
Great Springs Project Press Release

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Great Springs Trails Plan Announced for 100+ Mile Trail

Austin, TX –**Great Springs Project** is pleased to present the Great Springs Trails Plan for the proposed 100+ mile spring-to-spring network of trails from the Alamo to the Capitol. Thanks to the expert guidance of Alta Planning + Design, this plan is a living document that serves as a resource for the completion of the trail network by the Texas Bicentennial in 2036. Sections of the trail will likely be built in phases, with the order of phases depending on key factors such as funding, landowner negotiation, establishing right-of-way, permitting, design, and construction. This plan represents a major step forward on the path to implementation of the 100-mile trail and can be viewed on the Great Springs Project website at www.greatspringsproject.org.

“Community, connectivity, and conservation are at the heart of Great Springs Project,” Carter Smith, Executive Director of Texas Parks and Wildlife commented. “Texas Parks & Wildlife is proud to support this regional vision that honors and protects the rich history, culture, and natural resources of Texas’ famed Hill Country.”

The trail will connect San Antonio, Austin, and the communities between, linking San Antonio Springs, Comal Springs, San Marcos Springs, and Barton Springs. Some portions of the trail are already built, like sections of the Violet Crown Trail in Austin and the Dante Trail in San Marcos’ Purgatory Creek Natural Area in San Marcos. In other places, trail alignments have been planned by local communities, or have alignments that are still to be determined.

Referencing the economic benefits to the region from the 100-mile trail, Phil Wilson, General Manager of the Lower Colorado River Authority, remarks “Not only will the project raise awareness of our region’s vital water resources, it will also have a valuable economic impact by offering recreational opportunities that also will bring tourism dollars to the area.”

From the Honorable Henry Cisneros of San Antonio: “As the Central Texas region grows together, Great Springs Project is absolutely the best hope for a permanent, unifying, and essential greenspace that demonstrates our respect for our land, our natural resources, our history, our outdoor spirit, and our commitment to the common good.”

Sustainability is a key element for area employer, General Motors. “With more than 13,500 GM employees calling Texas home, and 13 facilities in the state, we are proud to support the Great Springs Project with a philanthropic grant to help enable their vision to address the most critical sustainability challenges facing the Central Texas region,” said Jessica James, senior manager, Climate Equity Fund at General Motors.

Great Springs Project CEO, Garry Merritt, calls the Trails Plan “the blue print for building the trail from the Alamo to the Capitol.”

Read the Trails Plan on Great Springs Project’s website: <https://www.greatspringsproject.org>