

CITY OF SAN ANTONIO

LINEAR CREEKWAY PARKS ADVISORY BOARD (LCPAB)

Minutes **February 25, 2025**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Natalie Garza, District One
Sue Calberg, District Two
Randy Preissig, District Four
Myrl Britten, District Six
Don Rios, District Seven

John Kent, District Nine
Sherri Dugas, District Ten
William Long, Mayoral Appointee

STAFF PRESENT

Brandon Ross, Parks and Recreation
Margarita Hernandez, Parks and Recreation
Riki Kobayashi, Parks and Recreation

Sofia Martino, Parks and Recreation
Juanita Fierro, Parks and Recreation
Phillip Zuniga, Parks and Recreation

GUESTS PRESENT

Matthew Moreno
Scott Nelson
Jeff Jordan

Rick Shaw
Fred Chase

REGULAR BUSINESS

- Meeting called to order at 6:00 PM.

Motion to approve the January minutes:

Motion: Randy Preissig, District 4

Second: Myrl Britten, District 6

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- None

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

- Sue Calberg, District Two
 - Ms. Calberg raised her continued concern for serious crimes on the trails. She shared that the Crime Stoppers raised their reward to \$10,000 in relation to information on the murder of Stacy Dramiga, who was killed on September 23, 2024. She stated that this was 5 months ago, and it seems that they are no closer to finding answers now than they were then.
 - Ms. Calberg stated that she is concerned with the ability to keep track of what is happening on the trails. She stated that she received a message yesterday from a regular trail user asking about a situation on the trail between Austin Hwy and Eisenhower, which involved some police officers, one of which was wearing a homicide jacket, and homeless people leaving the area. Ms. Calberg reached out to SAPD to get answers and as of this meeting, has not received a response.
 - Ms. Calberg stated that she is concerned about the ability of the public to get adequate information from the police on matters regarding the trails and is concerned about the lack of block numbers, area identifiers for the trail.
 - Ms. Calberg stated that the Red Berry Trailhead has a lot of recently planted trees and it seems that most of them have died. Ms. Calberg asked if these will be replaced. *(Parks staff have since reached out to points of contact at Red Berry to get resolution).*
- William Long, Mayoral Appointee

- Mr. Long shared that Basura Bash, an event that aims to clean our creekways, was rescheduled for March 8th due to bad weather.
- Sherri Dugas, District Ten
 - Ms. Dugas stated that she was riding on the trails and on her way back she saw a dead squirrel. She can only assume that a cyclist ran over a squirrel as it had not been there when she rode by the first time.
- Don Rios, District Seven
 - Mr. Rios stated that he had a meeting last year with Paula Stalcup on the difficulties the public faces when trying to report issues on the trail using the 311 mobile app. He hoped that they would make some changes to the GPS locator, as well as add some park specific options when submitting a 311 request but found that none of his suggestions were taken. He would like to see users more empowered to report concerns.
- Randy Preissig, District Four
 - Dr. Preissig shared that he has been meeting with Frank Engallina, a project manager from the San Antonio River Authority, regarding the trail extension between I-35 and 410 South.
- John Kent, District Nine
 - Mr. Kent shared that when he rides on the trails, his Bike GPS has been giving alerts such as dangerous corner up-ahead or road hazard up-ahead when he is on the trail.

Presentation on the Bandera Road Project by Scott Nelson, Texas Department of Transportation:

- Mr. Nelson is the Project Manager for the Bandera Road Project, which focuses on 6.5 miles of Bandera from Loop 410 to 1604. The project is split into two areas, from 410 to Guilbeau and from 1604 to Guilbeau.
- Mr. Nelson shared that goals of this project are to reduce congestion within this corridor, improve safety and mobility, as well as better accommodate cyclists and pedestrians. This project began in 2018 with a feasibility study and since then, TXDOT has been working with public stakeholders and studying the area to determine the best solution.
- With these studies, four recommended features were identified to move forward with as they go into design. These features are the addition of shared-use-paths for pedestrians, increasing access management, providing opportunities for corridor placemaking by City of Leon Valley/City of San Antonio, and converting 12 existing traditional signalized intersections to signalized restricted crossing U-turn (RCUT) intersections.
 - Mr. Britten asked if a direct route from 410 to 1604 for those commuting outside the area and back had been considered.
 - Mr. Nelson responded that only about 8% of traffic drives this entire stretch and that most people who use Bandera only drive a mile or two, not the full stretch.
 - Mr. Ross asked if the existing connections from the Leon Creek Greenway to Bandera Road would be rebuilt as part of the Bandera Road Project.
 - Mr. Nelson responded that any connections within TXDOT right-of-way will be put back by TXDOT and they plan to restore the connection to the greenway.
- Mr. Nelson stated that construction probably won't start until 4-5 years from now as they must coordinate with utilities so that they can relocate their infrastructure. TXDOT also must acquire about 17 acres of right-of-way that they need to acquire, some of which being from commercial properties.
 - Mr. Rios asked that TXDOT consider lifting Bandera Road so that the greenway trail can connect under it.
 - Mr. Nelson responded that the current configuration of Bandera Road almost acts like a dam, preventing the flow of water and so raising it could further affect the floodplain. At this point, the project still needs to go into design and a drainage study will be done along with this, so it is not necessarily a closed door, but further research would need to be done.
 - Mr. Long brought up the TXDOT San Antonio District Bike Plan, which is being used as a model and asked if Mr. Nelson could speak about it.
 - Mr. Nelson stated that the plan has not been finalized yet. The Bandera Road corridor was looked at, but Bandera Road beyond 1604 is more of a priority due to the scenic, tourist appeal and seen as an important connection in the overall network.

STAFF REPORT

- Mr. Ross stated that a lot of projects are getting ready to go to construction, with the West College Link Project expected to start construction soon. The Connection between Salado Creek & Rogers Ranch and the Beitel Creek

Project (from Perrin Homestead to Thousand Oaks) are currently out for bid. There are several projects expected to go to bid soon, such as Huebner Creek (Eckert Rd to Floyd Curl Drive), Zarzamora Creek (Ingram Rd to Tierra del Sol Park), Beitel Creek (LBJ Park to Perrin Homestead), and Maverick Creek.

- Mr. Zuniga shared some pictures showing the recently completed Beitel Creek Trail Project, which is a 0.57 mile segment of trail that starts at Briar Glen and connects to Salado Creek. This project contains a trailhead with 20 spaces, a drinking fountain, and other typical trailhead amenities. Discussion ensued regarding community input on the portable restroom enclosure.
- Mr. Kobayashi shared that the Aina Lane Project, near Rittiman and Holbrook, is almost complete. This project aims to replace the asphalt trail with concrete and separate it from street traffic to make it safer.

ADJOURNMENT

- The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:26 p.m.

Motion: Randy Preissig, District Four

Second: Myrl Britten, District Six

Motion Carried.