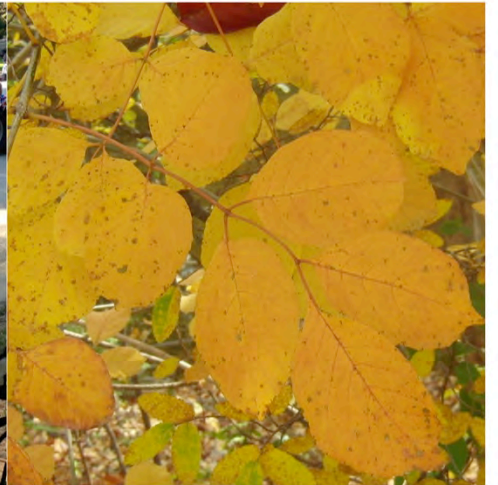


Overton & Foster Park Master Plan





Sponsored by:

Friends of Overton & Foster Park Association

Table of Contents

Acknowledgements

Background & Context

Neighborhood Organization

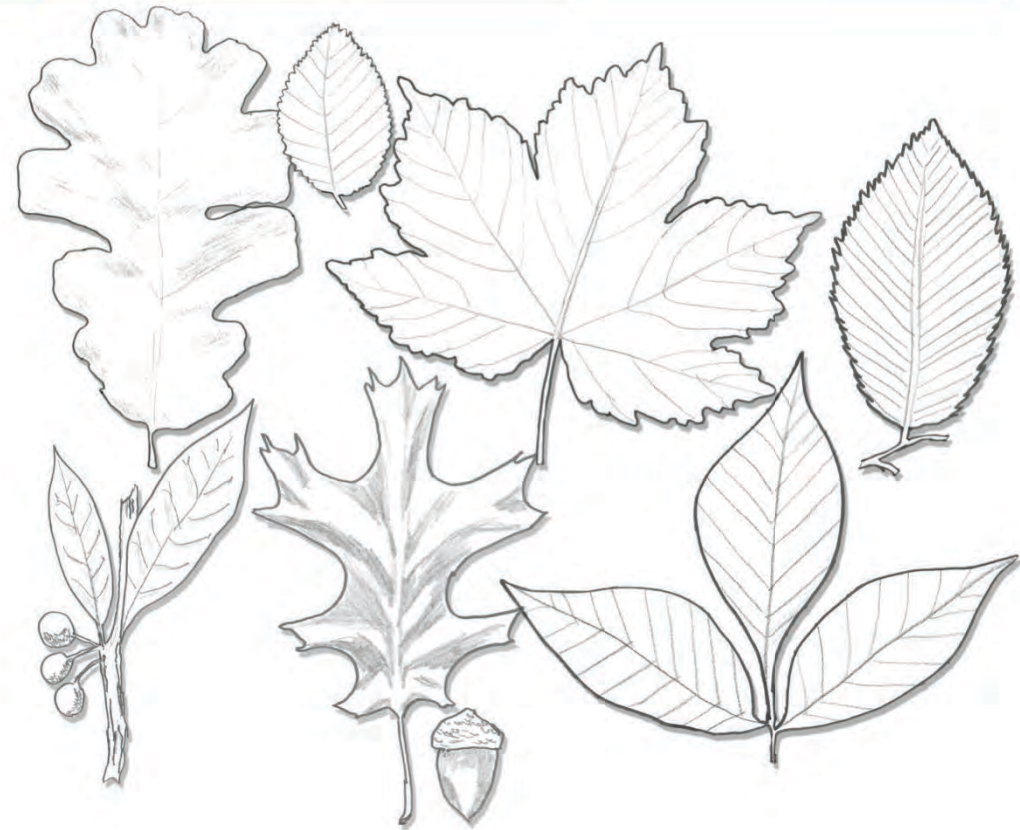
Project Goals

Park Analysis and Concepts

Park Master Plan

Park Projects

Project Implementation Strategy



Acknowledgements

City of Fort Worth

Mayor, Betsy Price

Council Representative, District 3,

W.B. 'Zim' Zimmerman

Parks and Community Services

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Foster Park Neighborhood Association

Alan Teichelman, President

Overton Park Neighborhood Association

Tim Taylor, President

Tanglewood Neighborhood Association

Albert Garza, President

Westcliff West Neighborhood Association

Marc Meadows, President

Mockingbird Garden Club

Mary Ann Kimberlin

OP is a Friend to Me

Tres Peacock

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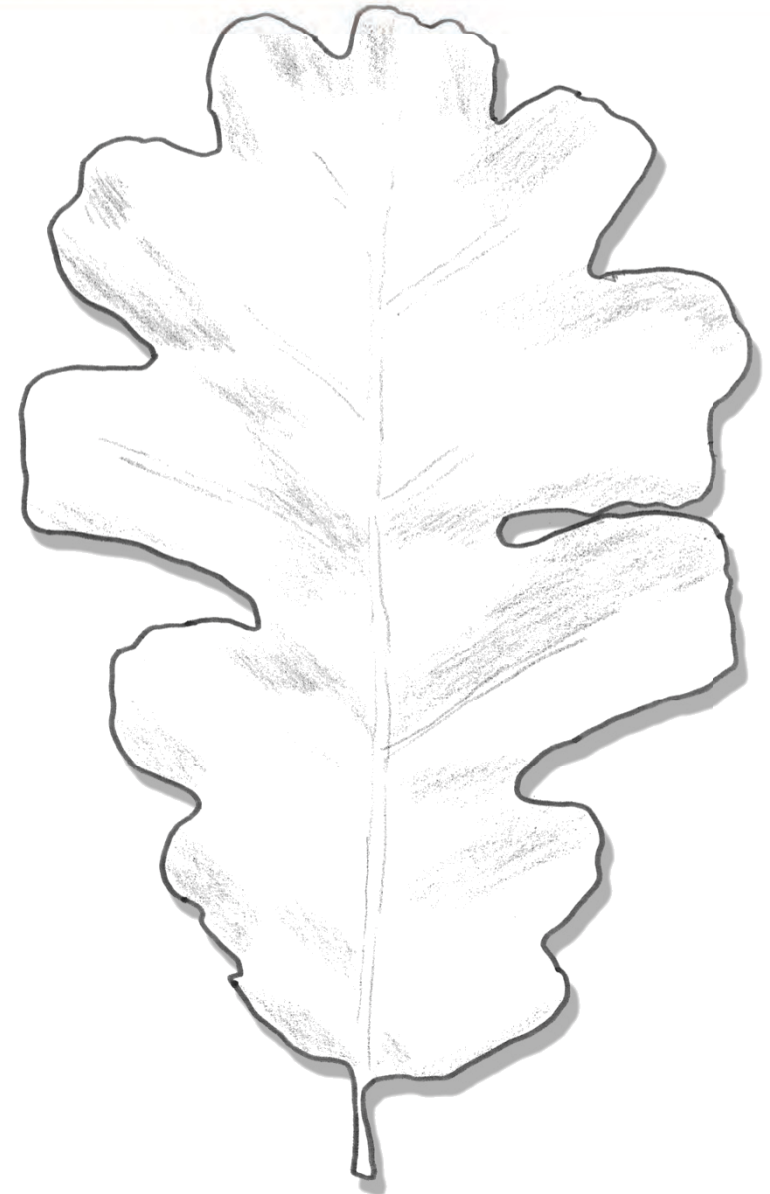
Gareth Harrier, Bartlett Tree Experts

Background and Context

Forward

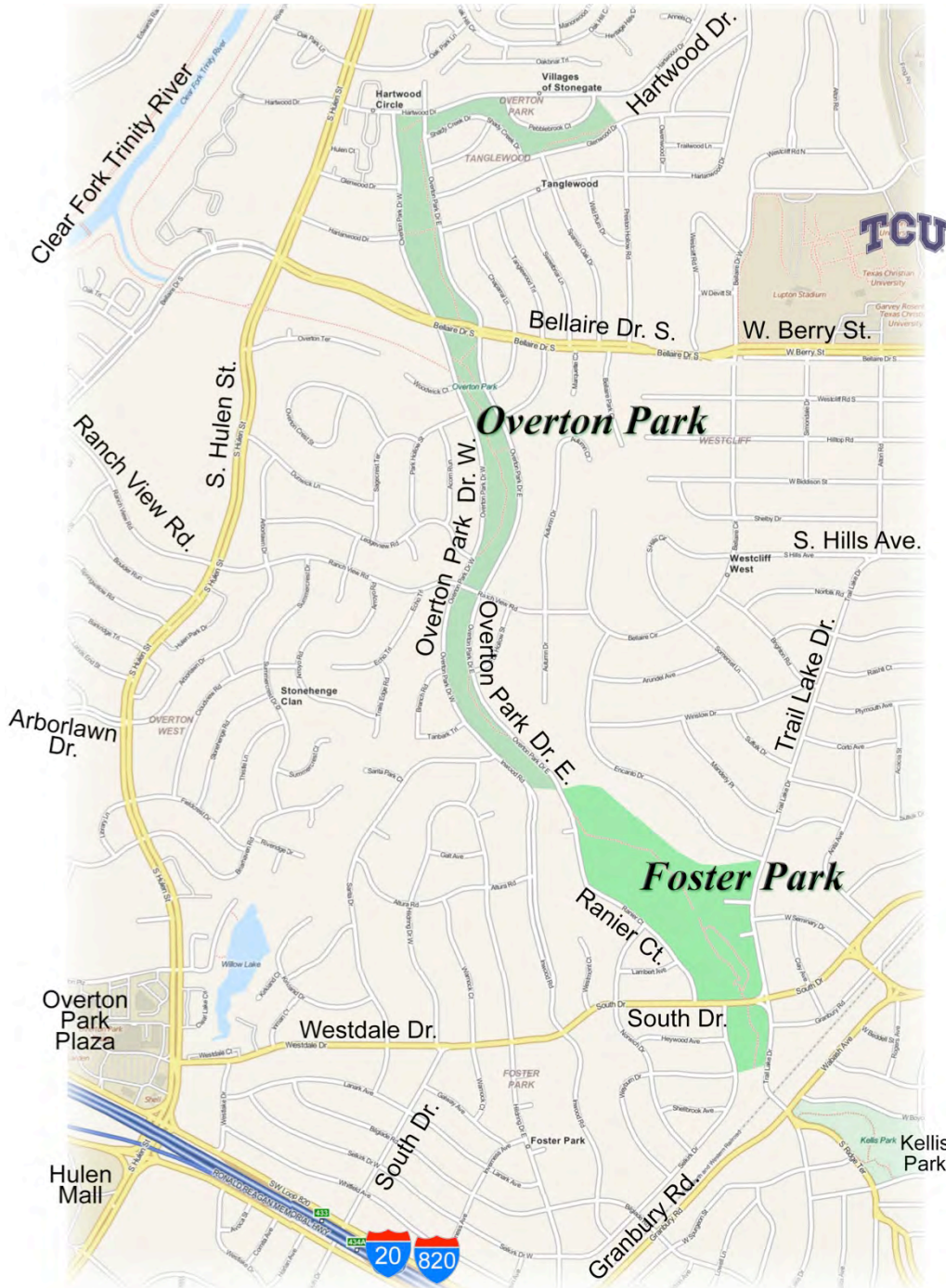
General Park Overview

Park History



Quercus macrocarpa, Bur Oak

Background and Context



Forward

The Friends of Overton and Foster Park Association formed a Committee that has worked diligently over the past few months to direct the creation of this Park Master Plan. The committee includes members from the surrounding neighborhood associations, local citizen groups and a professional landscape architect/planner hired to formulate the plan.

The parks are over sixty years old and in need of continued care that is beyond the scope and current city budget. The Fort Worth Parks and Community Services department maintains the park by mowing and removal of fallen branches.

General Park Overview

Overton Park and Foster Park are two neighborhood parks within the City of Fort Worth Parks and Community Services Department (PACS) park system of more than 260 parks and public spaces citywide.

Background and Context

Park History

Encompassing 48.68 acres, Overton Park was built in 1959. It is a linear park with a predominately north south orientation. A creek runs down the middle with a section that leads into the Clear Fork Trinity River. At the north end, there are two tennis courts and a small parking lot. The park is adjacent to the Tanglewood Elementary School where there is a playground in the park with a half-court basketball court. The northeast end of the park extends to the east end of Pebblebrook court and Hartwood Drive. The City has identified 1.76 miles of multi-use trails.

Foster Park was built in 1952, which encompasses 11.92 acres. Foster Park is located directly south of Overton Park. Foster Park is also a linear park that has a predominately north south orientation. The creek system runs through the park with a small pond near the south end. The parks other features include a parking lot and a series of active recreational areas, baseball backstop and field, basketball court, playgrounds, bridges and trails. The city has identified .78 miles of multi-use trails. The southern portion of Foster Park terminates next to the Fort Worth and Western Railroad corridor. A connection from the southern end along Trail Lake Drive to Kellis Park is not being considered are part of this Park Master Plan.



Neighborhood Organization

Formation of "Friends of Overton
and Foster Park Association"

Non-Profit Association

Neighborhood Associations



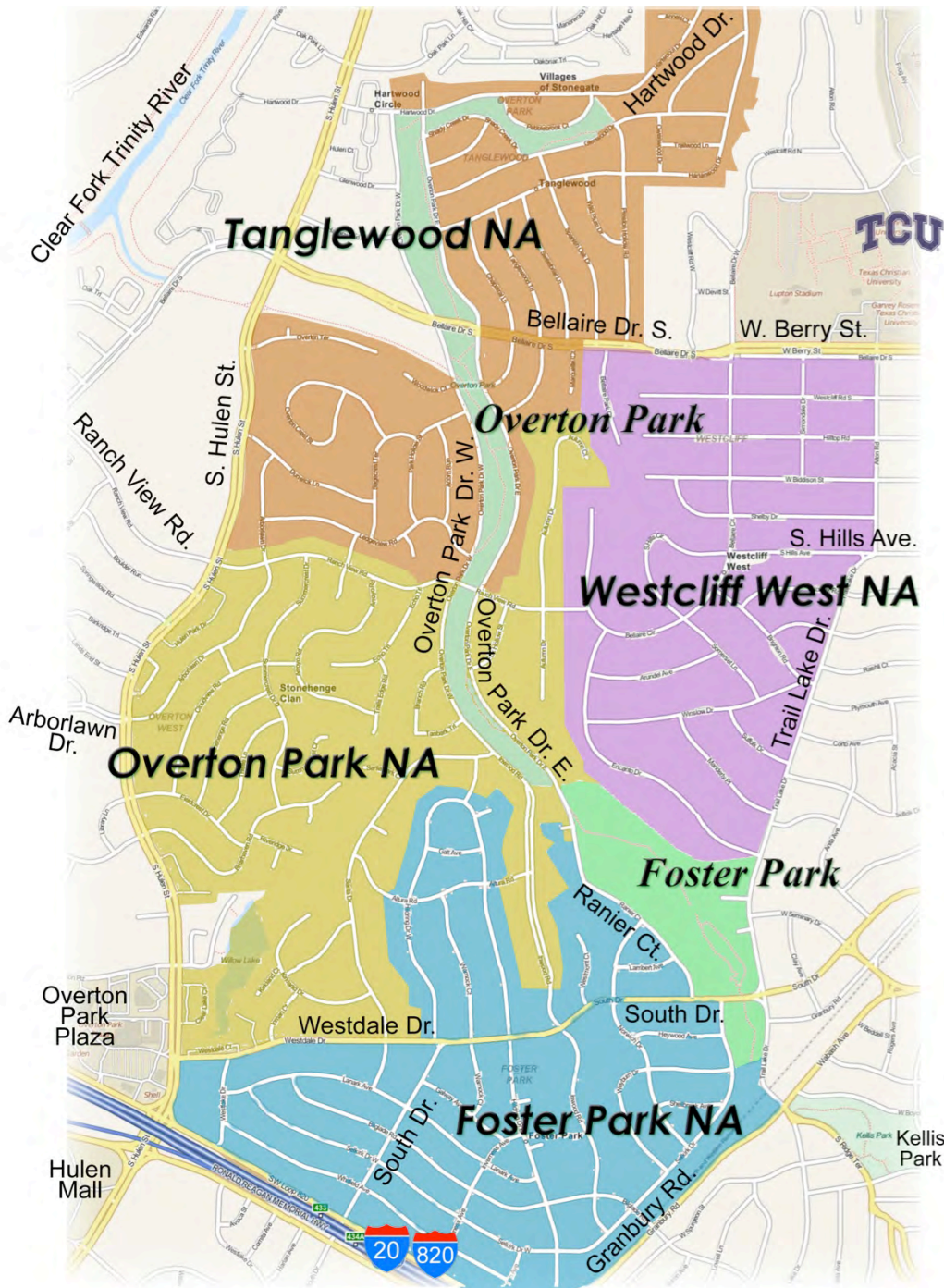
Bumelia lanuginosa, Bumelia

Neighborhood Organization

Formation of "Friends of Overton and Foster Park Association"

A key civic involvement group that has helped steer the Overton and Foster Park Master Plan process has been the "Friends of Overton and Foster Park Association" (FOFPA). The Association has achieved a non-profit status to raise funds that was used to prepare the master plan and long term to fund improvements in the park which are beyond the basic maintenance levels accomplished by the City of Fort Worth Parks and Community Services Department (PACS). An important purpose defined by the FOFPA was to focus on helping the neighborhood citizens and businesses to become good stewards of Overton and Foster neighborhood parks for today's citizens and for future generations to enjoy. The early goals established through the planning process are to enhance the long-term natural appearance of the park, to improve safety, to enhance neighborhood access and to enhance its use. To accomplish these goals the FOFPA will partner with the City of Fort Worth Parks and Community Services Department via the Adopt-a-Park program.

The FOFPA includes members of the four neighborhood associations (NA) that include: Tanglewood NA, Overton Park NA, Westcliff West NA, and Foster Park NA, each neighborhood association border one or both parks. Members from the Mockingbird Garden Club and OP is a Friend to ME are also members of FOFPA. The FOFPA may also include in the future anyone else interested in being a steward of the parks.

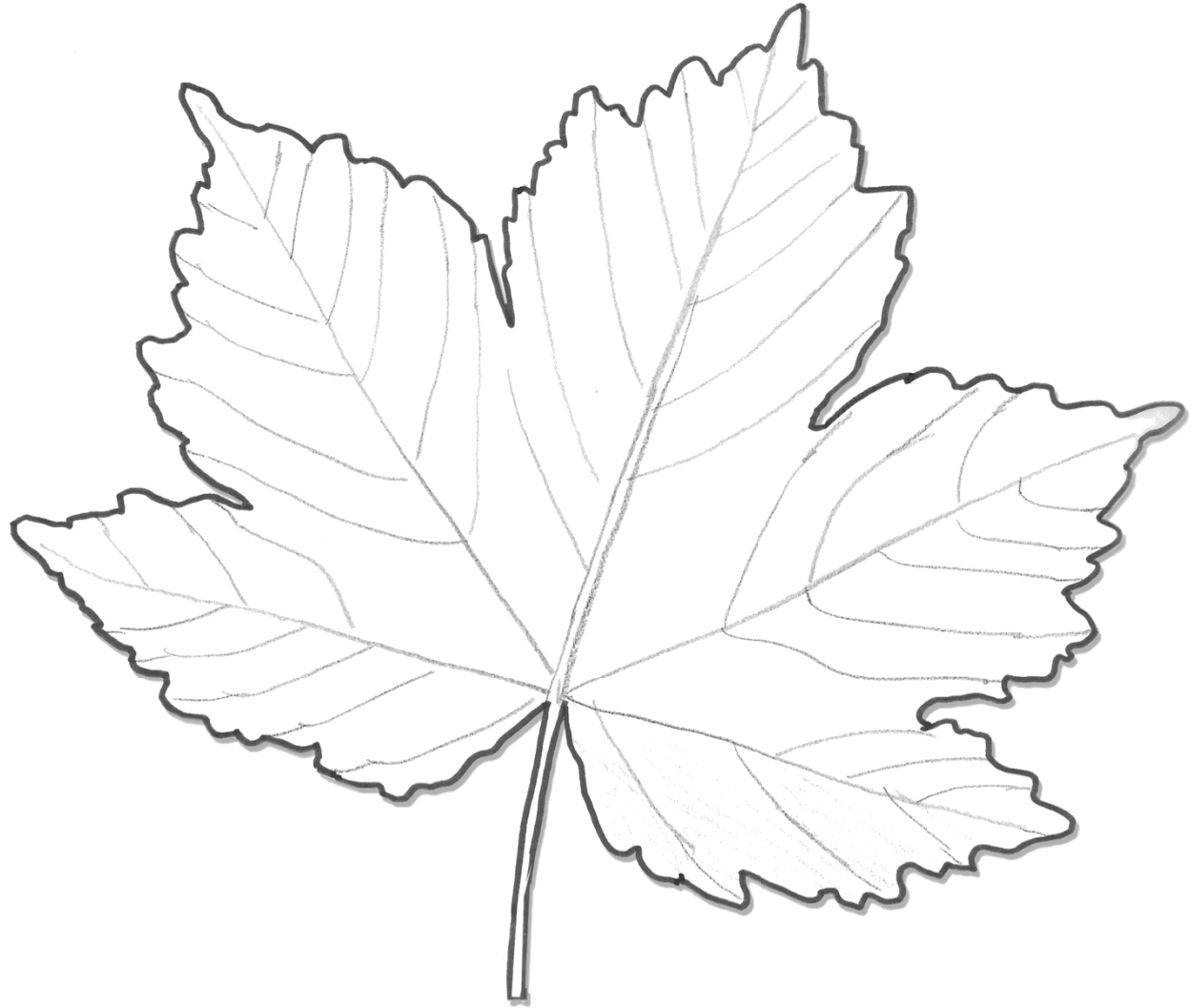


Project Goals

Community Input

City Coordination

Overall Park Goals



Platanus occidentalis, American sycamore

Project Goals

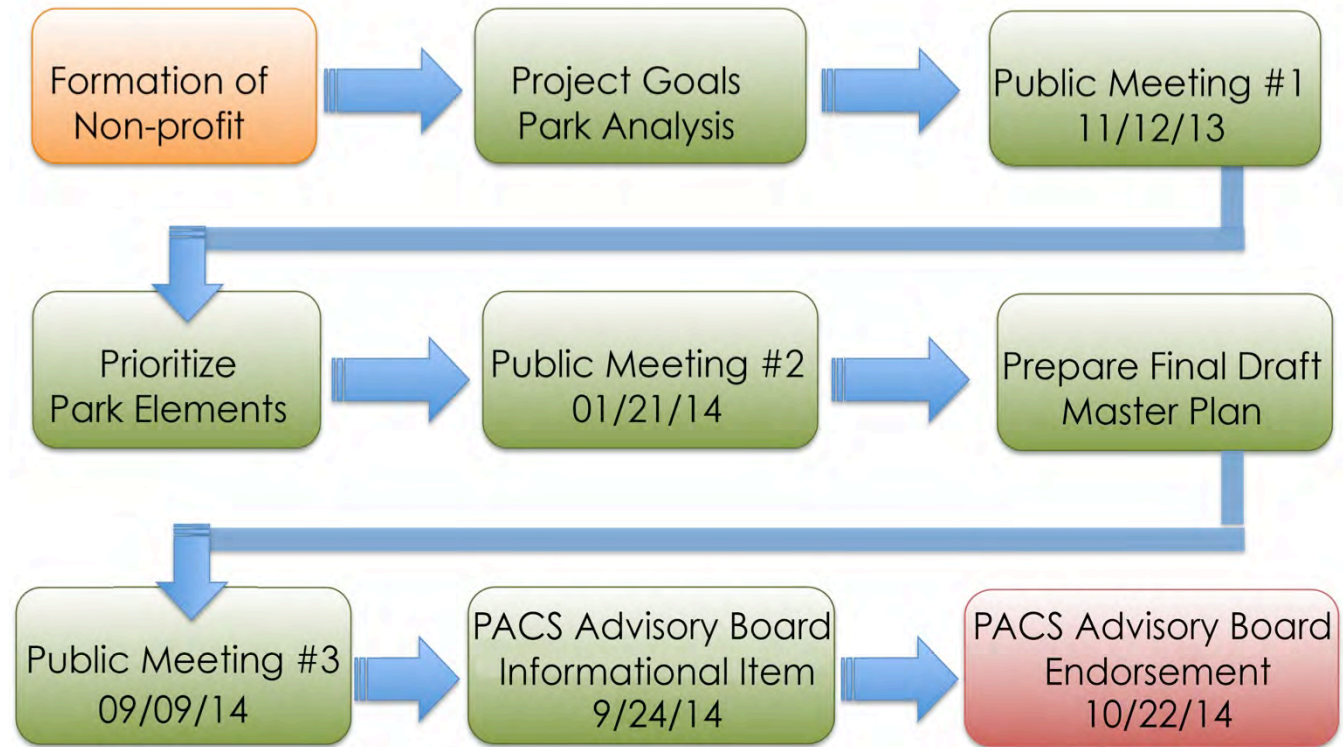
Community Input

Community input meetings were held for citizens to participate in the planning process for setting goals, prioritizing elements and reviewing the draft plan.

Citizens could also provide input via electronic message directly to the “Friends of Overton and Foster Park Association” (FOFPA) President.

City Coordination

Throughout the planning process information has been provided and coordinated with the City of Fort Worth. The Parks and Community Services Department (PACS) have provided park information and feedback that has help guide the formation of this Master Plan.



The Transportation and Public Works (TPW) department have provided information on water, sewer and storm drain information that are in proximity to the parks.

A draft report was prepared and review by the City of Fort Worth Parks and Community Services Department (PACS).

The Final Draft document will be submitted to PACS Advisory Board as an Informational Item on September 24, 2014 with support of the ‘Friends of Overton and Foster Park Association’ and Parks and Community Services Department. The Parks and Community Services to recommend endorsement by PACS Advisory Board on October 22, 2014 meeting.

Project Goals

Overall Project Goals

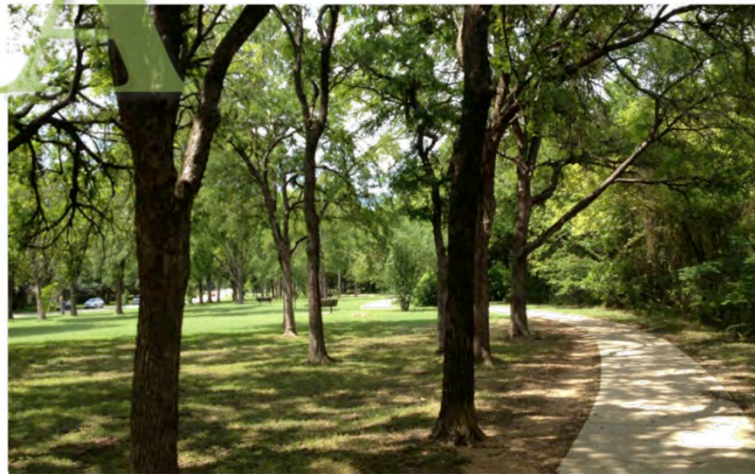
Four overall project goals were developed early in the process to guide and focus the creation of the Park Master Plan.

Each goal strives to enhance the long-term natural appearance of the park, to improve safety, to enhance neighborhood access and to enhance its use.

Achievement of these goals will be accomplished by partnering with the Fort Worth City Parks and Community Services Department via the Adopt-a-Park program.



Master Plan Goal - 1
To manage park's natural resources



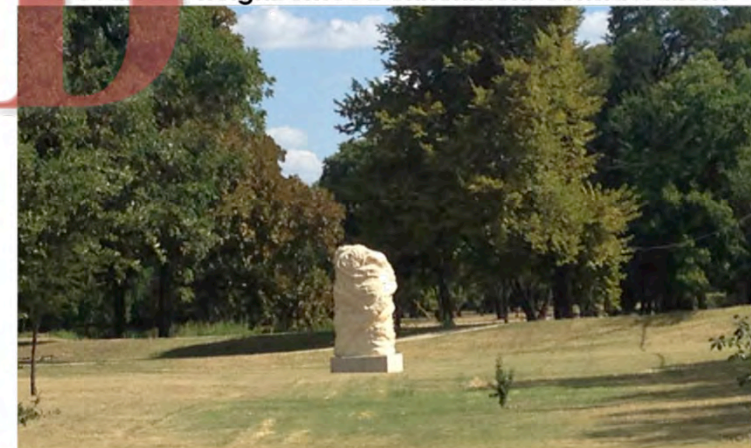
Master Plan Goal - 2
To enhance the creek system







Master Plan Goal - 3
To evaluate manmade systems

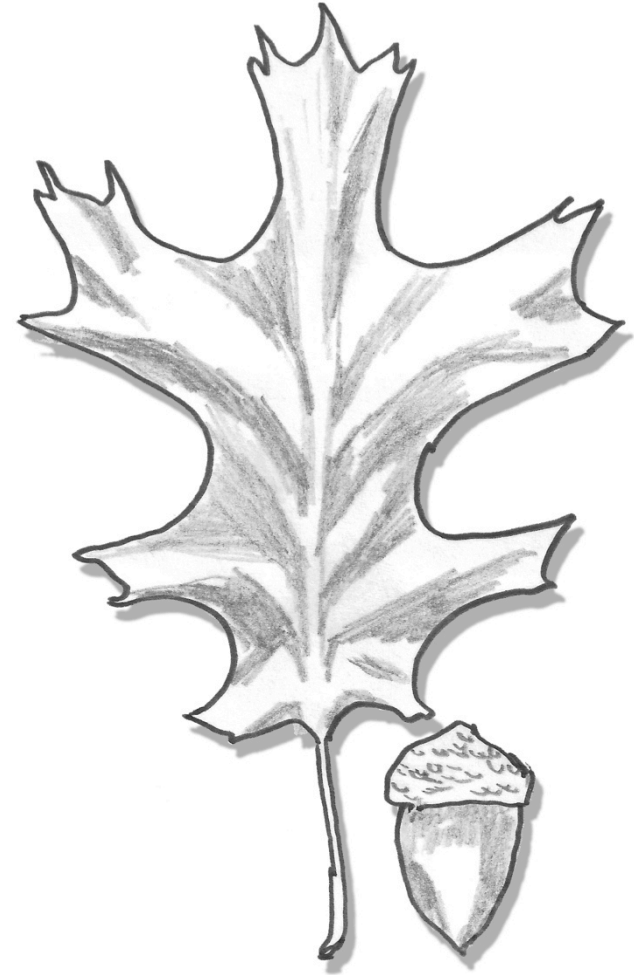


Master Plan Goal - 4
To evaluate neighborhood enrichment considerations



Park Analysis and Concepts

-  1.) Natural Resources
-  2.) Creek System
-  3.) Man-made Systems
-  4.) Neighborhood Enrichment



Quercus buckleyi, Texas Oak

Park Analysis and Concepts

Four Analysis Areas

The following four areas were analyzed individually and collectively. They are presented individually for clarity of each element, but each focus area does have direct and indirect relationships to each other.

1.) Natural Resources

The park's natural resources elements focus on how do we manage the mature trees, reforest the park, plant perennial/native plants, manage mow areas and control invasive plant material, to achieve a balance ecological system that supports a healthy park for plants and animals.

2.) Creek System

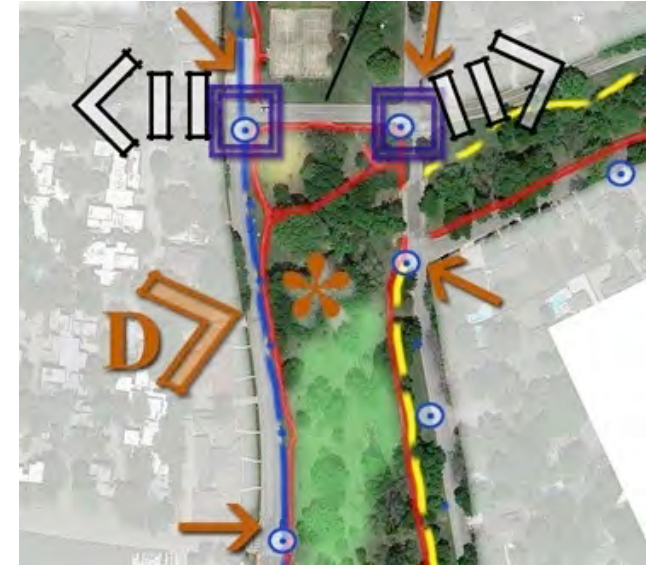
An evaluation of how the creek system for storm drainage can be enhanced by making it more visually appealing, safe and accessible.

3.) Man-made Systems

An evaluation of man-made systems to enhance things such as walkability, safety at pedestrian crossings with a understanding of maintenance implications.

4.) Neighborhood Enrichment

An evaluation of how and where the inclusion of elements that enrich the human experience and its connection to the natural environment. These elements build park identity and sense of place.



Park Analysis and Concepts

Natural Resources



Existing conditions:

Many Mature Trees

Minimal understory canopy

Some concentrated areas of invasive plant material

Exposed ground along creek banks

Limited vegetation cover in some areas



Concept Image showing the enhancement of natural resources:

Reforestation

Added understory plantings

Establishment of limited mow zones

Park Analysis and Concepts

Creek System



Existing Picture of Duck Pond

- Severe amount of sedimentation
- Loss of pond depth
- Loss of storm capacity
- Poor water quality
- Unstable pond bank



Concept Image of Duck Pond

- Sedimentation removed
- Pond Ecology improved
- Stone banks continues park theme
- Enhances the overall park character
- Maintains consistent set of design elements

Park Analysis and Concepts

Creek System



Existing Picture of Bridge at Pond

- Erosion compromising structure
- Bridge Structure outdated
- Poor water quality
- Unstable pond bank



Concept Image of Bridge Duck Pond

- Consistent bridge design
- Stone banks mitigates erosion at abutments
- Enhances the overall park character
- Maintains consistent set of design elements

Park Analysis and Concepts

Creek System



Existing Picture of Creek Bank

- Severe Erosion
- Potential loss of vegetation
- Potential loss of land
- Very unstable pond bank



Concept Image of Creek Bank

- Stone banks minimizes:
 - soil erosion, loss of land and potential loss of vegetation
- Stone banks continues park theme
- Enhances the overall park character
- Improves creek ecology

Park Analysis and Concepts

Creek System

The potential use of grass bio-swales as outlined in iSWM manual



Existing Picture of Creek

Centerline of creek wet

Limits growing turf

Limits mowing ability

Increases invasive plant growth



Concept Image of Creek

Use of Bioswale:

Removes water from surface

Allows turf to grow

Allows for mowing

Provides expanded play zones

Park Analysis and Concepts

Creek System



Existing Storm Drain Outlets

Erosion has caused:

- Loss of topsoil
- Loss of vegetation
- Potentially compromising structure
- Ground compaction
- Increase sedimentation downstream



Proposed Storm Drain Outlet Treatments

Use of vegetated bio-swales:

- reduces erosion
- reduces sedimentation
- reduces flow rates

Add topsoil, turf and grade as needed

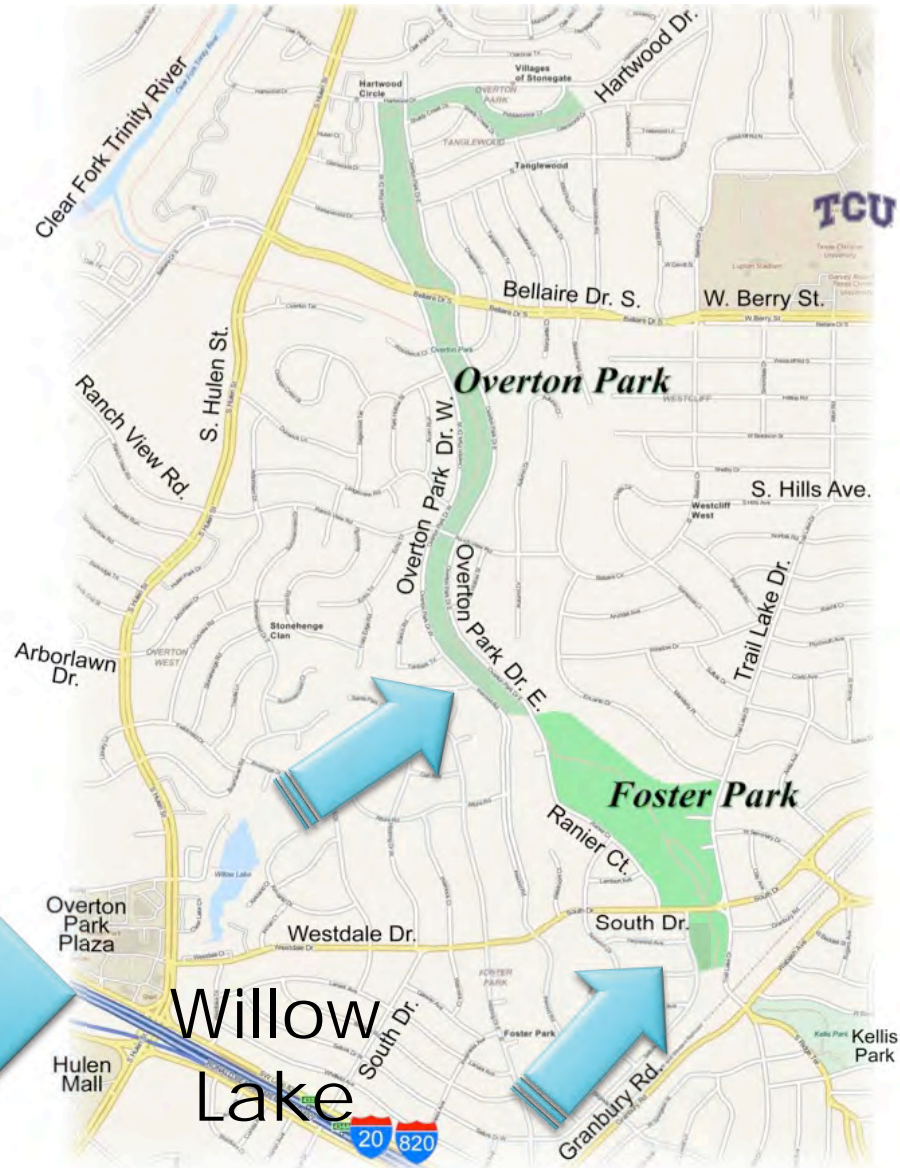
Aesthetic treatment of concrete flume

- stone veneer
- enhances character of park
- contributes to park theme

Park Analysis and Concepts

Creek System

Trash and pollution in the creek is directly influenced by the conditions of a storm drain system. The open storm drain culvert near the intersection of S. Hulen Street and I-20/820 is a major factor influencing trash that moves through willow lake and into Overton park creek system.



Major Drainage Corridor

Park Analysis and Concepts

Man-made Systems

Street Lighting



Within the Parks there are a variety of street light poles and light fixtures.

Future study is needed to establish a consistent street light pole theme throughout the parks that supports the overall character and quality of the park.



A lighting study is also needed to establish a base line for:

- pole layout
- fixture type/color
- character

With the opportunity to use the latest technology to achieve good light quality with minimal energy consumption.

Park Analysis and Concepts

Creek Crossing

In the North East corner of Overton park between Hartwood drive and Glenwood drive the trail crosses the creek. On the north side of the creek the concrete section becomes a concrete flume for storm drain runoff from Pebblebrook court.

Objective to improve storm drainage component with improved pedestrian creek crossing.



Man-made Systems

Split Rail Fence



The split rail fence has become a standard fence system used within the parks, however there are some areas where metal posts and wire are used.

Objective is to replace metal fence system with the wood split rail system, except where maintenance gate is needed at north end of Foster Park.

Park Analysis and Concepts

Man-made Systems

Park Kiosks and Observation Areas



Park Kiosks are important man-made landmarks within the park system that provide a great way to present interpretive displays and provide information on safety awareness in the parks and on the trails.

They are usually multi-sided and are located at key junctions along the park system trails.



Observation areas are small areas within the parks where users can stop and rest, gather information and most often are rewarded with beautiful views or scenic vistas.

There are a few key areas within Overton and Foster Park where terrain and tree corridors allows for good distant views up and down the trail.

Park Analysis and Concepts

Park Signage

An analysis of park signage features shows a vast range of types, conditions, order, size and color.

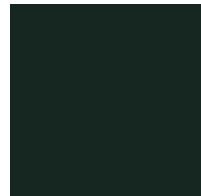
An important aspect for achieving a strong and visual park identity is to establish some order for the variety of park message that occur in the parks. To achieve this consistent park image, it is recommended the following components be painted one color.

- Signalized Intersection Poles (19)
 - Metal Street Sign poles (70)
 - Stop or Yield Sign poles (29)
 - Metal Light poles (14)
 - Ornamental Street Light poles (13)
 - Pedestrian Bridges & bollards (4)
 - Vehicular Bridges (4)
 - Rail at Drainage Outlets (2)
 - Park Signs (14)
 - Chain Link fence at Duck Pond (1)
 - Trash Cans (27)
 - Dog Dispenser stations (4)
 - Water Fountains (3) (1-concrete)
- Other Park Elements (some are metal)
- Picnic Tables (9)
 - Benches (86)

Group like elements together.



Foreground color
Dark green



Back of all metal signs
Black

Man-made Systems



Park Analysis and Concepts

Man-made Systems



Existing Picture of Dirt Trail

- Park users have worn down turf
- Dirt path not a stable system
- Width limited



Concept Image of Trail

- Convert dirt path to a soft surface jogging material
- Opportunity to increase width
- Opportunity to define maintenance boundaries
- Vegetation cover to stabilize steep slopes

Park Analysis and Concepts

Man-made Systems

Soft-surface jogging path

A top priority item expressed by the public during the planning process was the creation of a soft-surface jogging path. Currently many users jog next to the paved walking trail and have worn down the grass to bare ground. In some areas it is on both sides of the trail, others only on one side and still other areas it departs from the existing paved trail and creates a new alignment from point to point. The main objective is to provide a soft-surface pathway that would adhere to the alignment of the existing trail system. In only a few cases would it need to depart and go around trees, for example. The committee worked with the City and has determined a material that meets the requirements would be a stabilized decomposed granite. Important to note is the use of a stabilizer. This is very important to the success of the soft-surface trail and cannot be excluded. The stabilizer is a separate product delivered to the quarry and mixed at the quarry with a pug mill, before taking delivery of product at the project site. Specifications clarifying the product and installation procedures are critical to the overall success of the trail. In the several locations in the field layout is required to determine exact location and width of trail due to existing trees, slope and other built features.



Park Analysis and Concepts

Man-made Systems

Street Crossings



Existing Picture of Street Crossing

- Limited vehicular awareness
- Curbs at crossing are not accessible
- No distinction of what park you are in
- Heavily traveled area for pedestrians and cyclists.



Concept Image of Street Crossing

- Creates a safer crossing for pedestrians
- Improves accessibility
- Improves motor vehicular awareness
- Junction between parks provides an opportunity for park identification signs
- Junction between parks provides an opportunity for park kiosk

Park Analysis and Concepts

Man-made Systems

Street Crossings

An analysis of street crossing have shown several locations have not been updated to meet ADA standards.

A complete street approach should be taken into consideration on all future street improvements.



Near Intersection of South Dr. & Trail Lake Dr.
* update signage/ maintain crossing markings



Intersection of Bellaire Dr. S. & Overton Park West
* no ADA ramps / median interrupts crossing



Intersection of Bellaire Dr. S. & Overton Park East
* median interrupts crossing / improve transition zone to walks both ends.

Park Analysis and Concepts

Street Crossing / Roadway Safety

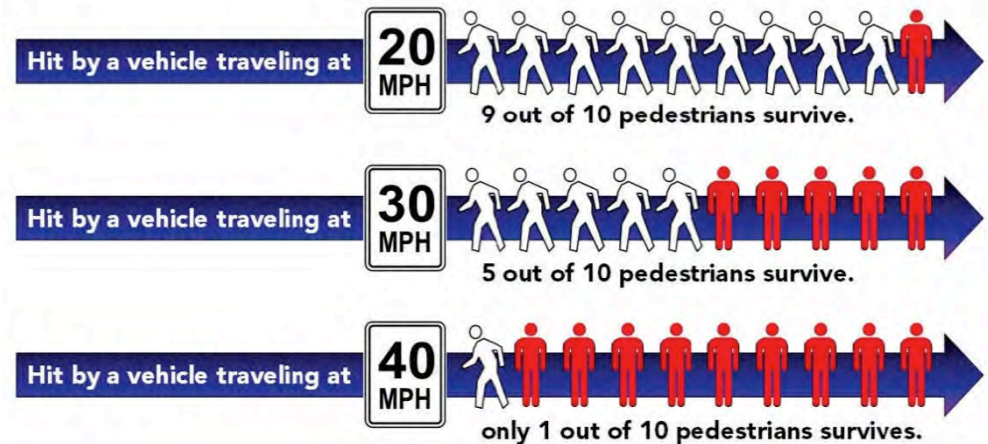
The majority of the park areas are bounded by a network of roadways that either border the parks or bisect the parks interior areas. The roadway system does provide the park with benefits towards safety because of its use and the people traveling along the park with eyes on the park. However, when traffic speeds exceed the limits it contributes to an unsafe condition, see chart to right. In the past speed humps were added along certain sections of roadway to begin to deter speeder, but in many cases it has had little affect for long term success. Traffic is good for the park, but at lower speeds. To achieve lower speeds there are many traffic calming devices available. Before one method is selected, it is recommended that an investigation of existing traffic conditions be analyzed. Also, several traffic calming methods should be measured and evaluated to suit the specific concerns. Some optional traffic calming solutions as prescribed by State of Georgia report include:

- Spread the word
- Use yard signs
- Set the pace
- Citizens using radar guns
- Park your car
- Bike lanes, Roundabouts
- Chicanes, bulb-out, raised walkways
- Radar signs and speed cameras

Man-made Systems

STOP NEIGHBORHOOD SPEEDING

A little extra speed makes a big impact.



Stop Neighborhood Speeding Chart provided by:



P E D S

peds.org

Making metro Atlanta safe and accessible for all pedestrians.



This project is supported by the Georgia Governor's Office of Highway Safety.

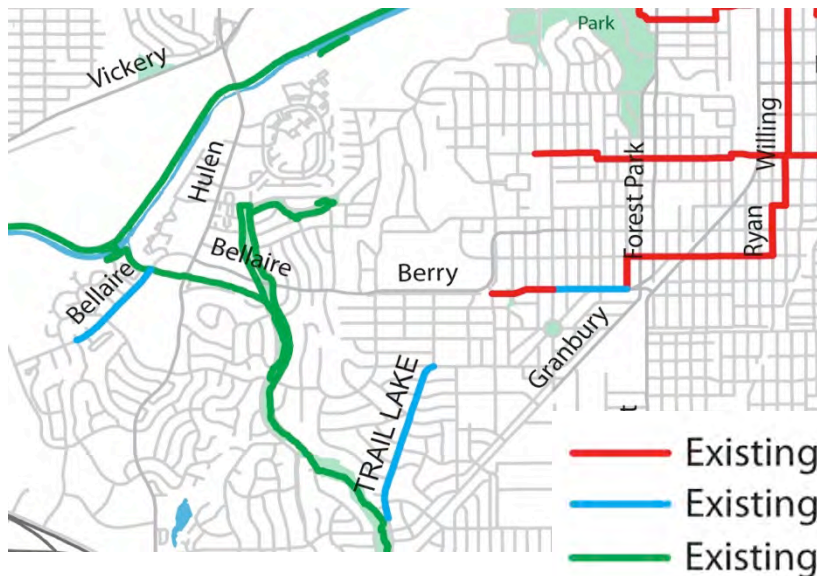
Park Analysis and Concepts

Bike Route Signage

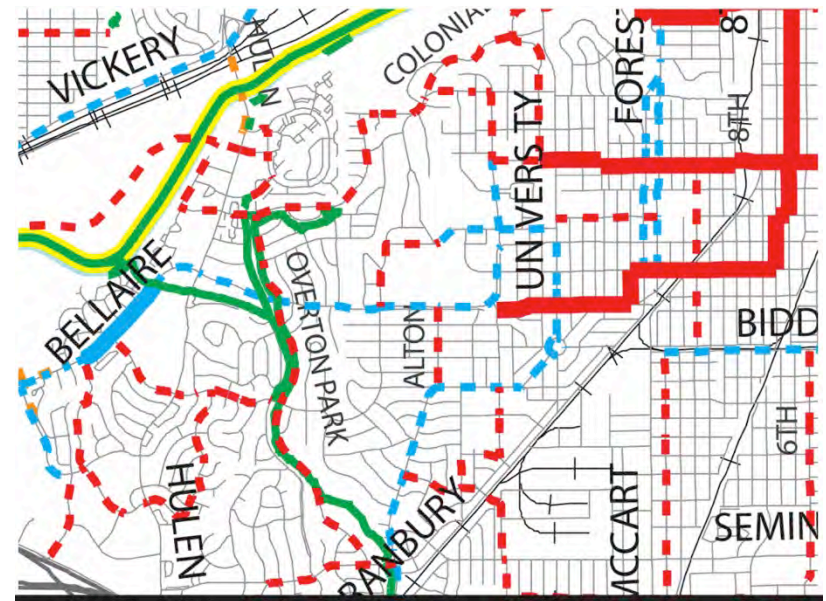
The Existing Bike Routes as noted on City of Fort Worth Existing Bicycle Facilities map show off street bike lane within the Overton and Foster Park trail system.

The 2010 City of Fort Worth Comprehensive Bicycle Transportation Plan denotes proposed bike routes along the park with proposed bike lanes along Bellaire Drive South.

A coordinated bike signage within the park to maintain consistency with park identity is recommended as well as a coordinated bike lane stripping and signage program along Bellaire Drive South and Trail Lake.



Man-made Systems



2010 CITY OF FORT WORTH
BIKE FORT WORTH
A COMPREHENSIVE BICYCLE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

- On-Street Bicycle Lane
- On-Street Bicycle Route
- Shared Bus/Bicycle Lane
- Sidepath
- Off-Street Trail
- Regional Veloweb (North Central Texas Council of Governments)
- Existing Bicycle Facility
- Proposed Bicycle Facility

Park Analysis and Concepts

Bike Route Signage

Man-made Systems



Avid cyclists to recreational bike riders all use the park trails and roads to enjoy the park and get from place to place.

Most recreational bike riders use the trail system and most of the time ride side by side if the trail is not occupied.

Most avid cyclists use the roadways along the park to enjoy the steep inclines or sharp descents. The majority of public opinion is for the avid cyclists to remain on the roadways and off the park trails.

Objective is to sign the roadway with vertical bike signs and painted bike markers on the road to make a safer know route for the avid cyclists.



Park Analysis and Concepts

Neighborhood Enrichment



In 2010 an art piece was placed in Overton Park near the intersection of Bellaire Drive South and Overton Park West. Eliseo Garcia was commissioned for the project and sculpted an approximately nine-foot tall, five-foot square limestone block. He named it “Nature’s Essence”. Upon inspection the limestone face is infused with pictographic reliefs illustrating native plants and wildlife. The artist envisioned park users would experience the sculpture in two ways, from a distance and up-close. The artist had hoped that visitors to the park will interact with the sculpture and discover its’ obvious (and hidden) imagery; however there is not a perceived pedestrian connection from walkway to sculpture and many park visitors have not been able to appreciate the sculpture details.

ANALYSIS RESULTS:

- 1.) Keep view corridor open to sculpture
- 2.) Develop a pedestrian connection to sculpture

Park Master Plan

Overall Park Master Plan

Park Master Plan Sections

Top Sixteen Park Priorities



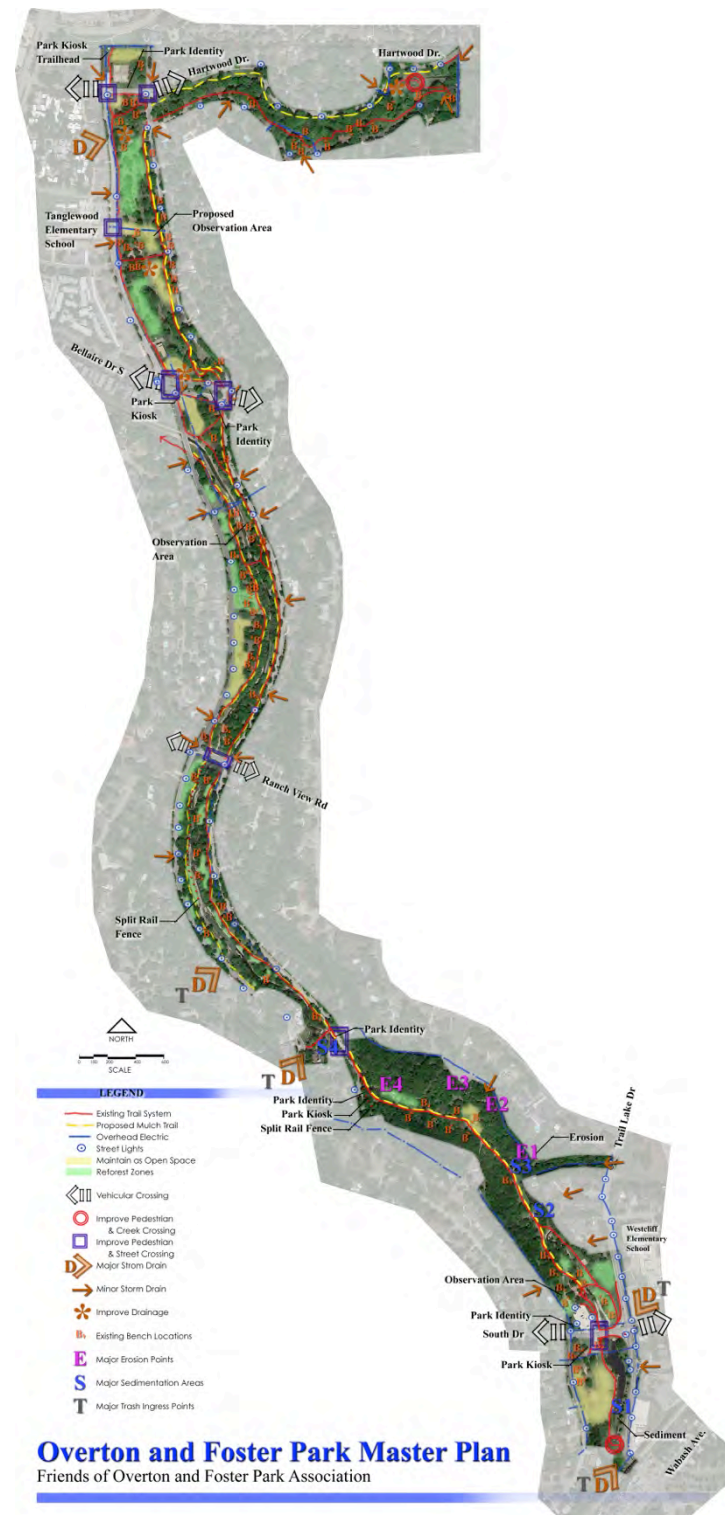
Carya illinoensis, Pecan

Park Master Plan

Overall Park Master Plan

The Plan focuses on the following four categories:

















- 1.) Natural Resources
- 2.) Creek System
- 3.) Man-made Systems
- 4.) Neighborhood Enrichment



Park Master Plan

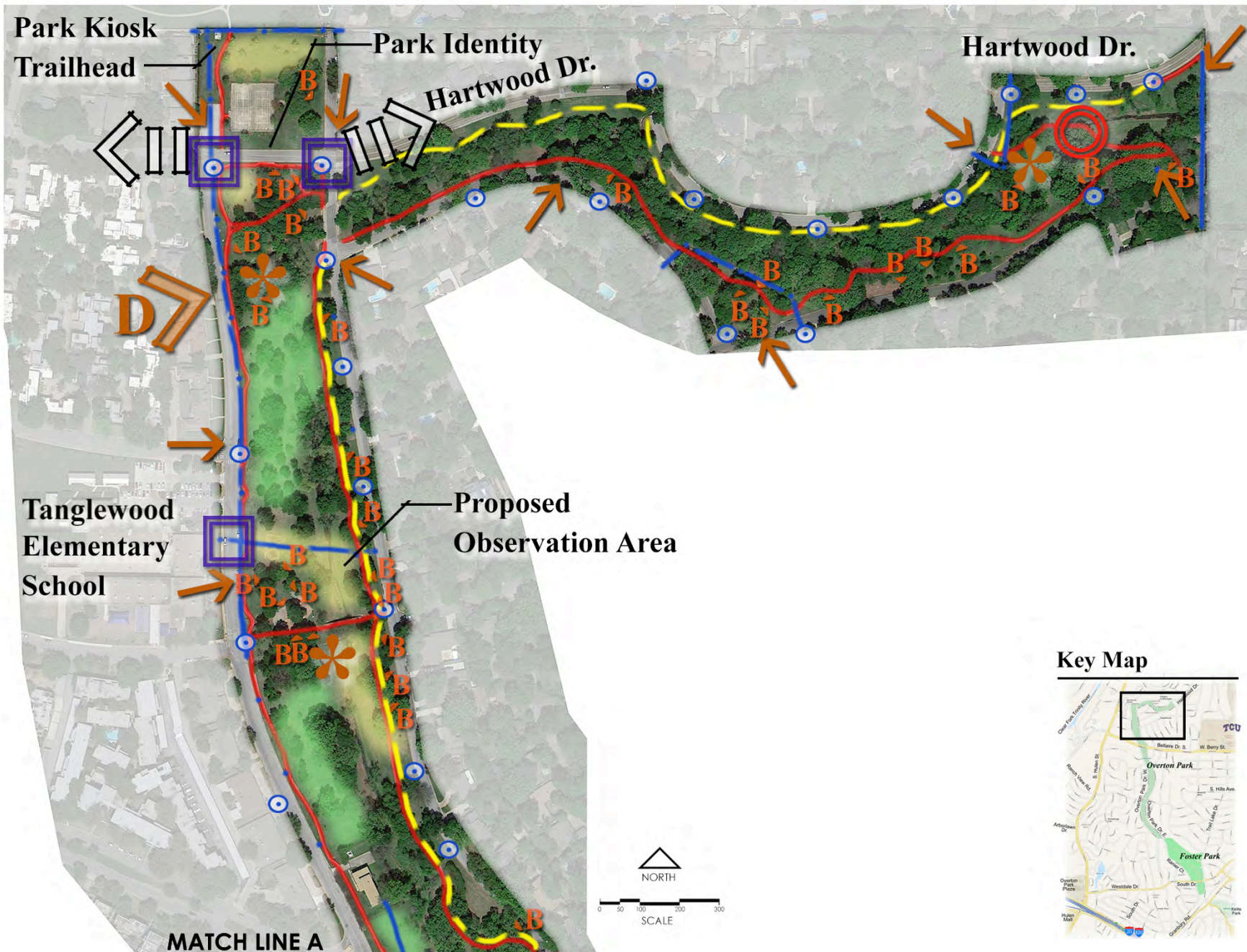
Park Master Plan Legend

The following legend are elements mapped on the park master plan.

LEGEND	
	Existing Trail System
	Proposed Mulch Trail
	Overhead Electric
	Street Lights
	Maintain as Open Space
	Reforest Zones
	Vehicular Crossing
	Improve Pedestrian & Creek Crossing
	Improve Pedestrian & Street Crossing
	Major Storm Drain
	Minor Storm Drain
	Improve Drainage
	Existing Bench Locations
	Major Erosion Points
	Major Sedimentation Areas
	Major Trash Ingress Points

Park Master Plan

Park Master Plan Sections

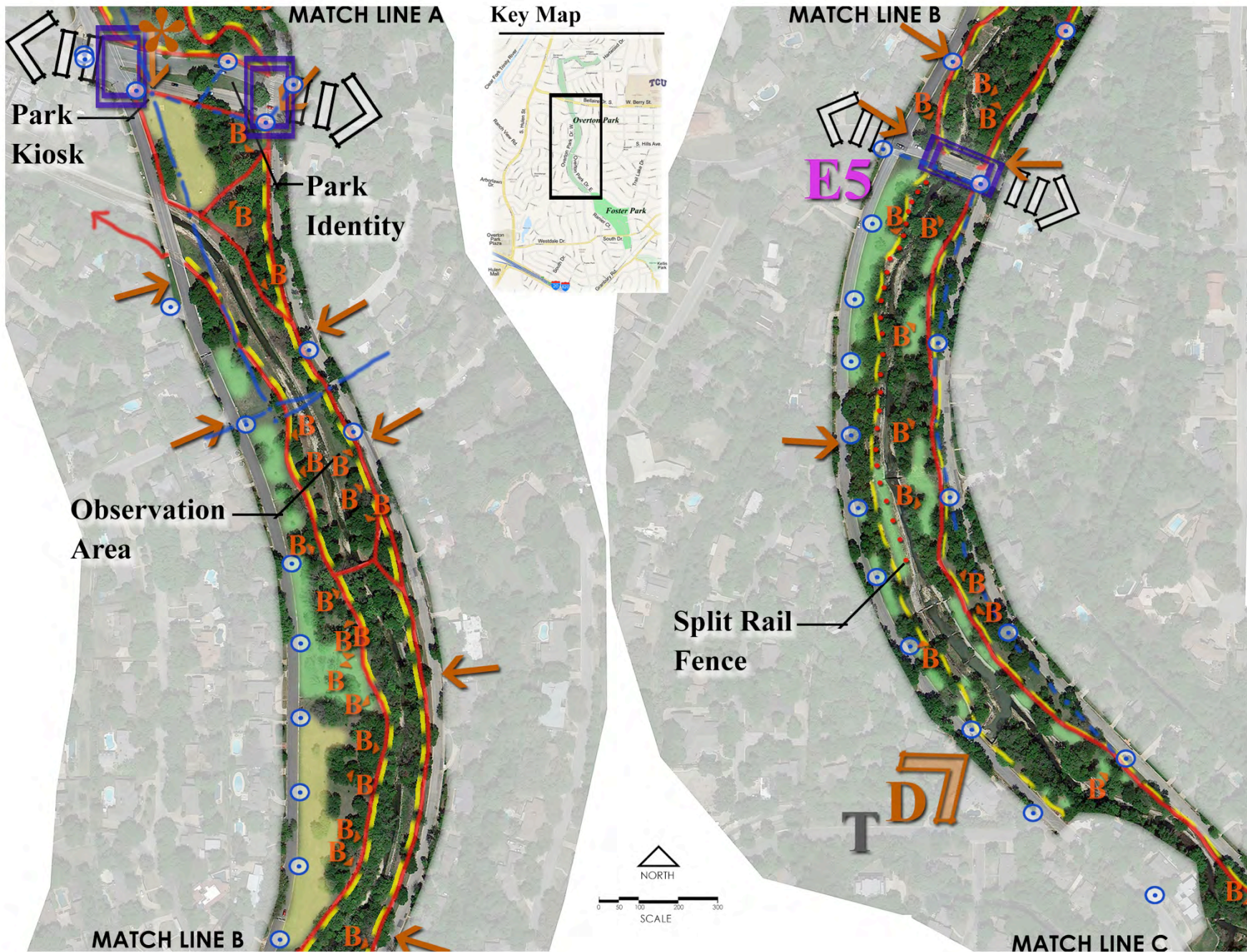


Key Map



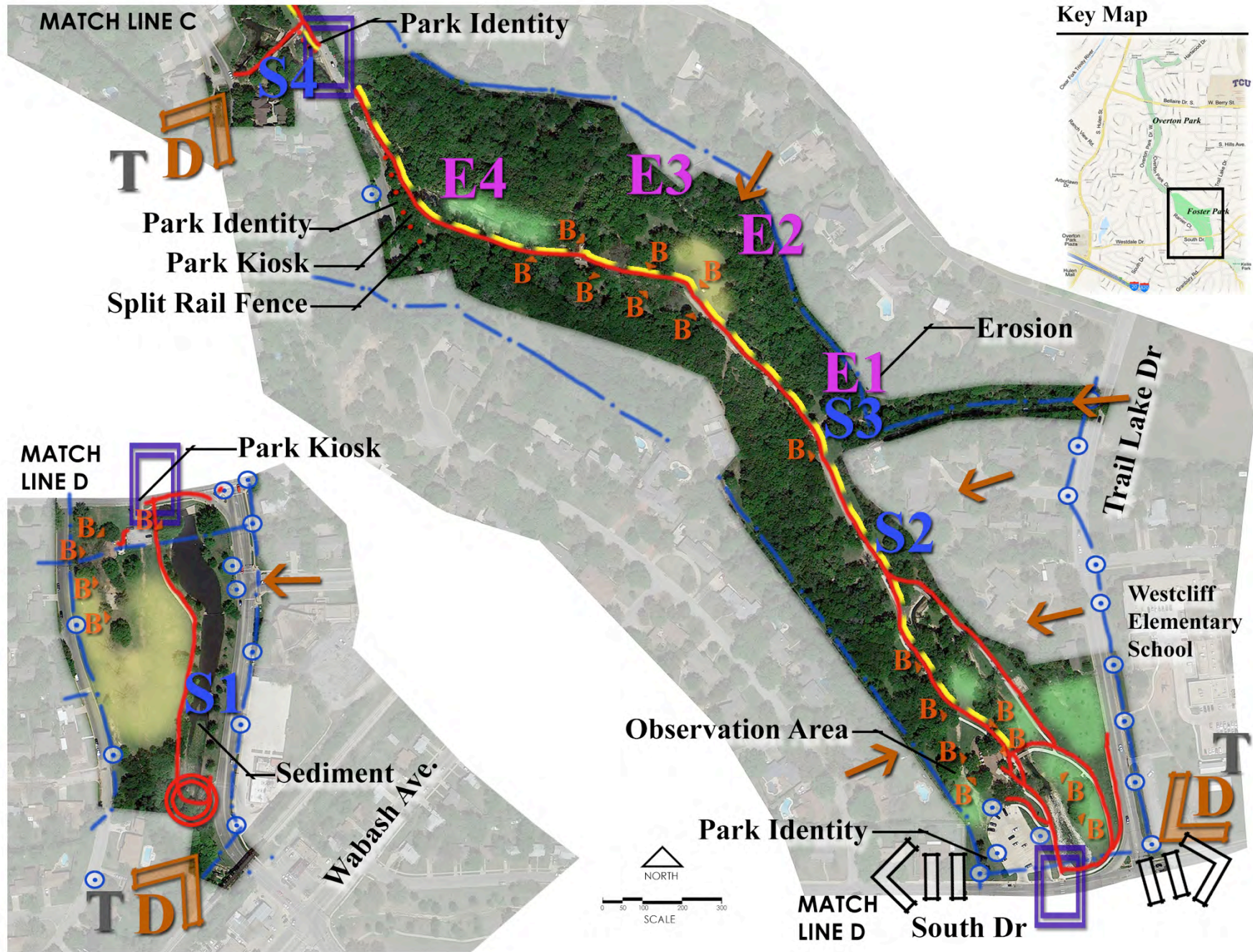
Park Master Plan

Park Master Plan Sections



Park Master Plan

Park Master Plan Sections



Park Master Plan

Top Priorities

A Natural Resources



- Mature Tree Care
- Reforestation Plan
- Native Perennials
- Native Plants, Meadows
- Habitat for wildlife
- Understory planting

C Manmade Systems



- Trail Walkability
- Bike Lanes
- Lighting
- Trails and Bridges
- Sidewalks and Pathways
- Playgrounds

A list of forty-two (42) potential park opportunities were presented to the public and during the planning process the following were selected as the top priorities to be included in the master plan. They are grouped under the four project goals.

B Creek System







- Duck Pond restoration
- Improve Creek appearance
- Control upstream trash

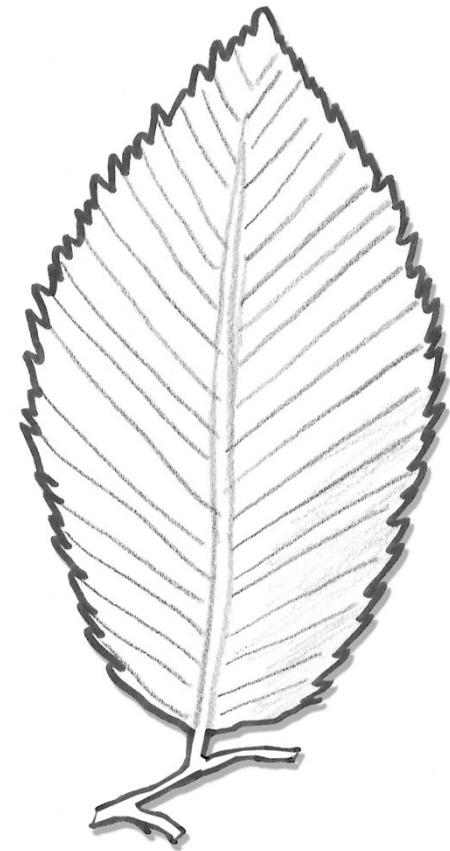
D Neighborhood Enrichment



Art in the Park

Park Projects

-  A.) Natural Resources Projects
-  B.) Creek System Projects
-  C.) Man-made Systems Projects
-  D.) Neighborhood Enrichment Projects



Ulmus americana, American Elm

Proposed Park Projects

A.) Natural Resources

1. Mature tree care
2. Reforestation plan
3. Perennial/native plantings
4. Limited mow zones
5. Wild flower areas
6. Future meadows
7. Understory plantings
8. Invasive plant material

C.) Man-made Systems

1. Street lighting
2. Low water crossing NE area
3. Expand wood split rail fence
4. Park kiosks / Park observation areas
5. Soft surface jogging/walking paths
6. Park Signage
7. Street crossings
8. Bike routes

B.) Creek System

1. Duck Pond at Foster Park
 - a) Remove siltation
 - b) Re-design
2. Creek erosion, siltation and trash
3. Improve Creek appearance
4. Storm Drainage improvements

D.) Neighborhood Enrichment

1. Nature's Essence sculpture
2. Art in the Park
3. Memorial gifts
4. Donor recognition

Proposed Park Projects

Mature Tree Care



Bur Oak – *Quercus macrocarpa* 40" caliper
(potentially over 130 years old)

Overton Park is distinctive because of its' large bur oaks, cedar elms, American elms, hackberries, and Texas ashes. Those are the most common species of trees. Native oaks, hickories, and walnuts also are present within the park, but are not as common and are scattered within the park. The Texas ash characteristically grows in drier, often rocky habitats but the trees here are in the "bottom land area" is unmistakably that species. The Texas state champion (as nominated) Texas ash is in the northeast quadrant of the park.

Many, if not most, of the larger trees were part of the original, periodically flooded woods in the area of the park itself and the neighborhood immediately to the east. The floods were relatively common in this area until the completion of Benbrook dam in 1952. A recently cut cedar elm (after the top blew off in a storm) was analyzed by ring count and proved to be about 102 years old. The stump was 63 inches in circumference at 3 feet above the ground. The same measurements for the 10 cedar elms closest to the stump are 36, 47, 50, 51, 56, 58, 64, 70, 66, and 71 inches. Assuming that these 11 have grown at about the same rate, the trees in this group probably were established between approximately 60 and 130 years ago. Some of the larger bur oaks could be much older.

Proposed Park Projects

Smaller and less abundant or less conspicuous native species in Overton Park, such as the soapberry, gum bumelia, Berlandier's ash, ash-leaved maple, red mulberry, Mexican plum, and Eve's necklace, also are beautiful and interesting to see. Berlandier's ash is at the northern end of its geographic range in Tarrant and Dallas counties.

Two large trees stand side by side at the very northern end of the paved trail, where a marker says "2.5 miles." Others of the same species are scattered along the drainage ways, especially at the north end of the park.

To see the greatest diversity of trees, walk along the northern, east-trending spur of the trail, which closely follows the south side of the deep, natural drainage. Eve's necklace is particularly common here. In most of the rest of Overton Park, the trail is divided and runs along the east and west sides of the creek that allows park users to pass close to many different species. In Foster Park, the trees have been planted in the last 50 years, except for those immediately along one of the small drainages, as all or most of the native ones were cut prior to 1954, the last year when the area was part of a cattle ranch run by the Edwards family.

Mature Tree Care



Toward the south end of Overton Park and particularly in Foster Park, one can see how even the small bits of remaining native vegetation are being overwhelmed by non-native invaders, particular the privets and Amur honeysuckle. These shrubs form nearly impenetrable thickets. The mowing in this area prevents natural replacement of the native tree species, except immediately along the creeks edge. Some young bur oaks have been planted but none of the other natives of this immediate area is being replaced, not even the very common cedar elm. Many recent plantings at the north end of Overton Park have been of chestnut oak, which is native mainly to eastern portions of the state, but it occurs naturally in the Fort Worth Nature Preserve on the northwest side of the city.

Proposed Park Projects

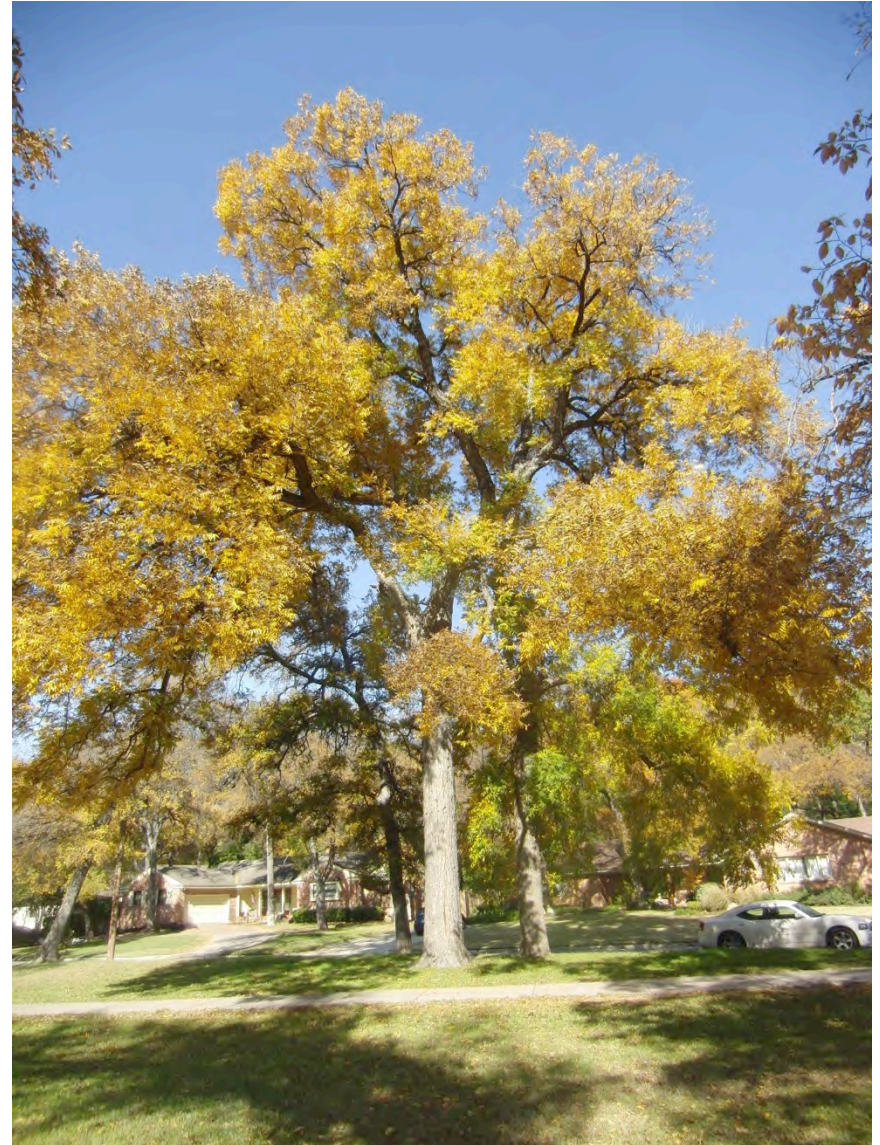
An overall goal and top priority, as identified during the master plan planning process, is to preserve the mature trees in the park. To do this it is necessary to know what is classified as a mature tree. What types of trees species exist in the park and where are they located? What data about the trees will be collected? What system of data collection will be used? How will this data or system be used to meet the goal?

The definition of a mature tree and its application to the diverse tree species found in the park can become very complicated. So, in the attempt to simplify the process a standard caliper size of eighteen inches will be used to classify mature trees. This is not done to discount the trees smaller than eighteen inches, but a way to prioritize and address the largest trees in the park. If the process for collection is cost effective then additional smaller tree sizes will be added to inventory.

A tree count was done to identify the number of trees and how are the trees distributed within the park corridor. The tree count factors were as follows:

- Trees six inches in caliper and larger
- Trees that were accessible
(not within creek corridor)

Mature Tree Care



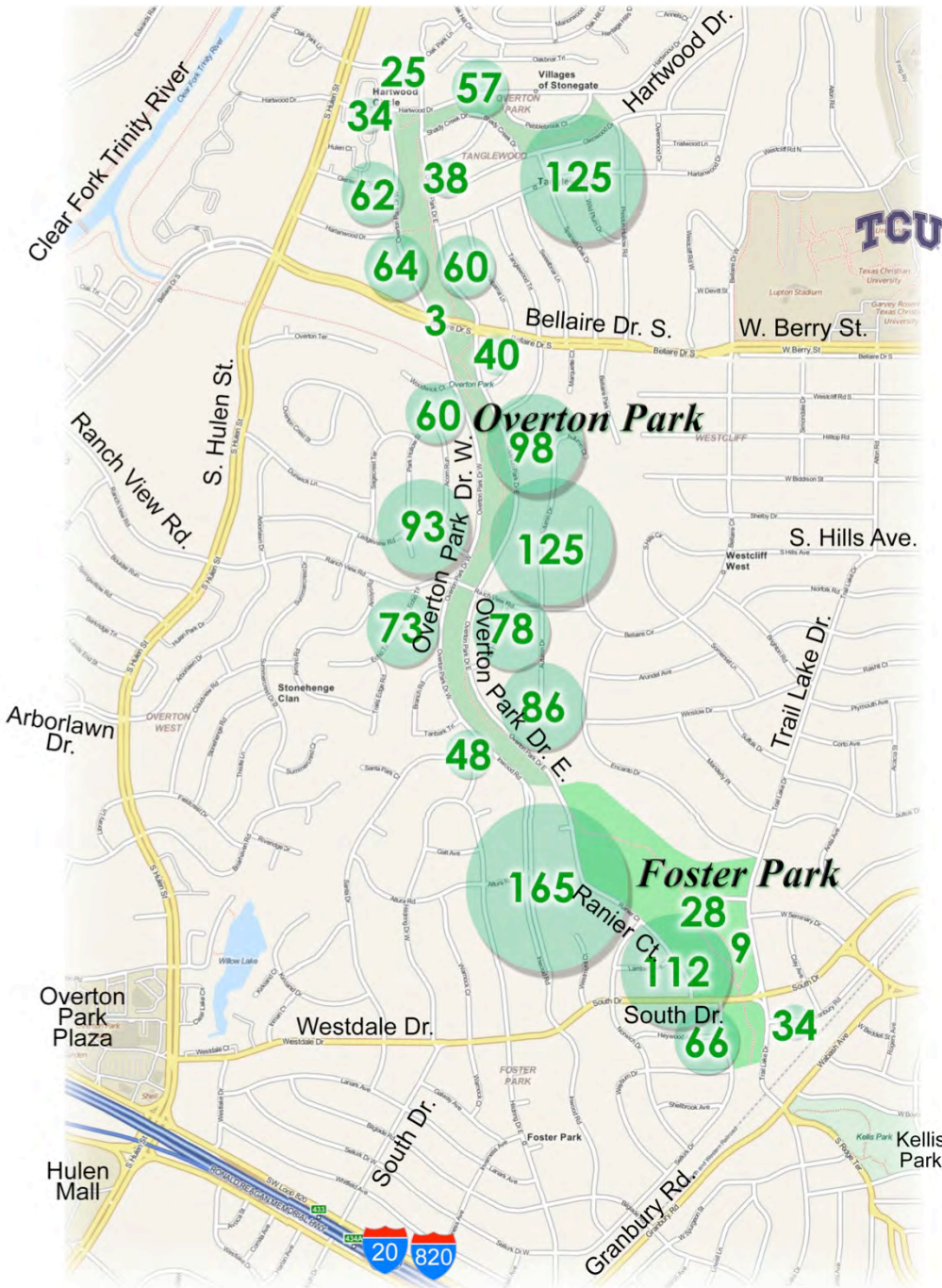
Proposed Park Projects

Mature Tree Care

A distribution map shows how the numbers of trees are distributed along the park corridor, from the north section of Overton Park to the southern section of Foster Park. The distribution map helps us understand the amount of trees in the park and where they are located. The tree counts were grouped and separated by the natural boundaries of the creek and manmade boundaries that consist of roads, bridges or major pedestrian pathways. The distribution maps denotes almost 1600 trees that meet the factors stated, but the number of mature trees is mostly likely a small percentage of that total.

A tree inventory is needed to determine multiple factors:

- To map species diversification
- To identify species locations
- To record key information specific to each tree
- To determine which mature trees need immediate care
- To determine baseline of existing trees
- To track health of system over time
- To manage a reforestation program
- To prioritize maintenance schedules
- To minimize potential liabilities
- To provide a comprehensive data for forestry management



Proposed Park Projects

The information to be collected in a tree inventory may consist of the following:

- Photo of tree
- Location of tree
- Species: (scientific names)
- Size: Diameter at Breast Height
(DBH -4.5 feet above ground)
- Tree height
- Tree crown spread
- General conditions
 - root flare condition
 - presence or not of pests
- Presence of any damage
- Management or maintenance needed
- Any key or unusual site characteristics
- Proximity to trail, roadway, bridge, creek,
severe slopes
- Overhead or presence of underground utility
markers



Mature Tree Care

Methods for gathering tree inventory data have been studied and are currently being evaluated with the City of Fort Worth Forestry department to determine which method is best suited to be compatible with the City of Fort Worth's Geographic Information System (GIS) and most economical for the "Friends of Overton and Foster Park" to implement.

There are eager volunteers willing to assist in the field collection of the tree inventory data. This effort is suited for assistance from volunteers with the support of a team leader who is professional trained. The field collection process would use the latest technology for capturing data in the field with a hand-held mobile device. Systems and software are being evaluated and the City has agreed that the Forestry's GIS department would host the base data. The specific tree data collected in the field would be with a mobile device. This data would then be evaluated and reviewed for accuracy before being uploaded to City system. The City's GIS specialist would be involved in the process to upload information and storage of data.

Proposed Park Projects

Reforestation

This last fall seeds were collected from several trees with the intent to eventually replant in the park maintaining the existing native plant palette.

The primary choices for replanting trees in Overton and Foster parks are as follows:

Bumelia



Berlandier's ash



Texas ash



Mexican plum



Texas oak



Bur oak



Soapberry



American elm



Cedar elm



Each of these occurs natively in the parks, all of them grow into beautiful trees that would retain the character of the parks, and all of them produce abundant fruits and seeds that could easily be propagated for replanting. The conservation value of maintaining natural, locally adapted populations of these species, which everywhere are being pushed toward smaller and smaller numbers, is immeasurable.

Proposed Park Projects

Reforestation

The Cherry laurel is native to East Texas but has naturalized in the park and would be a good choice because it is evergreen. It is a small tree, thus to be used in support with other vegetation.

A secondary list of trees, in which each are native to Texas and are naturally occurring that provide a diversity of species and add to the natural ecology of the area are as follows:

Ash-leaf maple



Pecan



Redbud



Black walnut



Eastern juniper



Red mulberry



Cherry laurel



Mexican plum



Chinkapin oak



Shumard oak



Bald cypress



Slippery elm



Proposed Park Projects

Perennial / Native Plantings

Five Locations:

- 1.) Hartwood Drive
- 2.) Bellaire Drive South
- 3.) Ranch View Road
- 4.) Overton Park Drive East
- 5.) South Drive

Vehicular Park Crossings

High-Use Areas

Strong Visual Opportunity



Proposed Park Projects

1.) Hartwood Drive



Existing View

Large massing of native perennials and shrubs along vehicular corridors that bisect park.

Decomposed Granite used along R.O.W. between curb and walkways or in areas to allow for additional pedestrian access.

Perennial / Native Plantings



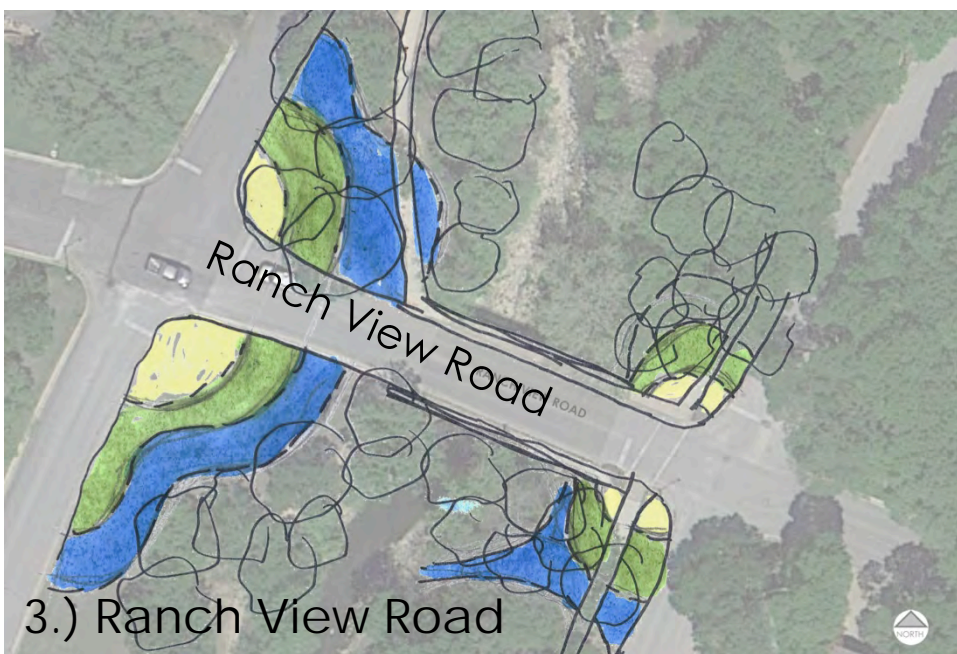
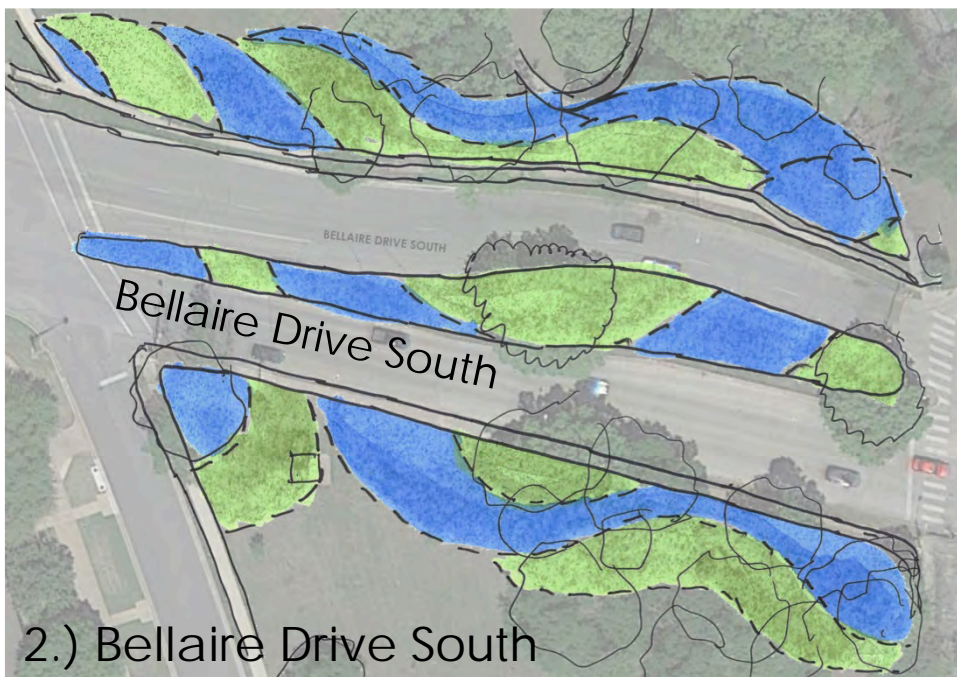
Concept Image

Planting Concept Sketch



Proposed Park Projects

Perennial / Native Plantings



Proposed Park Projects

Proposed Plant Palette

Perennials & Shrubs (Sun)

Yarrow	Henry Duelberg Sage
Fall Aster	Mealy Cup Sage
Winecup	Purple Autumn Sage
Texas Primrose	Mexican Mint Marigold
Moonbeam Coreopsis	Purple Heart
Damianita	Verbena
Purple Coneflower	Zexmenia
Four Nerve Daisy	Roughleaf Dogwood
Texas Lantana	Red Yucca
Blackfoot Daisy	Aromatic Sumac
Gulf Muhly	Evergreen Sumac
Black-eyed Susan	Upright Rosemary

Perennial / Native Plantings

Perennials & Shrubs (Shade)

'Texas Gold' Columbine
Holly Fern
River Fern (Southern Wood Fern)
Gregg's Mist Flower
Turk's Cap
Lyreleaf Sage
Inland Sea Oats
Coralberry
American Beauty Berry

Proposed Park Projects

Limited mow areas is a maintenance practice that can help support the overall goal to establish a native meadow or wildflower zone.

The establishment of a native meadow or wildflower area is a process that involves the following considerations:

- Site location
- Maintenance practices
- Appropriate species selection
- Inclusion of grasses
- Soil Preparation
- Timing of planting
- Seeding methods
- Managing after planting
- Temporary irrigation
- Control of invasive
- The first year
- The second year
- The third year and beyond

Limited mow zones



open area ideal for meadow

Proposed Park Projects

Invasive plant material

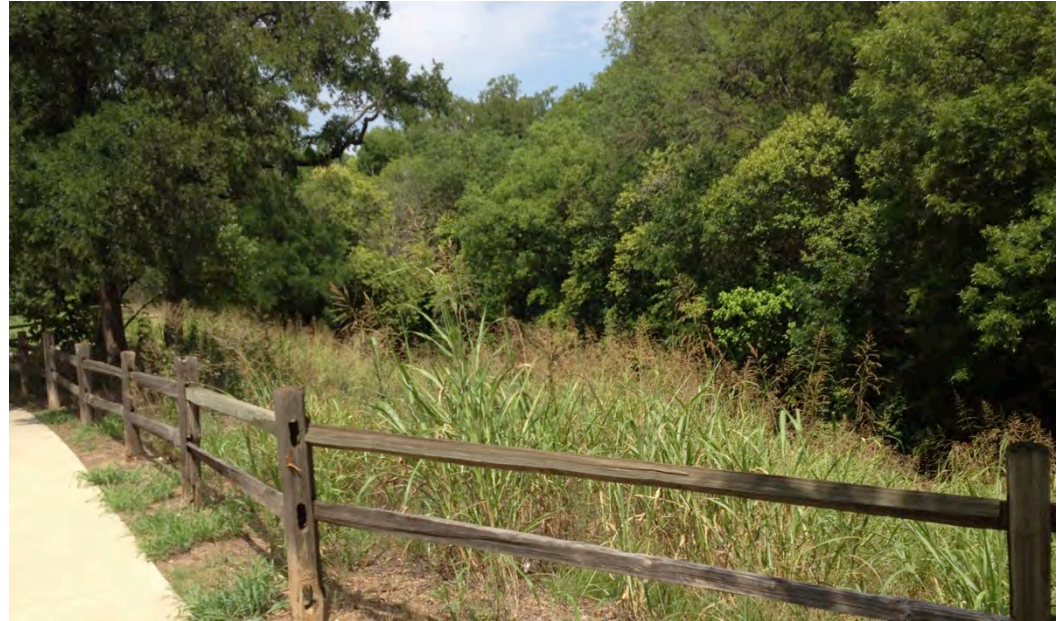
Fortunately the parks are not totally overwhelmed with invasive plant material; however there are a few locations, that have been noted earlier in report, that exist. The control of these invasive non-native grasses or shrubs should be removed to achieve a healthy eco-system.

To accomplish the remove must be matched at the same time with the planting of native material. The time of year and type of material removed should be coordinated as well as a temporary irrigation system for the establishment period for the newly planted native plants.

Exact locations to be field identified.

Elements to be considered are:

- Type of Invasive material
- Season Change and Soil conditions
- Sun exposure
- Type of native replacement material
- Slope areas and Screening
- Temporary irrigation



Proposed Park Projects

Creek System

Creek system projects consist of the following:

- Duck pond restoration
 - Phase I – to remove siltation
 - Phase II – to redesign to achieve consistent park image and quality.
- Repair creek erosion and remove siltation along the creek
- Improve creek appearance and maintenance with introduction of bio-swales
- Storm drainage improvements

Man-made Systems

Man-made system projects consist of the following:

- Prepare a street lighting study
- Improve creek crossing NE section
- Expand spilt rail fence system
- Add park kiosks
- Add park observation areas
- Improve park signage
- Add soft surface jogging / walking paths
- Improve street crossings for pedestrians use a complete streets approach
- Add bike route signage

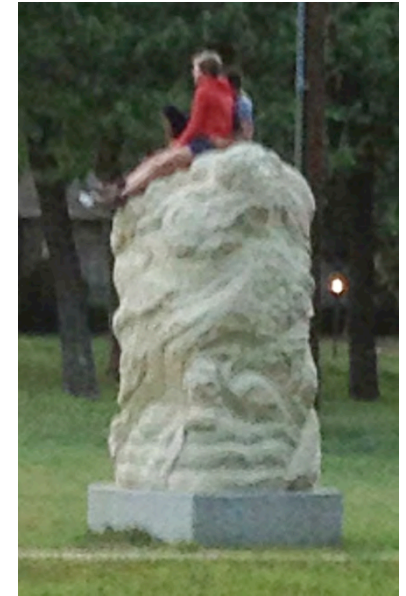
Proposed Park Projects



Arts Council of Fort Worth & Tarrant County
“Nature’s Essence” Sculptor: Eliseo Garcia
Project: to connect users to art piece

In 2010 an art piece was placed in Overton Park near the intersection of Bellaire Drive South and Overton Park West. Eliseo Garcia was commissioned for the project and sculpted an approximately nine-foot tall, five-foot square limestone block. He named it “Nature’s Essence”. Upon inspection the limestone face is infused with pictographic reliefs illustrating native plant and wildlife. The artist hopes that visitors to the park will interact with the sculpture and discover its’ obvious (and hidden) imagery.

Neighborhood Enrichment



The goal of this project is to create a context around the sculpture that is inviting to park visitors and supports the objective for them to interact and personally connect with the sculpture. As seen in upper right photo some park users have already found a way to connect to the sculpture. However the goal of this project is to allow all park users direct access to the sculpture to gain a deeper appreciation of native ecology of the area.

The project contracts are currently being approved in cooperation with the Arts Council of Fort Worth & Tarrant County, Eliseo Garcia, City of Fort Worth Parks & Community Services and the Friends of Overton and Foster Park committee.

Proposed Park Projects

Neighborhood Enrichment

Art and Memorials

Overton and Foster park provide a great opportunity to expand and enhance the art and memorial aspects in the park. Several components have been incorporated in the park to date. The parks are owned by the City of Fort Worth, for the enjoyment of its citizens, so it is important to establish a fair and equitable process for any future commissioning or acceptance of art or memorials in the parks.

For any works of art or commissions of art would fall within the jurisdiction of the Public Art Ordinance, the Public Art Commission and the related processes. The provisions outlined in those documents should be consulted and followed when a proposed work would fit within those stated guidelines and criteria. The Fort Worth Parks and Community Services department would also review any proposed works of art.

Several memorials and monument type elements have been built in the parks. The general recommendation is that stand-alone memorials and monuments will be evaluated on a case by case basis by the Fort Worth Parks and Community Services department. Bench memorials have been used extensively in the parks. Evaluation criteria to be used for future bench memorials that include the following:



1.) Mature Tree care gifts



2.) Artist driven features







3.) Bench memorials

- Proximity to adjacent benches
- Orientation of bench to trail, to creek and to road evaluated
- Vistas or views from proposed bench location
- View and access to bench from trail, road or parking

Memorial gifts are encouraged for maintenance and care for the mature trees in the park. Donors may receive a certificate noting gift. Individual plaques at trees will not be allowed; however a collective acknowledgement wall could be included at park kiosk locations.

Park Implementation Strategy

-  1.) Natural Resources Project Budget
-  2.) Creek System Project Budget
-  3.) Man-made Systems Project Budget
-  4.) Neighborhood Enrichment Project Budget

The lists of projects have been identified by the executive committee and they are categorized under each of the four park master plan goals. The lists of projects are also consistent with the priorities identified through the public input process.

The establishment of budget costs are based upon a design/bid/build process. Although some components in this list of projects may eventually involve another process, for example design/build, to achieve a consistently across all listed projects a design/bid/build process was used for budgetary purposes. Unit prices are based upon an analysis of recent projects within the last year that have been awarded and conform to the design/bid/build process.



Ulmus crassifolia, Cedar Elm

Park Implementation Strategy

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS BUDGET

	Estimated Costs	Description
1.) Natural Resources		
a.) Mature Tree Care	120,000.00	(60 trees at 2,000 ea) 60 trees receive care
b.) Reforestation plan	40,000.00	(1 tree at 400 ea) 100 trees planted
c.) Perennial / native plantings	50,000.00	(100 / SF) 5,000 SF planted
d.) Limited mow zones / wildflower / meadow establishment	90,000.00	(30,000 SF)
e.) Invasive plant material / habitat / understory	<u>45,000.00</u>	(15/ SF) 3,000 SF area treated
	345,000.00	
2.) Creek System		
a 1.) Duck Pond (phase 1 - sedimentation removal)	153,000.00	
a 2.) Duck Pond (phase 2 - re-design)		as funding is available
b.) Creek erosion and siltation	262,000.00	
c.) Creek appearance / bio-swales	250,000.00	(250 / SF) 1,000 SF area treated
d.) Storm Drainage improvements	<u>400,000.00</u>	(200 / SF) 2,000 SF area treated
	1,065,000.00	
3.) Man-made Systems		
a.) Street lighting study	20,000.00	(study only)
b.) Creek crossing NE area	200,000.00	(1 bridge)
c.) Split rail fence	20,000.00	(replace metal & add new section)
d.) Park kiosks	90,000.00	(4 kiosks, 5 Park ID)
e.) Park observation areas	30,000.00	(3 areas)
f.) Soft surface jogging / walking paths	75,000.00	
g.) Park signage	60,000.00	(new signs and painted old)
h.) Street crossings	400,000.00	(4 areas)
i.) Bike Route signage	<u>25,000.00</u>	(Includes bike route signs every 1/4 mile & painted logo)
	920,000.00	
4.) Neighborhood Enrichment		
a.) Nature's Essence sculpture	-	Arts Council funding hardscape
Nature's Essence sculpture (landscape/irrigation)	35,000.00	funding for potential softscape
b.) Opportunities for Art in the Park		as funding is available
c.) Opportunities for memorial gifts		as funding is available
d.) Opportunities for donation recognition		as funding is available
	<u>35,000.00</u>	
	2,365,000.00	
SUBTOTAL	2,365,000.00	
Design Fees - 12%	283,800.00	
Administration & Contingency - 15%	<u>354,750.00</u>	
OVERALL GRAND TOTAL PROJECT COST	\$ 3,003,550.00	





Overton & Foster Park Master Plan