

03

Community Engagement

Community Engagement Tools

Community Engagement Plan

Public Sessions

Work Sessions

Technical Advisory Group

Community Events

Survey

Community's Priorities

Community Engagement Tools



TAG

TAG sessions

The Technical Advisory Group is comprised of a group of technical experts from the City of Austin that provide their insights, skills, guidance, and expertise. The TAG guided the planning group with their policy, community, and technical knowledge on topics around water management, transit, historic preservation, sustainability, and other topics.



EAN

Work sessions

The work sessions, or focus groups, were attended by three groups of community stakeholders on topics of relevant matter for the UMLAUF’s plan: Neighborhood, Arts + Education, and Environment. The working groups provided thoughtful feedback from their first-hand experience and community knowledge.



Public

Public Sessions

Public sessions were integral to the planning process, gathering members of Austin’s community for discussions about their priorities and concerns around the project. Community members actively participated, offering valuable feedback on initial concepts, fostering a collaborative and inclusive approach to the plan’s development.



Community Events

Tabling at community events facilitated engagement, created connections with the community, increased survey participation and broadened outreach for the UMLAUF. This approach not only increased awareness of the plan but also introduced the sculpture garden to community members previously unfamiliar with it.



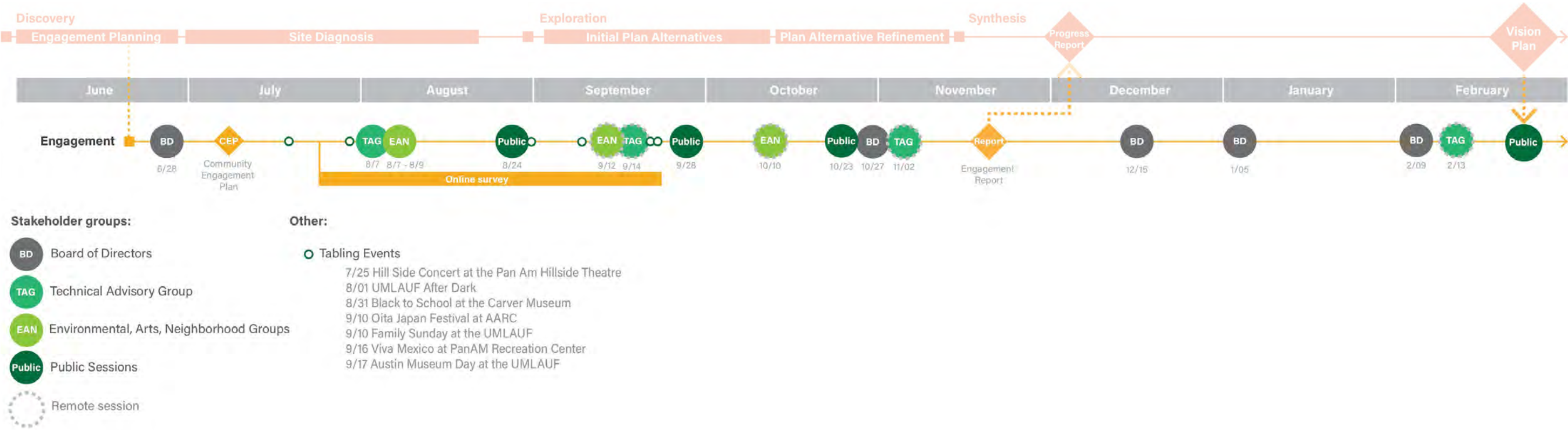
Online Survey

Over 600 complete responses were gathered through an online survey, drawing feedback from both new and existing community members, enriching the plan’s insights with a diverse range of perspectives.

Online Presence: UMLAUF Sculpture Garden + Museum website, City of Austin PARD website, City of Austin PARD newsletter

Community Engagement Plan

The plan conducted three rounds of community engagement during the discovery and exploration phases. Each round comprised a TAG session, an environment-arts-neighborhood a work session, and a public meeting. The first round introduced the site and gathered initial ideas and concerns. The second round sought feedback on plan alternatives, and the third gathered input on refined plan ideas. An online survey and tabling at a series of community events were also part of the community engagement process. This comprehensive approach ensured collaborative decision-making and enhanced the overall development process. The final plan will be shared with the community in an additional public session.





Public Session

Round 1

36
attendees

Location: UMLAUF

Date: September 28, 2023

Format:

In-person session

1. Home and studio tour
2. Project introduction
3. Card game
4. Card game summary

Attendees:

Full list included in appendix



The card game serves as a prioritization exercise, encouraging community members to engage in conversations and select their top priorities for the plan, fostering inclusive decision-making.

Public Session

Round 1

Card game:

The card game serves as a prioritization exercise, with a deck symbolizing plan needs identified by the UMLAUF, technical advisory group, community focus groups, and initial site analysis. Comprised of a deck of 32 cards, addressing topics like accessibility, sustainability, arts + education, historic preservation, community, mobility, and operations, each card is assigned a score correlating to estimated investment (5 to 40 points). Three blank cards were also provided per team to invite new ideas to be shared. Teams negotiated and discussed, striving to reach 400 points, fostering collaborative decision-making and aiming for diverse perspectives to contribute to the project’s priorities. The full deck of cards is shown to the right. The top 11 cards that were prioritized among the teams are highlighted and were considered to build the community’s priorities that guided the planning process.



+ 3 blank cards

Re-wilding	✓ Neighborhood Stormwater Runoff Through the Sculpture Garden	Paths and Viewing Platforms	Space for Environmental Education	Neighborhood Stormwater Runoff to Barton Creek	Natural Terracing	Irrigation System	Outdoor Infrastructure for Ecology, Nature, and Wildlife Programs
Increased Vegetation	Lighting in Garden	✓ Indoor Space for Child and Teen Education	Living Space for Artists in Residence	Outdoor Spaces for Art-Making	✓ Expanded Exhibition Space for Permanent Collection	Exhibitions About Umlauf’s Life and Process	Indoor Space for Rotating Exhibitions of Local and Contemporary Art
✓ Expanded Garden Exhibit Space	Enhancements of Existing Garden Exhibit Space	New Dedicated Spaces for Outdoor Public Events	Dedicated Spaces for Private Events	Food Concessions and Coffee Stands	✓ Make the Gallery ADA Accessible	✓ Make the Sculpture Garden ADA Accessible	✓ Make the Home, Studio and Private Garden Accessible
✓ Preservation of Umlauf’s Home	✓ Preservation of Umlauf’s Studio	✓ Preservation of Angie’s Garden	Increased On-site Parking	Shuttle from Off-site Parking and Nearby Places	✓ Enhanced Crosswalks and Sidewalk Access	Additional admin and office space for expanded staff	Purpose-built storage space for art collection



The cards sparked insightful conversations about the needs of the UMLAUF and the community among the attendees.

Public Session

Round 2

16
attendees

Location: UMLAUF

Date: August 24, 2023

Format:

In-person session

1. Presentation of community engagement feedback and design options
2. Role play and site exploration of the two proposed sites
3. Team sharing and open discussion

Attendees:

Full list included in appendix



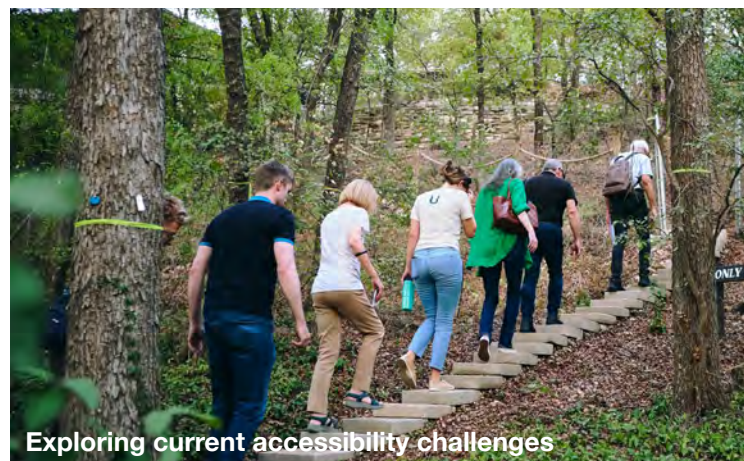
Exploration walk



Visiting the treehouse site



Envisioning the gateway site



Exploring current accessibility challenges



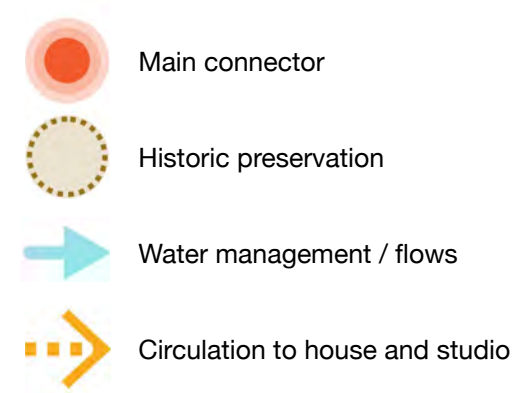
Update on plan explorations

Attendees were encouraged to explore the two site alternatives beyond their individual viewpoints, considering how other users would experience it.

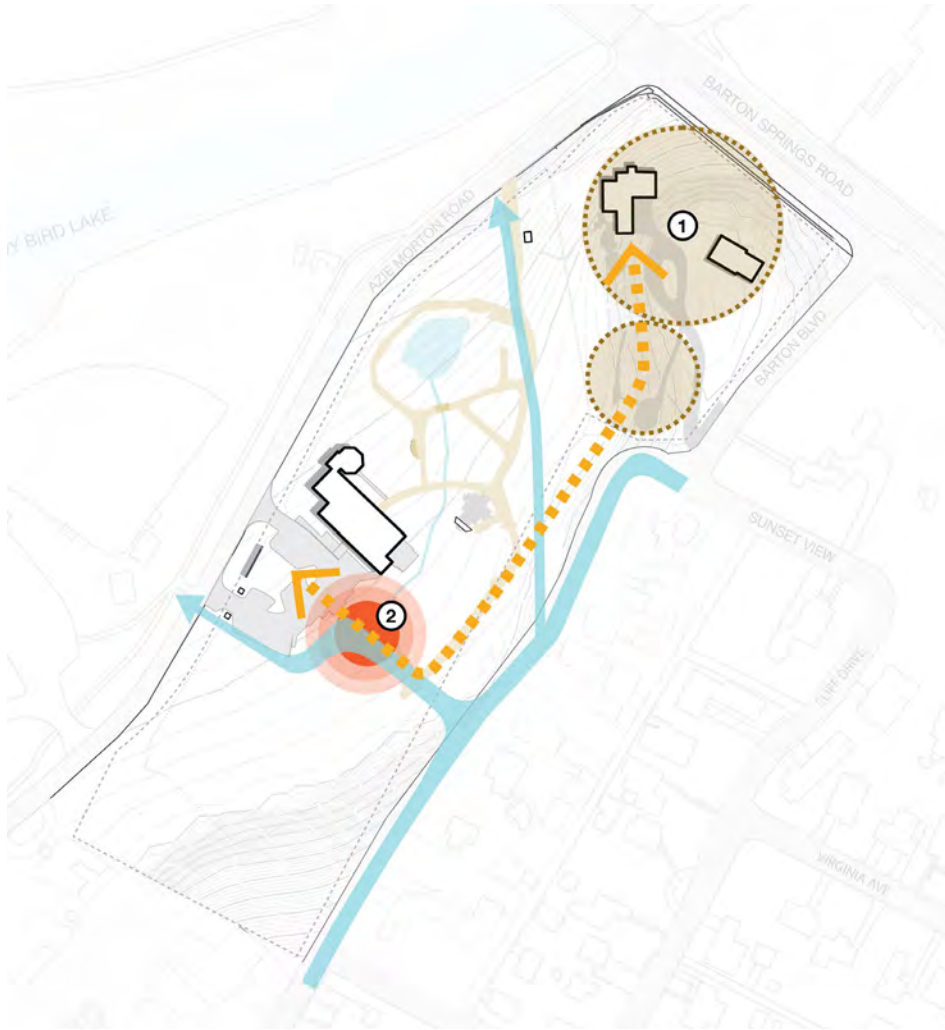
Public Session

Round 2

During the second public meeting, attendees were presented with two accessibility scenarios: treehouse and gateway. These scenarios responded to the community’s priorities that were shared during the first round of engagement efforts. The treehouse suggested a connection in the north area of the site, linking the sculpture garden trail to the historic zone with an elevator. The gateway strategy proposed an accessible connection at the arrival area, connecting to the house and studio through a natural and interpretive promenade along the site’s eastern side. Both options would host necessary programmatic elements for events and education. These early explorations, crucial in making the higher area of the site accessible, evolved into the current plan based on feedback from the public, technical experts, community representatives, and UMLAUF staff.



- Treehouse exploration**
- ① Historic preservation of home, studio, and garden
 - ② Main connection point



- Gateway exploration**
- ① Historic preservation of home, studio, and garden
 - ② Main connection point

Public Session

Round 2

In the second public meeting attendees were presented with both scenarios, followed by a site walk to both sites. The attendees were given a card that represented a user (see below) and were encouraged to imagine how that user would experience the site. Participants envisioned and discussed challenges and opportunities, fostering an interactive exploration of both scenarios. The received feedback carefully informed the evolution of the plan.



A wheelchair user
visiting the
sculpture garden



A dad and kids
having outdoor time



A 7-year-old kid
going to summer
arts camp



A bride/groom on their
wedding day at the
UMLAUF



An arts college student
looking to learn more
about sculpture



A garden party attendee
(or vendor)

Community’s feedback:

Treehouse

- Fosters a beneficial connection between arts education and the house and studio.
- It creates a concentration of activity around the house and studio, which could be positive.
- The connection from the parking lot to the treehouse elevator (for events, vendors, deliveries), might be too long.
- Concerns of relying too much on elevator to get to the hill. Would like to see other ways to explore the site.
- Would need ADA parking on top level, not only on the big parking lot on Azie Morton.

General

- Overall accessibility concerns, would like it to be an experience throughout the site, and not concentrated in one single location.
- Must consider the elevator’s capacity for multiple wheelchairs, vendors, and sculptures.
- Must preserve the site’s sense of discovery and exploration.
- Explore interpretation, wayfinding and education strategies.
- Improve lighting, consider the garden experience at night, while being respectful of other species.

Gateway

- It created a positive connection to the waterfall, with maximized views and sounds of nature.
- Creates an opportunity to re-consider the pedestrian access, connection to the building from the current entry.
- It brings all the accessibility to the front of the site, instead of it being a journey. Would like see more explorations on accessibility around the site.
- It can be a long walk to get to the House and Studio from the gateway scenario.
- More sculptures along the pathway to the house and studio would be crucial for enhancing the experience and interpretation.

Public Session

Round 3

25
attendees

Location: UMLAUF

Date: October 23, 2023

Format:

In-person session

1. Presentation of refined plan and design guidelines
2. Guided discussion
3. Open Q&A
4. Presentation of next steps

Attendees:

Full list included in appendix

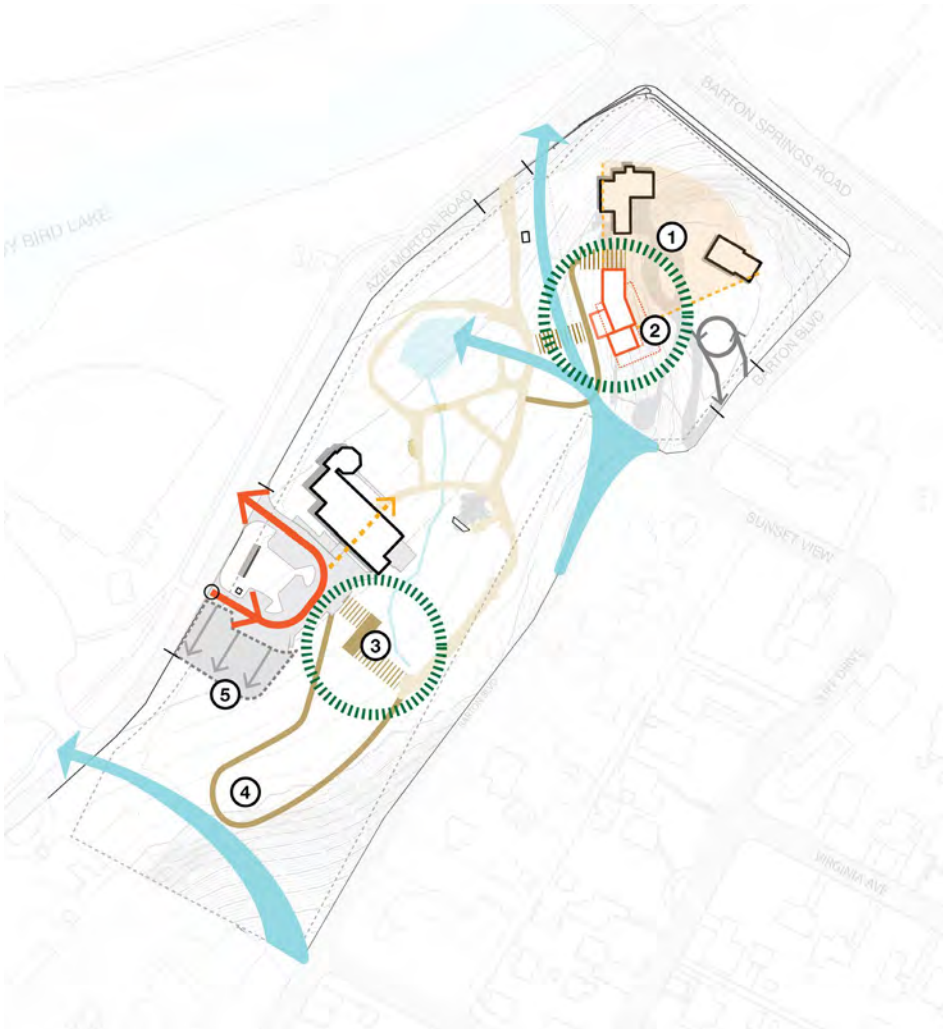


Participants responded to a refined plan and design guidelines during an open discussion, contributing with insightful perspectives for shaping the project in the synthesis phase.

Public Session

Round 3

In the final public session, attendees were presented a refined plan, seamlessly merging elements from the gateway and treehouse explorations. This responsive integration addresses feedback to distribute accessibility efforts across the site, and preserving the site’s exploratory essence. The refined exploration aligns with current programmatic needs, expanding art and education spaces for the community and accommodating museum operations and storage. This holistic approach ensures the project serves diverse needs, including dynamic and inclusive spaces for exhibitions and community events, and expanding the arts and environmental education opportunities across the whole site. The refined scenario unifies the UMLAUF’s site, activating pivotal locations: the gateway, enhancing the arrival experience and providing options for free exploration, and the treehouse, linking the historic area with the museum garden, and housing education and event spaces. This refined version carefully evolved into the current plan considering the feedback received from the public, technical experts, community representatives, and UMLAUF staff and Board of Directors.



Refined Plan

- ① Historic preservation of home, studio, and garden
- ② Treehouse, connecting the garden with the historic zone
- ③ Gateway, connecting with the promenade
- ④ Natural zone trail
- ⑤ Parking extension

The Community’s Feedback:

- Prioritize natural lighting with wildlife impact in mind.
- Incorporate water sounds into the experience.
- Address UMLAUF’s parking, it should meet the needs of the community.
- The planning process itself is educational on itself, it could be part of the educational program.
- Identify all the vegetation species on site and include them in the learning experience.
- Landscape and sculpture maps could be included in the user’s experience.
- Introduce accessible trails in the wild area.
- Guarantee the integration of buildings with the natural landscape, demonstrating utmost respect for ecosystems.
- The treehouse looks like a part of the exploration experience and not the main element. The green roof minimizes the impact, it looks very accessible.
- It is crucial to tackle water concerns, including both on-site issues and the water leaving the site.
- The treehouse would benefit from having program in the mid-levels.
- The goal should be to create a great building that is “invisible.”



Work Sessions

Round 1

3
sessions

9
attendees

Format: In-person

1. Project introduction
2. Site walk
3. Discussion

Attendees:

Arts + education

Marie Ortiz (MACC)
Rosa Fry (Preservation Austin)
Tony Vo (AARC)
Matthew Gaston (ZBG)
Danny Orendorff (TCA)

Environmental

Bill Bunch (SOS)
Cynthia Klemmer (ZBG/PARD)
Holly Hawk (ZBG)

Neighborhood

Ingrid Weigand (BCNA)

UMLAUF HPEU PLAN

Arts + education

Diversity and Inclusion:

- Focus on diversity and opportunities to showcase different cultures.
- Consider spaces for hosting teen/youth internships and programs.

Community:

- Include concessions and coffee stands without admission, open to the community.
- Users need spaces in the garden to cool-off in summer days.
- Think of a food program, not only for garden visitors, but for everyone around.

Other programming:

- Dedicated spaces for private events are needed, it will avoid interrupting public and education programs.
- Consider more and diverse outdoor programming, and appropriate outdoor spaces to host it.
- An art residency with outdoor art-making opportunities could be integrated.
- The UMLAUF will need more space for office and storage once the spaces are restored.
- Improved accessibility from the parking across the street is crucial.

Neighborhood

Environmental

- Consider re-wilding and ecological restoration of the site.
- It is important to include ecological education in the program and planning process.
- Avoid concrete, think of this space as an oasis.
- The wilder you go with landscape, the better.

Mobility

- A shuttle for the arts and nature could alleviate parking needs and mobility issues.
- Full-site accessibility would be great.

Environmental

Environmental

- Consider natural terracing for water management.
- Think of re-wilding strategies to tackle urban heat islands.
- Create a wildlife corridor, consider biodiversity.
- Create new paths, trails, and viewing platforms around the site.
- Prioritize storm water management.

Work Sessions

Round 2

1
session

8
attendees

Date: September 12, 2023

Format: Remote
1. Project introduction
2. Discussion

Attendees:
Cynthia Klemmer (ZBG/PARD)
Jack Nokes (Neighborhood)
Katie Robillard (Austin Parks Foundation)
Matthew Gaston (ZBG)
Rosa Fry (Preservation Austin)
Marie Ortiz (MACC)
Ingrid Weigand (BCNA)
Danny Orendorff (TCA)

Content

During the second workshop, attendees were presented the first design explorations (treehouse and gateway). During this phase, the design team was exploring two potential sites. During the discussion, attendees were asked about concerns and opportunities for both sites.

Feedback

- The southern end of the site is unimproved. Ideally, this would be an opportunity for wilding (not re-wilding since it is kind of already there with almost no invasive species).
- A wildlife corridor could have a viewing deck, birding programs etc. if it is kept as a natural space with minimal access.
- Consider a hybrid option that includes both potential sites working together.
- Almost need both options (treehouse and gateway), a walk to the home and studio from the gateway site sounds lovely even if its strenuous.

Round 3

1
session

4
attendees

Date: October 10, 2023

Format: Remote
1. Project introduction
3. Discussion

Attendees:
Bill Bunch (SOS)
Rosa Fry (Preservation Austin)
Marie Ortiz (MACC)
Matthew Gaston (ZBG)

Content

Workshop 3 was a virtual session using Miro as a tool to collect feedback and guide participants through the revised plan suggestions, facilitating an interactive and collaborative online engagement experience.

Feedback

- Consider making improvements to the Azie Morton crossing.
- Accessibility improvements will still be needed in the garden: grading, surface improvements.
- Appreciation for the low-impact parking solution and goal of net neutral impervious cover.
- Consider the interpretive experience - showing how Charles Umlauf lived and worked.
- There is a challenge for Historic Preservation, there is a risk with higher visitation and potentially uncontrolled exposure.
- Make sure to maintain the site’s sense of discovery.
- Consider a cafe for the gateway, and take advantage of the nice views in that spot.
- A portion of the site should be open to the public, even if not during regular museum hours.
- Water runoff should be managed in a way that integrates an engineered solution with the needs of the site.

Technical Advisory Group

3

sessions

11

members

TAG members:

Laura Esparza, PARD
Christine Chute Canul, PARD
Ellen Colfax, PARD
Greg Montes, PARD Planning
John Middleton, WPD
Juan Bustillos, PARD
Justin Good, TPW
Kimberly McKnight, PARD
Melissa Alvarado, COA
Heritage Tourism
Leslie Lilly, WPD
Paulinda Lanham, TPW
Steven Linett, PARD

Formats:

Meeting 1: on-site, site
exploration
Meetings 2 + 3: virtual
sessions



The planning team convened with the TAG group three times, seeking technical insights and subject-matter expertise related to the site and its context.

Presence at Community Events

The UMLAUF actively engaged in community events, discussing the project with community members and promoting the online survey to ensure ample and diverse feedback for the comprehensive development of the plan.



Hillside Concert

Date: July 25, 2023
Location: Pan Am Hillside Theatre



UMLAUF After Dark

Date: August 1, 2023
Location: UMLAUF Sculpture Garden + Museum



Black to School: Block Party

Date: August 31, 2023
Location: George Washington Carver Museum, organized by Joyous Tutoring



Oita Japan Fest

Date: September 9, 2023
Location: Asian American Resource Center



Viva México

Date: September 16, 2023
Location: Pan Am Hillside Theatre

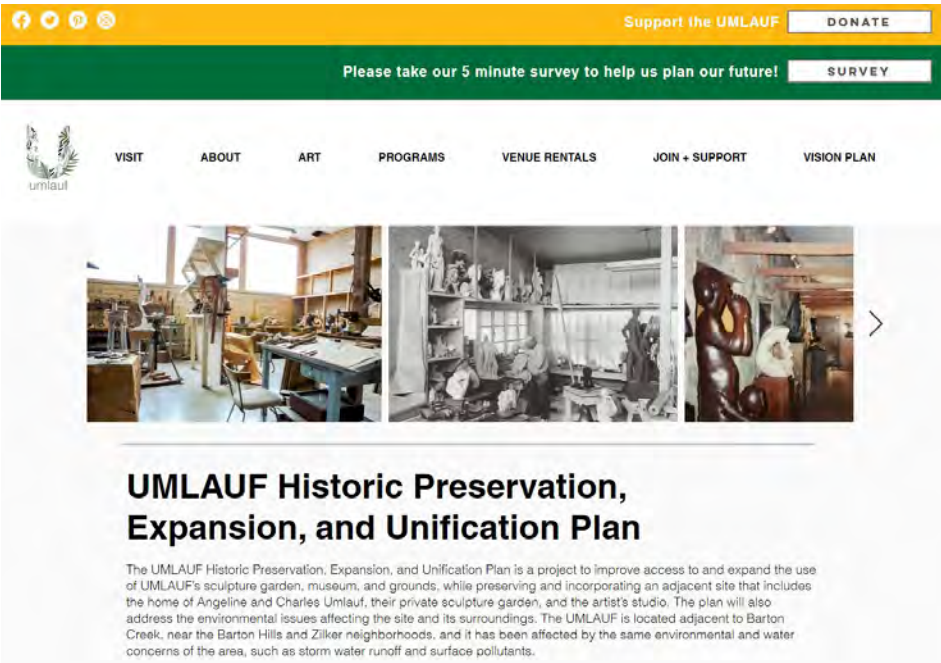


Austin Museum Day

Date: September 17, 2023
Location: UMLAUF Sculpture Garden + Museum

Survey

The online survey served as a comprehensive tool to collect ample and diverse feedback from the community. With approximately 20 questions, it featured two versions: one for those who have visited the UMLAUF Sculpture Garden + Museum and another one for those who hadn't. The survey questions covered key plan areas such as historic preservation, water management, sustainability, arts and education, and community and private events. Through rankings, multiple-choice, and open-ended questions, community feedback was analyzed and categorized to identify the community's priorities. The version for community members that have not visited the UMLAUF aimed to identify obstacles faced and opportunities to make the UMLAUF more appealing and accessible to Austin's diverse public, contributing to a more inclusive and informed plan. The survey additionally served as a means to introduce community members unfamiliar with the sculpture garden to the UMLAUF's mission, programs, and upcoming public events.



7. The UMLAUF is looking to solve a major water pollution problem. How familiar are you with the environmental concerns of the site, such as storm water discharge concentration and poor water quality caused by upstream development? 0

☐ Not at all familiar

☐ Not so familiar

☐ Somewhat familiar

☐ Very familiar

8. In 1985, Charles and Angeline Umlauf gifted their home, property, and his art studio for public enjoyment and education. The house and studio are currently on the property but have no public access (see photos below). How do you think the artist's historic home and studio could better serve the community? (Please select all that apply)



UMLAUF Historic Preservation, Expansion, and Unification Plan

Project Introduction:

The **UMLAUF Historic Preservation, Expansion, and Unification Plan** is a project to improve access to and expand the use of UMLAUF's sculpture garden, museum, and grounds, while preserving and incorporating an adjacent site that includes the home of Angeline and Charles Umlauf, their private sculpture garden, and the artist's studio. The plan will also address the environmental issues affecting the site and its surroundings. The UMLAUF is located adjacent to Barton Creek, near the Barton Hills and Zilker neighborhoods, and it has been affected by the same environmental and water concerns of the area, such as storm water runoff and surface pollutants. **The feedback collected from this survey will be used to inform the planning process for UMLAUF's Historic Preservation, Expansion, and Unification. All your answers will remain anonymous. Thank you for your time and valuable feedback.**

Estimated time 6-8 minutes.



Survey
Results

634

completed surveys*



Participation window:
July 24, 2023 to
September 21, 2023

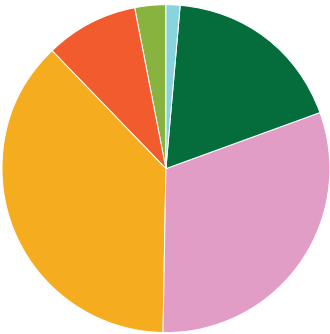
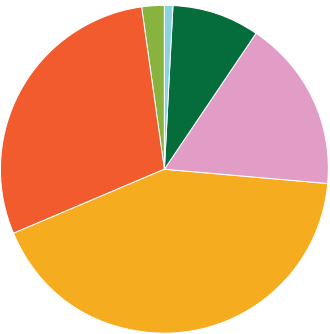
*A total of 740 surveys were received, of which 106 only answered to the first question of “Have you visited the UMLAUF Museum + Sculpture Garden?”

Demographics

Have visited
the UMLAUF

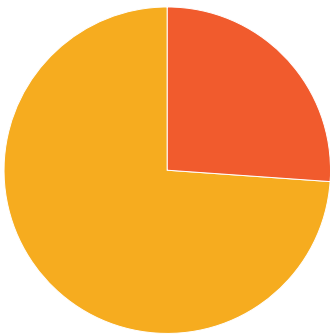
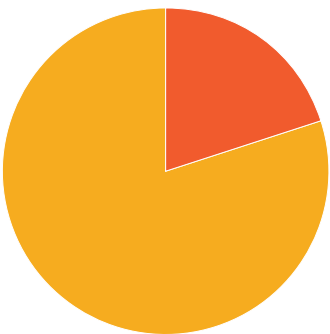
Have not visited
the UMLAUF

Age:



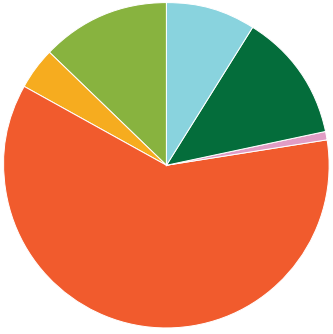
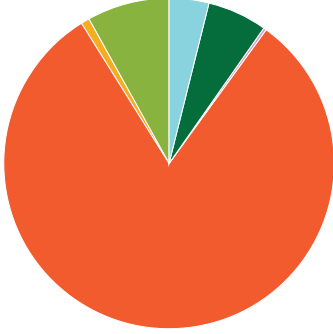
- 60+
- 35 to 59
- 25 to 34
- 19 to 24
- Under 18
- Prefer not to answer

Ethnicity:



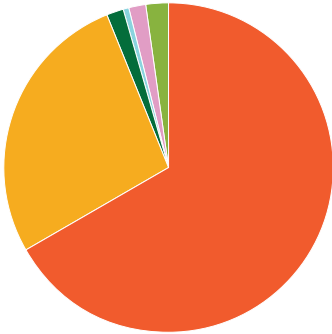
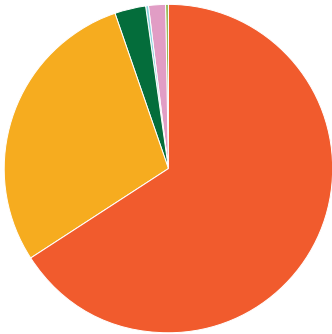
- Hispanic or Latino
- Non-Hispanic or Latino

Race:



- White
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- Asian
- Black
- Other

Gender:

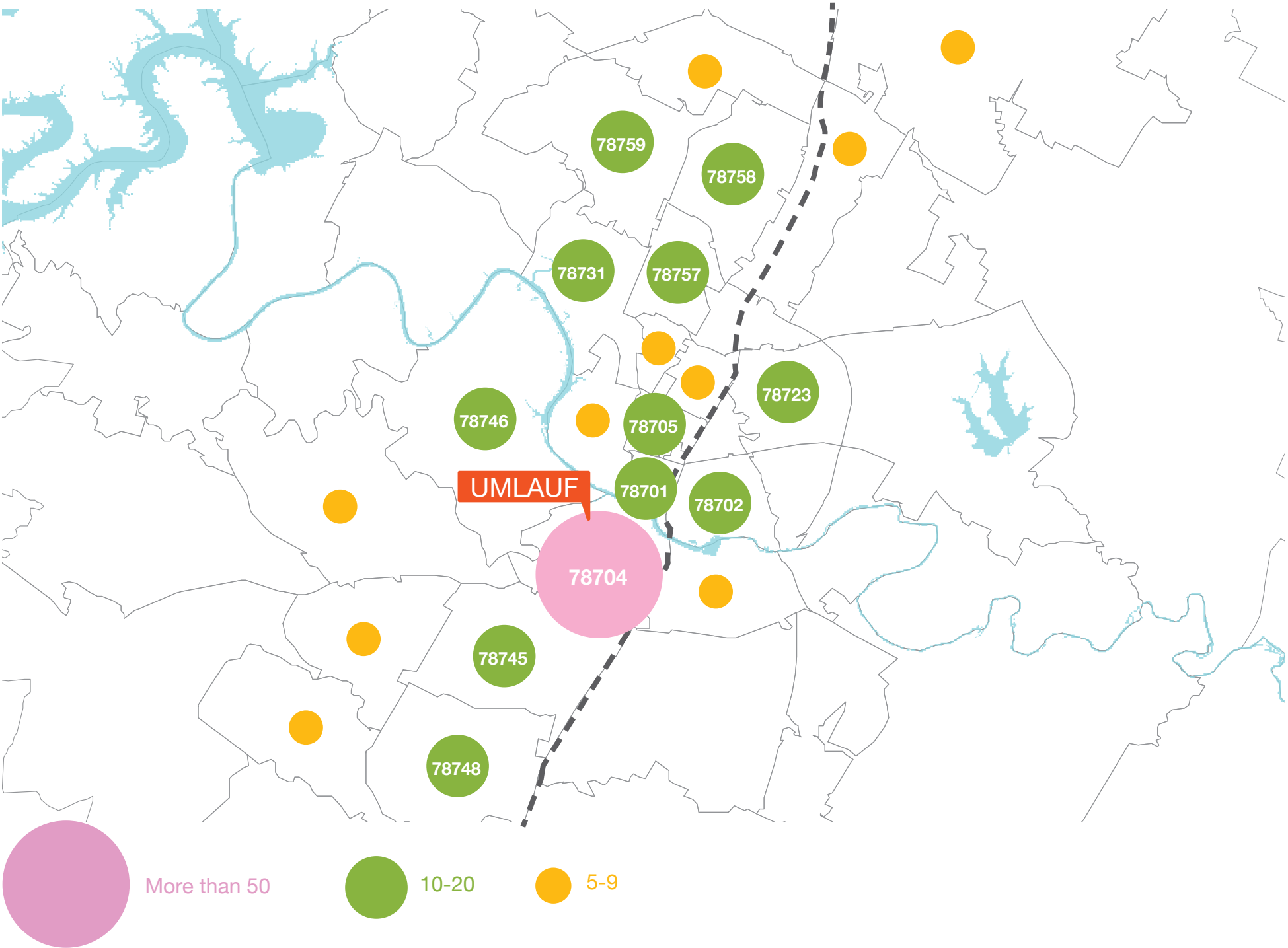


- Female
- Male
- Non-binary
- Transgender
- Prefer not to answer
- Other

Survey Results

Zip Code

The survey received a significant number of submissions from the 78704 zip code, which includes neighborhoods such as Barton Hills, Travis Heights, Zilker, and Bouldin Creek, all adjacent to the UMLAUF. However, while we observe good distribution across the city, there is a lower participation from the eastern area. Efforts were made to engage with neighborhoods east of I-35, including partnering with local organizations, participating in community events, and displaying posters in local shops to increase visibility. To enhance awareness of the UMLAUF in eastern neighborhoods, the plan recommends implementing marketing and program strategies targeting East Austin communities, with a special focus on highlighting opportunities for free admission. A continuous engagement plan to solicit feedback on programming and accessibility will pave the way for more equitable and inclusive offerings. This approach will enable a wider segment of the Austin population to access and enjoy all that the UMLAUF has to offer.

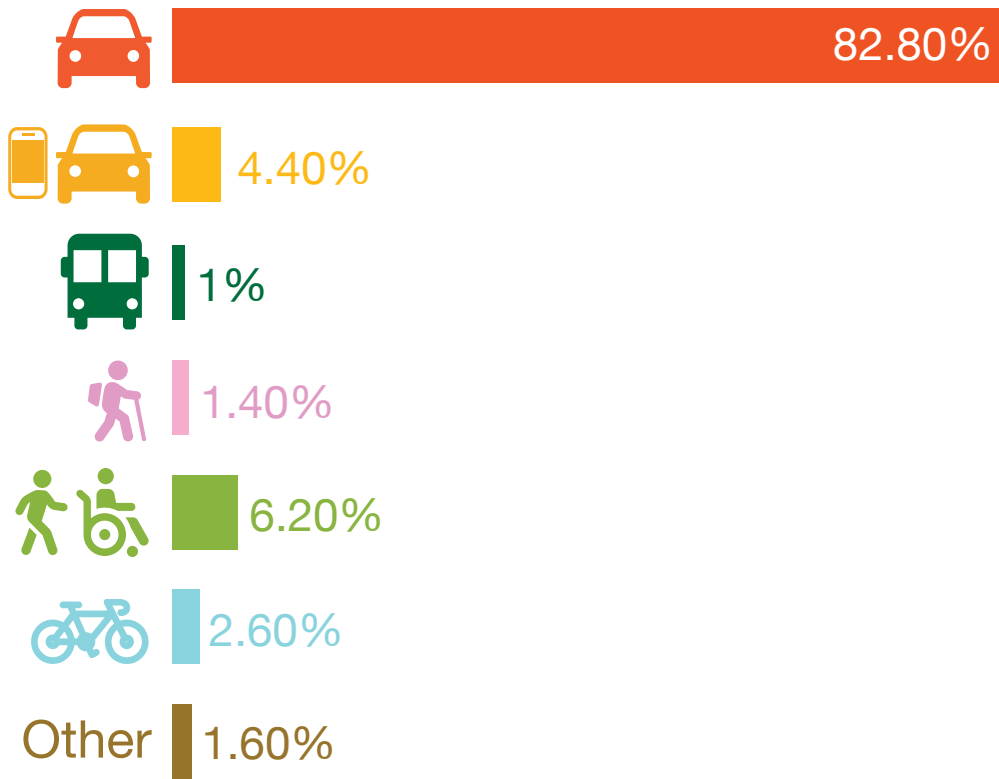


Survey
Results

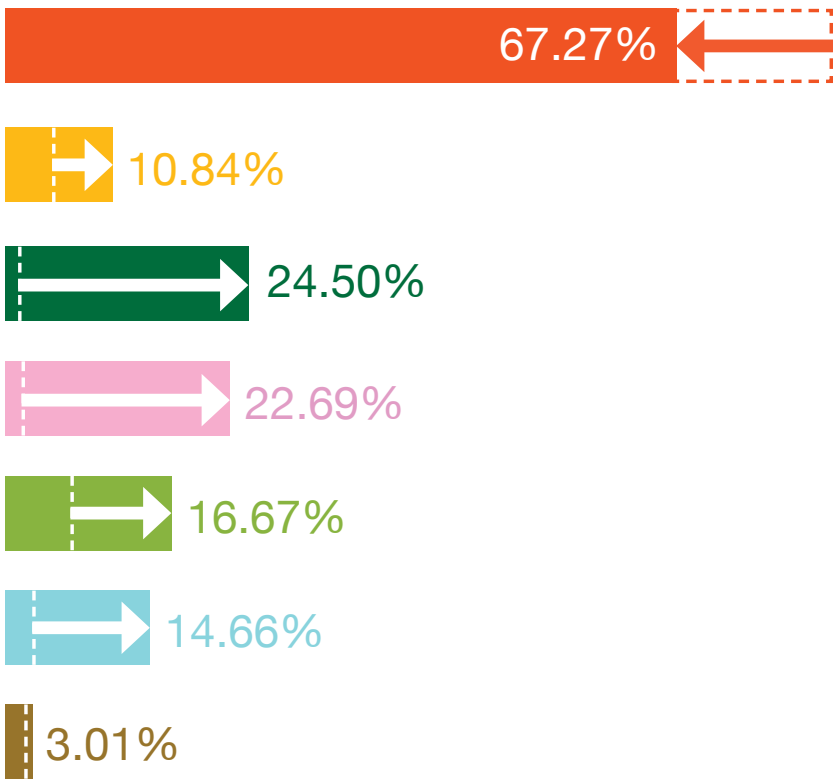
Mobility + Transit

The survey inquired about survey-taker’s current and preferred modes of transportation to the UMLAUF. The preference for personal car travel decreased by 15.53%, while the inclination towards public transit grew by 23.5%. “Using the Lady Bird Trail” also saw a notable increase of 21.29%. Despite these shifts, personal car usage remained the most favored option, suggesting factors like limited connectivity from people’s homes to the UMLAUF or the convenience of private vehicles. While respondents expressed a desire for alternative transportation, the continued popularity of personal cars underscores the need to address existing barriers to accessing the site and mobility preferences in the planning process. The increase in options such as public transit, biking, and using the trail, reveal an opportunity to improve active mobility connections to the site and consider different modes of arrival to the sculpture garden.

How do you **usually** get to the UMLAUF?



How **would you prefer** to get to the UMLAUF?

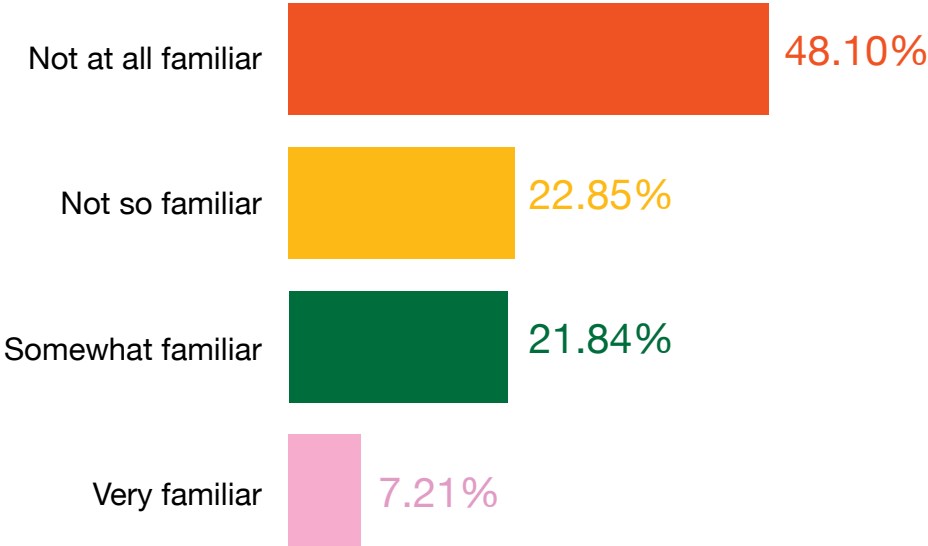


Environmental

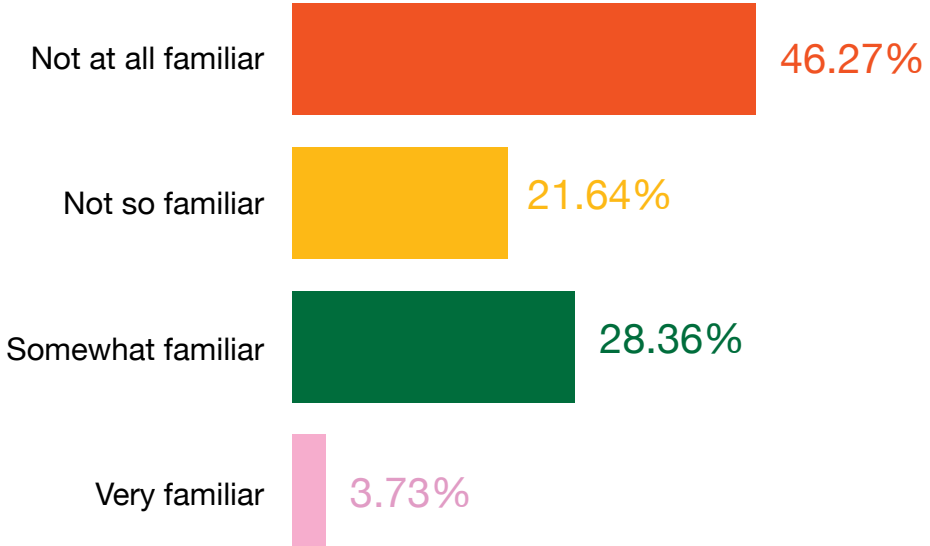
The survey aimed to gauge community awareness of historical environmental issues impacting the UMLAUF, specifically storm water runoff and water pollution. Nearly 50% from both surveyed groups indicated they were not familiar with these concerns. This highlights an opportunity for environmental education within the plan and underscores the need to incorporate these critical site issues in engagement efforts, ensuring a well-informed community and fostering a deeper understanding of the environmental context surrounding the UMLAUF.

The UMLAUF is looking to solve a major water pollution problem. How familiar are you with the environmental concerns of the site, such as storm water discharge concentration and poor water quality caused by upstream development?

Have visited the UMLAUF:



Have not visited the UMLAUF:



Survey

Results

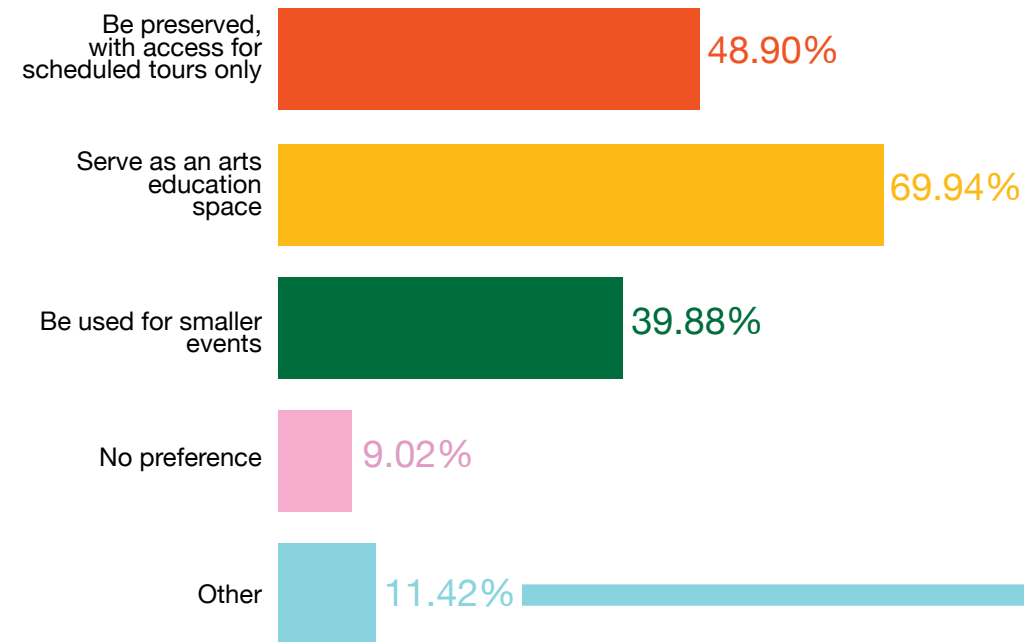
Historic Preservation

The survey also served an educational role, offering insight into historic preservation. Accompanied by photos, a brief overview of the current state of the home and studio preceded a question seeking community preferences about the spaces' programming. Nearly 70% expressed a desire for the space to function in arts education, while 48% also prioritized preservation with access for scheduled tours. Additional suggestions included research and art residency use, and broadening access from private to public tours. The full list of recommendations is available in the report's appendix.



Photos of the home and studio included in the survey

In 1985, Charles and Angeline Umlauf gifted their home, property, and art studio for public enjoyment and education. The house and studio are currently on the property but have no public access (see photos below). How do you think the artist's historic home and studio could better serve the community? (Please select all that apply)



Other:

- Use for scholars' research, and artist residency award
- I would love it if somehow the grounds could be included in a self guided walking tour of the rest of the Umlauf gardens
- Make accessibility part of the museum/garden experience
- Virtual/video tour shown online and in main gallery
- Historic preservation and teaching about sculpture is most important
- Art school
- Be a precedent of ecology and environmental superiority
- Conduct art shows for local artists to show their works
- Certain number of free events and times/dates free community rentals
- Display vintage pieces of furniture and phones, etc.
- Be a space for public tours also
- I would imagine art lessons would honor his legacy
- Preserve some parts that show process, but open up more to work in his space

Find full list of comments in appendix

Survey

Results

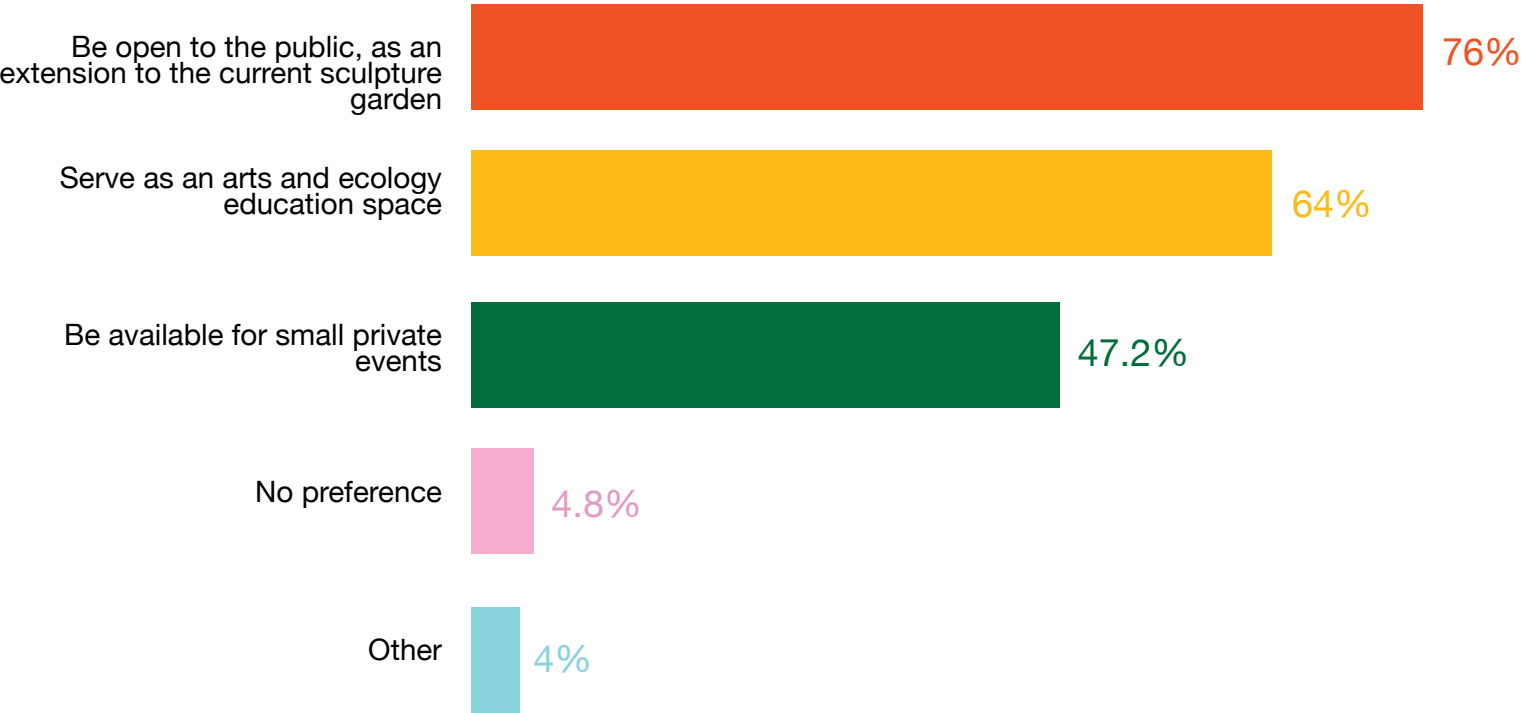
Historic Preservation

Building on the Historic Preservation topic, the survey inquired about the community’s preference for the private sculpture garden surrounding the home and studio. A majority (76%) favored it becoming publicly accessible as an extension to the existing sculpture garden, followed by it serving as a space for arts and ecology education.



Photos of the private sculpture garden included in the survey

The artist’s home and studio are surrounded by an ample private garden (see photos below). How do you think the garden could better serve the community? (Please select all that apply)



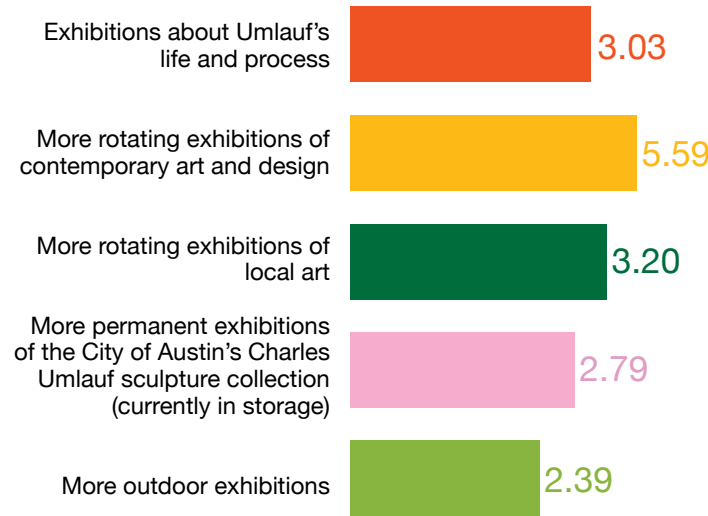
Survey

Results

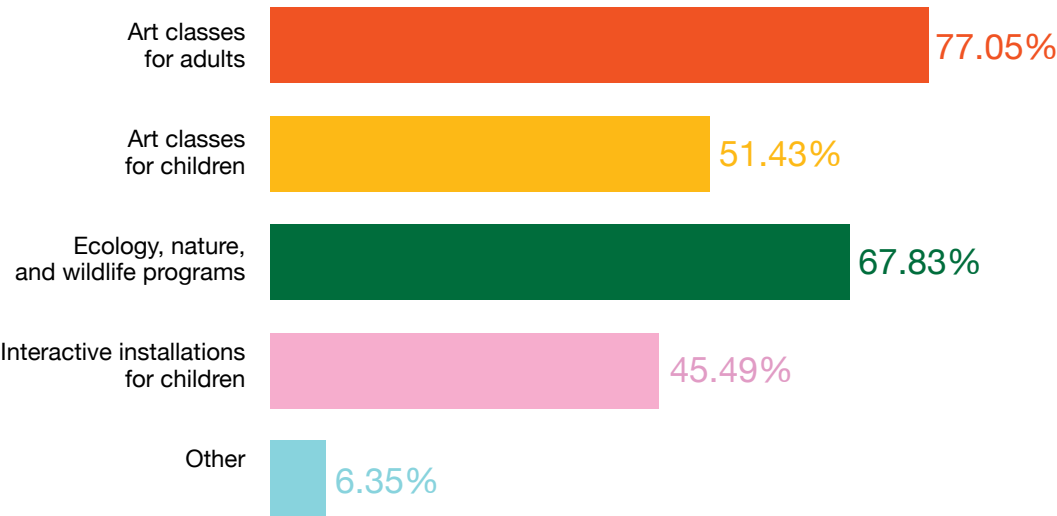
Programming

The survey also included questions regarding arts and education programming. For art exhibitions, “More rotating exhibitions of contemporary art and design” was ranked the highest. The plan will consider enhanced and accessible exhibition spaces to provide more options for the public to return to the UMLAUF. Regarding education, “Art classes for adults” were preferred by 77% of respondents, followed by “Ecology, nature, and wildlife programs” chosen by 67.83%. The plan will consider these preferences by proposing spaces for arts and environmental education, both indoors and outdoors, to enrich the UMLAUF’s programmatic offerings.

What additional arts exhibitions would you like to see at the UMLAUF?
Please rank in order of personal relevance



What additional education opportunities would you like to see at the UMLAUF?
Please select all that apply



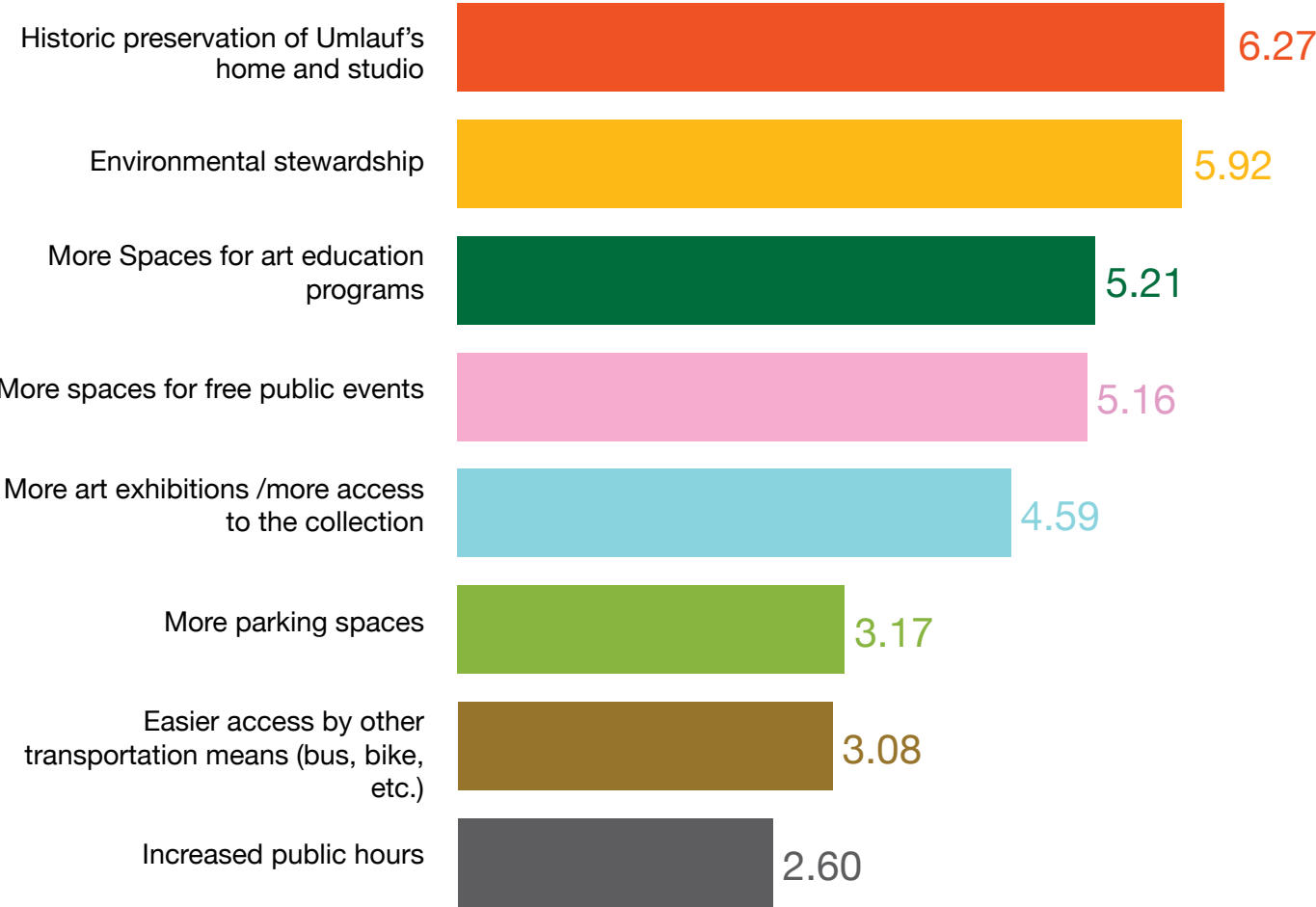
Other:

- Umlauf’s drawings on display
 - Nature journaling and en plein air classes/groups
 - Programming for blind/disabled persons
 - More rotation. We’d love to bring our students more but the feedback we get is they’ve already seen it multiple times already
 - Would like to ensure that children’s classes are accessible to families with limited financial resources
- Multicultural exhibits and programming
 - Have a meditation space and programs like yoga classes and dance lessons
 - Art classes for senior citizens
 - Zoology classes
 - A focus on sculpture or fine art
 - Permanent exhibit explaining Umlauf’s life
- Find full list of comments in appendix*

Priorities

A ranking exercise followed the introduction to different project areas in previous questions. “Historic preservation of Umlauf’s home and studio” was ranked as top priority, closely followed by “environmental stewardship.” Notably, “more parking spaces” ranked low (sixth of eight options), despite the preference for private vehicle that was expressed in prior mobility questions. This insight guides the plan towards prioritizing preservation, sustainability, education, and public access, while underscoring the importance of balancing transportation options for different needs.

As the UMLAUF envisions their future, what is more important to you? Please rank in order of personal relevance.



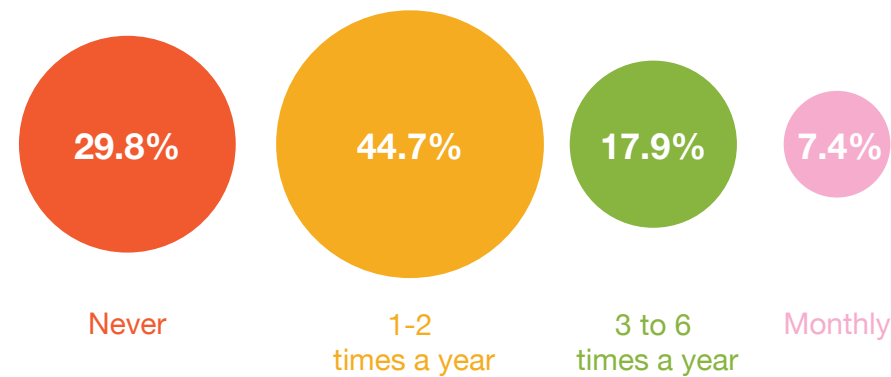
Survey

Results

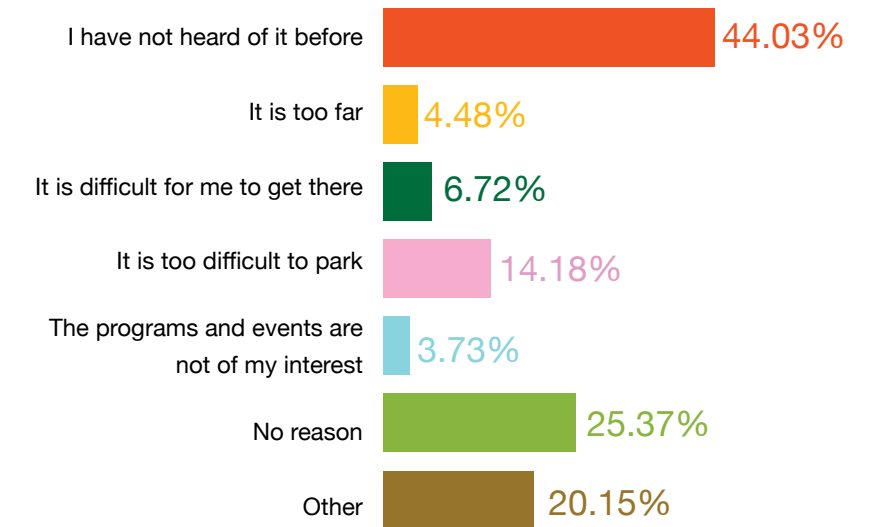
Have not visited the UMLAUF

To ensure a diverse range of perspectives, the survey extended questions to those who have not yet visited the UMLAUF. More than 60% of respondents indicated that they visit other museums in the city at least 1 or 2 times a year, while nearly 30% reported never visiting museums. The primary reason cited for not visiting the UMLAUF was a lack of awareness. The plan will address this by boosting visibility through improved site edges, connections, and spaces for diverse programming to attract a broader audience. Those who haven't visited expressed openness to doing so with increased awareness of museum activities, more public events, and improved parking availability, highlighting the importance of free admission opportunities, extended hours, and kid-friendly programs.

How often do you visit other museums in Austin?



I have not visited UMLAUF because:



What would help you to consider visiting the UMLAUF?

1. Awareness

Increase advertising, reach out to schools and other institutions

2. More events

More diverse and inclusive activities

3. Parking

More and free parking options

4. Free admission

Free events and free admission days

5. Hours

Extended hours. Night programs, and early hours for kids

6. Programs for kids

More events and other options for small children

Find full list of comments in appendix

Survey

Results

Is there anything else you would like to share about the UMLAUF?

The survey concluded with an open question, providing respondents an opportunity to expand on their feedback or include topics that were not considered in the set of questions. The 95 received comments were categorized into common topics. Affordability emerged as the predominant theme, with a desire for more free and affordable programming. Accessibility, diverse programming, and maintaining the garden's intimate scale and experience were also key topics. This valuable feedback informs the project's focus on creating additional spaces for community events, enhancing the welcoming arrival experience, and strengthening spatial connections with the community. It also guides the plan to preserve and enrich the intimate and relaxing ambiance of the garden, ensuring alignment with community preferences.

Main topics:

1. Increase affordability
2. More accessible to the community, more inclusive
3. More diverse programming
4. Maintain its intimate and relaxing experience
5. More about Charles Umlauf
6. Increase awareness of the UMLAUF
7. More rotating and local art
8. Prioritize educational and interpretive experience
9. More parking and/or public transit connections
10. Offer a gift shop and souvenirs
11. Provide food options

Community’s Priorities

The community’s priorities, gathered from public sessions and surveys, were encapsulated into nine key plan strategies. Encompassing historic preservation, accessibility, sustainability, arts and education, community, and mobility, these priorities steered the planning and design process. Subject-matter experts on the team, specializing in accessibility, sustainability, energy, water management, historic preservation, and landscape, actively supported the decision-making process to align the plan with these community’s priorities.



Community’s Priorities

Within the report, community voices will be represented in dialogue boxes, featuring feedback from the survey. The feedback will be color-coded according to plan topics as shown below. This approach ensures the community’s diverse perspectives and opinions are considered through the process, enhancing the transparency and accessibility of the feedback gathered through the community engagement process.

-  **Historic Preservation**
-  **Accessibility**
-  **Sustainability**
-  **Art + Education**
-  **Community**
-  **Mobility**

“...when I first saw it, it was hard to tell if it was private property or not. It didn't look super welcoming until I looked it up and saw it was a museum.”

“Such a beautiful space that can be used for many more exhibits from local artists along with the beautiful Umlauf sculptures.”

“Accessibility for all spaces at UMLAUF is needed. Extend the current sculpture trails seamlessly to a new path getting up to the house and studio on the hill.”

04

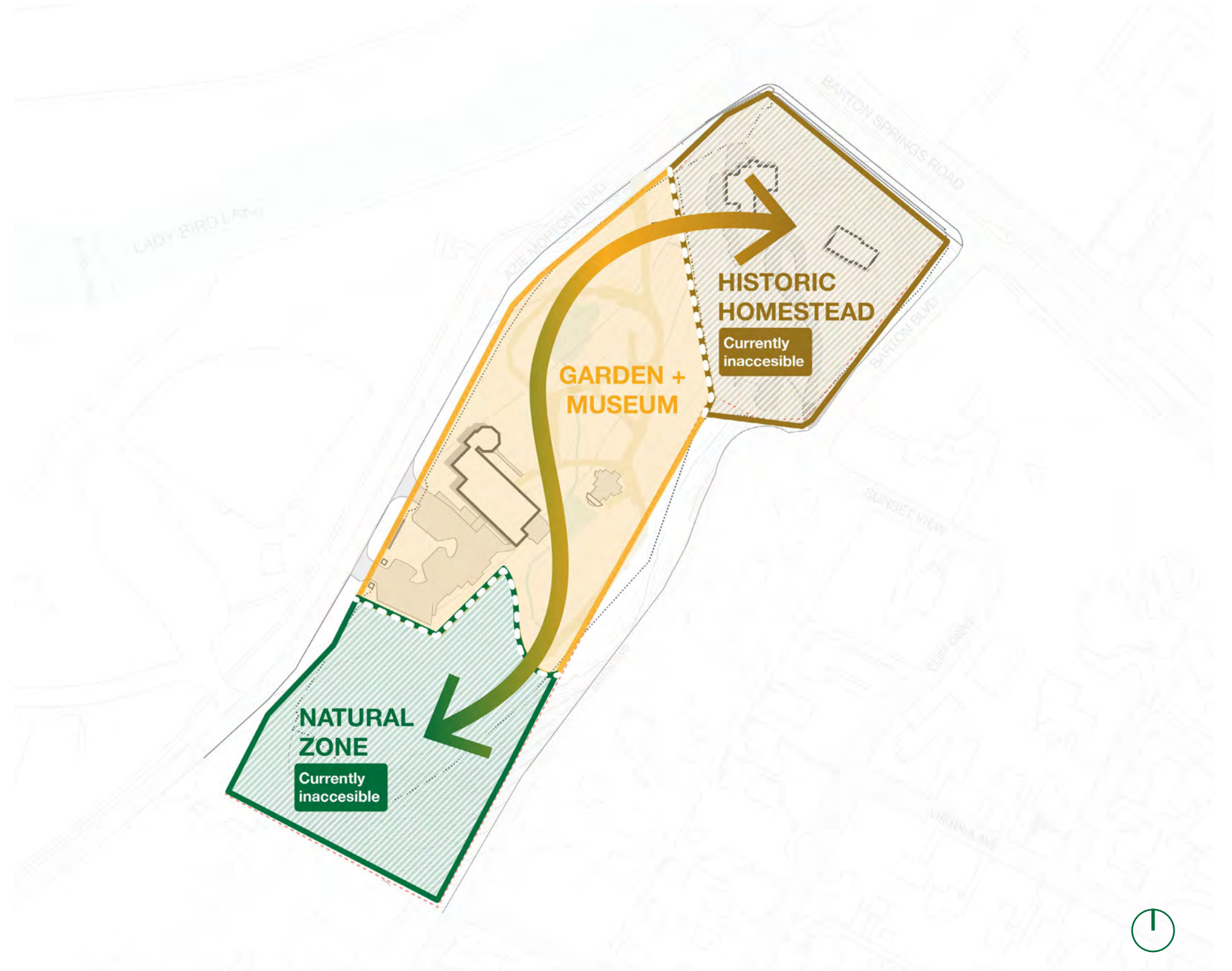
Site Analysis

Main Zones
Mobility + Transit
Cultural Assets
Watershed, Watershed Management
Aquifer Recharge Zone
FEMA Floodzones
COA Fully Developed Floodplains
Erosion + Waterway Setbacks
Other Environmental Features
Drainage
Zoning
Impervious Cover
Overlays

Circulation
Site Access
UMLAUF Signage
Edge Study
Existing Buildings
Outdoor Spaces + Landscape Features
Slope Analysis
Trees
Accessibility + ADA Compliance
Views
Site Constraints

Main Zones

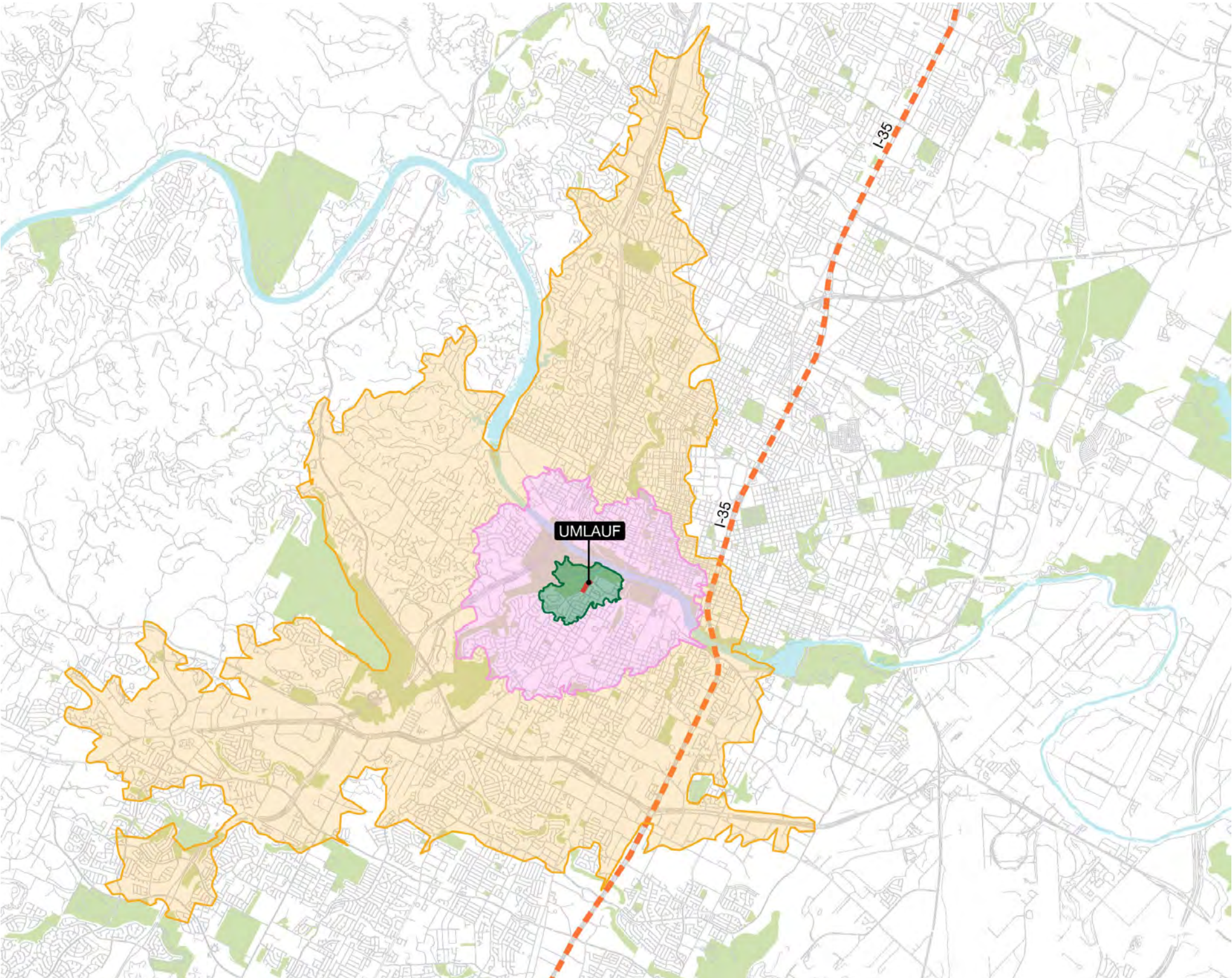
The UMLAUF's site currently comprises three zones: the garden + museum, the historic homestead, and the southern natural zone, both currently inaccessible to the public. The garden + museum zone, in yellow, currently accommodates all the UMLAUF programs, while the historic homestead area poses accessibility challenges, making it a restricted zone, for exclusive use of the UMLAUF's staff. The southern natural zone, currently not hosting any program or structures, is integral to the UMLAUF site. Unifying these areas is a primary plan goal, ensuring the site's maximum potential for public enjoyment while upholding the ecological richness and diversity of the whole site.



Mobility + Transit

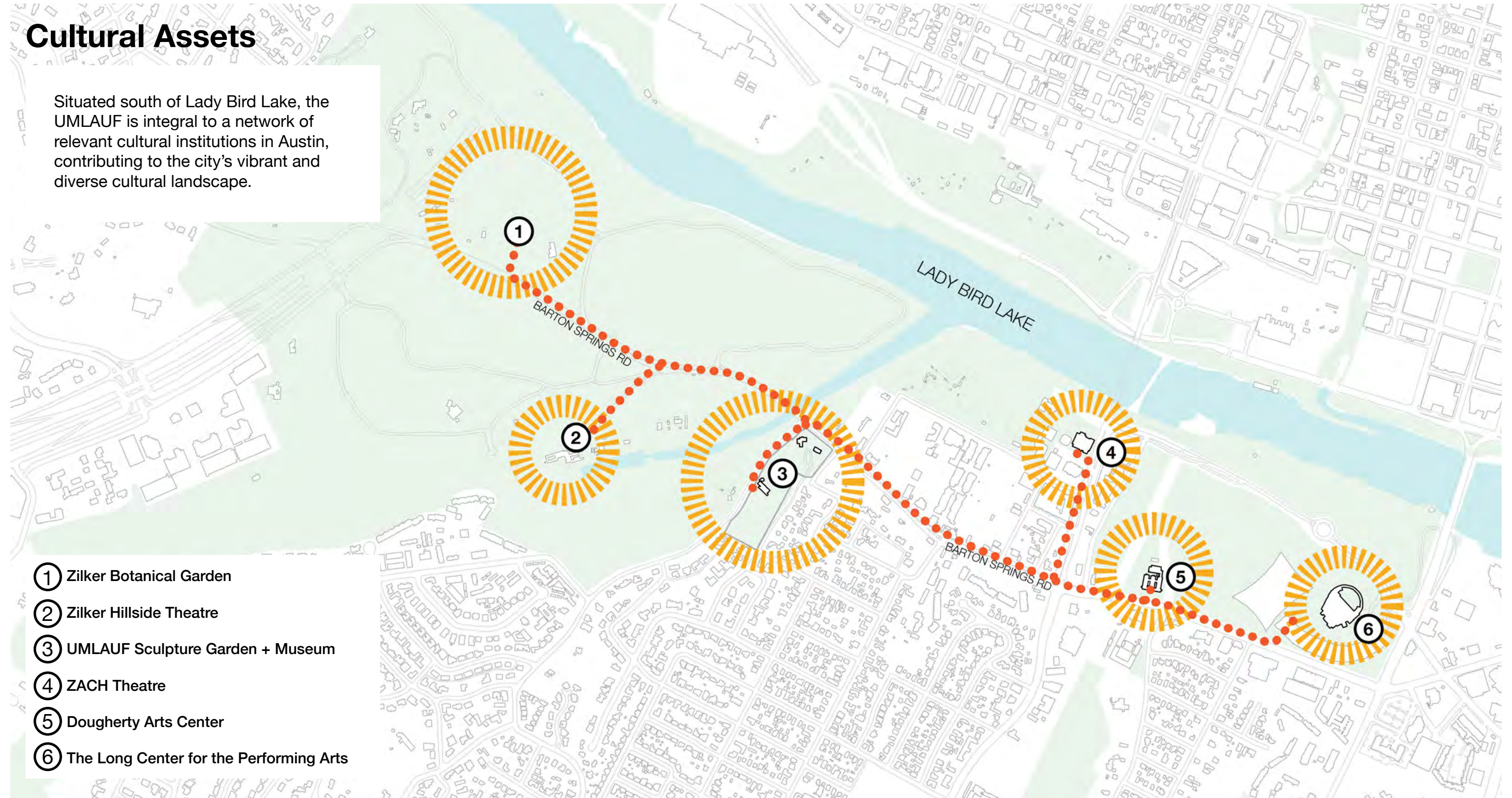
The UMLAUF is in a unique location, situated within natural surroundings and in close proximity to significant cultural institutions. To support the expansion objective of the plan, a commute-time study was conducted, delineating 15-minute travel time zones by walking, biking, and driving. The analysis revealed a lack of connectivity towards the east side of the city, even for vehicular transportation. This finding suggests the necessity for the introduction of mobility initiatives aimed at broadening audience reach across various zip codes. Such measures would support the expansion objectives and promote equitable access to the UMLAUF grounds.

- 15-minute walk
- 15-minute bike
- 15-minute drive



Cultural Assets

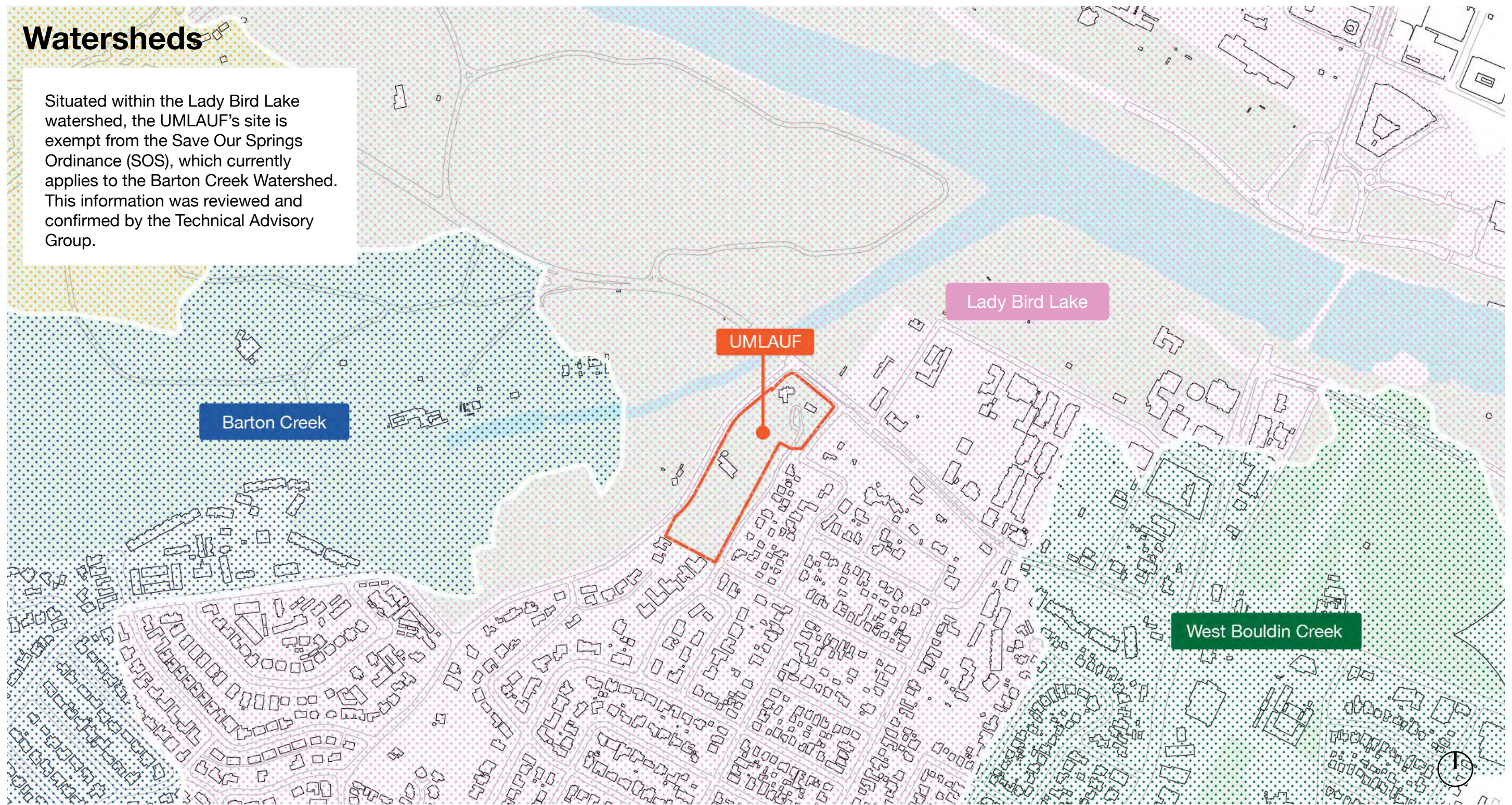
Situated south of Lady Bird Lake, the UMLAUF is integral to a network of relevant cultural institutions in Austin, contributing to the city's vibrant and diverse cultural landscape.



- ① Zilker Botanical Garden
- ② Zilker Hillside Theatre
- ③ UMLAUF Sculpture Garden + Museum
- ④ ZACH Theatre
- ⑤ Dougherty Arts Center
- ⑥ The Long Center for the Performing Arts

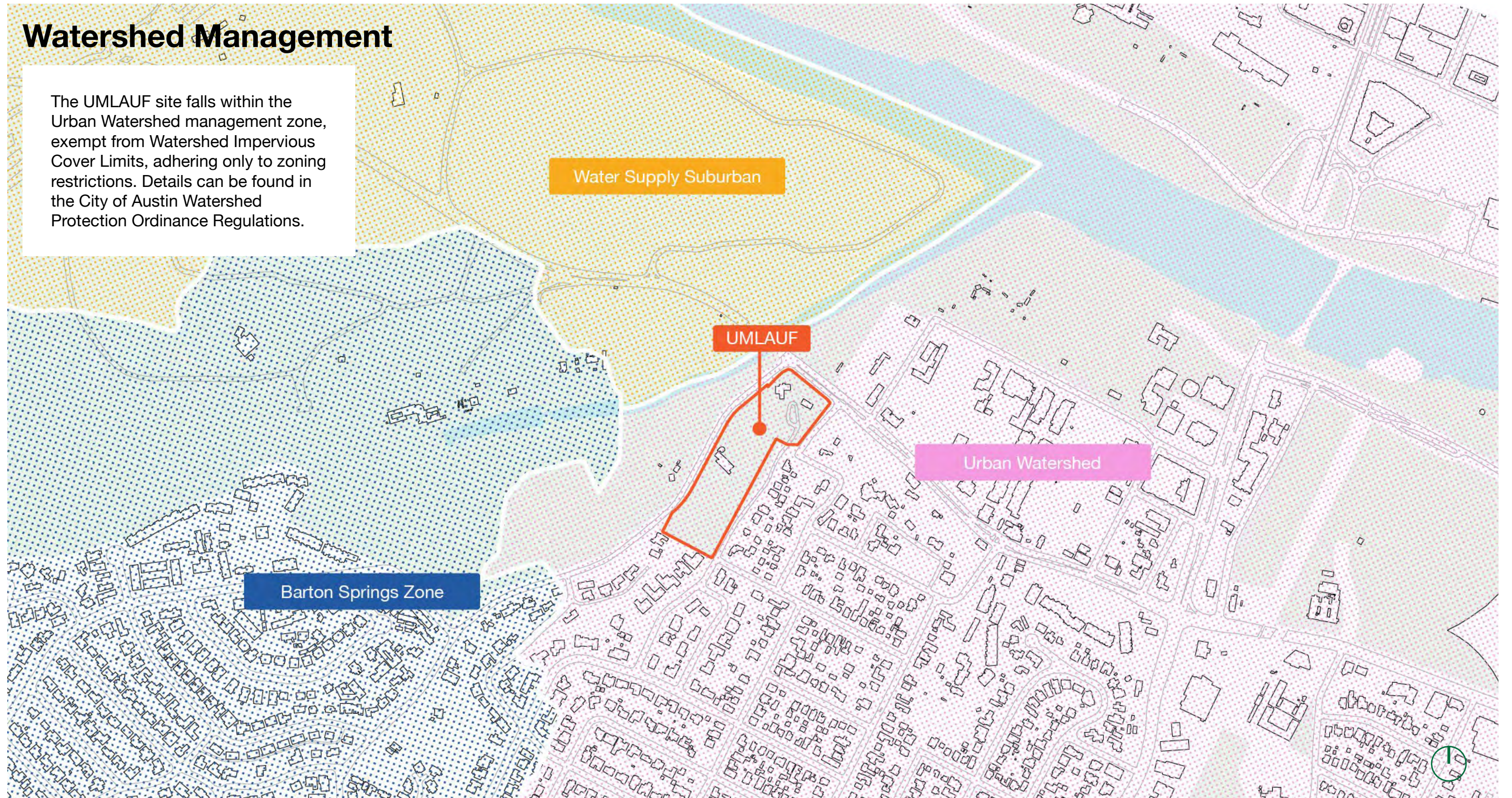
Watersheds

Situated within the Lady Bird Lake watershed, the UMLAUF's site is exempt from the Save Our Springs Ordinance (SOS), which currently applies to the Barton Creek Watershed. This information was reviewed and confirmed by the Technical Advisory Group.



Watershed Management

The UMLAUF site falls within the Urban Watershed management zone, exempt from Watershed Impervious Cover Limits, adhering only to zoning restrictions. Details can be found in the City of Austin Watershed Protection Ordinance Regulations.



Aquifer Recharge Zone

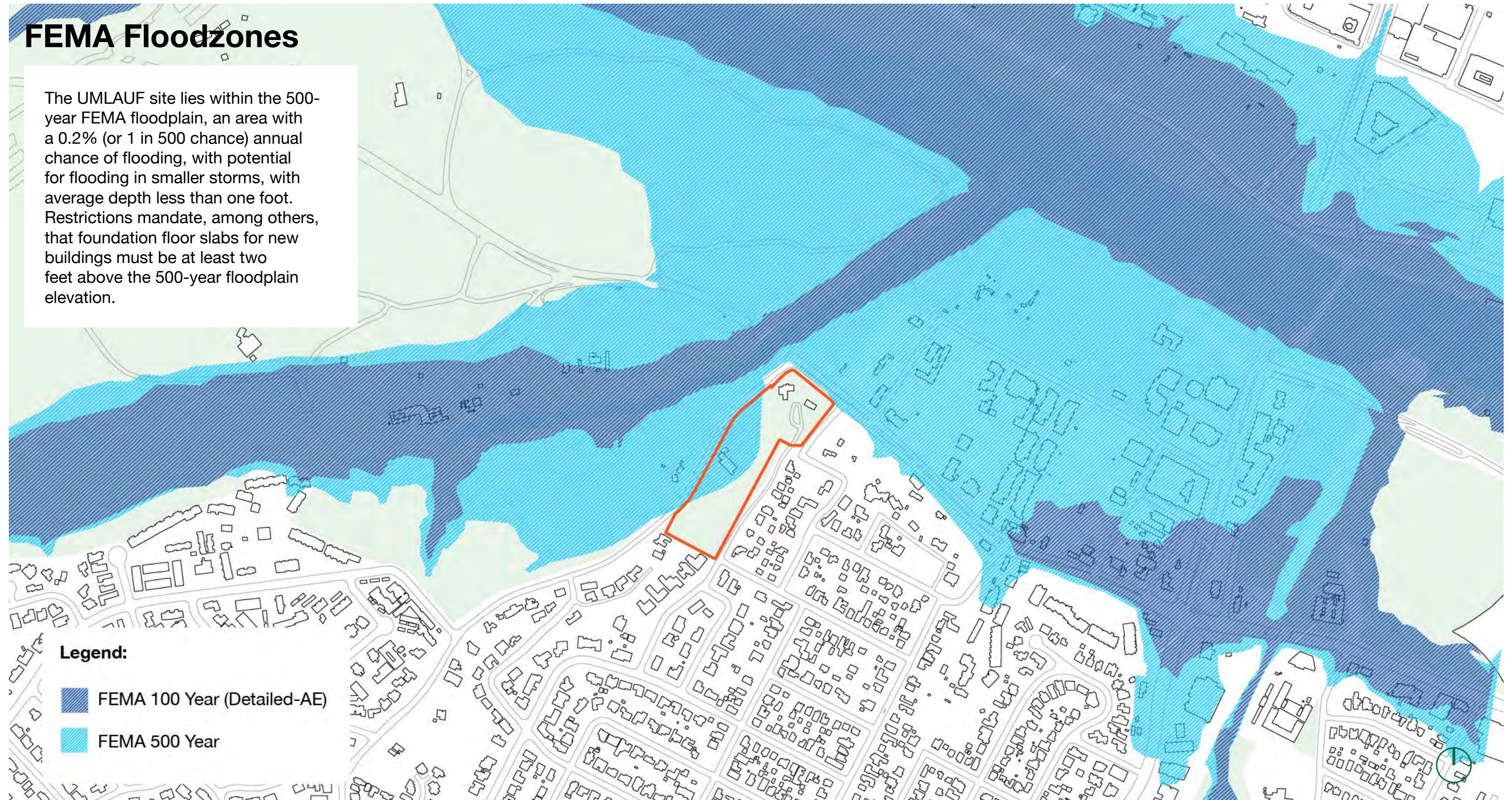
The UMLAUF is not situated in the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone, nor in the Edwards Aquifer Contributing Zone, as defined by the City of Austin. This information has been confirmed by the Technical Advisory Group. Please see Environmental Resource Inventory in appendix. However, considerations for strategies like greywater use may be influenced by its location on the “Transition Zone”. Details on this will be elaborated in the sustainability chapter. Activities in these zones undergo a two-stage review in plan applications.

Edwards Aquifer
Recharge Zone



Edwards Aquifer
Transition Zone

FEMA Floodzones

The UMLAUF site lies within the 500-year FEMA floodplain, an area with a 0.2% (or 1 in 500 chance) annual chance of flooding, with potential for flooding in smaller storms, with average depth less than one foot. Restrictions mandate, among others, that foundation floor slabs for new buildings must be at least two feet above the 500-year floodplain elevation.

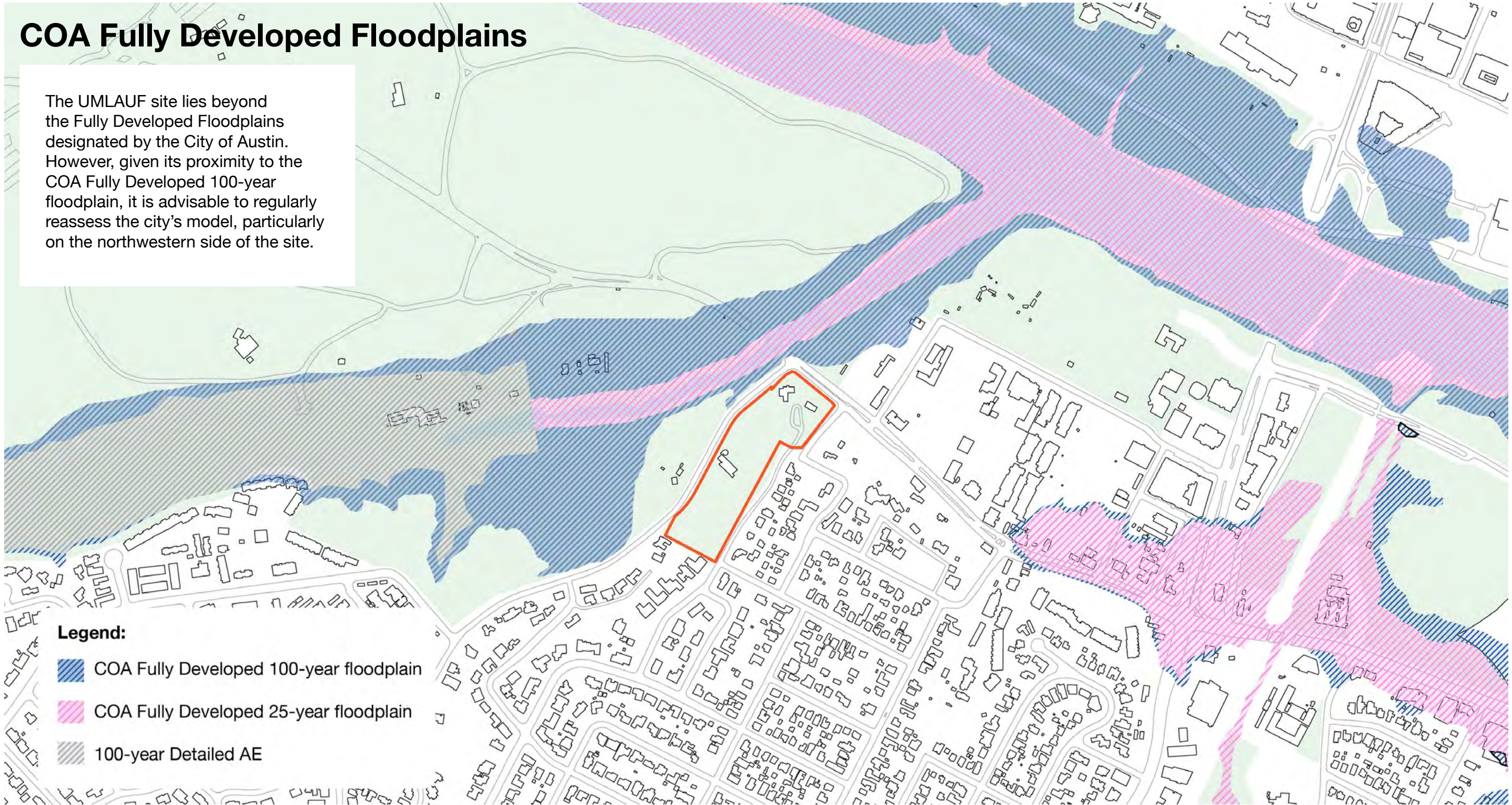


Legend:

-  FEMA 100 Year (Detailed-AE)
-  FEMA 500 Year

COA Fully Developed Floodplains

The UMLAUF site lies beyond the Fully Developed Floodplains designated by the City of Austin. However, given its proximity to the COA Fully Developed 100-year floodplain, it is advisable to regularly reassess the city's model, particularly on the northwestern side of the site.






Legend:

- COA Fully Developed 100-year floodplain
- COA Fully Developed 25-year floodplain
- 100-year Detailed AE

Erosion + Waterway Setbacks

The UMLAUF site is not impacted by areas officially designated as erosion hazard or waterway setbacks. The drainage pattern from the site, coming from the onsite pond, is represented as part of the COA creek network. However, it lacks regulatory setbacks, related to the amount of water it carries.


Legend:

-  Erosion hazard
-  Waterway setbacks
-  COA Creek lines

Other Environmental Features

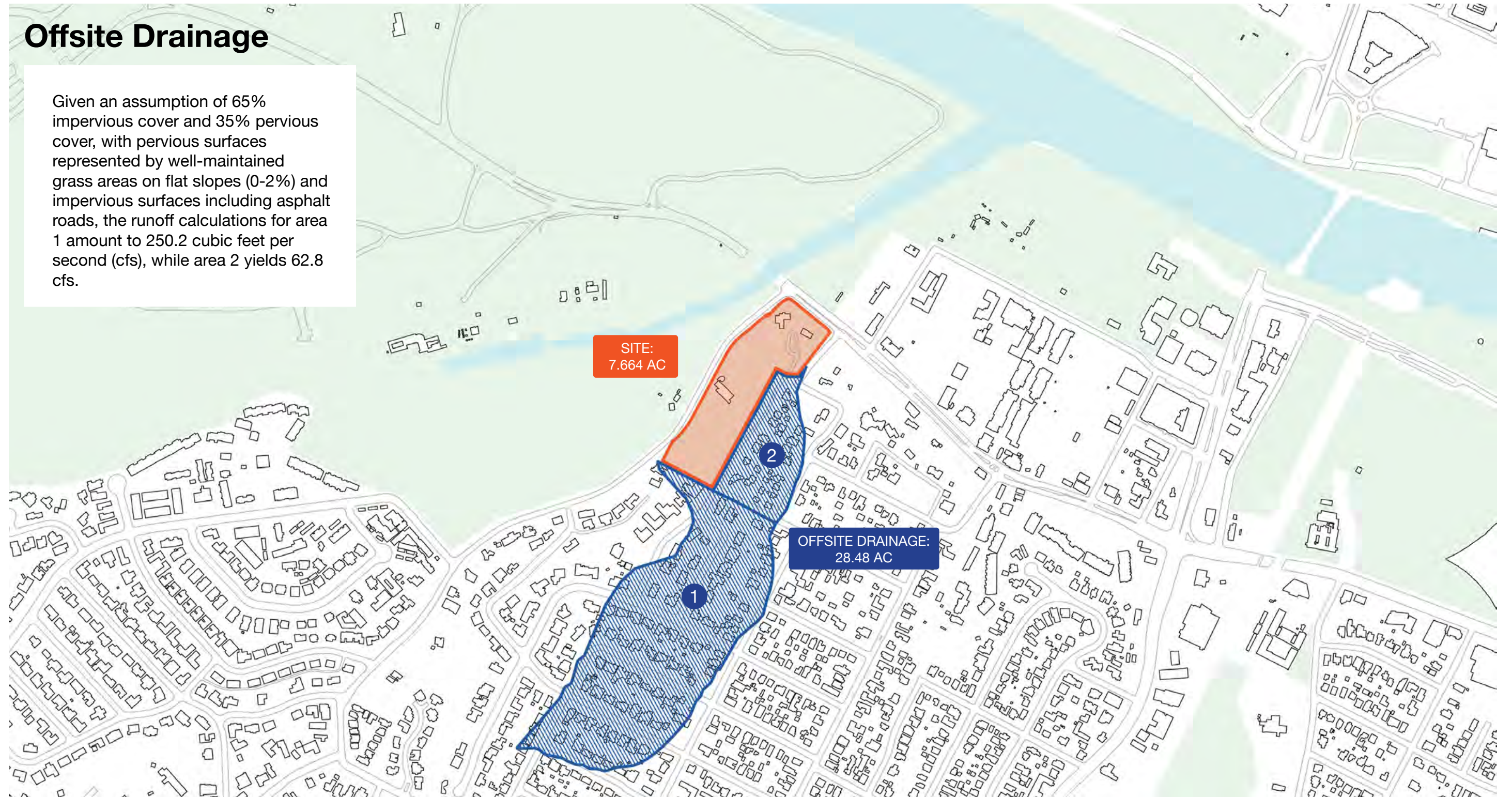
The UMLAUF site falls within the Salamander Habitat Zone. An Environmental Resource Inventory (please see full report in appendix) was conducted to identify the presence of the salamander or other critical environmental features on site. The inventory concluded that there is a total of zero (0) Critical Environmental Feature(s) (CEFs) on or within 150 feet of the project site.

Legend:

 Salamander habitat

Offsite Drainage

Given an assumption of 65% impervious cover and 35% pervious cover, with pervious surfaces represented by well-maintained grass areas on flat slopes (0-2%) and impervious surfaces including asphalt roads, the runoff calculations for area 1 amount to 250.2 cubic feet per second (cfs), while area 2 yields 62.8 cfs.



Zoning

The UMLAUF site is comprised of two properties: Lot 1 (605 AZIE MORTON RD), and Lot 2 (506 BARTON BLVD). Lot 1 is zoned SF-3, while Lot 2 has a portion zoned as SF-3 and the area along Barton Springs Road zoned as CS. See descriptions below.

SF-3 Family Residence

The Family Residence district is intended for moderate density single-family residential use, with a minimum lot size of 5,750 square feet.

CS General Commercial Services

General Commercial Services district is primarily designated for commercial and industrial activities of a service nature, characterized by traffic service requirement that are typically incompatible with residential environments.

In both zones, community recreation and cultural services are permitted or conditional uses.



Impervious Cover

The UMLAUF site's lots are subject to impervious cover requirements dictated by their respective zones. Lot 1 currently exhibits 18% impervious cover, whereas Lot 2, encompassing the area of the historic homestead, boasts 21% impervious cover. Lot 1 has a maximum allowable coverage of 45%, while Lot 2's impervious cover allowance ranges from 45% to 95%, contingent upon the specific zone designation. Please refer to the detailed descriptions provided below for further clarification.

Lot 1 (5.437 ac)

Zone: SF-3

Maximum Impervious Cover allowed: 45%

Current Impervious Cover: 18%

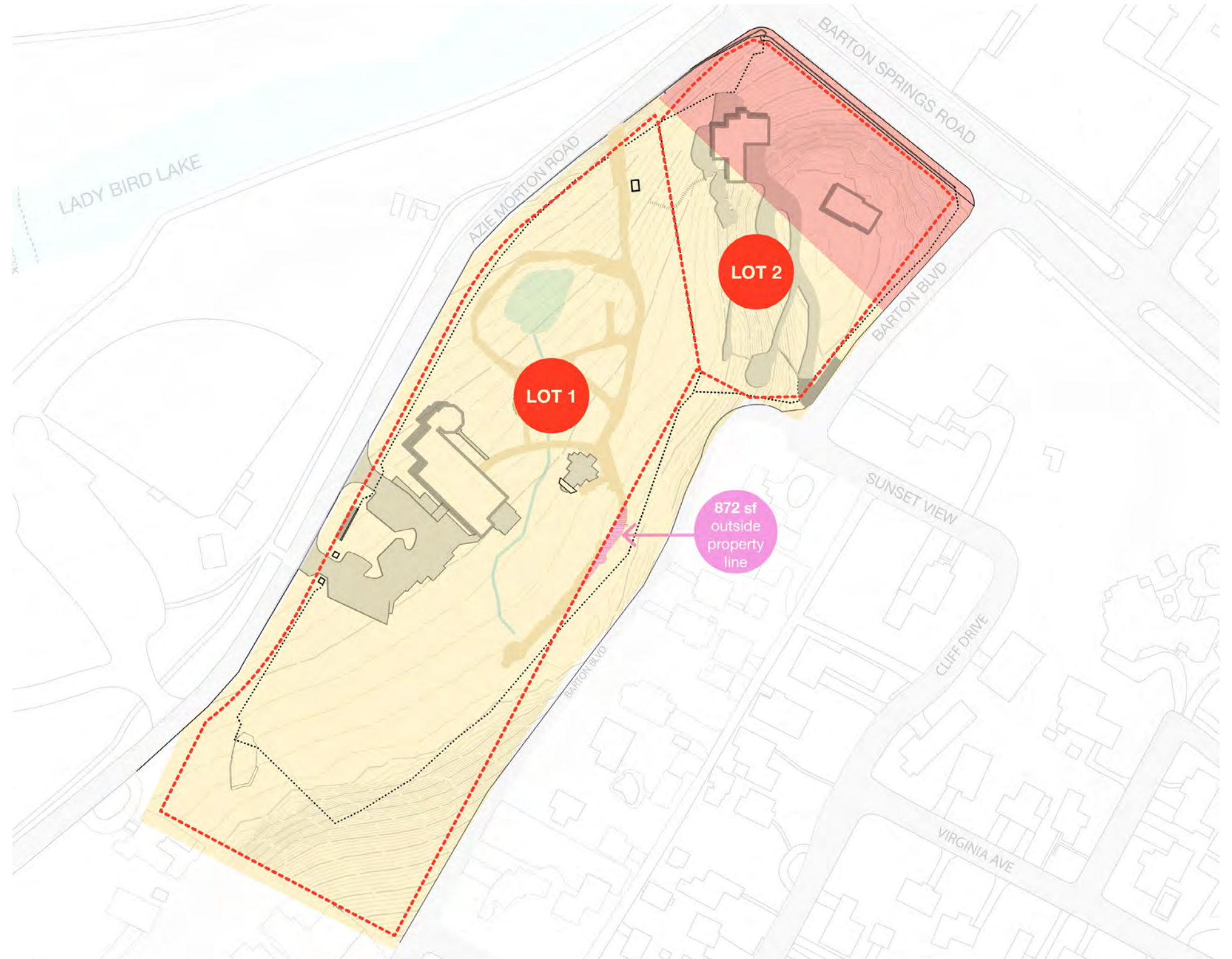
Lot 2 (1.928 ac)

Zone: SF3/C

Maximum Impervious Cover allowed in SF3 zone: 45%

Maximum Impervious Cover allowed in C zone: 95%






Current Impervious Cover: 21%

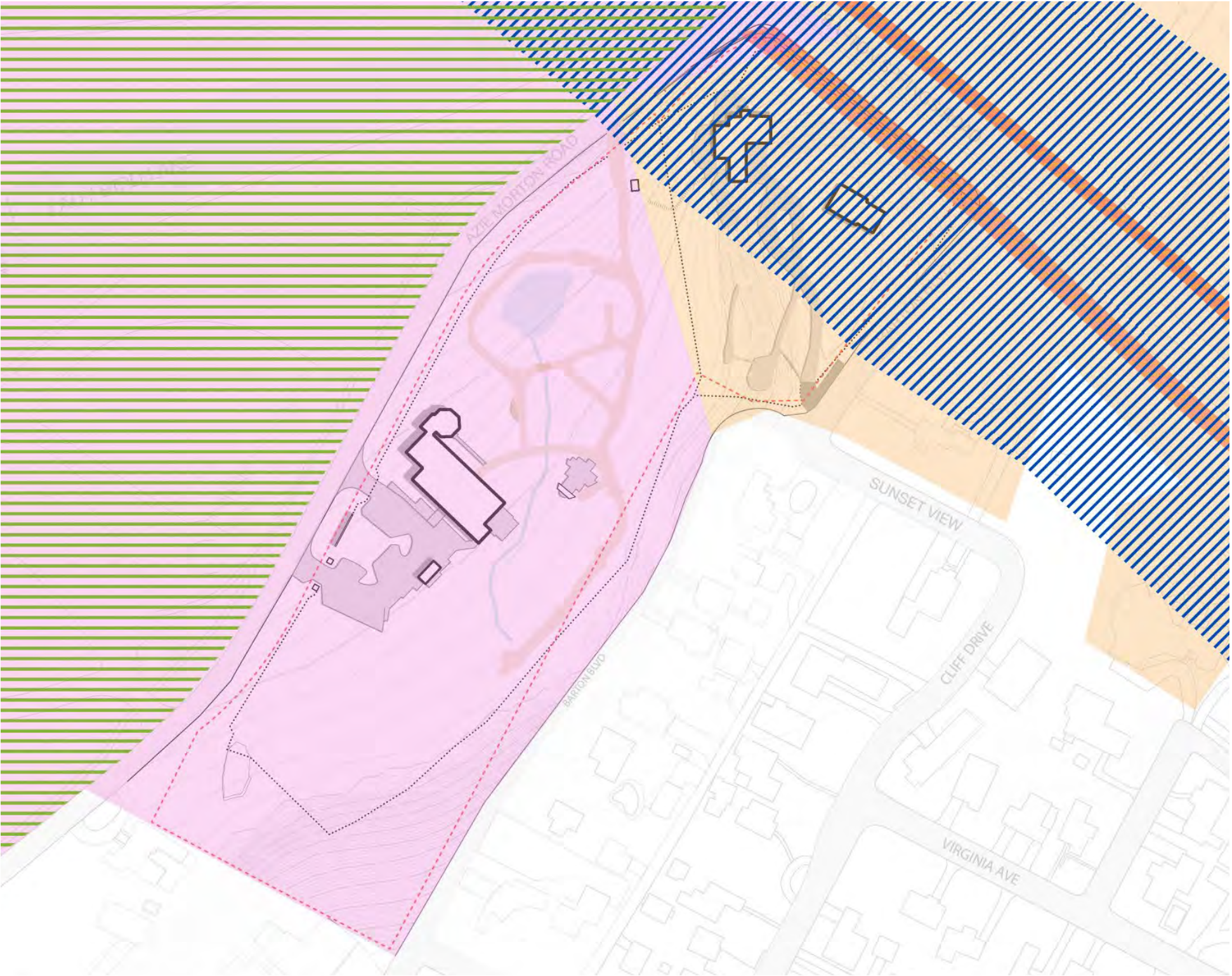


Overlays

The UMLAUF site is included in two waterfront overlays, which prohibits uses that are not related to the UMLAUF’s program. The scenic Roadways Overlay suggests that, where possible, scenic vistas from the roadways should be preserved.




Residential Design Standards: LDC/25-2-Subchapter F
Scenic Roadways Overlay: BARTON SPRINGS ROAD
Waterfront Setbacks Overlay Waterfront Overlay: BUTLER SHORES, ZILKER PARK

-  Scenic Roadways Overlay: Barton Springs Rd
-  Wildland Urban Interface
-  Waterfront Overlay: Zilker Park
-  Waterfront Overlay: Butler Shores
-  Required waterfront setback



Circulation

The UMLAUF’s existing parking capacity is a modest 20 spaces with the entrance and exit on Azie Morton Road. Parking is supplemented by adjacent lots across the street for overflow. Currently, the site’s access primarily favors vehicles, neglecting alternative mobility options. Additionally, two gated entries exist, with Azie Morton Road’s entry serving heavy deliveries and trash pickup, while the Barton Blvd entry, closer to the home and studio, is used by staff. The limited parking infrastructure and distribution of entries underscore the need for a comprehensive approach to enhance accessibility, accommodate diverse transportation methods, and optimize operational functionality within the UMLAUF site.

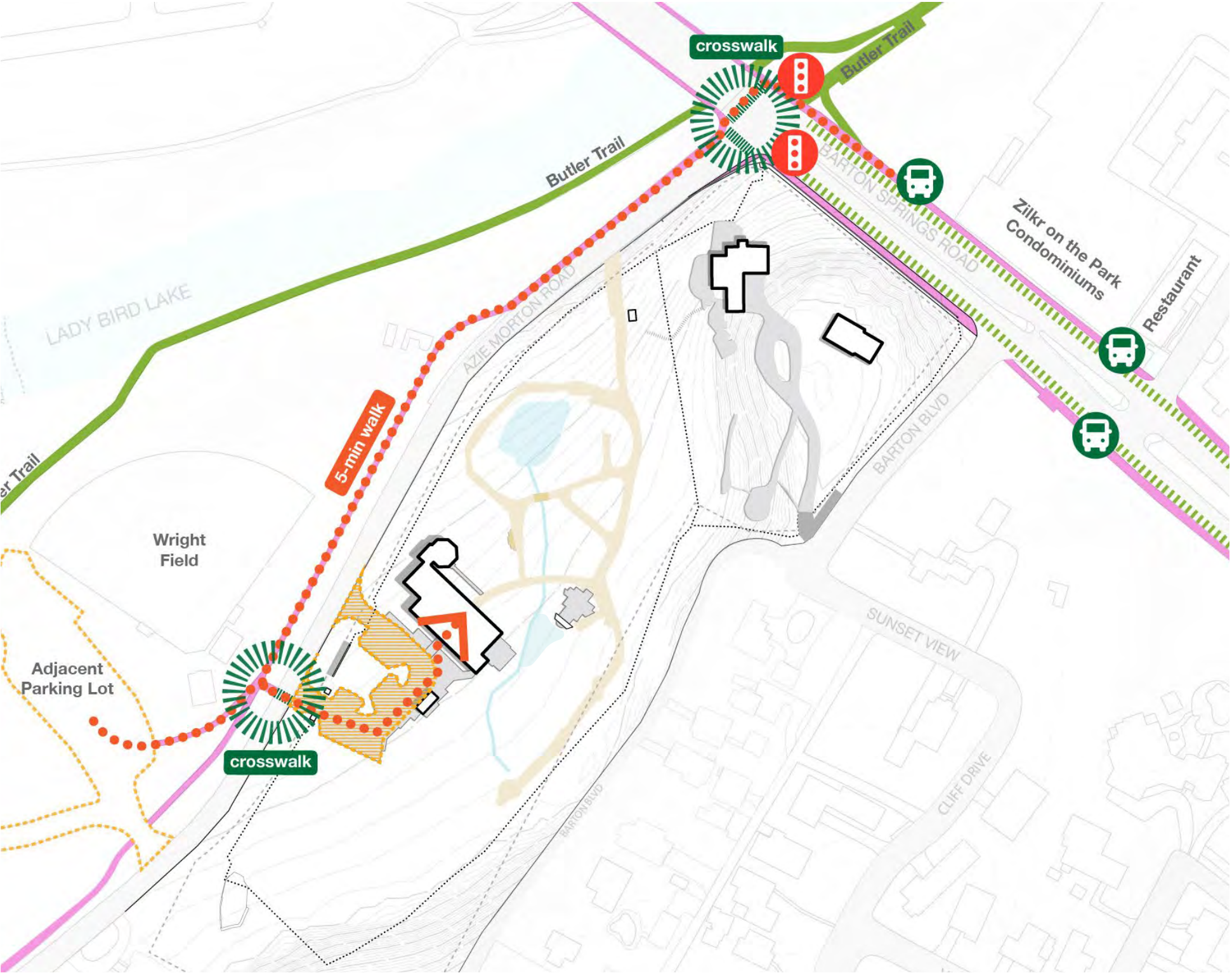
-  Vehicular access
-  Vehicular exit
-  Street direction



Site Access

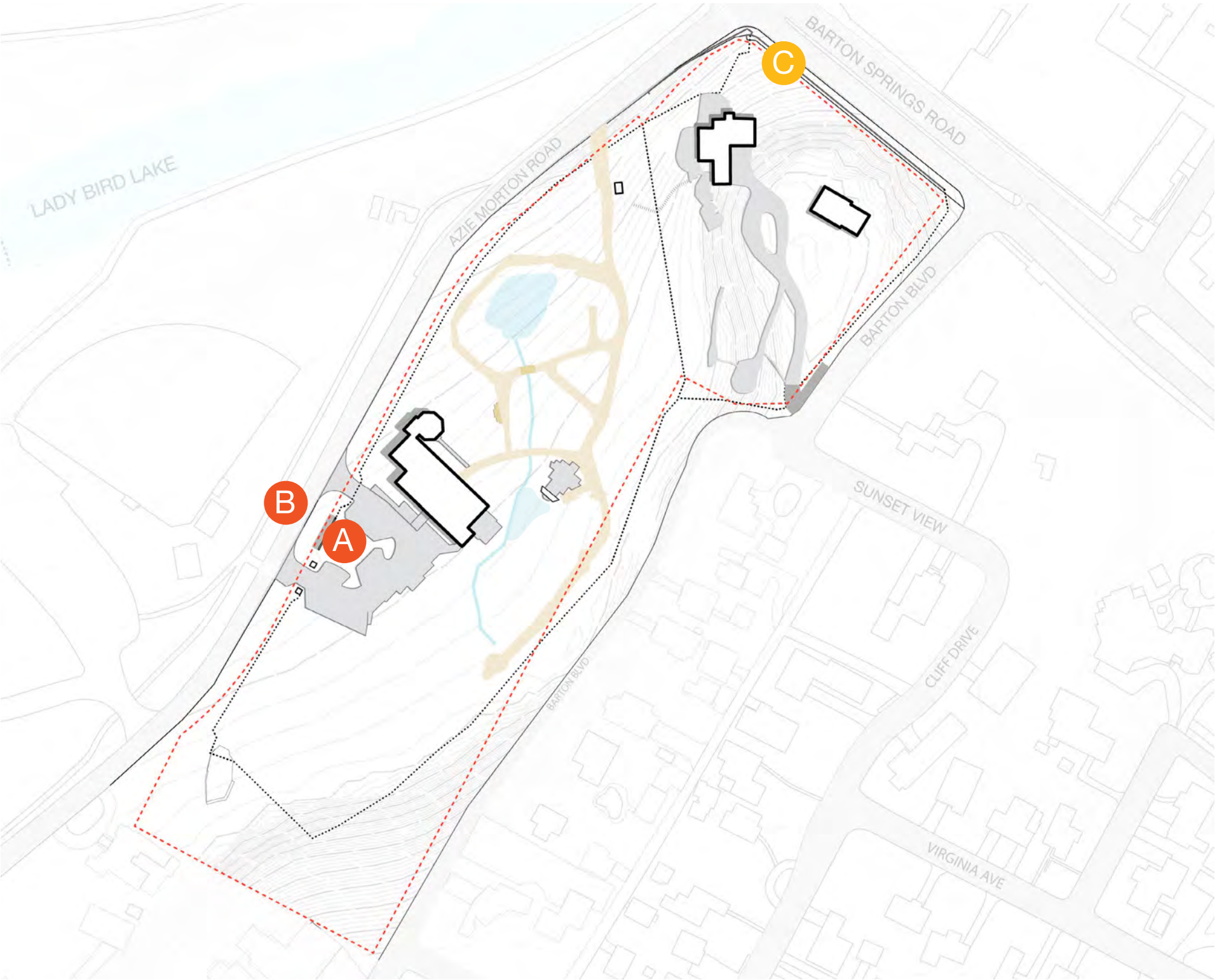
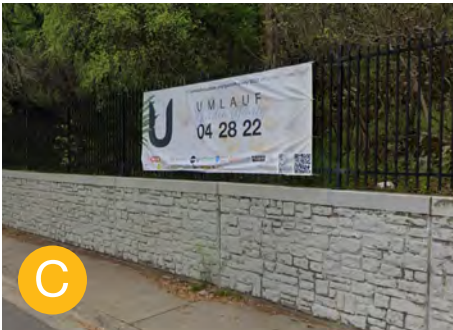
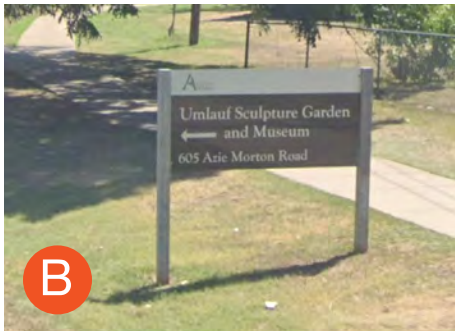
The current UMLAUF access point prioritizes private vehicles, posing challenges for users arriving from adjacent parking lots, the bus stop, or the city network. When arriving by walking/wheeling, users must navigate around the parking lot to reach the museum, with the crosswalk connecting directly to vehicular access, compromising safety. Additionally, the ADA Accessibility Assessment found the ADA assigned parking and access to the gallery non-compliant, please see page 88 for more information. To foster a more welcoming experience, it is vital to improve the connection to the Ann and Roy Butler Hike-and-Bike Trail and relocate the crosswalk. Wayfinding strategies could enhance these connections, seamlessly integrating the UMLAUF site into the city’s green network, promoting accessibility, safety, and a more inclusive and enjoyable experience for visitors from various modes of transportation.

- Sidewalk
- Trail
- Unprotected bike lane
- Walking route
- Crosswalk
- Bus stop
- Traffic light



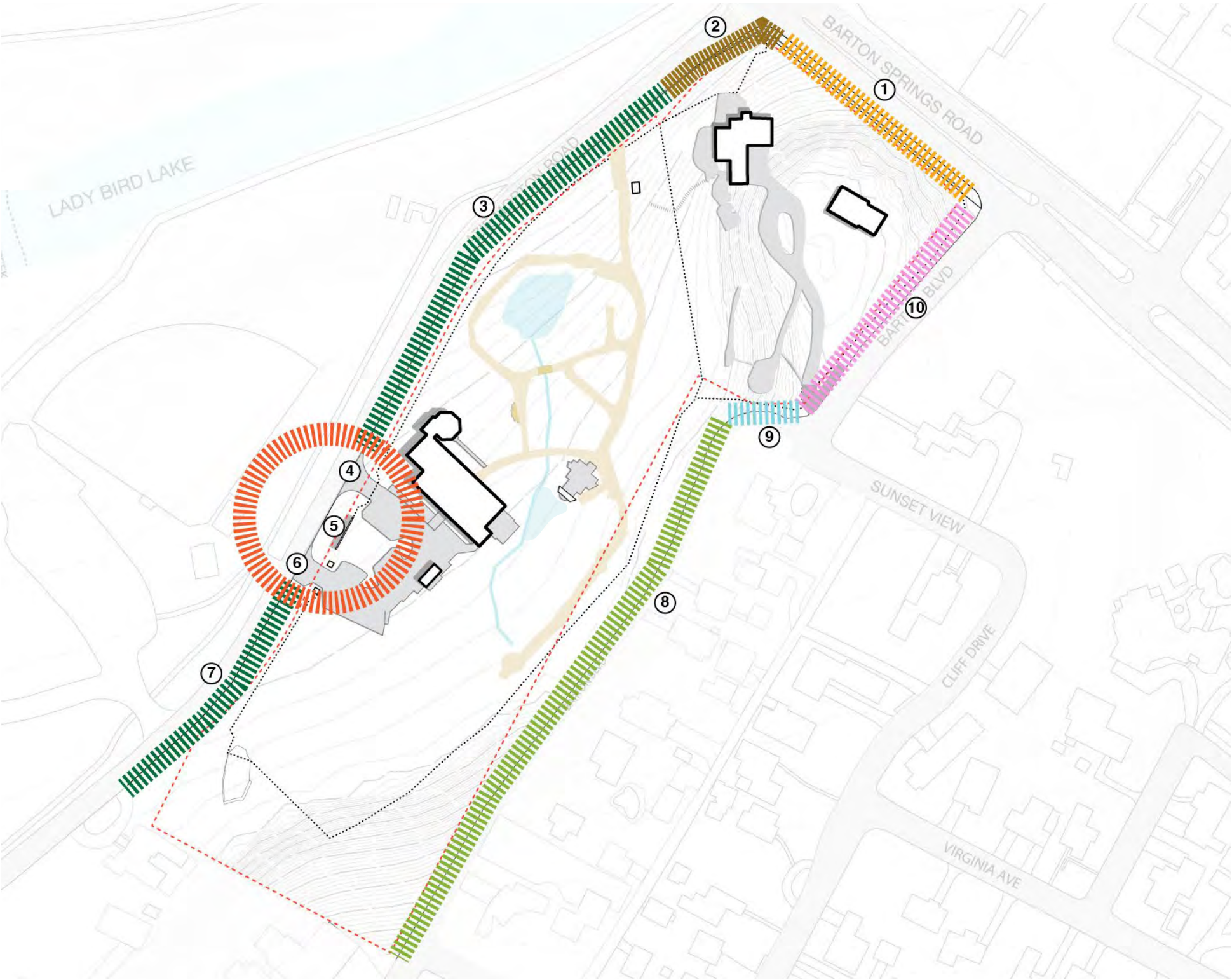
UMLAUF Signage

Enhancements to signage around the UMLAUF could significantly elevate the welcoming experience and draw in more visitors. Currently, only two permanent signs are situated along Azie Morton Road, with one serving as the primary entrance and the other positioned across the road to guide drivers. Additionally, temporary canvas signs are placed along Barton Springs Blvd to announce forthcoming events and exhibitions. Expanding and refining the signage network could greatly enhance visibility and attract a broader audience to the UMLAUF. Please see the Edge Study on the following page.

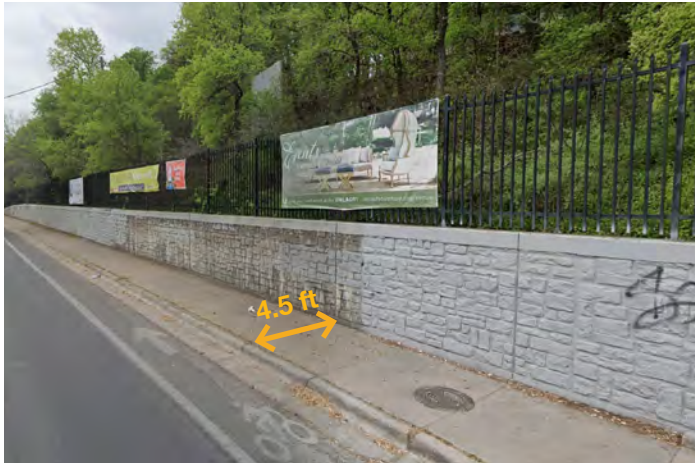


Edge Study

Currently, the site edges disconnect the UMLAUF site from its surroundings. Enhancing the immediate context to the city and neighborhood is possible through thoughtful and effective edge treatments. Edge zone 2 is especially crucial, as it features a retaining wall that requires maintenance and a sidewalk that abruptly ends at the corner which presents navigational challenges. The following page includes images and concise descriptions of each of the eight identified edge conditions for further insight.



Edge Study



① Barton Springs Road

The Barton Springs Road side creates a monotonous pedestrian experience. Public feedback indicates a challenge in recognizing the museum behind the wall.



② Azie Morton Rd / Barton Springs Rd

The corner's retaining wall exhibits dangerous and neglected conditions. Another type of treatment could enhance the public's experience.



③ Azie Morton

Along Azie Morton Rd, a fence defines the site, providing visibility into the garden but also exposing garden visitors to the road's noise and views.



④ Vehicular exit

The vehicular exit is currently used also by walking/ wheeling users.



⑤ Signage

The UMLAUF signage in Azie Morton Road marks the site's entry



⑥ Vehicular access

The vehicular access is connected to the crosswalk, it is also used by walking/wheeling users to access the site



⑦ Azie Morton Rd

A more natural edge is seen on the southern part of the site along Azie Morton, where a fence covered by vegetation defines the site's limits.



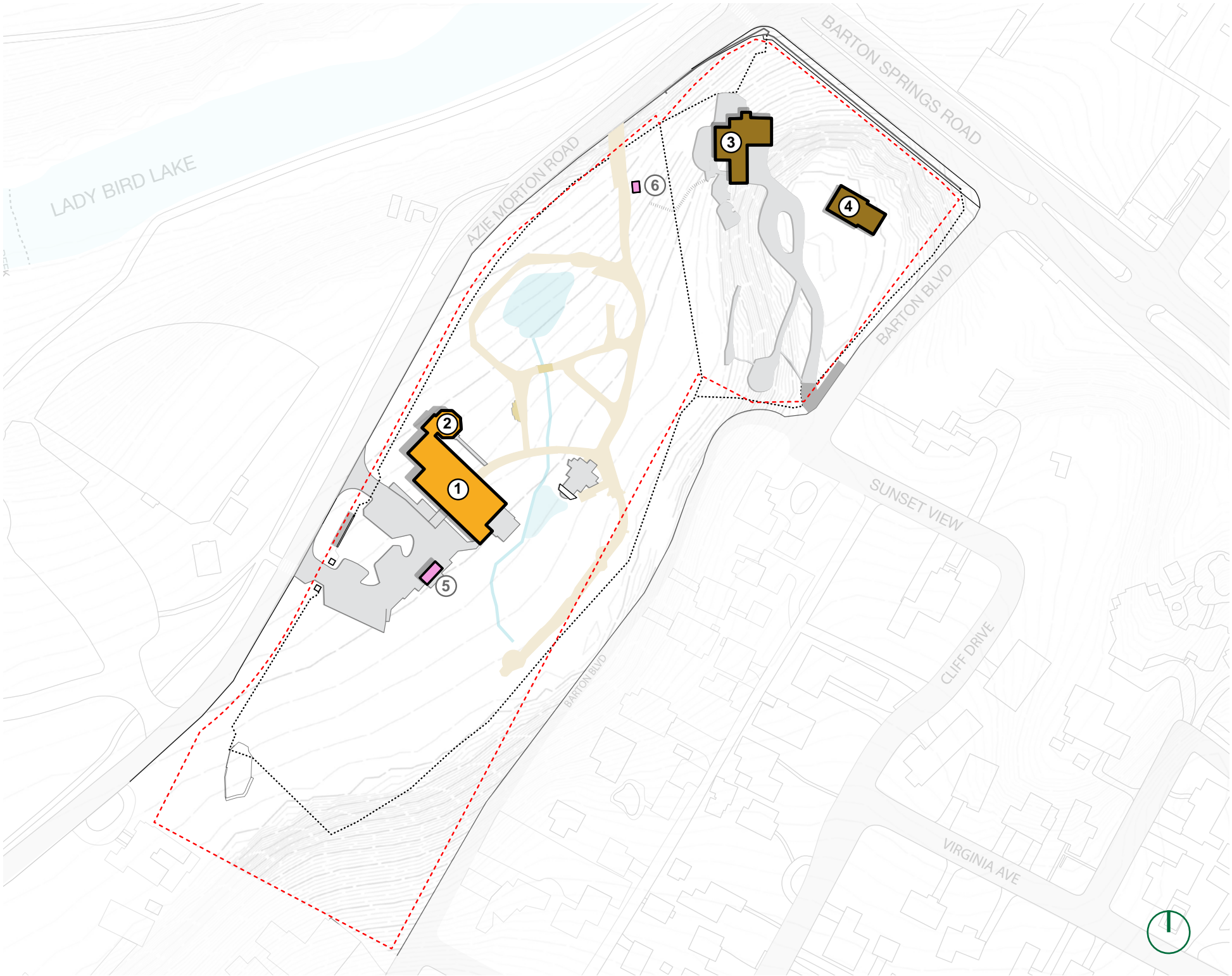
⑧ Barton Blvd

There is no immediate fence or physical division along Barton Blvd, as the fence is located down the slope. This road is commonly used by the neighborhood as a promenade.

Existing Buildings

Currently, the UMLAUF’s primary program spaces are the gallery, terrace, and Crenshaw building, complemented by the sculpture garden and Pitts Pavilion for outdoor events. The historic homestead is inaccessible to the public. Temporary structures fulfill programmatic needs, however, the home has been currently used as office space and storage due to space constraints. Other temporary structures are serving as offices, operational spaces, and storage. The plan acknowledges and integrates the architectural character of the gallery, Crenshaw, and historic homestead in its design guidelines, ensuring a cohesive and harmonious aesthetic that respects the legacy and uniqueness of each structure within the UMLAUF site.

- ① Museum Gallery + Terrace
- ② Roberta Crenshaw Building
- ③ Umlauf Home
- ④ Umlauf Studio
- ⑤ Art Pavilion (temporary structure)
- ⑥ Shed (temporary structure)



Existing Buildings



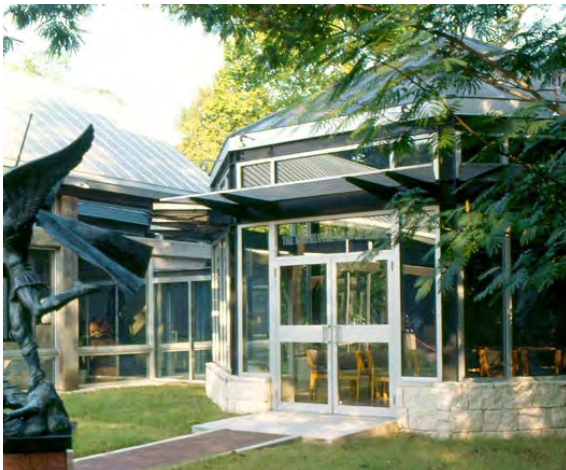
① Museum Gallery + Terrace

Accessible to the public

Year built: 1991

Current uses:

- Museum gallery
- Lobby + ticketing area
- Admin + operations
- Terrace for open events
- Restrooms
- Storage



② Roberta Crenshaw Building

Accessible to the public

Year built: 2001

Current uses:

- Meeting room
- Educational programs
- Private restroom



③ Umlauf Home

Currently inaccessible to the public

Year built: Late 1920's, purchased by the Umlauf's in 1944

Current uses:

- Admin + operations (in some rooms)
- Storage



④ Umlauf Studio

Currently inaccessible to the public

Year built: 1950

Current uses:

- Storage



⑤ Art Pavilion (temporary)

Currently inaccessible to the public

Year added: 2018

Current uses:

- Admin + operations

Outdoor Spaces + Landscape Features

The community’s feedback highlights a strong preference for the UMLAUF’s outdoor spaces. These areas, including outdoor structures and landscape features, significantly enhance the exploration of the sculpture garden, supporting diverse programs like weddings, public events, and outdoor workshops. Each outdoor space possesses a distinct character that harmoniously blends with the site landscape and contributes to a unique and immersive experience. The site’s water features —an ornamental pond (with pump and lined) and an ornamental waterfall— enhance the outdoor experience and provide thermal comfort in hot weather. However, these water features are currently supplied by potable water. The plan includes sustainability recommendations to switch the supply to non-potable water, aligning sustainability goals with the community’s desire for a nature-centric setting within the UMLAUF site. See more in the Sustainability + Resilience chapter.

- ① Gallery terrace
- ② Waterfall/channel (ornamental)
- ③ Promenade
- ④ Upper pond (ornamental)
- ⑤ Pitts Pavilion
- ⑥ Upper Bridge
- ⑦ Lower Bridge
- ⑧ Pond (ornamental)



Outdoor Spaces + Landscape Features



① Gallery Terrace



② Waterfall (ornamental)



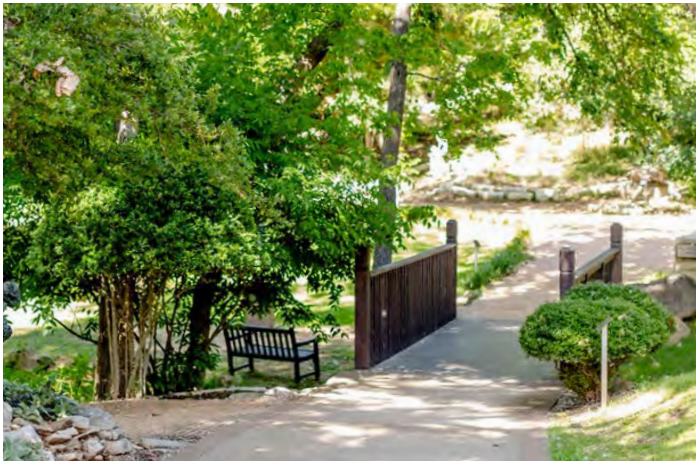
③ Promenade



④ Upper Pond (ornamental)



⑤ Pitts Pavilion



⑥ Upper Bridge



⑦ Lower Bridge



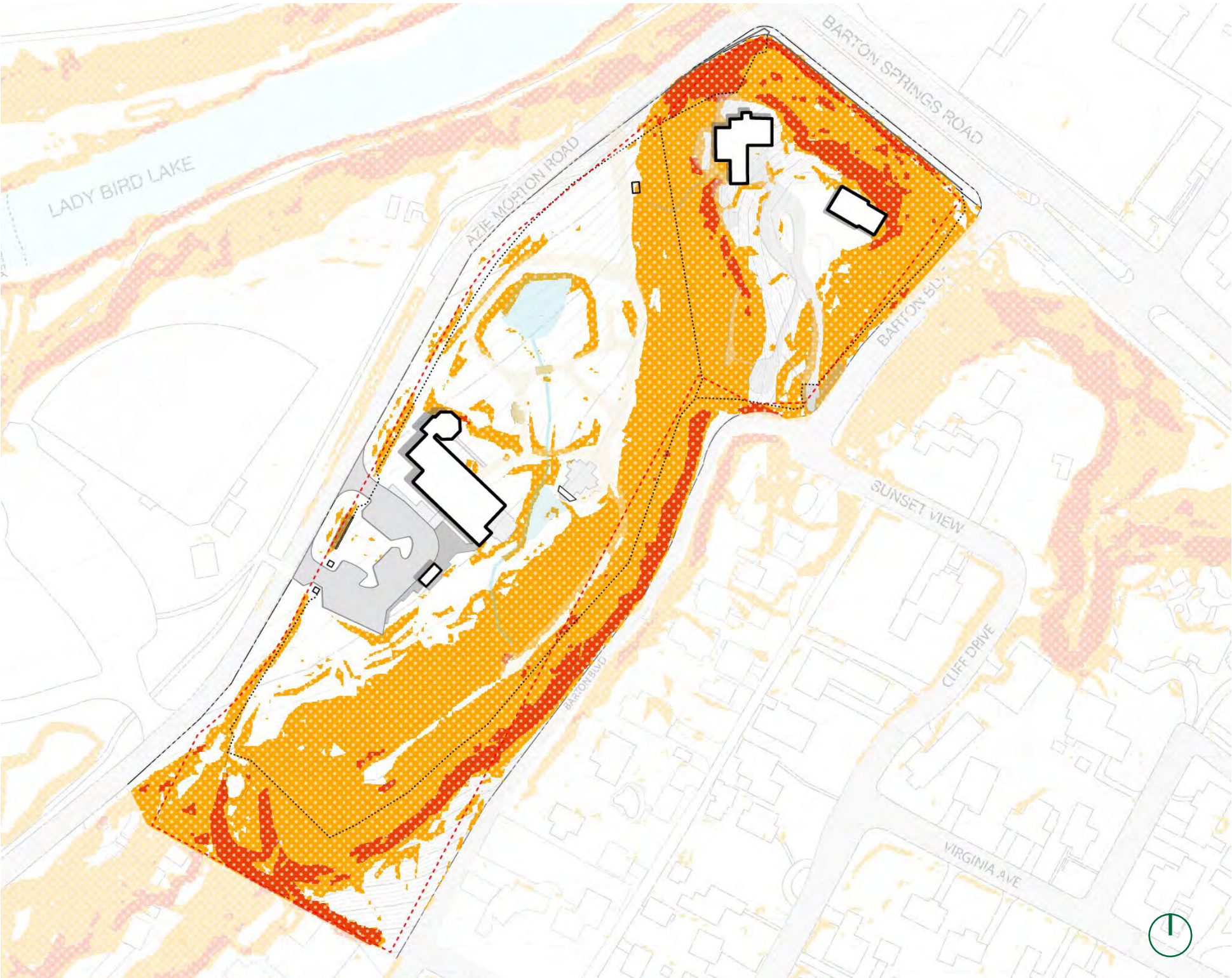
⑧ Pond (ornamental)



Slope Analysis




The UMLAUF site grapples with challenging topography, featuring slopes ranging from 15 to 60% and smaller areas exceeding 60%. Highly sloped zones, primarily along the boundaries and the historic site near Barton Blvd, pose significant intervention challenges. An extensive orange zone (15 to 60%) creates accessibility hurdles, dividing the historic area from the sculpture garden. This challenges linking the garden with the home and studio. To ensure full accessibility, an accessibility assessment will guide proposed interventions in the plan, guaranteeing compliance and fostering a site design that accommodates diverse mobility needs across the site.

- 15-60% slope
- 60% slope or higher



Trees

Over 1,500 trees populate the UMLAUF site, including 17 heritage trees and 25 protected trees. Protected trees, with a diameter exceeding 19 inches, and heritage trees, with a diameter surpassing 24 inches, will be safeguarded and considered in the plan's interventions. Please refer to the landscape chapter for a comprehensive overview of additional strategies aimed at preserving and enhancing the rich natural diversity within the UMLAUF site.

-  Protected tree (diameter > 19")
-  Heritage tree (diameter > 24")
-  Other trees






Accessibility + ADA Compliance

Providing an equitable experience for mobility and visually impaired patrons is important to the UMLAUF and its mission to serve the public. The site has a number of barriers to accessibility. The map shows currently non-compliant routes, including the designated accessible parking, and currently non-compliant spaces, such as the bathrooms, water fountain, kitchen, information counter, Umlauf’s home, and the lack of connection to the studio.

A compliant bathroom is currently situated between the museum gallery and the Crenshaw Building, accessible via the gallery. However, accessing the bathroom during events, when the museum is closed, involves a non-compliant pathway. For more detail, please refer to the full ADA Accessibility Assessment, included in the appendix.

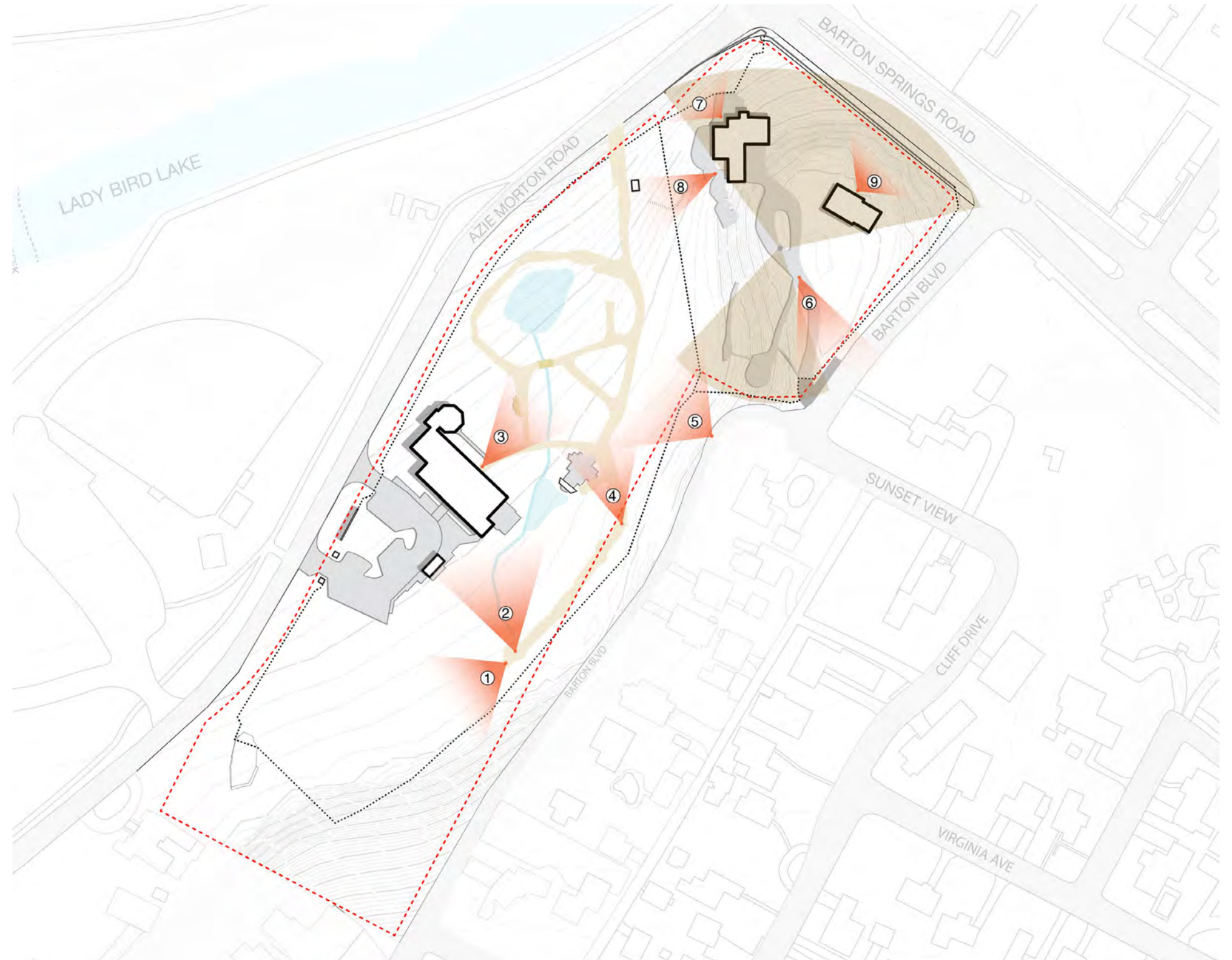
These are priority issues to address in future improvements on the site. The approach to the site along the public right of way will need to be improved to provide an accessible route to the site. The accessible parking will need to be brought up to current Texas Architectural Barriers Standards. The museum toilet rooms will require extensive modifications to provide accessible clearances. The garden pathways do not meet slope and cross-slope limitations and will need to be brought up to state code. The proposed new facility will provide access to the upper portion of the site via elevator, providing a navigable route up the 45’ tall escarpment and the home and studio.

-  Current non-compliant routes
-  Current non-compliant spaces
-  Current compliant bathroom



Views

The UMLAUF site's diverse topography offers striking viewpoints, particularly from elevated areas, providing captivating vistas of the city or serene natural landscapes. Designated in brown, crucial view areas must be preserved without prominent interruptions to fully appreciate the historic district and ensure an uninterrupted visual experience across the historic homestead.









Views



Site Constraints

The map illustrates an overlay of site constraints, highlighting the intricate nature of the site. Incorporating factors such as protected and heritage trees, sloped terrain, and FEMA flood zones, it becomes evident that the design must be responsive to these elements.

-  FEMA 100 Year (Detailed-AE)
-  FEMA 500 Year
-  15-60% slope
-  60% slope or higher
-  Protected tree (diameter > 19")
-  Heritage tree (diameter > 24")

