



Parks Planning & Maintenance Update

Parks, Recreation and Beautification Board

April 1, 2024

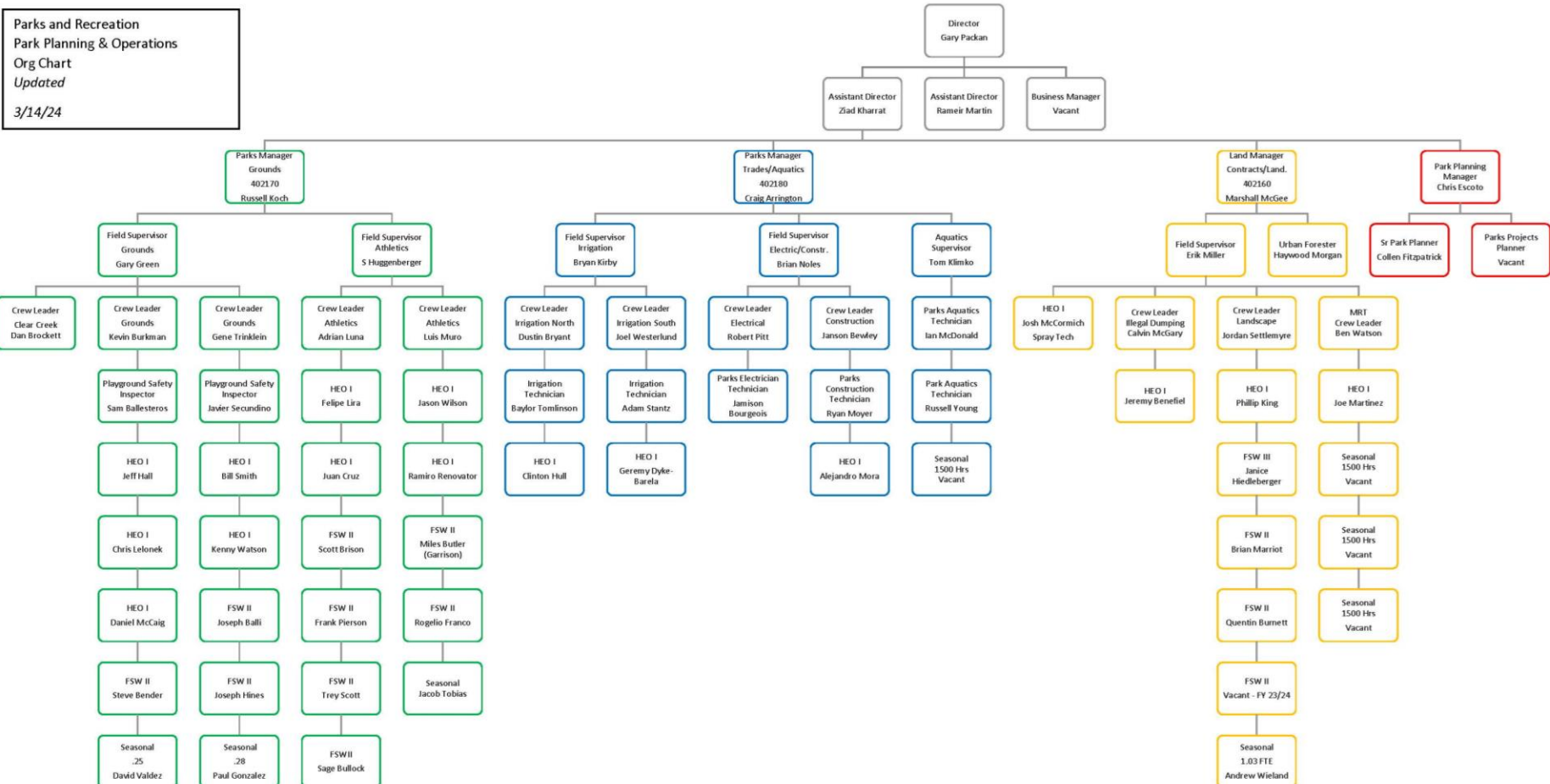


Organizational Structure

TOTAL FTE's:

Total Employees

- Full-Time: 62
- Part-Time: 0
- Seasonal: 8



Trades/Aquatics Division | Management Team



Craig Arrington
Parks Manager



Brian Noles
Electrical/Construction Field Supervisor



Brian Kirby
Irrigation Field Supervisor



Tom Klimko
Aquatics Supervisor



ADA Transition Plan

In the 2022/23 fiscal year all high-risk items in the following parks have been completed.

- Avondale Park
- Bowling Green Park
- Carl Young Park
- Carnegie Ridge Park
- Cooper Creek Trail
- Cross Timbers Park
- Denton Rail Trail
- Evers Park
- Fred Moore Park
- Jim Carter Park
- Lake Forest Park
- Martin Luther King Jr. Park
- Nette Shultz Park
- North Lakes Park
- Owsley Park
- South Lakes Park



Construction Team

Each year Park Maintenance receives funding to renovate 1 restroom facility in our park system. This year focus was placed on the restrooms on the north end of Evers Park. Staff removed and replaced all plumbing fixtures, toilet partitions as well as replacing the ceiling and adding recessed lighting. Tile was added to the walls and an epoxy coating was used to freshen up the concrete floors.



Irrigation Team

Throughout the Fall and Winter seasons, the irrigation team has been diligently preparing for the upcoming summer of 2024. Taking proactive steps to enhance system reliability and promote water conservation, they have installed new ultrasonic hydrometers in 34 of the larger irrigation systems spread across the park system. These advanced meters enable staff to monitor each system with precision down to a tenth of a gallon. Additionally, the collected data allows the software to autonomously shut down components upon detecting potential leaks, further ensuring efficient water management.



Electrical Team

The electrical team has been busy installing the infrastructure needed to support the addition to decorative fountains at South Lakes and North Lakes Parks. 1200' of Conduit has been installed along with steel racks for control equipment. The decorative fountains will be installed in the coming weeks.



Aquatics Maintenance Team

Enhancements are presently in progress for the upcoming 2023/24 season. Maintenance staff have been supervising improvements along the river at Water Works park, including the addition of new landscaping and refurbishment of the remaining booster pump pit. Additionally, play equipment located at Water Works Park and the Civic Center Pool has been given fresh coats of paint.



Emergency Kiosks

- February 2, dedicated first outdoor free-standing AED
- Pilot project to determine possible future options
- Locations under consideration
 - Placement of (6) emergency kiosks in parks
 - North Lakes Park
 - Denia Park
 - Evers Park
 - South Lakes Park
- "Run For Dylan Foundation" donated \$10,000 toward the project
- City-wide cooperative effort with Dorrell family



Grounds Division | Management Team



Russell Koch
Parks Manager



Gary Green
Ground Field Supervisor



Sam Huggenberger
Athletics Field Supervisor

Prescribed Burns

- 22 acres of North Lakes Park Wildlife Trail (Jan 31)
- 5 acres of Clear Creek Open Space (Feb 20)
- Maintain and improve the health of our natural landscape and manage vegetation
- Wildland Urban Interface training for Denton Fire Department Wildland Firefighters



Athletic Field Maintenance

Routine Maintenance of athletic turf preparing for Spring sports programs

- Staff lining Roland G. Vela Soccer Complex
- Routine maintenance of athletic field turf maintenance includes mowing twice a week, lining once a week, aeration, pre-emergent, fertilization and field repair.
- Turf-type annual ryegrass seed is applied in Oct-Nov. Ready for Spring Season



Bird Blind Structure

- Located at Clear Creek Natural Heritage Center north of the building along the Yucca Trail
- Adjacent to feeding station and a water feature
- The blind and water feature was designed and constructed by Clear Creek and Park Maintenance Staff.
- To simulate natural water movement, the water feature is powered by solar energy
- Minimizes disturbances while allowing closer observation



Cricket in Denton

- Staff preparing 5.5 acres for 2 Cricket fields (Adult/Youth)
- Preparation includes mowing, rolling, topdressing, pitch construction and synthetic turf installation.
- Located along Country Club Road on the Burch property
- Play is scheduled for May 2024



TRAPS Maintenance State Rodeo

- Texas Recreation and Parks Society is a professional organization for Parks and Recreational Professionals
- Brian Noles, Jason Wilson, and Jeff Hall competed in regional TRAPS Maintenance rodeo and moved on to State Maintenance Rodeo hosted by City of Galveston
- Brian and Jason competed in the Truck and Trailer category and finished in 3rd place over all in the State



Land & Contracts | Division Management Team



Marshall McGee
Land Manager



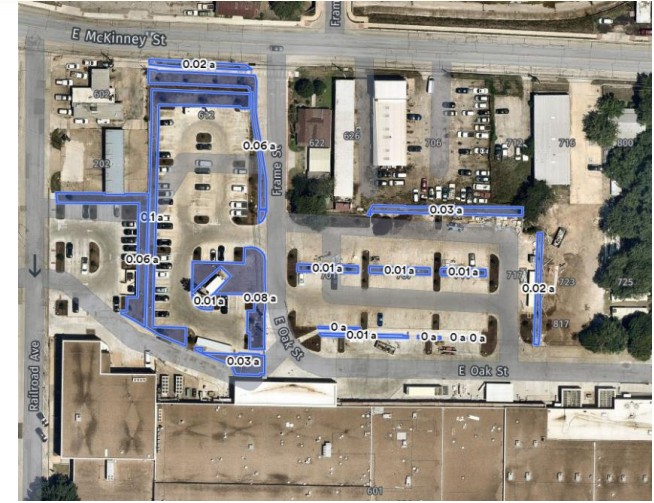
Erik Miller
Field Supervisor



Haywood Morgan
Urban Forester

Mowing Maintenance

- PARD continues to acquire new properties for mowing and maintenance.
 - Medians by DHS
 - City Hall East
 - New water reclamation plant



Annual Tree Planting

Trees currently in the planting rotation include Autumn Blaze Maple, Chinquapin Oak, Lacebark Elm, Chinese Pistache, Little Gem Magnolia, Bald Cypress, Red Oak, Mexican Sycamore and Mexican White Oak

Update:

- Winter/Spring 2024 Tree Planting
 - EAD Dedication – 1 Tree
 - Joe Skiles Park – 45 Trees
 - Hickory Creek Rd. Phase II – 57 trees
 - Dead Tree Replacements multiple locations – 71 trees



USDA Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry Grant

Staff submitted an application to fund The Urban Forest Restoration Initiative includes three programs.

- **Planting of 900 trees in parks and center medians** throughout the City, focusing on providing shade to paved surfaces to reduce the Urban Heat Island Effect.
- **Removal of invasive Chinese Privet from up to 230 acres** of natural areas in parks including Cross Timbers Forest and Environmentally Sensitive Areas to preserve native forest, and restoration native habitat with the planting of native ground cover and up to 20,000 understory shrubs and trees to reduce the occurrence of re-infestation of privet.
- **Education of the public about the importance of urban forestry.**

Update:

- Grant not awarded to Denton



Illegal Dumping Team



Park Planning/Public Art | Management Team



Chris Escoto
Park Planning Manager



Colleen Fitzpatrick
Senior Park Planner



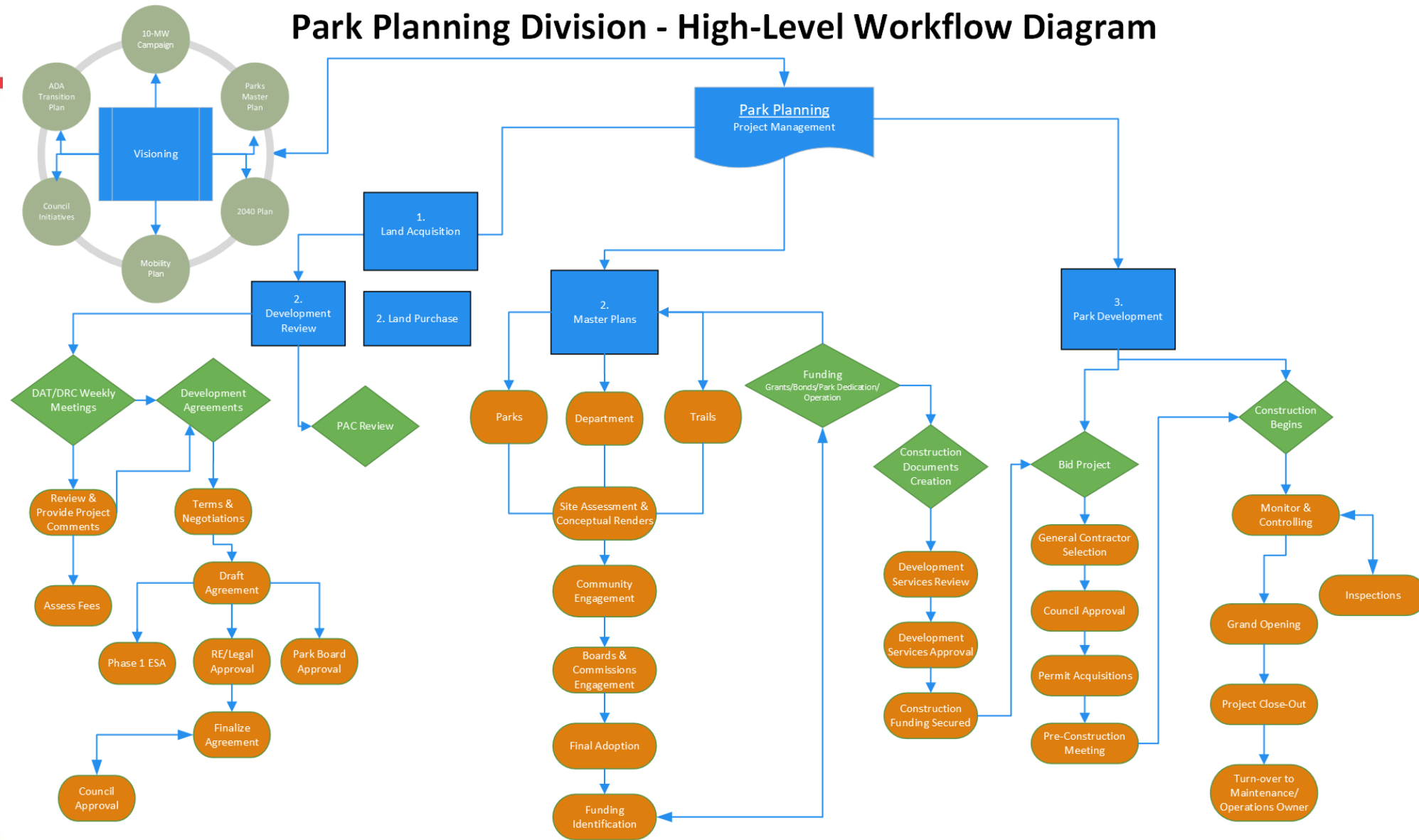
Vacant
Park Project Planner



Omar Siddiqi
Management Analyst
(Assists w/Public Art)



Park Planning Division - High-Level Workflow Diagram



Park Planning Highlights since September 23'

Bond Funding approved November 2023

- Proposition C: \$33.4M
- Proposition F: \$46.4M
- Public Art: \$2.7M

Development Agreements Completed

- 2 DA's approved and received 11.967 acres of new parkland

Grants Awarded

- TxDOT Transportation Alternative Grant – \$10.9M
- TPWD Local Park Grant - \$750K
- TPWD Boating Access Grant - \$130K-500K

Grants Submitted Pending Notification

- Outdoor Legacy Partnership Program Grant – \$2.25M
- CDBG Grant - \$240K



TPWD Local Park Grant Projects

Projects awaiting funding/notice to proceed from TPWD. Currently working with Development Services to approve projects for construction.

Villages of Carmel Park: *Construction anticipated Summer 24'*

Bowling Green Park: *Construction anticipated Fall 24'*

Briercliff Park: *Construction anticipated Fall 24'/Winter 25'*



Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) 2023/24

- Recommend to receive \$230K for improvements at Fred Moore Park. Funding disbursed February 2024
- Improvements: Sidewalk to ballfields, Pavilion replacement, New pergola at ALH

Update:

- Construction began in March. Expected to be completed by May.

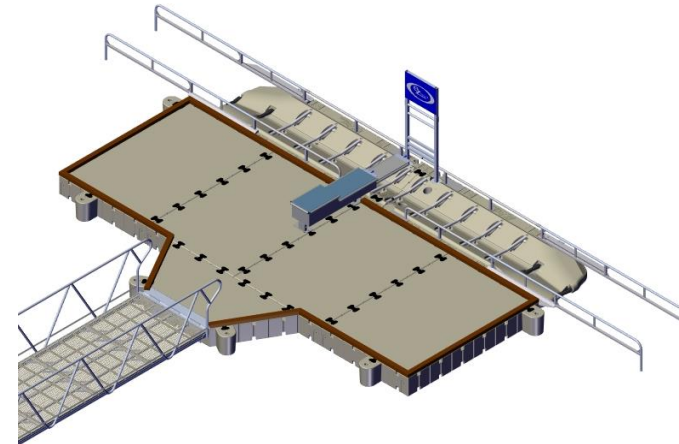


TPWD Boating Access Grant

A new fishing dock and ADA kayak launches will be built at North Lakes Park and Lake Forest Park. An ADA kayak launch will be added to existing dock at South Lakes Park.

Update:

- Two-step process. (Planning/Construction)
- Funding for planning submitted to TPWD. Waiting on next steps.
- Construction to follow planning stage.

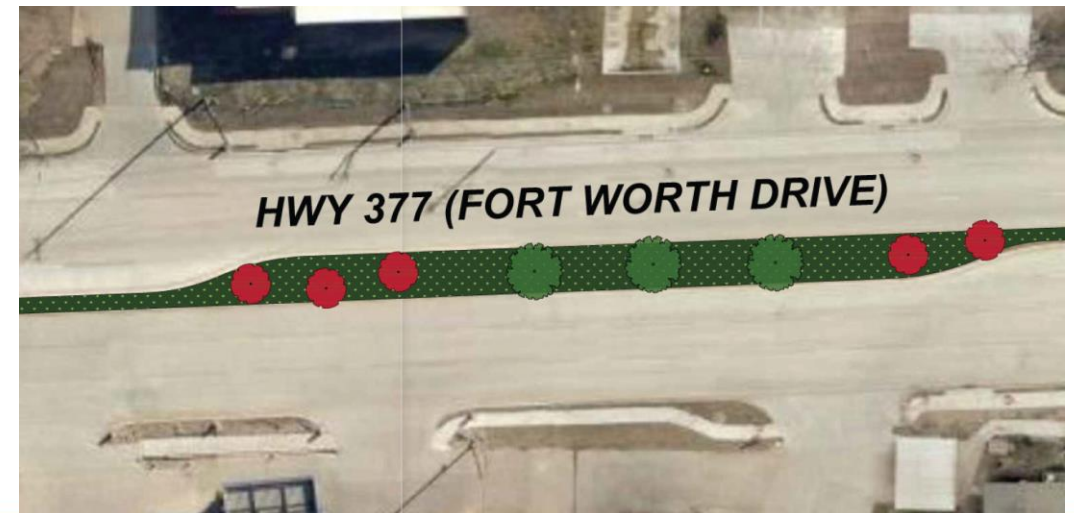


US377 Green Ribbon Grant

- With the assistance of the Green Ribbon grant, trees, landscaping and irrigation will be installed within the median from Roselawn Dr./377 intersection to Country Club Rd.

Update:

- Contract approved by Council, Cost: \$350K
- Construction to start in April

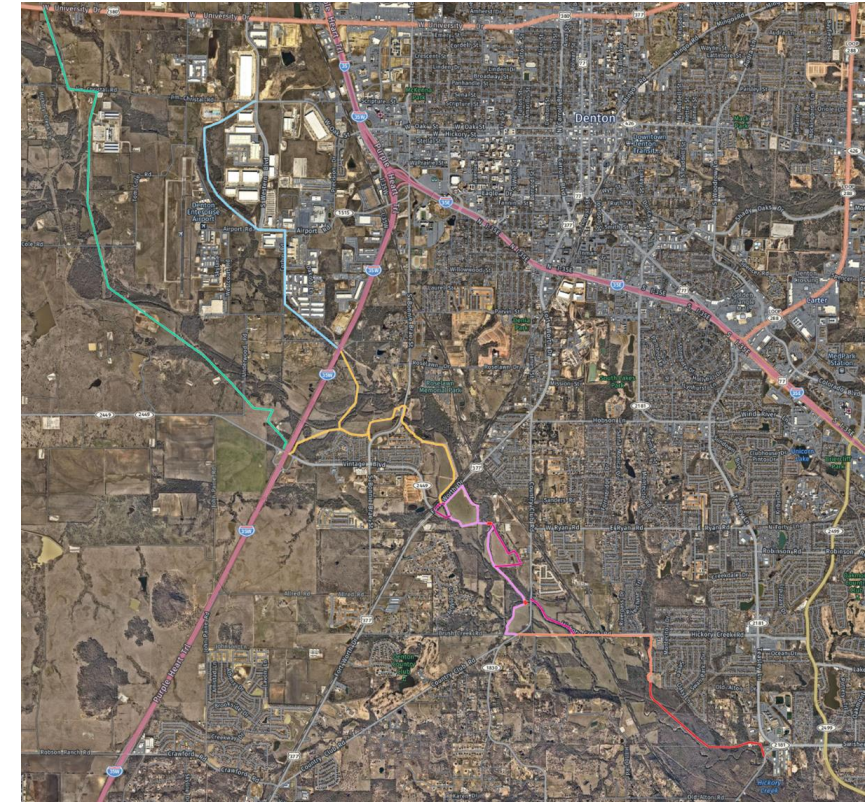


Hickory Creek Trail Master Plan

- From Guyer High School to US380
- Length Approx. 15 Miles

Update:

- Master Plan kicked off November 2023
- Finalizing proposed alignment and initial studies
- Public engagement expected to begin this spring/summer



Aquatics Master Plan

Project Scope:

- Identify current condition of aquatic facilities in the park system and identify future opportunities that will coincide with growth, usage, and potential partnerships.

Update:

- Adopted by City Council
- Contract amendment to conduct feasibility research

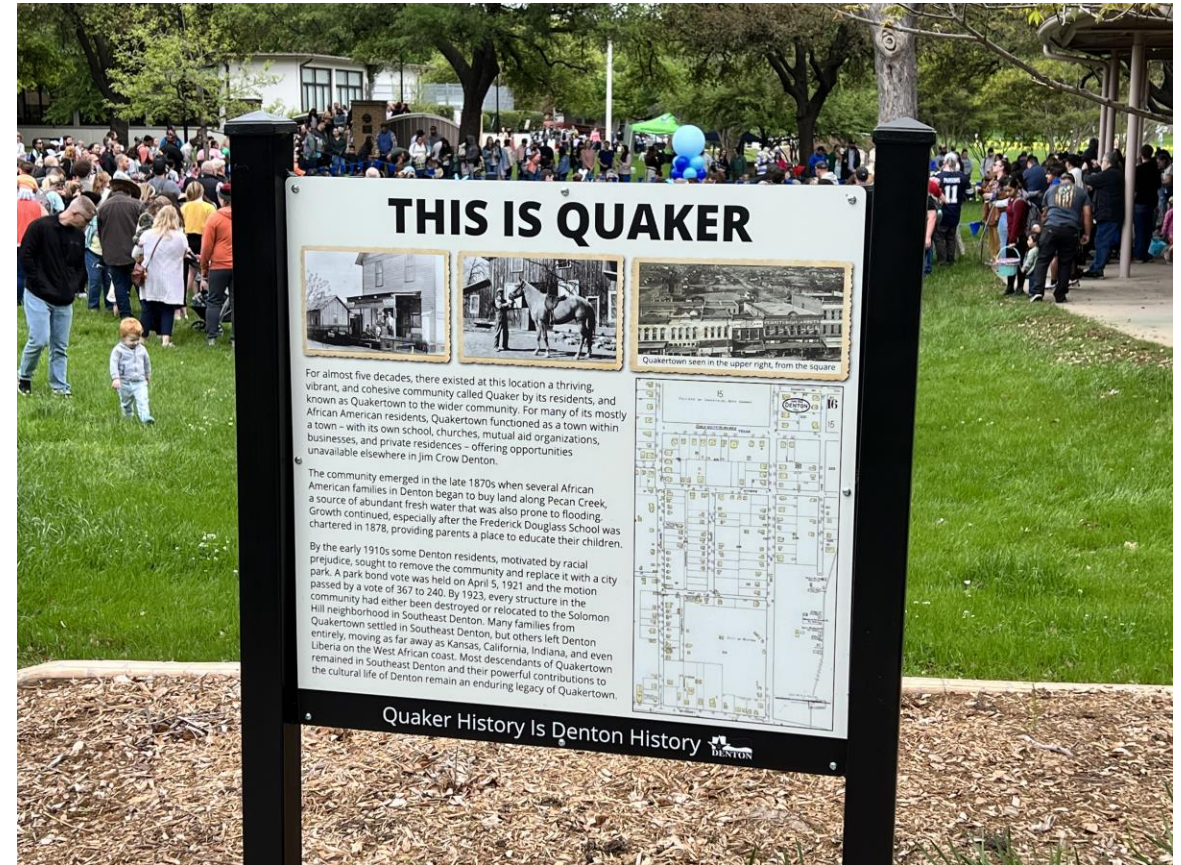


Quakertown Centennial Memorial - Master Plan

- Temporary signage was installed in February 2023
- Designed in collaboration with City's Marketing and Public Affairs designers
- Includes historical images shared by the Denton County Office of History and Culture

Update:

- Consultants are currently working on Master Plan for Downtown and Quakertown Park
- Outreach underway for park planning



Lily Cantu Inclusive Playground Master Plan

Playground located at North Lakes Park

- The new playground design will be 'barrier free' and will feature areas of play offering universal design features for all abilities physical and mental such as rehabilitation equipment, nature-based, and garden/landscape experiences for children and adults of all abilities.

Update:

- Public meeting scheduled for March 28



Hills of Denton Trail – Plan & Acquisition

- The Hills of Denton will connect from FM 428 to Bonnie Brae St.
- Working with Real Estate to acquire easements within Beaver Creek, Stuart Ridge, Stark Farms.

Update:

- Finalizing details with Stuart Ridge.
- Stark Farms & Beaver Creek to follow shortly.

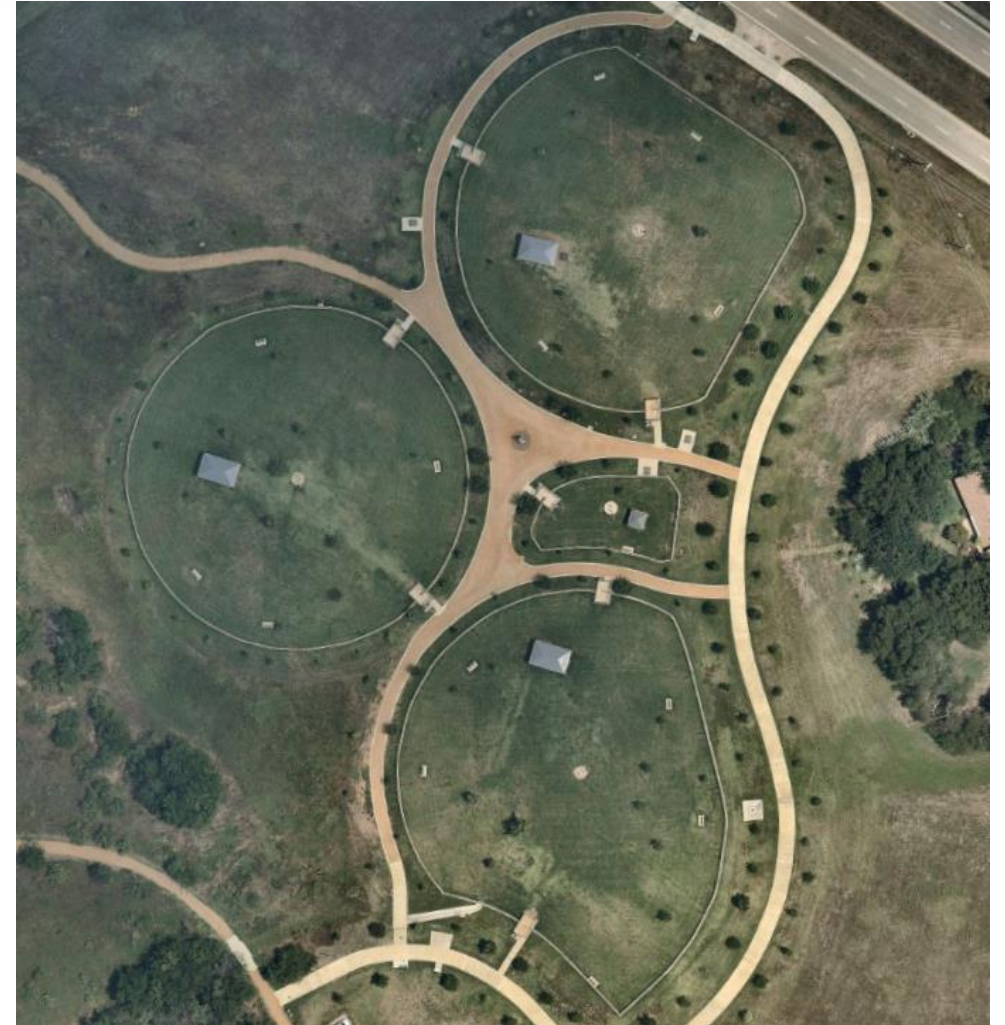


NL Dog Park – Master Plan

- Design to assist with the following:
 - Fix drainage issues (decomposed granite washout)
 - Install concrete walkways
 - Parking opportunities/collaboration with the animal shelter
 - Identify new opportunities to increase traffic
 - Ideas: Food Truck Park, Amphitheatre, etc...

Update:

- Currently at 100% design by internal engineering
- Funding to be identified

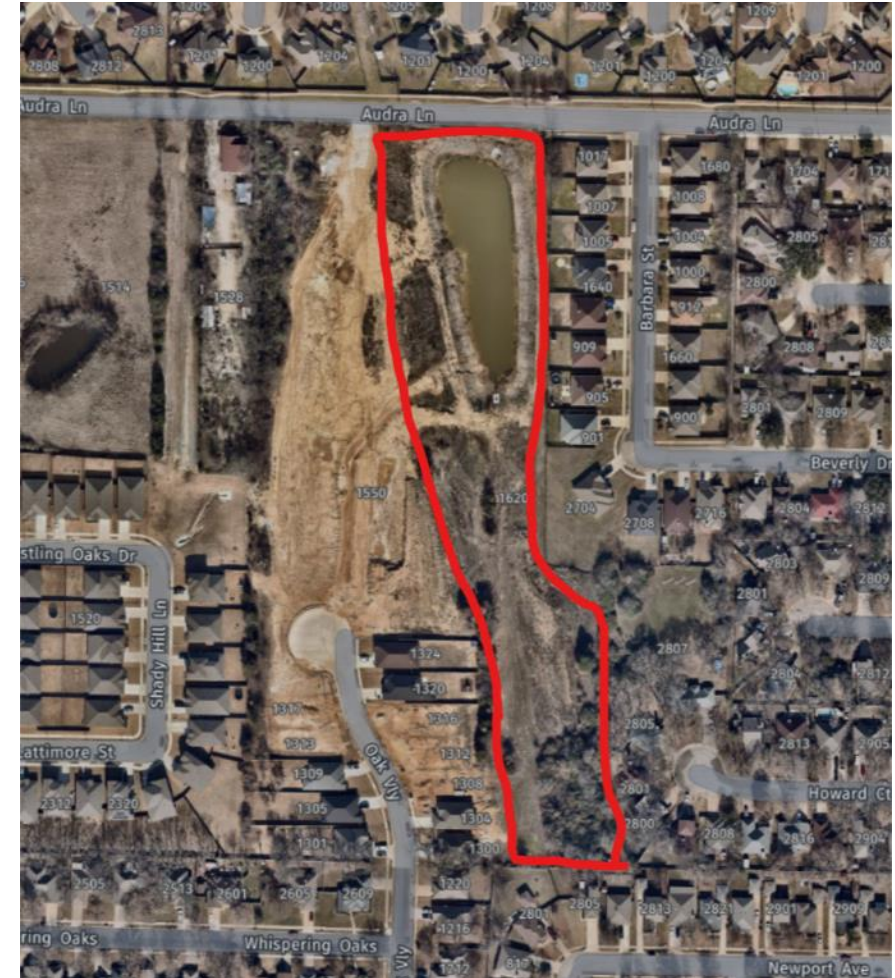


Audra Oaks Park Master Plan

- Hold community meetings
- Create master plan
- Receive community feedback
- Approve master plan

Update:

- Design contract approved by Council. Project to start this Spring/Summer.



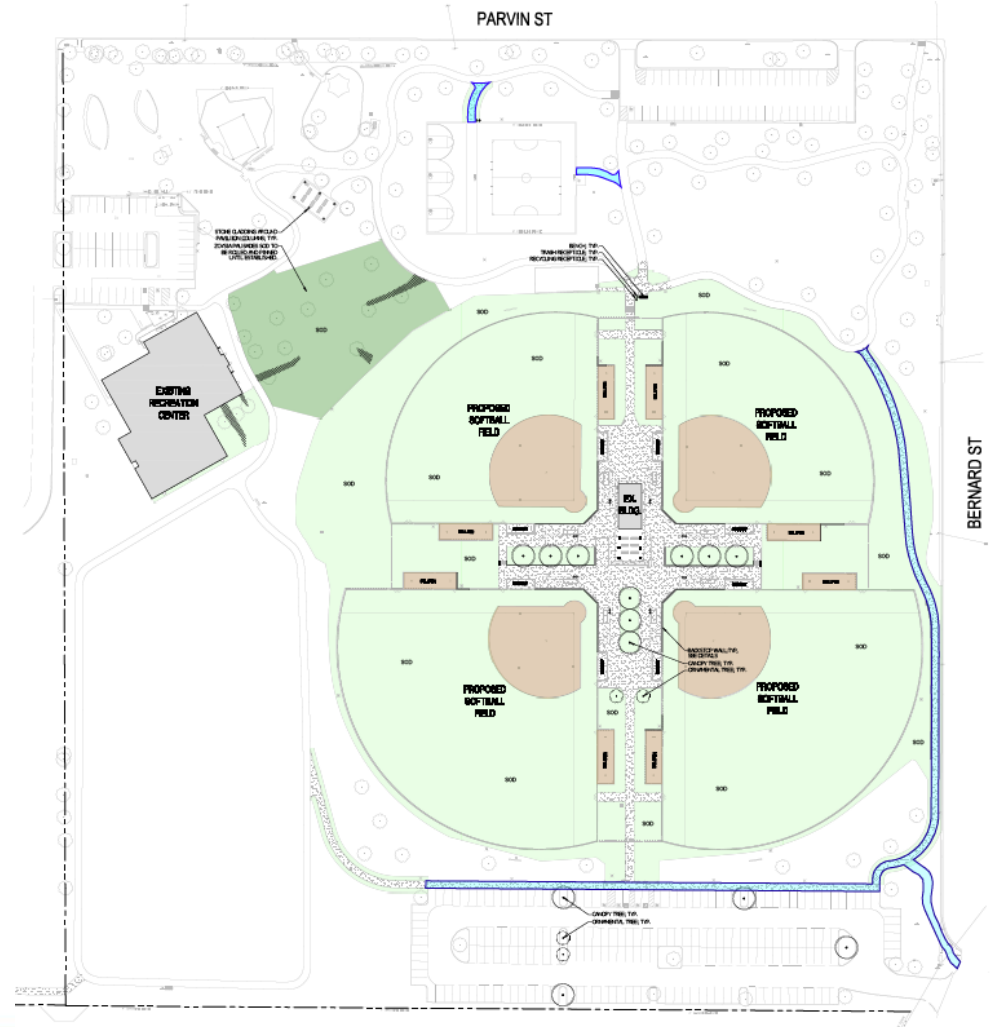
ARPA Projects – Denia Park

Scope:

- Regrade Ballfields
- Install New Irrigation
- Install New Fencing
- Install New Turfgrass
- Connect Trails
- Address ADA Compliance

Update:

- Currently between 30-60% design documents
- Expected to start construction Summer 2024



ARPA Projects – Joe Skiles Park

Scope:

- Install loop trail/fix ADA
- Regrade & new irrigation
- Renew tennis fence
- Add new pavilion
- Add 2-5 playground structure w/shade over existing
- Tree plantings

Update:

- Trail, trees, irrigation and sod installed
- Playground and pavilion under construction



ARPA Projects – Carl Young Sr. Park

- Scope:
 - Increase size of splashpad (2500 sq ft)

Update:

- Concrete, electric, equipment room completed
- Finalizing amenities
- Expected to open May 2024

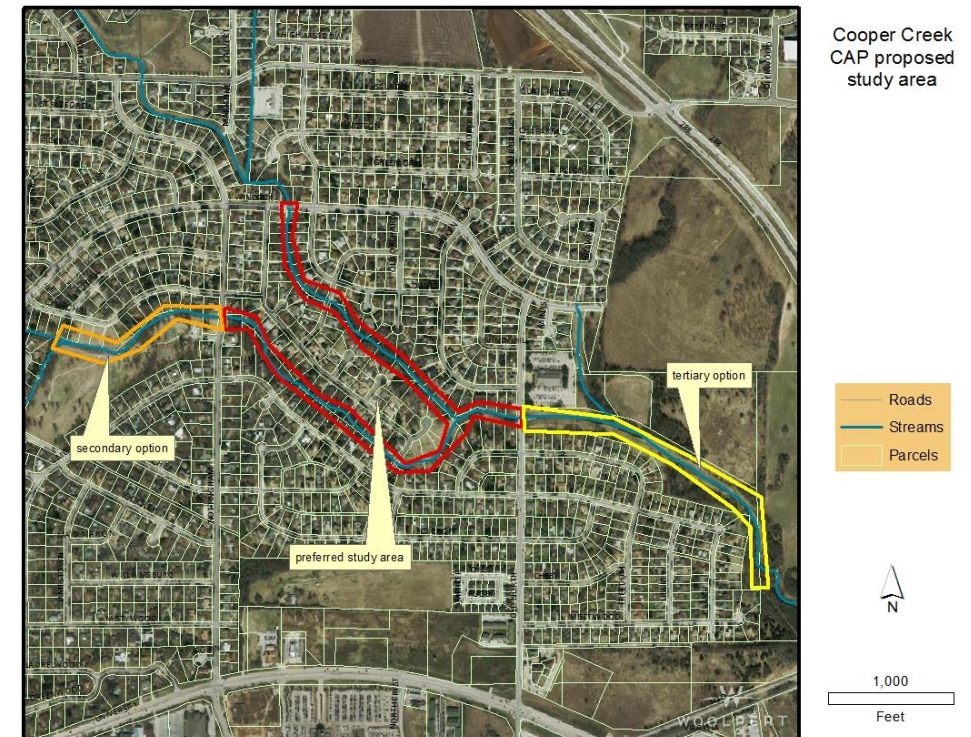


Avondale Park Stream Restoration

Severe erosion along the creek banks within the park. Plans completed.

Update:

- Construction contract approved by Council March 2023.
- Construction expected to start April 2024



South Lakes Park Adventure Trails

3-4 miles of adventure trails for off-road mountain biking

- Significant Privet infestation
- Construction occurring in phases

Update:

- Still in progress
- Added trail naming to inner-loop

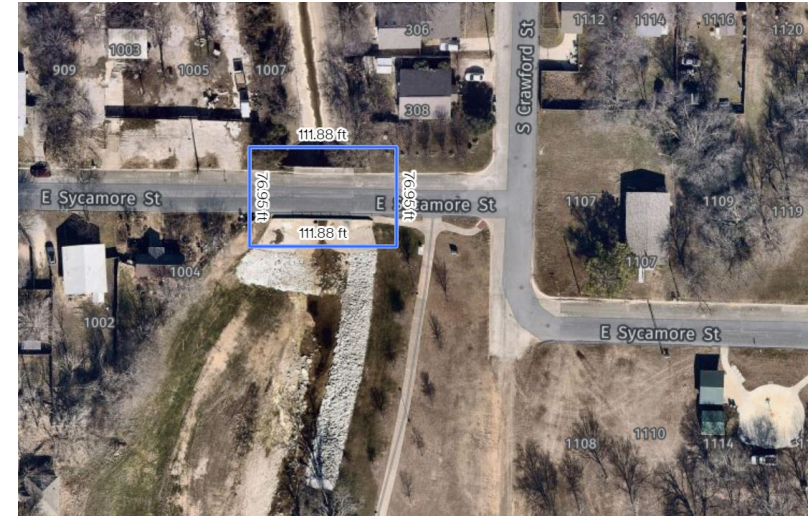


Public Art – Sycamore Bridge Mural

Theme: Vibrant monarch butterflies against a verdant background

Artist: Kirk Seese

Update: Installation of art expected to start April/May 2024



Public Art- S. Bonnie Brae Sculpture

Theme: North Texas riparian flora and fauna

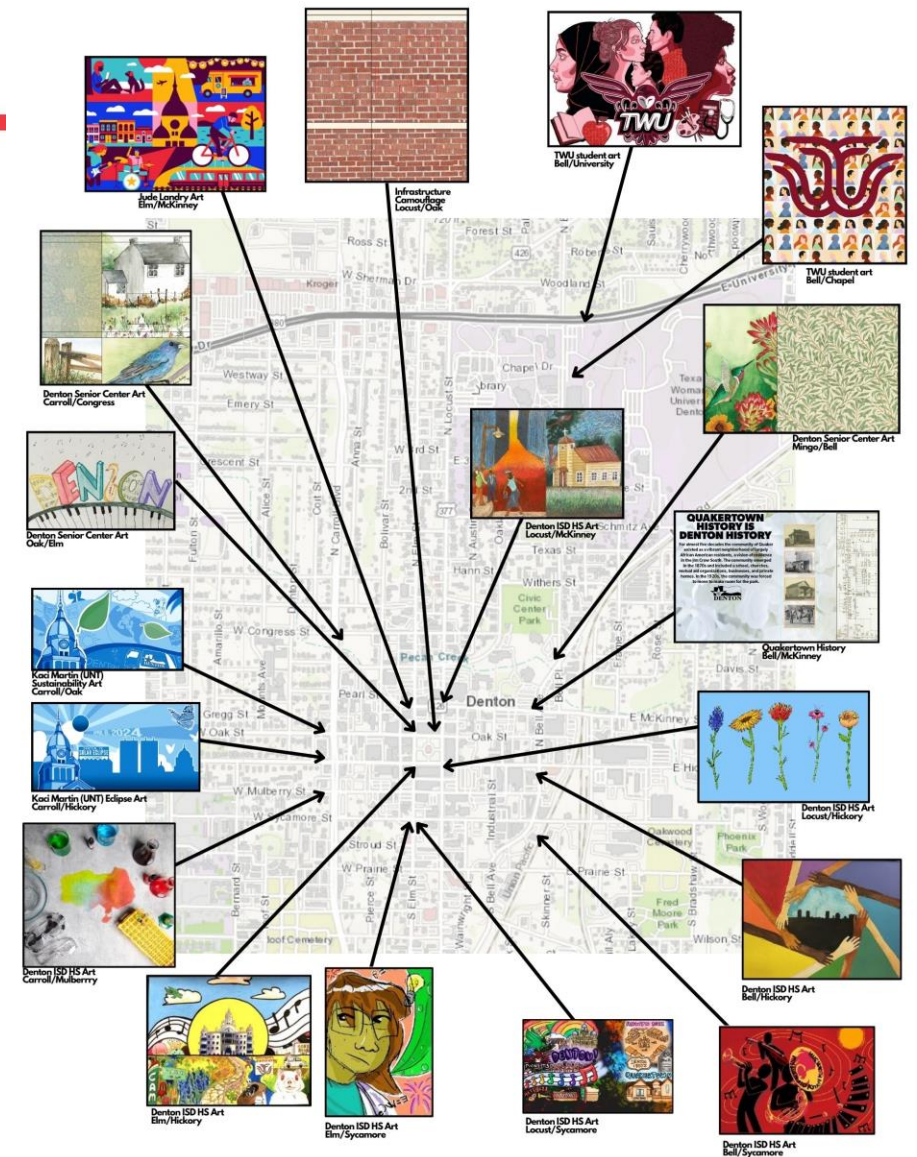
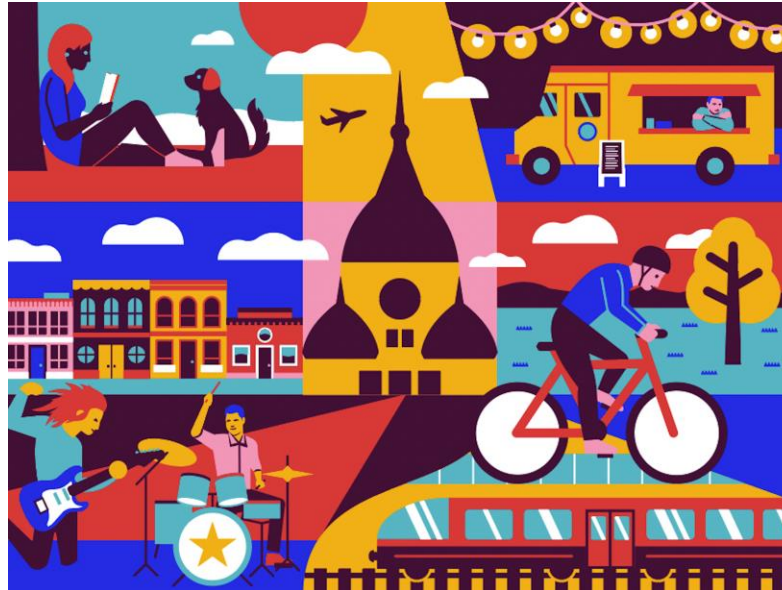
Artist: Robert Barnum

Installation expected April/May 2024



Public Art – Traffic Box Wraps

- Denton ISD, Quakertown, Senior Art, TWU wraps installed
- Staff decided to hold off on a second, collective phase of box wraps
- Staff plan to continue wrapping boxes on an individual basis
- Recent/Upcoming Additions feature art by Kaci Martin and Jude Landry



Thank you!

