



## THE DALLAS WATER GARDENS

THE WATER GARDENS  
Parks and Recreation Board Meeting  
November 3rd, 2016

## THE PROJECT

### HISTORY

The Dallas Water Gardens project is a proposed public private partnership stretching along the southern cusp of downtown Dallas on land adjacent to the course of the old river. The ponds are adjacent to Riverfront Boulevard and begin near the iconic Reunion Tower to the north and the Santa Fe Trestle Trail to the south. The project stems from the international Connected City's Design Challenge urban planning workshop directed by the Dallas Citydesign Studio. The Dallas Water Gardens Project is not part of the Trinity River Corridor Project but is adjacent to the original meandering flow of the old Trinity River which exists outside of the levees.

The design and engineering of the project will provide a sensitive public space, connecting existing trails with new paths leading from one pond and meadow to another outside of the levees. A public amphitheater, dog park and lawns will conjoin wetland boardwalks, and extensive natural Texas tree and landscape features. The Water Gardens will serve residents and visitors as a utility for water movement and mitigation while also providing a place of respite near downtown.





The Water Gardens Project will filter two billion gallons of water a year to enhance needed flood control for storm water from downtown and the Cedars neighborhood while also protecting and enhancing the existing urban wetlands— thereby becoming a balanced and accessible city amenity and innovative utility simultaneously.

The Water Gardens Project has an approximate budget of \$50 million

DALLAS WATER GARDENS STAGE



## DESIGN

### INTENDED TO FLOOD

The Dallas Water Gardens green space and boardwalks will accommodate heightened levels of water and embrace its ebb and flow. The column on the left shows the Dallas Water Gardens Pond Four on an average day. The right column shows Pond Four after a major rain event.

### THE WATER GARDENS ON AN AVERAGE DAY

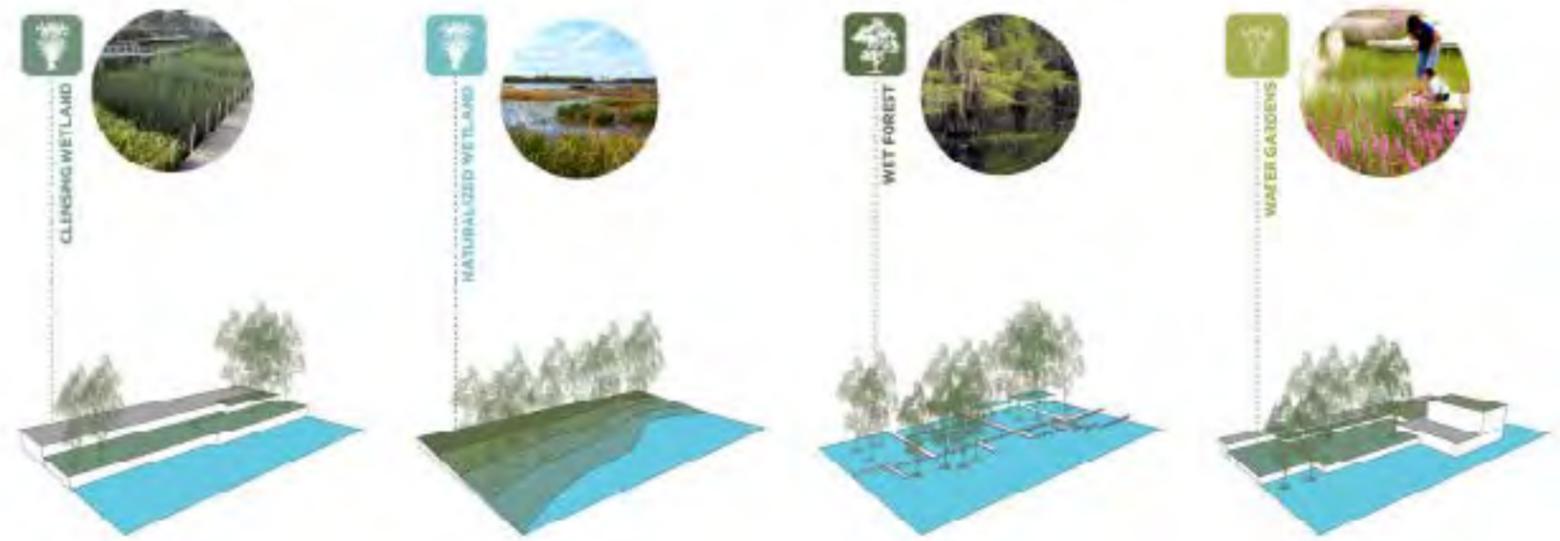


### THE WATER GARDENS AFTER A RAIN EVENT



Of the estimated \$50 million total, \$10 million is being sought from the city. Engineering studies will be completed in early 2017. Conditional to funding and approvals, the Dallas Water Gardens enhancements would commence in 2018.

Funds will come from a variety of partners, including federal, state, and local entities. The North Central Texas Council of Governments has awarded \$350,000 for a second phase of engineering studies. Corporate partners with good environmental records are being approached.



1	NEVER FLOODED						
		Honey Mesquite	Pine	All-leaf Plant	Prickly Pear	Red-leaf Plant	
2	RARELY FLOODED						
		Pink Oak	Eastern Red Cedar	Live oak	Winged Elm	Honey Locust	
3	SOMETIMES FLOODED						
		Green Ash	American Elm	Water Elm	Winged Elm	Black Walnut	
4	USUALLY FLOODED						
		Black Willow	Sugar Maple	American Sycamore	Bald Cypress		
5	PERMANENTLY FLOODED						
		Bald Cypress					

The bulk of financial support will come from sources other than the City of Dallas. Receiving support from the 2017 city bond would indicate to other partners that the City of Dallas is committed to this significant undertaking enhancing both the existing open space and the innovative flood and water infrastructure of the city.

The Water Gardens is an iconic project that will be special not only to Dallas and Texas but among all other water projects in the country. It is significantly unique in scope and impact.

QUESTIONS?

