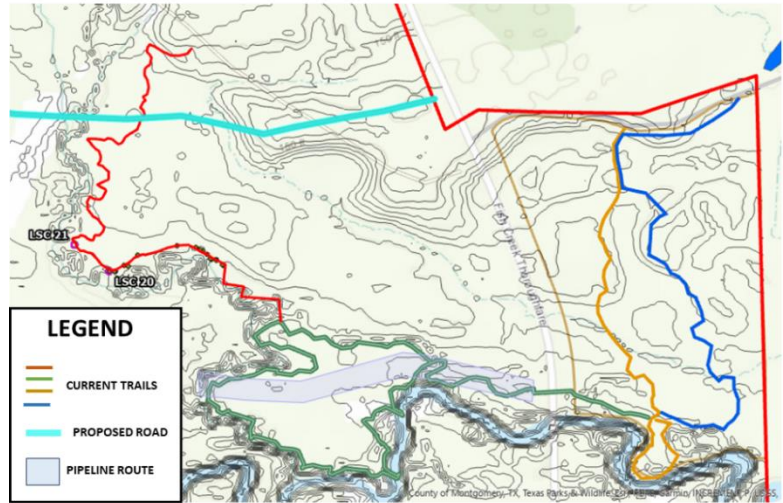


who will support the center programs. Initial clearing should start in the first quarter of 2024, while detailed design work is expected to begin in mid- year.

NEW TRAILS AND PROGRAM FEATURES

Thanks to three Eagle projects and work by Montgomery Honors College students, a section of the red trail has now been cleared from the NW corner of the green trail to the edge of the developed section of the proposed regional park (adjacent map). Additionally, steps were added at the ravine near the southern end to make the ravine crossing easier. Except for a possible N-S segment from the NE corner of the green trail, additional trail development will be on hold until we have a better location for the proposed lake, developed trails and details on the pipeline route and schedule.

CURRENT PRESERVE & PARK TRAILS 10-17-2023



The Heartwood Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalists has initiated monthly guided nature hikes through the preserve. Dates and a signup link are posted on the Lake Creek Facebook page and <https://txmn.org/heartwood/event/lake-creek-preserve-guided-hikes>. In addition, the Texas native plant society has been maintaining our pollinator areas by removing some of the native grasses and ragweed. As an experiment the western garden was just trimmed while grasses and ragweed were aggressively removed from the eastern area and reseeded. The central area was weeded and fresh plants added in the spring. Finally, an Eagle project by Ellery Horak added bee houses to each of the three gardens.



Some may be wondering about the colored blocks and numbers recently added to the boardwalks . Colored blocks refer to the trail (orange, blue, green, red) and the numbers refer to the boardwalk number on that trail. These were added as a safety feature to locate someone or a hazard in an emergency. Additional views of the new sections of the red trail are included in the appendix



Montgomery College Student Volunteers



Nate Picket Eagle Project

TRAIL MAINTENANCE

Thanks to our trail crew volunteers the existing trails continue to be maintained in good shape. The flood in May lifted one of the boardwalks and created a hazard on the western end of the green trail



Restored and reanchored

Poorly anchored, but caught by trees



Rerouting green trail after flood

requiring the crew to cut through a 2-2½' trunk, while a June wind storm created a number of obstacles that needed to be removed. On a negative side, while most visitors respect the preserve and leave no waste, we have recently noticed that one or more persons are bagging their pet waste and dumping it along side of the storage shed. Please note that this is a Leave No Trace facility. The preserve is maintained by volunteers which retains a natural experience and reduces county maintenance costs. Please help by disposing of pet and other waste at home or at proper waste collection sites. Regarding maintenance, we are always looking for volunteers seeking some exercise and a chance to give back to the community. To volunteer contact trails@lakecreektx.org.

CONTINUING SCOUT SUPPORT

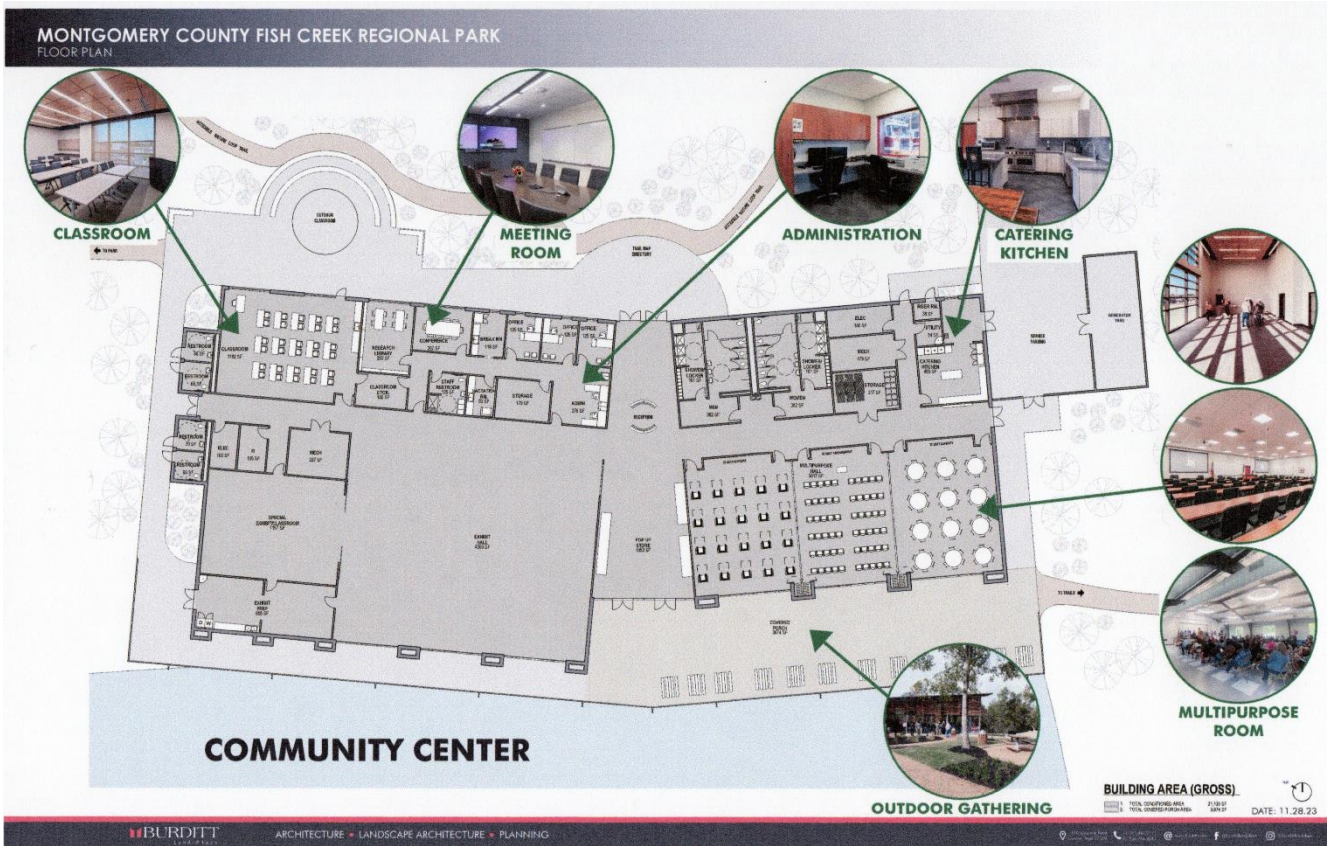
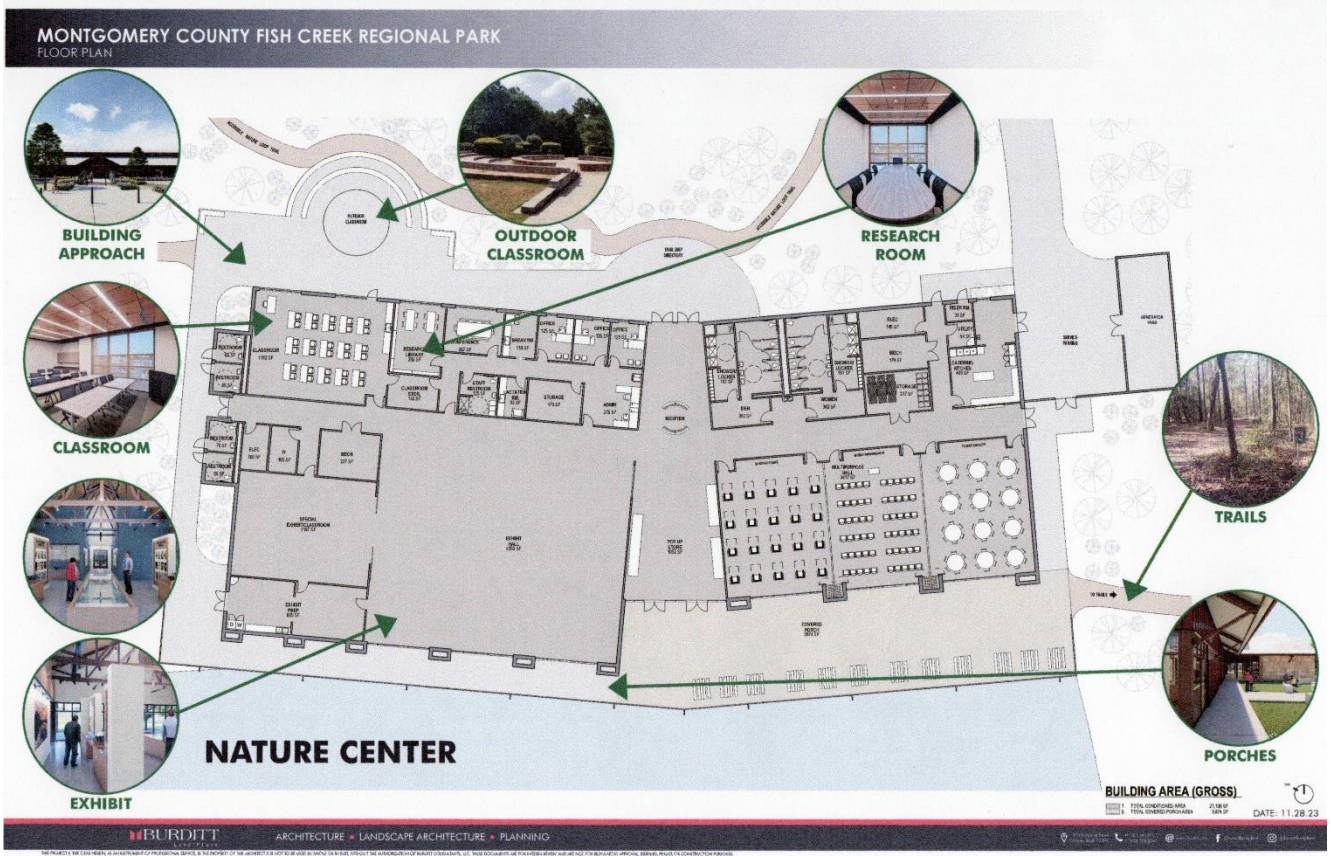
The Scouts continue to provide support through Eagle projects and other forms of service. For the second year in a row the Order of the Arrow held an Ordeal on the preserve. As part of the program they cleaned up the trail and restored boardwalk O3 which needed new supports and leveling in two sections.



Repairing Boardwalk O3
Leveling, adding supports and runner patch

APPENDIX

Note: The connecting atrium is available for an information booth, store and benches



NORTHERN PART OF RED TRAIL LOOKING SOUTH



CONTINUING SOUTH ALONG RED TRAIL



CONTINUING SOUTH ALONG RED TRAIL AND MOUND CREEK

