Brazos River Corridor Recreation Master Plan

Steering Committee Meeting

In person at: One Fluor Daniel Drive, Sugar Land, TX *(Lunch sponsored by Fort Bend Green)* or

By conference call at 1-866-768-3418, Passcode 3609270

May 8, 2012

12:30pm-2:30pm

Desired Outcomes

* GIS Committee presentation of Public Map Viewer
* Discussion of GIS capabilities and possibilities
* Presentation and discussion on the Trust for Public Land poll of the region
* Discussion of public and stakeholder input

12:30pm Welcome & Announcements

*Welcome three new members to the group:*

*Larry Foos, Director, Missouri City Parks and Recreation Dept.*

*Steve Killian, Superintendent, Brazos Bend State Park*

*Darren McCarthy, Director, Rosenberg Parks and Recreation Dept.*

12:40pm Presentation by Casey Lyde on GIS capabilities and the option of a Public Map Viewer

*Casey showed several existing public map viewers with numerous examples that we could apply to our map. Casey will send out the addresses/links of these websites for us to review individually.*

1:10pm Q&A about GIS presentation

1:30pm Discussion of GIS next steps

***GIS Next Steps***

1. *Continue GIS database for planning*
2. *During planning phase – the public map viewer will only allow password-protected access for steering committee members*
3. *Chance Kinnison will convene the GIS committee to discuss these steps further in the next two weeks.*

1:40pm Presentation by Kim about the Trust for Public Land (TPL) poll

*TPL met with the Fort Bend Green Board of Directors to discuss their polling initiative. TPL had previously met independently with county commissioners to discuss potential polling in the region. Fort Bend Green will meet with TPL a second time for a more detailed discussion.*

1:50pm Discussion about whether to participate in TPL polling initiative

-Brainstorm specific questions we have for TPL

* *What’s “in it” for TPL?*
* *Can they help with polling that would benefit the Fort Bend planning initiative …even if there is no referendum or bond?*
* *Can they help with Conservation Easements that allow for public access?*
* *What questions are/can be on the poll? Can the Ft. Bend Steering Committee weigh in/agree before it is done?*
* *Is there a price for the engagement of TPL?*

2:00pm Discuss Steering Committee goals for public and stakeholder input

-Brainstorm specific data desired

*What information do we want?*

* *Future plans for land uses -> proposed parks, trails*
* *Establish potential value of connecting these resources*
* *Find the gaps between the resources*
* *We can do a stakeholder analysis*
  + *Ask the stakeholders what is important to them? / How can we represent and respect each PAI’s interest?*
  + *Make sure that stakeholders visions are integrated*
* *Ground-truthing – what do these places/resources/opportunities look like on the ground? (with documentation or photos).*
  + *Classification metrics or standards*
* *Dynamic river bank – fluvial geomorphology. Need to note in the plan where and how to design for changes in the riverbank over time*
* *We should do our best to anticipate concerns of stakeholders – sometimes using existing relationships to learn about these concerns*
  + *Individual approach*
  + *Build relationships where there are none existing*
* *2003-2005 Brazos Bend connection to 59 trail. Ted Hollingsworth with TPWD has worked on this in the past*

***General Public***

* *User Groups*
  + *Canoe, trail, environmental groups already existing*
* *Surrounding areas plus local groups*
* *American Hiking Society: Front country hiking (close to home, shorter distances)*
* *Greater Houston Outdoor Recreational Bike Association (GHORBA) – mountain biking trail building*
* *Address safety concerns*
* *Access: Currently little access to the river, not much traffic paddling the river currently*
* *Fishermen probably access the river more than any others currently. (are there organized fishermen groups? guides?)*
* *Destination/origins which should/could be connected? (park, town centers, neighborhoods, etc.)*
* *Does the general public have a chance to weigh in on priorities – or – input on the criteria for priorities*
* *Poll -> expensive if statistically accurate and valid*
* *Risk involved with more access to the river*
  + *Address safety, and public awareness*
  + *Define “access” to protect against negative perceptions*

-Brainstorm specific venues for collecting input/data

*What format should we collect it in?*

***How to Conduct Public Input***

* *Going to existing meetings of existing groups (speakers bureau)*
* *Community newsletters*
* *Online surveys*
* *Newspapers/magazines*
* *Personal contacts/relationships*
* *Postings in public places, libraries, schools*
* *Websites/Facebook -> online mapping*
* *Presentations/workshops @ public meetings; Community Forums*
* *Interim Press Releases*

2:20pm Discuss Next Steps and set Next Meeting Date

**NEXT MEETING:**

**JUNE 7, 1:30pm-3:30pm, One Flour Daniel Drive, or by phone. Agenda will focus on public/stakeholder input.**

2:30pm Adjourn