

Dougherty Arts Center Redevelopment

Planning and Community Engagement Phase





Context Map



Theater and Special Events



Gallery



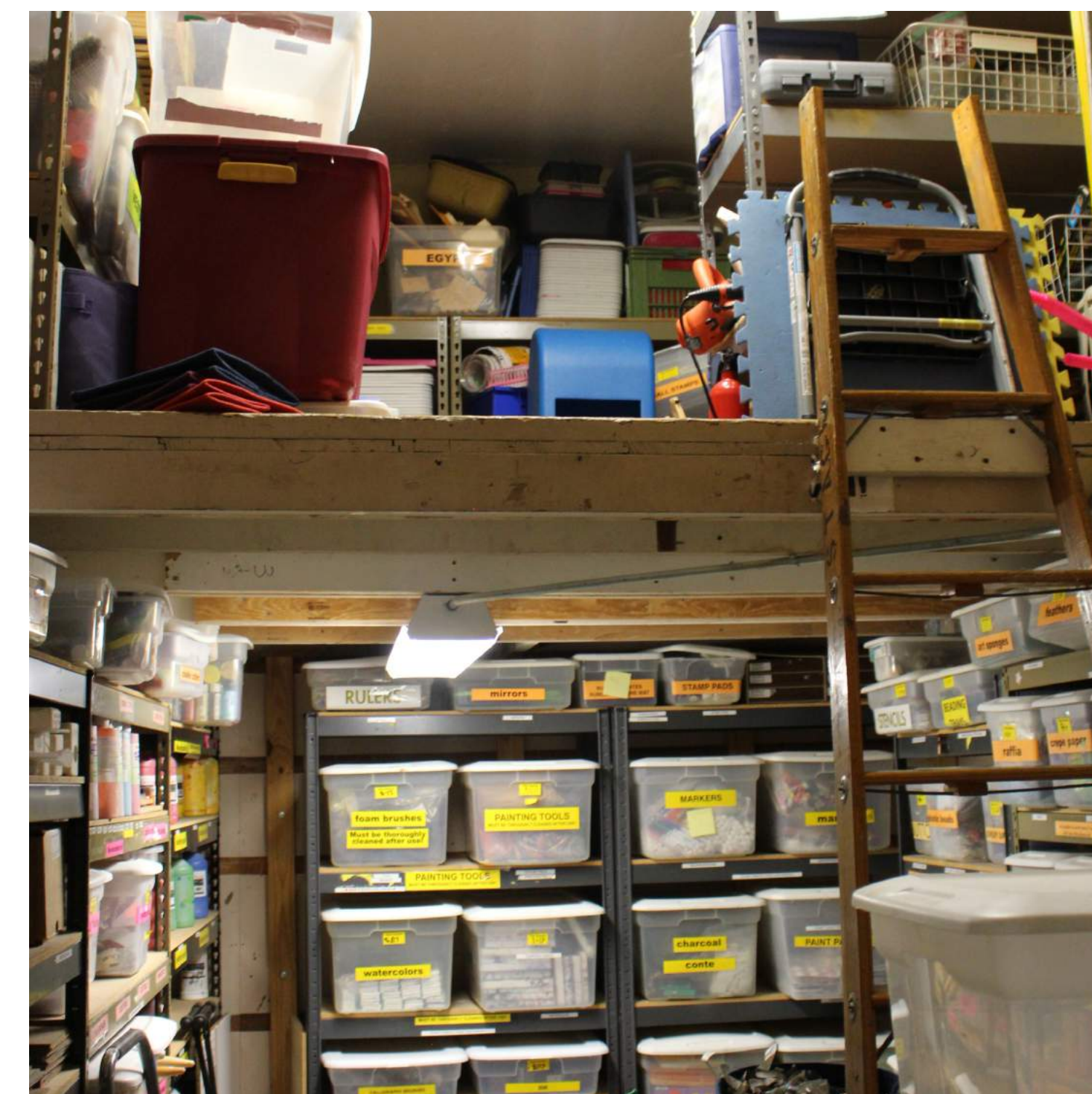
Youth Studio



Adult Studio



Artist Professional Development



Administrative/Support Space



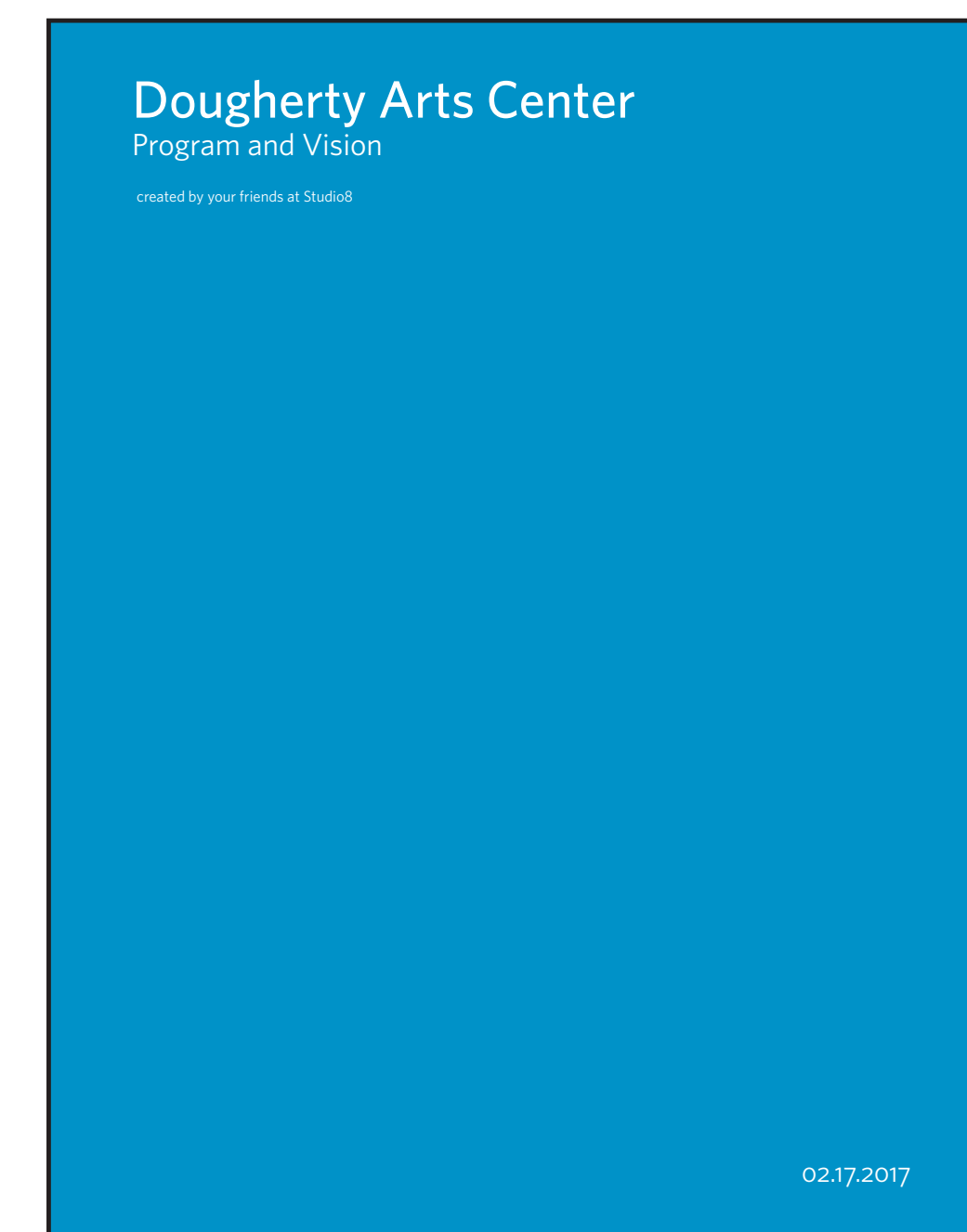
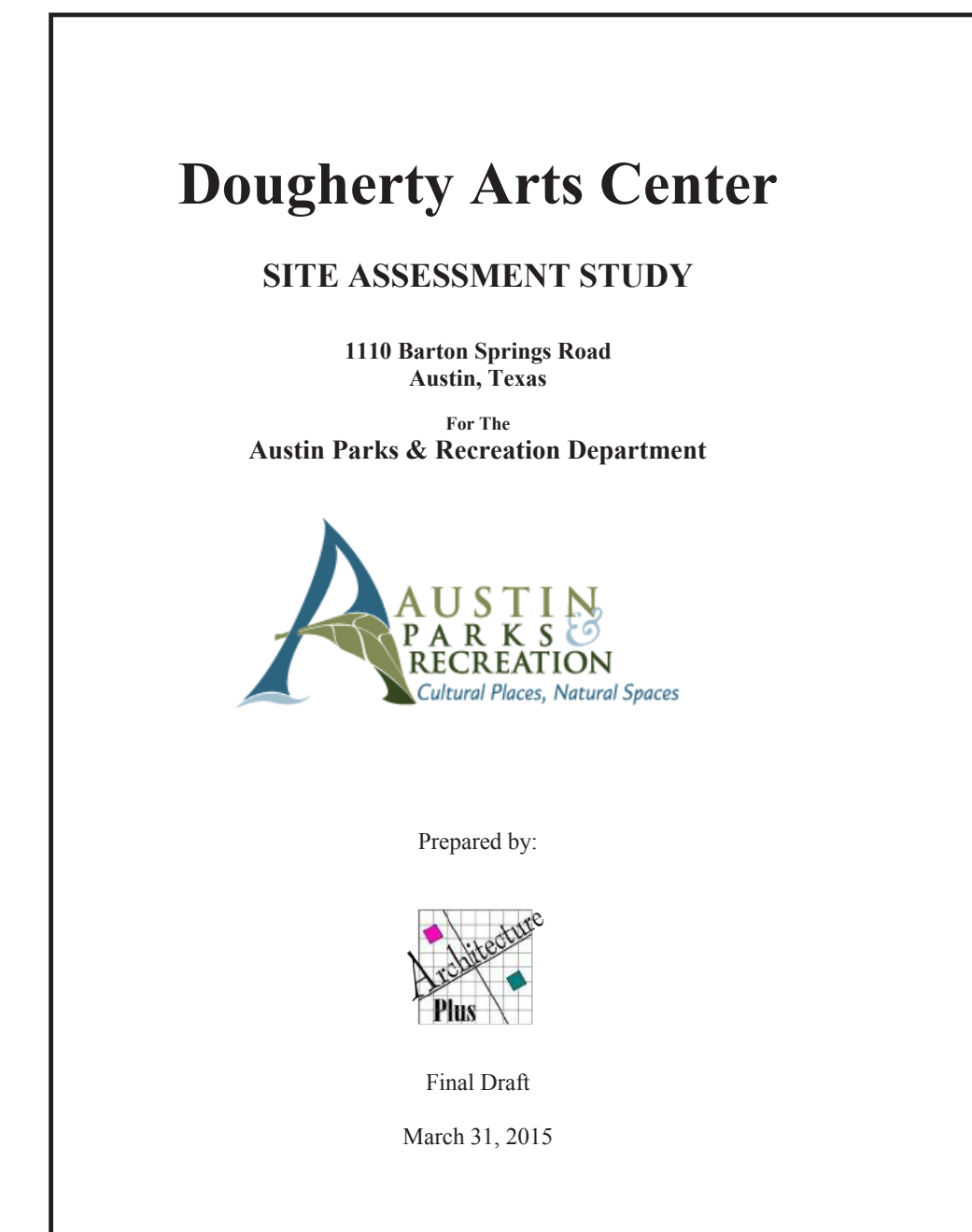
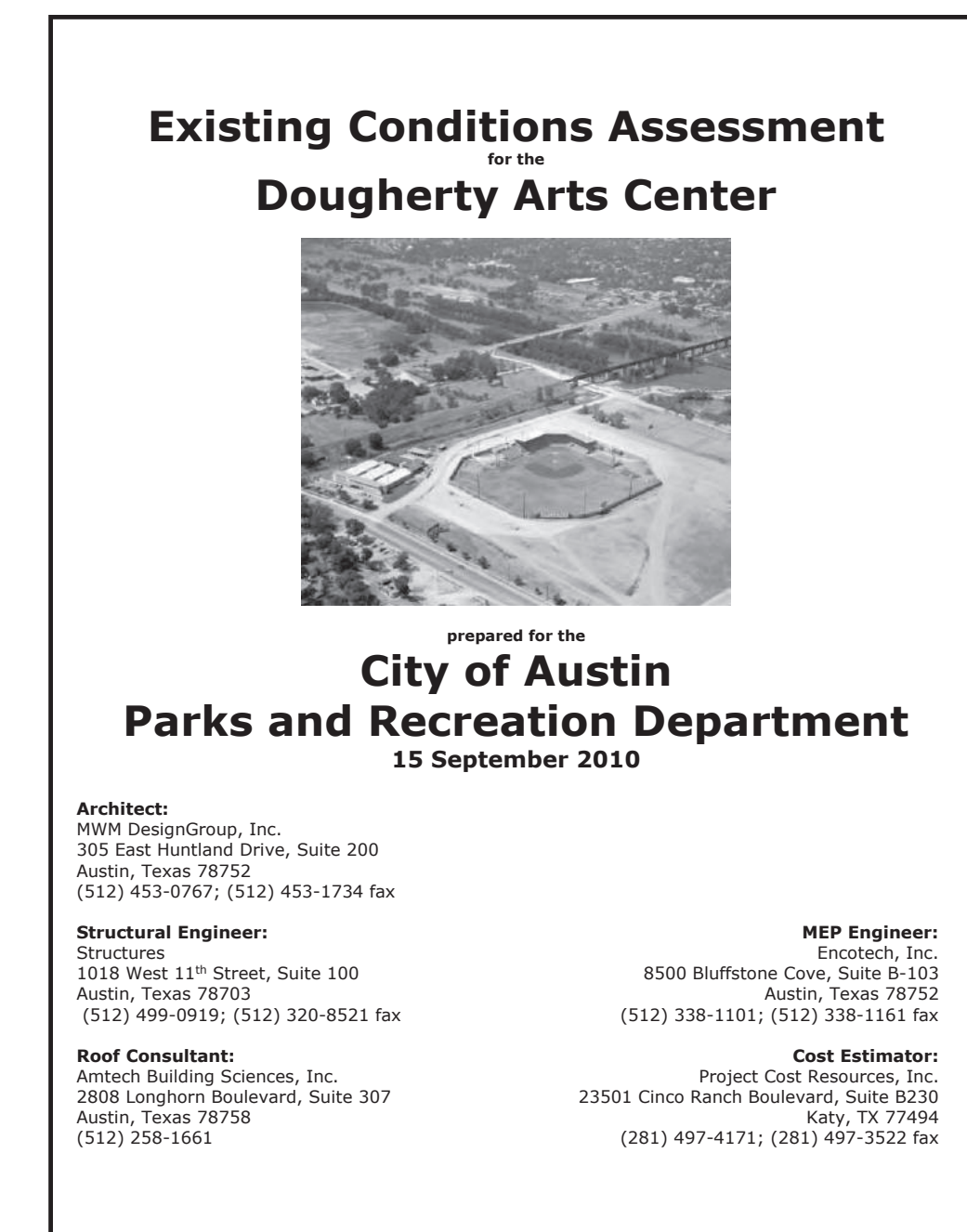
Outdoor Spaces

The mission of the Dougherty Arts Center (DAC) is to support emerging through established artists who create, showcase, and experience the arts first hand. We envision the DAC as Austin's cultural living room where people of all ages, races, ethnicities, abilities, genders, sexual orientations, socio-economic statuses, nationalities, and religions gather to create community through the arts.

Mission and Program



- 1947** The current structure is built as the Navy and Marine Reserve Building
- 1978** Building is purchased and donated to the CoA by the Dougherty family
- 1984** Town Lake Park Comprehensive Plan envisions Butler Shores as a cultural park
- 2009-10** Existing Conditions Assessment determines building is beyond useful life and poses risks to health and safety
- 2010-11** Five stakeholder groups are conducted to envision program requirements for the DAC
- 2013** Site is registered with the TCEQ as a former landfill
- 2015** Site Assessment study is completed and determines that floodplain prevents rebuilding on the site
- 2017** Programming and Vision Study is completed to determine the feasibility of the Butler Shores site
- 2018** PARD Bond Proposition passes, dedicating \$25 million toward a new DAC



How We Got Here



Previous Sites Studied

- Existing site, both east and west of Dawson Rd.
- Travis County Palm School
- Proposed Travis County Courthouse
- AISD Campuses
 - Baker School
 - Ann Richards School
 - Dawson Elementary
- Shared facility at expanded Palmer and Long Centers
- Developer-partnership with CoA Budget office and Strategic Facilities team
- Visits with the CoA Office of Real Estate
 - Office building at 7703 N. Lamar
 - Former church complex at South First Street and Alpine
 - Outpost on Rollingwood Drive
 - Former Howdy Honda site at Ben White and IH 35
 - Building at 901 Barton Springs Road
 - Property behind Carver Museum and Cultural Center

Existing Conditions



Previous Sites Studied and Existing Conditions

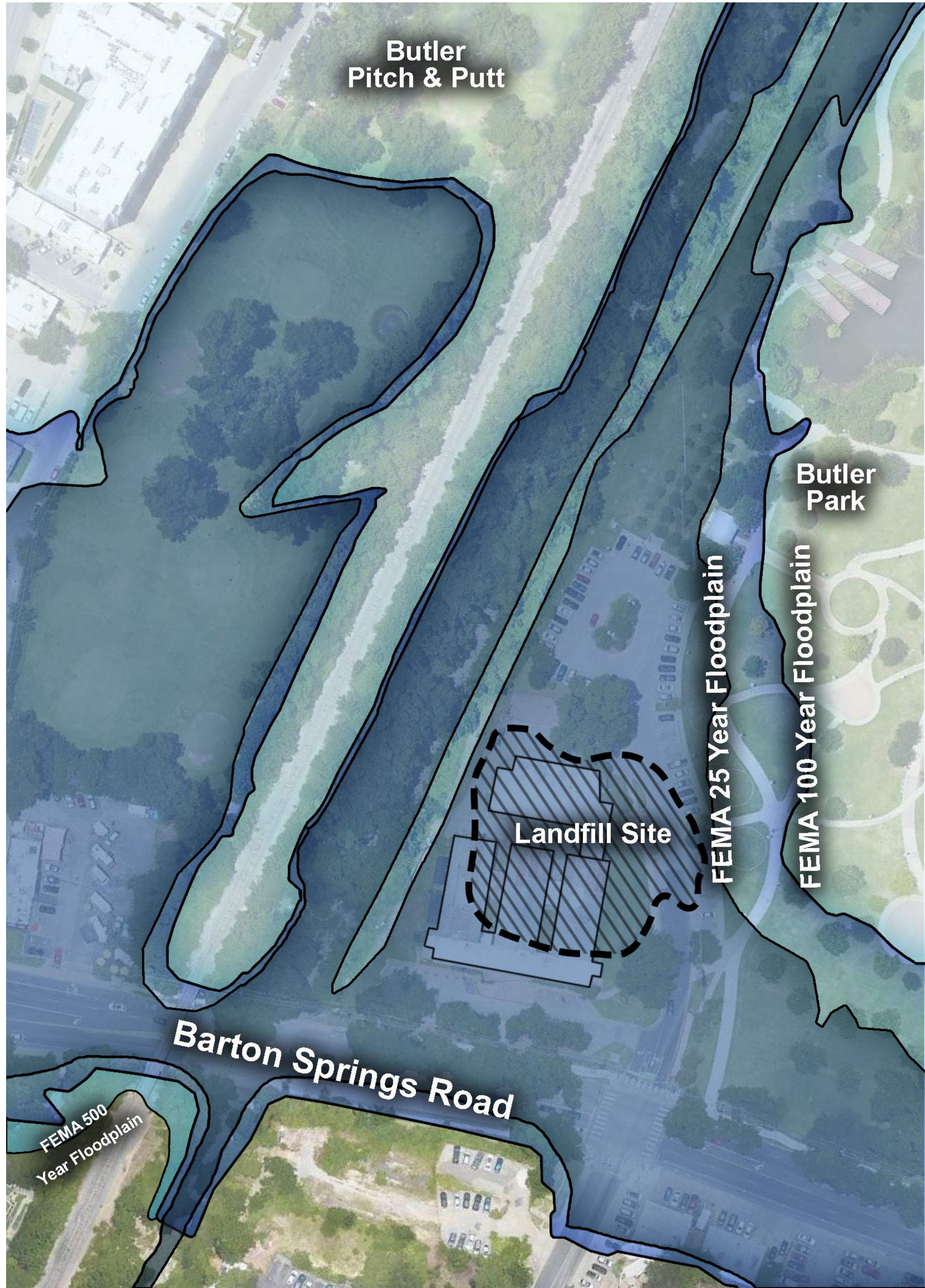


- Building sits within CoA and FEMA floodplains (25 and 100 year)
- Property frequently floods, and emergency access/egress is limited
- Any new structure in the floodplain would negatively impact area drainage
- Rebuilding on current site could cause multi-year closure of DAC
- Future floodplain limits will be more restrictive
- Facility was built over a landfill



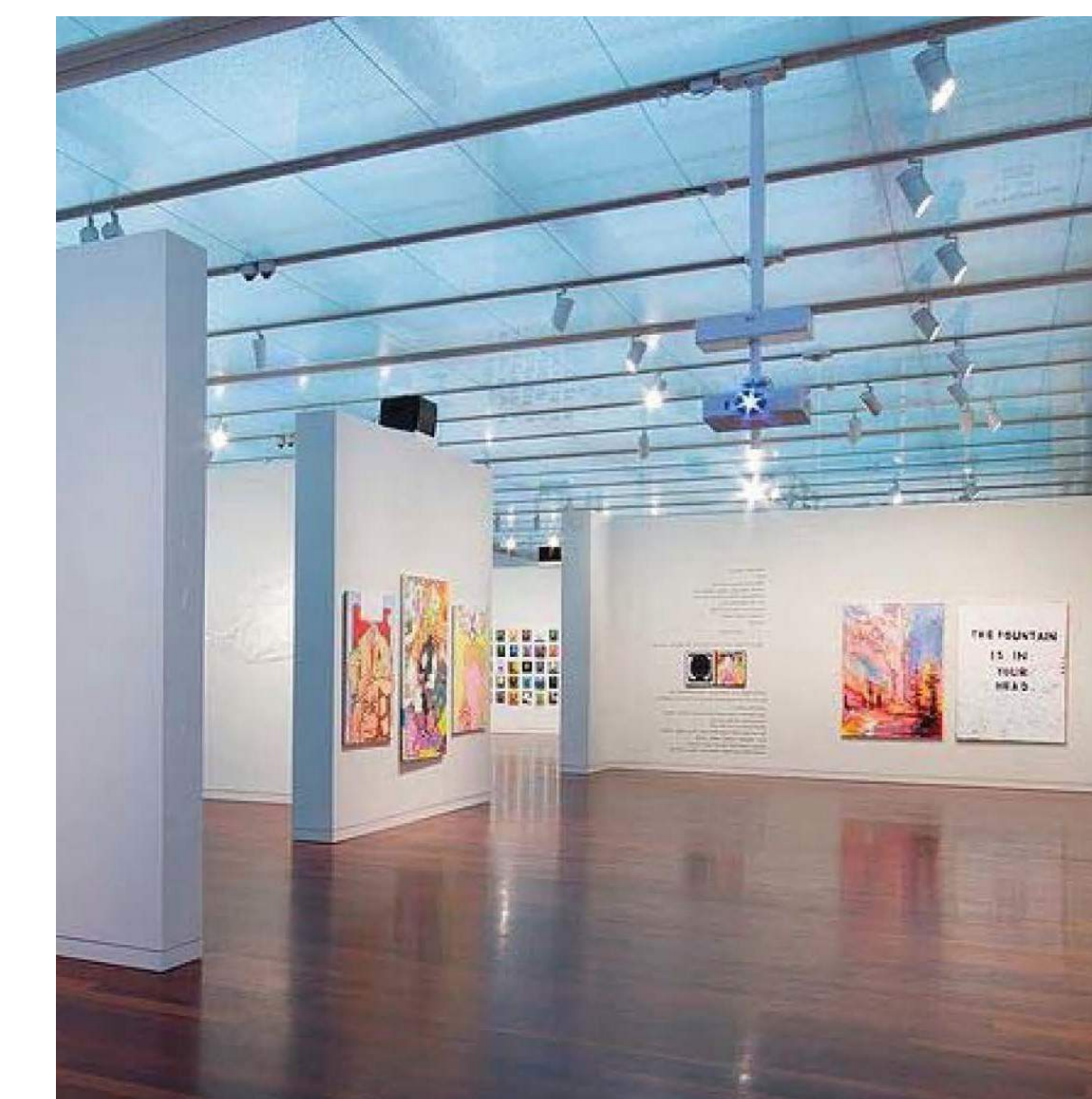
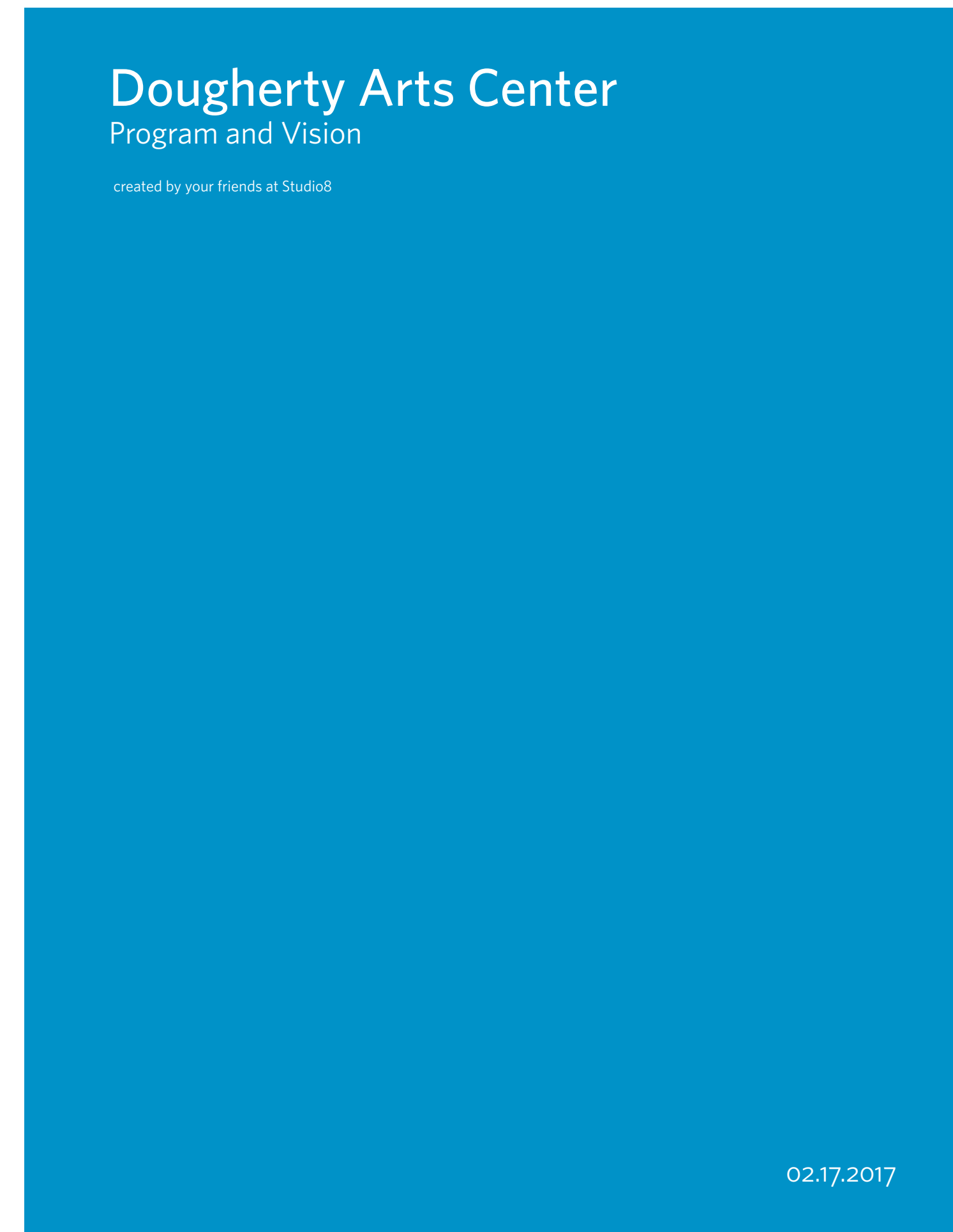
Atlas 14 floodplain (proposed)
@ approx. 454' MSL

Existing CoA 100 yr. floodplain
@ approx. 452' MSL
Proposed 25 yr. floodplain
@ approx. 452' MSL
Existing DAC level 1
@ approx. 449' MSL



Why Can't Current Site be Redeveloped?

- Public gathering areas (inside and outside) that foster a sense of community for Austinites of all ages
- Spaces that inspire creativity; a feeling that this is a place to make things
- Gallery space that meets the requirements of the Smithsonian Institution
- Rentable rehearsal rooms and public space that can be reserved by students, faculty, or the public
- New technology options for students and faculty
- Spaces that are flexible enough to serve multiple needs, yet able to accommodate their specific function well
- Facility that embraces the history and emotion of the DAC
- Top Words to describe the new DAC facility: flexible, cutting edge, light, functional, industrial, human-scale, comfortable, and beautiful
- 100% of respondents said a connection to nature is important to consider in the design of the new DAC facility.



Architectural Program Overview





Butler Shores Existing Conditions Map

- Central location best meets needs and service area of existing DAC
- Opportunity to improve parkland adjoining the PARD Main Office and new DAC
- Supports the idea of an emerging arts district on the South Central waterfront
- Opportunity for shared structured parking facility
- Opportunity to enhance Toomey Road streetscape and pedestrian connectivity to Zilker Park
- Consistent with recommendations in Town Lake Park Comprehensive Plan, Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan
- Central location and adjacent amenities are attractive to both artists and patrons
- Adjacency to PARD Main Administrative Office
- Proximity to and potential partnership opportunities with the ZACH Theatre
- Site is City of Austin Parkland and properly zoned for construction of a parks facility



Butler Shores Site: Existing Conditions

Potential Benefits of Butler Shores Location





- Potential Development Scenario**
- **Building Facility**
 - Approximately 40,000 sf
 - 2-3 Story Structure
 - **Parking Structure**
 - 2 Levels with approximately 200 spaces
 - Separated Theater & School Drop-Off Areas
 - Outdoor Courtyard Spaces
 - Integrated Cultural Park & Trailhead
 - Connection to Town Lake Trail
 - Approx. 2 Acres of Accessible Parkland Gained from current facility

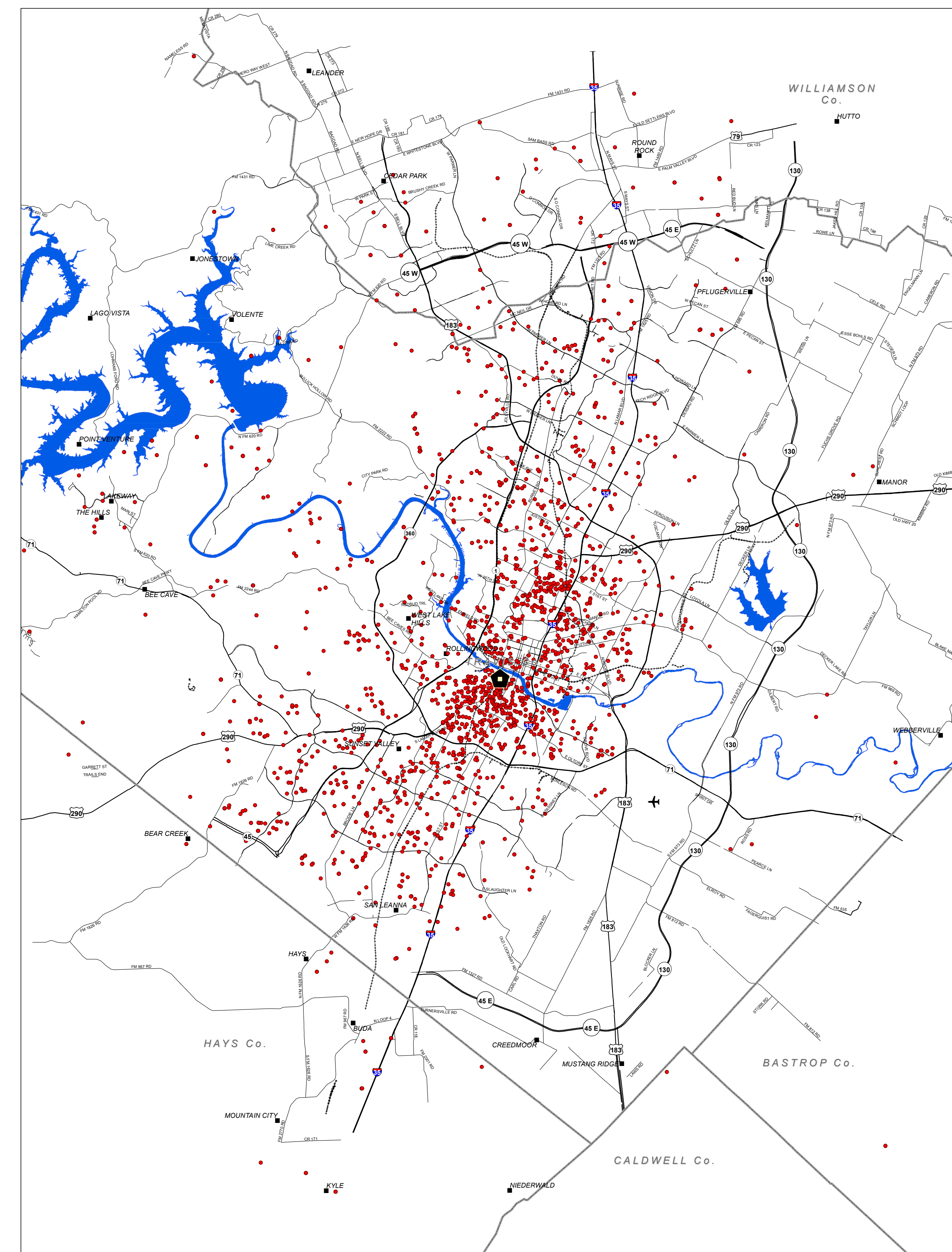
Butler Shores Conceptual Scenario



Open House # 1 - June 21, 2018
Dougherty Arts Center



Open House # 2 - October 19, 2018
Zilker Botanical Garden



Dougherty Arts Center Program Participants
Adults, 2012-2017

How do you think the DAC can improve its facility?

- Expand the space and allow for more programming
“Parking, parking, parking”
- Provide a better outdoor space for children
“Update and upgrade!”

What do you think are the most critical needs Austin artists have in regards to space and resources?

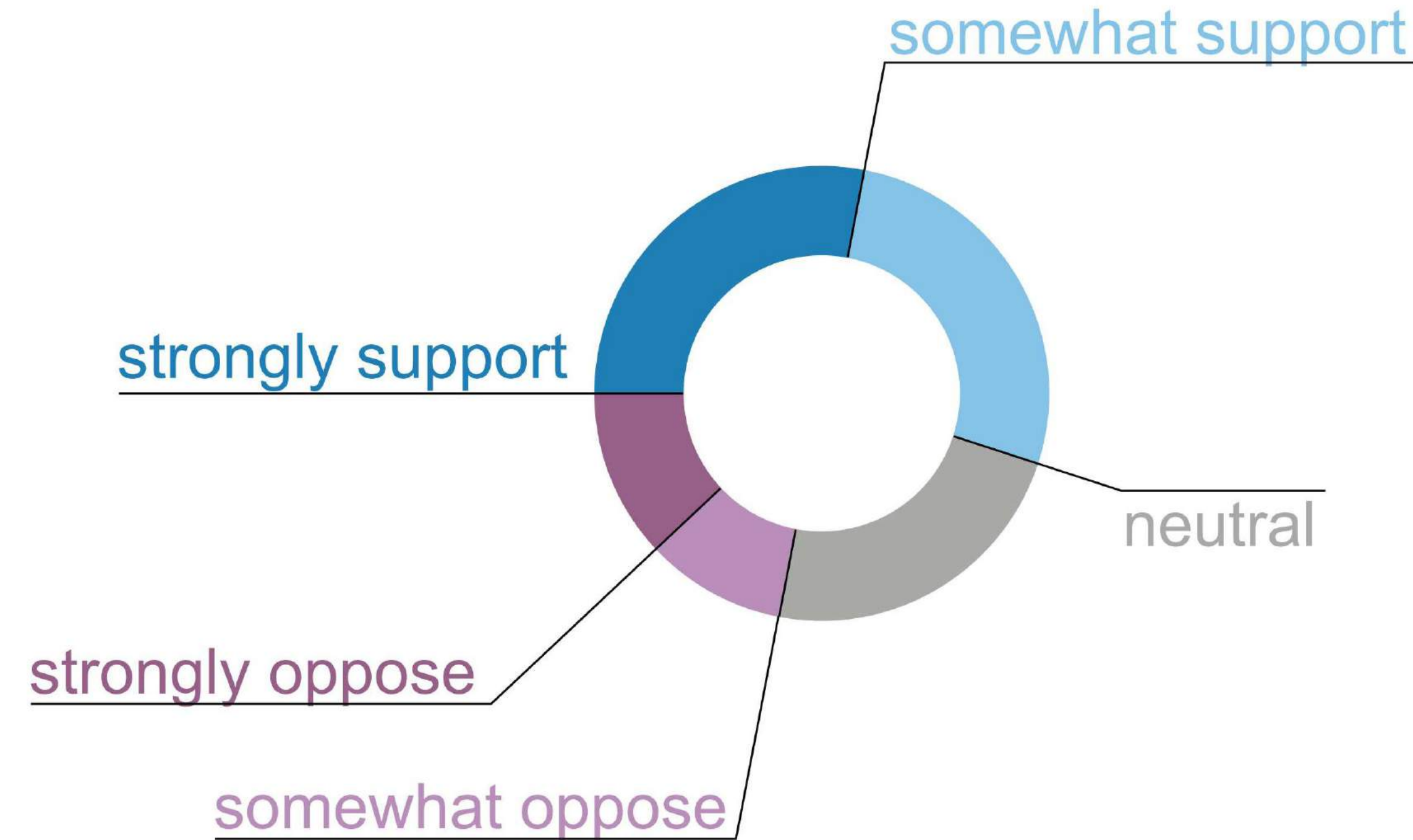
- Affordability, availability and space
“Affordability is the heart of the issue for artists”

Community Engagement and Input

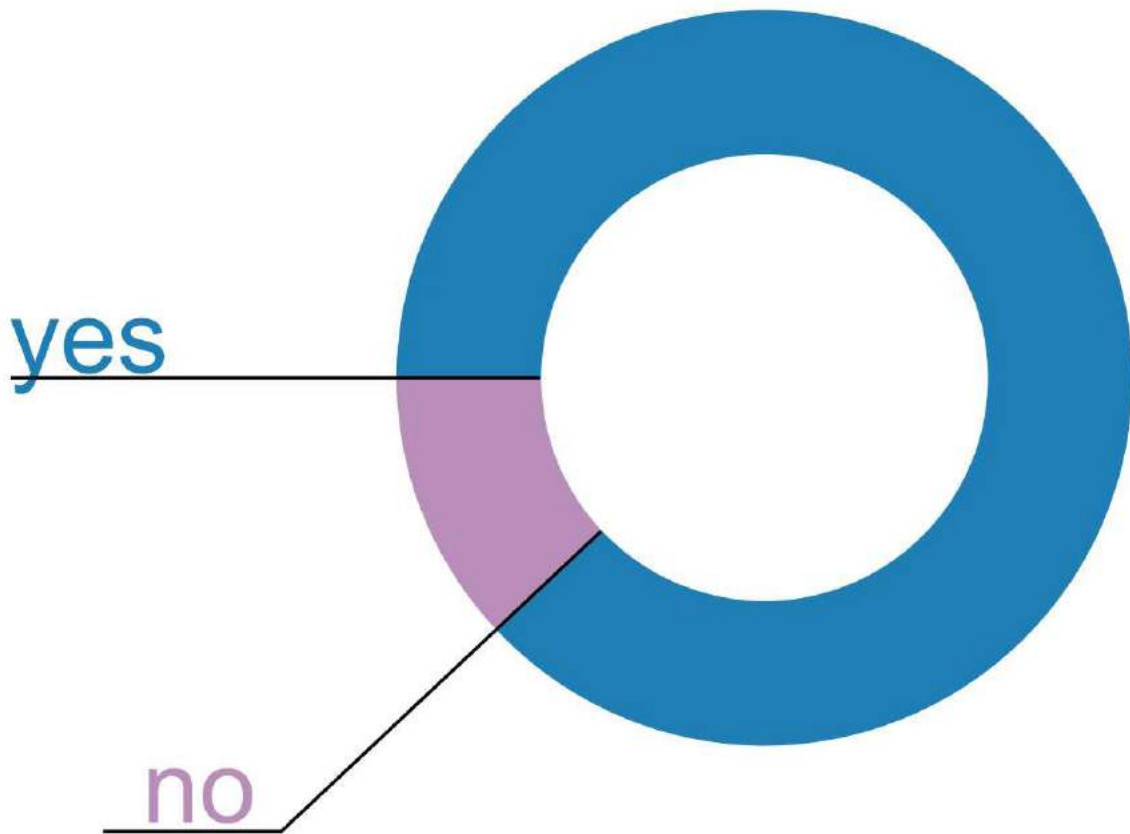


The DAC community survey was available from June 21, 2018 to July 25, 2018 and received 616 survey responses.

54% of respondents are supportive of the relocation and 23% are neutral to the relocation



88% of the respondents believe the existing DAC is conveniently located (central Austin, south of Lady Bird Lake).



“Please keep the DAC downtown in the same area - it’s key to serving all members of the Austin community!”

What do you like about the current DAC facility?

- “The affordability of the activities offered there. The down-to-Earth, fun staff.”
- “Location, large gallery space, variety of affordable classes.”
- “The Dougherty is an amazing concept. A centrally located arts facility is very Austin.”
- “Unpretentious and a great location.”
- “It’s funky, it’s functional and truly multipurpose.”

What is your primary concern about relocating the DAC on the Butler Shores site?

- “Do not alter those little league fields!”
- 50% of respondents were primarily concerned with parking and traffic
- Returning the current site to parkland
- Rising cost of venue rental/classes and programs to offset construction costs



Adjustments Based on Feedback

- Removed vehicular drive in favor of pedestrian connection to adjacent green space
- Strengthened trail connection across the site to connect to Hike and Bike Trail
- Enhanced concepts for Cultural Park and reconfigured circulation routes to preserve more existing trees
- Redesigned Toomey pedestrian plaza to accommodate attractive, green space



Areas for Further Study

- Traffic calming and mitigation
- Riverside Drive and Toomey Road access
- Parking counts and strategies
- Coordination with surrounding facilities
- Streetscape improvements
- Parkland amenities

What We Heard/What We Learned



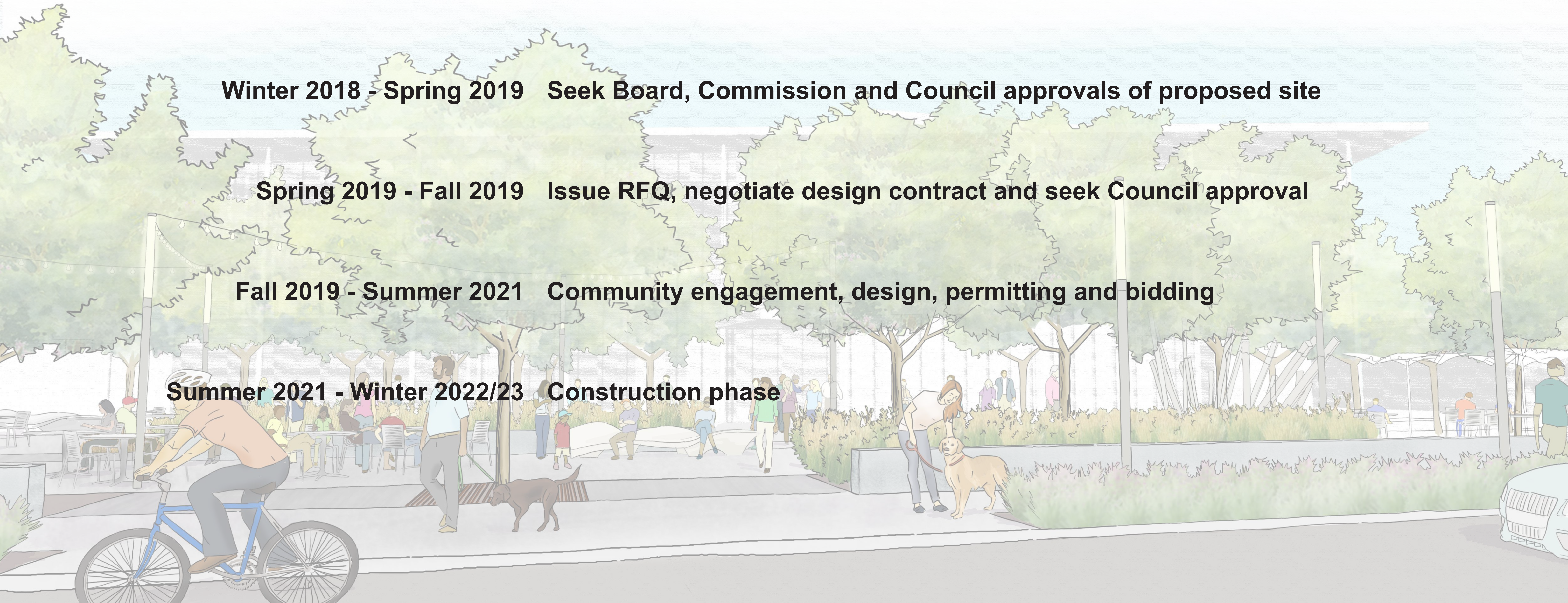
Fall 2018 November 6th Bond Passes

Winter 2018 - Spring 2019 Seek Board, Commission and Council approvals of proposed site

Spring 2019 - Fall 2019 Issue RFQ, negotiate design contract and seek Council approval

Fall 2019 - Summer 2021 Community engagement, design, permitting and bidding

Summer 2021 - Winter 2022/23 Construction phase



Next Steps

