

## Planning Considerations for a BCP Trail Master Plan Proposal (Modified for Mount Bonnell View Restoration)

### Use

1. What uses are being sponsored? In late January 2011 the project to restore "...the fabulous views of the Colorado River Valley and the City of Austin skyline." was partially implemented as approved by PARD and BCP, by raising canopies and removing dead trees at four locations. The view eastward from the pavilion was not implemented through concern for interference with the distribution of *streptanthus bracteatus*. A subsequent survey and mapping by BCP has shown that the area within which the unfinished work is to take place is not within an area populated by *streptanthus bracteatus*, nor does it intrude into the BCP area of responsibility as demarcated by the BCP boundary.

2. Who is/are the sponsors? The West Point Society of Central Texas.

3. What resources is/are sponsor(s) offering to provide? A certified professional arborist performing the work under PARD and BCP supervision.

4. What resources is/are the sponsor(s) seeking from the land managers? Truck and chipper to dispose of cut vegetation.

5. How will this vegetation modification comply with the *Streptanthus* MOA? By not having any impact on the current *streptanthus bracteatus* population.

6. How will user conflicts be avoided? No conflicts are involved.

### Vegetation Modification

1. What is the approximate area of the proposed vegetation modification? (Please provide a map.) Approximately 800 square feet (see accompanying map).

2. Are there any potential structural components? No.

3. What is the type and expected extent of vegetation clearing? Area is not being cleared, rather project involves only the raising of canopies and removal of dead trees within the designated area.

4. What type of habitat is expected to be affected? (*Streptanthus bracteatus*)

- Can occupied habitat and plants be avoided by > 100 meters? No. Area is within park boundaries, which is already within 100 meters.
- If habitat cannot be avoided by > 100 meters, what are the proposed actions to mitigate? There is no threat to mitigate. Other than the existing stone masonry stairway, no trails cross the area being worked, there are no adjacent trails being made more accessible, there are no amenities within the affected area to attract intrusion, and work does not expose view of the eastern picnic bench as a possible attraction.

5. What oak wilt prevention methods will be used? Cutting will be conducted in the Fall with certified arborist using standard preventive measures of cut painting and tool sanitation.

6. How will cultural and other sensitive resources be protected? The work does not threaten any cultural or other sensitive resources.

## **Operations**

### 1. User management

- a. How will intensity of use be managed and/or maintenance be adjusted to address intensity? Intensity of use is not expected to change. Use will consist of unobstructed view by visitors to the east from the pavilion. There will be no need to manage the viewing nor is any maintenance involved.
- b. How will enforcement and security be addressed? There are no newly created issues requiring enforcement and security.
- c. What design and education components are proposed to keep users out of the cleared area. Area will not be cleared, nor are there any trails or inviting amenities in the area to attract ingress. A kiosk is to be erected by the pavilion in August. The permanent display portion will include information regarding the presence of and sensitivity to *streptanthus bracteatus*.

### 2. Resource impacts (protected species, soil, water, and plant communities)

- a. What design and/or management components are proposed to avoid impacts to protected species, soil, water, and plant communities? No changes in impact are expected.

### 3. How do you propose to provide long-term maintenance and repairs, enforcement, and monitoring? Over the years as younger trees reach view obstruction height, their canopies will be raised as well to preserve the view for the benefit of visitors.

### 4. How do you propose to support monitoring of the potential impacts from this vegetation clearing on protected species, soil, water, and plants? Raising canopies on existing trees will not impact these. Clearing is not involved. However, PARD and sponsor personnel will remain sensitive to any potential impacts that might subsequently evolve such as the future migration of *streptanthus bracteatus* growth patterns into the project area.