



Walk For a Day

Walk For a Day is a well-planned, well-managed, and well-funded regional trail that provides public recreational and wilderness experiences connecting people to the environment and heritage of Barton Springs and the Central Texas Hill Country.

Walk For a Day is a proposal for a regional trail system that is envisioned to be constructed in phases as funding and other resources become available. The Walk For a Day trail will provide public recreational and wilderness experiences connecting people to the environment and the heritage of Barton Springs and the Central Texas Hill Country. The trail will travel south from Barton Springs pool into Hays County.

Hill Country Conservancy is sponsoring the trail and is committed to acquiring land or access rights to ensure a continuous trail and to providing adequate resources to fund planning and construction, and perpetually endow operations and maintenance for the trail.

Walk For a Day will require the collaboration between many potential partners such as the City of Austin, the City of Sunset Valley, Travis County, Hays County, and the Texas Department of Transportation, as well as private landowners.

The City and Hill Country Conservancy expect to develop a Walk For a Day Master Trail Plan that clearly identifies proposed routes, facilities, environmental protection needs, and public safety provisions. It will also identify estimated funds necessary to endow the planning, construction, and operations for the trail.

The City hired the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center to conduct an environmental analysis of the proposed route, and Hill Country Conservancy hired Greenways, Inc. to develop a master trail plan for the project. These consultants will collaborate as planning begins and progresses.

The City and Hill Country Conservancy will ensure public involvement in the Walk For a Day planning process through public and stakeholder meetings. The Water Quality Protection Lands Stakeholder Steering Committee met regarding Walk For a Day on June 16, 2009 and will have three additional meetings and an onsite field trip to provide input on the trail. Two Walk For a Day public input meetings will be held in coming months.

City Council passed a resolution on January 15, 2009 requesting the creation of a Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Austin and Hill Country Conservancy to spell out the roles and responsibilities of each party and to create a process to involve other partners as well as the public.

The Memorandum of Agreement will be submitted to the Water and Wastewater Commission, the Parks and Recreation Board, and the Environmental Board prior to City Council action.