



Dallas Greening Initiative

Closing the park access gap in Dallas

Echo Lake Community Meeting – March 5

PS 156 Waverly and LS 392 Brooklyn, NY

We saw these barren asphalt schoolyards and we recognized an amazing opportunity to reinvent them as vibrant city parks.

Photo by: Joe Martinez



Our mission:
Connecting everyone to the outdoors



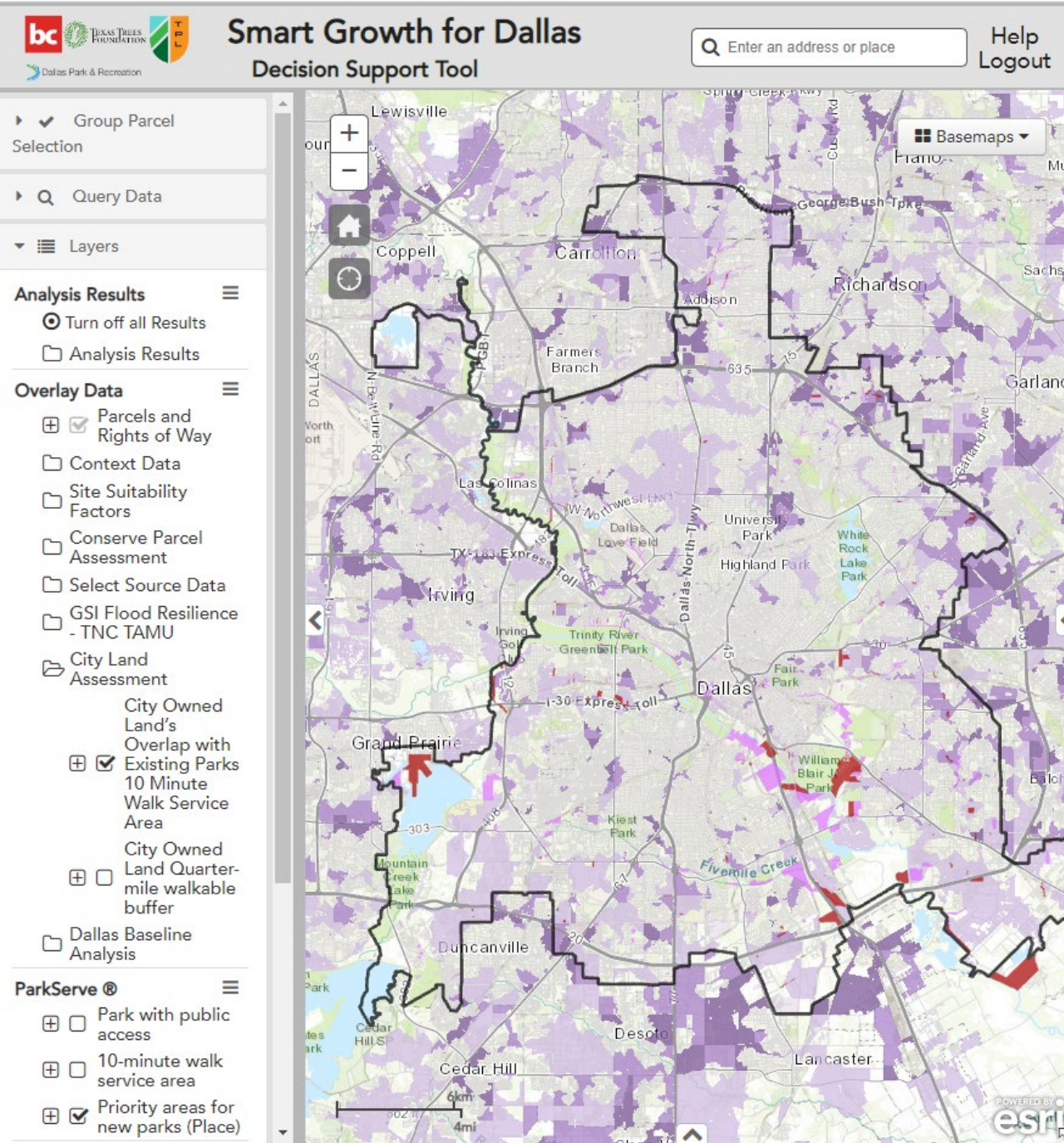
Connecting everyone to the outdoors™

What is the Dallas Greening Initiative?

An initiative to transform city-owned land into neighborhood greenspaces to:

- Increase the number of Dallas residents who have a park within a 10-minute walk of their home
- Improve the health, equity, and climate resilience of neighborhoods throughout the city through the creation of neighborhood public greenspaces located in Dallas's largest and highest-need park deserts
- Ensure that the nearby residents are part of the process





Using TPL data to prioritize locations

- Using TPL's Smart Growth for Dallas tool, we have mapped every piece of vacant land owned by City of Dallas
- These locations have been cross-referenced against the following priorities:
 - Existing park access gaps
 - Urban heat islands
 - Health disparities
 - Equity indicators



What is a neighborhood greenspace?

We aim to provide each neighborhood with its top greenspace amenities, which means:

- Each site has an approximately \$360K capital improvement budget + additional money for design, community engagement, and events
- Greenspaces can have as little or as much programming, furnishing, and amenities as the community desires. Some may be passive with walking paths and benches, while others may feature small playgrounds or pavilions.
- All greenspaces will be designed to minimize operations and maintenance costs
- TPL will set aside 10% of the capital budget (\$40K per location) to assist with long-term maintenance needs



What goes into a neighborhood greenspace?

Each site has different needs, and neighbors will have different desires for their greenspace. Amenities may include:

- Cleanup and beautification
- Nature improvements
- Trail
- Benches
- Signage
- Picnic tables
- Native plant gardens
- Solar lights
- Solar security cameras
- Play elements
- Trash cans
- Dog waste station
- Small pavilion
- Community art



Where will it be located?

- **Address:** 2100 Echo Lake Dr, Dallas, TX 75253
- Once open it will serve **1,329** people who live within a 10-minute walk



Greenspace Safety

- Safety is our top priority
- Neighborhood greenspaces will be regularly visited by Park Rangers and Park Marshals
- Construction budget includes funding for safety enhancements including lighting and security cameras
- Events and activities in neighborhood greenspace will also help keep greenspace safe



Maintaining your new greenspace

- Dallas Park and Recreation will provide additional maintenance to the new amenities after they are open to the public
 - The City of Dallas is already providing baseline maintenance to these sites since they are City property
- TPL is exploring options to establish a long-term maintenance fund

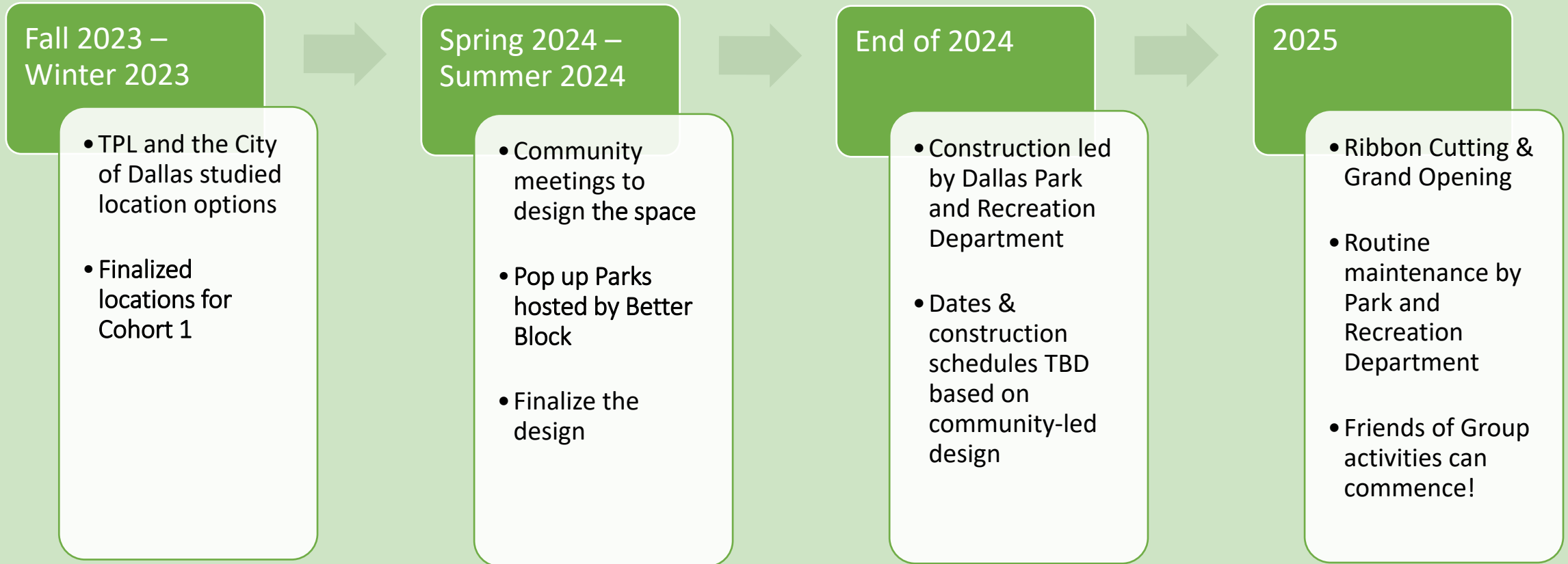


Become a Friend of your future greenspace

- We need YOU to help us keep your greenspace beautiful!
- TPL will help establish a “Friends of” made up of neighbors & resident leaders
- Friends of Group activities can include:
 - Organizing park clean-ups and beautification days
 - Hosting events like community walks, coffee in the park meet-ups, neighborhood meetings, etc. to activate the park space
 - Advocating for park improvements

Find a TPL staff person to learn more!

Timeline



Community Meetings

Meeting 1

- **March 5, 2024**
- **Topic:** Program Introduction + Site Overview & Feedback



Pop-Up Park: Meeting 2

- **April 20, 2024**
- **Topic:** Design Options + Stewardship



Meeting 3

- **Summer 2024**
- **Topic:** Design Unveiling + Creative Placemaking





BRIAN HALSELL
ASLA | PRINCIPAL/NATURALIST



ALEXANDRIA DIAL
ASLA | DESIGNER

DIVERSE EXPERIENCE

studioOutside



RETAIL & MIXED-USE



OFFICE



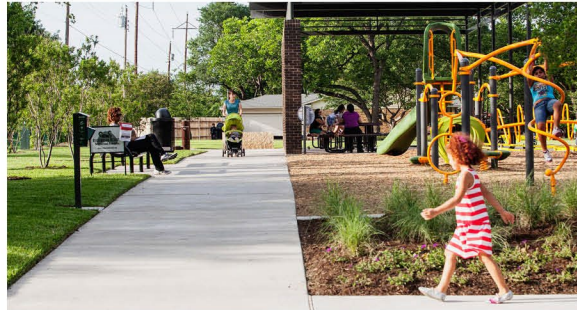
INSTITUTIONS



HOSPITALITY



GARDENS



PARKS



CIVIC & URBAN DESIGN



ACADEMIC



HEALTHCARE



ENVIRONMENTAL

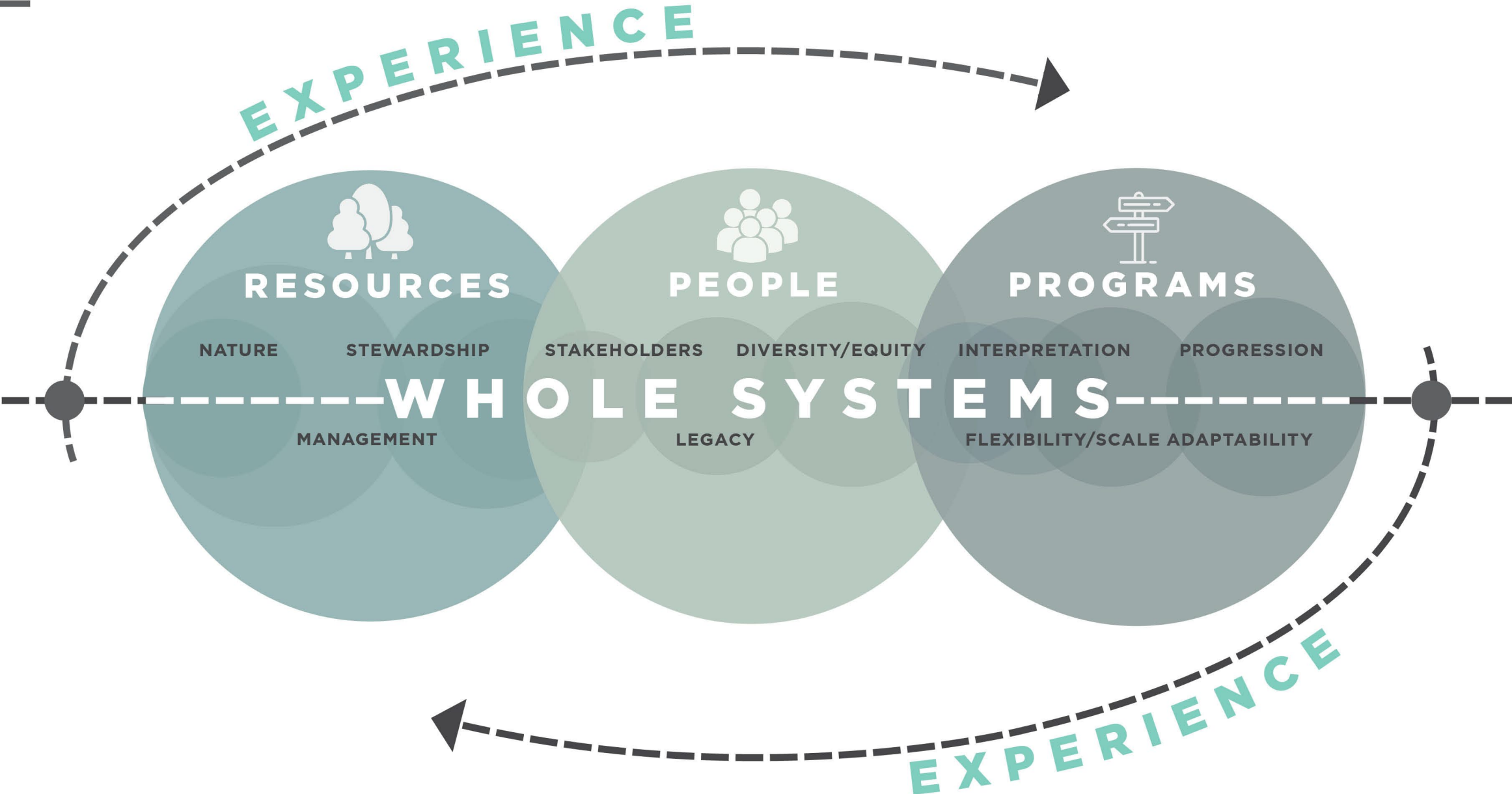


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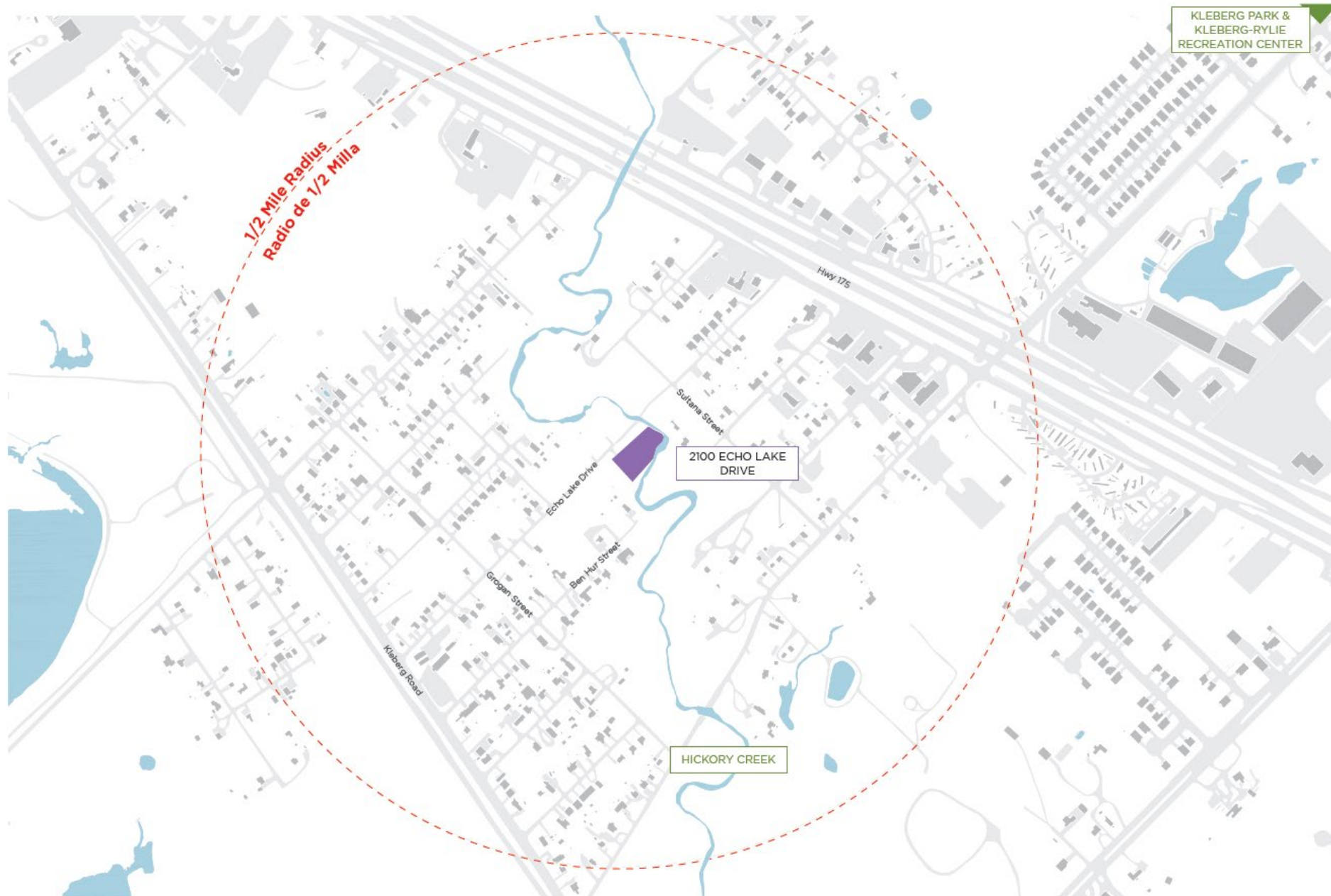


CAMPS

WHOLE SYSTEMS APPROACH



10 MINUTE WALK CONTEXT MAP



2100 ECHO LAKE DRIVE EXISTING CONDITIONS

PERIMETER

- Approximate site boundary

VEHICULAR

- Public
- Private

SITE CHARACTERISTICS

- Site Slope
- Open Surface Drainage Ditches
- Drainage Culvert
- 100 Year Flood Zone





Today's goals

Learn about:

- Current uses of the space
- Hopes for future use of the space
- Any concerns about existing space
- What amenities you would like to see



What's next?

- **We need your input!**
- Visit our breakout stations and talk to our team to share what you would like your future greenspace to look like
- Scan the QR code or visit <https://bit.ly/dallasgreeninginitiative> to:
 - Join our email list to stay up to date
 - Access our survey and participate in our picnic kit giveaway! **Survey closes on April 1.**
 - Visit our Facebook page or the Echo Lake website to share your ideas
 - Please share with your neighbors and friends!



Thank you



Trust for Public Land (TPL) is a national nonprofit that works to connect everyone to the benefits and joys of the outdoors. As a leader in equitable access to the outdoors, TPL works with communities to create parks and protect public land where it is needed most.

Since 1972, TPL has protected more than 3 million acres of public land, created more than 5,000 parks, trails, schoolyards, and iconic outdoor places, raised \$84 billion in public funding for parks and public lands, and connected more than 9 million people to the outdoors.

Connecting everyone to the outdoors™

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