

KUTS Update April 2025

An update on KUTS programming

What is KUTS?

KUTS non-profit organization is dedicated to supporting and implementing aspects of the City of Kerrville's 2050 Comprehensive Plan, the Parks and Recreation Department Master Plan, and other strategic plans for the Kerr area. The KUTS mission centers on developing a layered urban trail network that enhances the community's quality of life while helping realize the city's long-term vision.

KUTS Project Updates

KUTS Clay South - Water/Clay

Overhead lines have been cleared, and underground utility project is complete. KPUB has ordered poles for string lights and will install once delivered.

This Creative Crosswalk project complements City efforts for intersection improvements, parking garage improvements, and renovations for the Heart of the Hills Heritage Center.

KUTS Clay South - Clay/Jefferson

Creative Crosswalk project complete.

KUTS Clay South - Jefferson/Hays

The crosswalk at Jefferson/Hays was completed on Easter Sunday. KPUB has ordered poles and will be installing string lights this fall. String lights would complete the Creative Crosswalk project for this intersection, a key connector between downtown/Clay and the Doyle neighborhood.

KUTS Doyle

Work continues with the Doyle Community Center to obtain landowner permission for installation of markers at the 7 former Juke Joint locations.

Once we have written permission, KUTS will draft content and have markers fabricated and then installed with help from our partners at the City Streets Department. The plan is included on the KUTS website.

The roughly 1.25-mile walking trail will document and celebrate the rich music culture and history of the Doyle neighborhood.

KUTS Singing Wind

The concept plan (funded by Schreiner University) to develop a roughly 1,200' easement into a trail may be found on the KUTS website.

This segment would complete a trail connection between THS, Peterson MS, Tom Daniels ES, Singing Wind Park, and the Olympic Pool to the River Trail via Schreiner University's established perimeter trail.

Budget for construction of this final segment is about \$800,000. The project has been incorporated in the Parks Master Plan for Singing Wind, and aligns with the 2050 Comprehensive Plan.

We feel this could be an outstanding quality of life project for EIC, adding roughly 2 miles to the new SU River Trail extension and the River Trail system and introducing new engagement opportunities to the trail system.

KUTS Story Trees

Still no new submissions for Story Trees, holding steady at an inventory of three. One of those three, Shelby Loveland's Red Oak, fell in recent wind storms. SU's hügelkultur research project in response to the new phase of life for this tree is currently on pause.

KUTS River Trail

We are exploring the feasibility of extending the main trunk of the River Trail from Flat Rock Park to Lions Dam in Center Point. This study also explores the creation of a trust/conservancy in support of the River Trail.

Using GIS and KerrCad data, a roughly 8-mile path utilizing existing County ROW through Guadalupe Heights and along River Road traverses 25 individual parcels owned by a total of 15 unique landowners, including Kerr County, James Avery Craftsman, and Martin Marietta.

Extension of the RT to CP has multi-faceted benefits: economic development, water resource protection, individual health, wildlife corridors, river/recreation access, land/soil conservation, etc.

This discussion has included Judge Kelly, City of Kerrville, Hill Country Alliance, Community Foundation of the Texas Hill Country, KPUB, Riverside Nature Center, James Avery, Peterson Health, and other potential stakeholders.

Creative Crosswalks: Ongoing Funding

Continued thanks to Rails, Holloway Plumbing, Pint & Plow, Kerrville Framing, the Kerrville Board of Realtors and Mary Campana for their monthly contributions to the KUTS Creative Crosswalk program, in addition to the ongoing partnership with City of Kerrville and KPUB.

Holler if you're inspired to help,

Jeremy