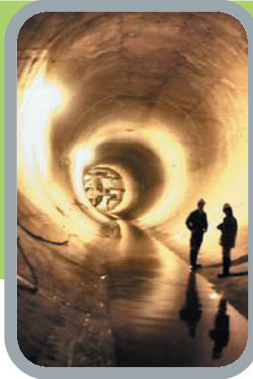


WALLER CREEK TUNNEL PROJECT



Waller Creek flooding



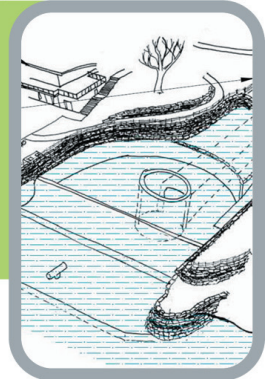
Tunnel example



Tunnel shaft from below



Tunnel shaft from above



Tunnel outlet

FALL 2010

COMMUNITY UPDATE

A NOTE FROM COUNCIL MEMBER SHERYL COLE



Visible signs of the Waller Creek Tunnel are starting to emerge and I am thrilled by the tremendous milestones the project team has reached. Construction for the pedestrian and bicycle bridge on the lower mouth of the creek is about to get started and this fall, the City will also start construction of the new boathouse.

I am grateful for the work of our Urban Design Team and the consultant team in designing the Waller Creek Master Plan. In late June, City Council unanimously approved

this bold vision for the future for a dynamic edge of downtown with the help of the community, but the hard work in implementing this vision has just begun.

My heartfelt thanks to the entire project team, the city staff and management, and the community, especially the Waller Creek Citizen Advisory Committee, for all your hard work. I hope that you will continue to be engaged in the implementation as we continue to invest in Waller Creek.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sheryl Cole".

TUNNEL CONSTRUCTION IS COMING SOON

After a two-year design and review phase, construction will begin shortly on the first part of the tunnel project – the widening and renovation of the pedestrian bridge over Waller Creek on the Lady Bird Lake hike and bike trail. The entire tunnel project is expected to be complete in 2014.

Project	Expected Start	Expected Completion
Pedestrian Bridge Renovation	Nov. 2010	Jan. 2011
Boathouse	Dec. 2010	Feb. 2012
Main Tunnel and 4th Street Inlet	2011	2014
Inlet at Waterloo Park	2011	2014

Do You Live, Work, or Play near Waller Beach?

This fall the tunnel project team will host a briefing to discuss construction activities planned for the outlet area of the tunnel. Participants will have a chance to meet the contractors working on the pedestrian bridge and boathouse projects. The project team will provide answers to frequently asked questions such as:

- What construction activities are planned?
- When is construction planned?
- Who will be in charge of construction activities?
- What impact will construction have on the area?

More information will be announced once a date and location are confirmed. Please visit the project website or call 974-7139 for more information.

Waller Creek Bridge Renovation Prompts Trail Reroute; Briefing Set for September 8, 6 to 8 p.m. at Rogue Running

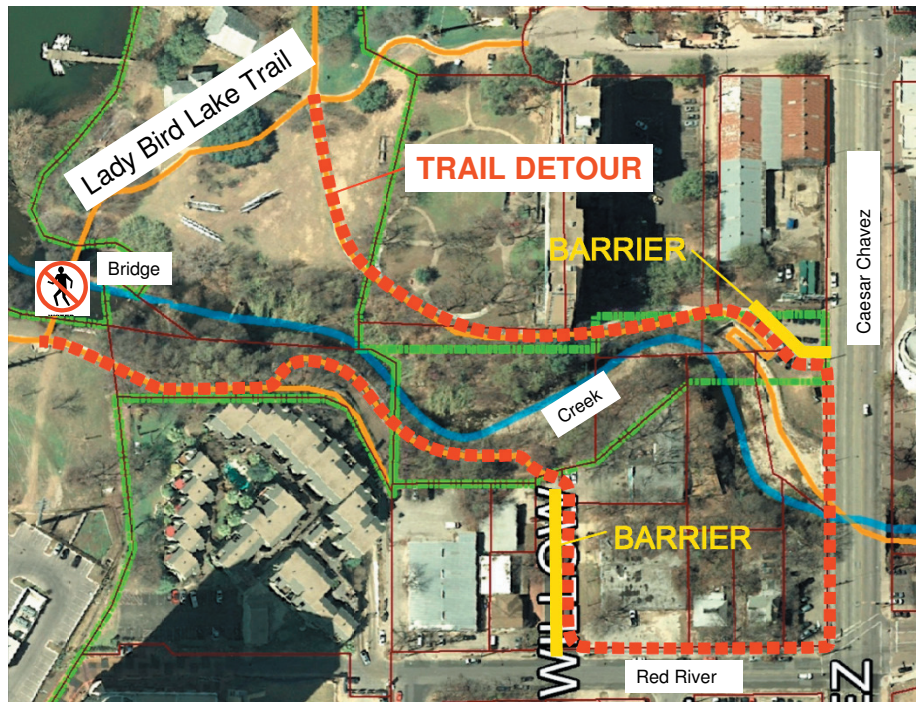
In September, the City of Austin is scheduled to begin renovating the pedestrian bridge over Waller Creek on the Lady Bird Lake hike and bike trail. The bridge was constructed in 1978 and is only six feet wide, making it difficult for bicyclists and pedestrians to use at the same time. The renovation project will bring the bridge into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and widen the decking to 12 feet, allowing better public access. The bridge upgrade is part of the parkland mitigation requirements for the Waller Creek Tunnel project.

During construction, the bridge will be closed and the hike and bike trail will be detoured for approximately two to three months. From September 27 to October 28, 2010, the bridge will be closed between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. From October 29 to December 21, 2010, the bridge will be closed 24 hours a day. The tunnel project team has worked closely with Parks and Recreation Department staff and the Trail Foundation to determine the safest and most convenient detour route.

The trail will be detoured along the route shown in graphic shown here. To short-

en the amount of time the bridge is closed; construction will not begin until all necessary materials have been delivered to the site.

The trail reroute briefing will be held at Rogue Running, located at 500 San Marcos Street. For more information, contact Carolyn Perez at 974-7139.



Waller Creek Bridge detour Route

CARING FOR WALLER'S TREES

Portions of the Waller Creek Tunnel Project, including the inlet structure, outlet lagoon and boathouse, will be constructed on parkland. Recognizing the important aesthetic and environmental benefits that trees provide in City parks, the project team is working closely with the City Arborist, the Parks and Recreation Department, an independent certified arborist and local tree advocates. Currently, the independent arborist is developing a preventive maintenance plan to safeguard the trees. While specific recommendations will not be available until the draft plan is approved by the City, in general the plan will include proper pruning and

watering, root zone treatment and fertilization before construction begins. The tree plan will also include the following actions:

- **Assisting park trees affected by last year's drought that are not in the construction zone.**
- **Contributing to the Parks and Recreation Department Tree Fund.**
- **Removing invasive species where possible.**

Once the draft maintenance plan is approved, the independent arborist will oversee the implementation of the plan about one year before construction begins.

What's next for the Waller Creek District Master Plan?

IN JUNE, the Austin City Council unanimously approved the Waller Creek District Master Plan. The approval came after months of study and public input to identify a community vision and to outline strategies to make the vision a reality. City staff is developing a plan for the next phases. Among the goals are drafting development standards for building setbacks, ground level residential landscaping and on-site parking.

The master plan was guided by three principles based on citizen feedback during the first Town Hall meeting:

- Enhance open space along the creek corridor
- Create pedestrian and bicycle links along the creek corridor to connect the University of Texas to Lady Bird Lake and East Austin and Rainey Street to downtown Austin
- Promote development and investment in the district and along the creek.

Completing the flood control tunnel is the first step in revitalizing the Waller Creek District. The tunnel will take 28 acres of land out of the 100-year floodplain and improve flood safety for the public who live, work or visit this area. The tunnel will be completed in 2014.

A small portion of the trail and stream bank improvements called for in the master plan will be completed by the tunnel project. Other significant improvements will be accomplished in phases as funds become available, perhaps through civic and corporate fundraising.

One of the areas highlighted in the report as a major redevelopment opportunity is Sabine Street. "With proposed extensions, the street will connect the district from Seventh to Third Streets. A richly landscaped environment with a wide pedestrian promenade and space for outdoor cafes and seating can extend the open space character of the corridor," the report says.

A complete copy of the final master plan is available at wallercreekplan.org. For more information, contact Tonya Swartzendruber at 974-3462 or tonya.swartzendruber@ci.austin.tx.us.

FINAL LANDSCAPING AND PARK IMPROVEMENTS TO FOLLOW TUNNEL CONSTRUCTION

Although a significant portion of the tunnel project takes place underground and will not be visible, the inlet structure, Fourth Street shaft site, boathouse, and outlet lagoon will be constructed above ground. To allow the construction firms to focus on these large civil projects, the City has plans to hire firms to manage site restoration including the installation of irrigation, landscaping, benches, lighting, and other amenities. The City's project team is committed to leaving the construction sites in better condition than they were before. For example, the tunnel inlet structure, and a pond will be constructed in Waterloo Park. After this work is completed, a contractor will give the site a "facelift" complete with new landscaping, paths and amenities such as lighting and seating areas. Similar restoration will be done at the outlet, boathouse and Fourth Street shaft site.

Tunnel Project Represents Economic Opportunity

IN JULY, the project team and the City's Small Minority Business Resource Department held a public networking session for members of Austin's hauling community. The purpose was to make operators aware of the substantial bidding opportunities as construction of the tunnel project approaches. The Waller Creek Tunnel Project is a major opportunity that will put thousands of people to work while it is under construction. "We feel that this networking session was a productive way to inform the hauling community of upcoming bid opportunities and to foster meaningful conversation among Austin vendors," said Gary Jackson, Waller Creek Tunnel Project Manager.



The City's Waller Creek Tunnel Project Manager Gary Jackson speaks about upcoming projects to Austin's hauling community.



City of Austin

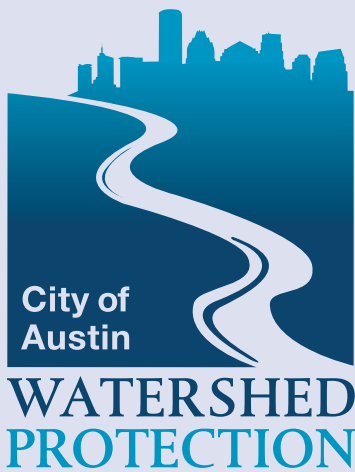
Public Works Department

Waller Creek Tunnel Project

505 Barton Springs Road, Suite 900

Austin, Texas 78704

PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
AUSTIN, TEXAS
PERMIT NO. 02537



**FOR MORE
INFORMATION,
PLEASE CONTACT**

**Carolyn Perez, 512-974-7139
or email**

Carolyn.Perez@ci.austin.tx.us

**The project web site is
<http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/wallercreek/>**

Waller Creek Tunnel Project Receives Key Federal Permit

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has issued to the City a Section 404 permit, clearing the way for construction activities to begin along Waller Creek and Lady Bird Lake. The USACE is the federal agency responsible for monitoring construction projects that occur close to U.S. lakes, rivers, creeks, and wetlands.