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# FY2016 PARD Block Funding

Open Space, Environment, and Sustainability Committee

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# Outline



- Project Initiation
- PARD Project Proposal
- PARD Playground Assessment
- Supporting Policy Documents
- Nature Inspired Play Areas – Emerging Best Practices
- Nature Inspired Play Areas – PARD Examples
- Project Selection Criteria
- Prioritized List of Sites





# Project Initiation

- FY 2016 Budget Process
- \$1.15M added CIP funding as “Block Grant” for park improvements
- Implementation of this funding to be coordinated with Open Space, Environment, and Sustainability Committee
- PARD Project Proposal provided for consideration based on prior feedback



# PARD Project Proposal



PARD proposes Block Grant Funding to design and construct innovative nature-inspired play environments at multiple sites as continuation of on-going playscape replacement and enhancement program

- Playground replacement program was prioritized through the 2012 G.O. Bond Program
- Aging facilities continues to be a primary focus of the overall PARD CIP
- “Block Grant” funding will provided continued forward momentum to address high priority playground replacements
- Prioritized project list provided for consideration





# PARD Playground Assessment

- 98 parks with 385 playgrounds
  - Over 1,000 individual play pieces
- Annual assessment of condition
  - District-based analysis
  - Documents critical safety issues
  - Estimates funding needs
  - Priorities implementation
- Basis for coordination of maintenance under General Fund and CIP replacements
- Average full playground replacement project cost range: \$200k - \$300k



## PLAYGROUND ASSESSMENTS



03/11/2015

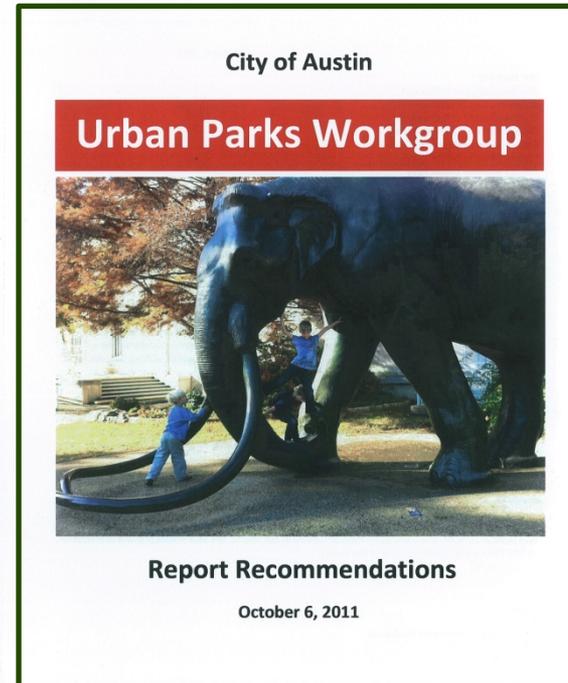
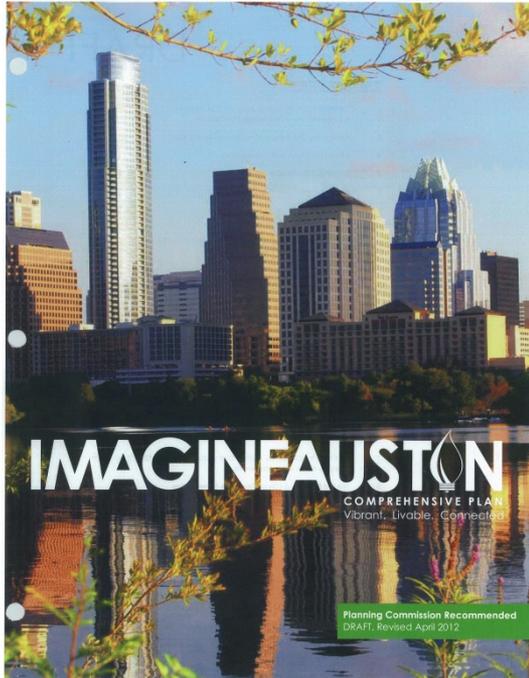
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT  
PLAYGROUNDS



The Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for providing the Austin community with safe, fun, accessible, and well-maintained playgrounds. Currently, there are 98 parks that have 358 playgrounds and with over 1,000 individual pieces of play components, some as old as 30 years. As owners, we have not only a responsibility for providing safe play opportunities for our children but, a legal mandate and a moral obligation to make sure hazards are identified, corrected, repaired, and/or mitigated. The purpose of this report is to summarize the conditions of the playgrounds and the challenges we face.



# Supporting Policy Documents



- Develop design standards for public buildings and spaces... including green spaces and children-friendly play spaces (CFS A23)
- Create more opportunities for outdoor play, recreational activities, healthy eating, and other activities and programs that address obesity (S A55)
- Establish pocket parks, smaller undeveloped preserves, and passive recreational spaces in areas with little open space (CFS A4)

- Promotes Kinetic Playscapes, Nature Based Play and Mobile Play
- Design strategies can help address the urban issues of obesity, community development, contact with nature, local economic development and ecological diversity
- Strive to meet national benchmark of an accessible park within ¼ mile walking distance in urban areas.



# Nature Inspired Play Areas Emerging Best Practices





# Nature Inspired Design Recent COA Project Precedents



RGG Colorado River Park



Ditmar Park



Dove Springs District Park



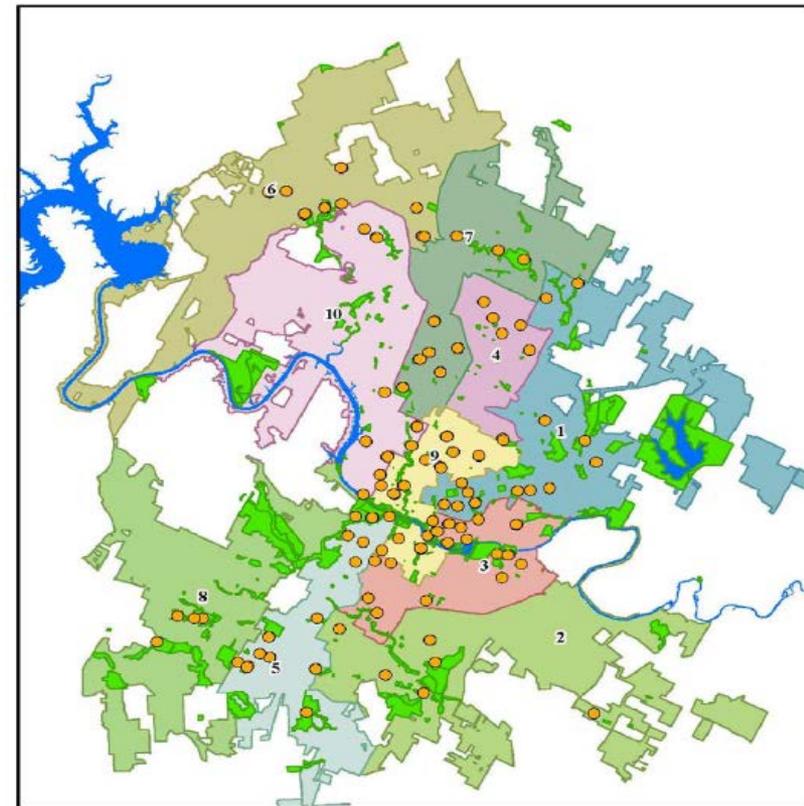
Tom Lasseter Park





# Project Selection Criteria

- Safety/Condition
- Accessibility
- Stakeholder Input
- Programming Opportunity
- Play Value
- Site Context
- Place-making Quality
- Funding/Cost
- Leveraging Opportunities
- Permitting Required



**PARD:**  
Playgrounds

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Legend

Orange dot	PARD Maintained Playgrounds	Green dot	Single Member Districts
Blue outline	City of Austin Parks	1	1
Blue outline	Lakes	2	2
		3	3
		4	4
		5	5
		6	6
		7	7
		8	8
		9	9
		10	10

AUSTIN PARKS & RECREATION



# Project List

	Block Funding
■ Odom School Park (2) _____	\$325,000
■ Lucy Read School Park (7) _____	\$125,000
■ Kealing School Park (1) _____	\$150,000
■ Eastwoods Neighborhood Park (9) _____	\$100,000
■ Parque Zaragosa Neighborhood Park (3) _____	\$200,000
■ Perry Neighborhood Park (10) _____	\$100,000
■ Mountain View Neighborhood Park (6) _____	\$150,000
	<u>\$1,150,000</u>





# Project List

(with APF contribution)

	APF Funding	Block Funding
■ Odom School Park (2) _____		\$325,000
■ Lucy Read School Park (7) _____		\$125,000
■ Kealing School Park (1) _____		\$150,000
■ Eastwoods Neighborhood Park (9) _____		\$100,000
■ Parque Zaragosa Neighborhood Park (3) _____	\$200,000	
■ Perry Neighborhood Park (10) _____		\$100,000
■ Mountain View Neighborhood Park (6) _____		\$150,000
■ Joslin Park (2) _____		\$100,000
■ Norman School Park (1) _____		\$ 75,000
■ Onion Creek Metro Park (2) _____		\$ 25,000
		\$1,150,000



# Questions



