Phase 1 of the Texas Capitol Mall will extend three blocks along Congress Avenue from 16th Street to the new museum plaza at Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. The lush, visually rich, pedestrian mall will boast diverse and abundantly planted native landscapes and grass lawn center panels with rest and play areas framed by wide tree-lined, shaded walkways along the east and west sides. The pedestrian entrance and exits from the five-level underground parking garage will occur through stairway and elevator portals that pop up along the mall providing easy access to and from the mall. The stairway portals will have cascading stairs to allow anyone ascending from the garage levels to see daylight.

The garage will have access from both the east and westbound lanes of 17th Street. The mall garage entrances have three lanes designed for flexible lane configurations that allow for three routes in or out at peak travel times. This new garage will have pay-as-you-go electric charging stations and secured bicycle cages.

A feature of the 17th Street access to the underground parking garage is creating a large plaza area that extends across the mall. The area's natural rise in elevation creates a beautiful opportunity for a larger outdoor event venue. Once construction is complete, the State Preservation Board will manage the programming of the Texas Capitol Mall.

**Construction Start:** August 2019  **Scheduled Completion:** June 2022