



CITY OF WACO

CITY-WIDE TRAILS MASTER PLAN

TRAILS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
JUNE 28, 2021

PROJECT UPDATE

- Public Outreach and Engagement
- Trail Counters
- Chapter 1: Why Plan for Trails?

VISION AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES
CORRIDOR OPPORTUNITIES AND
CONSTRAINTS MAP
NEXT STEPS





PARTICIPATION OPTIONS

RAISE HAND



CHAT BOX





CITY OF WACO
CITY-WIDE TRAILS MASTER PLAN
PROJECT UPDATE

I LOVE WACO'S TRAILS
How Much?
Take the Survey!



Scan the QR code below:



I LOVE WACO'S TRAILS
HOW MUCH?

Take the Survey:
Click [HERE](#)

LOOK AT YOU LOVIN' WACO'S TRAILS!

TAKE OUR TRAILS MINI-SURVEY ON-THE-GO (scan the QR code)



LET'S TAKE WACO'S TRAILS FURTHER!

TELL US **WHERE!** TELL US **HOW!**
USE OUR INTERACTIVE MAP:
VISIT: **MAPWACOTRAILS.HALFF.COM**

TRAIL COUNTERS

PURPOSE

- Trail use by volume and time frame
- Serves as “baseline” data

TRAFX INFRARED TRAIL COUNTER SCHEDULE

- Eight collection periods
- 14 days (Two weekends)
- May 4 – July 20
- 30 locations

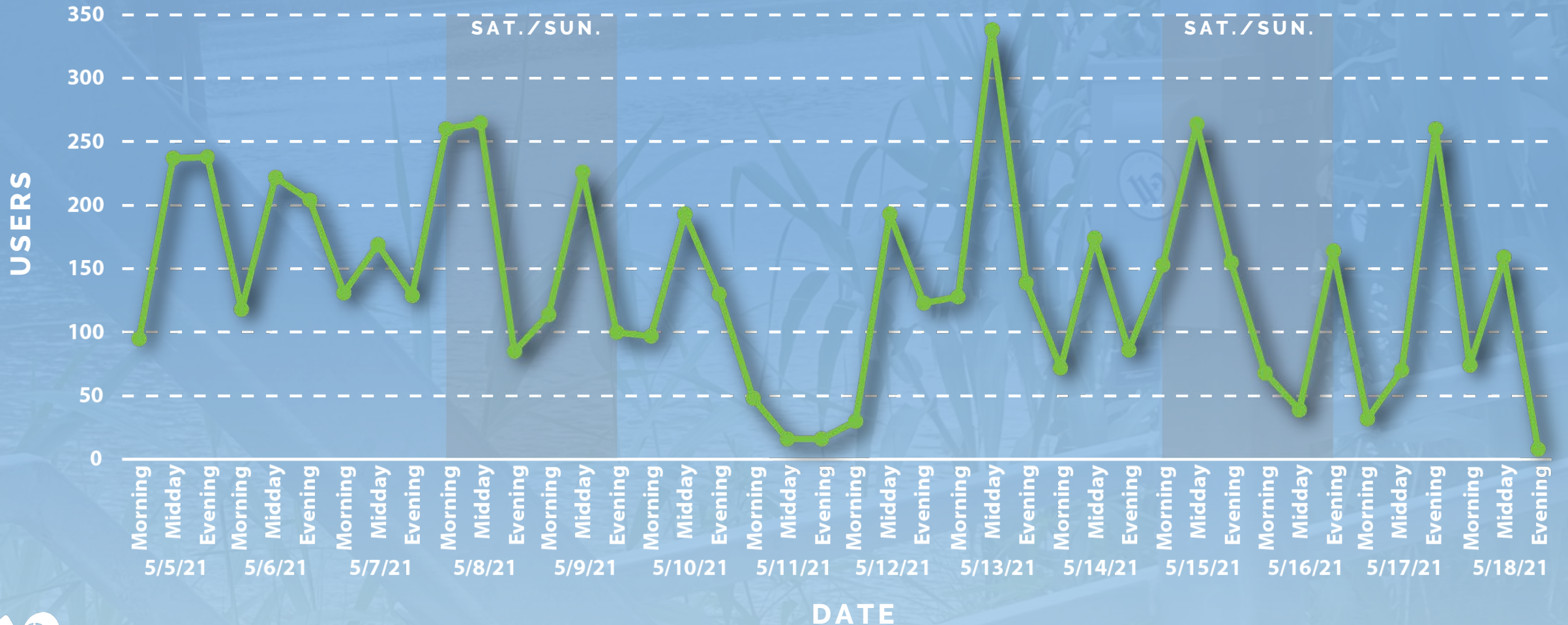


TRAIL COUNTERS COTTON BELT TRAIL EXAMPLE

MORNING: 0:00 – 09:00

MID-DAY: 10:00 – 16:00

EVENING: 17:00 – 23:00



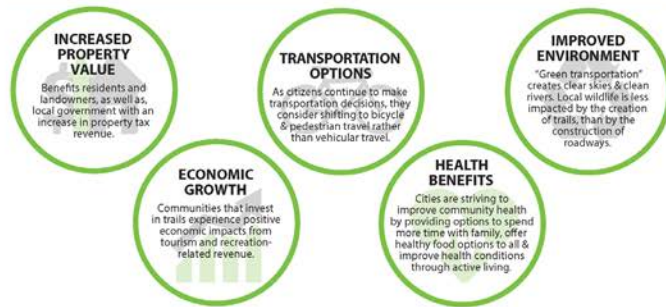
CHAPTER 1: WHY PLAN FOR TRAILS?

WHY PLAN FOR TRAILS?

The planning, design, and development of a comprehensive trails system serves tremendous value to the broader community. Communities across the United States and throughout the world are investing in trails as a factor of overall livability. Local, regional and national investment in trails is in response to a community's obligation to promote health, safety, and welfare. Not only are trails needed for recreation, but in many communities they are utilized as essential components of the bicycle and pedestrian transportation network.

Public trails build a community at a human scale and foster physical, social and economic prosperity across a community, regardless of class, economic status, age or ability. **The Primary Benefits of Trails**, summarizes the positive impacts that an interconnected network of multi-use trails can have on a community. Communities across Texas recognize that outdoor recreation supports and contributes to a high quality of life, as well as, attracting and sustaining employers and families. Investing in outdoor infrastructure attracts employers and active workforces, ensuring those communities thrive economically and socially.

THE PRIMARY BENEFITS OF TRAILS



“TRAILS HAVE MULTIPLE VALUES AND THEIR BENEFITS REACH FAR BEYOND RECREATION. TRAILS CAN ENRICH THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR INDIVIDUALS, MAKE COMMUNITIES MORE LIVABLE, AND PROTECT, NURTURE, AND SHOWCASE AMERICA'S GRANDEUR BY TRAVERSING AREAS OF NATURAL BEAUTY, DISTINCTIVE GEOGRAPHY, HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE, AND ECOLOGICAL DIVERSITY. TRAILS ARE IMPORTANT FOR THE NATION'S HEALTH, ECONOMY, RESOURCE PROTECTION AND EDUCATION.”
-AMERICAN TRAILS



An interconnected multi-use trail network within the City of Waco provides residents the ability to move from destination to destination without getting in a car. Recreation opportunities are also improved when the trail network includes diverse trail types that cater to multiple interests and are accessible for people of all abilities.

“IN TEXAS, OUTDOOR RECREATION GENERATES \$52.6 BILLION IN CONSUMER SPENDING ANNUALLY, 411,000 DIRECT JOBS, \$15.8 BILLION IN WAGES AND SALARIES, AND \$3.5 BILLION IN STATE AND LOCAL TAX REVENUE.”
-OUTDOOR INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION



CHAPTER 1: WHY PLAN FOR TRAILS?

The Waco City-wide Trails Master Plan (the "Plan") was initiated by the City of Waco Parks and Recreation Department (PARD) to serve as a road map for building an interconnected network of trails designed to expand recreation and transportation options for area residents.

Chapter 1, *Why Plan For Trails?* describes the benefits of trails and of developing a comprehensive network of hiking, biking and paddling trails throughout the Waco metropolitan area. This chapter defines various trail typologies and the different users that they serve, provides a summary of the master planning process, and introduces the Plan's vision and guiding principles.

- WHY PLAN FOR TRAILS?.....PAGE 3
- SCOPE OF THE PLAN.....PAGE 7
- BUILDING OUR TRAILS MASTER PLAN.....PAGE 12
- OUR VISION.....PAGE 14





CITY OF WACO

CITY-WIDE TRAILS MASTER PLAN

VISION AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

CITY OF WACO'S VISION FOR TRAILS

“WACO WILL BUILD A NETWORK OF TRAILS THROUGHOUT THE METROPOLITAN AREA THAT WILL ESTABLISH INTERCONNECTED AND CONTINUOUS CORRIDORS TO PROMOTE OUTDOOR RECREATION, PERSONAL FITNESS AND WELLNESS, FACILITATE NON-MOTORIZED TRANSPORTATION AND HIGHLIGHT THE NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES OF OUR COMMUNITY.”



GUIDING PRINCIPLES: CONNECTED AND ACCESSIBLE

“ WE WILL BUILD A TRAILS NETWORK, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS, THAT CREATES CONVENIENT LOCAL AND REGIONAL CONNECTIONS, AND IS EQUITABLY DISTRIBUTED AND ACCESSIBLE RELATIVE TO THOSE CORRIDORS THAT ARE FINANCIALLY FEASIBLE TO DEVELOP.”



GUIDING PRINCIPLES: COMFORTABLE AND EFFICIENT

“WE WILL INCORPORATE DESIGN FEATURES INTO OUR TRAILS THAT INCENTIVIZE THEIR USE AS A FEASIBLE NON-MOTORIZED TRANSPORTATION OPTION AND AN EXTENSION OF THE METROPOLITAN AREA’S BROADER NETWORK OF BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES.”



GUIDING PRINCIPLES: RESOURCEFUL AND FEASIBLE

“WE WILL DESIGN TRAILS THAT CAN BE OPERATED IN A COST-EFFICIENT MANNER AND ACCESS A VARIETY OF FUNDING SOURCES TO BUILD TRAIL FACILITIES THAT ARE EASY TO MAINTAIN AND ARE RESILIENT IN THE FACE OF WEATHER EVENTS AND FLUCTUATIONS IN THE ECONOMY.”



GUIDING PRINCIPLES: SUPPORTS DIVERSE INTERESTS

“WE WILL DEVELOP A TRAILS SYSTEM THAT CATERES TO A WIDE RANGE OF USER GROUPS BY DEVELOPING A DIVERSE SUITE OF HIKING, BIKING AND PADDLING TRAILS THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNITY THAT ARE APPROPRIATE FOR PERSONS OF VARYING INTERESTS AND ABILITIES.”



GUIDING PRINCIPLES: ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT

“WE WILL LEVERAGE OUR TRAIL CORRIDORS TO PROMOTE AND PRESERVE OUR ENVIRONMENTAL, CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL ASSETS THROUGH ACCESS AND AWARENESS.”



GUIDING PRINCIPLES: CREATE POSITIVE MEMORIES

“WE WILL FACILITATE ENJOYABLE EXPERIENCES BY OUR TRAILS SYSTEM USERS BY PROMOTING RESPONSIBLE AND RESPECTFUL TRAIL USAGE AND BEHAVIORS THROUGH IMPROVED EDUCATION AND AWARENESS.”



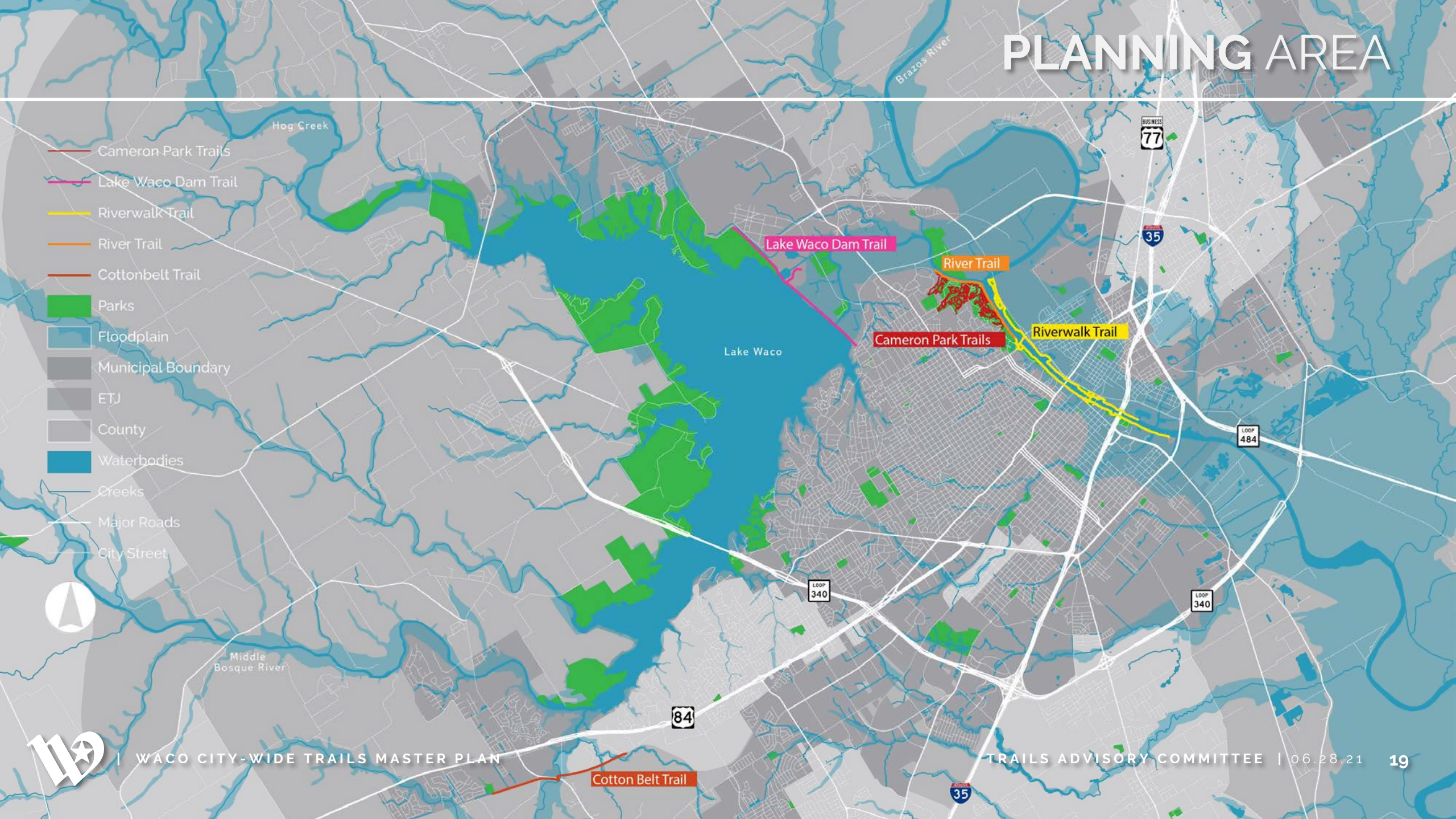


CITY OF WACO

CITY-WIDE TRAILS MASTER PLAN

CORRIDOR OPPORTUNITIES AND CONSTRAINTS

PLANNING AREA



MAPPING YOUR NETWORK

METROPOLITAN TRAILS (MAPPED)



RECREATIONAL TRAILS (UNMAPPED)



MAPPING YOUR NETWORK



ROADSIDE TRAILS (ROADWAY CORRIDORS)

Description. A hard-surface pathway running parallel to a roadway and primarily designed to accommodate bicyclists and pedestrians. Also referred to as a sidepath.¹

Location. Within or directly adjacent to a street right-of-way.

Primary User Groups. Bicyclists, pedestrians, and other human-powered recreation and transportation modes (e.g. in-line-skating, skateboarding, etc.).

Design²: Materials. Asphalt or concrete.

Dimensions. Common width of 10' - 12'.

GREENWAY TRAILS (NON-ROADWAY CORRIDORS)

Description. A hard or soft-surface pathway often located within or parallel to streams, drainage corridors, utility easements, railways, and environmentally sensitive lands and typically designed to accommodate bicyclists and pedestrians. Also referred to as a shared use path³.

Location. Within a designated easement, right-of-way, greenway, linear park or other public lands.

Primary User Groups. Bicyclists, pedestrians, and other human-powered recreation and transportation modes (e.g. in-line-skating, skateboarding, etc.).

Design: Materials. Asphalt, concrete, decomposed granite or other permeable surface.

Dimensions. Common width of 10' - 12'.



MAPPING YOUR NETWORK



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CORRIDOR EVALUATION CRITERIA

- **Connectivity.** Existing and planned active transportation system.
- **Connectivity.** Schools, parks and transit.
- **Connectivity.** Community destinations (general).
- **Safety.** Proximate to high-accident areas.
- **Access - Residential.** 5-10-minute walkshed.
- **Access – Equity.** Low-to-moderate income.
- **Corridor Availability.** Existing rights-of-way and easements.





CITY OF WACO
CITY-WIDE TRAILS MASTER PLAN
NEXT STEPS

PROJECT PHASES



PHASE 1
GATHER
WINTER 2021



PHASE 2
ENVISION
WINTER/SPRING
2021



PHASE 3
COMPOSE
SUMMER/FALL
2021



PHASE 4
APPROVE
FALL/WINTER
2021



NEXT STEPS

COMPLETE TRAIL COUNTS
DRAFT TRAILS NETWORK MAP
TRAIL NETWORK DESIGN
LATE SUMMER OUTREACH

- City Council Briefing
- Public Open House
- Trails Advisory Committee Meeting #3





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