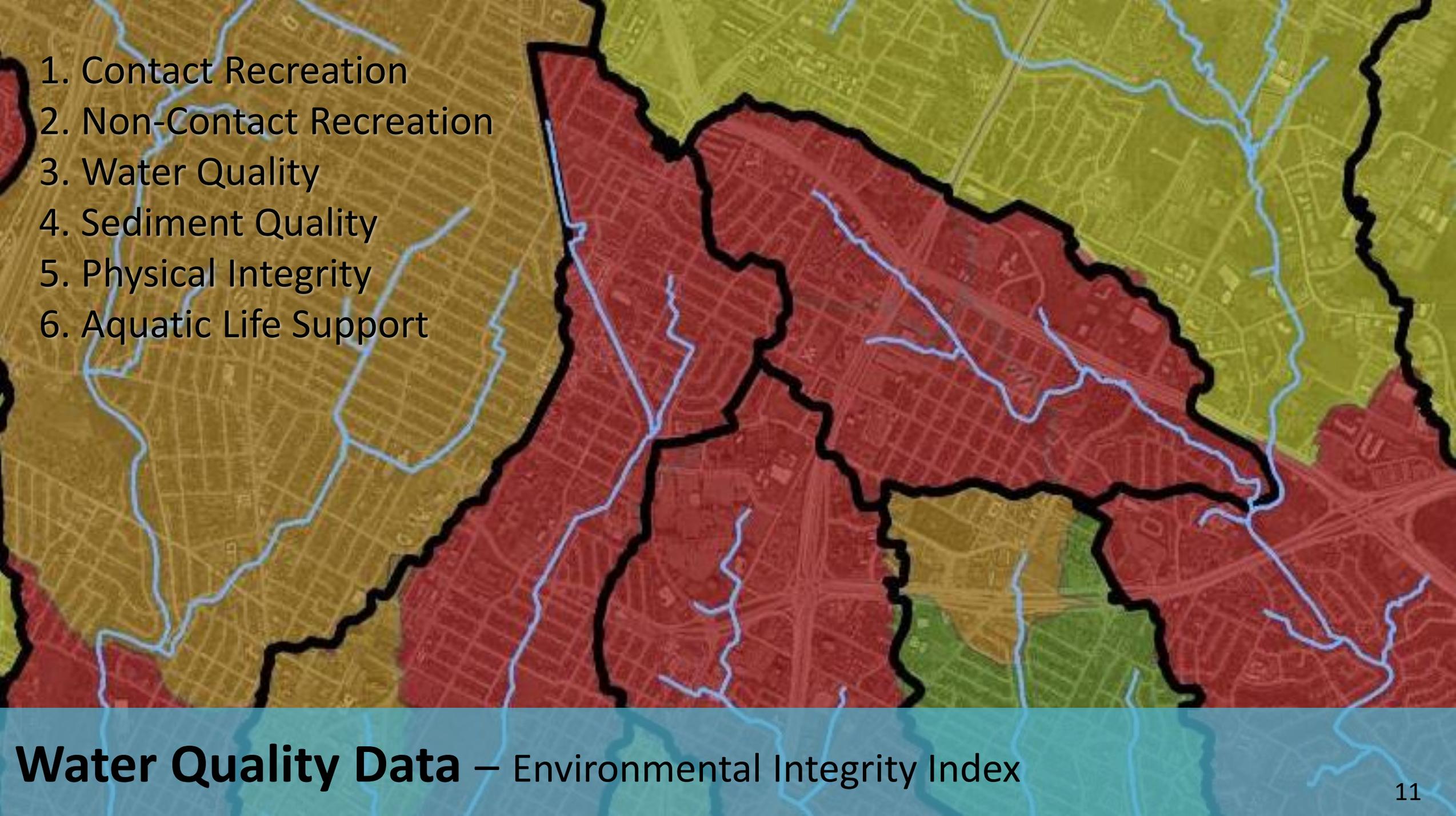
Erosion



Erosion Data – Erosion Assessments

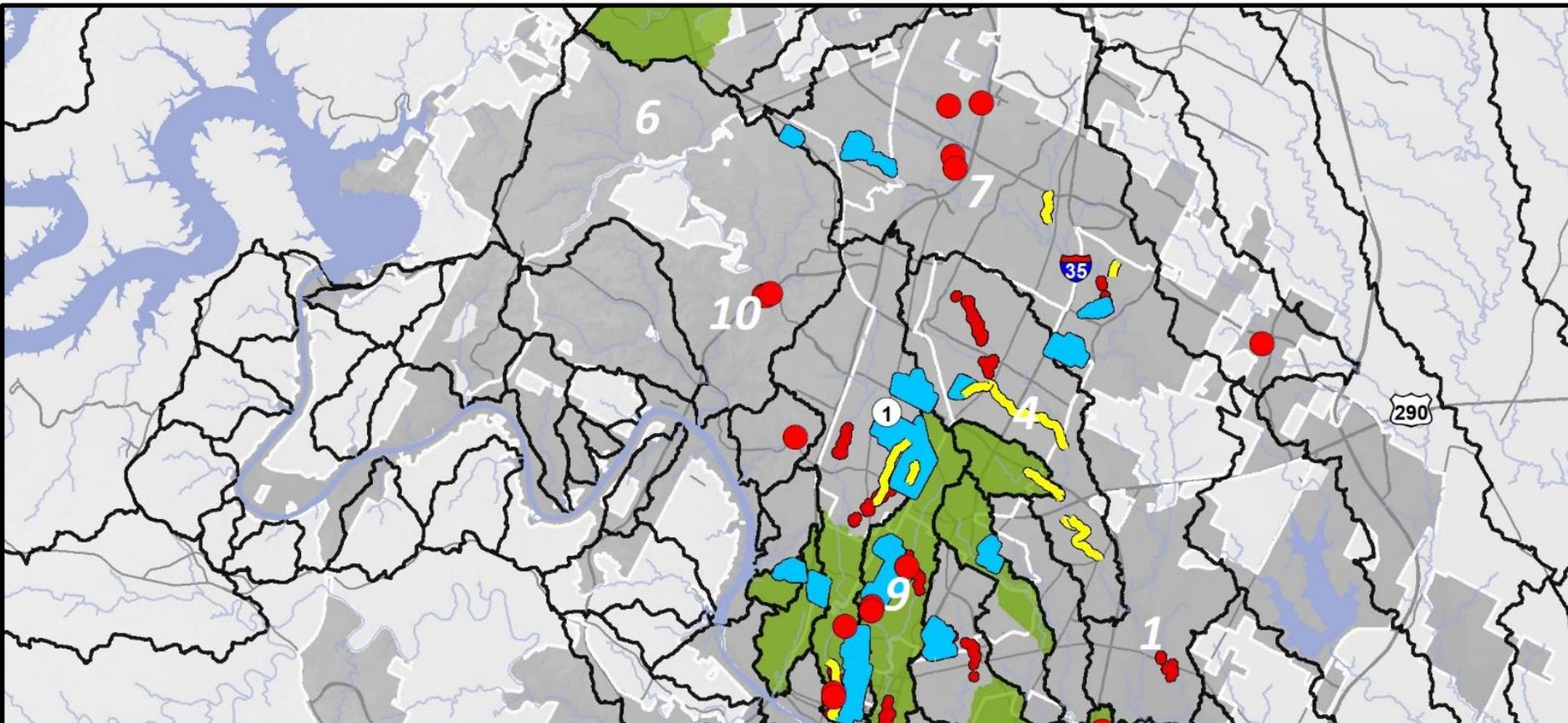


Water Quality

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- An aerial photograph of a city area with several colored overlays. A large, irregularly shaped area in the center is colored red. To its left is a yellowish-brown area, and to its right is a greenish-yellow area. A blue area is visible at the bottom of the frame. A network of light blue lines, representing water bodies or drainage patterns, is overlaid on the map. A thick black line outlines a specific region within the red area. On the left side, there is a legend with six numbered items.
1. Contact Recreation
 2. Non-Contact Recreation
 3. Water Quality
 4. Sediment Quality
 5. Physical Integrity
 6. Aquatic Life Support

Top 20 Priority Problem Areas

All Watershed Missions



Top 20 Problem Areas

-  Creek Flood Roads
-  Erosion Reaches
-  Local Flood Identified Areas
-  Creek Flood Structures
-  Water Quality EII Reaches
-  Water Features
-  Watershed Boundaries
-  Council Districts
-  Streets

Scores available to the public on the

Master Plan Problem Score Viewer

<https://www.austintexas.gov/department/watershed-protection-master-plan>

How We Use Our Problem Scores

- Prioritize and Inform our Annual Budget, Bonds
 - Program level-of-service needs
 - Project identification
- Input to Long-Range CIP Strategic Plan
 - Identify opportunities with other departments
 - Identify unfunded needs for bond planning

Data-Driven Solutions

- What causes the problem?
- Which missions (flood, erosion, water quality) are impacted?
- Do partnership opportunities exist?
- What is the most effective and feasible solution?



55 Capital solution types included in inventory



38 Programmatic solutions types included in inventory



58 Regulatory solutions types included in inventory

Project Solutions



Storm Drain
Improvements



Stream Restoration /
Stabilization Projects

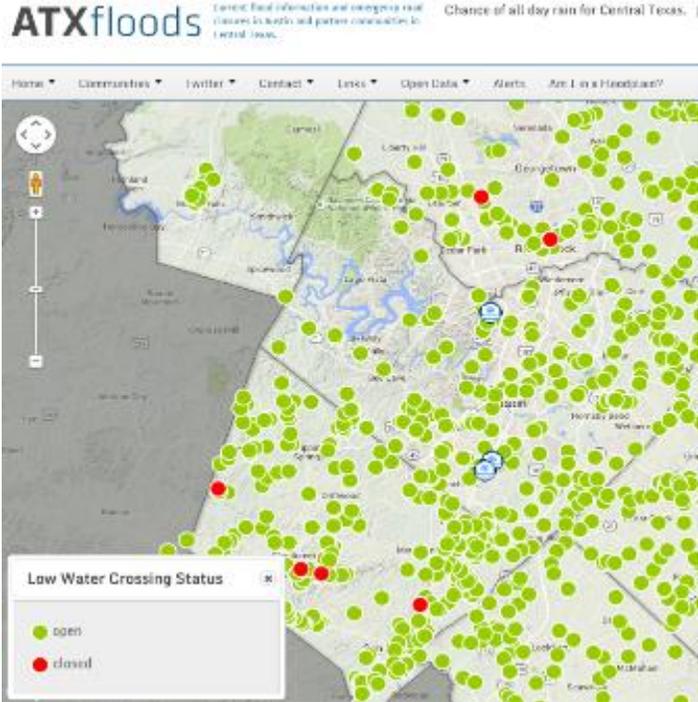


Low-Water Crossing
Upgrades

Program Solutions



Spills Response



Flood Early Warning



Erosion Repair Crews

Regulatory Solutions



Floodplains



Water Quality Controls



Stream Setbacks

Proposal for 2021 Update

2001: Council adopted original plan

- Established goals and objectives, technical data, prioritized problem areas, preferred solution protocols, and recommendations
- Public input through a Citizen's Advisory Group, telephone survey, and meetings
- 18 core watersheds only

2015: Major plan update

- Accounted for revised prioritization methodologies, updated data, and implemented recommendations
- All watersheds in City of Austin jurisdiction
- Reviewed and approved by the Environmental Commission

2021: Proposed Comprehensive Update

- Phase 1: Minor Revisions (2019)
- Phase 2: Public Engagement (2020)
- Phase 3: Comprehensive Update (2021)

Master Plan 2021 Update

Phase 2: Public Engagement

- Items for community discussion likely include:
 - Overall community vision for watershed protection
 - Revisiting goals and objectives
 - Updating findings and recommendations
 - Revising problem score methodology & integrating equity
 - Incorporating climate change considerations
- Review and consideration for approval by the Environmental Commission

Questions?

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