

# Colony Park Sustainable Community Initiative

Council Briefing  
June 20, 2013



Your **partner** in capital project delivery!

# Colony Park Sustainable Community Initiative

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## Overview & Background



- The Colony Park area was annexed by the City of Austin in 1973.
- 2001, the City of Austin purchased 258 acres of land near Loyola Lane and Colony Loop Rd.
  - 50 acres were dedicated as parkland for the construction of Overton Elementary and the Turner-Roberts Recreation Center
  - 208 acres were transferred to the Austin Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) for the development of low-income or moderate-income housing.
- 2004 – 2011, the City completed improvements to Loyola Lane and constructed Turner-Roberts Recreation Center.



- In November 2011, the City of Austin was awarded a 3-year, \$3 million Sustainable Community Challenge Grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).
- Partnership between the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, U. S. Department of Transportation & U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – fosters reform and reduces barriers to achieving affordable, economically vital, and sustainable communities.



## Grant Synergy

- In 2010, Capital Area Texas Sustainability (CATS) Consortium and the Sustainable Places Project received HUD Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant, which is administered by Capital Area Council of Governments (CAPCOG).
- The City of Austin received “Preferred Sustainability Status” on grant application due to this existing award for the Austin region.



## Colony Park Sustainable Community Grant Outcomes:

- **Create a master plan** for 208 acres of City-owned land in Northeast Austin.
- **Improve coordination** between departments/agencies to support sustainable and equitable development within the City of Austin.
- **Support capacity building** and community transformation goals of Colony Park area residents and stakeholders.

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## Anticipated Master Plan Results



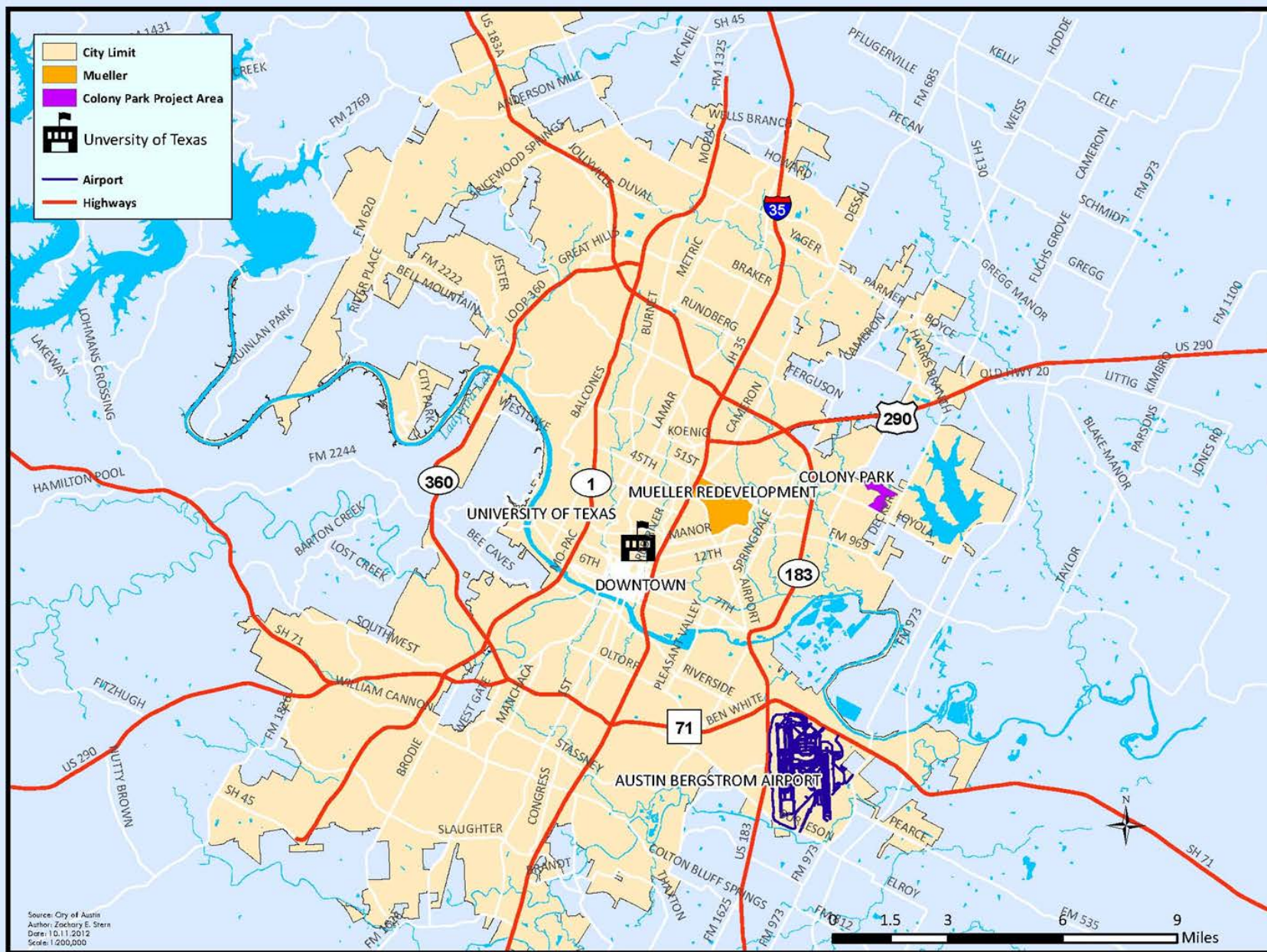
**Based on public input, incorporate best practice strategies for:**

- Energy-efficient building design, water conservation and zero waste technology standards to create a model sustainable and livable mixed-use, mixed-income community.
- Rezoning and engineering for subdivision and site planning for review and approval by the City of Austin;
- Infrastructure construction plans, architectural design templates and plans for new sustainable design that creates communities and buildings which advance enduring public and environmental well-being

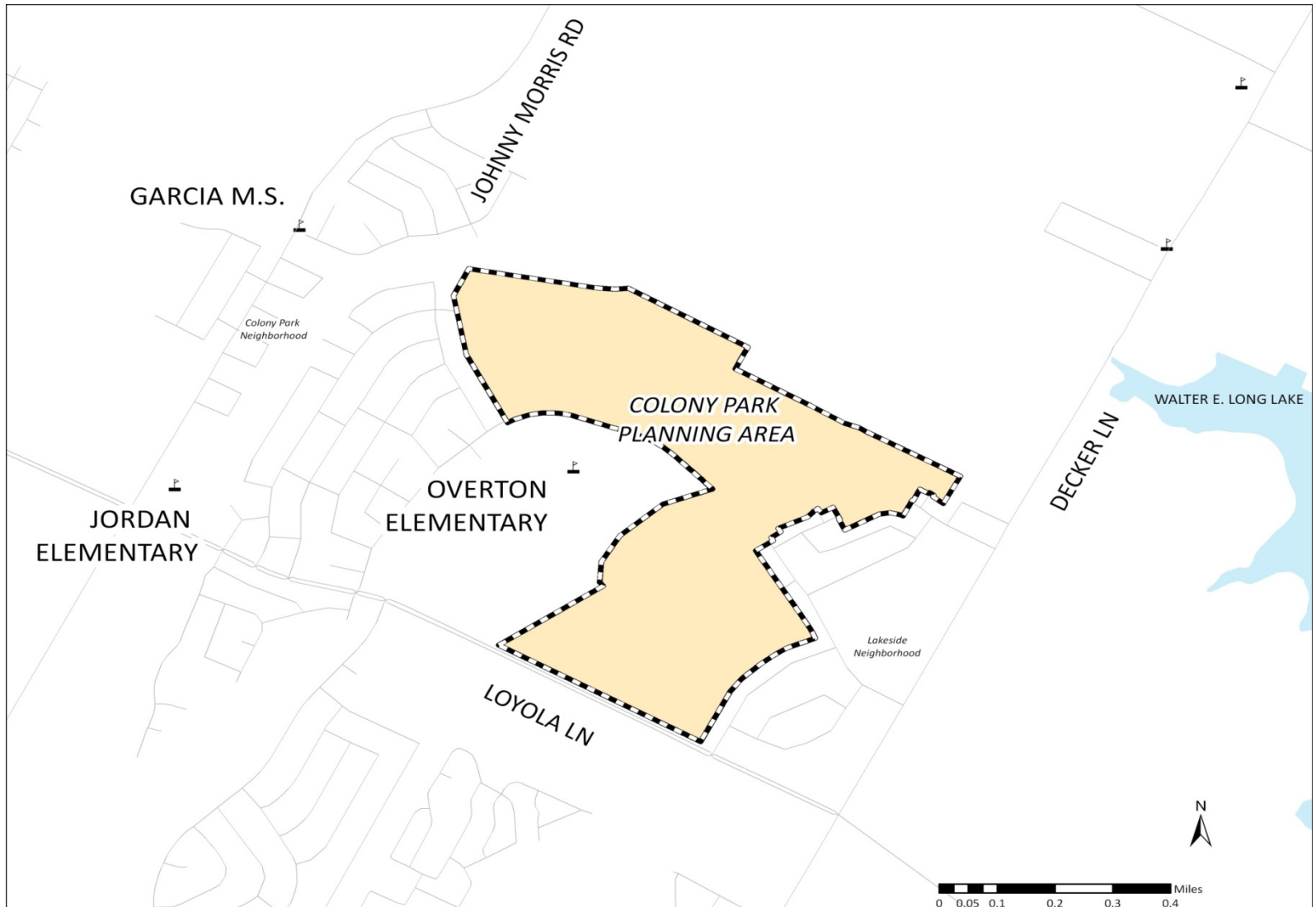
**Completion of an Economic Analysis / Market Study**



## COLONY PARK IN THE CONTEXT OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN



# Colony Park Grant Planning Area



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## Public Engagement



The City of Austin has an Interlocal Agreement which has created community partnerships to engage area residents and stakeholders and ensure the public is the guiding voice throughout the master planning process.

- Colony Park Neighborhood Association
- The University of Texas at Austin Division of Diversity and Community Engagement
- Austin Community College Department of Behavioral Sciences



This innovative collaboration will create a replicable model for communities across the country, responsive to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Livability Principles, which are as follows:

- Provide more transportation choices.
- Promote equitable, affordable housing.
- Enhance economic competitiveness.
- Support existing communities.
- Coordinate policies and leverage investment.
- Value communities and neighborhoods.

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## Solicitation Schedule

- **Partnership with Colony Park Neighborhood Association**
  - Development of RFQ Scopes of Services
  - Provided input on presentation content for Firm's use during Phase II of evaluation process
  - Provided interview questions asked during Phase II of evaluation process
  - Provided interview questions for Citizen Input Sessions.



- **Phase I - Solicitation Timeline & Evaluation:**

- RFQ Issued – February 22, 2013
- Responses Due – March 29, 2013
- Sent notice to 2,173 Firms and 196 Firms obtained RFQ
- SOQ's Received – 5
  - Asakura Robinson Company (Houston, TX) and WORKSHOP8 (Boulder, CO) Joint Venture
  - Design Workshop (Austin, TX)
  - Farr Associates (Chicago, IL)/Urban Design Group (Austin, TX) Joint Venture
  - KPFF Consulting Engineers (Portland, OR)
  - McCann Adams Studio (WBE) (Austin, TX)
- The Evaluation Panel began the evaluations on April 8, 2013 and they were finalized on April 22, 2013

- **Phase II – Interviews & Presentations**

- Evaluation Panel interviews firms and short-list firms – May 15, 2013

- **Phase III – Council Presentations**

- Short-listed firms make presentations before Council – June 20, 2013

- **Phase IV – Council Award**

- Council considers staff recommended firm or other qualified firm for contract award –June 27, 2013. The June 27 Council Agenda will post tomorrow, providing Staff's recommendation.



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## Finalists Presentations to Council

- Two Firms invited to provide a presentation to Council on the following topics, at a minimum:
  - Project Team's approach to incorporate HUD's six livability principals
  - Project Team's approach to incorporate the eight priority programs of Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan
  - Project Team's plan to obtain participation from a diversity of stakeholders
  - Project Team's approach to address the project's site development constraints, while meeting an aggressive schedule

NOTE: Finalists presentations to Council are not scored by the staff as part of the evaluation process. Staff recommendation is based on the scoring of Phase I and Phase II

- Random Order of Presentations:
  - Farr Associates (Chicago, IL)/ Urban Design Group (Austin, TX) Joint Venture
  - McCann Adams Studio (Austin, TX)
- Each firm receives 15 minutes for presentation.
- Q and A Session with Council following presentation (3 minutes per response), rotating order of responses.
- In addition to the presentations, today's process allows for citizen input.

# RFQ – Citizen Input

- Finalists' presentation materials are to be presented in City Hall Atrium following completion of presentation.
- Finalists will participate in a Q & A session with the Colony Park Neighborhood Association.
- Finalists will participate in a Q & A session with the public at the Colony Park Neighborhood location.
- Public and Neighborhood Association comments will be compiled and distributed to Council.

# Next Steps

- Request for Council Action – June 27, 2013
- Contract Negotiation and Execution – August 2013

# Questions?



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