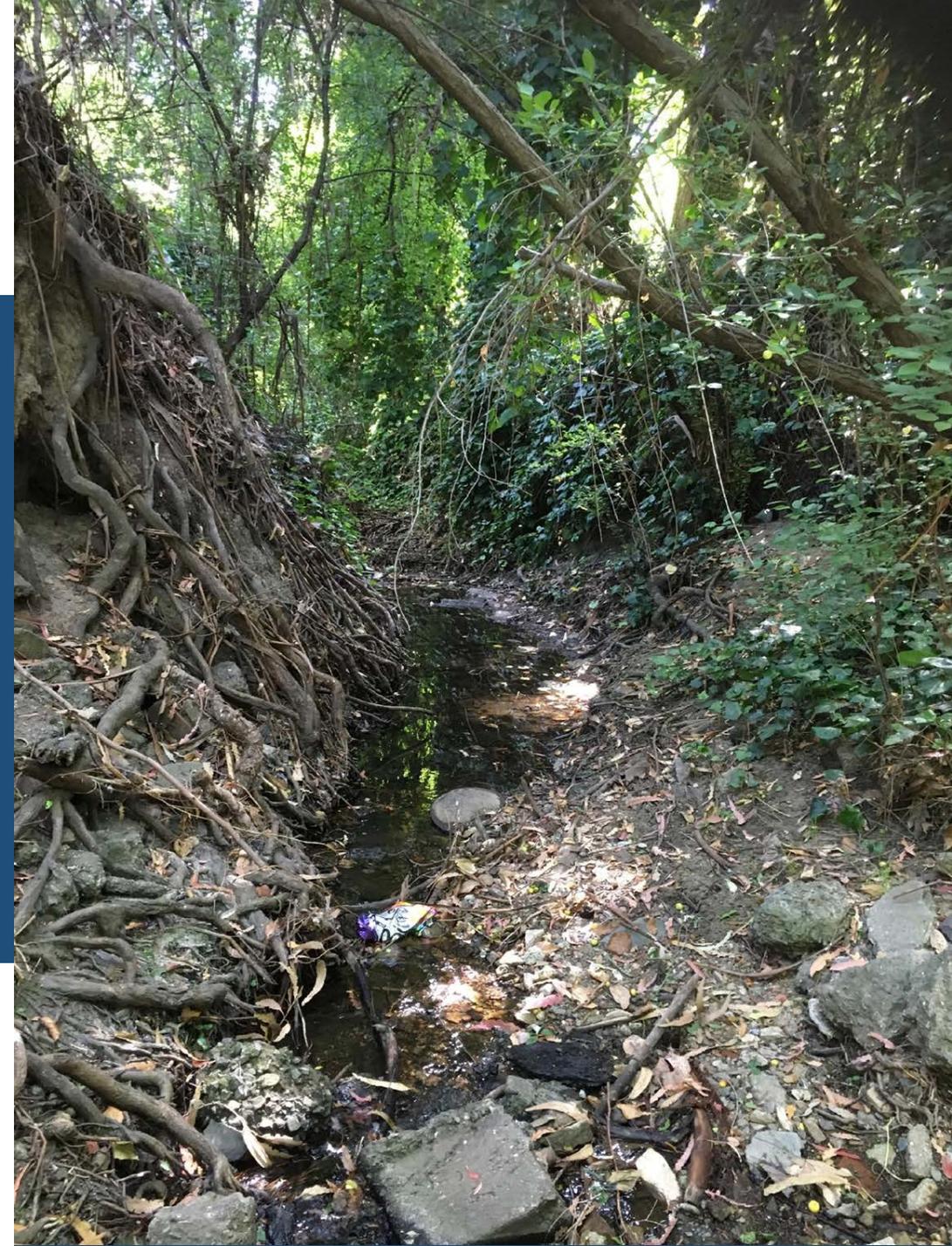




OAKLAND
PARKS AND RECREATION
FOUNDATION

Courtland Creek Restoration Project in Courtland Creek Park

Community Meeting
July 29, 2021



Welcome

- Thank you for participating!
- Project team introductions



OAKLAND
PARKS AND RECREATION
FOUNDATION



Meeting Guidelines

- Use the Q&A Feature to ask questions in writing and/or request assistance with Zoom features.
- All perspectives are welcome.
- All will have a chance to participate.
- The focus of today's meeting is the Courtland Creek Restoration Project.
- For comments on topics related to other park concerns or issues, we invite you to contact:
 - Mandolin Kadera-Redmond (OPRF)
 - Council Office for District 4 or 5

Meeting Agenda

- I. Welcome
- II. Introductions
- III. Project Overview
- IV. Project Design
- V. Q&A
- VI. Help Spread the Word about the Project and the next Public Meeting this Saturday!



OAKLAND
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Project Overview

Park and Project History

- Friends of Courtland Creek Park
- Measure DD
 - Approved by Oakland voters in 2002.
- Adopt a Spot stewards and Friends of Courtland Creek

COURTLAND CREEK PARK

Today, a dream comes true. After ten years of long hard work by many people, a five block stretch of land in Central East Oakland is transformed into the Courtland Creek Park.

Over the years, this former site of the Leona Street Car Line, situated one block east of High Street between Brookdale and 45th Avenues, had become an abandoned alley. On two of the five blocks the creek was underground, covered up by driveways; on three blocks, the creek was open to daylight, showing water and trees. Yet, dumping and illegal activity gave the corridor a reputation for being unsafe and unpleasant, an area to avoid. It clearly suffered from years of neglect. Additionally, neighbors of Courtland Creek were concerned as more and more multi-unit apartment buildings cropped up right on the banks of the creek. By 1987, the Brookdale Neighborhood Association contacted the Urban Creeks Council and a dream was born.

A broad coalition of people joined in support of development of a park: the Citizens for Oakland's Open Space, City Councilmember Dick Spees, the City of Oakland Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services, Professor Andrew Leiser of the University of California at Davis, Ted Gallagher of Gallagher and Burk, the Friends of Courtland Creek, ROTC students from Fremont High School, and countless other from both far and near. Local and Federal governments contributed financial support through Measure K and the Land and Water Conservation Fund. From idea to realization, the plan involved purchasing sixteen easements of undeveloped land bordering or containing the creek, and developing the land into a linear low-impact park.

In 1989 while acquisition plans were being made, award winning landscape designer Walter Hood convened graduate student classes on the new park

site. The students surveyed neighbors, held community meetings and engaged the community in design of the park. Professor Hood recognized that for Courtland Creek Park to serve its purpose, the neighbors had to be involved and have a sense of ownership from the initial stages of the project. The neighborhood children's insatiable desire to play outdoors has remained a constant source of inspiration for Courtland Creek Park. The park includes brightly colored pavement line games and many opportunities for young people to run and jump. A pee wee basketball court and sand box offer play options for others. Ever present safety concerns have been addressed with enhanced lighting, new curbs and gutters, and concrete bollards to prevent vehicles from entering the park. A promenade of granite paving with an alec of flowering plum trees runs the length of the five block park, recalling memories of the historic trolley line. Luxurious lawn with automatic irrigation replaces barren soil.

Over the years, a small but faithful band of believers regularly met to clean up the creek. In December 1992 a portion of the flowering plum tree alec was planted providing a glimpse of the transformation to come. Park plans were completed in 1995 with construction beginning in June, 1996.

In May 1997 upon the dedication of Courtland Creek Park we realize the fruits of many people's labor. No one person could have accomplished this alone. There is true magic in the collective effort to make our corner of urban America more livable. In some ways, the work has just begun. With much joy, the community invites you to celebrate this exciting event!

- Christine Ralls
Friends of Courtland Creek



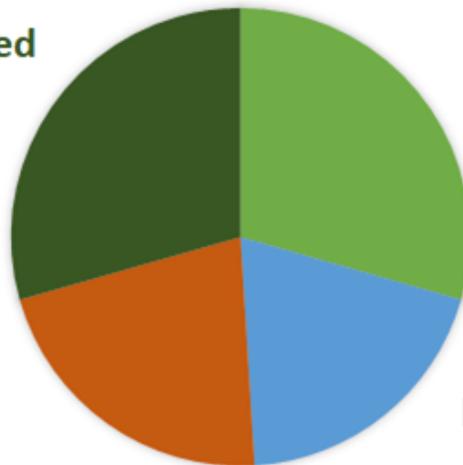
Project Funding

- Measure DD: Oakland Trust for Clean Water and Safe Parks Bond
- Department of Water Resources Urban Streams Restoration Program
- Environmental Protection Agency San Francisco Bay Water Quality Improvement Fund



Funding request submitted
for State Grant Funds
\$1.5M 29%

Local City of Oakland &
Alameda County Funds
\$1.1M 22%



EPA Federal Grant Funds
\$1.5M 29%

DWR State Grant Funds
\$1M 20%



Project Overview

The Courtland Creek Restoration Project will:

- Protect, enhance, and restore Courtland Creek in Courtland Creek Park
- Restore approximately 950 feet of open creek channel in the Park
- Provide accessible seating, gathering places, and a creek overlook for increased recreation



Poll 1

Project Objectives/ Benefits

- Healthier creek for people and wildlife
- Improved water quality and riparian habitat
- Stabilized creek banks
- Improved park and creek appearance, safety, and access
- Enhanced recreation and education opportunities



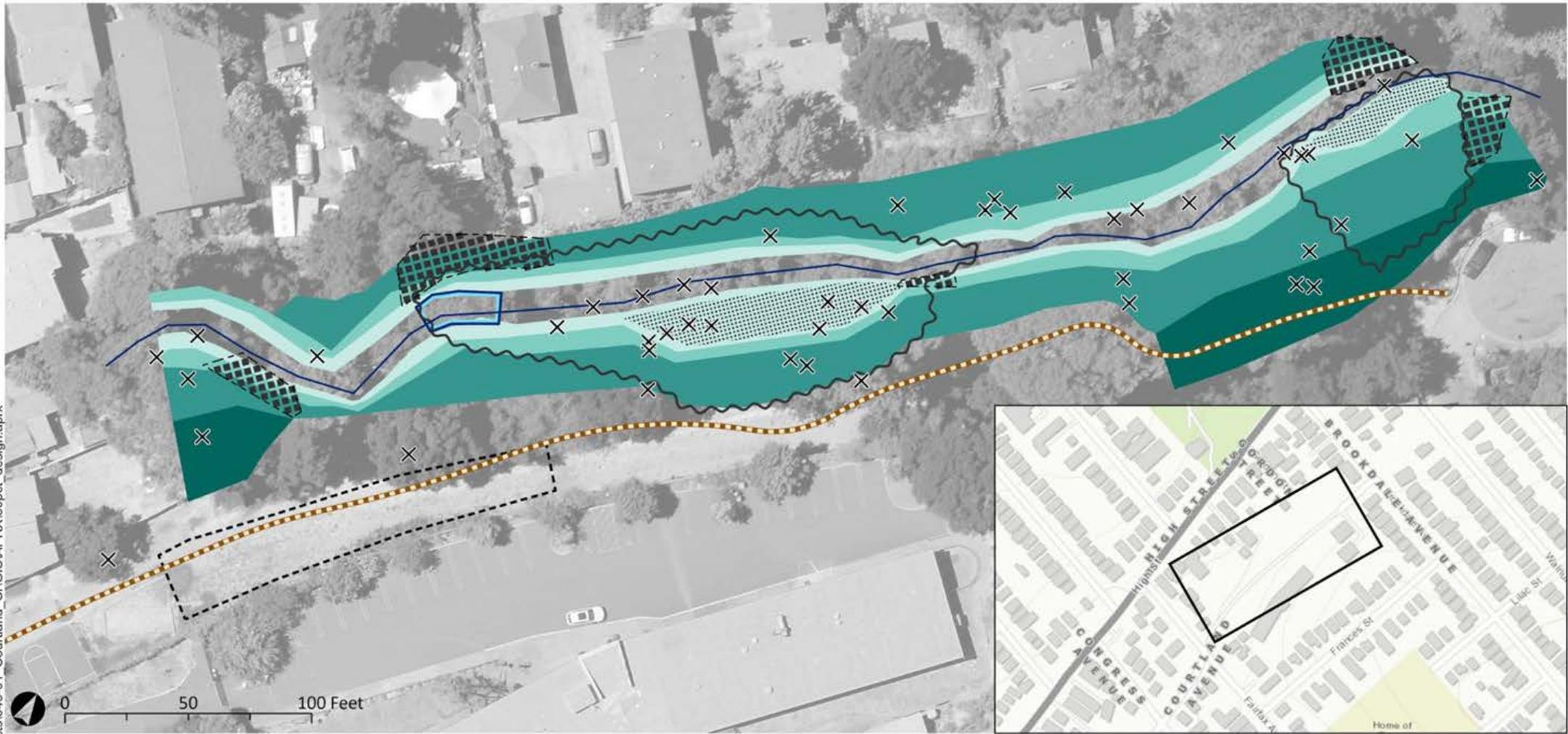
Poll 2

Project Objectives/ Benefits

- Healthier creek for people and wildlife
- Improved water quality and riparian habitat
- Stabilized creek banks
- Improved park and creek appearance, safety, and access
- Enhanced recreation and education opportunities



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Brookdale Reach 30% Restoration Design

- × Tree to be Removed
- ~ Courtland Creek (existing)
- ⊞ Grading Limits
- New Trail Alignment
- ⊞ Staging Areas
- ▭ Cascade Structure
- ▨ Terrace
- ▩ Slope Stabilization

Planting Zones

- Upland (High Bank)
- Woodland (Mid Bank)
- Riparian (Low Bank)
- Seasonal Wetland (Floodplain)



Cascade Structure Example



Brookdale Reach- Key Design Features & Objectives

Brookdale Reach Design Features	Project Objectives			
	<i>Improve water quality and riparian habitat</i>	<i>Reduce risk of bank failure</i>	<i>Improve safety and access to the creek for recreation and educational opportunities</i>	<i>Provide neighborhood beautification</i>
Invasive/non-native species and select tree removal; replanting	X		X	X
Bank slope stabilization measures	X	X	X	
Floodplain terraces	X			X
Cascade structure	X	X		X
Trail improvements and realignment	X		X	X



C BROOKDALE REACH

- 1 ACCESSIBLE PATH
- 2 OVERLOOK WITH ACCESSIBLE BENCH AND INTERPRETIVE ELEMENT
- 3 FLOODPLAIN TERRACE
- 4 CREEK CASCADE FEATURE
- 5 NEW CURB CUT FROM STREET

-  SEATING
-  NATIVE ORNAMENTAL PLANTED AREA
-  EXISTING PLUM TREES
-  RIPARIAN VEGETATION



Seeking input on:

Creekside seating style and location



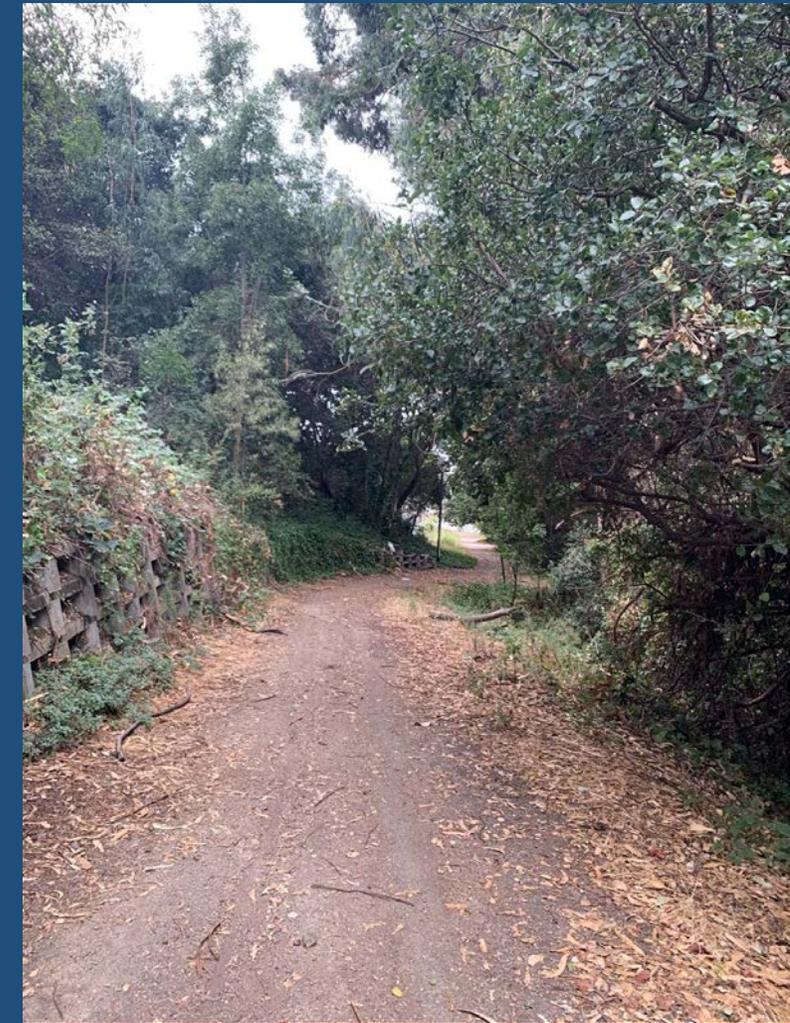
Seeking input on:

Interpretive educational signage throughout Project area



Seeking input on:

Trail and lighting improvements
for access and safety



Existing conditions



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Congress Reach 30% Restoration Design

- ✕ Tree to be Removed
- Courtland Creek (existing)
- ⬮ Grading Limits
- New Trail Alignment
- ⬮ Staging Areas
- Overlook
- ▨ Terrace
- Concrete Removal

Planting Zones

- Upland (High Bank)
- Woodland (Mid Bank)
- Riparian (Low Bank)
- Seasonal Wetland (Floodplain)



Congress Reach Perspective



PERSPECTIVE A: LOOKING DOWNSTREAM AT CONGRESS REACH



Seeking input on aesthetic elements of railing design

Congress Reach- Key Design Features & Objectives

Congress Reach Design Features	Project Objectives			
	<i>Improve water quality and riparian habitat</i>	<i>Reduce risk of bank failure</i>	<i>Improve safety and access to the creek for recreation and educational opportunities</i>	<i>Provide neighborhood beautification</i>
Invasive/non-native species and select tree removal; replanting	X		X	X
Floodplain terrace	X			X
Creek overlook			X	X
Concrete removal	X			X
Trail improvements and realignment			X	



- 1 ACCESSIBLE PATH
- 2 OVERLOOK WITH ACCESSIBLE BENCH AND INTERPRETIVE ELEMENT
- 3 FLOODPLAIN TERRACE
- 4 CREEK CASCADE FEATURE
- 5 NEW CURB CUT FROM STREET
- SEATING
- NATIVE ORNAMENTAL PLANTED AREA
- EXISTING PLUM TREES
- RIPARIAN VEGETATION



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Thompson Reach 30% Restoration Design

- Courtland Creek (existing)
- Terrace
- Grading Limits
- Staging Areas
- Concrete Removal

Planting Zones

- Riparian (Low Bank)
- Seasonal Wetland (Floodplain)



Thompson Reach- Key Design Features & Objectives

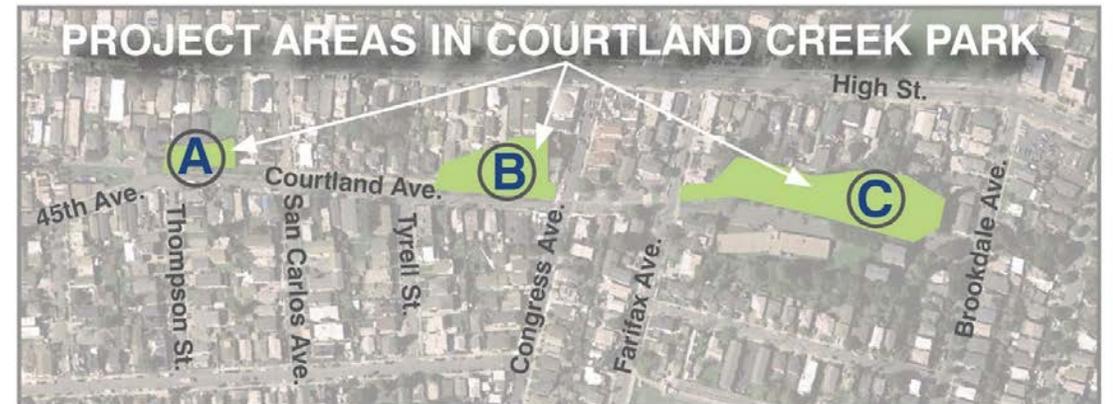
Thompson Reach Design Features	Project Objectives			
	<i>Improve water quality and riparian habitat</i>	<i>Reduce risk of bank failure</i>	<i>Improve safety and access to the creek for recreation and educational opportunities</i>	<i>Provide neighborhood beautification</i>
Invasive/non-native species removal; replanting	X		X	X
Floodplain terrace	X			X
Concrete removal	X			X



A THOMPSON REACH



- 1 ACCESSIBLE PATH
- 2 OVERLOOK WITH ACCESSIBLE BENCH AND INTERPRETIVE ELEMENT
- 3 FLOODPLAIN TERRACE
- 4 CREEK CASCADE FEATURE
- 5 NEW CURB CUT FROM STREET
- SEATING
- NATIVE ORNAMENTAL PLANTED AREA
- EXISTING PLUM TREES
- RIPARIAN VEGETATION



PROJECT AREAS IN COURTLAND CREEK PARK

Poll 3

Construction Activities

Example closure of creek/park area sign

NOTICE

CLOSURE OF CREEK AREA JUNE–NOVEMBER, 2003

FOR PERALTA CREEK RESTORATION PROJECT

This project will enhance habitat and vegetation, stabilize creek banks to prevent erosion, and improve water quality and safety in the creek area.

This project includes:

- Removal of failing concrete structures in the creek
- Removal of a section of culvert
- Removal of non-native trees and vegetation
- Regrading and revegetation of creek banks with native plants
- New footbridge and new footpath to creek

The entire creek area will be closed for construction from June through November 2003. No access to the park will be available from 37th or 38th Avenues. Access to the park will remain available from Euclid Boulevard.

Sponsored by:
City of Oakland, Public Works Agency
County of Alameda, Public Works Agency
Department of Water Resources
Urban Creeks Council
Unity Council

For more information in English: (510) 238-6600
For more information in Spanish: (510) 535-6910

NOTICE

CIERRE DEL AREA DEL ARROYO JUNIO–NOVIEMBRE 2003

PARA EL PROYECTO DE RESTAURACION DEL ARROYO PERALTA

En este proyecto deseamos aumentar la vegetación y la vida silvestre, estabilizar la orilla del arroyo y prevenir erosión, mejorar la calidad del agua y la seguridad en el área del arroyo.

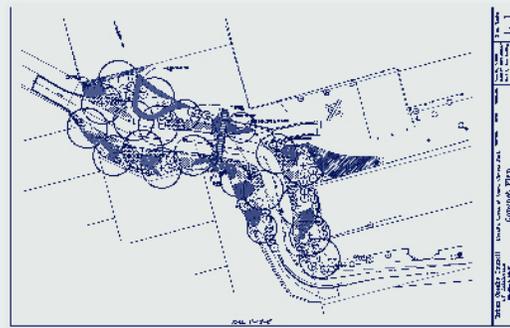
El proyecto incluye:

- Remover estructuras de concreto defectuosas en el arroyo
- Remover una parte de la estructura del camino donde fluye el agua del arroyo
- Remover árboles y vegetación no nativos
- Hacer las orillas del arroyo menos empinadas y replantarlas con plantas nativas
- Un nuevo puente para peatones y una nueva vereda al arroyo

Toda el área del arroyo estará cerrada por la construcción comienza de Junio y terminara en Noviembre 2003. No habra acceso al parque por las Avenidas 37 y 38. El acceso al parque por Euclid Boulevard continuara siendo el mismo.

Patrocinadores:
Ciudad de Oakland, Agencia de Trabajos Públicos
Condado de Alameda, Agencia de Trabajos Públicos
Departamento de Recursos de Agua
Urban Creeks Council
Unity Council

Para información en Inglés: (510) 238-6600
Para información en Español: (510) 535-6910



Construction Activities

Eucalyptus/
Non-native Removal



Construction Activities

Concrete Demolition



Construction Activities

Earthmoving/Grading



Construction Activities

Trails/Finish Work



Construction Activities

Planting



Project Timeline

Project Timeline



Design Input

Design Elements

- Aesthetic elements of the overlook design
- Creekside seating style and location
- Interpretive educational signage
- Trail and lighting improvements for access and safety
 - Email additional feedback to watersheds@oaklandca.gov by August 15.



What railing style do you like for the Congress Reach Overlook?



Natural



Modern

What style of creekside seating do you like?



Colorful

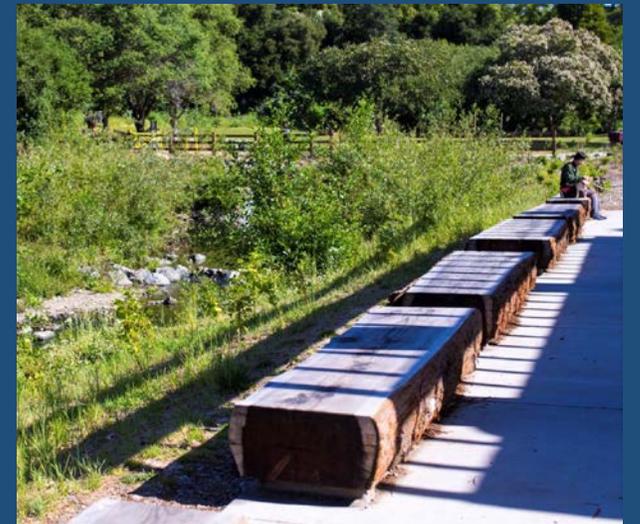
Rustic



Modern



Natural



What style of interpretive signage do you like?



Bold



Natural



Rustic

What style of trail and lighting do you like?



Paved



Natural

Poll 4

Next Steps

- ★ Email additional input to watersheds@oaklandca.gov by August 15, 2021

Project Timeline



Help Activate Courtland Creek Park!

- ★ To help address illegal dumping in the park and other park concerns or issues, we invite you to:
 - Join the Friends of Courtland Creek!
 - Contact Mandolin Kadera-Redmond (OPRF) at friendsofcourtlandcreek@gmail.com
 - **Attend the Friends meeting in August - Date TBD**
 - Participate in Park cleanups and community events
 - Park beautification: painting and planting days
 - Help to provide opportunities for nature-focused recreation and education
 - Contact Council District 4 Office at district4@oaklandca.gov
 - Contact Council District 5 Office at district5@oaklandca.gov

Poll 5

Q&A

For Additional Information

Meeting summary will be posted to Project website along with Project updates

For more information:

Call: (510) 238-6191

Email: watersheds@oaklandca.gov

Visit: tinyurl.com/CourtlandCreek

