



MEMORANDUM

TO: Richard Mendoza, Director, Public Works Department

FROM: Katie Wettick, Urban Trails Program Manager, Public Works Department

DATE: August 10, 2020

SUBJECT: **Multiple Use Agreement between TxDOT and City of Austin - Northern Walnut Creek: Walnut Creek Metropolitan Park to IH-35**

The Walnut Creek Trail system, once complete, will be 19 miles long and connect Govalle Neighborhood Park in East Austin to Balcones District Park in North Austin, along with many other parks, neighborhoods and landmarks along Walnut Creek. Additionally, this trail system will connect to the proposed Red Line Trail and Shoal Creek Trail creating a 30-mile trail loop around the city. Northern Walnut Creek Trail Phase 2 begins at the existing Northern Walnut Creek Trail at Walnut Creek Metropolitan Park and ends at IH-35. The total proposed trail length for phase 2 is approximately 1.7 miles. This project is co-sponsored by the City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department.

Through the 2016 Mobility Bond, the Urban Trails Program was awarded \$26 million. From this allotment, funding was allocated to finalizing design and construction of Northern Walnut Creek Trail Phase 2.

A portion of the Phase 2 project passes through TxDOT right-of-way near N. Lamar to provide a critical connection to transit and an enhanced crossing for bikes and pedestrians separated from vehicular traffic at N. Lamar. This trail alignment requires a multiple use agreement (MUA) between the City of Austin and TxDOT to establish roles and responsibilities for construction and maintenance of the new trail within TxDOT right-of-way.