



## **PARKS & OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMISSION**

**Recommendations to Commissioners Court  
Public Webinar Presentation**

**August 4 & 6, 2020**





# WELCOME



**Thank you for your time and interest!**

Agenda for 1-hour public meeting.

- Introduction of POSAC panelists
- Visual presentation (25-min)
  - Background on POSAC , our process and evaluation/scoring of projects
  - Review recommended Tier One and Tier Two Projects
  - Bond recommendation to Commissioners Court
- Short participant poll
- Question and Answer: Please use Q&A link in the tool bar at screen bottom
- Next Steps & Contact information

# A SENSE OF PLACE



“As the state’s population becomes more urban and disconnected from our lands, water and wildlife it becomes increasingly important to provide accessible, safe and enjoyable outdoor opportunities and to educate the public about the natural resources of Texas.

Access to parks, neighborhood green spaces and nature centers helps children and people of all ages develop a sense of place. A sense of place describes the relationship with where one lives, and an appreciation of its unique natural and cultural heritage ...



# A SENSE OF BEAUTY AND WONDER



Experiencing nature as a shared heritage combats isolation and builds stronger communities.

Experiences that bond children to the natural world sharpen their senses, inspire a sense of beauty and build emerging concepts of biology, geology, physics and language.”

*Dr. Joe Frost, Professor Emeritus, College of Education University of Texas at Austin*







## Parks & Open Space Advisory Commission (Court member who appointed)

- Scott Way, Chair (Shell)
- Kathryn Nichols, Vice-Chair (Jones)
- Lori Olson, Vice-Chair (Becerra)
- Jim Camp (Jones)
- Burt Dement (Smith)
- Laura DuPont (Shell)
- Carolyn Gonzales (Ingalsbe)
- Blanca Loya (Ingalsbe)
- Lisa Prewitt (Becerra)
- Scott Tomhave (Smith)

# OUR CHARTER



...to establish a democratic, inclusive process to study a parks, open space, and conservation bond program that will yield project recommendations to the Hays County Commissioners Court meant to ensure the confidence and trust of Hays County voters.

Identify the fundamentally critical needs for Hays County projects that include parks, open space, scenic vistas, water quality, water quantity, endangered species habitat, access to water recreation, trails/trail systems, flood mitigation lands, and any other necessary land or water conservation project(s)....

POSAC goals and priorities are found in the 2012 Hays County Parks, Open Space and Natural Areas MASTER PLAN.



# OUR PATH & COMMITMENT



## POSAC took the Charter and charged ahead

- 11 meetings, March 7 through July 22 (all but first conducted in Zoom meetings)
- Charter accepted; Bylaws adopted
- Consensus-based decision-making process
- Leadership team selected
- Educational and project presentations; site tours (June 20 and June 27)
- Development of criteria, forms, process, evaluation, scoring
- Subcommittee evaluations, July 1–July 22
- Estimated total of 600-700 POSAC person hours for meetings, study, analysis, evaluation, recommendation
- Desire to continue support for Commissioners Court and County staff

# OUR PROCESS & TIMELINE



## Start to finish: March 7 to July 28, 2020

- Background, education, process development (March/April)
- Call for projects (May)
- Project Information Form (PIF) online submission process
- Three categories of projects
  - Urban parks
  - Open space/natural areas/trails/water quality/habitat
  - Connectivity
- Review and scoring by category by sub-committee
- All POSAC reviewed scoring
- Consensus on tiered project list and bond recommendation
  - One member did not support unallocated funds as part of the bond package



# EVALUATION & SCORING CRITERIA



## Developed from Master Plan, Charter, & POSAC community values.

- Meet Master Plan goals
- Provide high priority facilities
- Demonstrate readiness to complete project within 5 years
- Provide leverage — land and/or funds
- Demonstrate on-going management and operations capacity
- Accessibility to the public
- Accommodate variety of users
- Preserve/protect natural resources
- Make significant scale of impact
- Create new recreational opportunities
- Demonstrate broad community support



## 2007 Hays County Parks & Open Space Bond

“The issuance of \$30,000,000 of Hays County Tax Bonds for Parks, Natural Areas, Open space and related projects, and the Preservation of Water Quality, Aquifer Recharge Areas, and Wildlife Habitat, and the Levying of a Tax in Payment thereof.”

- No projects identified BEFORE the bond election
- Voter approved by 2:1 margin (68% YES)
- Citizen committee appointed to score/recommend projects
- Goal of 1:1 matching funds was exceeded
- County invested ~\$30 Million in projects totaling ~ \$76 Million



# HAYS COUNTY HISTORY OF SUCCESS (CONT.)



## By leveraging \$30 Million from 2007 bond, today we enjoy all these projects:

Five Mile Dam Park | Jacob's Well Natural Area | Winter's Mill/Blue Hole Loop Trail | Dahlstrom Ranch Conservation Easement & Gay Ruby Dahlstrom Nature Preserve | La Cima Conservation Easement & Preserve | Wildenthal Preserve | Buda Stagecoach Park | Buda Tyler Norris Memorial Skateboard Park | Buda Bradfield Park & Trails | Dripping Springs Ranch Park | Kyle City Square Park | Kyle Gregg-Clarke Park | Kyle Plum Creek Preserve/Lake Kyle Park | San Marcos Combined Parks Improvements | Wimberley Blue Hole Regional Park | Dripping Springs Youth Sports Association Sports Fields | Hays County Youth Sports Complex/FM 2770 | Bear Creek Park & Trail (Belterra) | North Hays Optimist Foundation Park (Goforth Road) | Village of San Marcos Youth Sports Fields

# OPPORTUNITY ABOUND



## 18 projects submitted, May–July 2020

- Hays County
- Municipalities
- Nonprofit Organizations
- Land trusts for landowners
- Total funding requests to Hays County, \$115,400,000
- Total project costs, more than \$176 Million
- Projects yet to come from cities of San Marcos and Buda
- Unanticipated opportunities
- Explore additional project partners; federal/state funds, loans and grants

# TIERED PROJECT RECOMMENDATIONS



## TIER ONE: very best; highly recommend to fund at some level

- **Open Space/Natural Areas/Trails/Water Quality/Habitat**
  - Coleman's Canyon Preserve
  - Sentinel Peak Park & Preserve
  - San Marcos River Recharge Lands
  - 1,200-acre regional park, water quality/trails
  - Purgatory Creek Open Space, Habitat and Clean Waters Preserve
  - Rathgeber Natural Resources Park
- **Connectivity**
  - Violet Crown Trail in Hays County
  - Cape's Fishing Pond

# TIERED PROJECT RECOMMENDATIONS (CONT.)



## TIER TWO: very good; strong recommendation to fund at some level

- **Urban Parks**

- Dripping Springs Regional Skate Park
- Dripping Springs Town Center Square
- Patriot's Hall
- Nature Center at Blue Hole Park

- **Open Space/Natural Areas/Trails/Water Quality/Habitat**

- John Knox Ranch Preserve
- Presa Grande, Sink Creek Watershed

- **Connectivity**

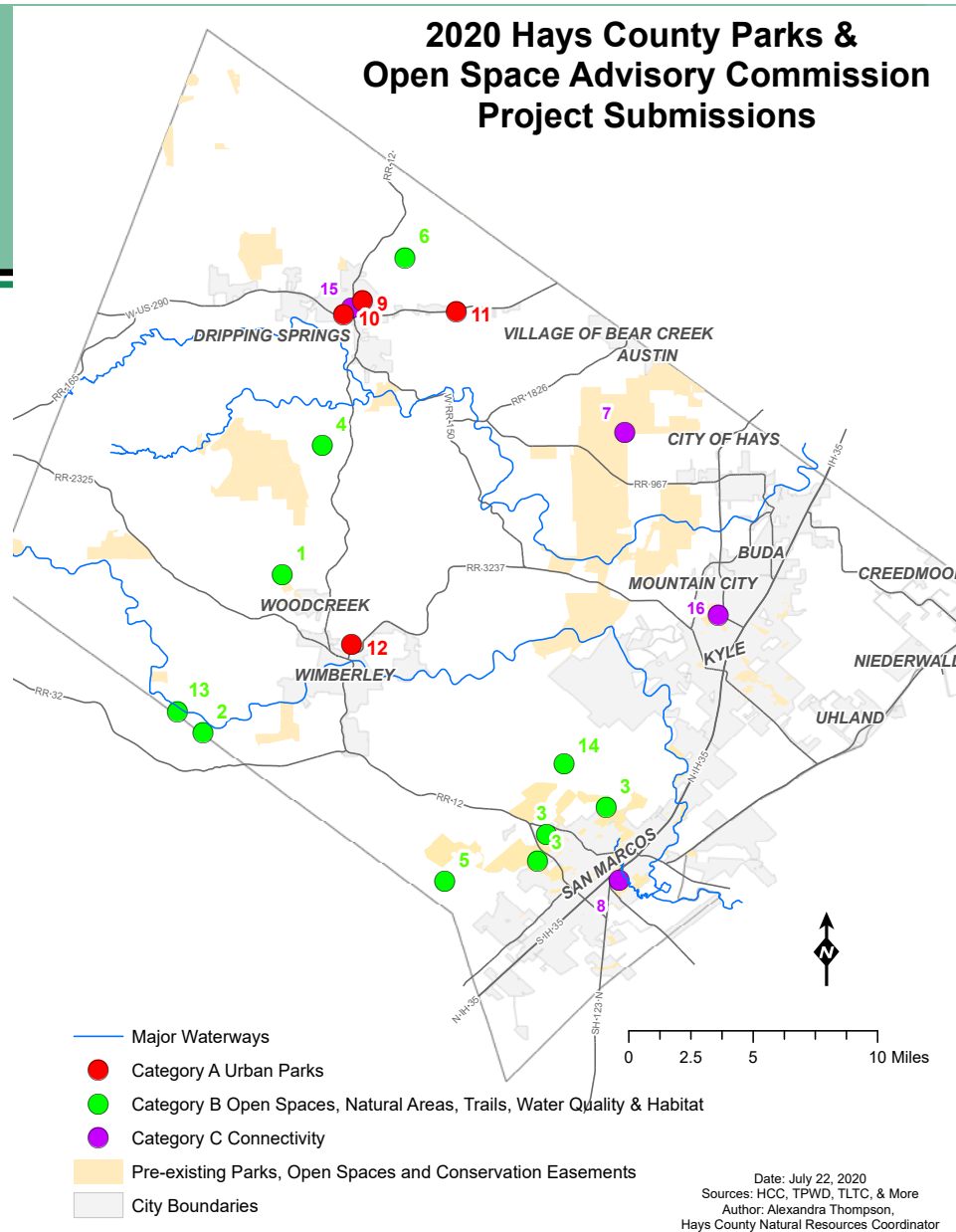
- Old Fitzhugh Road Trail
- Fajita Fields, Festival Grounds, Trails





# 2020 Hays County Parks & Open Space Advisory Commission Project Submissions

Recommended Project Overview by Tier in order of priority within each Category



# 1. COLEMAN'S CANYON PRESERVE



## TIER ONE: Open Space/Natural Areas/Trails/Water Quality/Habitat

### Project Sponsor: Wimberley Valley Watershed Association (WVWA)

- 117-acre land conservation/restoration
- Contiguous to Jacob's Well Natural Area
- Caves and karst features that recharge Jacob's Well Spring
- Wimberley Bat Cave
- 100 acres Golden-cheeked Warbler habitat
- Camping, hiking, nature-based recreation

Funds requested  
\$2,600,000

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Fee simple land acquisition,  
117-acres

Potential for re-investment  
of \$2-2.6 million by WVWA  
to secure adjacent lands,  
design and engineering for  
site improvements and  
infrastructure

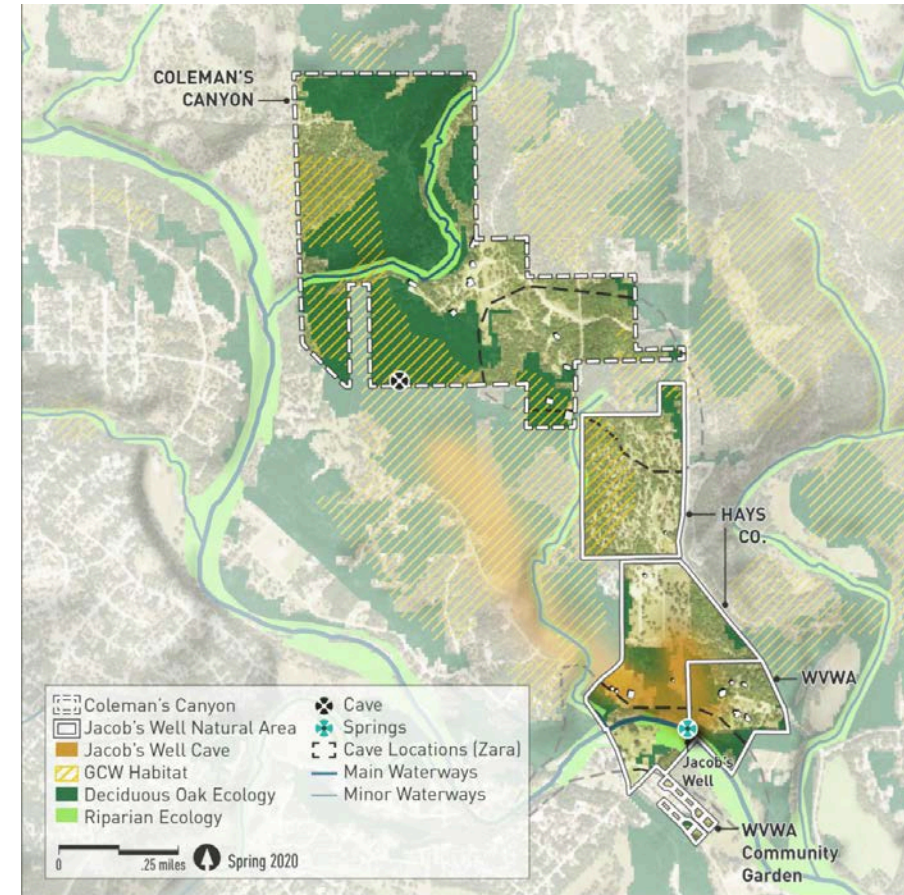




# 1. COLEMAN'S CANYON PRESERVE

## SITE POTENTIAL

- Open space connections
- Recreation opportunities
- Ecological sensitivity





# 1. COLEMAN'S CANYON PRESERVE



“Excellent opportunity to add to the jewel of Hays County parks – Jacob’s Well Natural Area; unique opportunity for long trail system; multiple benefits and partners; camping (new) access in area.”

*From POSAC Review Notes*



## 2. SENTINEL PEAK PARK & PRESERVE



### TIER ONE: Open Space/Natural Areas/Trails/Water Quality/Habitat

#### Project Sponsor: Hays County

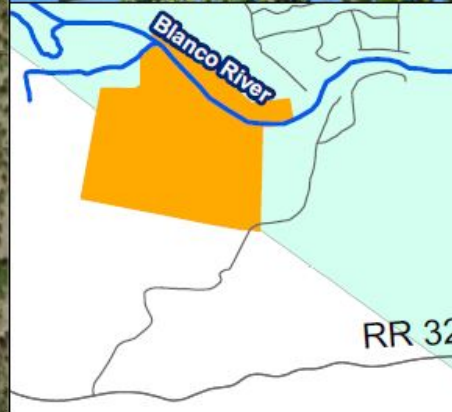
- 535 acres, part of former El Rancho Cima Boy Scout Ranch
- Access to Blanco River
- Golden-cheeked Warbler habitat/preserve
- Managed public access
- Low-impact recreation, trails, camping

Funds requested  
**\$10,000,000**

Fee simple land acquisition (535-acres); Facility design and/or construction

Potential for up to \$6 Million from the TWDB Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF), if the County is approved, to fund the fee-simple acquisition of the property

## 2. SENTINEL PEAK PARK & PRESERVE





## 2. SENTINEL PEAK PARK & PRESERVE



“Excellent!  
Must do!”

*From POSAC Review Notes*

# 3. SAN MARCOS RIVER RECHARGE LANDS



## TIER ONE: Open Space/Natural Areas/Trails/Water Quality/Habitat

### Project Sponsor: San Marcos River Foundation

- Three properties, 233 total acres
  - Geiger tract: 75 Acres; COST: \$225,000-1,130,000 (CE with public trails)
  - Elsik tract: 102.8 Acres; COST: \$2,225,000
  - Icehouse tract: 56 Acres; COST: \$1,000,000
- All properties within planned loop around San Marcos
- Recharge zone for Edwards Aquifer
- Protects San Marcos Springs and River
- Combination of fee simple land acquisition & conservation easement

Funds requested  
**\$3,475,000 – 4,380,000**

Fee simple land acquisition;  
and conservation easement  
(CE) acquisition

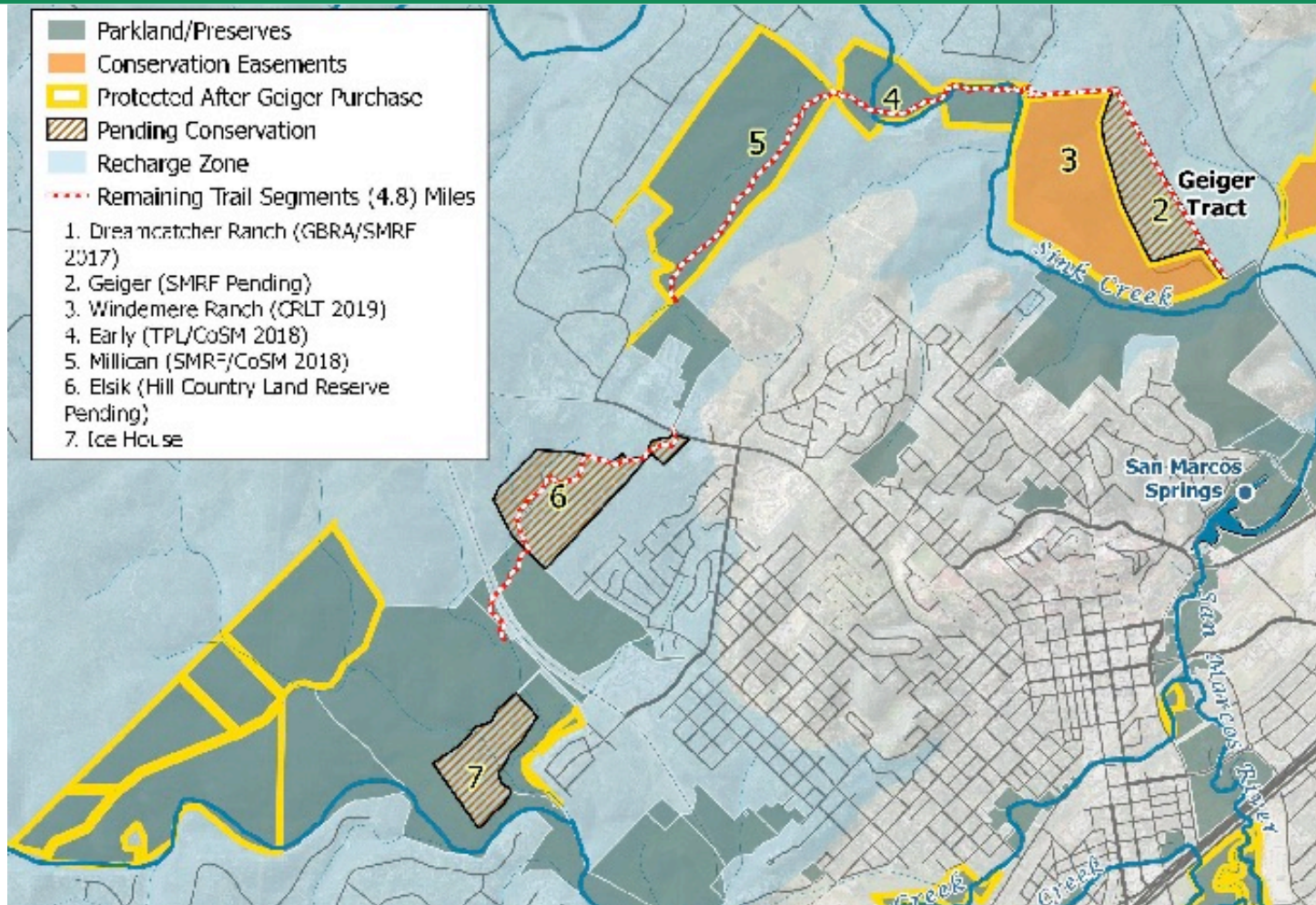
\$782,450 from SMRF and San  
Marcos Greenbelt Alliance





### 3. SAN MARCOS RIVER RECHARGE LANDS

Tract 2: Geiger  
Tract 6: Elsik  
Tract 7: Icehouse



“Excellent opportunity to add to San Marcos greenbelt project; many benefits.”

*From POSAC Review Notes*



## 4. 1,200-AC. REGIONAL PARK (WATER QUALITY/TRAILS)

### TIER ONE: Open Space/Natural Areas/Trails/Water Quality/Habitat

#### Project Sponsor: Hays County/COA via HCC

- 1,200 acres, adjacent to ~4,700 acres of permanently protected heritage ranch lands
- Scenic watershed and habitat lands
- Within Gatlin Creek and Onion Creek watersheds
- City of Austin, potential for water quality partnership; 1:1 match
- Passive recreation, hiking trails similar to Dahlstrom Nature Preserve
- Recreation consistent with open space protection

Funds requested  
\$10,000,000

A regional, 1,200-acre park for Hays County, surrounded by conserved lands

City of Austin to pay the value attributable to the conservation easement; ~ \$10-11,000,000 providing at least a 1:1 match





## 4. 1,200-AC. REGIONAL PARK (WATER QUALITY/TRAILS)



Protects important watershed lands which are critical to the protection of Onion Creek and the quality of water recharging the Edwards Aquifer at downstream conduits.

# 5. HAYS COUNTY HABITAT, OPEN SPACE AND CLEAN WATERS PRESERVE (PURGATORY CREEK AREA)



## TIER ONE: Open Space/Natural Areas/Trails/Water Quality/Habitat

### Project Sponsor: Hill Country Conservancy

- 1,069 acres of high-quality habitat, watershed, water quality, recharge and flood mitigation land
- Contiguous to Purgatory Creek Natural Area, La Cima Parkland and Hays County La Cima Preserve
- Public trail expansion
- Golden-cheeked Warbler Mitigation Credits valued at more than \$5.7 million.

Funds requested  
**\$17,717,500**

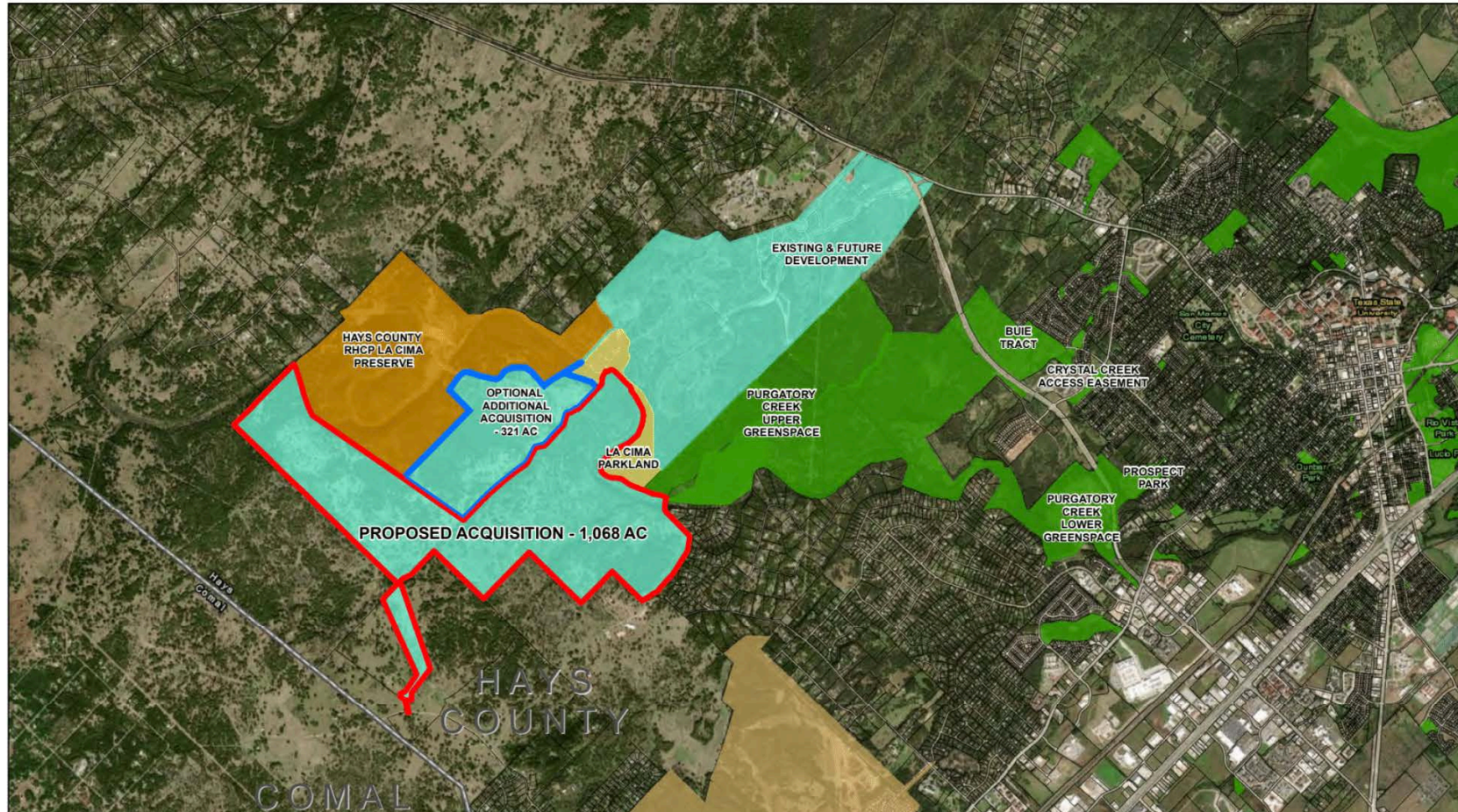
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Conservation easement  
acquisition

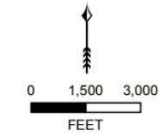
Potential for TWDB Clean  
Water State Revolving Fund  
(CWSRF) low interest loan to  
the County



# 5. HAYS COUNTY HABITAT, OPEN SPACE AND CLEAN WATERS PRESERVE (PURGATORY CREEK AREA)



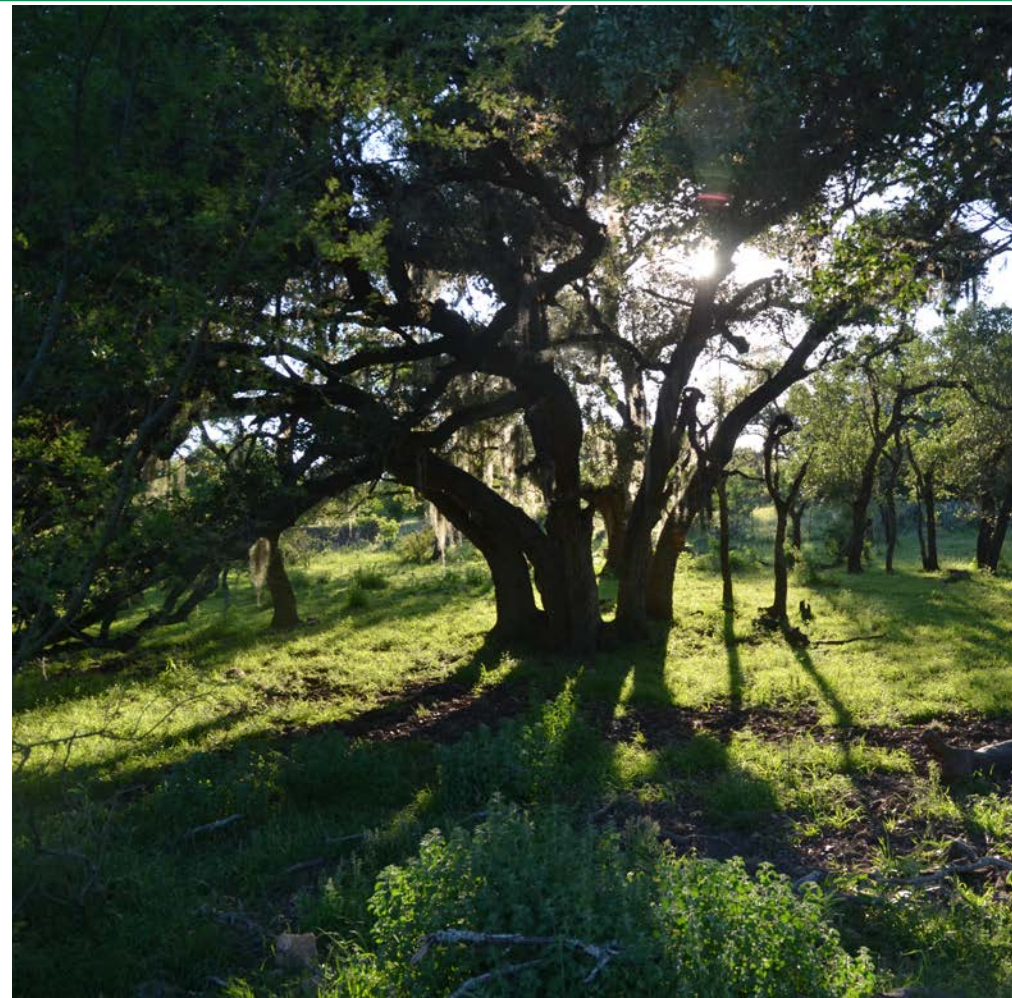
**HAYS COUNTY HABITAT PRESERVE, OPENSACE, & CLEAN WATERS OPPORTUNITY REGIONAL MAP**



- PROPOSED ACQUISITION - 1,068 AC
- OPTIONAL ADDITIONAL ACQUISITION - 321 AC
- EXISTING AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENT TRACTS
- HAYS COUNTY RHCP LA CIMA PRESERVE - 700 AC
- LA CIMA PARKLAND - 91.5 AC
- PUBLIC PARKLAND
- KISSING TREE DEVELOPMENT
- HCAD PARCELS
- COUNTY BOUNDARY



# 5. HAYS COUNTY HABITAT, OPEN SPACE AND CLEAN WATERS PRESERVE (PURGATORY CREEK AREA)



“Great continuous addition to Purgatory Greenspace; Warbler habitat and potential for grant funds; hiking access to regional trail system.”

*From POSAC Review Notes*

## 6. RATHGEBER NATURAL RESOURCES PARK



### TIER ONE: Open Space/Natural Areas/Trails/Water Quality/Habitat

#### Project Sponsor: City of Dripping Springs

- 300 acres; regional nature park
- Confluence of Little Barton and Barton Creek
- Preserve, protect, connect people to nature
- Hiking and camping
- Nature center
- Adjacent to Headwaters Development

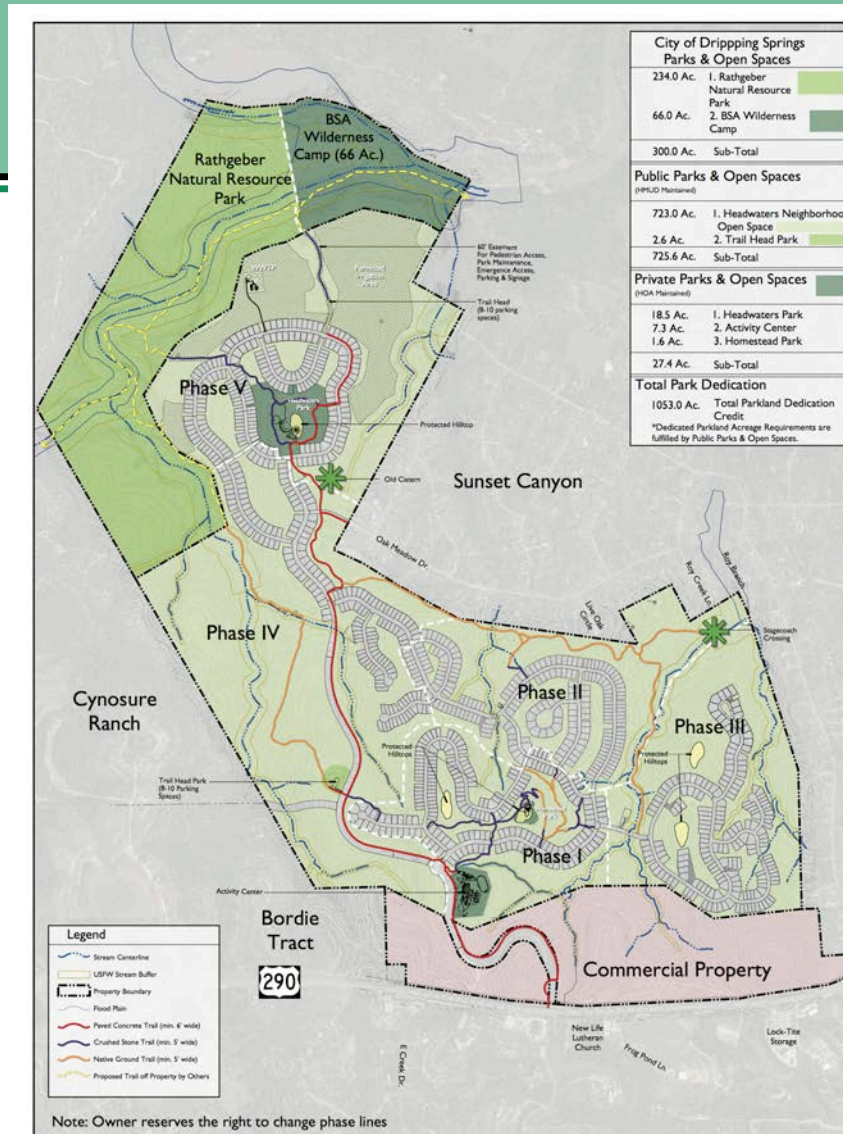
Funds requested  
**\$7,500,000**

Land planning, design, engineering. Facility design and/or construction.

Land donated as dedicated parkland in perpetuity; value estimated at \$3,750,000 to \$5,250,000; plus City of DS additional \$110–175,000 for planning, public input, preliminary engineering, environmental studies



# 6. RATHGEBER NATURAL RESOURCES PARK





## 6. RATHGEBER NATURAL RESOURCES PARK



“A nearly pristine piece of Texas Hill Country, with both Barton Creek and Little Barton Creek flowing through it.”

*From project submission letter*

# 7. VIOLET CROWN TRAIL IN HAYS COUNTY



## TIER ONE: Connectivity

### Project Sponsor: Hill Country Conservancy

- 14 miles of new, single-track, nature trail
- Extension of the Violet Crown Trail heading south from Barton Springs
- Crosses publicly owned lands, ~6 miles west of Buda
- Trail heads at Bliss Spillar Road and at FM 967 crossing
- Built to high-quality, sustainable trail standards

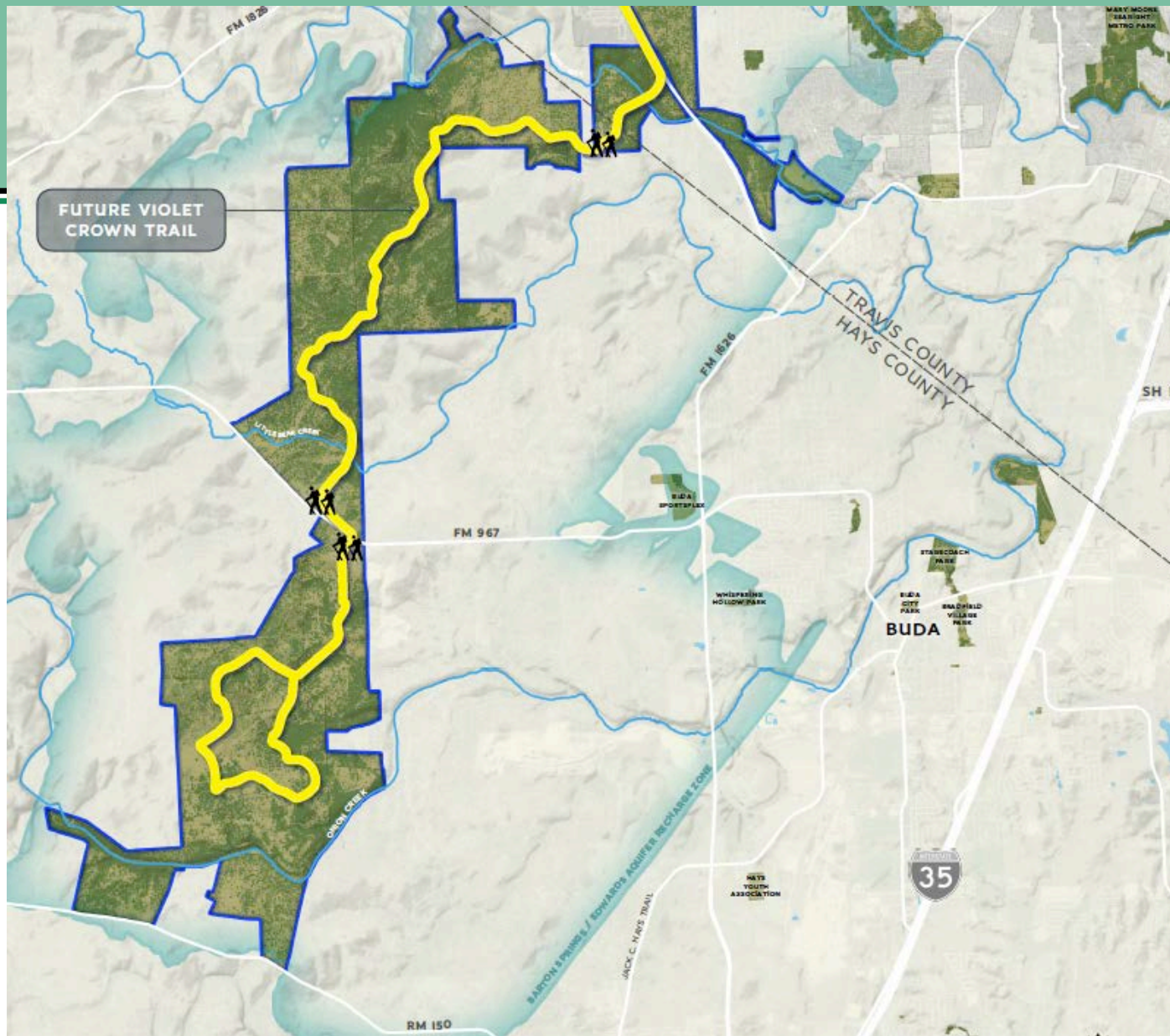
Funds requested  
**\$3,800,000**

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Facility design and/or  
construction

TPWD trails program, \$200K;  
HCC grant, \$500K





“14 miles of trail in the heart of the Edwards Aquifer recharge zone in northern Hays Co. Trail Heads at Bliss Spillar Road and FM 967. Trails would loop south near Onion Creek near FM 150”

*From POSAC Review Notes*



# 7. VIOLET CROWN TRAIL IN HAYS COUNTY





## 8. CAPE'S FISHING POND



### TIER ONE: Connectivity

#### Project Sponsor: Hays County

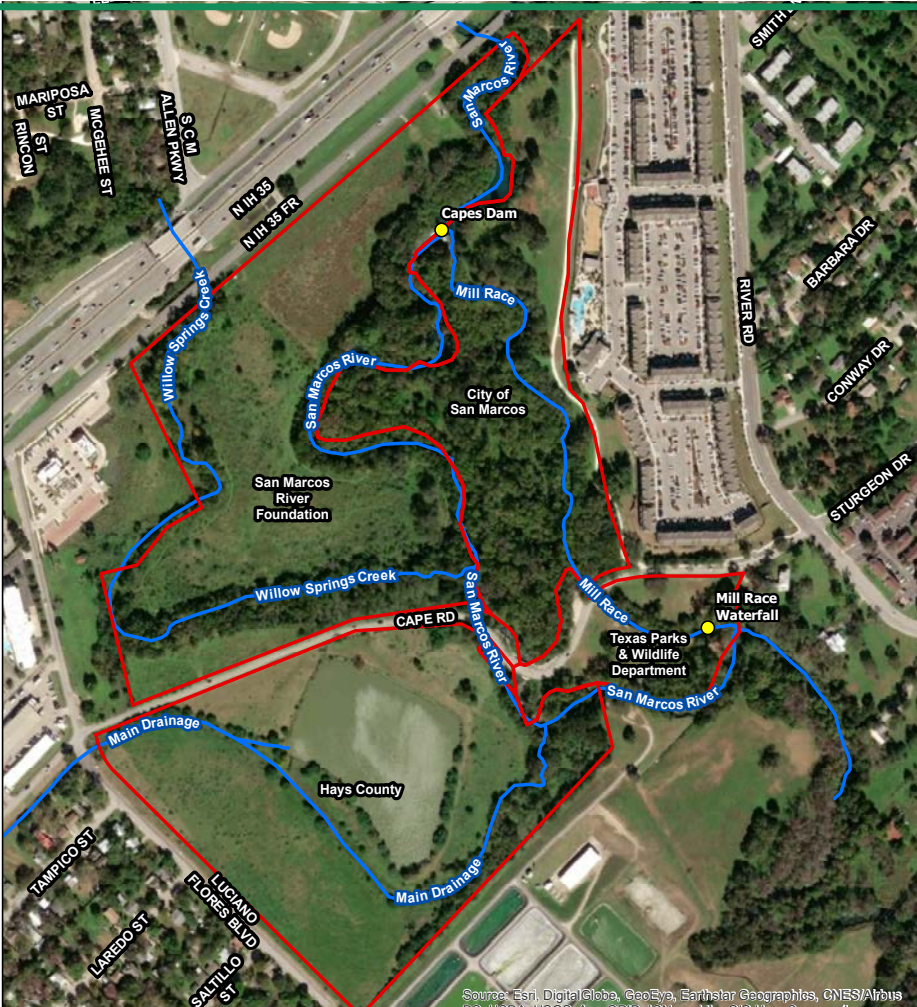
- 28.665 acres (pond just under 6 acres)
- Outdoor recreational for local families and children
- Connects areas of San Marcos with local (and proposed regional) hike and bike trail system
- Pond could qualify for TPWD grant program, Neighborhood Fishin'
- Potential demonstration site for rain gardens, bioswales and natural water filtration
- Storm water management potential

Funds requested  
**\$2,500,000**

Phase I investment in trail improvements, a hike/bike bridge over the San Marcos River, and capital improvements related to the Neighborhood Fishin' program, river viewing areas, and demonstrative drainage facilities

County purchased the land in March 2020 for \$2,600,000.

# 8. CAPE'S FISHING POND





# 8. CAPE'S FISHING POND



# 9. DRIPPING SPRINGS REGIONAL SKATE PARK



## TIER TWO: Urban Parks

### Project Sponsor: Dripping Springs Skate Park, Inc.

- 14,000 square foot plaza-style skatepark
- Place for young people to pursue athletic activity
- Safe athletic alternative to team sports
- Land donated by City of Dripping Springs
- Strong community support demonstrated

Funds requested  
**\$550,000**

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Facility design and/or  
construction

\$178,750 from land donation  
and other philanthropic  
grants/community partners



# 9. DRIPPING SPRINGS REGIONAL SKATE PARK



“This park will provide a fun and safe place for kids of all ages (as well as adults) to get exercise, hone a skill, and enjoy the outdoors.”

*Comment from supporter*



# 10. DRIPPING SPRINGS TOWN CENTER SQUARE



## TIER TWO: Urban Parks

### Project Sponsor: City of Dripping Springs

- Vibrant, open, community space for downtown Dripping Springs
- Green space for festivals, markets, events
- Multiple civic buildings: City, County, School District, Library
- Many community needs served from one place
- Anchor for Mercer St. Historic District
- Draw for residents and visitors

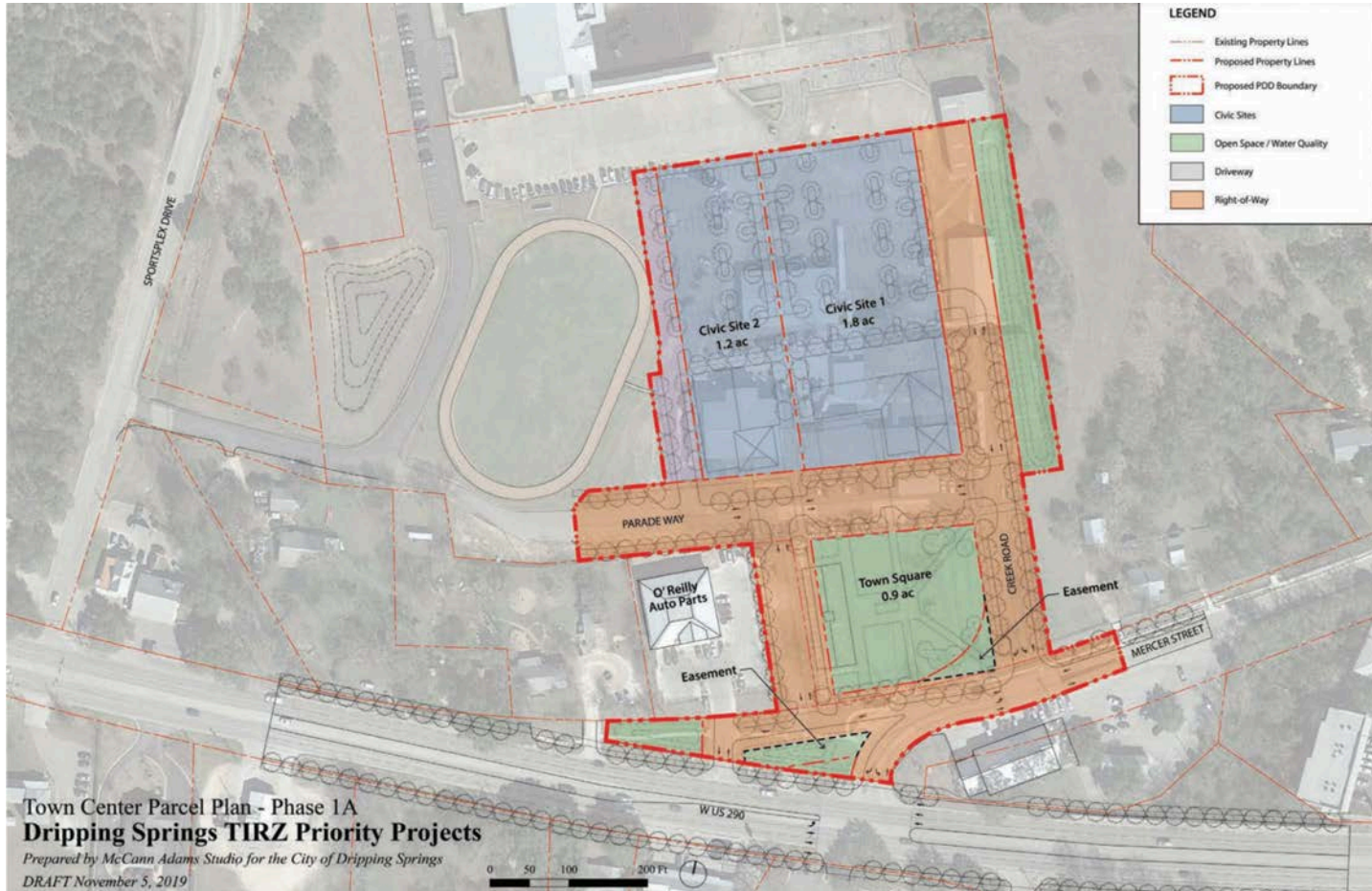
Funds requested  
**\$4,480,600**

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Land acquisition, Planning (land management, design, engineering), Facility design and/or construction

TIRZ partners: City of DS, Hays County, DS Library, DS School District

# 10. DRIPPING SPRINGS TOWN CENTER



“To co-locate the City, the School District, the County, and the Library in a cost-effective way into shared facilities (to provide) Civic Services...to serve future Community needs.”

*From presentation notes*



# 10. DRIPPING SPRINGS TOWN CENTER



“A civic open space in the heart of Dripping Springs ... for festivals, market activities, an events venue ... TIRZ project.”

*From presentation notes*



# 11. PATRIOT'S HALL, NEAR DRIPPING SPRINGS



## TIER TWO: Urban Parks

### Project Sponsor: PatriotsHall.org; Kathryn Chandler

- 10-acre retreat and resource base
- For ALL veterans and their families
- Gathering Hall for therapeutic classes, vet-to-vet mentoring, educational and motivational workshops, job networking
- 60-70% green space for campouts, cookouts, fitness challenges
- Outdoor recreation for nature experience
- Opportunities for gardening, beekeeping
- Broad community support and fundraising from nonprofit organization

Funds requested  
**\$1,500,000**

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Land, facility design and/or construction

Total project is \$5,900,000; have raised \$1,500,000 from local donors, + \$100K in-kind services.

# 11. PATRIOT'S HALL, NEAR DRIPPING SPRINGS



“Great project and will serve the veteran community with pride.”

*From POSAC Review Notes*



# 12. NATURE CENTER AT BLUE HOLE PARK



## TIER TWO: Urban Parks

### Project Sponsor: City of Wimberley

- Public nature center
- 7K square feet covered space; 2.5 acres outdoor space
- Indoor/outdoor classrooms; greenhouse
- Nature camp expansion
- Example of sustainable construction; rainwater collection
- Theater to showcase nature documentaries, films
- Prairie and wetland restoration

Funds requested  
\$3,136,425

Planning (land management, design, engineering), Facility design and/or construction

No match at this time; project received numerous letters of support from Wimberley Community and Friends of Blue Hole

## 12. NATURE CENTER AT BLUE HOLE PARK



“Blue Hole Nature Camps that will utilize facility provide positive revenue for the City of Wimberley. In addition, fees for usage could provide revenue. Wimberley has a parks department that can maintain the facility.”

*From POSAC Review Notes*



# 13. JOHN KNOX RANCH PRESERVE



## TIER TWO: Open Space/Natural Areas/Trails/Water Quality/Habitat

### Project Sponsor: John Knox Ranch, Hill Country Conservancy

- Conservation easement on 300 acres
- Summer camp and retreat owned/operated by Mission Presbytery (Presbyterian Church, USA)
- Blanco River frontage
- Location of artesian spring, Blue Hole Spring
- Perpetual protection for waters, grass savannahs, Texas hardwoods, old-growth Ashe juniper, Golden-cheeked Warbler
- Limited, managed public access

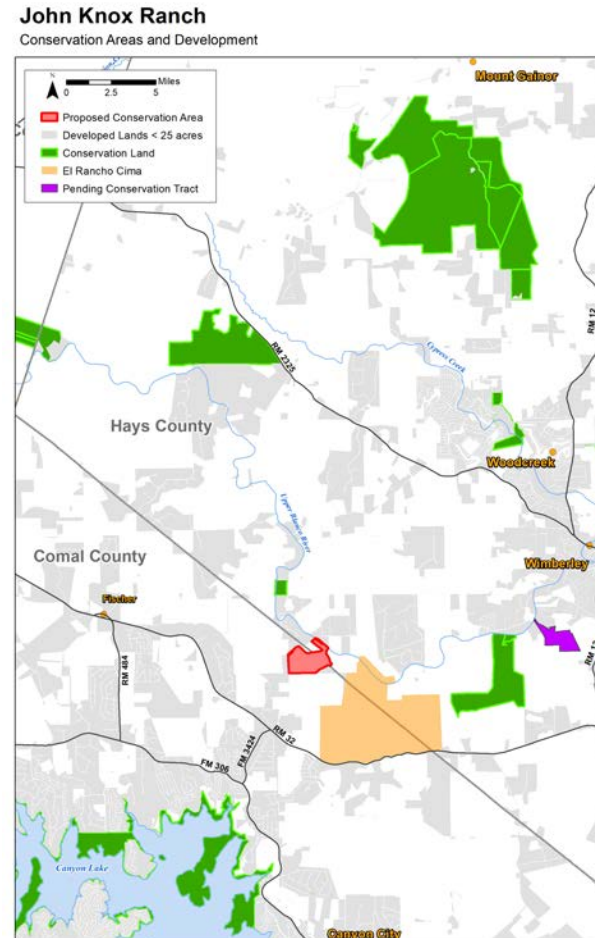
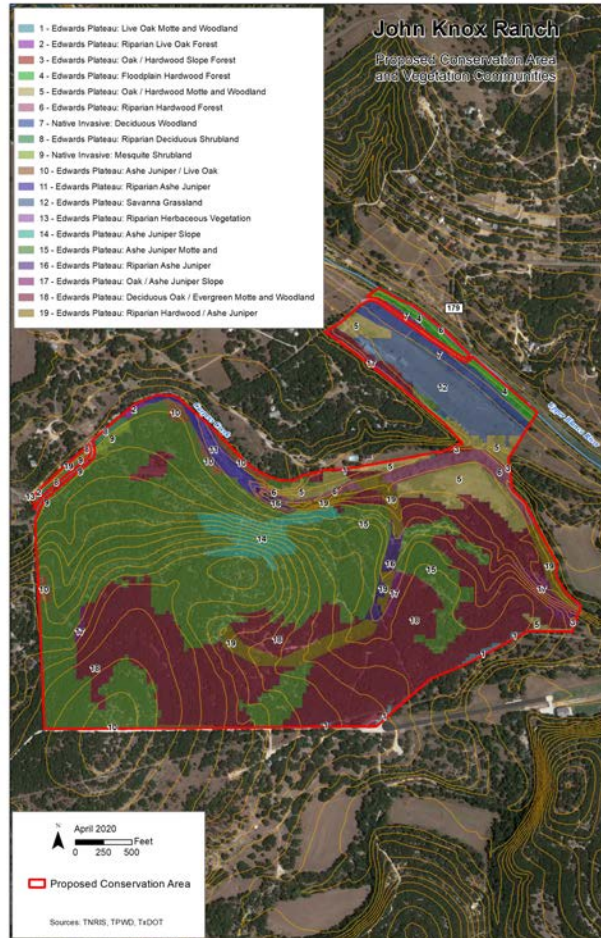
Funds requested  
\$2,500,000

Conservation easement  
acquisition

No match at this time, but  
opportunity for NRCS funding



# 13. JOHN KNOX RANCH PRESERVE

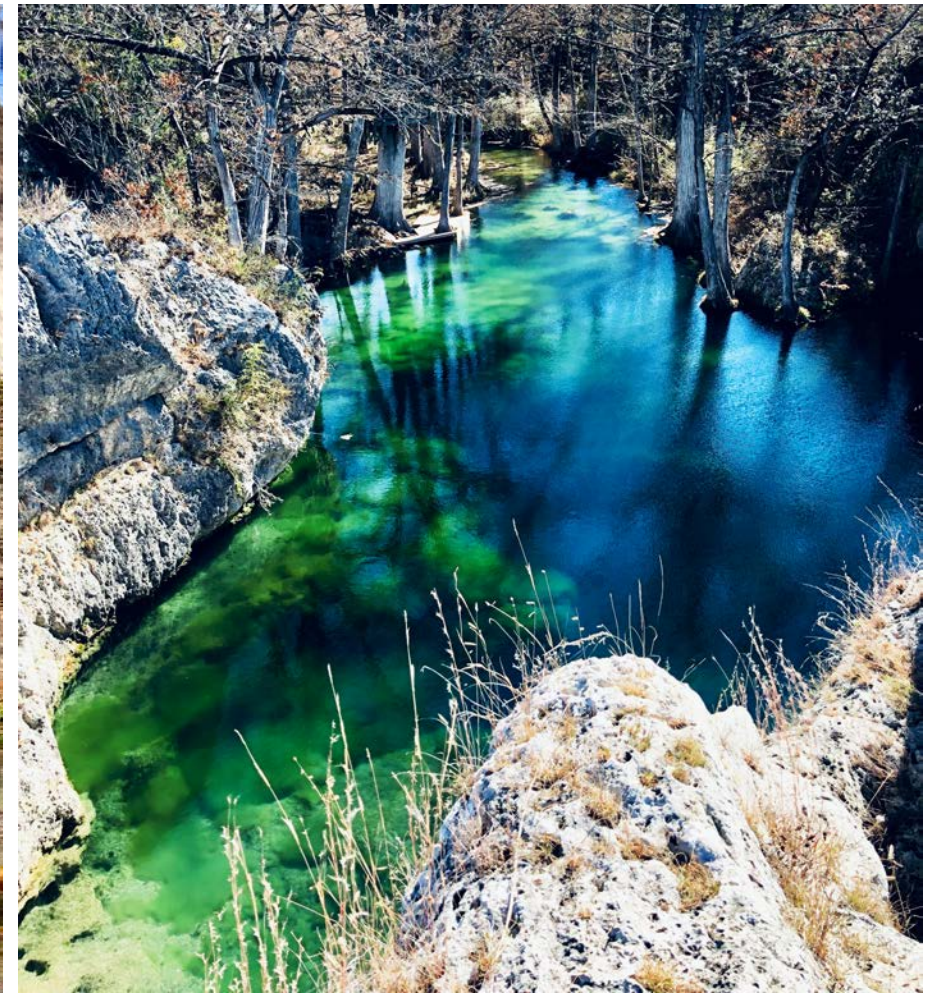
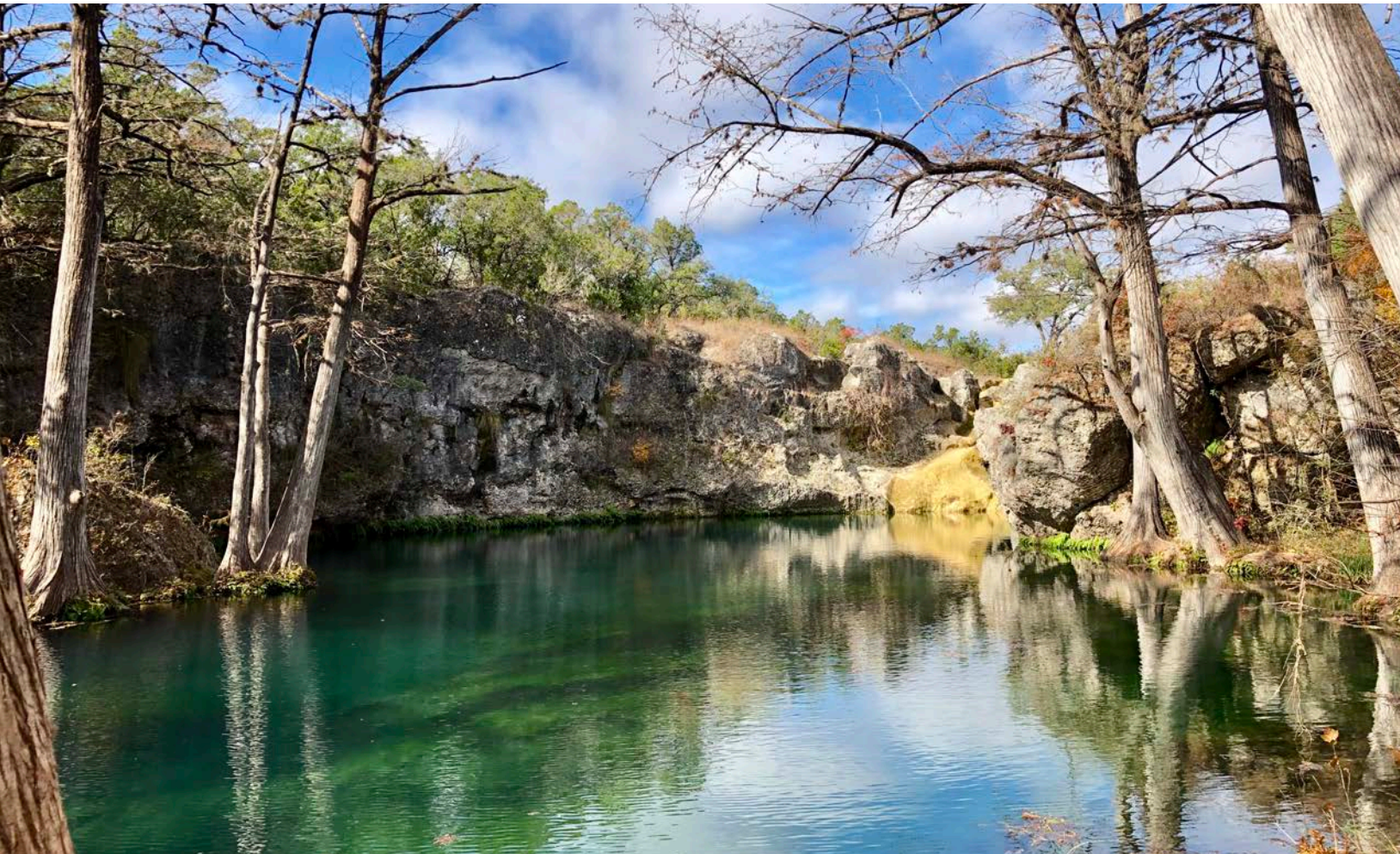


“Presume some public access on conservation easement (seasonal/on certain weekends, etc.) for trail and/or river access;  
Great natural resource protection opportunity.”

*From POSAC Review Notes*



# 13. JOHN KNOX RANCH PRESERVE





# 14. PRESA GRANDE – SINK CREEK WATERSHED



## TIER TWO: Open Space/Natural Areas/Trails/Water Quality/Habitat

### Project Sponsor: Great Springs Project/Hill Country Conservancy

- Fee simple land acquisition or conservation easement
- 844 acres in the Sink Creek watershed (W/NW San Marcos)
- Significant aquifer recharge features, karst areas, water quality and spring buffers.
- Wildlife viewing and general nature enjoyment
- Golden-cheeked Warbler habitat

Funds requested  
**\$8,500,000**

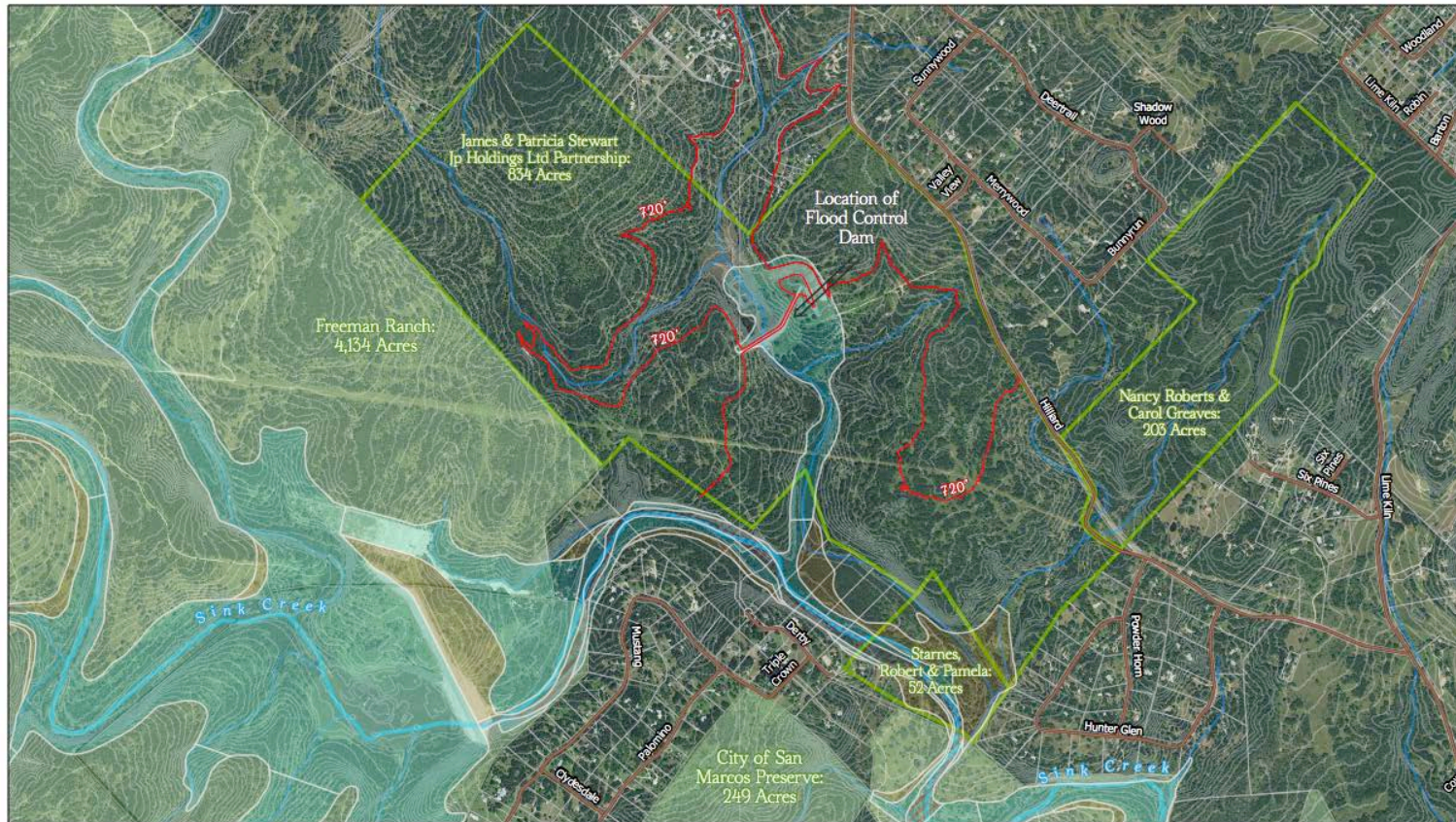
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Fee simple land acquisition  
(844-acres) at cost above.

Conservation easement  
acquisition at \$4 Million,  
with \$4,500,000 from  
Conservation Buyer.



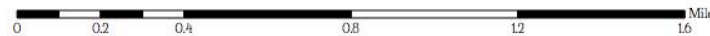
# 14. PRESA GRANDE – SINK CREEK WATERSHED



**Flood Hazard Zones**  
 ■ 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard  
 ■ Regulatory Floodway  
 ■ 0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard

**Parcel Ownership**  
 ■ Priority Parcels  
 ■ Hays County Parcels  
 ■ Protected Parcels

Data Sources: FEMA National Flood Hazard Layer, 2005.  
 Hays County Parcel Data, 2018.



If Conservation Easement purchased, public access to the property would be provided via a trailhead and network of multi-use trails on the property for local connectivity and increased regional connectivity.

*From submission notes*

# 15. OLD FITZHUGH ROAD MULTI-USE TRAIL



## TIER TWO: Connectivity

### Project Sponsor: City of Dripping Springs

- Multi-use, 8-foot wide trail within city limits
- Critical link in citywide trail plan
- Improves pedestrian safety, access and connectivity
- Link between Historic Mercer Street District north to RR12
- Eventual links to Founders Memorial Park, Heritage Development, Dripping Springs Ranch Park
- Located in TIRZ area

Funds requested  
**\$1,305,000**

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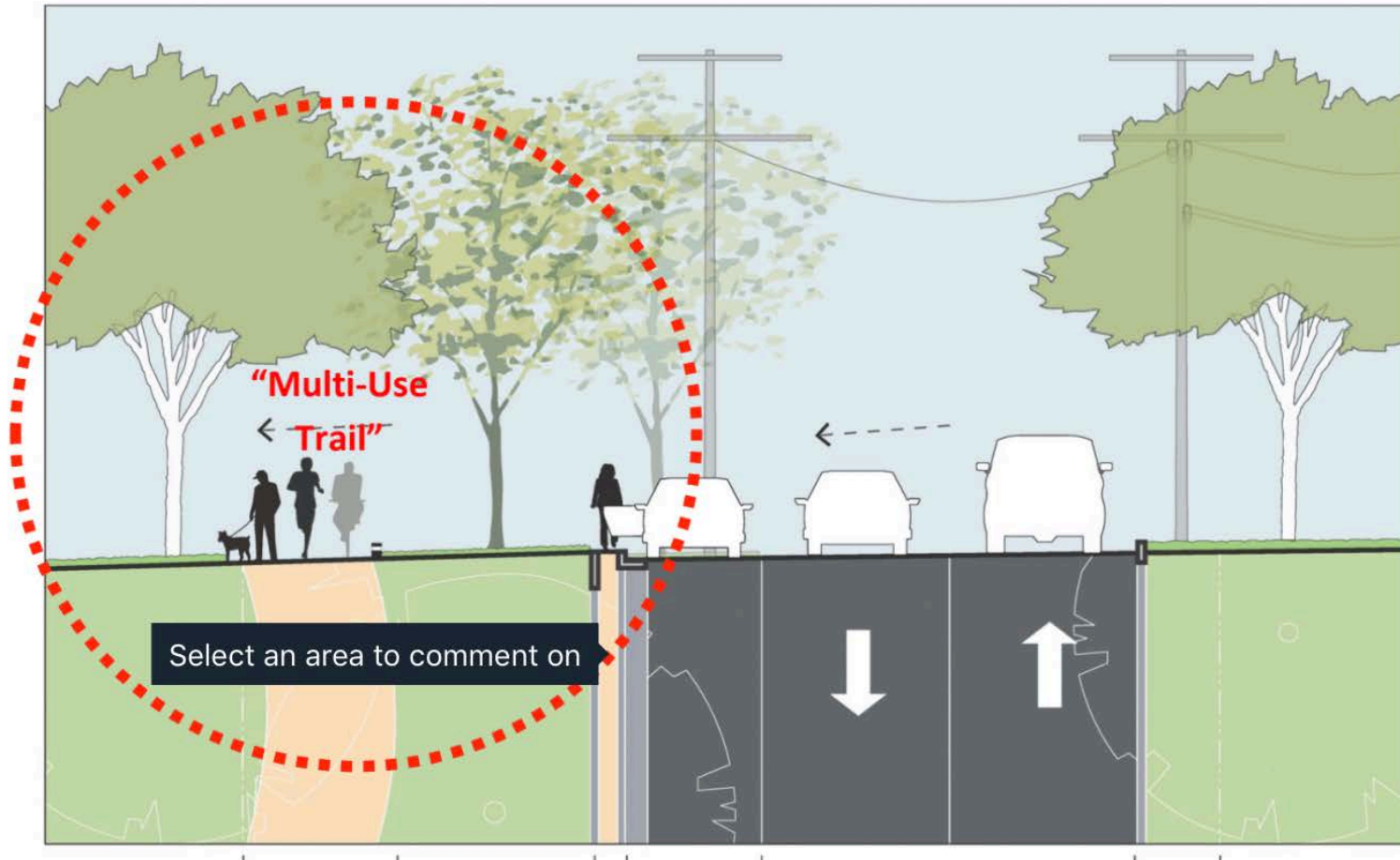
land acquisition, planning (land management, design, engineering), facility design and/or construction

TIRZ, City of Dripping Springs  
(Total Project, \$ 4,822,652.97)





# 15. OLD FITZHUGH ROAD (OFR) MULTI-USE TRAIL



“Improving pedestrian access along OFR from Mercer Street to RR12 (.62 miles) is a plus for a more pedestrian-friendly town center. Ideally if OFR can connect trails with their signature parks ... that might be a bonus for Hays County.”

*From POSAC Review Notes*

# 16. FAJITA FIELDS, FESTIVAL GROUNDS, TRAIL SYSTEM



## TIER TWO: Connectivity

### Project Sponsor: City of Kyle

- Festival area, sportsplex and amenity area
- 21 acres of competition soccer fields
- 39 acres of open space and practice fields
- 4 acres of greenway
- 1-mile linear trail on 64 acres of undeveloped parkland
- Serving a variety of users
- Future trail connectivity to Violet Crown Trail, Uptown and Heroes Memorial Park
- Potential for enhanced economic development year-round

Funds requested  
**\$14,520,000**

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land acquisition, facility design  
and/or construction, park  
amenities

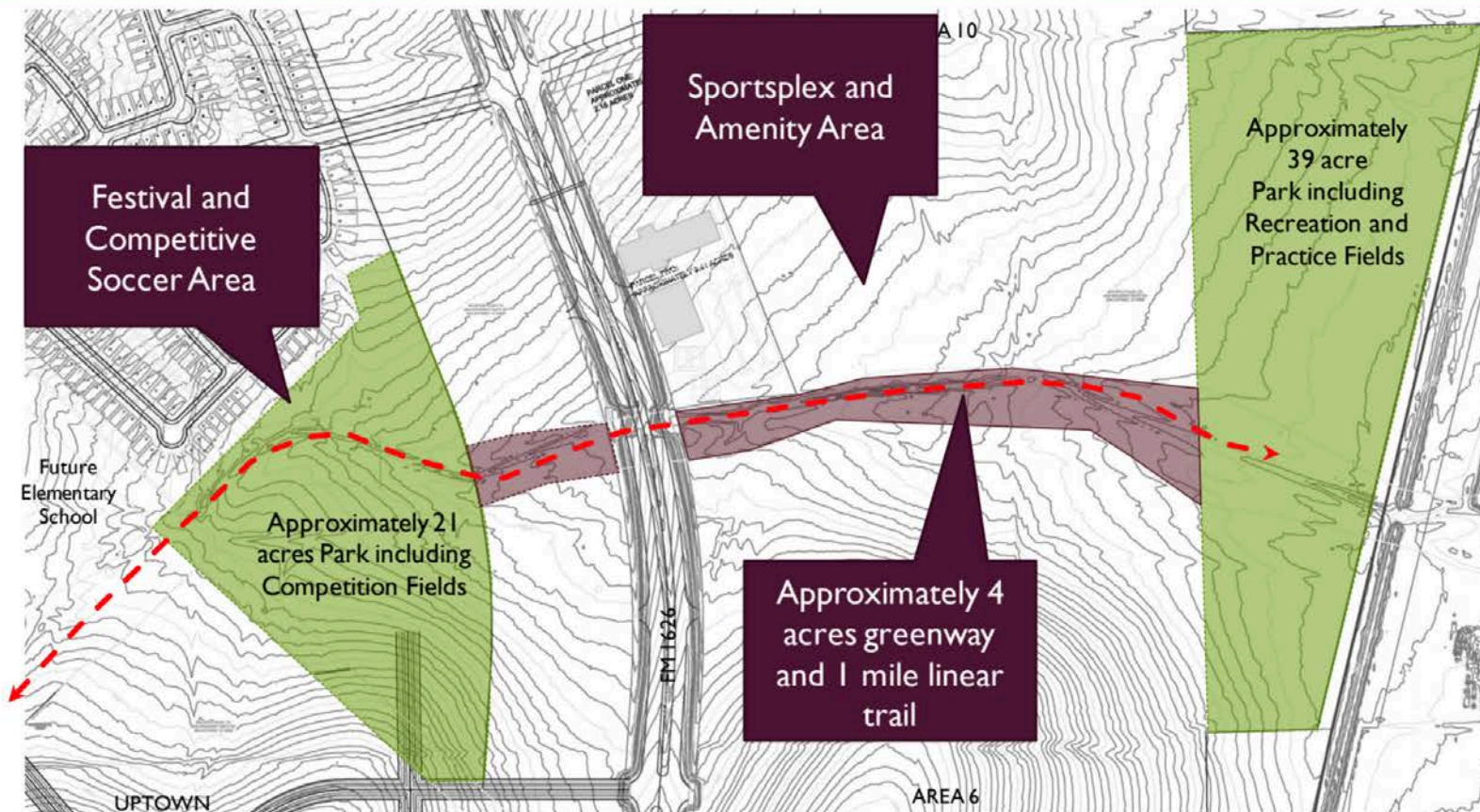
City of Kyle 1:1 match,  
\$14,520,000



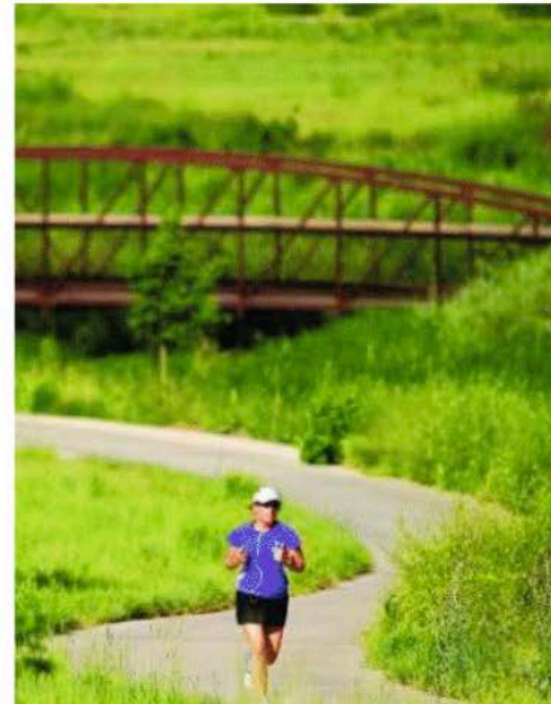
# 16. FAJITA FIELDS, FESTIVAL GROUNDS, TRAIL SYSTEM



## DETAILED AREA PLAN



# 16. FAJITA FIELDS, FESTIVAL GROUNDS, TRAIL SYSTEM



“Project that will enhance equity and access for all.”

*From submission document*



# MORE OPPORTUNITY THAN IMAGINED



## TOTAL FUNDING REQUESTS FOR TIER ONE & TIER TWO PROJECTS

**\$ 94,969,525**

- Incredible opportunities arose within a few months
- Solid community of partners willing to invest with Hays County
- Commitment to a bond size covered by existing tax rate
- Privately funded, public poll reveals a strong appetite for a bond now

For parks, outdoor recreation, nature experiences, trails, conservation of natural areas, access to rivers and creeks, perpetual scenic vistas, water quality protection, habitat preservation, flood mitigation...

# PUBLIC POLL SHOWS SUPPORT



**94% AGREED:** “We owe it to future generations of Texans to preserve special places in Central Texas so they can enjoy them as we have.”

## Public poll findings:

- Private phone poll of 408 likely voters
- Statistically accurate within +/- 4.9% at 95% confidence level
- Representative of Hays demographics and geo-graphics (minor exceptions)
- Surveyed amidst the impact of coronavirus and economy
- 71–78% support for \$75 Million bond for parks/open space, if/when
  - Tax rate not affected
  - Sentinel Peak Preserve purchase included



# POSAC BOND RECOMMENDATION



## **POSAC recommends a total bond initiative in the range of \$75–80 Million.**

### **November 2020 Bond Initiative: \$60-65 Million for the named projects**

- Tier One, highest priority
- Tier Two, second priority
- Not possible to fund all at the full funding request
- POSAC to work with County for recommendations on funding levels

### **Flexible Fund: \$15-20 Million for future opportunities**

- Some municipalities unable to present a project within compressed time
- Modifications to existing projects
- Unanticipated opportunities to come

# QUICK POLL



## Short poll for webinar participants.

- 1) Do you plan to vote in the Hays County General Election in November 2020?
- 2) In what Hays County Precinct do you live?
- 3) If you do vote in Hays County in November, are you likely to vote in favor of a County bond measure for \$75-80 Million in general obligation bonds to purchase and preserve parks, open space and natural areas in Hays County if there is no impact to existing County tax rate?
- 4) From the presentation you just watched, what answer below best represents your feelings about the projects recommended for Hays County?
- 5) How did you hear about today's meeting?



# Q&A SESSION



**Please use the Q&A link in the tool bar at bottom of your screen.**

**A member of POSAC will answer.**

**Email future questions to: [7933@co.hays.tx.us](mailto:7933@co.hays.tx.us)**

# NEXT STEPS



## Commissioners Court Must Call for Election by Aug 17

- Next Court Meeting is August 11

## Contact Court members

- County Judge Ruben Becerra [judge.becerra@co.hays.tx.us](mailto:judge.becerra@co.hays.tx.us)
- Precinct 1 Debbie Ingalsbe [debbiei@co.hays.tx.us](mailto:debbiei@co.hays.tx.us)
- Precinct 2 Mark Jones [mark.jones@co.hays.tx.us](mailto:mark.jones@co.hays.tx.us)
- Precinct 3 Lon Shell [lon.shell@co.hays.tx.us](mailto:lon.shell@co.hays.tx.us)
- Precinct 4 Walt Smith [walt.smith@co.hays.tx.us](mailto:walt.smith@co.hays.tx.us)



# THANK YOU!



## Next public meeting

- Next POSAC Public Meeting: Thursday, Aug 6, 6 to 7 pm

## Tonight's meeting (8/4/20)

- Video presentation available on Hays County POSAC Facebook page
  - <https://www.facebook.com/HaysCountyPOSAC/>
- Copy of Powerpoint presentation available on POSAC page on Hays County website
  - <https://tinyurl.com/HaysCountyPOSAC>
- Email future questions to: [7933@co.hays.tx.us](mailto:7933@co.hays.tx.us)