

Drake Bridge

Engagement Report

GO collaborative

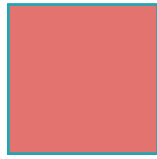
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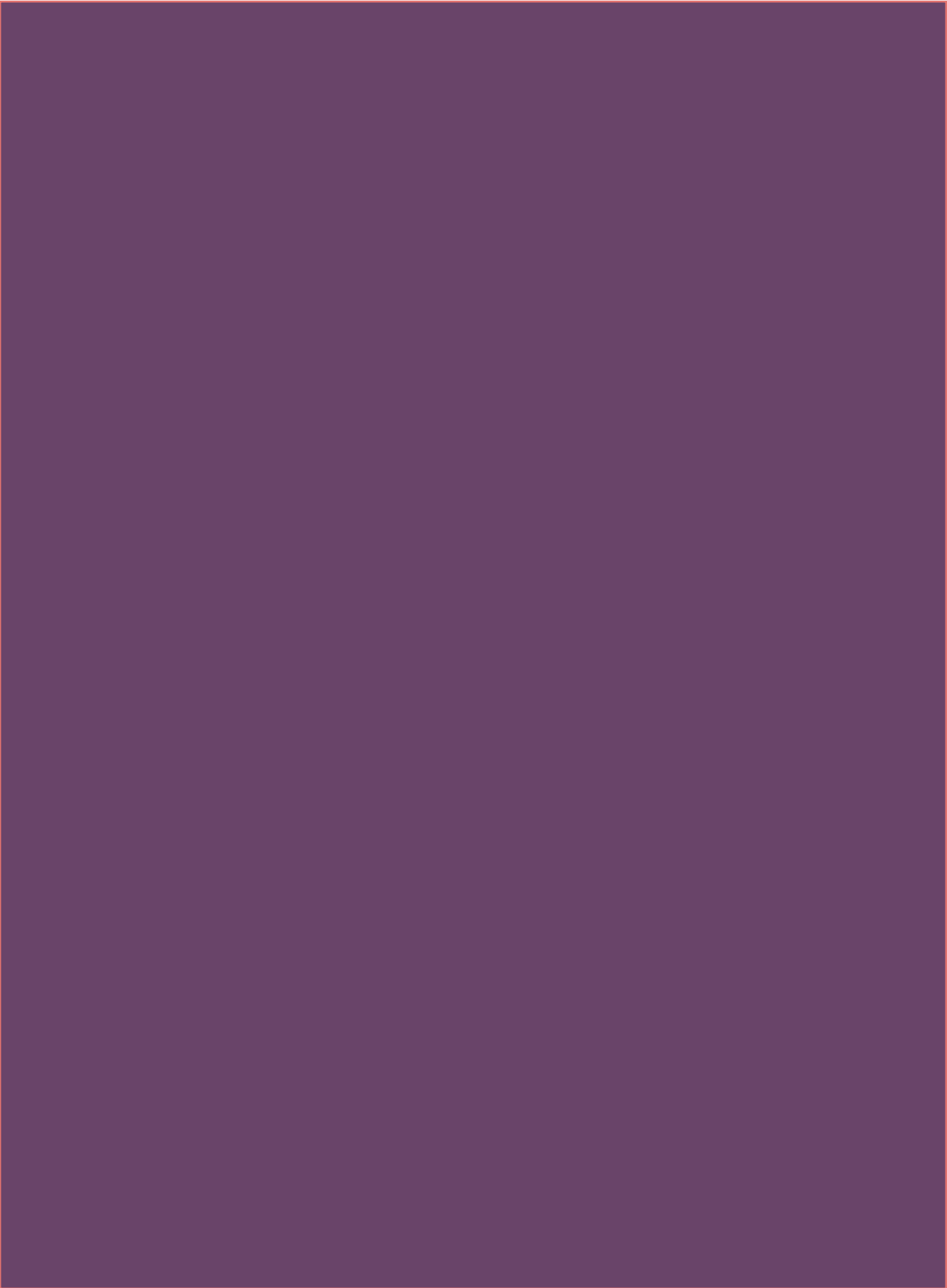
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Introduction

01



Process Summary

As a part of the Trail Foundation's (TTF) redevelopment of the Drake Bridge Commons at Butler Trail, GO collaborative was brought on to help engage Austin's diverse communities in different processes of envisioning the future of the space. Public engagement for Drake Bridge Commons was developed into a two phased strategy. In Part 1, the engagements included a one-day, onsite events, a two-week online survey, and five micro-engagements with improv actors at various locations along the Trail. In Part 2, there was an additional one-day on-site event accompanied by a three-week survey to respond to the proposed design.

These engagements gave the public opportunities provide input on conceptual sketches of the site with standard survey practices, but also created imaginative spaces with artists to explore the identity of the space, its importance and meaning to the community, and explore possibilities for its future.

First Onsite Engagement Event

On Saturday April 27th, 2019 from 10am to 1pm, a community engagement event was held under Drake Bridge. The purpose of the event was to interact with trail users and receive input on the two conceptual sketches, ROCK or DOCK, created by the Rios Clement Hale design team.

As a part of the event, community members were given cards to rank the plans and their elements, Access, Ecology, and Attraction from 1 (not my favorite) to 5 (I love it!). The cards also provided space to give comments and draw additional ideas for the designs. 119 postcard responses were received in total from the one-day, onsite event. See Chart 1 & 2 below that compares onsite ranking averages to survey ranking averages.

In the second onsite engagemnet event, on August 17th, 2019 from 10am to 1pm, was held under Drake Bridge with designs of the Dock presented to the public. Comment cards were distributed to give reactions to the design. The comments from those cards is presented in Section 2.

Onsite and Survey Ranking Responses

| DOCK | ONSITE AVERAGE | ONSITE MEDIAN | SURVEY AVERAGE | SURVEY MEDIAN |
|------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| ACCESS | 4.03 | 3 | 3.55 | 5 |
| ECOLOGY | 4.34 | 4 | 3.87 | 5 |
| ATTRACTION | 4.05 | 3 | 3.54 | 5 |
| DOCK PLAN | | | 3.38 | 5 |

Chart 1

| ROCK | ONSITE AVERAGE | ONSITE MEDIAN | SURVEY AVERAGE | SURVEY MEDIAN |
|------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| ACCESS | 3.64 | 2 | 3.00 | 4 |
| ECOLOGY | 3.79 | 3 | 3.09 | 4 |
| ATTRACTION | 3.86 | 3 | 2.86 | 3 |
| ROCK PLAN | | | 2.49 | 3 |

Chart 2

6

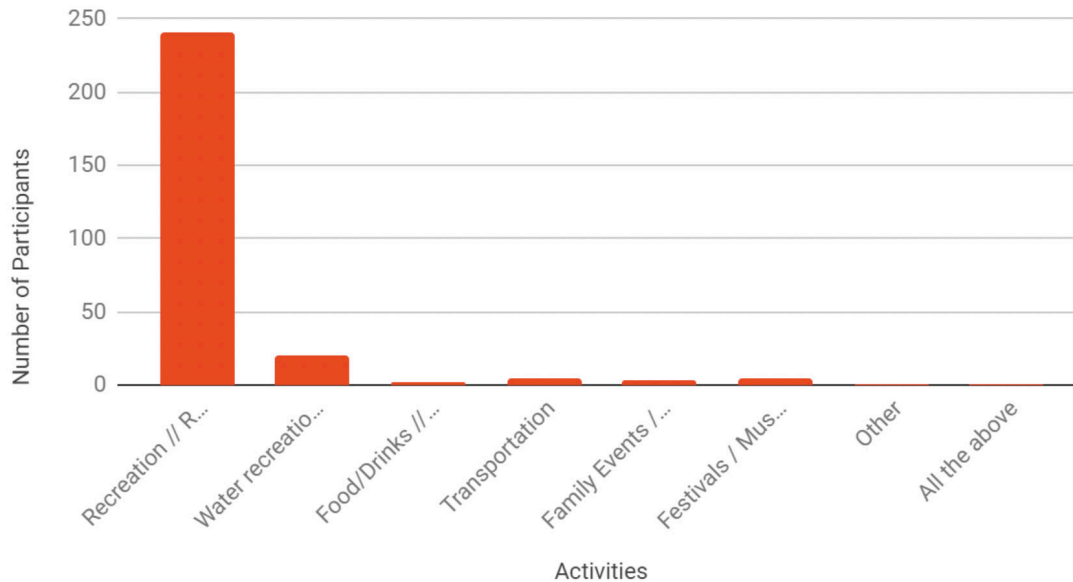
In addition to showcasing the conceptual drawings and providing cards for ranking each of the elements of the ROCK or DOCK design ideas, GO collaborative staged a team of improv actors to engage with Trail users to activate memories of the past, understand the meaning of the bridge today, and envision its future as a place. Mayor Drake, Emma Long, and Walter Seaholm roamed the Trail, speaking with approximately 95 users to discuss programmatic themes, current and potential used, and issues or concerns.

Two Week Online Survey

After the one-day, onsite event, The Trail Foundation published an online survey for access by the general public. The survey was left open for two week from April 29th to May 13th and received 279 responses. The survey included questions around broader programming and provided space for participants to voice their opinions about what they wanted to see happen within the space.

Furthermore, participants were shown the ROCK or DOCK designs and asked to rank each of the design elements and the overall designs. Overall, the DOCK option received more positive feedback in the survey. The survey also included questions around broader programming and provided space for participants to voice their opinions about what they wanted to see in the improvements of the space.

What typically brings you to the lake trail?



Micro-Engagements

The final type of engagement provided included five, arts-based “micro-engagements” along the Trail. The actors from the one-day, onsite event once again played Mayor Drake, Emmal Long, and Walter Seaholm and invited participants to think about the past, present, and future of Drake Bridge Commons.

April 25th

Location: Drake Bridge Commons – trial run
participants: ~ 15

May 3rd

Location: Metz Recreation Center
participants: ~ 5

May 7th

Location: Camacho Activity Center
participants: ~35

May 16th

Location: South Lakeshore Blvd West
participants: ~25

May 16th

Location: South Lakeshore Blvd East
participants: ~15

The actors engaged with approximately 95 people during these micro-engagements with participants ranging in age from 4 to 80. Micro-engagements allowed participants a space to co-envision the space and the values of Drake Bridge through collaborative story-making. These engagements identified community values, programming ideas, and shed light on the community’s current understanding of the site.

Through the collection of qualitative and quantitative data in this engagement process, participants revealed many ways of knowing Drake Bridge and Butler Trail. A number of themes and ideas echoed across the engagement encounters about the current and future use of the Drake Bridge Commons. The following sections outline how people currently use the space and the physical improvements they hope to see, programmatic aspirations, and the Trails identity within the City of Austin.



Second Onsite Engagement Event

On Saturday August 17th, 2019 from 7 am to 11 am, a second community gathering was held under Drake Bridge. The purpose of the second event was to present the final schematic design created by the Rios Clement Hale design team and to solicit general feedback from the public.

Visitors were given cards to note down important ideas and these comments were collected and tallied as part of the final results (see the appendix for the full list of comments). In addition to the comment cards, additional feedback and ideas were also solicited online through a questionnaire available on The Trail Foundation website.

The main event featured three large display stands of the final schematic design, as well as additional site activation elements including work by local muralist J Muzac which evoked the ecology of the site, as well as local Cumbia musician Kiko Villamizar and his band.



Site Elements

02



First Event Overview: When discussing specific aspects about the site, survey participants said they used the space primarily for recreation, while onsite and in micro-engagements, participants further defined recreation as walking, running, biking, exercise. With the majority of people physically moving through the space and along the Trail, the safety concerns were frequently described by those who on the site early in the morning as well as late at night. Day users tended to express safety concerns in terms of the difficulty of sharing Trail with fast moving bicycles and scooters.

What typically brings you to the lake trail?

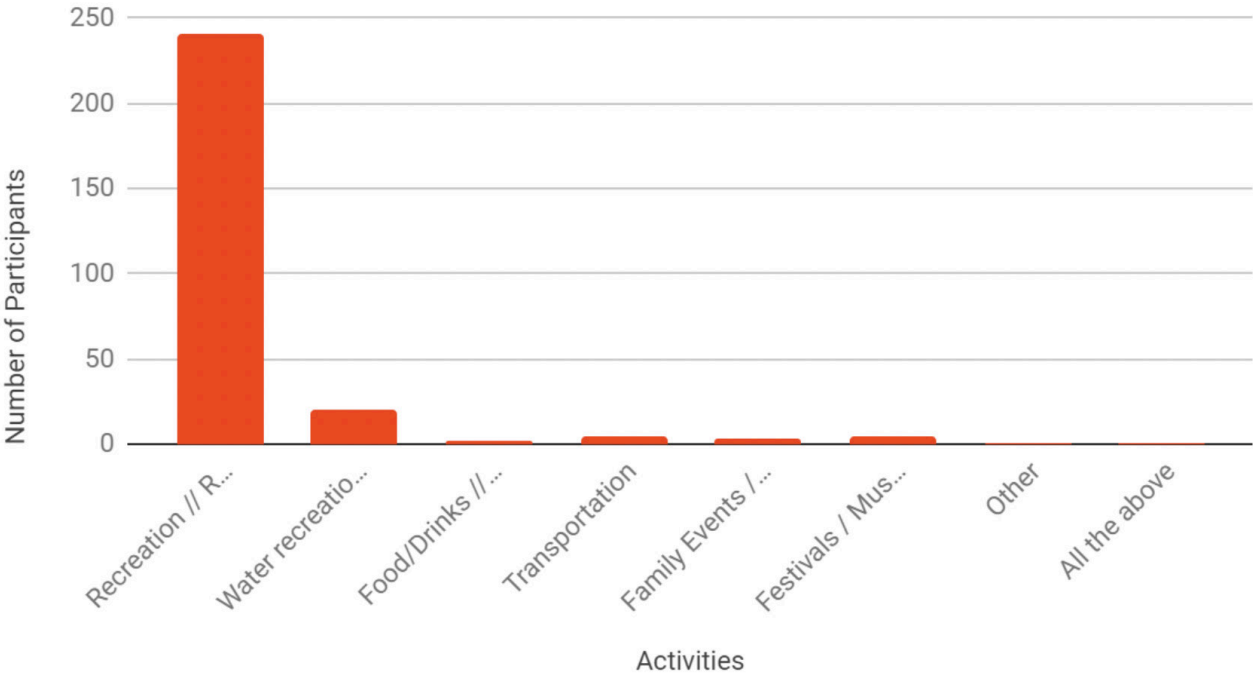


Chart 4

Safety Concerns

Lighting

Participants frequently cited lighting as an issue for when they are on the Trail in the evening and more specifically under Drake Bridge. Under the bridge was often described as scary or dark, which is a driving reason people don't use the space at night.

Also, participants moving quickly through the space like runners and cyclists, expressed concerns of it being difficult to see if dogs or people were under the bridge, making it a dangerous place where there could be potential accidents.

“People let their dogs off the leash in the evenings because they don't think anyone can see, but when people ride their bike under the bridge, they're worried about being chased by dogs or that they'll crash trying not to hit the dogs.”

As a part of their concerns around lighting, participants frequently discussed their worries around people experiencing homelessness and expressed feeling insecure and uncomfortable using the space at night. The space in its current form is viewed as a place for people experiencing homelessness to sleep and use because it is dark and hidden.

In addition to making the space safer, some participants thought the lighting could add to the identity of the space. By using creative lighting design, dramatic uplighting, or soft lighting, many participants felt the lighting could help set the tone for the space and its intended uses.

“The Dock idea is great EXCEPT for the lighting. We are trying to be a Dark Sky city, and quite honestly, it looks terribly over stimulating. Soft uplighting would keep it in tune with nature. And, add space for wildlife - it is their river, too!”

Separation of walking lanes and bike lanes

With different types of activities occurring on the Trail, these activities can be at odds with one another, at times causing safety concerns for Trail users. Both children and adults expressed feeling like they were going to be “run over” by those riding or running fast on the Trail. To create a safer Trail and mitigate accidents, participants suggested designating a lane for foot traffic and a lane for bicycles to help organize the space under the bridge and enhance the Trail generally.

“More emphasis on safety - too many fast scooters and bikes make the Trail dangerous for everyone. Perhaps two lanes, one for scooters and bikes and one for pedestrians as many cities are now doing.”

Accessibility

A major theme across the community engagements was accessibility, but accessibility meant different things to different participants. Some referred to access as physically being able to get onto the Trail and into Drake Bridge Commons. These comments highlight the importance and need for connection to street level, the top of the bridge, and City Hall.

“I don't like this design as much but I do like the access it provides to the street above.”

Access could also refer to those barriers that interfere with participants' access to the space as well such as parking, traffic, and living further away from the Trail.

Accessibility also referred to inclusivity. Some participants viewed the designs to be inaccessible for Trail users that may have special needs or needed equipment in order to move through the space. In addition to being inaccessible, some felt the designs could be unsafe for certain users such as special needs and children. For example, in the

micro-engagements, children said their parents identified the need for safe places to play around the water and noted the need for safety precautions like guardrails when designing activities around the lake.

“The docks in your picture look like they have slats that people’s shoes and wheelchair tires, etc. will get stuck in. You have no picture of the wet dock so it’s hard to know what that would be like. Also the play areas look inaccessible.”

Expanding on this idea of inclusivity, some participants described a desire for the Drake Bridge Commons and the Trail to be for all Austinites, not just those that live adjacent to the Trail or the more “affluent.” They hope the improvements will make the space feel more welcoming and comfortable for everyone.

Going even a step further, a couple of participants hoped the improvements will consider “our friends and neighbors experiencing homelessness.” They know the space under the bridge is a protected area for people without homes and though they are not sure what should be done to support these individuals, but they hope their needs will also be considered in the development of Drake Bridge Commons.

14 Landscape/Ecology/Nature

Participants frequently cited the nature and ecology of the Trail as one of their favorite elements of the space. The Trail offers them a place to enjoy and connect with nature in the middle of the hustle and bustle of the city. To this end, the conservation and expansion of nature was a prominent theme throughout all of the community engagements.

Many participants said improvements to the landscape and general ecology could enhance the area by making it more aesthetically pleasing, beautifying the space under the bridge, as well as creating natural infrastructure to assist with environmental issues like flooding, drainage, and repairing the riparian landscape.

In both the postcard activity and the online survey, findings suggest that participants identified most strongly with the DOCK Ecology element as it scored higher than any other category or design plan (see Charts 1 & 3). Ecology was a focal point for participants as comments for both ROCK and DOCK referenced the importance of preserving the nature and adding more plant life to improve the area/

ROCK: *“Plan is too busy with too much impervious cover and not enough natural plantings. There needs to be only one access path. Like that it appears the Trail stays natural with crushed granite.”*

DOCK: *“While I LOVE the ideas for increasing plant presence, I am wary that the floating wetlands would be a haven to mosquitoes, which would have a serious negative impact on enjoyment of the space.”*

When engaging with children in the micro-engagements, they echoed the desire to protect the natural elements of the space and even explore them more. Suggesting the bridge could be a place for children to interact and learn about nature by adding a wildlife lagoon or other tactile activities.

Participants also expressed concerns about how improvements could possibly affect the river and natural habitat. Some participants' worries focused on the water, thinking the construction could further contaminate the river or people would throw trash into the river from the Docks. Others felt concerned about how the dramatic lighting could disrupt the natural cycle of plants and animals that live along the shore.

Whether concerned about destruction or advocating for expansion, participants made it clear that they value the nature and ecology of the Trail and want it to be at the center of this redevelopment project.

Second Event Overview: Using the comment cards and online survey data collected in the second portion of public engagement, includes the public response to design proposals presented in the second one-day onsite engagement event. In terms of the site elements, there were overall positive responses to the lighting, seating and accessibility of the space. Additionally, the incorporation of the ecology in the design was mentioned multiple times a strength of the design concept. Opportunities suggested including incorporating shade for the dock.

“This design is the best of both worlds: reactivating the water space with the docks, providing a path to get down to the trail on the east side of the Drake Bridge, and providing lighting and seating under the bridge.”

There were some concerns about the specific design elements, such as the yellow color of the dock floats and potential congestion around the climbing wall and the hike and bike trail.

“As a climber I was intrigued by the bouldering wall but think its a bad idea. You would need some kind of padding at the base and seems impossible to maintain. If people fall without a pad it could mean lots of injuries.”

“Perhaps space for safe bike storage and work with CapMetro on getting the bus stop by the ramp its own dedicated bench and covering.”

Overall, there was affirming comments about the specific elements that build on the natural assets of the ecology and nature, as well as creating amenities like seating that allow people to enjoy the place. Specific design concerns and suggestions focused on the functionality of the space, (such as where shade could be made available), and the aesthetics of specific design elements (such as the color of the yellow “rings”).

“

Program

03



First Event Overview: Discussing programming for the space was a substantial part of each community engagement interaction. Based on the comments and feedback, two major categories about potential programming emerged. Some visitors preferred to think about the future site as a “place” where they could stop, rest, and engage in other activities, while others preferred to think of the site as a “path” where only minimal interventions should be made. Additionally, programming categories rose to the surface; water access/water-based activities and public art.

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Results from the Online Survey:

| | Bike Rental | Kayak/Canoe/Paddle Board Rental | More Festivals and Music | Public Art |
|-------------------|-------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| Vote Count | 36 | 95 | 94 | 188 |
| % of Total | 12.9% | 34.2% | 33.8% | 67.6% |

Chart 5

Place vs. Path

Although responses tended to be rather uniform in term of the ideas that emerged around issues of safety, accessibility, and landscape, starker contrasts could be seen in terms of how people viewed the potential overall identity of the place. Some see this as a place to be developed for gatherings, activities, and programming while others view this as a place for movement, path for commuting – a Trail for recreational activities in motion. These mindsets don’t have to be mutually exclusive but often those currently using the Trail for activities such as exercise, running, walking, biking, commuting, see developing the space into a gathering place as a potential threat to how they currently use of the Trail because of potential crowding.

“Please, please don’t let this turn into something like the crowds under the congress bridge during bat season! I run the Trail most days of the week and trying to run through the crowd of people that gather there is incredibly annoying.”

At the same time, other participants view Drake Bridge as needing to become more of a gathering space. They see the redevelopment as an opportunity to draw more people to the lake by adding

family-friendly programming and community spaces. Participants with children wanted more places along the Trail to take their kids to play, as it can be difficult for children to walk or bike for extended periods of time. Children themselves expressed the desire to have a place to “take a break” from walking.

Similarly, tourists wanted more fun programming that could add to their experience of Austin. During the on-site engagement event at Drake Bridge, many participants said they were from out of town or that this was their first experience with the space. They saw the potential to turn Drake Bridge Commons into a destination that adds to the uniqueness of Austin, suggesting concerts under the bridge, adding food trucks, or making it a waterfront hub.

Water

As a part of the online survey participants were specifically asked about what kind of programming they would like to see in Drake Bridge Commons (see the results above). Though Kayak/Canoe/Boat Rentals scored nearly the same as Music and Festivals, participants frequently expanded on their desire for water access when asked to add comments on how to improve the space. Comments on the Dock design emphasized participants interest in water access as well. For example, one participant commented, “Really like how the majority of this project is over the lake. The water is the main draw - embrace it!”

Interacting with the water doesn’t necessarily mean boating or swimming. During the community engagement events, some participants talked about wanting more places to sit and look over the river and others discussed having spaces to learn about water ecology and the river’s habitat. Children and adults brought up the idea of having a way to see into the water to watch the fish below. This speaks

to how Trail users value the river as the heart of this natural place that can inspire and rejuvenate.

Public Art

Out of 279 participants in the online survey, over two-thirds of them wanted to see public art under Drake Bridge. In the survey and at events, many people suggested having murals in the space or developing the Commons to showcase local artists. For the runners, walkers, and bikers, many expressed the thought that public art would enhance the space and their experience of it without taking away from their routine. The majority of participants agreed that art would make the space more appealing and give character and identity to Drake Bridge Commons.

General Programming Improvements

Throughout the engagement process participants across platforms made requests for more trash and recycling receptacles, restrooms, water fountains, and seating. Some participants suggested Drake Bridge Commons become a kind of resting hub with all the basic amenities since the area is a shady respite from the sun. Others echoed the advantages of the shade but hoped for just a quiet bench to rest.

A handful of participants took the resting hub idea even further and requested food and drink be sold under the bridge, and more than one person suggested a family-friendly biergarten in the space. Again though, many participants who use the space for exercise hope that Drake Bridge Commons will not become a destination or gathering space that draws large crowds that would potentially clog the Trail.

Second Event Overview: In terms of programming under Drake Bridge, there were a few divergent responses regarding the design in terms of how to manage the space. A few participants were thrilled to have a place that focused on developing a place for people to linger, though there is still concern that the trail might be disrupted if there is too much congregating in this area. Overall, the responses to the design communicated both excitement and caution for programming the space with art, family activities and music, as well as directives to preserve the hike and bike trail for those who use it as a path.

“The design, in limited viewing, doesn’t seem to address the fact that people are moving at very different paces in that space. I adore the design features for events where people are lingering; that’s essential. However, runners do want to pass through there, too, and creating crowds can be an issue for people who’ve been using the trail for fitness for decades.”

Another concern was about off-leash area for dogs along the trail, which complicates the issues around congestion between stationary visitors and those who are exercising or using the trail.

“I’m concerned about congestion for trailwalkers and runners. I’m concerned it might be like auditorium shores used to be before the new off leash area.”

Conversely, a strength identified was the connection for pedestrians to the water. This location developed as access point for kayakers and those who want to sit and enjoy the view of the lake benefit. As noted in these two responses below, the water is an asset that people want to enjoy, though which may or may not need additional programming beyond designing the space to be interesting and welcoming.

“Great idea to make use of the space! I can see the value of creating a cool space for riders, bikers, and kayakers to congregate! Great idea!”

*“I love it! I hope this design is implemented as proposed. The area around/under the bridge is greatly underutilized. I used to go running through that area multiple times a week and would try to run under the bridge as quickly as possible because it wasn’t very pleasant. If your design is built, I would enjoy spending time around the bridge doing a variety of activities, and would be proud to show it off to out-of-town visitors. Both with the seating of the rock with lake access *I don’t think you need the playground”*

Overall, the responses received did not form one conclusive opinion about programming, but pose multiple ideas about the activities that can accompany designs. According to the participants, it is critical that any programming that does occur should not disrupt the current use of the Trail. Rather, any programming should be sure to complement and support the use of the Trail as a path and point of access for the water.



Trail Identity

04



First Event Overview: Throughout the engagement process, participants described how they use the Trail and what they hope for its future. As they did so, they also told stories of what the Trail meant to them. Overall, Trail users view the larger Trail environment as one of connection, peace, and simplicity.

Both Center and Connection

Participants described the Trail as a place that is connected and weaved into the city's fabric but is also a retreat from the city life. Whether connecting with the natural environment or engaging exercise, or using the Trail as a path from one place to another, the Trail provides a space that people enjoy in groups, or as one user described it, being "alone together". The Trail is so integrated into Austin that one person described the Trail as "the vein of the city." Another said it is Austin's living room, a place you move through, keep up, a safe space."

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Peaceful

Peaceful was the most common word participants used when asked why they like the Trail. The Trail is "a gateway to nature" that allows people to "get away for a moment" from the stresses of the "hustle and bustle." The Trail is also unique in that users don't have to travel far to experience this feeling of peace and tranquility because "you can always see the city; it feels so close that you could reach out and touch it."

Desired Simplicity

One of the clearest results of the overall engagement process was the juxtaposition of ideas and opinions that were gathered at the Saturday event versus those input occasions (survey and micro-engagements). Although exact numbers aren't available, through general conversations it was apparent that well over half those that stopped to engage the Drake team were visitors to Austin. Visitors from other cities tended to be more excited by the large-scale design proposals.

In juxtaposition, many participants in the online survey said the area does not need major physical or programmatic changes. People value the simplicity, the natural habitat, and efficiency of the Trail so they are resistant to development that may change its function. Most participants recognized the need for small improvements to make Drake Bridge Commons more aesthetically pleasing and safer for use, but did not want the space to completely change in form and function.

Second Event Overview: In terms of Trail identity, comments focused most upon the nature and ecology of the Trail itself. Another strong additional consistent theme was the commitment to the Trail as a place of exercise and responses included opportunities to incorporate yoga classes on the new dock space. Ultimately, the majority of comments that touched on the identity of the Trail saw it as a place to connect with nature and to the ways in which Trail users could connect to nature at their leisure.

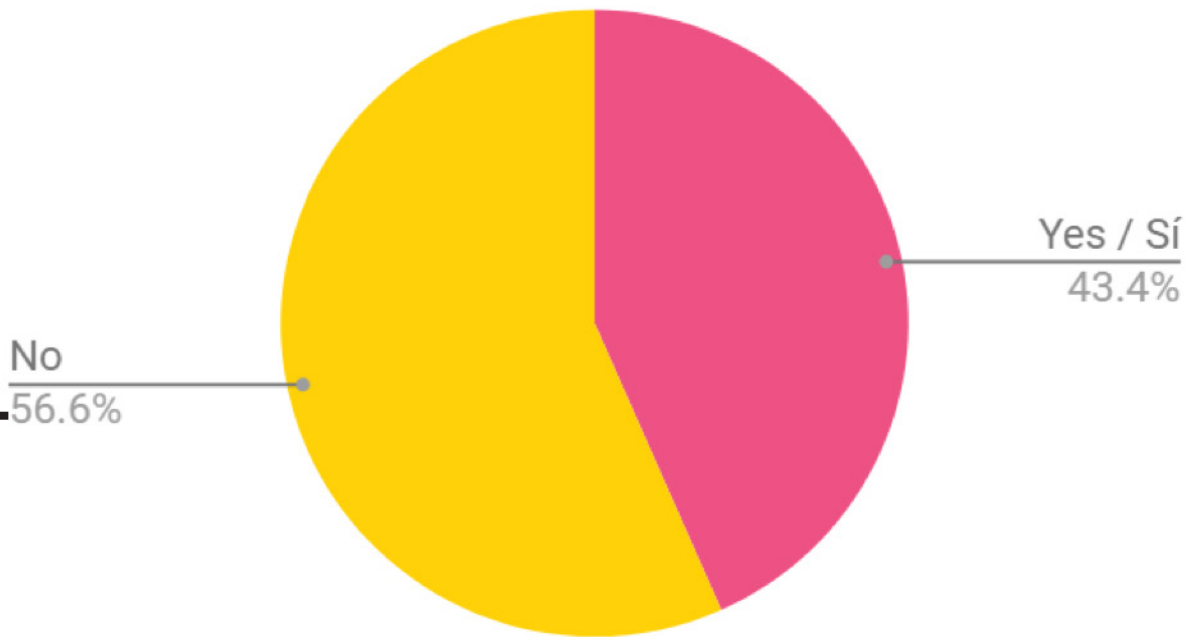
“Creating a space is the best part: clear trail, dock, stairs and seating areas”



APPENDIX A

Event One Online Survey Results

Did you know about the Drake Bridge Commons before today?



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What typically brings you to the lake trail?

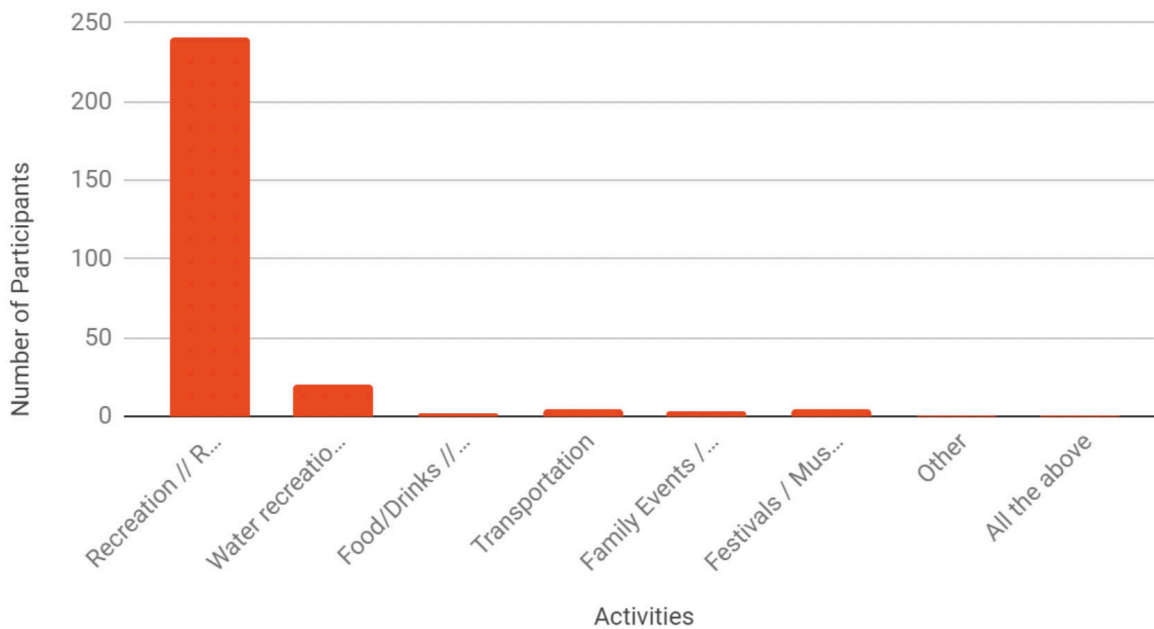
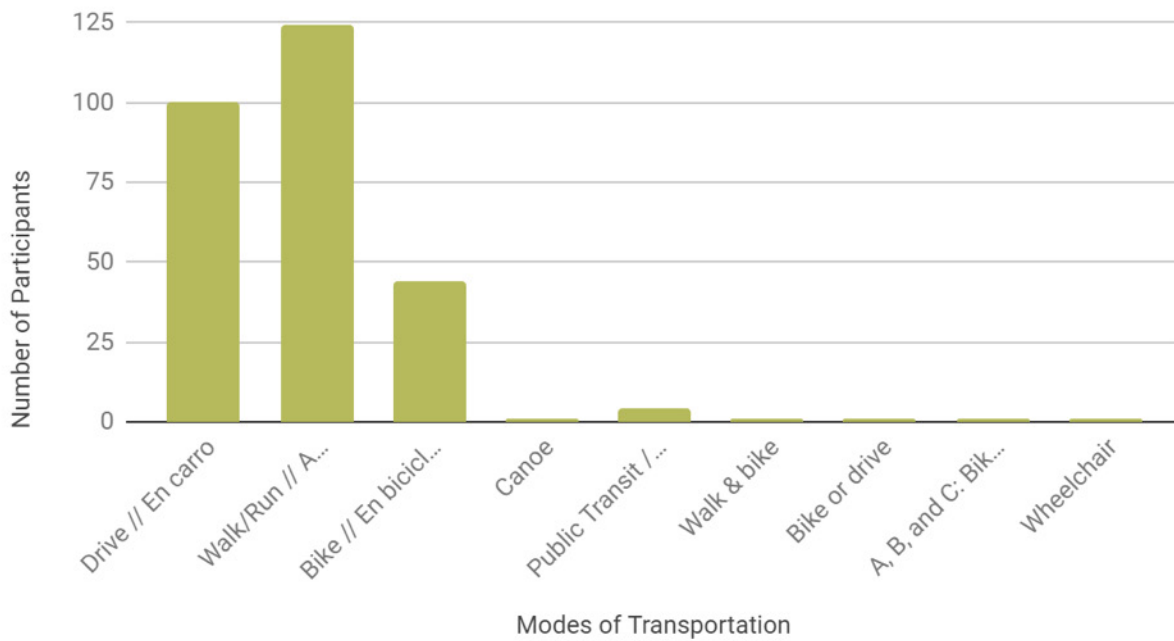


Chart 4

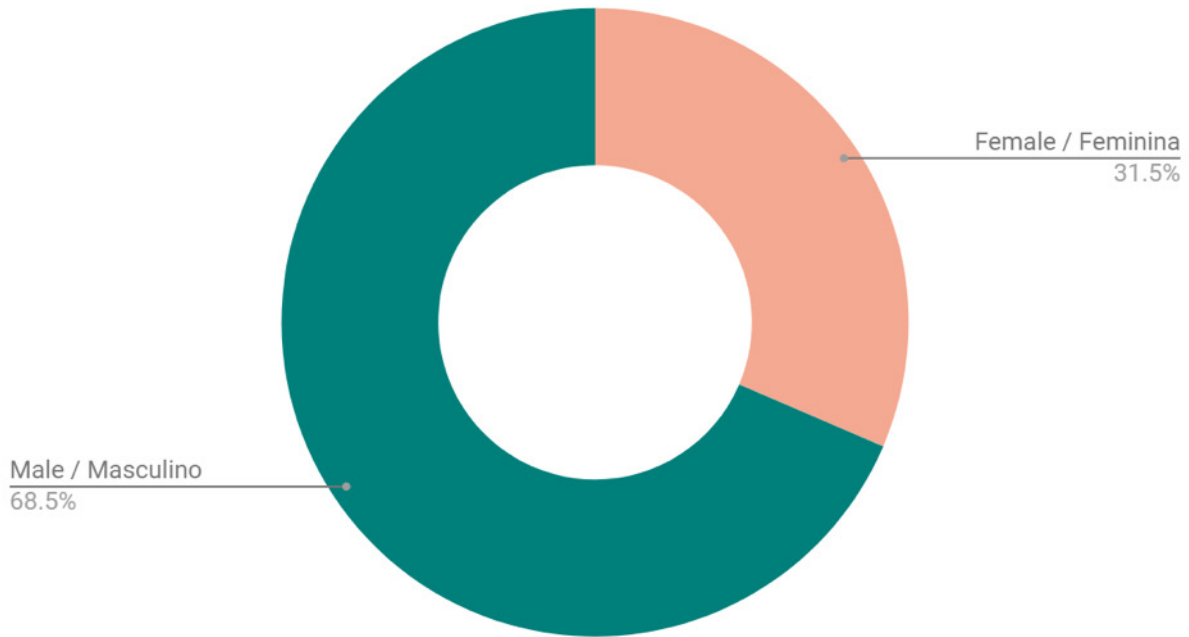
In general, how do you get to the trail?



| | Bike Rental | Kayak/Canoe/Paddle Board Rental | More Festivals and Music | Public Art |
|-------------------|-------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| Vote Count | 36 | 95 | 94 | 188 |
| % of Total | 12.9% | 34.2% | 33.8% | 67.6% |

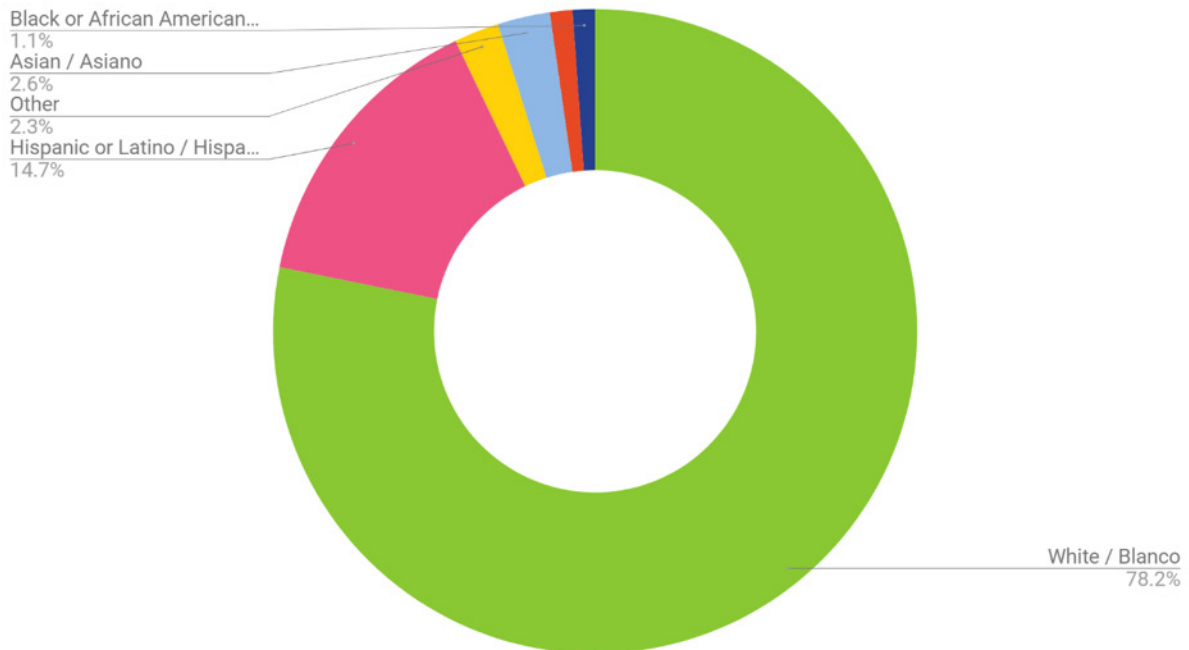
| Zip Code | # of Participants |
|----------|-------------------|
| 78704 | 54 |
| 78701 | 40 |
| 78702 | 24 |
| 78703 | 23 |
| 78741 | 13 |
| 78746 | 12 |

Gender of Participants

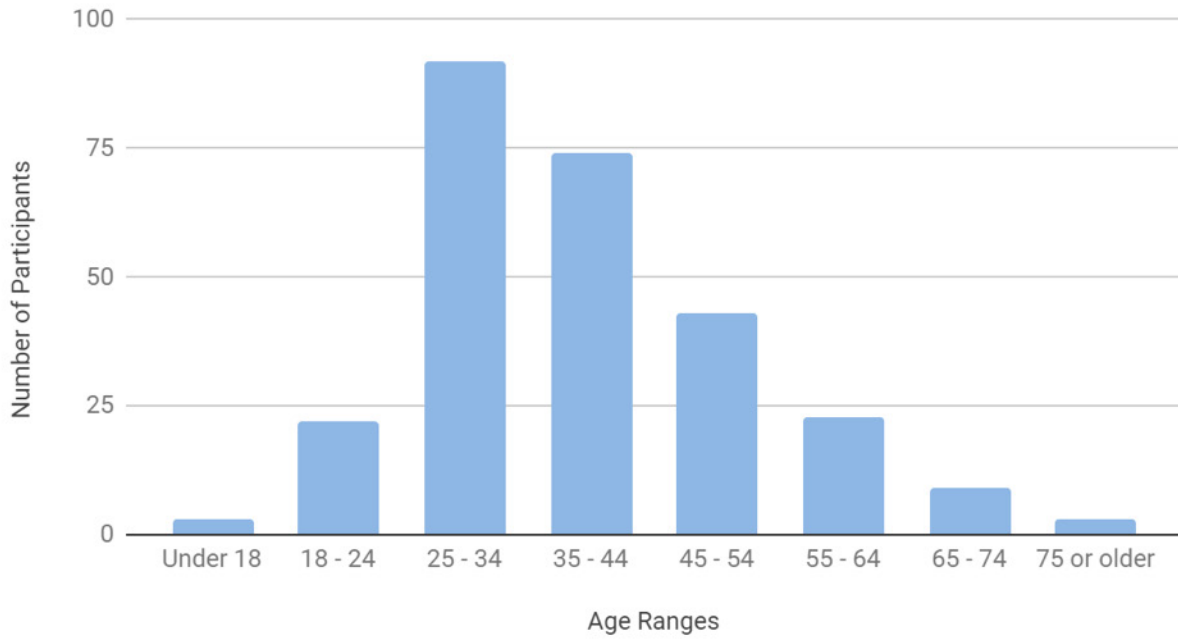


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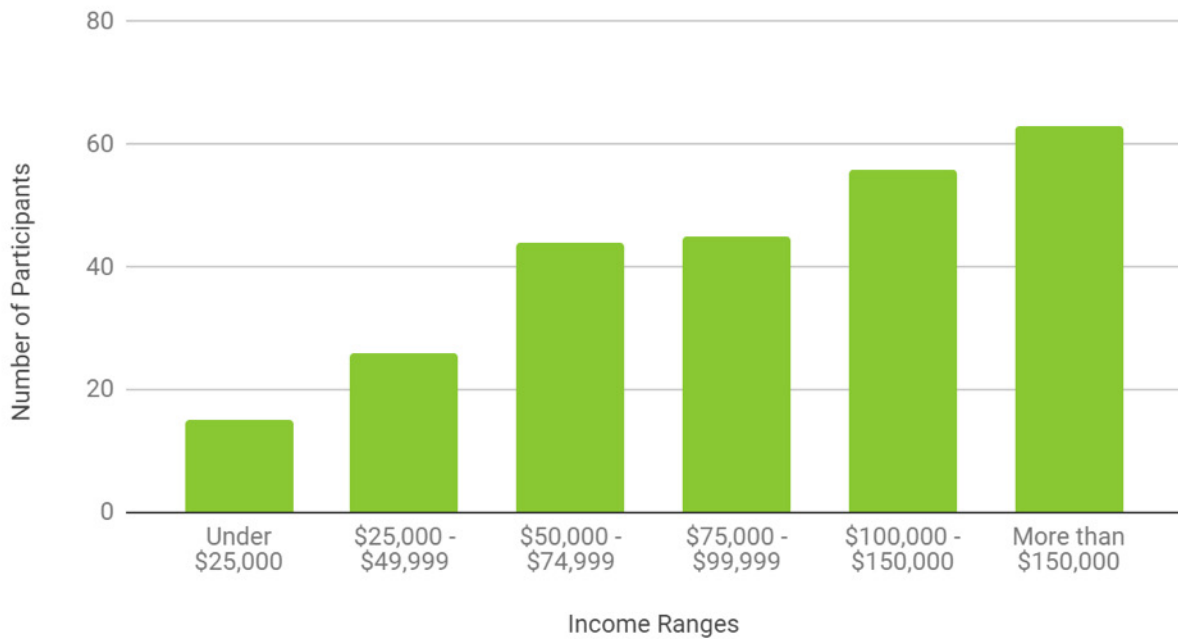
Ethnicity or Race of Participants



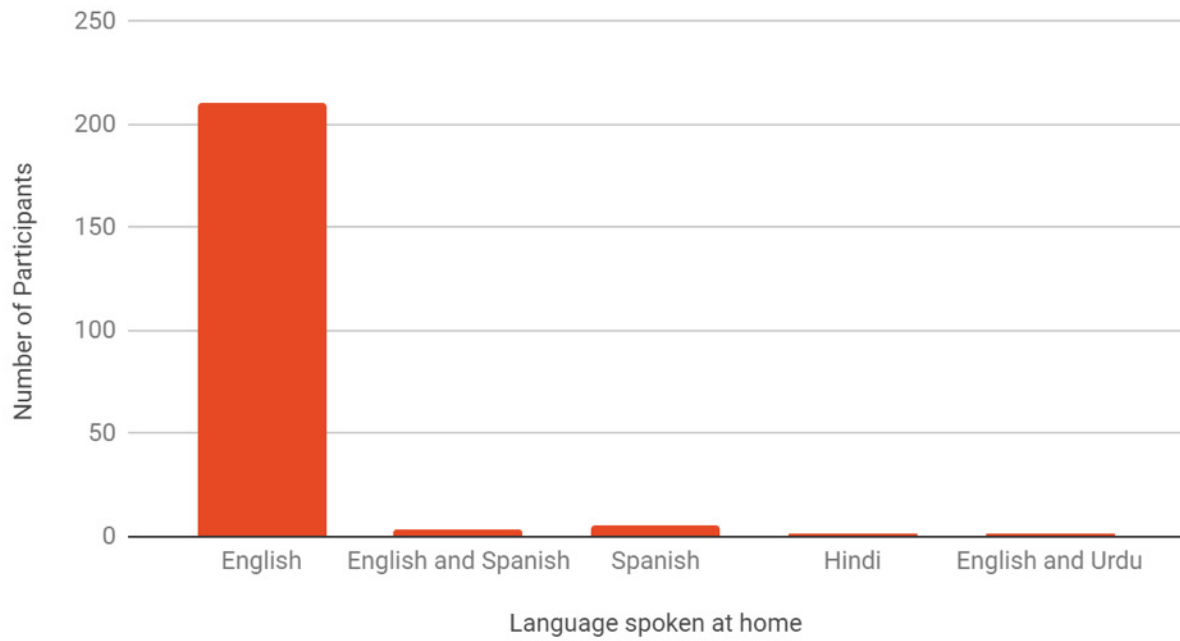
Age - Count of Participants



Income Level - Count of Participants



Language Spoken at Home - Count of Participants



APPENDIX B: Event One Comments

Site Elements

Safety Concerns - Lighting, Walk/Bike Separation, Accessibility

Survey Results

1. The existing space is definitely underutilized, and it would be great to ensure the new space would be used more often so it wouldn't become another spot for homeless folks to hide/sleep. The safety aspect gets concerning when I'm by myself.
2. Lighting and to remove the transients who bed down for the night in early evening
3. Better lighting under bridge for runners/bikers
4. A little nicer landscaping like you see on the Zilker side of the trail, and maybe some lighting because it's pretty dark under the bridge.
5. Have the improvements designed to hold up to the lake rising, etc. I think the trail has become so well used and popular for the running/ walking aspect and I would hate anything that interferes with that. I think the area could be significantly improved with landscaping and lighting period.
6. Lighting and a more durable surface
7. Lighting should enhance the trail in spots only, and not create a separate artistic impression.
8. lighting, plants, greenery, geology, seating, playscapes
9. I'm glad there's discussion of making the area under bridge more pleasant. Please don't put in too much artificial light. Light pollution ruins the natural habitat that I enjoy about the trail.
10. Please add more lighting on the trail!!
11. More better lighting and art display. Cleaner and smell-free
12. Better pedestrian lighting in the evenings and at night
13. Mostly lighting. The trail is so dark, so areas that can light up at night and bring life to a typically creepy-looking place is a huge improvement.
14. Discourage transients from loitering in the area.
15. Solar and LED lighting should be used here and across span. Many lights are currently wasteful or broken, too much graffiti.. needs murals, light treatments.
16. Lighting under the bridge (and under all bridges on the trail) is fundamentally necessary for safety.
17. I am concerned about the lighting proposed for both these options - impact on wildlife/fish/birds, dark sky initiatives, etc.
18. Better lighting, could be art work that incorporates into the landscape.
19. Lighting and performances under the bridge.
20. Paint, lights, water station, benches for rest (there aren't many spaces to stop along this part of the

trail to not impede traffic) maybe a dock to get closer to the waters edge safely for fishing or relaxing.

21. I prefer the dock design/use vs the rock design. There is 10 miles of nature but fewer spaces for other interests such as sitting, coffee, snacks, ducks to feed plus I believe the under bridge lighting would make this a safe, vibrant and new amenity that would be a new Austin destination
22. Good lighting, better connection to the lake (ie, dock design), easier connection to downtown and the street above.
23. Ultimately, this space is dark and often a sleeping place for the Austin homeless population. It would be great to see it well-lit, and with increased functionality as a connection, corridor, and entry point into Austin's downtown. A seamless pedestrian interaction with City Hall, and all that the Cesar Chavez and 2nd St. District offer would add to the welcoming feel of the trail.
24. We also need the road diet and transit lanes shown in Project Connect and to have bike commuters use lower sidewalk lanes.
25. Please make a facility for the bike traffic that will come through. It's a lovely design but bike-ped conflict will occur if there's no marked lane for bikes through the commons.
26. More emphasis on safety - too many fast scooters and bikes make the trail dangerous for everyone. Perhaps two lanes, one for scooters and bikes and one for pedestrians as many cities are now doing.
27. Need to address regular and existing foot traffic with making the area more usable.
28. As this attracts a lot more people to the area, it would be good to have separated route for bicyclists and runners to avoid accidents
29. Decking needs to be bike friendly. The rendering looks like it has large gaps between the boards which would be a danger to bikes.
30. Keep scooters off the trail
31. Ban scooters
32. Less Scooters!
33. Clean up of the area is definitely needed.
34. I would like it to be easy to maneuver (run) through and clean.
35. WHEELCHAIR ACCESS!!! Everything I see in both your options does not look wheelchair accessible. That is discriminatory, and it is illegal, and frankly it's rude. The docks look like there are slats you can fall through and the whole thing looks like a horrible juggle of steps in the rock plan. I can't believe after all these years you still are designing inaccessible facilities.
36. A little concerned for those with limited mobility - injured, elderly, etc.
37. The docks in your picture look like they have slats that people's shoes and wheelchair tires, etc. will get stuck in. You have no picture of the wet dock so it's hard to know what that would be like. Also the play areas look inaccessible. Why can't you let kids with disabilities have cool experiences too instead of relegating them to the most banal and limited options? This could be a really cool idea but you are crapping on people in wheelchairs, and you

didn't even have to do that. I am so sick of bringing this up with the parks people am not going to rate your stuff when you completely ignore the needs of my community. (DOCK)

38. In your overview area here there is a path that's accessible but all the rest is an ocean of steps, like the message is move along and get away from where we have fun. the storm water terraces would be cool -- if you can get to them, can't tell here. But the natural seating would be unavailable to anyone with a walking disability who might use crutches or whatever. This is the problem at City hall and it's been repeated here. Climbing area, water play and nature play all look inaccessible -- why? What is the point of that? This is almost 30 years post the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act; we sued the PARKS dept about lack of access multiple times; we've met; we've discussed; we've commented and STILL these inaccessible designs keep being proudly brought forward. (ROCK)
39. Make sure it's accessible and welcoming to the whole community, not just the wealthy and affluent
40. (2) connect the street level, trail and lake to improve accessibility,
41. This plan would make accessibility worse by adding cross traffic on the existing trail and failing to improve connectivity to street level amenities. (DOCK)
42. I like the direct access that the Drake Rock gives to the intersection above. The direct access ensures for easy discovery by residents and visitors.(ROCK)
43. There needs to be only one access path. (ROCK)
44. Too many levels, to look at what, not really ADA accessible and easily a trip hazard for runners.(ROCK)
45. I don't like this design as much but I do like the access it provides to the street above. (ROCK)
46. This option is a bit less flashy to me than the docks, but the added connectivity to the street above is very much needed here. (ROCK)

Onsite Event - Postcards & Actor Engagements

1. lighting under dock for fishing
2. Ideas for public safety provides great lighting above and below
3. City, Access, Tourist
4. Stalactite lights, wide easy access for peds
5. Needs to have higher safety measures. Kids or homeless people, inebriated people or just people not paying attention could fall off this unmonitored area. (DOCK)
6. I think the dock access is accessible for all. It's more limited an option and would also seemingly require more approvals, maintenance, and money. (DOCK)
7. The rock option integrates users above the trail and draws them down. There are lots more options for safe play and access for the rock option and it is much more versatile.

8. Congratulations for making this city more beautiful and thinking about the people and the park. Together we will achieve it. Take care of our city.
9. I would say there are things that should be presented in the renderings, such as bikes and people running---> Being a place where people run and bike often, the space should be considering them constantly, otherwise accidents can happen. (drew a section of the bridge, trail, and lake. close to the wall of the bridge there are "two bike lanes" followed by a "space for runners" then "physical separation with public furniture - benches, lighting, etc." the other side of this is a "space to gather" leading down to the river.)
10. A couple described the area under Drake Bridge as not so nice. The trail is seen as nice but the area under the bridge is kinda gross and unkept.
11. Thought that the space under the bridge isn't bad as it is but they felt excited by the idea of additions of better accessibility - steps and things coming down from First Street- so that it is easier to get to the trail.
12. Accessibility from street level is tricky. Hard to figure out how to get down to the trail and to get back up.
13. It's not as convenient as biking in our neighborhood, have it be more accessible.
14. It's a little out of the way, inconvenient.
15. People feel like they can't come as often as they would like because of traffic and parking.
16. Coming down to the bridge is challenging with parking and congestion.
17. If you aren't already downtown, it is very difficult to get to the trail because of parking and congestion.
18. A woman talked about in her hometown; they had a public open venue for people to set up and do music events or people would come dance. It always felt very safe and accessible. She thinks this space would be really good for that kind of thing since it is so close to downtown, it's very accessible.
19. Worried about congestion but also access in regards to the trail as a whole.
20. Multiple people said that trail should be wider because of all the bikes, people running. People mentioned that there could be a bike lane and a walk lane.
21. Make the trail wider. People run, walk, and bike here.
22. Separation of the bikes from people walking. Could there be ways to designate certain areas for bikes, a bike lane and a walk lane. People feel like they are trying to survive with all the bikes shooting by.
23. Adding more places for slow speed traffic like the pedestrian bridge & boardwalk
24. Access to different types of activities and movement on the trail, you can use it as a commuter or someone who is just hanging out.
25. He didn't like; the trash, the homeless - he feels really sad about the homeless people, the scooters shouldn't be on the trail - wants to know what the city is doing about regulating

the scooters, overpopulation of the city.

26. No said they come down in the night.
27. It's scary. People don't like to come here at night. One man mentioned how people will let their dogs off the leash in the evenings because they don't think anyone can see but then when people ride their bike under the bridge they are worried about being chased by dogs or that they will crash trying not to hit the dogs.
28. Some people are scared by the homeless people that are under the bridge and the things that are happening down here that they don't want to see.
29. People are excited about making this a place that people want to stop because right now people don't really feel safe or comfortable under the bridge.
30. Make people who come down occasionally, feel welcome so they can have a good time.
31. Thinking about inclusivity, why don't people of color use public spaces as much? How can we make this place feel more welcoming? Could honoring the history of the place with interpretive information make people feel more welcome. Is the design team thinking about this?
32. Like a living room, it needs to be a place that we keep up and continue to make comfortable for more people to enjoy being in.
33. Accessibility seemed to be a big issue, both getting down to the trail and just more generally people knowing about the trail and that they feel like they have access to it, maybe educating people about what's here, what's available, doing outreach so the trail doesn't seem like a luxury for only certain groups of people, especially with lower income communities to make sure they know they have access and even creating that access for them.

Micro-engagements

1. I would never come down here at night. I would need lights to feel comfortable to do that.
2. We need more lighting!
3. Having lights under the bridge and over the bridge to make it more of a place you want to be in the evening.
4. There needs to be more lighting. We can only come here during the day because it is too dark at night. We can't see.
5. There are a lot of dogs on the trail. Sometimes they are off leash and that can be scary. Maybe there could be a separate space for off leash dogs a little bit away from the trail.
6. Cyclists and runners can be at odds with each other
7. There are a lot of the people on the trail. Feels like the might get run over sometimes.
8. Make it safer; bikers and runners could fall. Make sure there are no rocks in their way.
9. Biking is a big activity, maybe there could be split trails where bikes could go faster. Maybe

there could be a bike park where you could do tricks but also have a maintenance area in case people need help with their bikes.

10. Keeping the area wide to avoid accidents. Making sure that nothing is getting squeezed out.
11. Make it safer. Split the trail to have a place for bikes and a place for walking. Safe place for not vehicle/human accidents.
12. Ideas for possible ways for the trail to be more connected with other public resources like the library.
13. Concerned with the cultural significance of where it is in town. The history of this area. Stevie Ray Vaughn statue on the south side of the bridge but the north also has a history of music and culture. Wanted to commemorate Grackle Triangle.
14. One person hopes that the improvements will take into consideration our friends and neighbors experiencing homelessness. They know that this space under the bridge is a protected area for people and they are not sure what needs to be done but they hope the needs of these people will also be considered in development.
15. Make it safer; there are homeless people here and it feels unsafe. Homeless shelter by the lake so that homeless people have a place to sleep. More affordable housing so that people don't need to sleep by the lake.
16. People mentioned the homeless population and drug addiction problem as being one of the reasons there is so much trash on the trail.
17. Talked about how their parents told them some places were safe to play and some places weren't safe to play. They are nervous about falling into the water in certain places. It needs guardrails so we don't fall in.
18. Everyone needs to feel safe, comfortable, and healthy.
19. Create an atmosphere that is safer and friendly

Landscape/Ecology/Nature

Survey Results

1. Keep the natural feel, but improve drainage. Does need foliage and landscaping. No need for a dock and anything to keep it from being a pet area. Pet owners need to keep animals in the designated area in Vic Mathias portion of the trail.
2. A little nicer landscaping like you see on the Zilker side of the trail, and maybe some lighting because it's pretty dark under the bridge.
3. Keep it simple, easy to access and use. Keep it natural and be mindful of the environmental needs... avoid stressing it out. Don't over produce when thinking you are "making improvements."
4. Have the improvements designed to hold up to the lake rising, etc. I think the trail has become so well used and popular for the running/ walking aspect and I would hate anything

that interferes with that. I think the area could be significantly improved with landscaping and lighting period.

5. The unique feature of this trail is that it is largely natural. Updates to trail should build on this, not create a contrasting feel. Lighting should enhance the trail in spots only, and not create a separate artistic impression.
6. plants, greenery, geology
7. Some kind of beautifying but pls. not the disco stripes. Public art, more landscaping and disguise of all the concrete. Murals from local artists. Not sure we need electric lights, maybe. The hot pink stripes seems too strong and stark and incongruent with the peace of the trail- I see more art nouveau than modern graphics. This is not really a color that is prevalent in nature that much, esp. on our city trail.
8. Seating, landscaping, extending the space into the water.
9. Make it more urban with wildlife integrated. Please add more lighting on the trail!!
10. I do also like habitat restoration.
11. Landscaping with palm trees and tropical plants (and native species as well)
12. Nature/plants
13. more plantings and water access for recreation.
14. I'm a runner so I run that area all the time and it's always dirty feeling and very dark. We need to clean that area up and brighten it up with some color and lights and plants.
15. This looks beautiful to me. I like the interaction with the lake and the ecological aspects. (DOCK)
16. While I LOVE the ideas for increasing plant presence, I am wary that the floating wetlands would be a haven to mosquitoes, which would have a serious negative impact on enjoyment of the space. (DOCK)
17. Enhancements should be made to improve the natural feel of the trail. This distracts from why people love the trail. Focus needs to be on the trail itself and the many people who walk, run, bike on this oasis within the city. (DOCK)
18. Floating wetlands are amazing (DOCK)
19. Wetland area sounds very neat. (DOCK)
20. I am concerned about the lighting proposed for both these options - impact on wildlife/fish/ birds, dark sky initiatives, etc. (DOCK)
21. Emphasize the ecology of the proposed wetlands, what plants and animals are welcome here? What is the wetlands function? (DOCK)
22. Local plants and ones needed for habitat, trash prevention, filtering. (DOCK)
23. I especially like the dry/wet option, and the floating wetlands. They're accessible, but also have a natural appearance. (DOCK)

24. mosquitos, gnats, bugs everywhere (DOCK)
25. The more natural the edge, the more appealing. Of course, an accessible platform is also nice however is there a way to make the floating wetland and the dry dock just one intervention in the lake rather than a east and west feature. (DOCK)
26. Love this esp the wetlands (DOCK)
27. Not resilient enough. Wood is going to rot unless it is treated with super un-green chemicals. (DOCK)
28. mosquitos in wet doc and enough flow to preclude them. (ROCK)
29. I like this too but I like the dock idea better. It seems to have a more open feel and more interaction with the lake. The landscaping seems more ecologically interesting in the dock version. (ROCK)
30. rocks feel more of a natural fit, if they are same similar to what you would find in the area. (ROCK)
31. The more natural boulders and the pollinator gardens are wonderful. Beyond that, it seems like yet more pavement. The grass areas also seem like a potential maintenance issue/cost. Doggie poop bags and disposal would be necessary as well. (ROCK)
32. It would be great if you could take this out into the river in a way that would create habitat for bass and a place to fish. Before the carp Town Lake was an amazing fishery and a great place for parents and children to connect in nature around fishing. It would be nice to see more attention paid to that amazing resource in the center of town. (ROCK)
33. I like the direct access that the Drake Rock gives to the intersection above. The direct access ensures for easy discovery by residents and visitors. I also like the terraces and stone platforms on the east of the Drake Bridge Commons. The terraces would be a playful and dynamic twist on local natural geology. I do not like the rock amphitheater under the bridge. The slides may not do justice to the plan, but it seems rather stagnant in the ability for the area to be adequately activated for public use. (ROCK)
34. I prefer the rock boulder concept. It fits the site better and is more natural; playing off existing native materials. (ROCK)
35. Plan is too busy with too much impervious cover and not enough natural plantings. There needs to be only one access path. Like that it appears the trail stays natural with crushed granite. Limit lighting to enhancement and not creating contrasting artistic impression.(ROCK)
36. The rocks are nice for keeping a natural environment but if used for amphitheater seating could be a hinderance for some with mobility issues.
37. Also don't put in too many play areas for kids. Waste of space, the trail is mainly used by adults (ROCK)
38. Natural Elegance complementing the waterfront.(ROCK)
39. The terraced option might allow more local artwork for each square. Add more plants! (ROCK)

40. More nature/landscaping needed, fewer bikes/crowds. (ROCK)
41. Would be interesting to incorporate floating wetlands into this design concept. (ROCK)
42. In your overview area here there is a path that's accessible but all the rest is an ocean of steps, like the message is move along and get away from where we have fun. the stormwater terraces would be cool -- if you can get to them, can't tell here. But the natural seating would be unavailable to anyone with a walking disability who might use crutches or whatever. This is the problem at City hall and it's been repeated here. Climbing area, water play and nature play all look inaccessible -- why? What is the point of that? This is almost 30 years post the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act; we sued the PARKS dept about lack of access multiple times; we've met; we've discussed; we've commented and STILL these inaccessible designs keep being proudly brought forward. (ROCK)
43. Rocks, rocks, rocks. We like caves. We like cliffs. We like limestone- tough and pretty. It could be an upside-down world Mt. Bonnell. A walk-in cave. Fragglegland. The catacombs. Wine cellar. Party at the quarry. Underground Moon Tower. (ROCK)

Onsite Event - Postcards & Actors' Engagements

1. Love the illuminated rocks, stalamites idea! (ROCK)
2. Plexi-pane opening to walking on/view into water (drew a stick figure thinking about a fish standing on the dock illustration) (DOCK)
3. This needs to be more organic (inform and in its relationship with the site) (DOCK)
4. (drew in family of ducks swimming by, long grass peaking up from both east and west sides of the dock, someone rowing a boat by the dock and circled "Drake Dock")
5. (drew people fishing off the dock and people laying down on towels)
6. (placed sticker on dock illustration and drew two happy people on the dock) Hanging with my nature pals!
7. I love the openness of the dock combined with the natural elements of Rock! Combine the two! So EXCITED FOR THIS!!!
8. The city terraces/connection feels very hard. Soften and maintain the trail "feel.
9. watch bats
10. (circled dock) Enjoy the natural vegetation and water
11. More plants but yes! Like: Plants! Seating, Bouldering Wall, Stalagtite lights, wide easy access for peds (ROCK)
12. More tree cover for stones will get dangerously hot. (ROCK)
13. The rock option integrates users above the trail and draws them down. There are lots more options for safe play and access for the rock option and it is much more versatile. My vote is for the rock. Also I love the ampitheater and natural integration ideas of the rock option. (ROCK)

14. drew a heart around “wetlands”
15. Back in the day, you could walk across the river because there were a lot of sandbars that would dry out at certain times of the year. This gentleman loves the evolution of the river up to this point, and hopes the greenery stays intact and it remains a nature place. Likes that has become a nice safe place to come out to, he travels from Buda every weekend to walk because it reminds him of his childhood.
16. Talked with a man who does community organizing and is very concerned about the project, especially the cleanliness of the river, the foliage and plant life, generally damaging the nature along the trail. He thinks of course there can be improvements to the cleanliness of the area but he thinks any major aesthetic improvements would be turn-offs for his community. He lives east of I-35 and comes down to the trail everyday.
17. Wonderful space to run, walk, and enjoy the greenery. People use it as a green space. And think it needs to be kept up a little more, but a space they like as it is in a lot of ways, and they want to preserve that. People don't want this to just become another event space.
18. People come to the space to exercise and have access to nature, and conserving the natural elements, flora and fauna, is very important to people. Worried about the environmental impacts of the construction.
19. Only major issue is when heavy rains wash out the area and it gets very muddy. Some people thought maybe the terrace design would help with that.
20. Love that the trail is beside the river, it's designed for walking, that it is long and feels safe. Fun to see turtles and feel close to nature.
21. One woman said she was training for a marathon and was using the trail to train because it is ten miles. When she would get under the bridge she knew she was half way because of the smell bats. It was like a cue that she was half way done so she has a fond association with the bridge and the smell of the bats.
22. A man that just moved to Austin two weeks ago and said he has been down to the trail five times already. He's drawn to the trail because he's a nature person and he loves that the trail is on the edge of the city. At any point he can just jump off the trail to go do something in the city and then jump back on. He wants to see food trucks down there, thinks it would be great to be able to grab some water or a snack.
23. Met a man who as a kid, 11 years old, remembers Drake Bridge being built. He thinks the trail is so beautiful and has loved watching the transformation of it. As a kid he said this was not an area you would come down to. It had a lot of trash, not the vegetation we have, not an area you would come to. And in July or August it would get so hot that it would dry up all the water, and he would play in the dry river bed. Started running the trail in 1950. He kept saying, “something just draws me to this place, I can't stay away.” Drawn to the trail by the plants, animals, the air.
24. Enjoys the vegetation, the nice breeze off the water, it doesn't need that much, it's nice the way it is.
25. People describe the air, the breeze, the trees, peacefulness, openness, nature, and beauty.

26. One woman has been running on the trail for years, she just loves it, but she would like some more natural places to sit and reflect. She likes the limestone additions that they have done on some parts of the trail. It would be nice to have a place to look out and enjoy the water.
27. Would like to see more spaces that consider the history of the place, thinking about the native land, who lived here before, what it was used for before. It would be nice to have interpretive information that could inform people about this place.
28. Some people from out of town see the trail as a unique experience that isn't anywhere else. Things feel really special to them like turtles wandering around, and even just having so many people out and out with this access to nature is seen as really special.
29. One woman said she came down to have access to water but when she started thinking about it, she has been running the trail for 20 years and never really accessed the water. It was more about the peacefulness, a feeling of being able to be alone together. You can be around people, people watch, even engage, but you are also welcome to just be by yourself and do your own thing with nature around.
30. Interacted with another long time user of the trail, over two decades. She appreciated a lot of the renovations like adding more greenery, adding more community spaces. She's happy they aren't letting scooters on the trail. Even though she's a cyclist she likes that it is not a paved bike lane. She referred to it as Austin's living room.
31. People describe it as being very green, peaceful even though it is busy. It's our central park. A sanctuary to come to move and be with the space.
32. A desire for more opportunities for children to engage and play in the space. One woman referred to it as "natural space" like the limestone terraces for kids to climb. Having places to be able to stop and play as a family.
33. Aspirations for the site: for it to continue to be a place where community can come enjoy the peacefulness of nature.
34. The city's geography and climate make it possible to have natural spaces like this.
35. Priority is preserving the ecology, keeping the river healthy.
36. A natural space in the middle of the city
37. A gateway to nature where you can block the city out. A place to come to get away.
38. More trees to block out the city but not as much foliage so that you can enjoy the river view.
39. Having the space separate from the city, that is a native place, not cultivated, feels important to people.
40. Long-term management of the ecology, specifically around invasive species. How do we create a space that is not just working for us but is working for the environment around the trail and in the water? Promoting aquatic diversity, native species, and managing the invasive ones. Are there man-made structures that can be used to enhance the habitat instead of impose on it?

Micro-engagements

1. Someone mentioned the trail was a big draw for her for moving here because she felt like she could still connect with nature while being in the city.
2. When I grow up, I want it (the trail) to be here and be the same, beautiful and close to the water. Take care of it.
3. Add more places to fish. I want to catch and eat a catfish.
4. We need more trees because we need oxygen. Plant more oak trees!
5. Add beehives and flowers. Maybe a food garden.
6. Create and support nature, plant life, and the ecology of the water
7. Poem from a little girl: Once upon a time grassy smelled like minty, a big tree like a rainbow in the sky, and there was a cloud like a heart, the end.
8. Likes fishing, following animal trails, watching birds on the trail
9. More places to spend time together like a treehouse! A crafting tree house where kids can make bird feeders.
10. Like the idea of creating tucked away activity areas to play and watch nature like community clubhouses with kayaks, canoeing, and swimming.
11. Wildlife lagoon areas for turtles and birds to be happy. Maybe even a place to see what's happening under the water.
12. People described it as how they get to and from work, the only place they can come to see nature.
13. Liked the green of the trail and tranquility of coming down here.
14. Need to keep the area green because that's what draws people here.
15. Thinking about how the space is integrated to everything else that is around. Possibly planting more tall trees to separate it more from the city, help with pollution, and add more to the ecology of the area.
16. Add signs around to educate people about the native ecology. Preserve and conserve the area. "If people learn about it, they'll give a crap."
17. A place for us to offset some of the negative impacts we have on the environment by adding more trees and native plants
18. A place to come sit and enjoy the wild native space.

Program

Place vs. Path

Survey Results

1. Please please don't let this turn into something like the crowds under the congress bridge during bat season! I run the trail most days of the week and trying to run through the crowd of people that gather there is incredibly annoying.
2. Something that doesn't create a crowd to get in the way of runners
3. Nothing too much that brings too many more people to the trail, it can't handle much more....
4. Ensure smooth and uninterrupted passage of people using the trail for exercise (walk, run, bike).
5. Have the improvements designed to hold up to the lake rising, etc. I think the trail has become so well used and popular for the running/ walking aspect and I would hate anything that interferes with that. I think the area could be significantly improved with landscaping and lighting period.
6. Please don't block the trail for people who use the trail for exercise - runners, cyclists, walkers, etc. If the area is expanded without impediment to through traffic from people exercising, then other areas for exercise would be nice - yoga, tai chi, etc.
7. I would like it to be easy to maneuver (run) through and clean.
8. I think this one balances best the need to address regular and existing foot traffic with making the area more usable.
9. Not suitable for this stretch. Gatherings are better suited across the lake on the southern portion of the trail.
10. As this attracts a lot more people to the area, it would be good to have separated route for bicyclists and runners to avoid accidents
11. In the slides, it mentions the potential for the dry dock to be a swimming hole of sorts. This seems like an incredible idea if it was possible! But to my knowledge, it is dangerous to swim in the lake due to water quality and submerged objects. But, that would be an incredible idea that should be a future goal. Having designated docks for swimming and sunbathing on the lake, with safe and healthy water quality would add value to Lady Bird Lake as a cultural and natural destination. What I like most about the Drake Dock is the creation of a new space that can be used for performers, lounging, and gatherings jettisoned over the water. This, however, might expose the water to be more easily polluted by single-use plastic and paper. It seems like a future Austin destination to view sunsets!
12. Enhancements should be made to improve the natural feel of the trail. This distracts from why people love the trail. Focus needs to be on the trail itself and the many people who walk, run, bike on this oasis within the city.

13. I don't like this because I think it would disrupt the flow of the trail/encourage folks to just sit and hang out, blocking traffic. We already have plenty of spots for that at Auditorium Shores and near the bat bridge. This feels duplicative and not unique.
14. Better suited to keep area a pass through and not a gathering place.
15. The rocks are nice for keeping a natural environment but if used for amphitheater seating could be a hinderance for some with mobility issues. Also don't put in too many play areas for kids. Waste of space, the trail is mainly used by adults
16. Not as cool as the dock option, but seeing as how the dock would probably be a very crowded space, this might be a better option for pedestrian flow.
17. More nature/landscaping needed, fewer bikes/crowds.
18. I'm not sure about the concession stands. This could really clog the trail which is frustrating for runners, walkers. And bikers. We do not need more traffic jams along the trail or in Austin. Period. The idea of bringing folks to this particular area should not be an attraction in and of itself. More of a feature along the trail- not an attraction site- would be appreciated. To clarify, this should be a nice stop along the way when using the whole trail - not something that people park and go to specifically for what it offers.
19. Gathering space for public consumption (Biergarten?).
20. Board game rental/checkout station! Or lanterns for evenings picnics. Perhaps a food kiosk.
21. Concessions. Need a family-friendly place to buy a cup of coffee or maybe even a cold beer.
22. Beer Garden
23. I really love the amphitheater under the bridge idea from option 2 and the docks. Combine the two so a dock runs further under the bridge and then a shorter, diagonal dock to the side. I'm thinking an outdoor music theater. Another semi large venue in this part of town would bring so many people down to this under used area. This is The Trail Foundation's chance to do something big.
24. Local vendors once a month selling on the new area.
25. I would decrease the angle of the "V" from 90 deg to 60 deg to maximize the shade depth under the bridge. Think shade. This is not LA. I would also consider taking the dock(s) concept further out into the water. A waterfront cafe/music venue would be fun. Integrate a mural into the the climbing wall.
26. Make it more accessible and create a sense of place for the area (music, events, playscape features, etc).
27. It is a great blank space right now. There is plenty of blank wall space for some cool art or lights, and the shelter of the bridge would make this a great place to hang out if it didn't feel so underwhelming at the moment. Glad this is happening!
28. More lakeside food and drink options would be a great revenue driver for the city, much like Alta's does already.

29. Paint, lights, water station, benches for rest (there aren't many spaces to stop along this part of the trail to not impede traffic) maybe a dock to get closer to the waters edge safely for fishing or relaxing.
30. Might be able to get some good acoustics with the rocks and the underside of the bridge. There is that cave in TN that does concerts. Or think about the aesthetics of Red Rocks.
31. Incorporating Austin's live music atmosphere to the trail would only benefit it. food/drink

Onsite Event - Postcards & Actors' Engagements

1. Request: Resist the San-Antonio-like urge to make the lakeside into a shopping area!
2. (drew a band, complete with sax, trumpet and drum, performing for a crowd of 3 people at the base of the rocks, the band on the top)
3. "Picnic" "Kids play" "LOVE THESE IDEAS! Great job."
4. "The proposals are very good and I think it is very clear they are conceptual, I would say there are things that should be presented in the renderings, such as bikes and people running---> Being a place where people run and bike often, the space should be considering them constantly, otherwise accidents can happen." (drew a section of the bridge, trail, and lake. close to the wall of the bridge there are "two bike lanes" followed by a "space for runners" then "physical separation with public furniture - benches, lighting, etc." the other side of this is a "space to gather" leading down to the river.)
5. People a little leary about building too much by the trail. They like it as a place to walk, and are worried about clutter..."as long as it doesn't hurt my commute then I'm fine with it."
6. Everyone seems very excited about the idea of doing something with it. Currently people just see it as a bridge, without any "vibe."
7. Creating space for community events. One woman talked about how her singing group meets at the trail and it would great to have infrastructure for set-up and go music events below the bridge.
8. A woman talked about in her hometown, they had a public open venue for people to set up and do music events or people would come dance. It always felt very safe and accessible. She thinks this space would be really good for that kind of thing since it is so close to downtown, it's very accessible.
9. Acoustics! The acoustics are good but the sound is not great with all the traffic. If there was some way to muffle the sound from above, it would make the space a great venue.
10. Multiple tourists talking about Pittsburgh's new waterfront. They set up a lot of ways for people to use the waterfront as a hub.
11. People from NYC said do it the New York way, make solid trails, reuse the docks for people to sell food and hang out.
12. People use it as a green space. And think it needs to be kept up a little more, but a space they like as it is in a lot of ways, and they want to preserve that. People don't want this to just become another event space.

13. Worries about congestion but also access in regards to the trail as a whole. If this becomes an event space, trail congestion could get worse and people won't have the space to exercise along the trail.
14. People don't see this as a place where people are seating but as a place where people are moving through.
15. "It's an area I walk through. I don't even think about it."
16. A desire for more opportunities for children to engage and play in the space. One woman referred to it as "natural space" like the limestone terraces for kids to climb. Having places to be able to stop and play as a family.
17. Having more exercise spaces, community spaces, activity spaces where you can be self directed or interacting with others, activities that are health oriented.

Micro-engagements

1. A couple of people mentioned more places to hang out, have activities in a shaded area but the majority of the people wanted the space to be improved so it would be easier to use as a trail for running/walking/biking.
2. People are movement oriented here to walk or run or ride their bikes. Mostly was adults, didn't seem to have the same desire for spaces to stop and pull off to play or do activities.
3. More places to spend time together like a treehouse! A crafting tree house where kids can make bird feeders.
4. At the bridge, there is nothing for us to do. Why would we go there? We need things to do. Our parents don't take us there because there is nothing to do.
5. More of a sense of community on the trail. Less individual focus.
6. There are a lot of the people on the trail. Feels like they might get run over sometimes. Want a place to be out of the way of the trail runners.
7. Playground. Monkey bars, Splash pad, Climbing wall, More picnic areas
8. Someone wanted more fun things to do like kayaking, ziplining, yoga areas, jet skis.
9. For kids the trail is very long and boring, and they don't really like walking. Having a specific place to go or activity to do might bring more families out to the trail.
10. Places to spend time with your family or friends. Places to climb things and engage in tactile activities.
11. Places to play should be near entrances to the trail so families can choose to just play or to make it a destination or to reward kids with play at the end of a bike ride or walk.

Water

Survey Results

1. Love the idea of a swimming hole and increased engagement to the water.
2. Easier way in and out of water
3. love the idea of a kayak launch! but note, people using it for this purpose will bring boats in by vehicle so there has to be adjacent access to parking for those users
4. Better access to the water. Not for boats though.
5. extending the space into the water.
6. water access
7. More emphasis on a soft, naturalized shoreline. Simplify the process of biking to the dock, parking a bike, and water recreation rentals (e.g. kayaks, canoes, paddleboards, etc.). Maybe separate an active/passive areas of the docks for those wanting to simply sit and read by the water.
8. Kayak/canoe rental
9. water taxi stop/water taxi system
10. more bruSh and ground cover control to interact with river.
11. better use of the water access/space
12. Water access for those who own their own kayaks. Potentially a space for dogs to play?
13. Please no more guy boat rental paces!!! They take over waterfront destroy the natural beauty
14. I prefer the dock design/use vs the rock design. There is 10 miles of nature but fewer spaces for other interests such as sitting, coffee, snacks, ducks to feed plus I believe the under bridge lighting would make this a safe, vibrant and new amenity that would be a new Austin destination
15. In the slides, it mentions the potential for the dry dock to be a swimming hole of sorts. This seems like an incredible idea if it was possible! But to my knowledge, it is dangerous to swim in the lake due to water quality and submerged objects. But, that would be an incredible idea that should be a future goal. Having designated docks for swimming and sunbathing on the lake, with safe and healthy water quality would add value to Lady Bird Lake as a cultural and natural destination. What I like most about the Drake Dock is the creation of a new space that can be used for performers, lounging, and gatherings jettisoned over the water. This, however, might expose the water to be more easily polluted by single-use plastic and paper. It seems like a future Austin destination to view sunsets!
16. Really like how the majority of this project is over the lake. The water is the main draw - embrace it!
17. The idea of having a "Swimming Hole" with "Artful Furnishings" makes me so happy! Hands down - I think the Dock is the WINNER!

18. Some kind of submersed platform to help people get in and out of boats easier.
19. Don't understand this wet/dry concept at all. Why not an eastern and western dock concept? Again for a destination think food, music and shade ... over the water.
20. this is very cool. my favorite part of the lake is the spiral ramp at the pfluger bridge and the shoal creek mouth. this is similarly lush, i like it. it's bold, zesty, and provides new infrastructure to interface with the lake.
21. I definitely like the idea of lifting up the trail to create an access point to view the lake.
22. It would be great to have a very limited concessions area (coffee, cokes etc) so people can stop in the shade and hang out. there are several under-utilized mini-amphitheaters around the trail not getting used. Lots of exercising for young people, fishing for kids etc. but when i walk with my elderly mother, there are not many places to stop and rest and look at the water.
23. Good lighting, better connection to the lake (ie, dock design), easier connection to downtown and the street above.

Onsite Event - Postcards & Actors' Engagements

1. Do both! I like access to both the city and the water via a dock.
2. Need to make sure there is still room for paddlers between short and the 1st set of pillars.
3. I am very concerned that the dock will impede/put at risk the rowing programs (ARC, TRC, UTexas) that row on the river. Please make sure the dock does not extend too far and no swimmers in the second arch (rowing/boating lanes) -Bob Morse 512-829-3461
4. Plexi-pane opening to walking on/view into water (drew a stick figure thinking about a fish standing on the dock illustration)
5. (drew people fishing off the dock and people laying down on towels)
6. (drew a sgructutre on the dock - climbing, elevated a part of the dock - overhang,
7. cut out a part of the dock - water opening)
8. (circled dock) Enjoy the natural vegetation and water
9. Add more water activities
10. People talk about being able to have access to the river, to the water.
11. One woman said she came down to have access to water but when she started thinking about it, she has been running the trail for 20 years and never really accessed the water. It was more about the peacefulness, a feeling of being able to be alone together.
12. People keep mentioning there really needs to be a place to sit, places to rest, places to look at the water.
13. One woman has been running on the trail for years, she just loves it, but she would like some more natural places to sit and reflect. She likes the limestone additions that they have done

on some parts of the trail. It would be nice to have a place to look out and enjoy the water.

14. Enjoys the vegetation, the nice breeze off the water, it doesn't need that much, it's nice the way it is.
15. Could become a waterfront hub
16. A desire for greater access to the river; either sitting and enjoying or having more places to rent paddle boards and little boats. More trees to block out the city but not as much foliage so that you can enjoy the river view.

Micro-engagements

1. Add flat bottom boats in addition to canoes and kayaks
2. Places to fish. I want to catch and eat a catfish.
3. Could there be a swimming area here?
4. Create places to learn and support nature, plant life and the ecology of the water
5. Create tucked away activity areas to play and watch nature like a community clubhouse with kayaks, canoeing, and swimming.
6. Wildlife lagoon areas for turtles and birds to be happy. Maybe even a place to see what's happening under the water.
7. Someone wanted more fun things to do like kayaking, ziplining, yoga areas, jet skis.
8. a place to come sit and enjoy watching the river

Public Art

Survey Results

1. Public art, more landscaping and disguise of all the concrete. Murals from local artists. Not sure we need electric lights, maybe. The hot pinkstripes seems too strong and stark and incongruent with the peace of the trail- I see more art nouveau than modern graphics. This is not really a color that is prevalent in nature that much, esp. on our city trail
2. None. Fine as is. Could use some art to look at on my runs.
3. More better lighting and art display. Cleaner and smell-free.
4. Better lighting, Art work that incorporates into the landscape.
5. Pave underneath and put some cool sculptures/art.
6. It is a great blank space right now. There is plenty of blank wall space for some cool art or lights, and the shelter of the bridge would make this a great place to hang out if it didn't feel so underwhelming at the moment. Glad this is happening!
7. (1) Make it interesting with art, food & beverages and activities like rock climbing
8. The idea of having a "Swimming Hole" with "Artful Furnishings" makes me so happy! Hands down - I think the Dock is the WINNER!

9. The terraced option might allow more local artwork for each square. Add more plants!
10. The unique feature of this trail is that it is largely natural. Updates to trail should build on this, not create a contrasting feel. Lighting should enhance the trail in spots only, and not create a separate artistic impression.
11. Solar and LED lighting should be used here and across span. Many lights are currently wasteful or broken, too much graffiti.. needs murals, light treatments.
12. I've always been a fan of murals.
13. I would decrease the angle of the "V" from 90 deg to 60 deg to maximize the shade depth under the bridge. Think shade. This is not LA. I would also consider taking the dock(s) concept further out into the water. A waterfront cafe/music venue would be fun. Integrate a mural into the the climbing wall.

Onsite Event - Postcards & Actors' Engagements

1. A couple people talked about it becoming a space that artists could use.

Micro-engagements

1. A great place to showcase local artists. Murals, mosaics, art that is specifically Austin- based.
2. Community art spaces: painting wall open to whomever is on the trail, chalk for anyone to use.
3. More places to spend time together like a treehouse! A crafting tree house where kids can make bird feeders.
4. Beautifying the top part of the bridge to signal that this is a place to go. Having something a bit more exciting up top that will lead people down to the bottom.

General Programming Improvements

Survey Results

1. Seating, landscaping, extending the space into the water.
2. lighting, seating
3. Seating
4. Bathroom please
5. Add benching and water fountains to provide a shady rest space for those running and biking during the hotter months. The bridge provides lots of shade and is a good cool stopping point. Another set of restrooms would be nice too.
6. Paint, lights, water station, benches for rest (there aren't many spaces to stop along this part of the trail to not impede traffic) maybe a dock to get closer to the waters edge safely for fishing or relaxing.

7. More emphasis on a soft, naturalized shoreline. Simplify the process of biking to the dock, parking a bike, and water recreation rentals (e.g. kayaks, canoes, paddleboards, etc.). Maybe separate an active/passive areas of the docks for those wanting to simply sit and read by the water.
8. I prefer the dock design/use vs the rock design. There is 10 miles of nature but fewer spaces for other interests such as sitting, coffee, snacks, ducks to feed plus I believe the under bridge lighting would make this a safe, vibrant and new amenity that would be a new Austin destination
9. It would be great to have a very limited concessions area (coffee, cokes etc) so people can stop in the shade and hang out. there are several under-utilized mini-ampitheatres around the trail not getting used. Lots of exercising for young people, fishing for kids etc. but when i walk with my elderly mother, there are not many places to stop and rest and look at the water.
10. Food and Drink
11. Lighting, food/beverage service, better use of the water access/space
12. More lakeside food and drink options would be a great revenue driver for the city, much like Alta's does already.
13. (1) Make it interesting with art, food & beverages and activities like rock climbing
14. Incorporating Austin's live music atmosphere to the trail would only benefit it. food/drink
15. Appreciate that both options have concessions. The majority of this project is dedicated to improving space north of the trail, which isn't as high of a priority for me.
16. Don't understand this wet/dry concept at all. Why not an eastern and western dock concept? Again for a destination think food, music and shade ... over the water.
17. Board game rental/checkout station! Or lanterns for evenings picnics. Perhaps a food kiosk.
18. food and drinks!
19. Other drink/food
20. Concessions. Need a family-friendly place to buy a cup of coffee or maybe even a cold beer.

Onsite Event - Postcards & Actors' Engagements

1. basic conveniences that aren't accessible, like enough water fountains or benches.
2. Wanted a seating terrace, more benches or rock seating
3. A desire for greater access to the river; sitting and enjoying
4. People use this as an exercise route, but it might be nice to have more places to sit along the way with some shade.
5. One woman has been running on the trail for years, she just loves it, but she would like some

more natural places to sit and reflect. She likes the limestone additions that they have done on some parts of the trail. It would be nice to have a place to look out and enjoy the water.

6. People keep mentioning there really needs to be a place to sit, places to rest, places to look at the water.
7. Lots of places to sit and hang out.
8. Since the bridge is shady, it could be used as an exercise hub where people could recharge or meet before they exercise.
9. a lot of ways for people to use the waterfront as a hub.
10. He wants to see food trucks down there, thinks it would be great to be able to grab some water or a snack.
11. People from NYC said do it the New York way, make solid trails, reuse the docks for people to sell food and hang out.

Micro-engagements

1. Always want more trash cans, benches, water fountains, and restrooms. There are some restrooms but they are always locked.
2. More amenities for the dogs: poop bags, water fountains, places to play
3. More water fountains
4. Needs restrooms. No port-a-potties. Real restrooms!
5. More food down there. Maybe a food garden.
6. We need more bathrooms on the trail, more water fountains, more lights, more places for physical activities like climbing, ziplining, playgrounds, things for kids to do.
7. The trail needs more benches, more trash cans and recycling and little doggie poop bags.
8. a place to come sit and enjoy the wild native space.

Trail Identity

Survey Results

1. Keep the natural feel, but improve drainage. Does need foliage and landscaping. No need for a dock and anything to keep it from being a pet area. Pet owners need to keep animals in the designated area in Vic Mathias portion of the trail.
2. Perhaps water blast then a coat of paint. Else it's fine. It serves a purpose now: a trail next to an abutment wall of a bridge over a flood-controlled waterway.
3. Simplicity, Low cost
4. Keep it simple, easy to access and use. Keep it natural and be mindful of the environmental needs... avoid stressing it out. Don't over produce when thinking you are "making improvements."
5. Ensure smooth and uninterrupted passage of people using the trail for exercise (walk, run, bike).
6. The unique feature of this trail is that it is largely natural. Updates to trail should build on this, not create a contrasting feel. Lighting should enhance the trail in spots only, and not create a separate artistic impression.
7. None. Leave the trail to the runners/walkers who currently use it.
8. The Dock idea is great EXCEPT for the lighting. We are trying to be a Dark Sky city, and quite honestly, it looks terribly over stimulating. Soft uplighting would keep it in tune with nature. And, add space for wildlife - it is their river, too!
9. None. Fine as is. Could use some art to look at on my runs.
10. Nothing that disturbs nature at night / no bright lights.
11. it has a program, its just the lake trail
12. I would like it to be easy to maneuver (run) through and clean.
13. It's better just like it is.
14. Modern Design does not complement the waterfront. Looks unnatural
15. Too much. Too splashy.
16. Please do not make it look like we live in Dallas. Whichever option doesn't close the trail. I have been running the trail for over 12 years and it is a big inconvenience crossing the surface streets now that traffic is so terrible.
17. not necessary
18. rocks feel more of a natural fit, if they are same similar to what you would find in the area.
19. I prefer the rock boulder concept. It fits the site better and is more natural; playing off existing native materials.
20. Nice, but is it necessary?

Onsite Event - Postcards & Actors' Engagements

1. Referred to as the first street bridge or i don't know bridge.
2. It's a loud place with cars going by, music playing, with already a lot happening, and lots of other corners of austin that are already quieter. The reason that they don't come to the trail more often.
3. People know the bridge as first street bridge or the bridge by city hall. They don't know the history of it.
4. Currently people just see it as a bridge, without any "vibe." Every Austinite has not been able to name the bridge, and surprised when they find out it has a name.
5. People identify this place as less of the bridge and more as a piece of the trail. The trail is a place to walk or exercise, that makes you feel close to nature, but it has lots of things to do. Someone said it is one of the first things they tell people about when someone is moving to Austin. Making Drake Bridge a feature of the trail or tying its identity to the trail would be good.
6. One woman said she was training for a marathon and was using the trail to train because it is ten miles. When she would get under the bridge she knew she was half way because of the smell bats. It was like a cue that she was half way done so she has a fond association with the bridge and the smell of the bats.
7. Different participant was a Trail Foundation member. She has been running the trail for over thirty years and has been running the trail for so long that her hips don't support running anymore so now she walks. She just loves the trail.
8. A man that just moved to Austin two weeks ago and said he has been down to the trail five times already. He's drawn to the trail because he's a nature person and he loves that the trail is on the edge of the city. At any point he can just jump off the trail to go do something in the city and then jump back on. He wants to see food trucks down there, thinks it would be great to be able to grab some water or a snack.
9. Met a man who as a kid, 11 years old, remembers Drake Bridge being built. He thinks the trail is so beautiful and has loved watching the transformation of it. As a kid he said this was not an area you would come down to. It had a lot of trash, not the vegetation we have, not an area you would come to. And in July or August it would get so hot that it would dry up all the water, and he would play in the dry river bed. Started running the trail in 1950. He kept saying, "something just draws me to this place, I can't stay away." Drawn to the trail by the plants, animals, the air.
10. People view the trail as very connected to the city. You can always see the city, it feels so close that you could reach out and touch it. People can go off the trail to go to a business and come back on. Very convenient to be in there(the city) and be here(the trail)
11. One woman said she came down to have access to water but when she started thinking about it, she has been running the trail for 20 years and never really accessed the water. It was more about the peacefulness, a feeling of being able to be alone together. You can be around people, people watch, even engage, but you are also welcome to just be by yourself

and do your own thing with nature around.

12. Interacted with another long time user of the trail, over two decades. She appreciated a lot of the renovations like adding more greenery, adding more community spaces, especially places for slow speed traffic > the pedestrian bridge & boardwalk. The trail is not a fast lane. She's happy they aren't letting scooters on the trail. Even though she's a cyclist she likes that it is not a paved bike lane. She referred to it as Austin's living room.
13. People describe it as being very green, peaceful even though it is busy. Referring to that living room idea, it's almost seen as an enclosure, implying it's a safe space. And the renovations have just made it more inviting. It's our central park. A sanctuary to come to move and be with the space.
14. Words used to describe this place: healthy, wholesome, doesn't revolve around partying, sanctuary, peaceful,
15. It feels like a place to get away but have a community space, even if someone is new to Austin.
16. Talked to a lot of people that were tourists or it was their first time at the trail. They love it as a concept, a natural space in the middle of the city,
17. A gateway to nature where you can block the city out. A place to come to get away.
18. another central park reference in that it feels like a place that you can use, a thoroughfare, even a vein. Having the space separate from the city, that is a native place, not cultivated, feels important to people.

Micro-engagements

1. The trail is the hallway of Austin. Always running into people you know.
2. People that are from here want small changes, quality of life changes.
3. Creating an atmosphere that is safe or friendly
4. Majority of people liked the trail because it is peaceful, they liked the green, tranquility of coming down here.
5. Need to keep the area green because that's what draws people here.
6. the only place they come to see nature,
7. People are protective over the trail, a feeling of this is our home. The city is taking care of it as best they can but people also need to chip in.
8. First street bridge is a landmark for the city in some ways, a part of people's daily routine.
9. Poem from a little girl: Once upon a time grassy smelled like minty, a big tree like a rainbow in the sky, and there was a cloud like a heart, the end.
10. It's amazing and beautiful
11. The trail is too long. Make it shorter
12. At the bridge, there is nothing for us to do. Why would we go there? We need things to do. Our parents don't take us there because there is nothing to do.

APPENDIX C:

ROCK or DOCK Comments

Dock

Survey Results

1. I think this one balances best the need to address regular and existing foot traffic with making the area more usable.
2. Love all of this!!!
3. Don't like all this concrete.
4. Not suitable for this stretch. Gatherings are better suited across the lake on the southern portion of the trail.
5. No not that
6. As this attracts a lot more people to the area, it would be good to have separated route for bicyclists and runners to avoid accidents
7. Do this one.
8. These designs look way too expensive. Who is paying for this? If public funding, need to spend that money on Parks, like Pease Park - Kingsbury Commons.
9. This looks beautiful to me. I like the interaction with the lake and the ecological aspects.
10. While I LOVE the ideas for increasing plant presence, I am wary that the floating wetlands would be a haven to mosquitoes, which would have a serious negative impact on enjoyment of the space.
11. I prefer the dock design/use vs the rock design. There is 10 miles of nature but fewer spaces for other interests such as sitting, coffee, snacks, ducks to feed plus I believe the under bridge lighting would make this a safe, vibrant and new amenity that would be a new Austin destination
12. It's better just like it is.
13. Love this design!
14. "In the slides, it mentions the potential for the dry dock to be a swimming hole of sorts. This seems like an incredible idea if it was possible! But to my knowledge, it is dangerous to swim in the lake due to water quality and submerged objects. But, that would be an incredible idea that should be a future goal. Having designated docks for swimming and sunbathing on the lake, with safe and healthy water quality would add value to Lady Bird Lake as a cultural and natural destination. What I like most about the Drake Dock is the creation of a new space that can be used for performers, lounging, and gatherings jettisoned over the water. This, however, might expose the water to be more easily polluted by single-use plastic and paper. It seems like a

future Austin destination to view sunsets!

15. “
16. this is so engaging and would be a landmark for the city
17. Really like how the majority of this project is over the lake. The water is the main draw - embrace it!
18. “Enhancements should be made to improve the
19. natural feel of the trail. This distracts from why people love the trail. Focus needs to be on the trail itself and the many people who walk, run, bike on this oasis within the city. “
20. Really unique idea that would be beautiful for that area.
21. Inspired
22. Modern Design does not complement the waterfront. Looks unnatural
23. this is awesome!
24. Floating wetlands are amazing
25. This is awesome! But it lacks a ramp connection to the bridge - include ramp from the Rock plan below!
26. I don't think it should jut out into the lake. We need to create more distance between pedestrians and the lake to decrease trash flow into town lake.
27. What happens w/ lake floods? will the wet dock be washed away?
28. AMAZING!
29. Love the dock idea except for the holes in the middle of the dry dock. Will there be barriers around the holes to prevent kids and clumsy people like me from falling in the water?
30. Too much. Too splashy.
31. Truly a work of art!
32. Please do not make it look like we live in Dallas. Whichever option doesn't close the trail. I have been running the trail for over 12 years and it is a big inconvenience crossing the surface streets now that traffic is so terrible.
33. I like the docks and under-bridge experience
34. Holes in dock. Can see people accidentally falling into those, smack head. Wetland area sounds very neat. The “^” shape of docks looks uninspired. Different layout would be preferred. A neat layout would be something like the Aquatic Park Pier in San Francisco.
35. I am concerned about the lighting proposed for both these options - impact on wildlife/fish/ birds, dark sky initiatives, etc.
36. Emphasize the ecology of the proposed wetlands, what plants and animals are welcome here? What is the wetlands function?
37. This would be such a great addition to austin!! Pick this one!

38. "The idea of having a ""Swimming Hole"" with ""Artful Furnishings"" makes me so happy!
- 39.
40. Hands down - I think the Dock is the WINNER!"
41. good
42. I think this is a great idea! It ties in what is going on in the South Shore District with the boardwalk.
43. Love the design and overall look.
44. Some kind of submersed platform to help people get in and out of boats easier.
45. Seems a bit overdone
46. Local plants and ones needed for habitat, trash prevention, filtering.
47. Wish I knew about this sooner.
48. I especially like the dry/wet option, and the floating wetlands. They're accessible, but also have a natural appearance.
49. This is jaw-dropping and gorgeous. I love it!
50. Love!
51. mosquitos, gnats, bugs everywhere
52. This is the better of the two designs by far..
53. Don't understand this wet/dry concept at all. Why not an eastern and western dock concept? Again for a destination think food, music and shade ... over the water.
54. Love this design!
55. this is very cool. my favorite part of the lake is the spiral ramp at the pfluger bridge and the shoal creek mouth. this is similarly lush, i like it. it's bold, zesty, and provides new infrastructure to interface with the lake.
56. The more natural the edge, the more appealing. Of course, an accessible platform is also nice however is there a way to make the floating wetland and the dry dock just one intervention in the lake rather than a east and west feature.
57. not necessary
58. This is a great idea, and I really like the mix of wet/dry docks. It seems like it will fit well with the feel of the lake and the shelter of the bridge is a great place for activation like this.
59. Decking needs to be bike friendly. The rendering looks like it has large gaps between the boards which would be a danger to bikes.
60. I absolutely love this idea, really hope you pick this one
61. This plan would make accessibility worse by adding cross traffic on the existing trail and failing to improve connectivity to street level amenities. Also, this is not the best spot for a dock attraction on the lake--a dock attraction would be better alongside the Seaholm Intake

facility.

62. The docks are an excellent idea, as well as the climbing wall and lighting.
63. Love this esp the wetlands
64. The docks in your picture look like they have slats that people's shoes and wheelchair tires, etc. will get stuck in. You have no picture of the wet dock so it's hard to know what that would be like. Also the play areas look inaccessible. Why can't you let kids with disabilities have cool experiences too instead of relegating them to the most banal and limited options? This could be a really cool idea but you are crapping on people in wheelchairs, and you didn't even have to do that. I am so sick of bringing this up with the parks people. I am not going to rate your stuff when you completely ignore the needs of my community.
65. Independent of cost constraints, I'm not sure that I see the two projects as mutually exclusive -- rather I think they could be quite complementary if well executed.
66. Not resilient enough. Wood is going to rot unless it is treated with super un-green chemicals.

Postcard Results

1. I am very concerned that the dock will impede/put at risk the rowing programs (ARC, TRC, UTexas) that row on the river. Please make sure the dock does not extend too far and no swimmers in the second arch (rowing/boating lanes) -Bob Morse 512-829-3461
2. (circled dock illustration with autograph)
3. (placed an x on the dock illustration)
4. (placed sticker next to dock illustration) This is more American! Stylish. People could remember Austin for this!
5. (circled dock illustration with exclamation point)
6. (placed a sticker on the dock illustration)
7. (circled dock illustration)
8. (circled dock illustration)
9. (circled dock illustration) Love It!
10. (circled dock illustration)
11. (circled dock illustration)
12. Do both! I like access to both the city and the water via a dock.
13. (circled dock illustration)
14. Need to make sure there is still room for paddlers between short and the 1st set of pillars.
15. (circled dock)
16. both with the seating of the rock with lake access *I don't think you need the playground

17. (circled dock)
18. (circled dock)
19. Hopefully they will incorporate some deep shade!
20. (placed sticker on dock illustration)
21. (drew a rope swing) "rope swing" "lighting under dock for fishing"
22. (drew a heart around the dock illustration) "swing sets, yes! one person merry-go-rounds!"
23. "Plexi-pane opening to walking on/view into water" (drew a stick figure thinking about a fish standing on the dock illustration)
24. "Request: Resist the San-Antonio-like urge to make the lakeside into a shopping area!"
25. "This needs to be more organic (inform and in its relationship with the site)"
26. "very cool! Good luck!"
27. (circled "Drake Dock")
28. (drew in family of ducks swimming by, long grass peaking up from both E-W sides of the dock, someone rowing a boat by the dock and circled "Drake Dock")
29. "Just Think" (written on the dock illustration)
30. "Great Idea" (written on dock illustration)
31. "Not so much"
32. (circled dock illustration)
33. (placed sticker on dock illustration)
34. (drew people fishing off the dock and people laying down on towels)
35. "Great Idea! :) Both are great. Ideas for public safety provides great lighting above and below"
36. (circled "Drake Dock")
37. (placed sticker on dock illustration and drew two girls playing on the dock)
38. (placed sticker on dock illustration and drew two happy people on the dock) "Hanging with my nature pals!"
39. (drew a person on a structure) "sitting"
40. "I love the openness of the dock combined with the natural elements of Rock! Combine the two! So EXCITED FOR THIS!!!"
41. (drew a structure on the dock - "climbing, elevated a part of the dock - "overhang", cut out a part of the dock - ""water opening""")
42. "Picnic" "Kids play" "LOVE THESE IDEAS! Great job."
43. (circled dock) " Enjoy the natural vegetation and water"

44. (placed a dot on the dock illustration)
45. (shortened the dock)
46. (placed a dot on the dock illustration)
47. "If you do the dock, it needs to have higher safety measures. Kids or homeless people, inebriated people or just people not paying attention could fall off this unmonitored area. Swimming hole will become full of trash.""
48. (drew a railing around the dock)"
49. "No"
50. "I think the dock access isn't as accessible for all. It's more limited an option and would also seemingly require more approvals, maintenance, and money."
51. "Public restrooms please!"
52. "Hermoso Austin. Felicidades por aser esta ciudad mas hermosa y pensar en las personas y el parque. Todos juntos lo lograremos. Cuidemos nuestra ciudad. Muchas gracias. Maria, Santiago, Chile" ENG Translation: "Beautiful Austin. Congratulations for making this city more beautiful and thinking about the people and the park. Together we will achieve it. Take care of our city, Thank you very much. Maria, Santiago, Chile"
53. "The proposals are very good and I think it is very clear they are conceptual, I would say there are things that should be presented in the renderings, such as bikes and people running---> Being a place where people run and bike often, the space should be considering them constantly, otherwise accidents can happen."
54. (drew a section of the bridge, trail, and lake. close to the wall of the bridge there are "two bike lanes" followed by a "space for runners" then "physical separation with public furniture - benches, lighting, etc." the other side of this is a "space to gather" leading down to the river.)

ROCK

Survey Results

1. I don't like this because I think it would disrupt the flow of the trail/encourage folks to just sit and hang out, blocking traffic. We already have plenty of spots for that at Auditorium Shores and near the bat bridge. This feels duplicative and not unique.
2. Love all of this!!
3. I like option #2
4. Better suited to keep area a pass through and not a gathering place.
5. Yes this
6. The other option makes for better use of the space
7. Eh.

8. Admittedly, the concepts are not bad. Other considerations: [1] debris catching in docks [2] list of pros & cons for docks AND terraces [3] mosquitos in wet doc and enough flow to preclude them. This article seems like a solution in search of a problem.
9. These designs look way too expensive. There is nearly a million dollars in stone shown here. Who is paying for this? If public funding, need to spend that money on Parks, like Pease Park - Kingsbury Commons.
10. I like this too but I like the dock idea better. It seems to have a more open feel and more interaction with the lake. The landscaping seems more ecologically interesting in the dock version.
11. rocks feel more of a natural fit, if they are same similar to what you would find in the area.
12. The more natural boulders and the pollinator gardens are wonderful. Beyond that, it seems like yet more pavement. The grass areas also seem like a potential maintenance issue/cost. Doggie poop bags and disposal would be necessary as well.
13. It would be great if you could take this out into the river in a way that would create habitat for bass and a place to fish. Before the carp Town Lake was an amazing fishery and a great place for parents and children to connect in nature around fishing. It would be nice to see more attention paid to that amazing resource in the center of town.
14. Not my first choice!
15. I like the direct access that the Drake Rock gives to the intersection above. The direct access ensures for easy discovery by residents and visitors. I also like the terraces and stone platforms on the east of the Drake Bridge Commons. The terraces would be a playful and dynamic twist on local natural geology. I do not like the rock amphitheater under the bridge. The slides may not do justice to the plan, but it seems rather stagnant in the ability for the area to be adequately activated for public use.
16. Far superior. The other one is more for boaters than people on shore.
17. I prefer the rock boulder concept. It fits the site better and is more natural; playing off existing native materials.
18. this is great, too, but not as ambitious or interesting. the docks create a place to be
19. Appreciate that both options have concessions. The majority of this project is dedicated to improving space north of the trail, which isn't as high of a priority for me.
20. Plan is too busy with too much impervious cover and not enough natural plantings. There needs to be only one access path. Like that it appears the trail stays natural with crushed granite. Limit lighting to enhancement and not creating contrasting artistic impression.
21. Nice but not super unique.
22. Not as original or inspiring as the dock design.
23. "The rocks are nice for keeping a natural environment but if used for amphitheater seating could be a hinderance for some with mobility issues.
24. Also don't put in too many play areas for kids. Waste of space, the trail is mainly used by

adults”

25. Love this one! I would love to come here and be able to get wet
26. Natural Elegance complementing the waterfront.
27. this would be cool as an adjunct to the docks.
28. I like the ramp to the bridge idea - combine with docks please!
29. I like the dock option, either will be an improvement over the existing situation.
30. I definitely like the idea of lifting up the trail to create an access point to view the lake.
31. Fine design, but truly unimpressive compared to the Dock. We only have one shot at this, let's do it right!
32. Too many levels, to look at what, not really ADA accessible and easily a trip hazard for runners.
33. Nice, but is it necessary?
34. Unimaginative by comparison.
35. Same as above. Please do not make it look like we live in Dallas. Whichever option doesn't close the trail. I have been running the trail for over 12 years and it is a big inconvenience crossing the surface streets now that traffic is so terrible.
36. I like the stone terraces to the east of the bridge. The required guardrails may make the terraces less landscapey
37. The terraced option might allow more local artwork for each square. Add more plants!
38. Seems to not connect civic and recreation use with ecology as well as the first concept.
39. This would definitely be an improvement but is pretty timid design wise.
40. Looks nice. I won't complain if the Drake Bridge Commons ends up looking like "The Rock"
41. Not as cool as the dock option, but seeing as how the dock would probably be a very crowded space, this might be a better option for pedestrian flow.
42. Nice improvement to an area with a lot of potential.
43. Dual dock plan is much better
44. Wish I knew about this sooner.
45. Meh
46. More nature/landscaping needed, fewer bikes/crowds.
47. Not great
48. blah
49. I don't like this design as much but I do like the access it provides to the street above.
50. this is pretty uninteresting. the zigzag ramp and limestone block walls is basically what already exists, and its boring. this might be a better fit for under 35 or mopac, but not right

downtown. the plan needs to have zest!

51. A little concerned for those with limited mobility - injured, elderly, etc.
52. not necessary
53. This option is a bit less flashy to me than the docks, but the added connectivity to the street above is very much needed here. The ramp that goes to the West side of the bridge is very meh.
54. The slatted ground covering of the Drake option would need to still allow for bikes.
55. Would be interesting to incorporate floating wetlands into this design concept.
56. I love the idea of the rock attractions/stone terraces more than a wetlands. It would be ideal to do a bit of both plans, i.e. to keep the proposed dock idea on one side and then do the rock terrace idea connecting to downtown on the other side.
57. Please no concessions at the trail. keep it natural
58. I personally like the civic access, but prefer the look of the docks.
59. I like rocks but maybe does not create as much of a functional space. Perhaps there's a way to incorporate some rocks in the Dock design.
60. I'm not sure about the concession stands. This could really clog the trail which is frustrating for runners, walkers. And bikers. We do not need more traffic jams along the trail or in Austin. Period. The idea of bringing folks to this particular area should not be an attraction in and of itself. More of a feature along the trail- not an attraction site- would be appreciated. To clarify, this should be a nice stop along the way when using the whole trail - not something that people park and go to specifically for what it offers.
61. I'm not sure about the concession stands. This could really clog the trail which is frustrating for runners, walkers. And bikers. We do not need more traffic jams along the trail or in Austin. Period. The idea of bringing folks to this particular area should not be an attraction in and of itself. More of a feature along the trail- not an attraction site- would be appreciated. To clarify, this should be a nice stop along the way when using the whole trail - not something that people park and go to specifically for what it offers.
62. In your overview area here there is a path that's accessible but all the rest is an ocean of steps, like the message is move along and get away from where we have fun. the stormwater terraces would be cool -- if you can get to them, can't tell here. But the natural seating would be unavailable to anyone with a walking disability who might use crutches or whatever. This is the problem at City hall and it's been repeated here. Climbing area, water play and nature play all look inaccessible -- why? What is the point of that? This is almost 30 years post the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act; we sued the PARKS dept about lack of access multiple times; we've met; we've discussed; we've commented and STILL these inaccessible designs keep being proudly brought forward.
63. Rocks, rocks, rocks. We like caves. We like cliffs. We like limestone- tough and pretty. It could be an upside-down world Mt. Bonnell. A walk-in cave. Fragglesland. The catacombs. Wine cellar. Party at the quarry. Underground Moon Tower.

Postcard Results

1. This is more Austin!
2. (circled rock illustration)
3. (circled rock illustration)
4. Love the illuminated rocks, stalamites idea!
5. Do both! I like access to the city and the water via a dock.
6. (circled Drake rock) Sit and people watch in the shade!
7. both with the seating of the rock with lake access *I don't think you need the playground
8. Hopefully they will incorporate some deep shade!
9. (arrows pointing to rocks) important, :) "so hom!"
10. (circled rocks and placed sticker) Thank you
11. (put an X through the rock illustration)
12. "Request: Resist the San-Antonio-like urge to make the lakeside into a shopping area!"
13. "The rocks need a study, a connect collocation, it seems that they are just there instead that looking like a project that was thought"
14. "Photos" (written on the ground)
15. (circled drake rock illustration) "Love"
16. (drew a band, complete with sax, trumpet and drum, performing for a crowd of 3 people at the base of the rocks, the band on the top)
17. "Great Idea! :) Both are great. Ideas for public safety provides great lighting above and below"
18. (drew an arrow pointing at the rocks and added a staircase of rocks going up the hill)
19. (circled rock illustration) "City, Access, Tourist"
20. (drew a person sitting on a rock) "reading"
21. "I love the openness of the dock combined with the natural elements of Rock! Combine the two! So EXCITED FOR THIS!!!"
22. "H2O Fountain" "Trash/Recycle/Compost"
23. "The city terraces/connection feels very hard. Soften and maintain the trail "feel.""
24. "lunch break" "watch bats" "LOVE THESE IDEAS! Great job."
25. "More plants but yes!"
26. "Like: Plants! Seating, Bouldering Wall, Stalagmite lights, wide easy access for peds"
27. "More tree cover for stones will get dangerously hot."
28. "Yes"

29. "The rock option integrates users above the trail and draws them down. There are lots more options for safe play and access for the rock option and it is much more versatile. My vote is for the rock. Also I love the amphitheater and natural integration ideas of the rock option."
30. "Public restrooms please!"
31. "Hermoso Austin. Felicidades por aser esta ciudad mas hermosa y pensar en las personas y el parque. Todos juntos lo lograremos. Cuidemos nuestra ciudad. Muchas gracias. Maria, Santiago, Chile" ENG Translation: "Beautiful Austin. Congratulations for making this city more beautiful and thinking about the people and the park. Together we will achieve it. Take care of our city, Thank you very much. Maria, Santiago, Chile"
32. "The proposals are very good and I think it is very clear they are conceptual, I would say there are things that should be presented in the renderings, such as bikes and people running---> Being a place where people run and bike often, the space should be considering them constantly, otherwise accidents can happen."
33. (drew a section of the bridge, trail, and lake. close to the wall of the bridge there are "two bike lanes" followed by a "space for runners" then "physical separation with public furniture - benches, lighting, etc." the other side of this is a "space to gather" leading down to the river.)"

APPENDIX D: Event Two Responses

Strengths, Opportunities, Concerns

Kids, families, multi-generational

Strengths

1. This looks amazing. I like seeing swings for all. Know my little one would love.
2. Community space good for kids and swimming.

Opportunities

1. Outside children's events?
2. Family-centric programs, particularly on weekends. Family things have been moved out of the city so much of the fun involves driving to perimeter areas. Also, senior citizens seem underrepresented in many ways and I bet would appreciate attention to outdoor social opportunities

Spacemaking, placemaking; community, public space

Strengths

1. Creating a space is the best part: "clear trail, dock, stairs and seating areas"
2. Community space good for kids and swimming
3. The placemaking! Goodness, do we need more of that in the city
4. Making the space more inviting and less off putting when passing through it. Do both! I like access to the city and the water via a dock.
5. I love it! I hope this design is implemented as proposed. The area around/under the bridge is greatly underutilized. I used to go running through that area multiple times a week and would try to run under the bridge as quickly as possible because it wasn't very pleasant. If your design is built, I would enjoy spending time around the bridge doing a variety of activities, and would be proud to show it off to out-of-town visitors. both with the seating of the rock with lake access *I don't think you need the playground
6. Thank you for creating spaces for community to gather and enjoy nature!
7. Very cool! I appreciate the spaces for the public to spend time outside together.
8. Great idea to make use of the space! I can see the value of creating a cool space for riders, bikers, and kayakers to congregate! Great idea!
9. Making the space more inviting and less off putting when passing through it.

Lighting, visibility, night-time use

Strengths

1. Also, like switchback trail and lighting. Community space good for kids and swimming
2. Better lighting.
3. Night walk capability.
4. This design is the best of both worlds: reactivating the water space with the docks, providing a path to get down to the trail on the east side of the Drake Bridge, and providing lighting and seating under the bridge.
5. The docks, wetlands, more trees, accent lighting, benches, climbing wall.
6. The lighting at night would be really cool, if it turns out as depicted.

Concern

1. More lighting under the bridge. It is extremely dark there when I run in the morning. I can't see a thing under the 1st Street Bridge.

Nature, green spaces, ecology

Strengths

1. Green islands.
2. Wetland expansion
3. The absolutely amazing combination of ecology and amenities in one place
4. The docks, wetlands, more trees, accent lighting, benches, climbing wall.
5. Thank you for creating spaces for community to gather and enjoy nature!
6. Love it. The more places in nature we can leave for the community, the better.
7. This is really awesome - nothing but positive praise for the project. Love the interest in bat studies and space for greenery!
8. The riparian zone (strip of vegetation) acting as a buffer between the city and river is my favorite part!

Opportunities

1. More nature, make it like anything else already in the city – Unique
2. Education on the islands.
3. Less interested in specific activities and just making it an inviting green space
4. gardening / nature walk

Concerns

1. More landscaping needed
2. Conserve the area

Swimming, water activities, water connection/access

Strengths

3. Community space good for kids and swimming
4. Expanding public space into the waterway.
5. This design is the best of both worlds: reactivating the water space with the docks, providing a path to get down to the trail on the east side of the Drake Bridge, and providing lighting and seating under the bridge.

Opportunities

1. Swimming!
2. I would like to see a dedicated space for people to launch their watercraft, unless you expect every boat user to arrive from another location. Ideally a person wouldn't have to carry a kayak across the hike-and-bike trail.
3. Fishing pier?
4. boating

Concern

1. This amenity seems to be for pretty tourists who paddle their dogs around on rented SUPs looking for a quick yoga pitstop. Don't forget about the fisherman and sailors who want to use the lake, too. How about throwing a few bucks at improving boat access on the south side of the lake? Those paddleboards are like aquatic rollerblades, someday we'll laugh about how goofy we looked on them, but canoes will always need a place to launch.

Swimming, water activities, water connection/access

Strengths

1. Trail expansion
2. Creating a space is the best part: clear trail, dock, stairs and seating areas.
3. This design is the best of both worlds: reactivating the water space with the docks, providing a path to get down to the trail on the east side of the Drake Bridge, and providing lighting and seating under the bridge.
4. More visual interest along the trail
5. Great idea to make use of the space! I can see the value of creating a cool space for riders, bikers, and kayakers to congregate! Great idea!

Opportunities

1. Running & biking (I approve of the dedicated trail path)

Concerns

2. I'm concerned about congestion for trailwalkers and runners. I'm concerned it might be like auditorium shores used to be before the new off leash area.
3. The design, in limited viewing, doesn't seem to address the fact that people are moving at

Climbing wall

Strengths

1. The risk-taking with the climbing wall and the open ecological space is so wonderful. These options create movement and challenges and places for people to just be without being hemmed in by railing and such for a few minutes. I'm certainly in favor of safety and care and so on, but there's so much to be said for openness and small chance-taking
2. I really hope you get to do that bouldering wall somehow. That would be awesome!

Concerns

1. Climbing area accessible in part for kids?
2. Bouldering wall is a bad idea, it seems an add-on and can create a bottleneck: climbers, equipment, spectators. Right next to a trail? not good.
3. Drop bouldering wall
4. Don't waste resources on a bouldering wall.
5. As a climber I was intrigued by the bouldering wall but think its a bad idea. You would need some kind of padding at the base and seems impossible to maintain. If people fall without a pad it could mean lots of injuries.

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Cost

Concerns

1. Cost could be high. Focus spending on the wet and dry docks.
2. The design feels too big/too much for a small area. I'm super excited to see so much money being spent on the trail but I wish this project would have been scaled back in exchange for improving both Drake Bridge and under the North side of I-35, where I often see people almost getting run over by cars leaving the parking lot.

Shade

Concerns

1. Some shade on the dry dock would be nice, maybe similar to the tresses on the boardwalk.
2. You're going to want some shade on that giant dock. I mean, damn. The rafter things under the bridge are cool, just make sure the pigeons can't roost up there and crap on everybody.
3. It would be nice if some of the bridge was shaded, either with canvas or the bridge itself.
4. Will there be shade over the large dock?

Camping, people experiencing homelessness

Concerns

1. I am very supportive of this, it looks beautiful. I particularly like the features directly under the bridge that would make camping more difficult.
2. I'd like the city to create more well-paid jobs for clean up and maintenance for the homeless.

Yellow

Concerns

1. concerned the floating wetlands yellow will not blend with the nature theme. Also, it seems certain they will get algae-covered and be hard to maintain.
2. Also, you might want to pump the brakes on all the bright yellow. Good design speaks for itself.
3. Overall I love it, but I think the yellow color throughout distracts from the natural beauty. Focus more on nature!
4. I particularly like the features directly under the bridge that would make camping more difficult.

Maintenance

Concerns

1. Concerned the floating wetlands yellow will not blend with the nature theme. Also, it seems certain they will get algae-covered and be hard to maintain.
2. Maintenance should be minimal and affordable
3. Make it low maintenance for the city/taxpayers so we can take care of other parks/new facilities.

Additional Comments

Strengths, Opportunities and Concerns

1. More visual interest along the trail
2. Everything!
3. Obviously better than what is there now
4. Great design. This will really improve the area!
5. It looks great! Will be very exciting to see this become reality
6. tourist attraction for visitors to the park and guests at nearby hotels
7. Look at Levy Park in Houston
8. Safety, Sustainability

9. Yes, my neighbors fighting against change, its like they want the city to stay mediocre.
10. It's a total boondoggle



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