

Meeting Q&A

Question Report			
	Webinar ID: 983 0274 7802	Actual Start Time	6/29/2021 18:02
	# Question	63	
Question Details		Actual Duration (minutes)	125
#	Question	Asker Name	Answer(s)
1	How many attendees are there tonight? How many of the these community meeting #1 sessions are you holding?	Clark Hancock	Hi, Clark. This will be the one Community Meeting #1. However, the meeting is being recorded and the same questions asked will be accessible online afterward. In addition, we will have "pop-ups" in each district during July, including an in-person opportunity at Zilker (near BSP). That information can be found on the webpage: https://www.austintexas.gov/ZilkerVision .
2	boating on the lake	margaret stenz	live answered
3	other -- paddle the springs from the lake	Anonymous Attendee	live answered
4	there seems to be no option for 45-54	Anonymous Attendee	live answered
5		50 Angela Benavides Garza	Thanks, Angela. We'll include your info.
6	How many attendees are there tonight?	Anonymous Attendee	There are currently 134 participants tonight (not including panelists)
7	Why not require public transit to the park?	Roy Waley	live answered
8	Can you provide a link to the survey results you are sharing?	Clark Hancock	Of course, you can view the results from our first survey here: https://publicinput.com/Report/fmu4ltzozl5
9	Please define what you mean by 'robust'?	Clark Hancock	Here's Jonathan's response to your question: Robust was shorthand for fewer invasive species, less erosion, and layers of native plants including canopy, understory, and herbaceous plants.
10	Can you share the trend lines for visitation over the last 50 years? How are those visitation numbers collected at each facility/location?	Clark Hancock	Hi Clark, we can get data for the past 4-5 years on a monthly basis, but more granular has been hard to obtain. We do have monthly totals for the pool, the gardens, ANSC, and concessions.

11	what are visitation patterns not just annually but monthly, daily, and hourly?	Clark Hancock	Again we have good information for the pool and of late for the ANSC and ZBG, but just the last few years. Also, ANSC has been closed for much of last year. We have annual numbers for Splash.
12	food, when there is a food stand	Anonymous Attendee	Thank you
13	yearly swim pass	Candyce Lucien Rusk	live answered
14	It's a no brainer. and was highly recommended in the previous go round	Roy Waley	Thanks for the comment.
15	Suggest the resources be dedicated for the next year to do well designed visitor surveys (specifiacly observational) at all facilities seperate from the exsisting reporting system. This would give a better idea, a baseline on demand not just overall but specific	Clark Hancock	Clark, thank you for this suggestion.
16	Can reference a study we did about 10 years ago of pool users as an axample	Clark Hancock	I remember that study.....
17	I visit in the morning because it's least crowded	Anonymous Attendee	live answered
18	Who is paying for this intake survey process?	Anonymous Attendee	The survey was developed by PARD staff and the consultant team as part of the Scope of Work & contract for this planning process.
19	crowds	Anonymous Attendee	Thanks for the input.
20	Are there plans for an adaptive playground and/or a sensory/music garden?	Barbara Knighton	Accessibility is an important theme in this planning process and we intend to further explore these types of amenities.
21	Are there not water quality issues from vehile pollution from parking on/in the park?	Joshua Stricker	Joshua, Jonathan from Siglo is best able to answer this, if we don't get to it, we'll get an anwer for you.
22	What is the carrying capacities of ANSC and ZBG? What is the maximum number of people on those sites before the overall experience is degraded? That should be the guideing principle when determing "parking" needs. Quality of expereince vs quantity of visitation	Clark Hancock	We don't have specific limits, one of the big challenges for ANSC is school bus parking in the spring and fall. About 18,000 shool age kids visit annually.

23	I represented D7 for CM Pool in the organized meetings a few years ago. It's disappointing that the group wasn't reassembled in addition to more general public meetings. A lot of put a lot of time in those meetings	Roy Waley	Thank you, Roy. The results from the Zilker Working Group are being used as a guide in this process. We know many who dedicated their time continue to be involved in the process, but we are also working hard to make sure more Austinites have a chance to get connected to this process as well.
24	have y'all determined what the maximum capacity goal of the park is both during events and non-event times? that would really help to determine parking and other infrastructure needs.	Garret Nick	Hi Garret, regarding park capacity - that question really goes to how the park is planned to be used. But this is a question we will be investigating through our design alternatives.
25	Speaking from experience, anything above about 200 visitors on that site at any one time degrades the experience for all visitors	Clark Hancock	live answered
26	by degrade, I mean changes the focus from the individual's ability to connect with the natural world as opposed to just one more entertainment site	Clark Hancock	live answered
27	more discussion about the watershed that powers the springs and what can be done to protect it from irresponsible development.	Garret Nick	live answered
28	Why is revenue from events (ACL) and concessions the only model considered for sustaining the park?	Jeremy Conway	Hi Jeremy, we're considering all possibilities, including public funding, retaining fees collected in Zilker, etc. Welcome your thoughts.
29	More nature growth, less for profit.	Matthew Kreutz	Thanks for your input Matthew.
30	Absolutely needed. I wish more and more diversity could be achieved	Roy Waley	Thank so much for this input, Roy.
31	Zilker Park should focus on the natural world more than other aspects.	Craig Nator	live answered
32	I wanted to leave my comment on the last slide here: if local artists are local and not special interest and corporate funded events.	Jeremy Conway	Thanks Jeremy. We'll incorporate your input.

33	When did a public park become unsustainable financially? What tax revenue is allotted to park maintenance?	Jeremy Conway	Jeremy, Austin has been playing catch-up in funding for some time, given its incredible growth rate over decades. More funding from bonds as well as voting increasing in funding from city council is key.
34	what are the legal obstacles to lowering the speed limit on barton springs rd to 20mph? is there any reason not to do it? the safety of all vulnerable road users would increase and that is what deters people from using other modes to get to the park aside from driving.	Garret Nick	The Austin Transportation Dept determines the recommended travel speed for roadways. We can pass your questions on to transportation staff for further consideration.
35	Regarding Q19: Private capital has no place in public parks, and public-private partnerships should be avoided	Joshua Stricker	Joshua, Thanks for your input.
36	Over-monetizing the park will destroy any attempt at sustainability. This is a real danger.	Craig Nazor	Thanks for the comment, Craig.
37	not sure I feel comfortable giving away a lot of control to private groups/non-profits—but if they can help with fundraising that would be good.	Anonymous Attendee	Thank you for the comment.
38	this park generates funds throughout austin the same way that ACL is always given credit for generating revenue outside the actual festival. give the park some credit for all that it provides, some of which isn't \$\$\$	Garret Nick	Thanks for sharing.
39	Some of these goals sound good, but the proof is in the pudding. Keep listening to the public!	Craig Nazor	Thanks, again!
40	ACL could share more of their profits!	Craig Nazor	Thanks for the comment Craig.
41	Please understand I appreciate the work you're doing	Roy Waley	Thanks for your comment Roy.
42	Why are the District 6 and 8 pop events on a Monday morning but all others are on weekends?	Bobby Levinski	live answered
43	Yes- and less reliance on privatizing a public resource. Thank you. And I will lean on Austin to get going on the catch-up.	Jeremy Conway	Thank you for the comment, Jeremy.

44	When will the pool open on Mon/Wed?	Anonymous Attendee	Information can be found online at https://austintexas.gov/department/barton-springs-pool . It is scheduled to open at 5 a.m. on Monday and Wednesday.
45	Besides vision, will there be guidelines established for operations and institutionalizing continuous evaluation?	Clark Hancock	live answered
46	Will the determination of values be part of this process?	Clark Hancock	live answered
47	I agree with Roy's comments about alcohol sales. This is another attempt to monetize the Park while putting the emphasis on people, and not nature.	Craig Nazor	thank you.
48	What role does APD play in this process as far as enforcement is concerned? Is there the potential for designated park officers to patrol and ticket violators?	Garret Nick	live answered
49	Where can I closely follow this process as it moves along? Can you please share a website url? Thank you.	Jeremy Conway	You can follow the Vision Plan process on the Project Page: www.austintexas.gov/ZilkerVision and sign up for the newsletter: http://bit.ly/ZPVPNewsletter
50	Why should alcohol be sold in Zilker Park if not in all parks?	Anonymous Attendee	You can see the Municipal Code around alcohol in parks here: https://www.austintexas.gov/page/alcohol-permits-parks .
51	Agree with "No alcohol sales in park" - with the exception of private events. The Park is a place for people, families, and especially children to witness nature, human behavior. A park is where you go to clear and restore the mind.	Herb Ganz	Thank you for your comment.
52	For future meetings/discussions, perhaps a bit of explanation of funding would be helpful to provide a baseline of understanding. (Where General Fund revenues go, how they come back to PARD budgets, and how special event/large event revenue is allocated/used, and if/what/how much of a deficit there is. Not intending any specific answer-- just know that funding and revenues is complicated.	Anonymous Attendee	This is a helpful suggestion. Thanks for bringing this up.

53	Do you look at a park as a thing to pour human activities into, or a destination in itself for people to come to enjoy? The first could easily destroy the second. In fact, that is the way humans continue to eat up the earth.	Craig Nazor	live answered
54	With apprx 7000 visitors per day it would seem a good idea to have a few more pop-ups happen at park, at varying times to sample thoughts from visitors at the park itself. And of those it would be interesting to be able to distinguish the responses from local visitors and tourists as there may be some useful distinguishing differences that can better informs future discussions and planning decisions. We have tiers of of users, the most frequent/localized, and rippling outward to the world. Capturing the varying perspectives would be interesting.	Anonymous Attendee	live answered
55	Slide 10 of the presentation listed purposes of the Zilker Park Vision Plan. One listed purpose was "Sustainable Revenue Strategy" which was described as a strategy that "better balances operations and maintenance at Zilker with generated revenue." What is the citation or source for this purpose and description?	Sarah Faust	Hi Sarah, as I just mentioned, we're looking at a variety of public funding mechanisms, bonds, concession fees, value capture from adjoining property owners, etc. Thanks for raising this.
56	can you compare your finding to previous studys to look at hisoric changese?	Clark Hancock	live answered
57	i guess you should add it to your "funding and revenue" opportunities?	Garret Nick	Thank you for the follow-up.
58	Enforcement of current park rules are lax, from pet leash laws, to alcohol consumption, to littering. If this continues, this will make future projections for more density a death sentence for the park.	Craig Nazor	live answered
59	specifically environmental	Clark Hancock	live answered

60	specifically studies done in the 70 and 80 related to the Zilker nature preserve and the ANC Master pLan	Clark Hancock	live answered Clark, please send on links to these studies: jogren@siglogroup.com. Thanks for your questions.
61	Also agree that a more in depth explanation of funding vs expense for the park at a future presantation would be helpful.	Jeremy Conway	Jeremy, thank you, we can provide as much as info as we can obtain.
62	The adult beverages at the food stand are not intended as a way to make extra revenue—just as another amenity for park users.	Anonymous Attendee	
63	'@craig nazor - especially when we are talking about degraded riparian zones and erosion that is exacerbated by off leash activity (and poop).	Garret Nick	