

# Appendix 3- Focus Group #1 Comments, **2015**

## Environmental Infrastructure

---

### Topic #1:

- Have Cap Metro have a dillo shuttle provide transportation from an offsite location to Zilker Park Fri-Sun during Spring/Summer months (15 min runs)
- Parking garage under Mopac between rollingwood & zilker
- Small park east of creak along Barton Springs Road
  - Parking coverage site
  - Umlaf land?
  - Austin American Statesman? (water taxi option)
- Move some parking away from the valley/lower lever by the bathhouse to a higher location
- Pedestrian walkway with drivers frustrated
- Don't increase pervious cover
- Fumes from large vehicles parking by theatre
- Public transportation with offsite parking

### Topic #2:

- Crushed granite trail from concession stand to Barton Springs Road is not functional for bikes
- Lack of paths from top of hill to lower parking lot
- Wheel chair accessible path from concession to pecan grove
  - Allow for quicker/easier exit from pool area
  - Parents with strollers currently being required to push up the road to higher parking lots
- Pedestrian and bike lanes separated on the trails
- Congestion on the trail by the current maintenance barn
- Constraints of CRZ along the trail in the area by current maintenance barn
- Bicycle traffic along either side of the parking lots from concession stand to violet crown trail conflicts with peds

# Appendix 3- Focus Group #1 Comments, 2015

## Environmental Infrastructure

---

- Provide space between parking spots and sidewalks for bikes- physical barrier
- Accessible path to/from pool to rock garden parking

### Topic #3

- More water fountains needed
- Water set up for pets
- Updated pavilion by Eliza (similar to Umlaf)
- Encourage patrons to remove trash
- Move canoe/kayak rentals closer to the mouth of the creek
- Food trucks instead of concession stand
- Coffee shop instead of burgers and candy
- Benches that form an area that promotes conversations
- Seating (existing) outside of café are not attractive and crowd the trees
- Food options not sufficient in the concession stand
- Use Zepher to act as a train to take people to another parking lot (Impervious cover concerns with any new tracks or depots)
- Old restrooms by maintenance yard
  - Fix plumbing
  - Lack toilets
  - Easily cleanable
  - Sturdy and efficient

### Topic #4

- Surrounding areas are becoming too arid and canopy needs to be maintained
- Need to upgrade green infrastructure

# Appendix 3- Focus Group #1 Comments, 2015

## Environmental Infrastructure

---

- Regular trimming of dead limbs
- Mulching around trees on regular basis
- Vegetative strips rather than rain gardens
- Better define zones (i.e. pathways)
- Reducing the reliance on overflow parking
- Replacement trees
  - Really strong hardwoods
  - Plant between existing trees to ensure future canopy
  - Live oaks, red oaks
- Strengthen area below lower dam while creating an area for people to gather
- Splash visibility
- No more bike races in the park
- Install bio swells
- Remove the maintenance barn

### Topic 1:

- Cap Metro to talk about shuttles to zilker park from some other parking moving people from place to place- park other locations?
- Seria club does not want to increase parking and parking lots- including
- Not enough parkland away for
- Look shuttles
- Minimizing? Auto on environment is a priority
- Facilitating access
- Mitigating with rain gardens

## Appendix 3- Focus Group #1 Comments, 2015 Environmental Infrastructure

---

- Match southside natural rain garden to the north
- Park n ride under mopac
- Keep southside open all year round
- Keep runners on north side
- Locker room faculty on southside
- Expand zilker
- Parking under mopac near zilker
- Changing circulation pattern not a good idea, add traffic light
- Enhance polo grounds to have more parking
- Partner with surrounding parking garages

### Topic #2:

- No
- Curbs
- Dangerous intersections/trails, ADA access
- Southside access to outflow area
- Safety issues
- Sinage
- Delineation of bike paths vs. ped paths
- Increase user experience of access
- More bike parking on northside
- Pk/bike at sand pit
- Look at Robert E Lee access
- Pedestrian bridge over creek and Robert E Lee

# Appendix 3- Focus Group #1 Comments, 2015

## Environmental Infrastructure

---

- Provide a safe path from PK lot north of hillside theater
- Material/color designation of path of travel i.e. bikes
- Wayfinding
- Lighting, pred/street lighting
- Extra bike parking
- Designated pathways- provide

### Topic 3:

- Expand zepher to function as a transportation mode
- Larger train as before
- San Antonio zoo train-example
- On off transport
- Healthier food
- Trash cans, picnic tables-add more with design coherency
- Design competition for amenities
- Better landscaping
- More drinking fountains
- Boat rental not in good location erosion issues
- Limited activities for a large park

### Topic 4:

- No- it's a park- water is needed to support green for a park
- Expand irrigation sources
- Create a tree planting plan for park
- Rain gardens are good, lets use them for beauty and educational purposes

# Appendix 3- Focus Group #1 Comments, **2015** Environmental Infrastructure

---

- Water quality comes from mopac
- Dog waste on trail
- Removing invasive spp.
- Health scope on what is being done for salamander
- Restore sunken garden

## Topic 1:

- Shuttle- not enough room for parking, ex: of special events
- Under Mopac- additional parking, add shuttle, rollingwood, use rail to access park
- Reducing parking in turn-around area
- Not necessary to take away parking space
- Parking move to area of primary uses
- Restructure/restripe
- Remove staff reserved parking

## • Priorities

- Retain parking and reduce impervious cover
- Environment is more important to protect than increasing parking
- Increase alternative transportation options to the park
- Reduce parking-possibility?
- Buses loading and unloading in area not priority
- Load and unload in different area

## Topic 2:

- Move trail from front of bathhouse
  - Away from roots of trees

# Appendix 3- Focus Group #1 Comments, 2015

## Environmental Infrastructure

---

- Add curbs
- Redirect bike trail around maintenance barn area altering circulation flow
- Relocate education programs to improve circulation
- Move train depot to maintenance barn
- Do buses go to Sheffield center?
- Paved sidewalk to access pool
- Is ADA access adequate?
- Priorities
- Pool is main attraction
- Splash should stay because they do not affect circulation
- Need to find better pathways
- Hike and bike bridge- west (upstream)
  - Crossing the creek-connecting north and south side
- Is it necessary to add ADA exits out of flood plain?
- Connect upper level parking to pool with pathway

### Topic 3:

- Too many tables by concessions by trees
  - Replace tables that compliment tree court
- Add more benches than picnic tables
- Bottle filling stations
- Add more water fountains
- Hut- not necessary to protect as historical
- Concessions don't provide value- especially for children

# Appendix 3- Focus Group #1 Comments, 2015

## Environmental Infrastructure

---

- Splash located near concessions
- Concessions impede view of pool
- What is the best use of the barn space?
  - Could be good use for children's education facilities (out of flood zone)
- Is clearing soil cost effective?
- Add teaching facilities
- Sitting area and can charge phones
- Family bathrooms

### Topic 4:

- The current environmental efforts are not sufficient
- Improvements in education- environmental, health, in both Splash and throughout zone
- Share information about environment throughout park within the bathhouse zone
- More engaging education- added funding, signage, child education, people that enter the pool could be driven through area of education (videos), map (interactive)
- Educate- why SOS is so important
- Splash does a good job
- Raise awareness about Splash
- Activity center with signage for education
- Add tree east (upstream)
- Add decks to protect trees
- Why do trees need a "plan" to be planted
- Install irrigation or water truck-helps to preserve trees
- Trees are most important element of landscape



## Appendix 3- Focus Group #1 Comments, **2015** Environmental Infrastructure

---

- Improve landscaping around playscape-better design
- Trees added for shade at playscape
- Better planters around the bathhouse-more throughout design
- Better maintenance of landscape
- Remove dead plants
- Should be a model for the City of Austin should be simple and easy to maintain
- If education is to remain at current site- if not could be moved along ridge of bathhouse