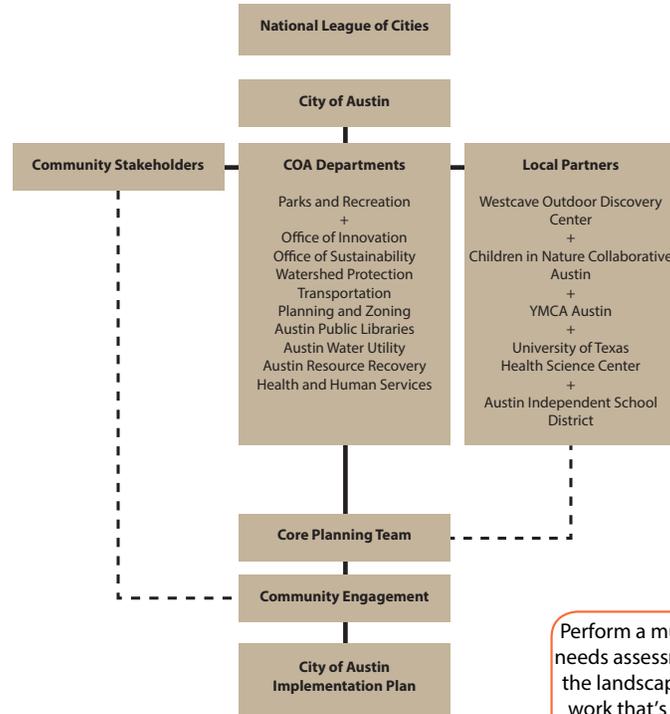


Cities Connecting Children to Nature, Planning Grant Fact Sheet

The City of Austin is one of six cities nationwide who has received a \$25,000 grant from the project partners for Cities Connecting Children to Nature (CCCN) that will help fund a plan to better connect children with nature. The Parks and Recreation Department dedicated an additional \$25,000 in capital planning funding to assist in the planning effort.

Team

The City of Austin, Parks and Recreation Department began the grant proposal process with local partners, including the Children in Nature Collaborative Austin (CINCA) after attending the National League of Cities Leadership Academy. The core planning team includes local partners, community stake holders, and City of Austin Departments who will develop an implementation plan to increase equitable and abundant connections between children and nature.



Project Vision

1. Identify Nature Gaps
2. Formalize and institutionalize efforts across all departments
3. Interact with community organizations and neighborhood planning efforts
4. Innovate to drive participation in programs for the underserved communities

Project Goals

1. Encourage and build commitment among local community and municipal leaders
2. Identify key policy, program, partnership and leadership strategies and issues for exploration during planning period
3. Engage and consult with target communities and youth in community assessment and planning

Project Outcomes

1. Increase the number and depth of connections to nature among low-income children and children of color
2. Identify communities or neighborhoods for targeted efforts to increase equitable access to nature

Website

For updates, additional information and more visit the project website at: www.austintexas.gov/cccn

Contact

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Project Schedule

The core planning team will meet twice a month throughout the planning process, along with monthly check-in calls with the National League of Cities Team and the Children and Nature Network. The core planning team will also conduct a series of public meetings through late spring. An online survey will be available to gather data from those unable to attend the public meetings.

