



## Summary of Public Meeting The Wolf River Greenway within the Lucius Burch State Natural Area

December 8, 2015  
Ducks Unlimited, Memphis, TN

On the evening of December 8<sup>th</sup>, the Shelby Farms Park Conservancy, Wolf River Conservancy and Alta Planning + Design conducted a public meeting to discuss a proposal for routing a portion of the proposed Wolf River Greenway through the northern part of the Lucius Burch State Natural Area. Approximately 50 people attended the meeting, which was held at Ducks Unlimited in East Memphis, TN. After a 30-minute presentation about the proposed Greenway, the audience was asked to submit questions to the meeting facilitator. Below and on the following pages are the questions submitted and answers provided during the meeting.

**Q: There was a proposed bridge on your drawings located south of the LBSNA. Can you show us that location again on the large map and explain its significance?**

A: Yes, when we studied the entire route of the Greenway in October 2014, we decided to move the route and alignment of the Greenway from the west side of the Wolf River to the east side of the river, roughly from Epping Way to the Summer Avenue. One of the reasons for this move was the presence and activity of All Terrain Vehicles on the west side of the Wolf River between Jackson Street and Summer Avenue. The proposed bridge you refer to is approximately 300-foot span and is located south of the northern portion of the LBSNA so that we can connect to the existing Wolf River Greenway at Walnut Grove. We have not decided if the bridge is a steel beam or suspension bridge structure.

**Q: Is wood being considered as structural support for the proposed Boardwalk trail through the LBSNA, because Memphis has high humidity and termites. How will that influence your decision?**

A: Thank you, we are actually proposing to use a concrete footing system, and not use wooden piles.

**Q: Will the Boardwalk trail be able to withstand flooding?**

A: Yes, we propose to use a concrete boardwalk design because it's durable and withstands flooding.

**Q: What will happen to the existing bandit trails located within the LBSNA?**

A: The goal is not to interfere with any of the existing mountain bike trails. Where the Boardwalk trail would intersect with existing bandit trails, it will be important for Alta and WRC to work with mountain bike riders on design details for those crossings.

**Q: Doesn't privet grow back when you cut it? How do you truly eliminate it?**

A: The Shelby Farms Park Conservancy has a solution and has recently cleared approximately 200 acres of privet using this method, using a chemical called "Element Four," which kills privet and its roots. Seeds from the privet will continue to germinate and can be killed with a spray application. The Shelby Farms Park Conservancy is working on a less expensive method for privet removal.

**Q: What is the average per day usage of the Greenline?**

A: Approximately 600 people use the current Wolf River Greenway daily. The Shelby Farms Park Conservancy has an EcoCounter. We believe that approximately 1100 people use the Greenline each day, based on counts taken at the Farm Rd. and Mullins Station intersection.

**Q: Our group got lost multiple times when we rode bikes on the Northwest Arkansas Razorback Trail. What is plan for signage along the Wolf River Greenway?**

A: Unfortunately, the signage plan for the NWA Razorback Greenway is just now being installed. Which was not our original plan. For the Wolf River Greenway we are the process of developing a signage plan which we will begin to install on completed sections of the Greenway in 2016.

**Q: Do you anticipate conflicts with dirt bikes or 4-wheelers in LBSNA section?**

A: No we do not. We have been careful and intentional about where the Greenway trail intersewith banded trails. The plan is to install right-of-way signage and a system to alert people as to when they are coming upon these banded trails.

**Q: When will stop signs be inserted at Mullins Station and Appling Road intersection?**

A: The Shelby Farms Park Conservancy is working to install these soon.

**Q: If telephone poles are used as structural support for the proposed Boardwalk trail within the LBSNA, will they be protected by non-toxic chemicals?**

A: We don't plan to use telephone poles as structural support for the proposed Boardwalk trail.

**Q: Is it acceptable to use toe rails? Are they a hazard to cyclists?**

A: Toe rails can be used on wider boardwalks that also accommodate cyclists. We hope to design the boardwalk so that it is not too high off the ground. Toe rails are generally used on trails with bicycle access and also meet the needs defined by the Americans with Disability Act.

**Q: Why not route the trail along existing greenway connector trails for these few miles?**

A: Alta and WRC explored a connection through Farm Rd., along existing rural roads within the Park, and we believe that it could be short-term solution. There are not really any existing trails that are viable. However, the team is working on a compromise proposal with a quality solution that doesn't jeopardize the environment.

**Comment: Wetlands shouldn't be an issue because there are already specs/renderings that show build out through wetlands.**

**Q: What is the distance from the MLGW easement to the green line?**

A: Approximately 1 and ¼ mile.

**Q: Can the west side of the Wolf River trail be paved?**

A: Yes, but there are a lot of expensive structures that also have to be installed.

**Q: How much are the construction costs for the two proposed bridges across the River?**

A: Approximately \$700,000 per bridge. Proposing one crossing of the Wolf River.

**Q: Are you using the current Greenline to go back across the River?**

A: Yes. That is the current proposal and it is a feasible route. The trail will cross the River again at Summer Avenue using the existing roadway bridge.

**Q: As an individual what can I do to make sure this project moves forward?**

A: The Wolf River Conservancy is in the midst of capital campaign to raise remaining funds for project construction. The project is currently funded by a private-public partnership, with the anticipation of going public with fundraising in mid- to-late 2016. The best way to show support is to continue attending and engaging in public meetings, and offering public support. Let your city council representative know that you are in favor of the Greenway as well as your Shelby County Commissioner, other elected officials.

**Q: What is the timeline for completion of the Greenway?**

A: We are scheduled to complete the entire Greenway in 2019. Various phases will be under construction beginning in 2016. We will upload a complete schedule along with more information about each phase on the Wolf River Conservancy website most likely after the first of the New Year.

**Comment: I am very excited about the project. Make it happen while I am still ambulatory!**

**Q: What are the projected benefits economically for the communities along the trail from Austin Pea to the Mississippi River?**

A: The Wolf River Conservancy has completed an economic benefits report about the Greenway entitled "Memphis Gets Moving." A copy of this is available from the Conservancy. We anticipate that the Greenway will return an annual benefit of \$14 million to the community, based on transportation, health and wellness, tourism and other factors.

\*\*\*\*\* Please visit the Wolf River Conservancy web site to fill out a public opinion survey regarding the proposed Boardwalk Trail within the LBSNA\*\*\*\*\*