Park Stewardship Workshop

Dallas Greening Initiative – Echo Lake Dr

October 29, 2025

Introductions

Trust for Public Land &

Dallas Parks and Recreation

Agenda

Park Stewardship Workshop

I. Dallas Greening Initiative + Echo Lake Dr Greenspace
II. Group Reflection Activity
III. What is a Friends of Group?
IV. Visioning & Activity Planning
V. Partnering with Dallas Park and Recreation
VI. Q&A
VII. Next Steps and Call to Action
VIII. Closing

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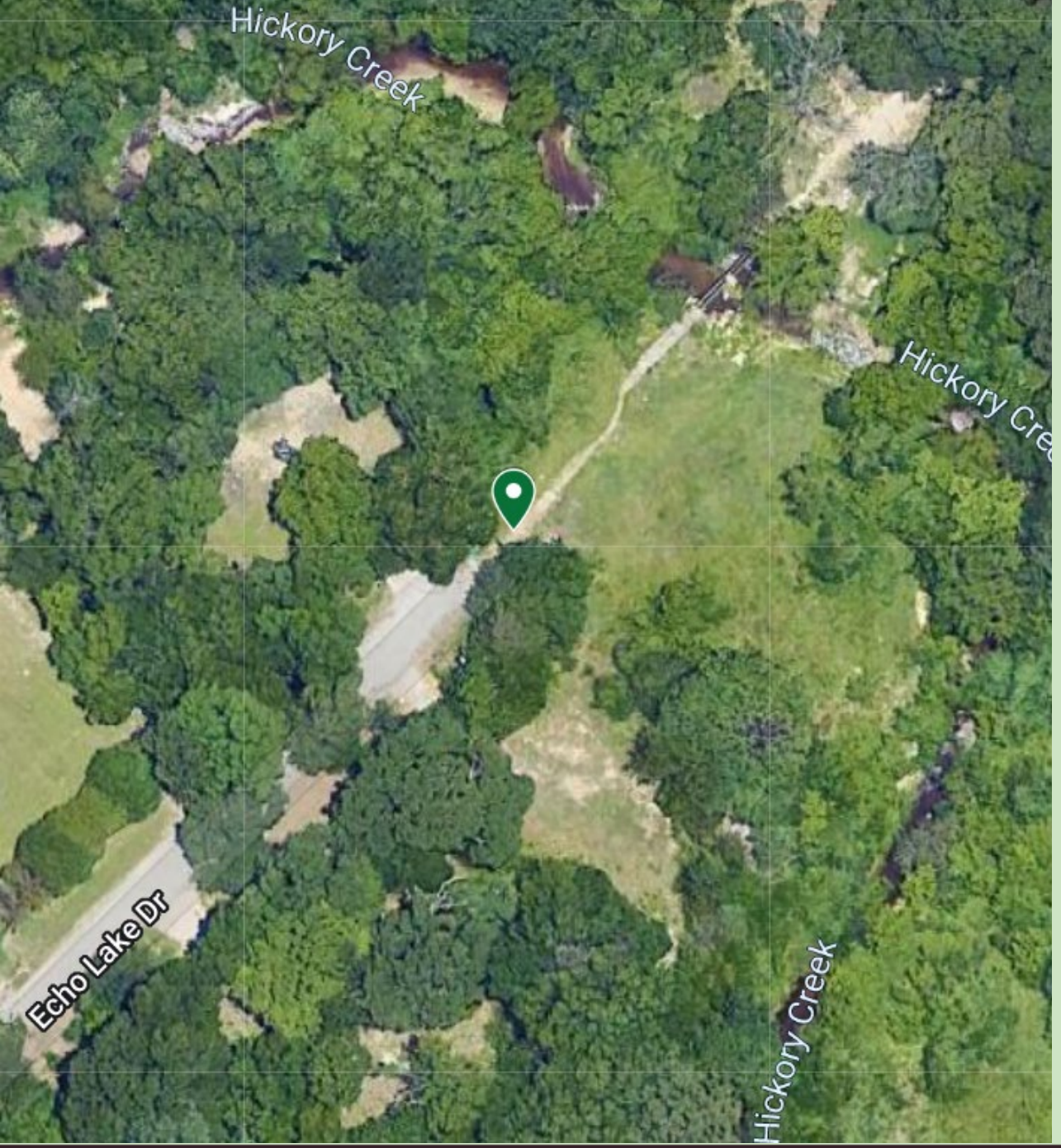
What is the Dallas Greening Initiative?

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



Where will it be located?

- **Address:** 2100 Echo Lake Dr, Dallas, TX 75253

Community Input

Meeting 1 + Survey

- **February 28, 2024**
- **Topic:** Program Introduction + Site Overview & Feedback

Pop-Up Park: Meeting 2 + Survey

- **April 6, 2024**
- **Topic:** Feedback on Design Options & Amenities

Meeting 3 + Survey

- **September 26, 2024**
- **Topic:** Schematic Design Unveiling + Friends of Group Interest

Park Stewardship Workshop

- **October 29, 2025**
- **Topic:** How to form a Friends of Group + Visioning and Action Planning

ECHO LAKE DRIVE GREEN SPACE

SCHEMATIC DESIGN | OVERVIEW AND PLAN

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS A SCHEMATIC DESIGN, AND SOME ASPECTS ARE SUBJECT TO MODIFICATION DURING THE IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS

Greenspace Updates

- Worked with the City to finalize construction documents
- Actively working to contract vendor to build the greenspace, procure materials, and begin construction scheduling.

Group Reflection/*Reflexión en Grupo*

English

1. What would a perfect day in your future greenspace look like for you, your family, or your neighbors?
2. What makes a park feel like it belongs to you or your community?
3. Which areas of this greenspace make you feel calm or joyful? Which ones make you feel uncomfortable or unsafe — and why?

Español

1. *¿Cómo sería un día perfecto en tu futuro espacio verde para ti, tu familia o tus vecinos?*
2. *¿Qué hace que un parque se sienta como tuyo o de tu comunidad?*
3. *¿Qué áreas de este espacio verde te hacen sentir tranquilidad o alegría? ¿Cuáles te hacen sentir incómodo o inseguro — y por qué?*

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Share Out

Introduce yourselves and share with the large group what you discussed.

Compartir en Grupo

Preséntense y compartan al grupo grande lo que discutieron.

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What is a “Friends of” group?

- A "Friends of" group is made up of neighbors and resident leaders who are passionate about supporting and caring for their local greenspace
- **Through their community-led efforts, they can:**
  - Help keep their park beautiful through clean-up events and beautification projects
  - Activate their park space through programming and events
  - Advocate and fundraise for park improvements
  - Help make parks welcoming, safe, and active community spaces

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Visioning & Activity Planning

What are your hopes for your greenspace + how can a Friends of group take shape?

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Connecting everyone to the outdoors™

Step 1: Activities in the Park

Prompt:

What types of activities would you like to see in your neighborhood greenspace? (e.g. events, programs, etc.)

Paso 1: Actividades en el Parque

Pregunta:

¿Qué actividades te gustaría ver en tu espacio verde vecinal? (e.g.eventos, programas, etc.)

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Step 2: Role of a Friends Group

- **Prompt:** How can a Friends of group support these activities and the greenspace at Echo Lake Dr?
- **Identify shared:**
  - Goals (e.g. what do you want to accomplish)
  - Strengths (e.g. what skills can the community share; what assets can be utilized)
  - Needs (e.g. what needs do you want to meet)

Paso 2: El Papel de un Grupo de Amigos

- ***Pregunta:*** *¿Cómo puede un grupo de Amigos apoyar estas actividades y el espacio verde en Echo Lake Dr?*
- ***Identifiquen juntos:***
  - *Metas (¿qué quieren lograr?)*
  - *Fortalezas (¿qué habilidades puede compartir la comunidad? ¿qué recursos existen?)*
  - *Necesidades (¿qué necesidades quieren atender?)*

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Step 3: Finding Shared Goals

- **Prompt:** What are the 2–3 most important goals or principles you thought of or discussed?
  - Together, let's identify the top shared goals or principles. These priorities can serve as the foundation for the future Friends of Echo Lake Dr Greenspace group

Paso 3: Encontrando Metas Compartidas

- ***Prompt:*** *¿Cuáles son las 2-3 metas o valores más importantes que pensaste o discutiste?*
  - *Juntos, identifiquemos las metas o valores más importantes que compartimos. Estas prioridades pueden servir como base para el futuro grupo de Amigos del Espacio Verde en Echo Lake Dr.*

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Partnering with Dallas Park and Recreation

What We Do as Community Connectors

Qué hacemos como conectores comunitarios

As Community Connectors for the City of Dallas Park Department, we build meaningful relationships through park engagement projects that promote volunteerism and community pride.

Como Conectores Comunitarios del Departamento de Parques de la Ciudad de Dallas, construimos relaciones significativas a través de proyectos de participación en parques que promueven a que las personas sirvan como voluntarios y tengan orgullo comunitario.

Sweat Equity and Stewardship

Equidad de sudor y administración

- Through hands-on initiatives that increase sweat equity and foster civic responsibility

A través de iniciativas prácticas que aumentan el esfuerzo y fomentan la responsabilidad cívica

- We empower residents to actively invest in the care and improvement of their local parks

Empoderamos a los residentes para que inviertan activamente en el cuidado y la mejoramiento de sus parques locales.

- Our work supports long-term partnerships through Beautification Agreements.

Nuestro trabajo apoya asociaciones a largo plazo a través de acuerdos de embellecimiento.

- Encouraging community groups to commit to at least one year of sustained park stewardship, often growing into lasting collaborations that enhance both the parks and the people they serve.

Alentar a los grupos comunitarios a comprometerse al menos durante un año con una gestión sostenida del parque, lo que a menudo se convierte en colaboraciones duraderas que mejoran tanto los parques como las personas a las que sirven.

Event Experience / Experiencia en eventos

We work on as many as 200 events/projects within a year

Trabajamos en hasta 200 eventos/proyectos al año.

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People We Connect With

Our partnerships include but are not limited to:

- Neighborhood/Home owner Associations
- 501c3's
- Friends Groups
- Schools
- Churches
- Corporations
- Fraternities
- Sororities
- Eagle Scouts
- Neighbors

Personas con las que nos conectamos

Nuestras colaboraciones incluyen, entre otras:

- Asociaciones de Vecinos/Propietarios
- Organizaciones 501c3
- Grupos de Amigos
- Escuelas
- Iglesias
- Corporaciones
- Fraternidades
- Hermandades
- Eagle Scouts
- Vecinos

And Now…
we want to connect with you.

"POWER in the PARKS"

November 20, 2025 @ 6pm
Kiest Park

3081 S. Hampton Rd. Dallas, TX. 75224

Y ahora… queremos conectar contigo.

20 de noviembre del 2025 @ 6pm

Parque Kiest

3081 S. Hampton Rd. Dallas, TX 75224

"PODER en los PARQUES"

Meet the Team

Cindy Hall
Park Maintenance
&Operations
Liaison

Janet Meza
White Rock Lake
East Dallas
Pleasant Grove
South Dallas

Shenequa Crockett
Southern Dallas
South Dallas
Oak Cliff

Anahi Delgado
Far North
Dallas
North Dallas
Northwest
Dallas
West Dallas

Sloan Anderson King
Managing
Downtown Dallas Parks,
City Park and Fair Park

Partnership Fund

Funding Opportunity

- We're supporting new Friends of Groups who'll help care for and activate the DGI greenspaces as they open in 2026.
- The 10-Minute Walk Park Equity Accelerator "Pilot Project" Grant Program will open soon
  - $4,000 Grant
  - Due February 2026
- Grant will be available to help residents form a Friends of Group through:
  - Recruitment and outreach efforts
  - Activities and beautification projects
  - Support formalizing group
  - Potential funding for materials to complete projects

Website: https://tinyurl.com/10minwalkweb

Q&A

Dallas Park and Recreation

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Next Steps for Your Group/*Próximos pasos para tu grupo*

- **Exchange contact info**
- **Volunteer or nominate a point person or co-leads**
  - Communicates externally on behalf of the group
  - It can be temporary
- **Schedule a follow-up meeting within 2-3 weeks**
  - Use the conversations from today to continue developing shared goals and discuss roles/group structure
- **Identify who can make space to attend the Power in the Parks event in October**

- ***Intercambiar información de contacto***
- ***Nominar a una persona de contacto o co-líderes***
  - *Se comunica externamente en nombre del grupo*
  - *Puede ser temporal*
- ***Programar una reunión de seguimiento dentro de 2–3 semanas***
  - *Utilicen las conversaciones de hoy para seguir desarrollando metas compartidas y discutir los roles/la estructura del grupo.*
- ***Identificar quién puede asistir al evento* Power in the Parks *en octubre***

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Friends of Group Toolkit

The Toolkit: Ideas, Guides, and Support

1. Friends Group in Dallas
2. NRPA Example Goals
3. Mission & Vision Worksheet
4. Community Agreements Example
5. Roles within a Friends of Group
6. Agenda Template
7. Digital Tools
8. Evaluation & Tracking Tools Tip Sheet

Thank you!

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Dallas Park & Recreation
Bringing Communities Together