Connecting Systems and People Using Urban Ecological Planning and Design

KATIE COYNE
Asakura Robinson enhances environments and positively impacts communities through innovation, engagement, stewardship, and an integrated planning and design process and our employees are leaders in social and environmental design. As a firm, we strive to assist visionary clients to spur positive change. We focus on engaging communities in ever more diverse project contexts while maintaining a high level of creativity and collaboration in every endeavor.
Our designers and planners bring expertise in sustainable design and public engagement.
Coastal Wetland Restoration

MyCreekATX

Public Interest Design Green Alley Project
PROJECT 1: COASTAL RESTORATION

ELEVATION
AUSTIN'S CREEK TRANSECT

URBAN CORE

URBAN PERIPHERY

SUBURBAN

RURAL
CULTURAL AND SOCIAL ISSUES IN ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

Participation in this survey is entirely voluntary. The results will contribute to my thesis research as a graduate student in the Community and Regional Planning/Sustainable Design programs at the University of Texas. The purpose of this research is to better understand the relationship practitioners of ecological restoration projects have between their practice and social and cultural issues. The survey below should take less than 5 minutes and is being distributed to all Urban Riparian Symposium participants. Survey responses will remain anonymous however email addresses will be requested to contact two randomly selected participants to distribute a $25 amazon gift card. Thank you for your participation. If you have any questions please contact me:

Katie Coyne
kacoyne@utexas.edu
561.339.5712

Please answer the questions below to the best of your ability.

In your day to day work, how often do you think about social issues in relation to projects you are working on?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Never</th>
<th>Seldom</th>
<th>Sometimes</th>
<th>Often</th>
<th>All the time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How often do you include consideration of social issues within decision making processes?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Never</th>
<th>Seldom</th>
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</table>

How often do you include consideration of social issues as part of project management?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Never</th>
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</table>

Do you consider human culture to be part of ecological restoration projects?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Not at all</th>
<th>Very little</th>
<th>Somewhat</th>
<th>Very</th>
<th>Extremely</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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Identify one social component that is related (directly or indirectly) to an ecological aspect of a project you are working on.
A website and app that better connects Austinites to each other and the environmental systems around them; and better informs management of creeks throughout the city.

To facilitate better connections between Austin residents and visitors with the area’s creeks by aggregating data from:

- Social media
- Survey data about creeks from field surveys and users of MyCreekATX
- USGS creek flow information
- City of Austin Department of Watershed Protection environmental integrity index data
- Maps
- Streaming web cams
PRECEDENT

Find Your Park - National Park Service
PRECEDENT

CaliParks - California State Parks, Parks Forward Program
A pic of one of my favorite hikes in Austin when the weather isn't crazy! ATX BullCreek

Skip Hunt @spghunt - Jun 9
"Flow" ~ iVance iTexas © 2015 Skip Hunt River InCare River InFlow Bullcreek Instagram: com/p/38PI258NH/
ENVIRONMENTAL DATA

Environmental Integrity Index

Stream Flow Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Min (2011)</th>
<th>25th percentile</th>
<th>Median</th>
<th>75th percentile</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Most Recent Instantaneous Value Jun 30</th>
<th>Max (2002)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.54</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>208</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. The MyCreekATX website would be a valuable resource to better connect communities to their creeks

2. We needed more equitable engagement

3. We needed an organization to serve as a city-wide creek advocate that could facilitate collaboration amongst the city, creek advocacy groups, and the public
2014 GREEN ALLEY DEMONSTRATION PROJECT -
Public Interest Design, University of Texas
HABITAT & CORRIDORS

Food for People and Pollinators

Habitat

Purple Cone Flower

Pollinator plants along edges

seat

alley side

The Living Planter

WATERSHEDS
ENGAGEMENT
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