

Citizen: Thank you for taking the time to hear and listen to whatever the public has to say...

For me, my major concerns are:

1. That the Master Plan DRAFT is being used as a jumping off place for all discussions regarding the Springs renovation... it is being used as a working document... as though the items within the draft have been agreed to by the ALL, not just the few "stakeholders" (FOBSP) and city workers responsible for executing this draft... It is merely a first draft and a confusingly poor one at that. In my opinion, Godfrey and Limbacher should be thanked for their work and a second team should be brought on immediately. THIS DRAFT SHOULD NOT BE PRESENTED TO CITY COUNCIL... IT IS NOT READY... IT IS NOT CLEAR... IT IS NOT FINISHED... AND THE PEOPLE HAVE NOT BEEN GIVEN A REAL CHANCE TO PARTICIPATE...

A problem with allowing the draft into the record is that it becomes a real document at that time instead of what it is... some ideas with some science behind it... and is used as the starting point. Too many of the ideas presented are either not really good ideas or they are ideas that are too big in scope to be treated so non-challant.

Staff: The Barton Springs Pool Master Plan (BSPMP) is a vision and not intended to be a working document. This vision allows City of Austin staff a point to begin developing projects. Each project will incorporate public participation.

Citizen: 2. There is little public voice on such a huge and vital issue involving the heart, soul and history of Austin. And it feels as though this is done with intention. Meetings are not announced until just before... on a website designed to confuse, decisions made at some of those meetings are ignored and rewritten in subsequent meeting which are not open to the public, and even the big discussions at city hall two weeks ago did little but isolate the attendees. We were split up into small groups and no one got to hear valuable info, insights, and concerns offered by citizens in other groups... we were not a large enough crowd to use this kind of forum... this is done to divide and conquer... in this case, divide and keep ignorant.

Staff: The website is being updated regularly and the content and format is being examined to provide clear and concise information. Meetings have been listed on the website and any additional meetings will be listed as well. In order to provide a clear picture of public input, comments are listed on the website, along with the audio records of the breakout sessions.

Citizen: 3. There has been no charette, no meeting of the minds... the concern about this is that not all of the options are being looked at in any measurable way. We are being asked to take the advice of the consultants... Godfrey and Limbacher... who are not really consultants, but architects... (and just for the record, how is it that they won the bid having just completed Deep Eddy?) One glaring example of questionable logic is the ADA ramp placement. G and L have the ramp meandering through the only real natural woods left at the Springs and landing our physically challenged citizens on the most dangerous part of the Springs near the diving board... from there, any one in a chair or with a stroller has to navigate all the way around the pool on the wet cement...

why do that when the southeast side has the rolling hill already cleared and would land the user at the widest part of the pool deck and closest to the other side... then there is the ticket taking at the main entrance... why on earth would you design the building to have a place to buy tickets and then make people go to another entrance to enter... when it would be simple, more convenient, and less expensive to have both at the entrance.

It makes me wonder who is watching... has anyone dared to take an exit poll at Deep Eddy... I have met very, very few women who enjoy the changes in the dressing room and most find it horrible. Please do not let G and L design any of the Barton Springs Buildings. We live in a town with The University of Texas and international businesses... this gives us access to brilliant minds across the globe... why are we not using them... ?

Staff: The BSPMP seeks to provide possible solutions to modern issues, which take into account the giant increase in Austin's population since the 1930's. Again, the BSPMP is a vision, a suggestion of what could be done and it is not a design document. There will be many opportunities for public input as these projects proceed into the design phase.

Citizen: May I suggest that we SLOW DOWN and only do that which is essential for Barton Springs -- improved water quality, cleaning procedures, and safety for all of the aquatic life- including the swimmers, visitors, and salamanders...

THE NEXT MEETING ON THIS SHOULD BEGIN WITH EVERYONE PARTICIPATING JUMPING INTO THE SPRINGS or at the very least, putting their legs in... AND THEN WE CAN TALK. THERE IS WONDER AND MAGIC AND JOY BUBBLING UP FROM THE AQUIFER... PLEASE RESPECT IT AND KEEP IT SAFE FROM OVER OR UNNECESSARY DEVELOPMENT.

Thank you and I hope to attend more public input meetings on this... please do not send this draft to council!

Staff: Thank you for your suggestions and we look forward to your input at future meetings.