#### Memorandum



DATE March 31, 2011

Trinity River Corridor Project Committee Members:

David A. Neumann (Chairman) Vonciel Jones Hill Steve Salazar (Vice-Chair) Delia D. Jasso Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Pauline Medrano Linda Koop Ann Margolin

Carolyn R. Davis

#### SUBJECT Trinity Bird Count Program

At the next Trinity River Corridor Project Committee meeting on Tuesday, April 5, 2011, the attached briefing will be presented by Karen Walz, Principal, Strategic Community Solutions and Chris Culak, Director, Trinity River Audubon Center. This briefing explains this new initiative to learn more about the birds of the Trinity Corridor and encourage people to explore the area's natural assets.

Please contact me if you have questions.

Jill A. Jordan, P.E.

Assistant City Manager

THE TRINITY DALLAS

#### Attachment

Cc: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council Mary K. Suhm, City Manager Ryan S. Evans, First Assistant City Manager A.C. Gonzalez, Assistant City Manager Forest E. Turner, Assistant City Manager Jeanne Chipperfield, Chief Financial Officer Deborah A. Watkins, City Secretary Thomas P. Perkins, Jr., City Attorney Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor Judge C. Victor Lander Helena Stevens-Thompson, Assistant to the City Manager Frank Librio, Director, Public Information Office Kelly High, Director, Trinity Watershed Management Rebecca Rasor, P.E., Managing Director, Trinity River Corridor Project

# TRINITY BIRD COUNT PROGRAM











- To obtain more accurate knowledge about the species and numbers of birds found in the Trinity River Corridor at each season of the year.
  - Field records for a baseline survey of the Trinity's birds
  - A resource for future bird-related research in the Trinity
  - Contribute to other on-going bird research efforts
- To increase the number of people birding in the Trinity River Corridor.
- To build awareness about appealing activities available in the Trinity River Corridor's natural areas.

#### Who's Involved



- Trinity Commons Foundation is conducting the Trinity Bird Count
  - Strategic Community Solutions is managing the project
- The Boone Family Foundation has provided a grant to underwrite the project
- Major partners include the City of Dallas TRCPO and the Trinity River Audubon Center
- Other partners and sponsors will be added









### Who's Involved



- Participants will include:
  - Expert birders
  - Interested amateurs
  - Photographers, videographers, sound recordists
- We hope to involve groups like:
  - Schools, Scouts and other youth groups
  - Conservation and environmental groups
  - State & national birding organizations





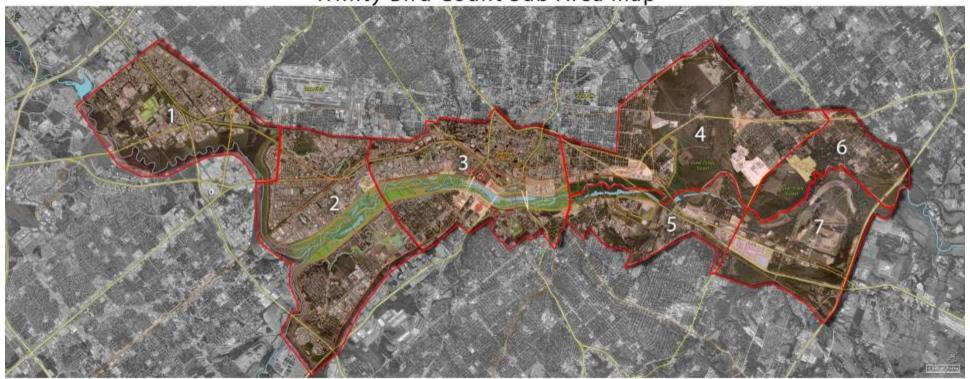




### Where



Trinity Bird Count Sub Area Map



1-Elm Fork 2-Levee Stretch A 3-Levee Stretch B 4-Great Trinity Forest 5-Chain of Wetlands 6-Audubon Center 7-McCommas Bluff

- The Trinity River Corridor in the City of Dallas
  - Land areas along the river
  - On the river itself



TRINITY BIRD COUNT

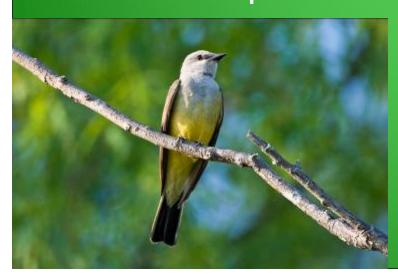
- Teams will focus on each of the subareas and will schedule birding trips during each of the four seasons
- Individual volunteers will bird the corridor whenever they want
- People who join guided bird walks can contribute their sightings too



Photo © Sean Fitzgerald



- TRINITY BIRD COUNT
- All records will be recorded to a national online database
  - Using eBird and Birdcountr smartphone app
- Photos, videos, sound recordings will be collected and posted at <u>www.trinitybirdcount.com</u>
- Share experiences with Facebook & Twitter



Photos © Sean Fitzgerald



### When



- Spring 2011
  - Kick-off at 'Celebrate Birds Fest' on April 2
  - Birding will continue through May 31
- Summer 2011
  - June 1 July 31
  - Particular focus in early June
- Fall 2011
  - August 1 November 30
  - Coordinate with Margaret Hunt Hill bridge opening
- Winter 2012
  - December 1 February 28, 2012
  - Coordinate with annual Christmas Bird Counts

## TRINITY BIRD COUNT

### **Expected Results**

- New research on birds in Dallas' Trinity River
  Corridor
- Updated checklist and related materials
- Other reports and brochures
- More people enjoying the Trinity
  - Families, schools, youth groups
  - North Texas birders
  - Birders visiting from Texas, the US and the world

## TRINITY BIRD COUNT

## We need your help!

- Sign up to participate at www.trinitybirdcount.com
- Follow us at twitter.com/trinitybrdcount
- 'Like' us on Facebook
- Contact us for more information
  - join@trinitybirdcount.com
  - 214-320-1154
- Help us get people out in the Trinity River Corridor's natural areas!