

**Palm School Steering Committee Meeting #11 Summary**  
**March 12, 2026, 1-3pm**  
**700 Lavaca Street, Austin Texas**

**Members Present:** Linda Quintanilla, Maria Solis, Anna Maciel, Toña Vasquez, Ted Eubanks, Gilbert Rivera, Colette Pierce Burnette, Maya Alarcón, Andrew Gonzales, Marcos de Leon, John Rosato

**Members Absent:** Novert Morales, Peggy Vasquez

**County Staff:** Sergio Plaza, Bill Wilson, Selena Munoz, Madai Montes, Addison Ptomey, Jasmin Gardner

**The Steering Committee Charge**

The Palm School Steering Committee (the Committee) will be an active partner in the Palm School Concept Plan development process and in efforts leading up to the restoration and reimagining of the Palm School property. Working in partnership with the County's consultant and staff, the Steering Committee will:

1. Provide input for the design of a community engagement plan that will be used to inform a Concept Plan for the Palm School property
2. Review and offer feedback on processes, plans, and materials created by the consultant leading up to and including the Concept Plan for the Palm School property
3. Review and offer feedback on processes, plans, and materials created by staff and/or consultants related to any restoration and reimagining of the Palm School property

Provide a consensus recommendation to the Commissioners Court on the community engagement process used to inform a Concept Plan and the Concept Plan for the Palm School property

**1. Welcome & Announcements**

No announcements

**2. Review and Approve Meeting Summaries**

Staff asked the Committee to approve the Meeting Summary from the February 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. The meeting summary was approved on consensus.

**3. Partner Organization Updates**

- City of Austin
  - No Update
- Save Palm School Coalition
  - No Update
- Travis County Historical Commission

- No Update
- ULI – Austin
  - No Update
- Waterloo Greenway Conservancy
  - No Update

#### **4. Historic Designation Presentation**

At the Committee's direction, Staff gave a summary of the NRHP application process and potential timeline, starting with the County's internal process and how it would line up with State Board of Review and final listing from the National Park Service. Staff gave further information on high-level eligibility criteria needed for the determination of the property's eligibility. The Committee asked for an opportunity to identify the pros and cons of applying during a future meeting. The Committee concluded that more research needs to be done to be able to agree on consensus on whether to pursue this route in the future.

#### **5. Palm Park Discussion**

The Committee was shown the map layout of the Palm School property and given a brief history of the park's background, as well as information on the Palm Park Shelter House. The committee reviewed information regarding the closure of the Palm Park pool. The Committee then had a 30-minute discussion on the Park.

#### **6. Concept Plan Discussion**

Staff introduced a "Garden Plot" concept and implementation for the discussion. Staff provided a brief summary of the discussion started during the February meeting. After clarifying that the purpose of the discussion was for the Committee to come to consensus on what they want the concept plan to be, the **Committee was broken into groups to answer the following questions posed by staff:**

- What is it that you want to submit to the Commissioners Court?
  - A document? Drawings and schematics?
- What does that product include?
  - Are we capturing design, space programming, and allocation?
- How do we capture that information?

At the end of the timed 15-minute small groups discussion, all groups reported out on the results of their brainstorm to the larger group while staff took note of their contributions.

**Meeting concluded.**

## **7. Meeting Schedule and Follow Up**

- a. Future Meeting Schedule
  - April 9, 700 Lavaca, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, MF-C
  - May 14, 700 Lavaca, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, MF-C
  
- b. Review Action Items and Follow Up for next meeting
  - Continue to brainstorm about concept plan specifics and community engagement process