

West Bouldin Creek Greenbelt - Master Trail Sign Plan

Prepared by the Bouldin Creek Neighborhood Association, June 2018



**West Bouldin Creek Greenbelt
as seen from Google Maps.**

West Bouldin Creek Greenbelt - Master Trail Sign Plan

Introduction

This *Master Trail Sign Plan* has been created by the Bouldin Creek Neighborhood Association (BCNA) for the 18 acres, City owned, West Bouldin Creek Greenbelt. The plan is in fulfillment of the long-term goals set out in the August 2009, *West Bouldin Creek Greenbelt Ecological Assessment & Ecological Restoration Master Plan* prepared and published by the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center. The restoration plan was adopted by the Bouldin Creek Neighborhood Association the same year together with a five phase, long-range implementation plan which became the basis for our current Adopt-A-Park agreement with the City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department.

The five phases of implementation are:

- I. Remove invasive species
- II. Establish a sustainable trail system in the greenbelt
- III. Enhance the 1200 South Sixth Street entrance, and build a low-water crossing
- IV. Create educational signage along the trails
- V. Connectivity to South Lamar on the south end and to Barton Springs Road and Butler Park at the north end of the greenbelt.

Phases I, II and III have been started and in many cases completed. To begin and complete our next step, Phase IV, the BCNA Park Committee drafted this *Master Trail Sign Plan* for the greenbelt. Trails that were identified were those that existed during the time when the restoration plan was written in 2009 or those new trails specifically called for within the restoration plan. In 2016 the BCNA was awarded a matching grant from the Austin Parks Foundation to fulfill the restoration plan's goal of maintaining an official trail system in the greenbelt while removing and excluding unofficial or spurious social trails. Upon identifying those trails the Committee designated names and color codes for each major trail system. Along the system of trails, sign zones were identified and mapped. These unique zones within the greenbelt consisted of trail-heads, junction points, turnouts or spots where trail maintenance by the BCNA ended.

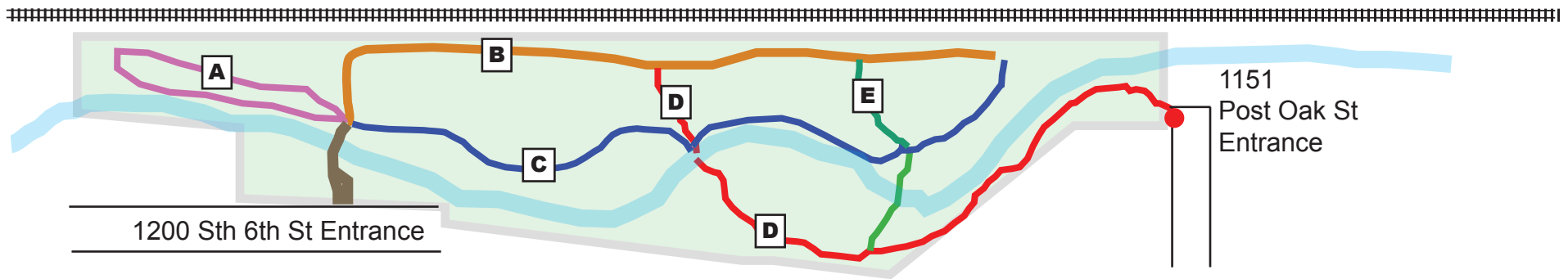
This *Master Trail Sign Plan* is organized by numbered zones (1-11) and provides a current inventory of existing signs within each zone. Attached to each zone are recommendations for renewing, updating, improving and enhancing the trail signage. Please note, in zones 4 – 9 there are no signs or trail markers in existence. This *Master Trail Sign Plan* provides recommendations and suggestions for the development and installation of new trail markers as way-finding devices at critical points along the system.

The *Master Trail Sign Plan* was officially and unanimously approved by the BCNA Steering Committee on June 04, 2018 and the General Membership on June 12, 2018. It is hoped that this *Master Trail Sign Plan* shall serve as a common reference document and help guide the City and BCNA with the long-standing goals found in the ecological restoration plan for West Bouldin Creek Greenbelt.

Ingrid Weigand, Parks Committee Chair
Bouldin Creek Neighborhood Association

West Bouldin Creek Greenbelt - Master Trail Sign Plan

Proposed Trails Maintained by BCNA & Trail Names



- A** Gray Fox trail, color pink +
- B** Upland trail, color orange +
- C** Creek Bank trail, color navy +
- D** Post Oak trail, color red +
- E** Old Growth trail, color green +

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For Trails Maintained by the Bouldin Creek Neighborhood Association

In Conjunction with the City of Austin, Parks and Recreation Department



West Bouldin Creek Greenbelt - Master Trail Sign Plan

Zone 1 Inventory and Recommendations



Zone 1. Street view at 1200 Sth 6th St. service vehicle entrance.



Zone 1. View of existing signage at service entrance w/ metal access gate, bollard and guardrail.

Zone 1 Signs currently consist of:

- A. 1ea. official PARD Greenbelt sign (3' x 5') on metal posts with address: 1200 South 6th Street c.1999
- B. 1ea. Keep Austin Beautiful (KAB) "Welcome" sign (3' x 5') with outdated work schedule c.2013
- C. 2ea. 12" x 12" Park CURFEW & NO FIRES signs on metal post adjacent to official PARD Greenbelt sign
- D. 2ea. NO DUMPING signs on metal guardrail and metal post c.1985
- E. 1ea. NO PARKING sign on metal gate c.2016

Recommend: Remove sign B. (old KAB sign) due to outdated information and poor condition
Relocate signs C. 12" x 12" NO FIRES & CURFEW to Zone 3
Clear brush & weeds around the area to improve visibility

West Bouldin Creek Greenbelt - Master Trail Sign Plan

Zone 2 Inventory and Recommendations



Zone 2. Street view of new hike/bike entrance at 1200 Sth 6th St.



Zone 2. Left, Sth 6th St. limestone block & signs, Rt. path to trails

Zone 2 The area contains the most direct path from Sth 6th St. for hikers and bikers to gain access to the new rock hop crossing at the creek bed and greenbelt trails. NOTE: Several rectangular limestone blocks, approximately 5' x 2' x 2' serve as vehicle barriers and rest stop benches.

Zone 2 Signs currently consist of:

- A. 1ea. pole sign with GREENBELT RULES, CURFEW HOURS and GROW ZONE designation.
- B. 1ea. NO PARKING sign on metal pole at curb c. 2014

RECOMMEND: Place a new 3' x 4' WELCOME SIGN near the limestone bench, on a wood frame to inform users of the features in the greenbelt including information about the "ephemeral spring" adjacent to the rock crossing feature.

OPTIONAL: In place of the WELCOME SIGN, purchase and install a 3' x 4' lockable, metal cabinet case with acrylic glass for renewable printed information display.

West Bouldin Creek Greenbelt - Master Trail Sign Plan

Zone 3 Inventory and Recommendations



Zone 3 Rock hop and limestone steps across creek bed to trails



Zone 3 Trail head showing mock-up of greenbelt system trail map

Zone 3 The area is west of the rock hop and serves as the trail head for the RED FOX, WESTERN LIMIT and CREEK BANK TRAILS. Note: No official signage exists at this important junction.

RECOMMEND:

- A.** Fasten a 3' x 4' official trail map graphic of the entire greenbelt trail system with a YOU ARE HERE label.
- B.** Remove from Zone 1 signs C. (2ea. 12" x 12" Park CURFEW & NO FIRES) and attach to the wooden frame as shown in the mock-up.

West Bouldin Creek Greenbelt - Master Trail Sign Plan

Zones 4 - 9B Recommendations



Example 1 of a color coded trail post w/ fastened sign placards



Example 2 of a trail post w/ fastened, color coded sign placards

Zones 4-9B In order to guide hikers/bikers along a path and to ensure that trails of convenience are not used, identification markers are required at locations 4 - 9B. Note: No official trail identification or way finding signage exists for any of the maintained trails.

RECOMMEND:

- A. Treated wooden posts approximately 36" - 48" tall, set into the ground at required locations.
- B. Pre-painting, cutting and site installation of the posts by neighborhood groups and volunteers.
- C. Top of the posts painted by hand to match the color of the trail or multiple trail colors at trail junctions.
- D. Vertical placards with text, arrows and icons out-sourced to a local printer
- E. Fasten placards on posts with security screw heads.
- E. Use one vertical square post at each zone.

West Bouldin Creek Greenbelt - Master Trail Sign Plan

Zones 10-11 Inventory and Recommendations



Zone 10. Street view 1151 Post Oak St. shows Trail head Map mock-up.



Zone 11. View of existing signage at entrance.

Zone 10 Has no signage. It is the site for an additional system trail map with a “YOU ARE HERE” designation.

Zone 11 Signs currently consist of:

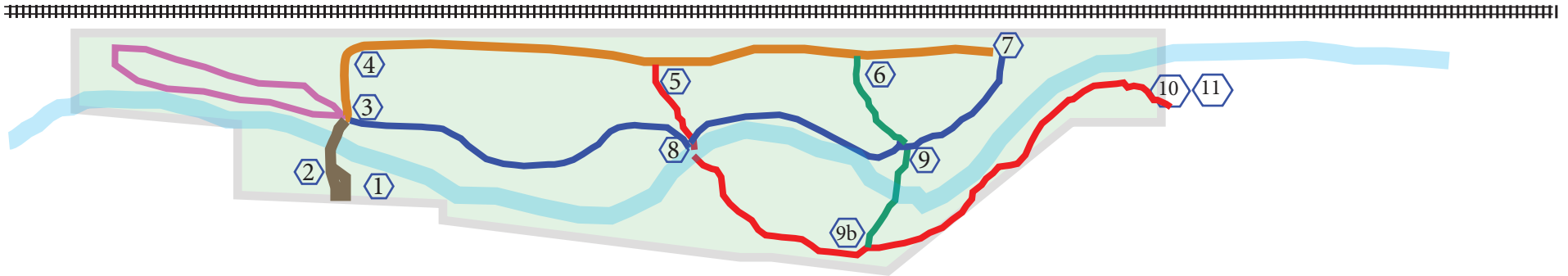
- A. 1ea. PARD sign (3' x 5') on metal posts with official address: 1151 Post Oak Street c.1999
- B. 1ea. pole sign with park rules labeled in icon form.
- C. 1ea. defunct pole sign with missing sign graphics.

Recommend:

- A. Install at Zone 10 near the trail head entrance fence a (3' x 4') trail map graphic of the entire greenbelt trail system with a YOU ARE HERE shown,
- B. Install at Zone 11 NO PARKING signs near entrance.
- C. Remove or replace sign with missing graphics.
- D. Verify that the address on the official sign is correct.
- E. Clear brush & weeds around the area to improve visibility

West Bouldin Creek Greenbelt - Master Trail Sign Plan

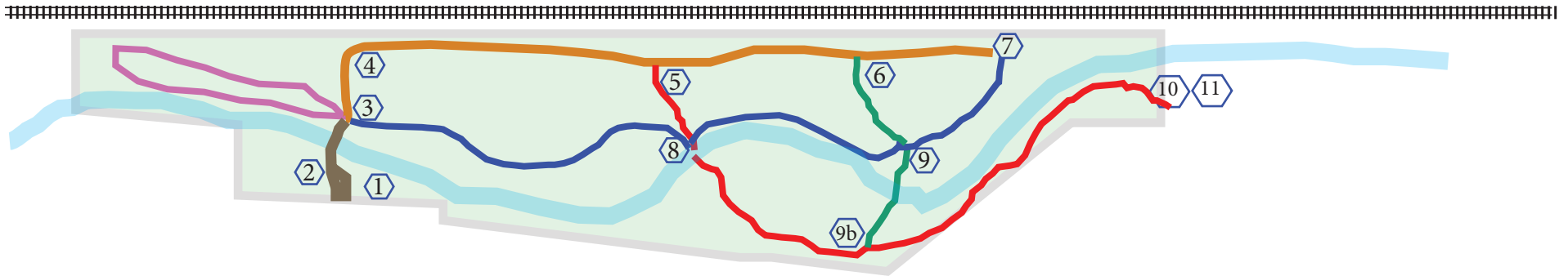
Current & Proposed Sign Index Summary



- Zone 1** Currently consists of official PARD sign (3' x 5') on metal posts WBCGB address: 1200 South 6th Street, Old KAB "Welcome" sign (3' x 5') with outdated work schedule, 2ea. 12" x 12" Park CURFEW & NO FIRES signs, NO DUMPING and NO PARKING shield signs on metal swing gate & metal barrier.
- Recommend:** Remove old KAB sign
Relocate 12" x 12" NO FIRES & CURFEW signs to zone 3
Clear brush & weeds around the area to improve visibility
- Zone 2** Currently the area is now the prime pathway to the rock hop and greenbelt. Zone currently has 1ea. pole sign with park rules and curfew hours plus a 6" x 6" GROW ZONE on same pole.
- Recommend:** Place 3' x 4' welcome sign near the limestone bench, on a wood frame to inform pedestrian users of the size and variety of natural features in WBCGB and specifically informing them of the ephemeral spring and work done by park adopters to install the rock crossing feature.
- OPTIONAL** Zone would be a good location for a 3' x 4' locked sign cabinet for renewable information and announcements.
- Zone 3** The area is west of the rock hop and at the junction of 4 trails leading N.S.E.W.. Currently a newly installed wood sign frame (3' x 4') sits unused.
- Recommend:** Attaching a (3' x 4') Trail Map graphic of the entire WBCGB showing YOU ARE HERE. Attach 12" x 12" Park CURFEW & NO FIRES from Zone 1 signs to the wooden frame.
- Zone 4** Recommend installing single sided trail sign to direct persons to the Western Limit trail, color orange
- Zone 5** Recommend installing 2 sided trail sign to direct persons to the Western Limit trail, color orange and to Post Oak trail, color red.
- Zone 6** Recommend installing 2 sided trail sign to direct persons to the Western Limit trail, color orange and to Old Growth trail, color green.
- Zone 7** Recommend installing 2 sided trail sign to direct persons that Western Limit trail ends, color orange and to Creek Bank trail, color Navy.

West Bouldin Creek Greenbelt - Master Trail Sign Plan

Current & Proposed Sign Index Summary Continued



- Zone 8** Recommend installing 4 sided trail sign to direct persons to the Post Oak trail, color red and to Creek Bank trail, color Navy.
- Zone 9** Recommend installing 4 sided trail sign to direct persons to the Old Growth trail, color green and to Creek Bank trail, color Navy.
- Zone 9b** Recommend installing 2 sided trail sign to direct persons to the Post Oak trail, color red and to Old Growth trail, color green.
- Zone 10** Recommend installing a (3' x 4') Trail Map graphic of the entire WBCGB showing YOU ARE HERE near the entrance maze to the Post Oak Trail, color red.
- Zone 11** Currently consists of official PARD sign (3' x 5') on metal posts WBCGB address: 1151 Post Oak Street and one pole sign with park rules in icon form.
Recommend: Installing NO PARKING signs near entrance verifying the park street address is correct