

West 40 Acres:
The new addition to the Keller Sports Park is constrained by floodplain and is mostly undevelopable. Being so, investment in this area should be strategic and minimal to avoid permitting issues, loss or damage potential. The City doesn't have much in the way of natural lands for the enjoyment of nature and this tract may serve that purpose. Equestrian trails are limited and with the arena and nearby equestrian trails, the addition of more equestrian trails and the relocation of the arena is a strategic and potentially high return element that can also support the low impact and nature touring activities.

Phase One: General land maintenance, trail construction, small simple open-air wood pavilions constructed along the pathway for nature stops, placement of interpretive signage, picnic places. The trail would be a loop moving along both sides of the creek.

Phase Two: Once Ray White Road was constructed by the City of Ft. Worth, then a new entry point and small parking area can be constructed and the relocation of the arena placed on site.

Equestrian Trail with adjacent hiking and bike trail. Both trails constructed from decomposed granite.
Creek Centerline

Simple, Open-air, Wood Structures

Sand Volleyball
Small Playing Fields

Re-organized Ball Fields and Associated Facilities

Equestrian trails adding to the existing to extend to new 40 acres and create a more substantial loop system.

At the 377 intersection and the main park entry, create monumentation to signify the arrival and entry points. Work with the current corner owners for an easement for the improvements.

City Owned, Leased Land
Set up a directional signage system that starts at this intersection. Corners of intersection to have monumentation or other design elements

City should seek to leverage the development of commercial uses toward creating a better linkage between Old Town and the Sports Park. With big box development, ensure that the store has an appropriate image for this location as the gateway into Keller. The property perimeter should be inviting to pedestrian traffic

Eastern end of Sports Park Esplanade connecting to Bates Street

Future rail underpass connection from the Sports Park to Old Town Keller. Path lines up with Bates St. Interim strategy for movement can be pedicabs to move pedestrians back and forth to Old Town until the underpass can be constructed.

Note on boundary:
The portion of the Sports Park along the Big Bear Creek southeast portion of the property is undefined and estimated by City of Keller Maps and aerial interpretation.

Four major park additions or revisions are part of this master plan. The main centerpiece of this concept is the development of a potential Sports-Plex as a partnership with a private entity. This facility will feature high quality ball fields and a restaurant(s) in the middle along with other amenities on site. This will replace the arena at this location and the arena will be relocated to the west 40 acres, newly acquired by the City. The Sports-Plex concept has been arranged in a manner to show the eastern end of the Sports Park Esplanade extending through the middle of the Sports-Plex to connect to Bates Street and the future rail underpass creating a needed connection to Old Town Keller.

An important goal of the overall park concept was to take advantage of all available space to create new soccer practice fields. In so doing, the Keller Sports Park becomes an important regional destination for ball field and soccer competition.

Extending west from the Sports-Plex, the esplanade will serve as a central walking spine between soccer fields. The esplanade is only on the north side of the creek and extends from Old Town Keller to the existing pedestrian creek bridge. This concept provides space for park patrons to spend leisure time strolling along the creek in a pleasant and easy atmosphere.

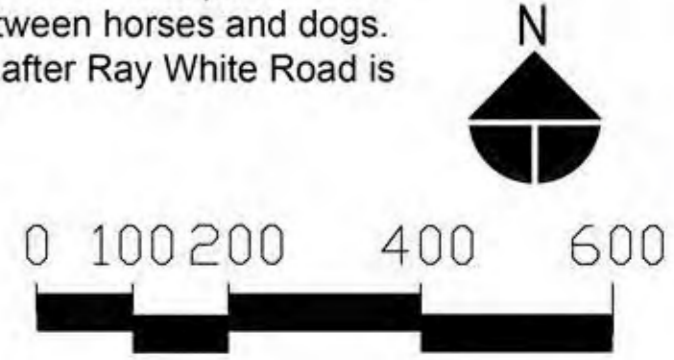
Stationed at the ends of parking lots, adjacent to the esplanade, could be hookups for select food trailers to set up and sell food during events and tournaments. This could include Old Town Keller restaurants and other food truck operators as vendors. Simple water jets in slightly depressed pavement areas could create water fun for little kids and cool the immediate area during

The creek edges would have structures on both sides of the creek to assist in leveling the lawn areas and protect against erosion. The walking trail can be on the esplanade while the equestrian trail would be on the lower lawn areas, only to converge for street crossings. The south side of the creek will have low sloping lawn and native plantings for picnic blankets, trails and leisure. Extensive planting of trees along the creek edges could create a linear forested parkland appeal. The lawn areas are envisioned to be level enough for good drainage but comfortable for tents and picnic blankets. Just west of the main entry drive creek crossing is a low water dam so that a pond is created much like downstream in the park. With an elegant cascade, this can be a nice entry feature to highlight the esplanade and could even be lit up in the evenings for nighttime events.

The Equestrian Center:
The acquisition of the west 40 acres could allow for park space dedicated to equestrian activities. The relocation of the arena to this area and the addition of equestrian trails, keeps Keller heritage firmly in place. The main improvement requested by equestrian stakeholders was to cover the arena for all weather activity, allowing them to host regional events.

In conjunction with the elements in the Sports Park, the trails master plan also reflects this by eliminating certain equestrian trails in the city and creating a tighter loop closely connected to Big Bear Creek Greenbelt leading to the Sports Park. In addition, the west 40-acres could be prime land for equestrian activity given the extensive floodplain and close proximity to existing equestrian trails. All this leads to leveraging the trails and the west 40-acres by further developing a covered arena.

One dog park has been added in the new 40 acre addition at the southwest most corner of the site. This park for larger dogs will have extra precautions to keep good separation between horses and dogs. This facility could be added after Ray White Road is constructed.



Keller Sports Park