

# Austin Parks and Recreation Department Shoal Creek Trail

## Parks and Recreation Board Briefing

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# History

- In May 2018 and again in May 2019, slope failures destroyed a section of park trail and wastewater line.
- The slope failure impacted public and private property.
- Following the collapse, the City explored stabilization options under an emergency procurement procedure.
- In June 2019, the design Engineer submitted conceptual options to City staff.
- In January 2020, potential work was halted due to insurance requirements, access limitations, and shifting priorities to public safety to minimize floodplain impacts and erosion damage to parkland.





## Location Map Shoal Creek Greenbelt near 25th Street

5/15/2018



0 125 250 500 Feet





# Site Photos





# Current City Priorities

- Minimize flooding and erosion impacts of the landslide material to Lamar Blvd and Pease Park, respectively (Watershed Protection).
  - Maintain stabilization project on east bank to protect heritage trees and parkland.
  - Monitor floodplain impacts of landslide encroachment.
- Establish trail on East side of Shoal Creek (Parks and Recreation).

# Constraints on Full-scale Stabilization of Landslide to re-establish trail on West Bank

- Stabilizing the slope is a large, costly and complex project that carries considerable risks and uncertainties.
- There continues to be movement in the soil mass and periodic rock fall. Lack of certainty on when/if slide material will be stable.
- The floodplain in this area includes the roadway and private property on the east side of Lamar. Adding structures in this area could potentially have flood plain impacts.
- Focusing efforts on this stretch of trail would decrease the ability to provide service to underserved areas of the City.

# Work to Date

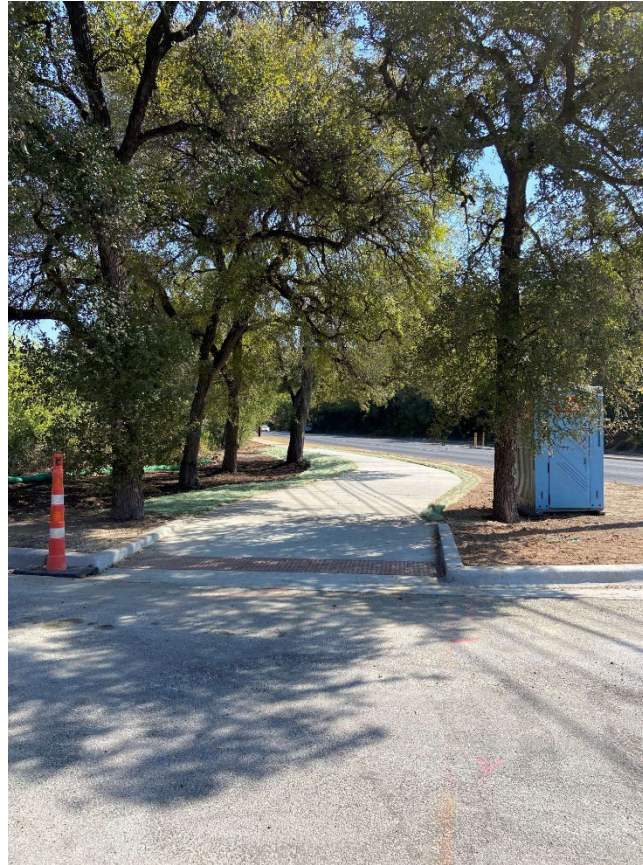


- New/replaced wastewater line
- East creek bank stabilization
- Reroute of storm drain system from Wooldridge Drive
- Nature trail detour option built in 2021
- Repairs to the eastside creek wall, damaged during high rain events
- Design and permit for east side sidewalk and urban trail improvements
- Removal of Austin Energy guy wire obstructions
- Construction of the Lamar sidewalk/trail completed October 25



# Planned Trail Improvements

- The Parks and Recreation Department has replaced the section of the Lamar sidewalk opposite of the slope failure area with an improved 12' wide urban trail and sidewalk.
- Urban Trails Plan, adopted in 2014 and updated in 2024, calls for replacing the Lamar sidewalk with a multi-use sidewalk and urban trail.

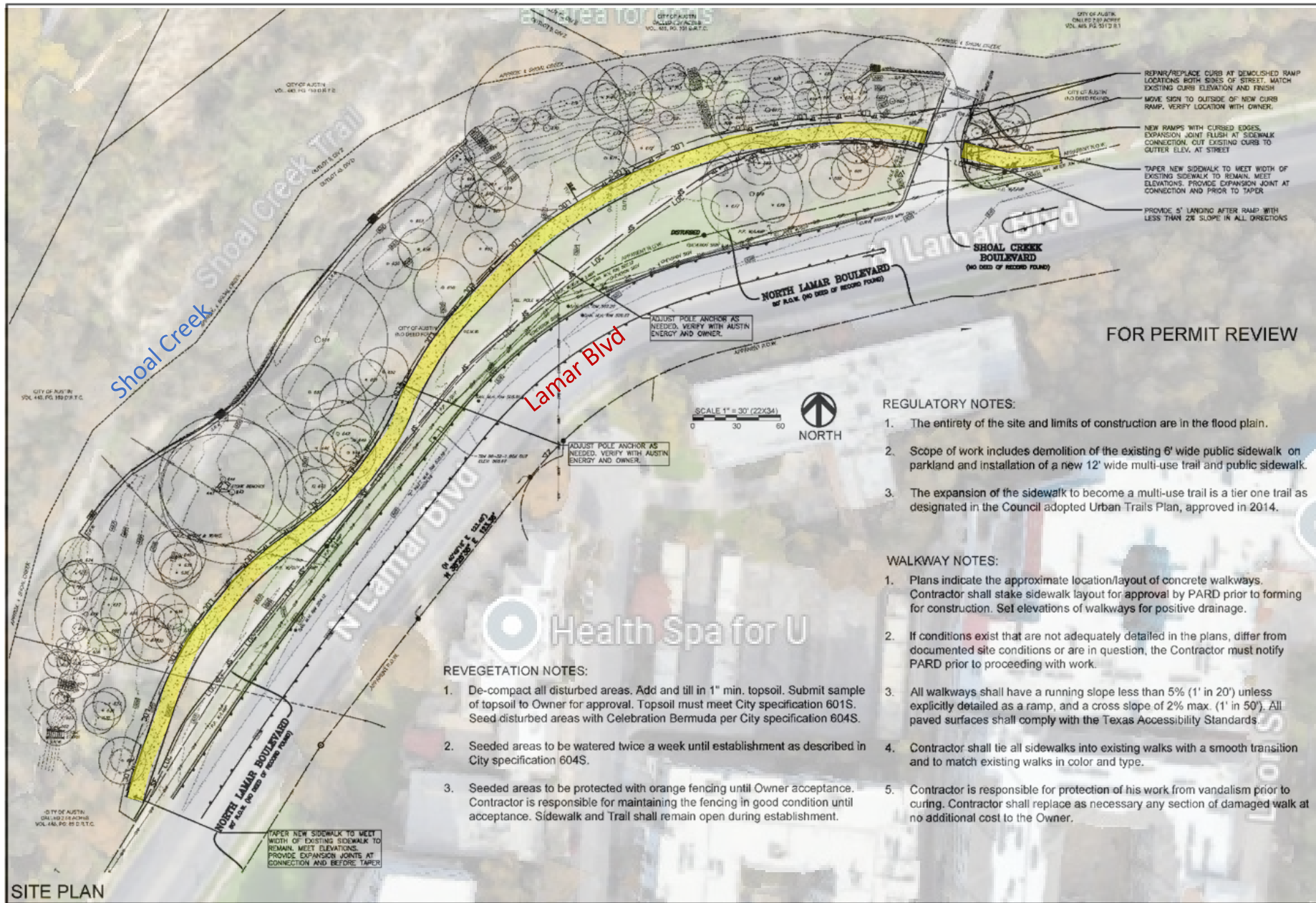


New 12' wide sidewalk ramp



Old 5' wide sidewalk







# Shoal Creek Trail Connectivity Gaps

Future improvements to Shoal Creek Trail to be completed by Transportation Public Works cover four sections

Resurfacing and restriping of N. Lamar Blvd. between W. 29<sup>th</sup> and W. 31<sup>st</sup> streets has set the stage for TPW delivery of the “middle gap” trail.

More information can be found at:

[Shoal Creek Trail Connectivity Gaps / Open Data / City of Austin Texas](#)





# Questions