

Memorandum



DATE 6 December 2013

TO The Honorable Members of the Transportation and Trinity River Project Committee:
Vonciel Jones Hill (Chair) Lee Kleinman (Vice Chair), Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Monica
Alonzo, Mayor Pro Tem Tennell Atkins, Sandy Greyson, Sheffie Kadane

SUBJECT Big Springs Update

On Monday, 9 December 2013 the Transportation and Trinity River Project Council Committee will be briefed on the Big Springs Update. The material is attached for your review.

Please feel free to contact me if you need additional information.



Jill A. Jordan, P.E.
Assistant City Manager

Attachment

cc: A.C. Gonzalez, Interim City Manager
Warren M. S. Ernst, City Attorney
Judge Daniel Solis, Administrative Judge
Rosa A. Rios, City Secretary
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor
Ryan S. Evans, Interim First Assistant City Manager
Forest E. Turner, Assistant City Manager
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
Charles M. Cato, Interim Assistant City Manager
Theresa O'Donnell, Interim Assistant City Manager
Jeanne Chipperfield, Chief Financial Officer
Frank Libro, Public Information Officer
Elsa Cantu, Assistant to the City Manager – Mayor and City Council

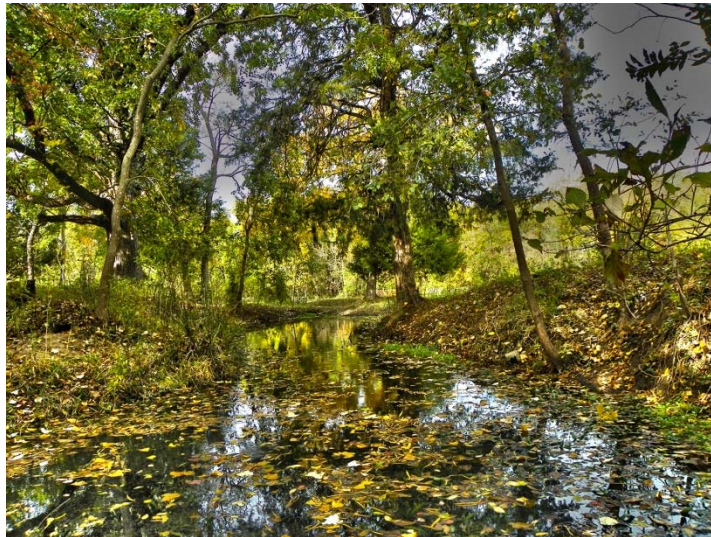
Big Spring Update

Transportation and Trinity River Project Committee
9 December 2013



Purpose of Briefing

- Provide brief history of Big Spring
- Initiative to protect and preserve Big Spring
- Next Steps



Credit: Ben Sandifer

Big Spring Area



Big Spring History

- Natural spring
- Rich with stories of ancient civilizations, pioneers, Dallas founders and farming communities
- Acquired by City June 15, 2004
- Located adjacent to Texas Horse Park

Big Spring



Credit: Ben Sandifer

Big Spring Initiative

- Preserve and protect Big Spring as a natural area
- Develop a plan to restore Big Spring to a more native state
- Engage public and private groups to assist with efforts



Credit: Ben Sandifer
Front pasture in May

Big Spring Initiative

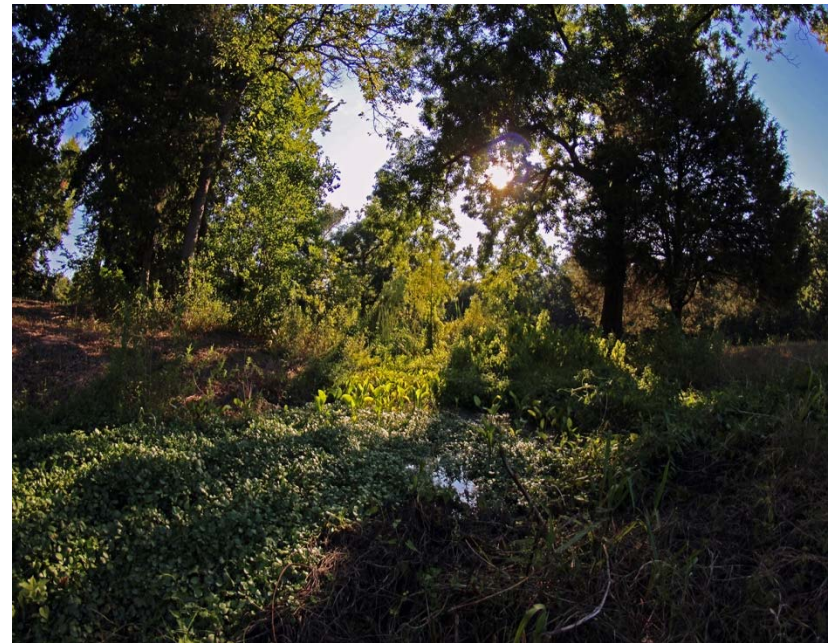
- Stakeholders began regular meetings with City staff Summer 2013
- Comprised of approximately 15-20 individuals with varying interests
 - Environmental
 - Conservation
 - Education
 - Historic preservation



Credit: Ben Sandifer
Big Spring meadow in May

Big Spring Initiative

- Stakeholders have provided:
 - Plant Listings
 - Water Quality Samples
 - Input for Boundaries
 - Input for Historical Context



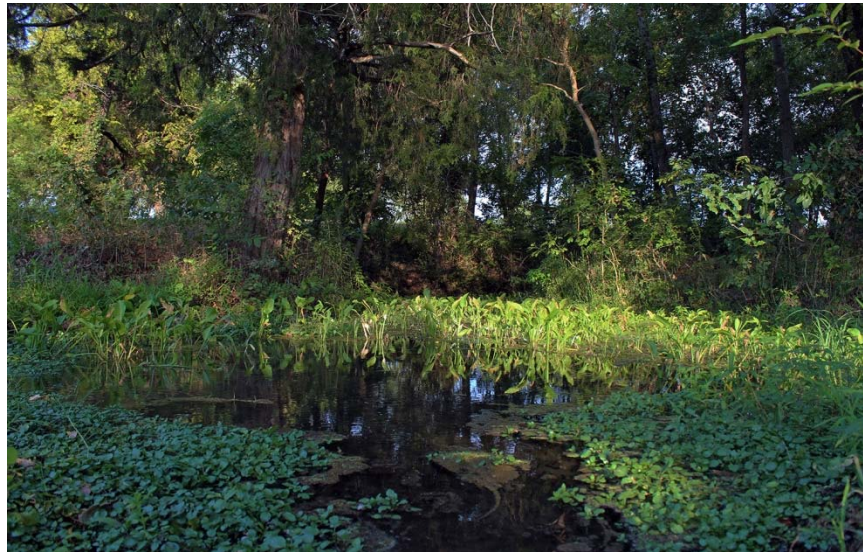
Credit: Ben Sandifer

Big Spring Initiative

- City staff is:
 - Incorporating stakeholder information to assist with individual components of historical and environmental initiatives
 - Finalizing boundary survey
 - Finalizing plat with development restrictions
 - Finalizing contracts with University of North Texas [“UNT”] and the Lewisville Aquatic Ecosystem Research Facility [“LAERF”] to develop and implement management plan

Big Spring Initiative

- Finalizing a job co-op for college students to be managed by UNT and LAERF
 - Partnering with local Universities
 - Teaches plant identification, management practices, and planting procedures



Credit: Ben Sandifer

Next Steps

- Submit application for Big Spring for Historic Overlay District by end of December
- Enter contracts with UNT and LEARF
- Develop a quarterly stakeholder meeting schedule



Credit: Ben Sandifer
Back pasture in late summer