

## **APPENDIX A: FIELD REPORTS**





PROJECT: La Loma Trail - PER

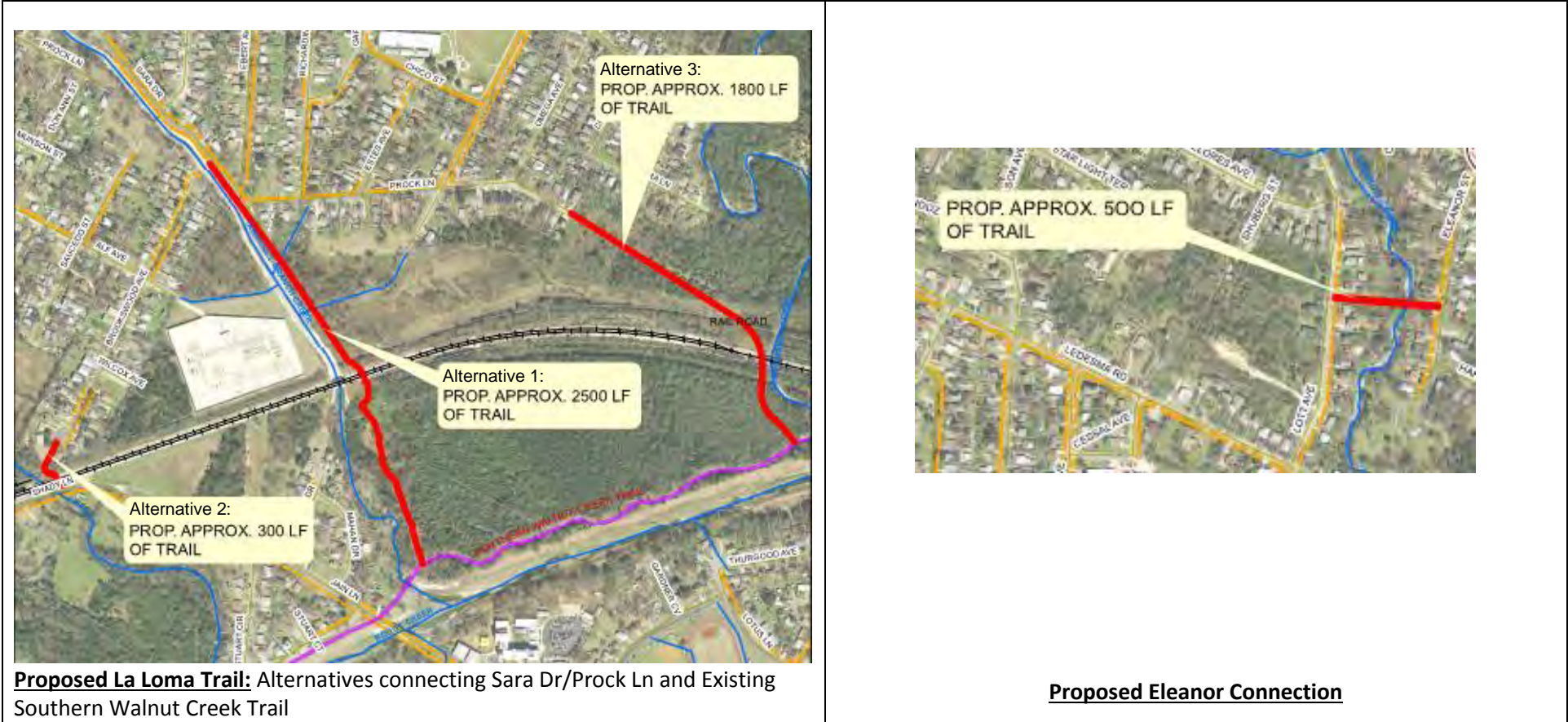
PREPARED BY: Jothika Thivakaran, P.E.

LOCATION: Proposed La Loma Trail Alignments connecting Walnut Creek Trail and Prock Lane.

VISIT DATE / TIME / BY: 4/20/2017 8:30 AM Carlos Garcia, Jose Ibarra, Kimberly Gilbertson, Jothika Thivakaran, John Garza and Mario Amaro.





CC: Janae Ryan, Jose Ibarra

**SCOPE:** The project consists of an urban trail connecting the residential neighborhood along Springdale Road north of Airport Boulevard to the existing Walnut Creek Trail to provide access to Eastside Memorial High School and community south side of the railroad track, and approximately 500 linear feet of trail connecting neighborhood east of Fort Branch Creek to west side, with Lott Avenue to provide connectivity with the proposed La Loma trail.



Location Map:

OBSERVATIONS:

	
1. Looking East: Proposed La Loma Trail Alternative 1 connecting with existing Southern Walnut Creek Trail (SWCT)	2. Looking North: Existing beaten pathway from SWCT to Railroad tracks. About 5 - 7ft wide cleared pathway.
	
3. Source – GIS DataMart: Existing East Boggy Creek Greenbelt Trails – All three trail segments were shown as “not accessible” status.	4. Looking North: Existing greenbelt trail towards East - Fork 1





5. Looking North: Existing greenbelt trail towards East – Fork 2



6. Looking North: Railroad crossing the Tannehill Branch Creek. Concrete lined open channel. The rail road bridge looks pretty old. There is an existing beaten pathway connecting this area which shows that the students cross the track underneath the bridge.



7. Looking North: Railroad track, the beaten pathway from SWCT to Railroad.



8. There are two creek crossing along the Alternative 1 between Railroad and Sara Drive.



9. Looking North from Railroad tracks: the existing beaten pathway is highly vegetated.



10. Looking West: Existing Railroad tracks along the Alternative 1. Noticed that the students cross the tracks underneath the bridge.



11. Looking North: Highly vegetated



12. Looking East from Tannehill Branch: The beaten pathway ends near the 1<sup>st</sup> creek crossing from Railroad track. North East area of the creek is pretty dense wood and highly vegetated. There is no beaten pathway found north side from here to Sara Dr.





13. Looking East: Tannehill branch - Crossing 1



14. Tannehill branch - Crossing 2 – 3ft Diameter three RCP.



15. Looking North near Sara Dr & Prock Ln



16. Looking North at Sara Dr & Prock Ln: Existing Sidewalk ends.



17. Looking East: End of Prock Lane – Begin Alternative 3



18. Looking South From end of Prock Lane: Alternative 3 – There is no active beaten pathway goes toward south to Rail road track. Alternative 3 area is pretty dense wood and highly vegetated.



19. Looking West at Jain Lane: Proposed Alternative 2 connecting Jain Lane and Brookwood Ave. Boggy Creek crossing below the Railroad Bridge and Roadway Bridge.



20. Looking West & Northside of the Railroad tracks: Active pathway goes through the open lot next to Boggy Creek.



21. Looking North towards Brookwood Ave.: Existing beaten pathway connecting Jain Ln and Brookwood Ave Cul-De-Sac through the empty lot.





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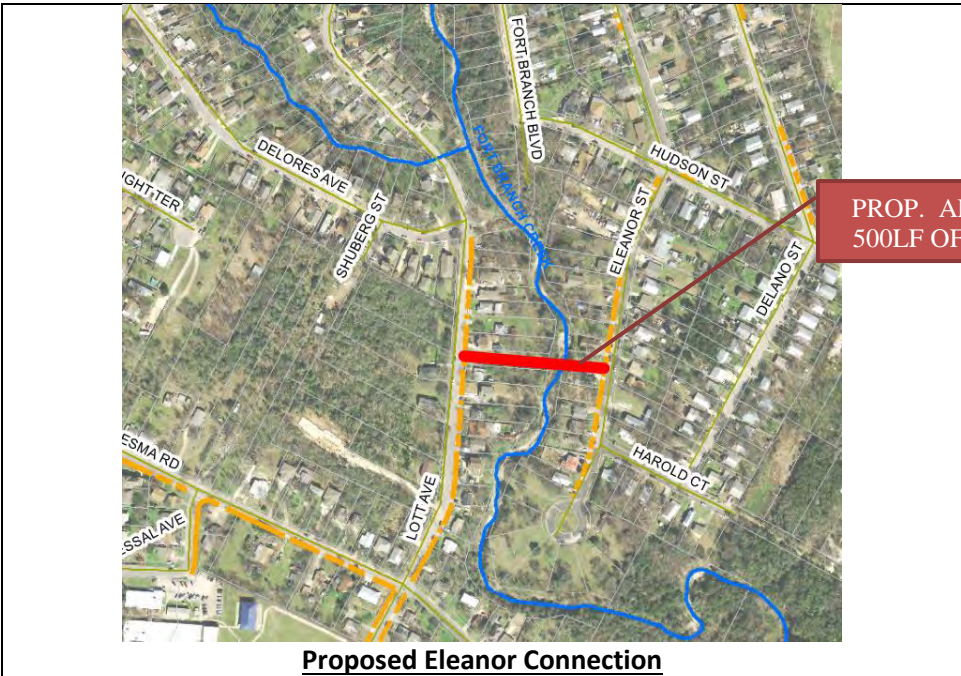
PREPARED BY: Jothika Thivakaran, P.E.

LOCATION: Eleanor St and Lott Ave

VISIT DATE / TIME / BY: 05/05/2017, 8:30 AM by Carlos Garcia and Jothika Thivakaran.

CC: Janae Ryan, Jose Ibarra

**SCOPE:** Approximately 500 linear feet of trail connecting neighborhood east of Fort Branch Creek to west side, with Lott Avenue to provide connectivity with the proposed La Loma trail.



Proposed Eleanor Connection

Location Map:

OBSERVATIONS:

1. Looking East: Empty lot at 1125 Lott Ave. Proposed sidewalk / trail can be meander between the two trees and will cross Fort Branch to connect Eleanor St.	2. Looking East from Creek towards Eleanor St: Empty lot at 1124 Eleanor St.
3. Fort Branch Looking Upstream from 1124 Eleanor St. lot.	4. Fort Branch Looking downstream: Proposed trail crossing the Fort Branch creek, about 60LF of pedestrian bridge required for crossing.





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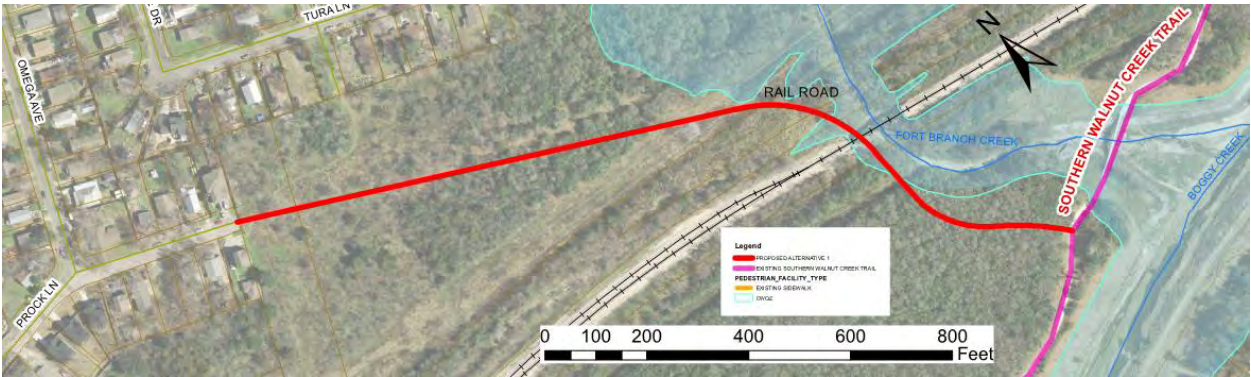
PREPARED BY: Jothika Thivakaran, P.E.

LOCATION: Southern Walnut Creek Trail at Fort Branch Creek (Alternative 3)

VISIT DATE / TIME / BY: 06/07/2017, 8:30 AM by Carlos Garcia and Jothika Thivakaran.

CC: Janae Ryan, Jose Ibarra

**SCOPE:** Proposed Alternative 3 will be approximately 1800 LF of trail connect the end of Prock Lane with the SWCT near Fort Branch Creek. This alternative will begin from Prock Lane end and continue eastward parallel to Tura Lane and turn towards south to cross the railroad track underneath and connect with existing Southern Walnut Creek Trail (SWCT) about approximately 130 LF from the end of pedestrian bridge.



Location Map:

OBSERVATIONS:

1. Looking East: Southern Walnut Creek trail at Fort Branch Creek crossing.	2. Looking West: Alternative 3 possible tie-in location at this bend. About 130 FT from the bridge end.
3. Looking North: Inside the greenbelt area, highly wooded and have pretty thin trees. Proposed 12 ft wide trail will need about 16 ft to 20 ft wide vegetation clearance.	4. Looking North: Where alternative 3 tie-in with SWCT.
5. Looking NW: From the bridge crossing Fort Branch. Highly vegetated.	





# City of Austin

Public Works Department  
Engineering Services Division

## FIELD REPORT

**PROJECT:** La Loma Trail - PER

**PREPARED BY:** Jothika Thivakaran, P.E.

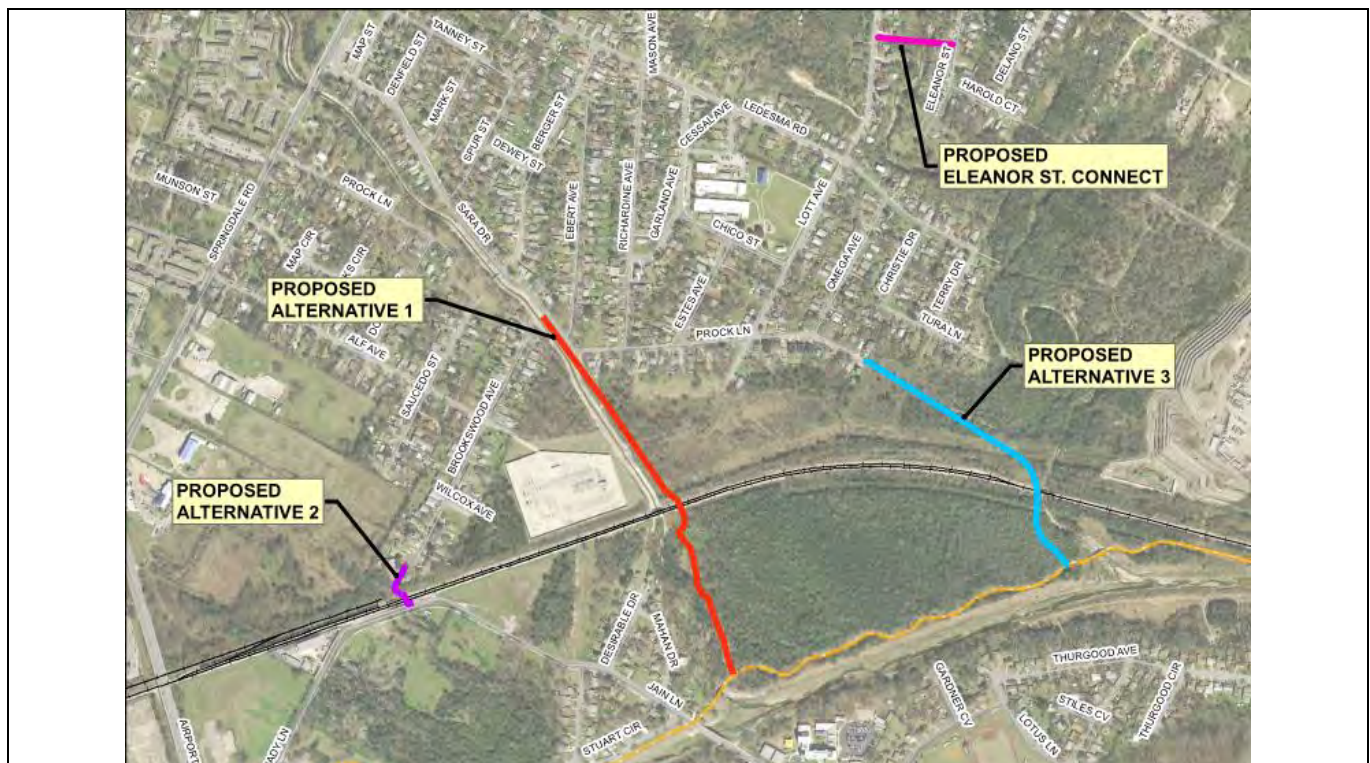
**LOCATION:** La Loma proposed trail alignments

**VISIT DATE / TIME / BY:** 09/05/2017, 1:00 PM.

Pete Rivera Sr. (President of Springdale – Airport Neighborhood Association), Raymond Rivera (Pete's Brother), Pinaki Ghosh (East MLK Contact Team Chair), Richard de Varga (thinkEAST President), Ian (TBG Partners), Council member's office- Stephany, Chris, Susan

COA - Janae Spence, Kevin Sweat, Carlos Garcia, Jothika Thivakaran, Kimberly Gilbertson, Jose Ibarra, Danielle Murray (Austin Energy),

**SCOPE:** The project consists of a proposed urban trail connecting the residential neighborhood along Springdale Road north of Airport Boulevard to the existing Walnut Creek Trail to provide access to Eastside Memorial High School and the community south of the railroad track, and approximately 500 linear feet of trail connecting the neighborhood east of Fort Branch Creek to the west side, with Lott Avenue to provide connectivity with the proposed La Loma trail.



Location Map:

### Meeting Notes:

- We walked the proposed La Loma trail Alternatives 1 and 2 with community stakeholders and representatives from two council offices. First, we walked north along the Southern Walnut Creek Trail to Sara Dr, through the beaten pathway used many years by the students going to and from school.

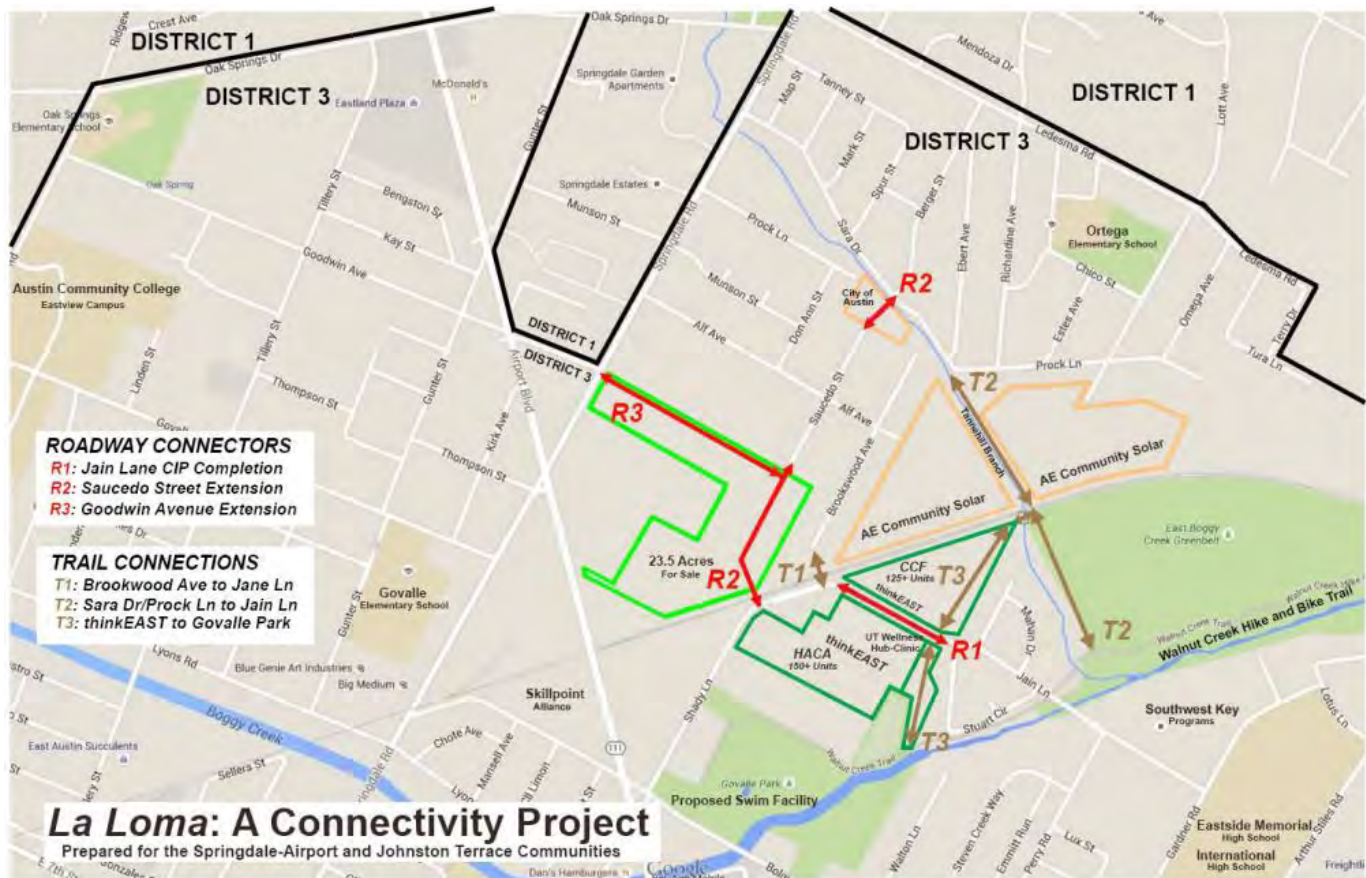


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## FIELD REPORT

- Pete Rivera Sr. from Springdale – Airport Neighborhood Association showed us the possible route options (see below image) and indicated that T2 is the preferred option. Additionally, there has been community support for a vehicular road crossing at T1.



- We looked at the possible options for crossing the railroad tracks, such as overhead, underpass, and at grade crossings. For an underpass crossing at the railroad tracks, we need to keep the vertical clearance of 8 FT as per the Union Pacific Railroad criteria. Also, underpass crossing should not affect the floodplain. For overhead crossings, the vertical clearance will be about 23 – 25 FT, as per the Union Pacific Railroad guidelines. Pinaki Ghosh from East MLK Contact Team, recommended that the team focus on the best engineering alternative.
- For at grade crossings, we need to coordinate with the Capital Metro regarding the parked trains along this project area. There are currently parked trains on the tracks near Jain Lane. We discussed the possibility of the Railroad designating a “no parking zone” for a section near Tannehill Branch or near Jain Lane that would help facilitate providing an at grade crossing. There was discussion about the best way to coordinate with the railroad for a potential at-grade crossing.
- Overhead crossings have constraints such as 25ft clearance above the tracks that could be costly. Additionally there are overhead electric transmissions lines crossing the trail alignment.





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## FIELD REPORT

- The railroad bridge at Tannehill Branch caught fire many years ago per Mr. Rivera's Brother Raymond Rivera, and, consequently, the existing bridge may require a condition assessment.
- Austin Energy is working on the Community Solar Project near Tannehill Branch. Danielle Murray from Austin Energy said that there is an easement that will be allocated for this trail project along the existing beaten pathway east of Tannehill Branch.
- We discussed the feasibility of Alternative 3. Mr. Rivera said that Alternative 3 is a long route, and the students will need to walk about half mile along the Walnut Creek trail to come to Jain Lane to go to Eastside Memorial High School / cross Boggy Creek.
- We walked through Brookwood Ave and checked the Alternative 2 near Jain Lane. There is an empty lot at the cul-de-sac of Brookwood Ave that could potentially be utilized for a trail crossing.





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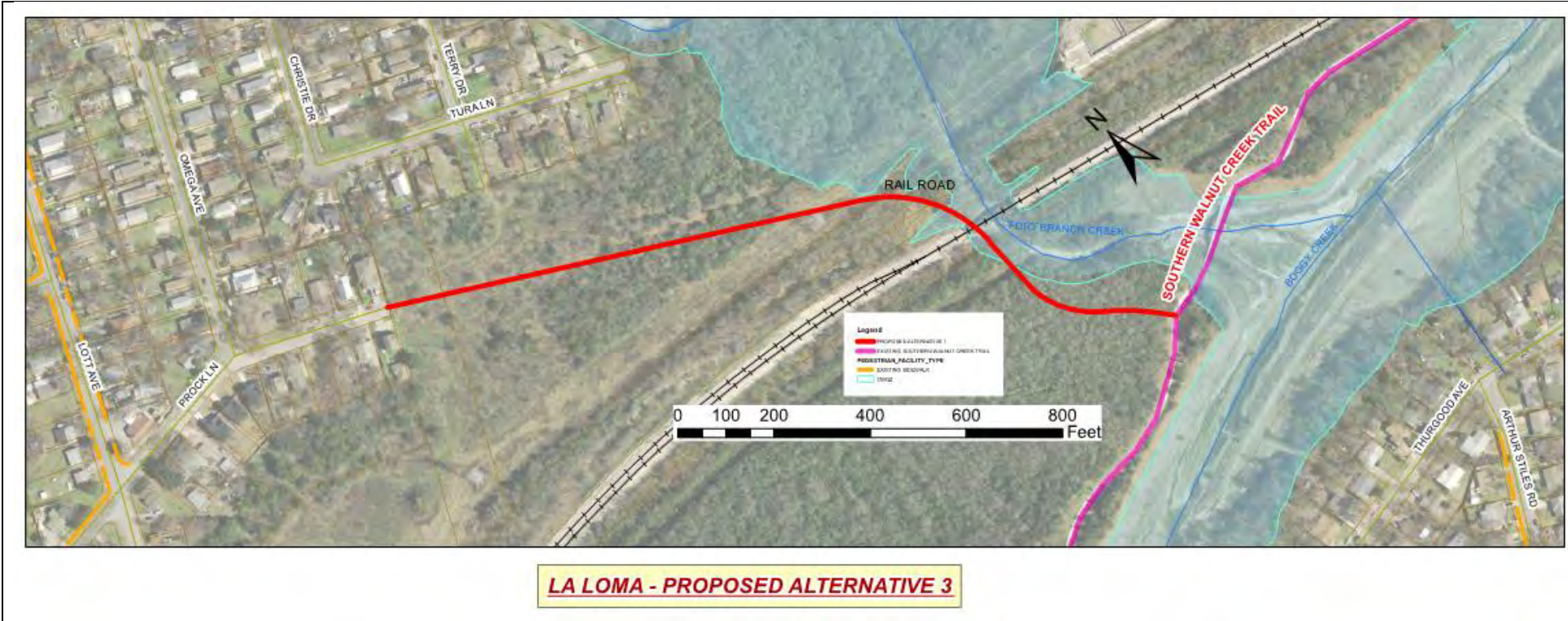
PREPARED BY: Jothika Thivakaran, P.E.

LOCATION: Alternative 3 near Fort Branch RR tracks

VISIT DATE / TIME / BY: 09/13/2017, 9:30 AM by Jothika Thivakaran, Mario Amaro and Kimberly Gilbertson.

CC: Janae Ryan, Jose Ibarra

SCOPE: Alternative 3 connecting Prock Lane and Southern Walnut Creek Trail, underpass the railroad tracks near Fort Branch Creek.



Location Map:

OBSERVATIONS:

1. Looking East: Existing railroad bridge Fort Brach Creek crossing.	2. Underneath the tracks at Fort Branch Creek
3. Existing erosion underneath the bridge, where the proposed alternative 3 alignment goes.	4. Existing erosion : eroded about 5ft below creek bed level





	
5. Looking SE near south side of the tracks – creek bed and steep right bank. Existing terrain adjacent to the creek is pretty steep and the proposed trail need to meander to achive that grade change.	6. Creek bed and steep right bank
	
7. Existing beaten pathway adjacent to the tracks on west side of the Fort Brach crossing. Proposed trail will undercross the tracks and meander to achieve the grade and connect with this existing beaten pathway.	8. Looking north from the tracks: Trees and vegetation along the proposed alignment 3.
	
9. Looking north from the tracks: Trees and vegetation.	10. Looking East: fort brach crossing. Alternative 3 alignment may follow the above line.
	
Southern Walnut creek trail underpass the track near Delwau Lane east of US 183, similar proposal for underpass the tracks at alternative 3	