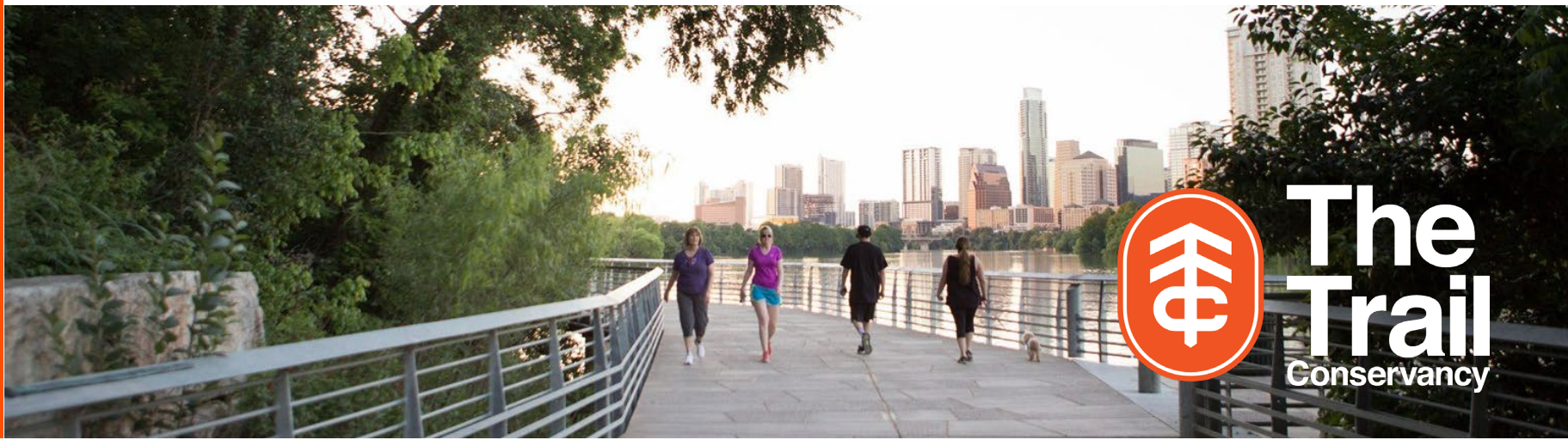




## The Trail Conservancy, *previously The Trail Foundation*

- 501(c)(3) formed to Protect, Enhance and Connect the Butler Hike-and-Bike Trail
- Identifies and completes projects based on Community Engagement and Ecological Demand
- Invested over \$19 million across various improvements to the Trail
- Park Operations and Maintenance Agreement (POMA): signed in 2022 to serve as primary caretakers of the Hike-and-Bike Trail



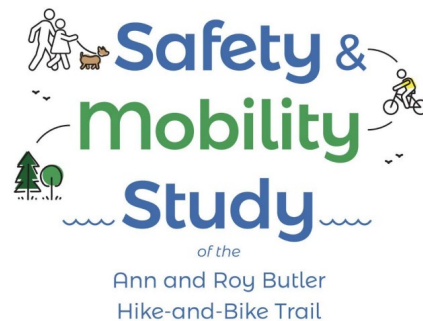
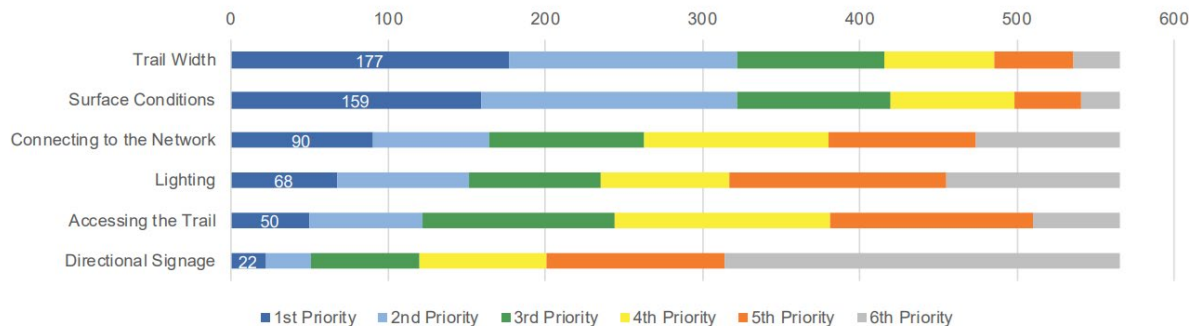


## Trail-wide Safety and Mobility Study | completed 2021

- Team & Stakeholders: TTC, Nelson Nygaard, Studio Balcones, Oldner Lighting, PARD, ATD, and Urban Trails | Public Works
- Based on Austin Community Input: Over 660 community members reached

### Primary Feedback and Considerations

- Top Priority: Trail Width and Surface Conditions, Trail Network Connectivity
- Lower Priority: Lighting, Trail Access, Directional Signage





## Trail Lighting:

Potential Project Type	Intended Outcome
<i>Mitigate glare and light trespass</i>	<i>Improve visual environment and comfort for all Trail users while minimizing impact on local ecosystem</i>
<i>Improve lighting in areas perceived as unsafe by public</i>	<i>Increase sense of safety and comfort for all trail users</i>
<i>Improve nighttime wayfinding of unlit trail</i>	<i>Improve orientation while keeping unlit areas naturally dark</i>

Lighting solutions must be dark sky compliant per city regulations and should minimize negative ecological impacts, especially near sensitive riparian zones. Lighting should also be off during curfew hours.

### Rainey Area

- Issue Identified: High glare and light trespass levels due to adjacent commercial zone
- Solution: Install transition lighting from high levels to very low levels to minimize perceived darkness



## Rainey Street Trailhead Project | estimated completion late 2023

- Based on Austin Community Input: Over 575 community members reached
- Downtown Commission presentation and approval: January 19th, 2022

### Primary Feedback and Goals

- Improve ecological function
- Provide better access to the Lake
- Create stronger and more accessible neighborhood connections for the growing district
- Add lighting and safety measures

### Provided Solution

- Restoring 1.5 acres of lawn to natural areas
- Formalized water access for fishing and launching of kayaks and SUPs
- Improving the neighborhood lawn, adding family nature play and a seating lounge, and providing criss-crossing paths to connect the district and the Trail
- Hard-wired lighting will be added with the highest levels near the commercial area and gradually lowered lighting at the Trail. Tall native plantings between Trail and Lake create visual separation

## Rainey Street Trailhead Project | estimated completion late 2023





## Rainey Street Trailhead Project | estimated completion late 2023





## Summary of Recommendations

- TTC will complete the Rainey Street Trailhead scope
- TTC will complete a Comprehensive Signage Plan in 2023 to promote Trail wayfinding, safety and etiquette. This will be based on Austin community feedback
- Consider additional low-level 'breadcrumb' lighting with the intent to promote safety if individuals are present, but not to encourage Trail use after hours
- Keep split rail fencing along steep slopes to promote safety, but remove elsewhere given Austin community desires to view and access the water
- Test other low-cost infrastructure such as reflectors to determine how they encourage Trail safety



**The  
Trail**  
Conservancy

**3/10/2023**

Temporary safety measures including solar lighting, split rail fencing, and warning signage have been installed by PARD. Lighting levels are being monitored.

**3/24/2023**

Cross Departmental organizational meeting hosted by PARD to inform creation of implementation plan for permanent features

**4/7/2023**

Trail Monitoring





**3/16/2023**

## Scope of Work Created

Using the recommendations and outcomes of the Safety & Mobility study, the consultant will develop a concept plan proposing lighting and other improvements. In addition, the consultant will evaluate the following features and propose additional feature for consideration:

- Safety beacon / call button
- Cameras
- Signage
- Fencing / barriers
- Reflectors, curbs, or other misc. safety features

**4/5/23**

Consultant selected- and contract being negotiated implementation plan and recommendations expected in coming months

