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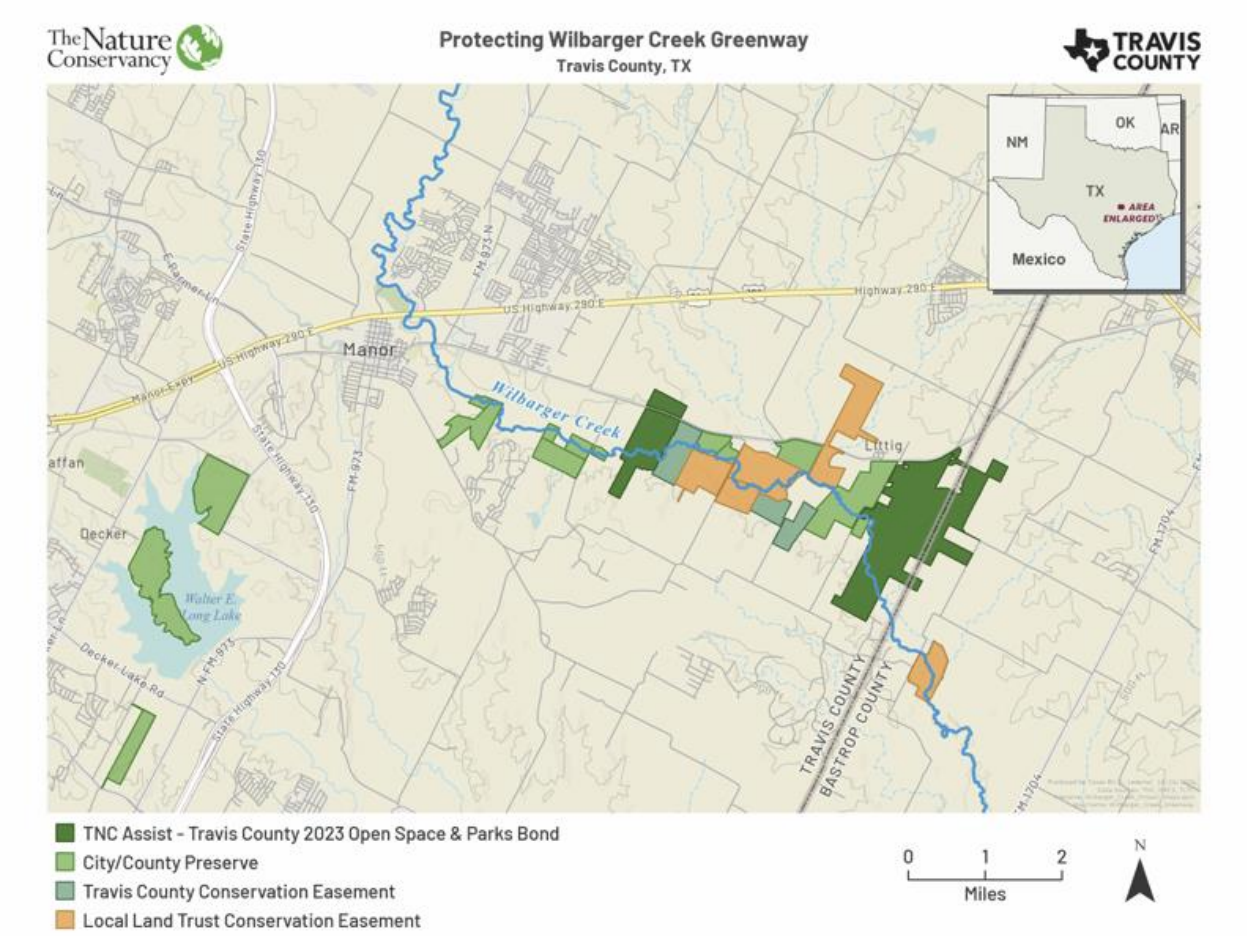
Travis County Completes Historic Southwest Stallion Station Ranch Purchase, Advancing Conservation and Future Park Plans

October 2026 acquisition builds on Travis County's land protection efforts around Wilbarger Creek, bringing the total acreage purchased in the area, including Stallion Station Ranch, to approximately 2,740 acres.

TRAVIS COUNTY, Texas — Today, Travis County and The Nature Conservancy announced the completion of Travis County's purchase of 952 acres of Southwest Stallion Station Ranch. The transaction, which closed in October 2026, represents a significant investment in the future of the region's natural resources, open space, and public recreation opportunities.

Travis County used voter-approved Proposition B funding to purchase approximately 1,500 acres outside of Stallion Station, reflecting the County's broader commitment to protecting important natural lands and waterways in eastern Travis County.

In addition to the County's acquisition, The Nature Conservancy helped facilitate the donation of an additional 288 acres of the same ranch in Bastrop County to the Wilbarger Creek Conservation Alliance, further advancing regional conservation efforts and the protection of the watershed.



A press kit [dropbox.com] with photos, b-roll, and a map is available for download.

"This is about protecting the best of Central Texas and making sure it remains here for generations to come," **said Travis County Judge Andy Brown.** "Southwest Stallion Station Ranch gives us an extraordinary opportunity to create a public park where families can explore, people can connect with nature, and future generations can experience the beauty of this region. As our community continues to grow, we have a responsibility to protect the natural spaces that make Travis County such a special place to call home. I am deeply grateful to The Nature Conservancy and the Graham estate for their partnership and commitment to protecting this remarkable landscape and helping make this vision a reality."

"We are proud to have partnered with Judge Brown's office to complete the acquisition of this significant property and help put

Travis County bond funding to work protecting new parkland," **said Jeff Francell, Associate Director of Land Protection for The Nature Conservancy in Texas.** "Through the bond funds, TNC has helped invest more than $200 million in land protection, and we are grateful for the public's support of these efforts. This latest acquisition helps safeguard Wilbarger Creek and an important open space. With so much development going on in eastern Travis County, it's great to see some large properties protected."

"Dr. Charles W. 'Doc' Graham built an extraordinary legacy deeply rooted in the land, the people, and the horse and cattle traditions of Texas," **said Tommy J. Azopardi, Executor and Trustee of the Dr. Charles W. Graham Survivor's Trust.** "Southwest Stallion Station was more than the centerpiece of the remarkable empire he built; it was a reflection of his vision, his passion, and his enduring commitment to the heritage of this great state.Our purpose has been to honor Doc's life by ensuring that what he built would endure long after his passing. We could not have asked for more dedicated partners in that mission than Judge Brown, Travis County, and The Nature Conservancy. Through this extraordinary partnership, the land Doc cherished will remain open and protected in perpetuity, preserving not only its natural beauty but also an irreplaceable chapter of Texas history. I can think of no more fitting tribute to Doc than ensuring that the land he loved, and the legacy he created, will endure forever."

As planning moves forward, Travis County will have the opportunity to assess the land's natural features, determine appropriate management practices, and develop a vision for public access that respects the property's ecological values.

Key priorities for the property and surrounding area include:

- **A future public park:** Advancing Travis County's intention to create a public destination for outdoor recreation, nature appreciation, and community connection.
- **Wilbarger Creek maintenance and stewardship:** Supporting the ongoing care of Wilbarger creek and its

surrounding corridor with attention to water quality, erosion, and riparian health as appropriate.

- **Land protection and conservation:** Building on approximately 2,740 acres of County land purchases in the area, including Southwest Stallion Station Ranch.
- **Wildlife and habitat conservation:** Evaluating opportunities to protect native ecosystems and maintain connected natural areas.
- **A lasting legacy for Central Texas:** Preserving open space and expanding the County's ability to plan for future generations amid continued regional growth.

The acquisition also underscores the importance of collaboration between local government and conservation organizations. Through its conservation expertise and partnerships, The Nature Conservancy can help inform efforts to protect important lands and advance practical, science-based stewardship strategies.

Additional details about park planning, public access, facilities, creek maintenance, and long-term property management will be shared as plans are developed.

About The Nature Conservancy
The Nature Conservancy is a global conservation organization working to protect the lands and waters on which all life depends. Through science, partnerships, and practical conservation solutions, the organization works to address environmental challenges and conserve important natural places.

Learn more at www.nature.org/texas

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