



SPEAKUP *Austin!*

January 2019

speakupaustin.org/aarcmp-update



Asian American Resource Center Master Plan Update Community Engagement Report

The City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department is developing a new vision and Master Plan for the Asian American Resource Center (AARC).



Asian American Resource Center
8401 Cameron Road, Austin, Texas 78754
512-974-1700 | austintexas.gov/aarc



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Introduction

The City of Austin's newest cultural facility is housed within the Parks and Recreation Department. This center represents a long-awaited dream for many in the community, and was made possible through an Austin voter-approved 2006 Bond Package for \$5 million with a \$750,000 investment from the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration. Members of the local Asian American Pacific Islander community contributed pro-bono services for the design. The center opened to the public on October 1, 2013.



Mission

The **mission** of the Asian American Resource Center (AARC) is to provide spaces, services, resources, and programs through an Asian American Pacific Islander perspective.

Vision

The **vision** is to empower Austin's diverse communities through cultural understanding and life-enhancing opportunities.

Master Plan

A **master plan** is a document designed to guide the future actions of a community. It presents a vision for the future, with long-range goals and objectives for all activities that affect the future of the site.



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Master Plan Values Statements

These statements are not final. We hope to seek your feedback. They are not intended to create a new mission or vision for the AARC, but rather guide the master planning process and advance the mission and vision.

- Future plans should advance the mission and vision of the center as a cultural and life-enhancing space.
- To cultivate cross cultural Asian American experiences.
- To create opportunities for intergenerational experiences both indoors and outdoors.
- The space should be flexible; capable of supporting a wide range of programming with a priority for cultural arts and active life activities.
- Design should reflect Asian American identities.
- New development must meet the present and future needs of staff (offices, storage, meeting space).
- Acknowledge and incorporate previous planning processes to the maximum extent possible.
- Use sustainable planning practices to take full advantage of current and future resources and funding.

Small Group Discussion Summary

- 10 small group discussions facilitated
- 154 participants
- Outreach conducted to over 200 organizations

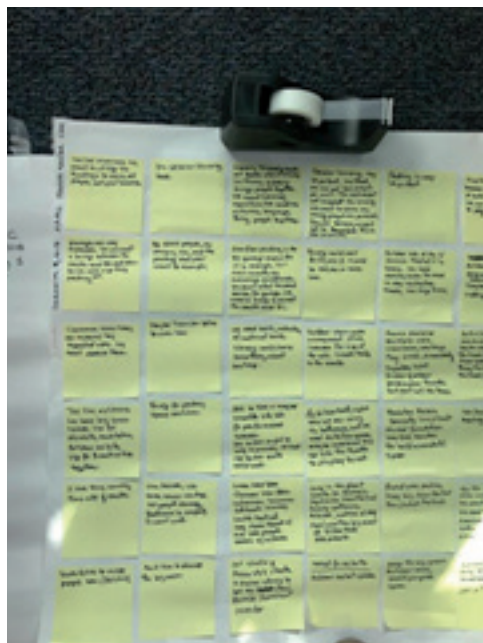
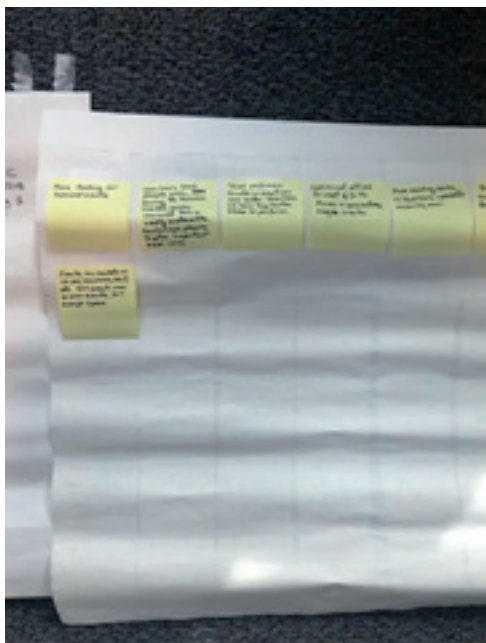
Small Group Discussion #1

Saturday, December 8, 2018

10:00 am- 11:30 am

Asian American Resource Center Classroom #1

Network of Asian American Organizations (NAAO) Groups- ACTCC



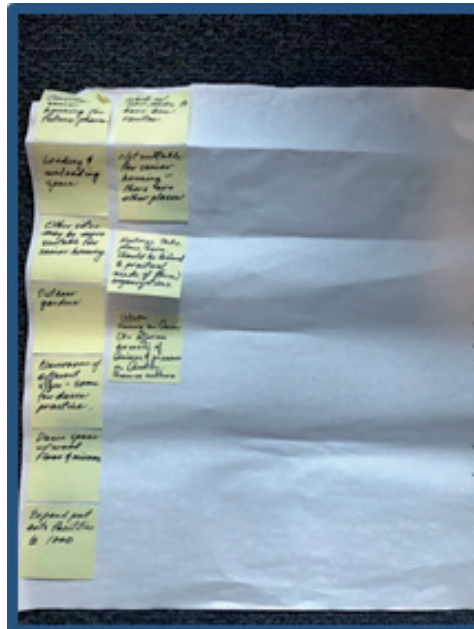
Small Group Discussion #2

Saturday, December 8, 2018

11:30 am- 1:00 pm

Asian American Resource Center Classroom #1

Network of Asian American Organizations (NAAO) Combined Groups



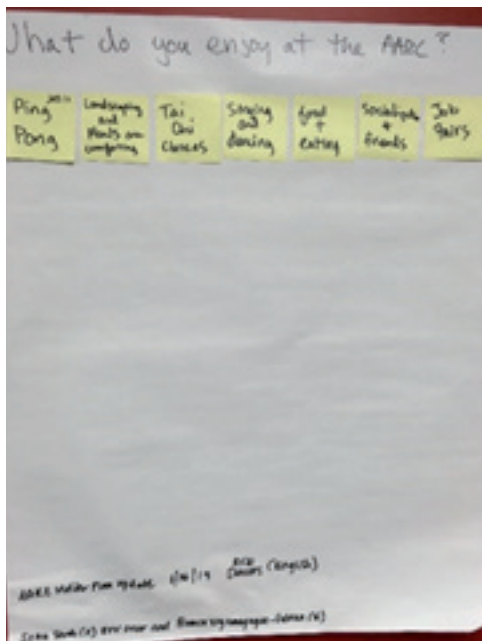
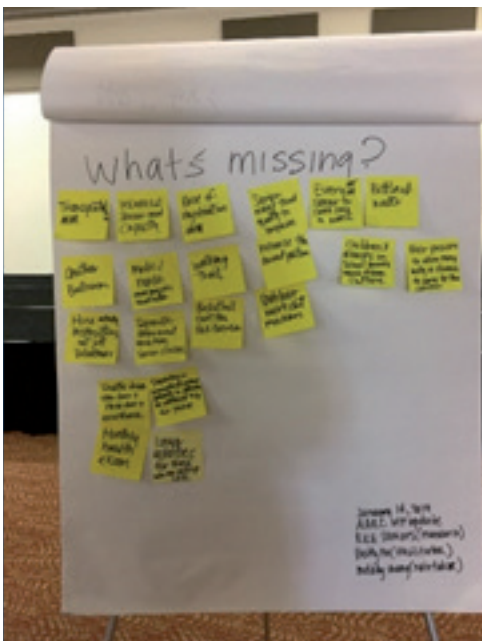
Small Group Discussion #3

Date: Monday, January 14, 2019

Time: 10-11:30am

Location: AARC Ballroom and Classroom 1

AARC Seniors



Small Group Discussion #4

Date: Tuesday, January 15, 2019

Time: 10:00-11:30am

Location: AARC Ballroom and Classroom 1

Groups: AARC Seniors



Small Group Discussion #5

Date: Wednesday, January 15, 2019

Time: 10-11:30am

Location: AARC Ballroom and Classroom 1

AARC Seniors



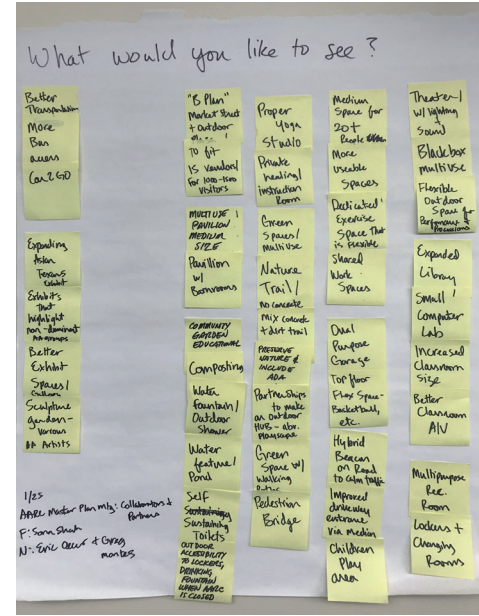
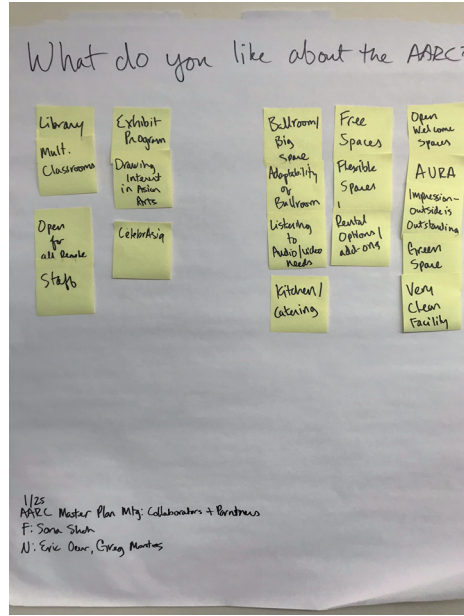
Small Group Discussion #8

Date: Thursday, January 24, 2019
 Time: 6:30-8pm
 Location: AARC Conference Room
 Renters and Community Room Users



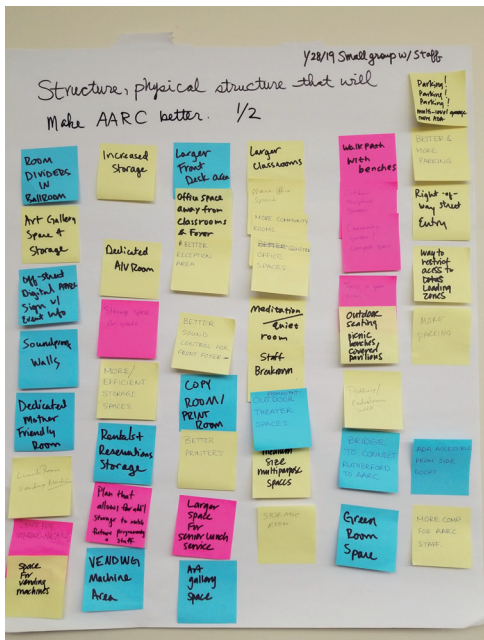
Small Group Discussion #9

Date: Friday, January 25, 2019
 Time: 1-2:30pm
 Location: AARC Conference Room
 Partners and Collaborators



Small Group Discussion #10

Date: Monday, January 28, 2019
 Time: 1:00-3pm
 Location: AARC Conference Room
 Groups: AARC Staff



Small Group Discussion Comments

Sorted by Theme

SENIOR HOUSING

- No senior housing here.
- Senior house is very important. We think we can put two people per unit. The cost might not support the housing. We want to serve as many people as possible. Senior housing might not be reasonable. This is low priority.
- Consider senior housing for future phases
- Other sites may be more suitable for future senior housing
- Not suitable for senior - housing there are other places
- Senior housing needs to be near resources- SR. Ecosystem

SENIOR MEALS

- More Outreach for Food Vendors for senior meals
- Senior meals available on Fridays
- Increase transportation and number of meals served
- Increase the meal portions
- Café or grill options for senior lunch
- Improve Senior meal quality
- Increase senior meal capacity
- (Improve) Quality of Chinese Food
- Hot water dispenser access (10)
- Want a place where we can bring our own lunch
- Meeting friends-need a place to talk and have lunch
- Meal quality is poor (4)
- Cafeteria seating is limited and receive poor service (5)

- Need more tea, water, esp. the water (7)
- More hot drinks and more hot water (3)
- Don't take away drink, water, people need to drink
- Expand the senior cafeteria
- Want better food (5)
- Select more than one provider
- Increased vendor selection with AARC
- 2 rooms for lunch- loud and quiet (2)
- More snacks during program
- More hot water and coffee supplies
- Increased space for lunch
- Senior lunch registration-no way to check registration and confirmation
- Larger space for senior lunch service

SENIOR PROGRAMS

- Nice to see senior activities here and seniors come to participate, Majong, cards, separate area
- Mahjong gives us longer life, but it is too small
- Viewings on the Big TV should be in multi-languages
- Longer activities for those who are picked up later
- Separate senior meal space from senior classes
- Hire activity instructors, not just volunteers
- Monthly health exams
- Bottles of water
- Every Senior to come once a week(10)

- Ease of Registration (10)
- A fair process to allow everyone to come to the center
- Medic/Nurse for emergencies and medication
- Games like Mahjong
- Ping-Pong
- Art crafts and Calligraphy class
- Choir and singing class
- Childcare are for grandchildren
- Community competitive activities
- Senior technology class
- Tai chi
- Mahjong sets tables
- Senior choir (3)
- Line Dancing
- Ping pong community
- Arts and Crafts
- AARC services and constant improvements
- More senior classroom space(5)
- Language classes
- Workshops about Senior Resources
- Hope the AARC gets a big budget for classes and instructors
- Ping pong gym
- Free programs on weekend for seniors so teach ping pong
- Promote Ping pong for youth to teach them the basics
- Ping pong tournament for seniors
- Buy 50-60 more balls and paddles and replacement nets
- Ping pong is our main activity here-it improves memory
- Ping pong is good for physical health as well. No carpet.
- Hard wood floor for ping pong
- Long waits for ping pong-need more room for ping pong
- Ping pong exercise improves my health
- Ping pong-more rooms and tables
- Row of hooks where we can hang coats and bags in ballroom (during activities)
- Have one building for all senior programs
- Room for Senior activities and crafts
- During daytime need classes in crochet and knitting
- Art classes were fun
- Chinese classes-not well attended
- More tai chi, outdoor dance and more gatherings
- Time is not enough at AARC-need more time at AARC
- Increase English conversation class
- More activities
- Activities catered to seniors
- Improve registration process
- Extend the RICE program time (3)
- Want English classes
- More activities, more people, more food
- More arts and craft classes
- More instructors for classes
- More programs after lunch
- Chinese knitting class
- More space for increased SAIVA members
- Senior program with more interaction among different cultural/ethnic groups
- Add educational component to the RICE program, not just food
- Revamp senior program
- More Ping Pong table, Senior Bingo, Chess, Card games, more Space for Seniors, Hot Water Drinking Fountain, More Senior Activity Space

TRANSPORTATION

- Maybe more transportation to the center.
- Depending on congregations pick-up demands to determine an additional trip for pick-up
- Shuttle driver opens door and close door for assistance
- Transportation (44)
- 20-25 passenger van
- Shuttle driver assist in getting in and out of vehicle (5)
- Big bus that take more people to center
- More shuttle pick up points (5)
- Need shuttle from Far West area because many

seniors there, no bus

- More shuttles and more seats (13)
- Limited bus seating and more shuttles (18)
- Improved transportation
- Transportation important for seniors
- Better transportation access to site
- More bus access
- Car 2 Go

KITCHEN

- Use kitchen for personal events
- Access to food warmers in the kitchen
- Vending machines for paid water, coffee, refreshments
- Better Kitchen use for senior programs
- Classroom space that can be used for cooking classes
- Like Sustainable Food Center set-up
- Cooking classes in the kitchen
- True scrapolator in kitchen for food disposal
- Larger dumpster
- Improved water lines in kitchen and bathroom
- Better water lines for equipment kitchen & bathroom issues

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

- Interested in yoga
- Ping Pong Tournament- opportunities to be active
- Bigger room for ping-pong- no carpet and more tables
- High ceilings for the rooms
- Similar to Gus Garcia Recreation Center: Gym for cardio and weights
- A gym with elliptical machines with TV's
- Basketball court like at Gus Garcia
- Senior Tai chi
- Badminton
- Dance Class
- More ping pong space; more tables; more height
- Hope to be the Tai chi cap. Of the U.S.
- Gymnasium to play badminton

- More exercise classes
- Path for exercise.
- Need exercise room with treadmill and rowing machine
- Tennis and golf classes
- Increase senior activities, gym exercise equipment
- Yoga/dance studio with mirrors
- Tai Chi and qigong room
- More Ping-pong tables
- Stationary bikes and treadmills
- Outdoor exercise equipment
- Basketball and tennis Court
- Better access to ballroom equipment
- Multi-purpose gym
- Gym and fitness equipment
- No carpet in big room
- Larger spaces for classes with movement like Ai-kido, judo and gymnastics
- Large open area-no tables or chairs-gym mats avail.-dedicated to dance/exercise
- Storage room for instruments, mats and equipment
- Wood floor best flooring for multi-purpose space
- Partitions for spaces allow flexibility
- Multi-purpose rooms
- Spaces with mats for Asian classes-Martial arts, physical activities
- Proper yoga studio
- Private healing/instruction room
- Lockers and changing rooms
- Staff training on CPR/1st Aid/emergencies
- Renaissance Fair/Field Trips
- Exercise Equipment
- Dance classes
- Recreation space that can be multipurpose rented space, wood floors, gym equipment available and can be stored when not in use
- Rec & game room
- Dedicated space for yoga, dance, wood floors, mirrors, barre
- Separate recreation building area
- A space or gym for people to do exercise. This is a

good way to bring whole family to AARC. Adults can do exercise while children can attend art class or events

- have a sauna room, everyday yoga classroom, fitness/equipment room, steam room
- need bigger game rooms for ping pong
- Space to store mats
- A large room specifically designed for Tai Chi, Qi Gong, martial arts, and dance with a mirrored wall would be wonderful.
- large rooms for ping pong
- I suggest a yoga room and medical room
- Sound proofing ping pong.
- Pool, baseball field, gym
- Gym, pool, baseball field

MEETING SPACE/CLASSROOMS/PROGRAMS IN GENERAL

- Meeting (space) is very important because we pay less here. A hotel charges more. We use sponsorships to pay.
- Classroom sometimes reserved by repeated user and they are never able to other users.
- Rooms should have multiple use: play IMAX; projectors, lights.
- Use the facility for meeting people.
- For the government to come and host events. We need to know how the American government works and how to become citizens.
- We need to invite our sister city citizens to visit (Taichun).
- The classroom should be double in size to hold 30-40 individuals.
- Separate building for classrooms and offices.
- New Bldg. for classrooms of different sizes.
- Expand current bldg. with several classrooms
- Meetings take place here should be tailored for the Asian organizations
- Inside more classrooms
- Kids play room (2)
- Additional classrooms
- Additional community rooms (2)
- Additional art studios (2)
- Assembly Hall(2)
- Ballroom
- Multi-purpose room
- Subdivide big room
- Bigger rooms
- Language classes
- Career development classes
- Cooking classes
- Make better use of the current bldg.: install partitions in ballroom
- Some people do not like the partitions because of the sounds
- Oral History
- Programs Reflecting identity and history
- More meet ups community based events
- Adult programs
- Sharing gifts and ideas exchange
- Archive room to store sister city's item
- All age programs
- Studio with shelving with divisions for different programs
- Workshop spaces for artists
- More access to free community rooms
- More frequency of community rooms
- Need larger rooms and room # 8 is too small
- Offer multiple classes to community
- Game room for darts, karem and ping-pong
- Medium space/room for 20+ people
- Small computer lab
- Increase classroom size
- Better classroom A/V
- Multipurpose rec room
- Need a medical room and yoga room
- Yoga space essential activity, not ancillary
- Bigger classrooms (yoga, doll making)
- Intergenerational programming
- Asian American history programs for all ages - seniors, adults, youth
- Instructor split option
- Social justice programs on AAPI history and communities of color
- Discussion groups and speakers on current affairs

- More partnerships with other PARD's programs and divisions (Nature/Rec)
- More collaborative partnerships
- Nature programming
- Movie night
- More diverse groups
- Host a Tet festival/other big holidays from different cultures
- Interethnic programs
- Cooking classes
- Room dividers in ballroom
- Soundproof wall
- Dedicated A/V room
- Meditation/quiet room
- Medium size multipurpose spaces
- More community rooms
- Sound insulated rooms
- Space for Educational Programming is imperative since AARC holds the space for AAPI cultural engagement at a community/city level. At a higher institutional/community level you have the capacity to outreach to these communities, don't lose that focus.
- More tables/spaces and better floors for the ping pong rooms
- More freely available meeting spaces
- The facility to be open on Sundays and more after business hours - Most community programs are run by volunteers who can only help during non-business hours.
- Larger multipurpose spaces, currently AARC does not have medium sized spaces, dance flooring, sound insulation
- recreation space be seperated from the main building, seperate classroom for ESL (it smells like a gym)
- clean more and bigger classrooms
- needs a dedicated library and history/heritage room, with AV facilities for oral history and archives
- exercise room, ample library, movie theater
- need more classrooms and maybe a larger area that will allow larger groups to meet and work
- larger classroom space with media support; larger library/resource room; computer lab; self-serve

food

- Having a larger classroom or/and rehearsal space. Not as big as the main room, but bigger than the classrooms.
- Office for the staff in the existing or new building,
- Technology: built in projector, computer lab
- Bigger whiteboards in classrooms; more stability in projectors
- Yoga studio, theater outdoor, trails, outdoor garden, exhibit space, more projectors in classrooms
- Capacity-building and services for immigrants and refugees, cultural programming for 2nd and 3rd gen folks, not all food, fashion, and heritage (TM)
- Gift Exchange and Wellness programs for adults & children e.g. yoga, martial arts
- holistic yoga class is very good class to add to AARC program
- more workshops and events that are all ages, regular book club, community dinners
- guide for people about the responsibilities in the USA as many are green card holders
- Classes/discussions regarding race consciousness, tackling oppressive systems as Asian Americans, talking about activism
- Activities for folks with mobility issues

OUTDOOR USES

- Outdoor use of the 15 acres mostly trees and we have a lot of restrictions like flood zones and heritage trees.
- Outdoor: Tai chi, exercise, meditation spaces. Maybe, we could build underground.
- Outdoor storm water management would enable us to create trails in the woods.
- Outdoor tai chi, we have big green spaces to use for picnics, meditation, outdoor exhibits and use for other activities.
- Outdoor exhibit space.
- Keep the big green outdoor area, use as a multi-purpose space.
- Outdoor amphitheater for 300 seating, only if funding is available.
- Outdoor space with structures for picnics and kids
- Outdoor gardens
- Gardening Classes
- Grills not kept outdoors

- Outdoor picnic area; covered bathrooms; Picnic tables reservable for birthdays
- Preserve natural landscape
- Walking trail
- Outdoor workout machines
- Senior flower/gardening
- Outdoor covered patio
- Outdoor exercise stations
- Outdoor recreation and classes
- Have a pond area with a little roof
- We want to preserve the big trees-make benches, tables
- Make a garden with trails and a pond
- Water feature (?)
- Murals
- Asian look for the outside
- Enough parking space
- Outside event opportunities
- Chinese gardens
- Picnic areas for family
- Outside stage
- BBQ patio
- Outdoor theater for cultural events
- Parking
- Need more Asian architecture
- Commercial facility
- With Asian style market-shops on both sides and parade type street in the middle
- Water fountain, display outside
- Nice court yard but not used often enough
- Asian style landscaping (2)
- Big lawn for tai chi and yoga (2)
- Picnic
- Outdoor exhibit
- Outdoor performances
- Acquire neighbor's land
- Parking
- Bridge
- Shaded structure
- Picnic benches
- We need lots of outdoor space
- In first Master Plan we did not show as many trees of significant size
- Water feature with bridge over water
- Chinese garden in back
- We need to spend more money on water retention pond
- Outdoor stage
- Small Meditation garden/great outdoor gazebo
- Outdoor market stalls for festivals
- Tea house
- Outdoor performance space
- Permanent outdoor spaces-covered spaces
- Outdoor exercise equipment
- Outdoor seating
- BBQ Picnic
- Walking area
- Pavilion
- Hiking trails
- Flexible outdoor space
- Concrete floor pavilion
- Outdoor benches
- General purpose wall outdoors to hit balls, project movies
- BBQ pits, water fountains, outlets outdoors
- Picnic space, flat grass for more flexible outdoor space for activities
- Like Site map allows for joint outdoor/indoor activities
- Covered walk-way or covered bridge between buildings
- Outdoor movies (screen seating)
- Gathering place for outdoor events
- Outdoor lighting
- Covered pavilions
- Large outdoor space needed for night markets and festivals
- Outdoor rotating sculpture garden from various Asian American artists
- Multiuse pavilion medium size
- Pavilion with bathrooms
- Community garden educational

- Composting
- Water fountains outside/outdoor showers
- Water feature outside/pond
- Self sustaining toilets
- Outdoor accessibility to lockers, drinking fountains when AARC is closed
- Green spaces/multiuse
- Nature trails/no concrete
- Mix concrete and dirt trails
- Preserve nature and include ADA
- Partnerships to make an outdoor HUB - abv. play-scape
- Green space with walking paths
- Pedestrian bridge
- Flexible outdoor space for performances and processions
- Gardening
- Gardening lessons
- Trails
- Need benches outdoor seating
- Covered outdoor area
- Compost area
- Environmental programs - connecting people to nature
- Permanent outdoor theater space
- Outdoor sculpture garden
- Community garden/composting space
- Trails in green area
- Outdoor seating picnic benches/covered pavilions
- Permanent ping pong rooms outside
- Lights in the great lawn with outlets
- Outdoor lighting in lawn and better perimeter lighting
- Playground
- Dedicated outdoor electrical water
- Outdoor work station
- More public seating areas
- Outdoor ping pong
- Small 50 by 50 feet rubber fenced in play area for soccer/basketball

- Outdoor work station
- More public seating areas
- Outdoor ping pong
- Small 50 by 50 feet rubber fenced in play area for soccer/basketball
- Outdoor work station
- outdoor playground, amenities for kids
- Community garden, educational opportunity, connecting children to nature at AISD school parks
- Seating, organic garden, gathering space, kids play area, amphitheater, performing space, trails
- Outside of the building very dark and not very decorative (you can't look at the outside and tell what the inside is about)
- lighting, seating areas, outdoor stage, outdoor facilities such as restrooms, electricity and water access for outdoor events, playground
- An area for festivals that can accommodate 2,000 to 3,000 attendees. Provide large tents for accidental rains on event days.
- Pavillion, maybe an outdoor amphitheater, play-scape and swing, oriental pond
- Have an outdoor performance space and parking
- Bamboo garden with trails
- More shaded gazebo/pavilion and walking trail. More exercise equipment for seniors.
- Outdoor easy to use and operate community kitchen

EVENT SPACE

- Special Event celebrations: Lunar New Year, Chinese New Year, Vietnamese, Taiwanese celebrate in January. Lantern festival and May Asian Feast with over 1000 people. July is the ghost month; Sept. Moon Festival; Oct. Day of Nation; April is another big event at Zilker with over 1000 people; End of year parties.
- To increase participation, divide the big room.
- We want to take the next step to host more events and activities
- Original plan is put up partitions in the ballroom.
- Extend the Main Hall and add partitions.
- Another ballroom
- Assembly Hall(2)
- Ballroom

- Multi-purpose room
- Asian Heritage Festival
- Family adult programming
- People have place to host event, especially Asian community
- Groups have access to rooms to practice our dances
- More audio and friendly sound system for indoor public concerts
- Chinese New Year celebration every year
- Bengali community involved on Asia Fest
- More open large spaces
- Space for spoken word
- Appreciate Senior Lunch
- Several room with flexible walls for larger rooms
- Reservation system not good, need online access
- Medium sized party space for 50-100 people
- Better sound system in ballroom
- Bigger event space
- More flexible booking options

PERFORMING ARTS

- Indoor and outdoor performance theater, but do not cut the trees.
- 300-500 or maybe smaller like 150 seating for a performance space to keep cost lower.
- Use for dance. Some senior centers support 100 people dancing. The Ballroom is carpeted so it will not work.
- AFFA uses this space for dance and it is too small. There are spaces for dance, yoga, in other places.
- The stage needs to be enlarged and stairs added to access the stage.
- All the events are centered on performances.
- Most of the building use is for performance arts. We need a room for 1000 person capacity.
- Bigger stage is needed.
- Use rooms in current facility for green room/ dressing room
- Performing arts require a taller space with 30% devoted to the stage
- Repurpose the bldg. as a performing art center
- Loading and unloading space

- Classroom of different sizes-some for dance practice
- Dance space with wood floors and mirrors
- Expand performance arts to 1000
- Evening entertainment
- A multi-purpose room with wood floors with mirrors for dance class;
- Music rehearsal space
- Performance Center Theater
- Keyboard for music rehearsal
- Performance theater
- Theater
- Need a real theater
- Moonflower Dance-we practice here but only 2x; Also fashion show
- Performance Space
- Dedicated Black box Theater
- Improved Stage and Sound system
- Multi-purpose theater space
- Bigger space
- Reconfigurable spaces
- Multi-purpose spaces
- Film screenings with stadium seating
- Two theater spaces
- Better lighting
- Storage rooms
- Large open building space
- Proper staging
- Outdoor performance space
- Theater needs backstage, good lighting, good stage
- Theater similar to Carver, but bigger
- Theater/Performance space for 250-300 individuals
- Desire to foster arts but need the space
- Theater Performing Arts Auditorium, 300-400
- Blackbox multi-use
- Theater with lighting and sound
- Theater space
- Asia themed performing arts
- More performing arts

- Green room space
- Performing arts space 300-450 seats
- Blackbox flex space
- Theater
- Real theater for performances and films
- Green rooms/dressing rooms for performing arts space. Also would love to have a larger stage areas for performances, because existing stage is rather small and ceiling is fairly low.
- We need a performance space that can be used for live theatre, live comedy, open mic, concerts, film screenings. Preferably a tiered auditorium or black box theatre.
- A high quality performing center
- Large stage, dedicated light / sound system for performances, a backstage area, green room, additional changing rooms.
- performing area should have a proper stage
- artist need a "green room" to change costumes. It would be helpful to have a room that has curtains and full length mirror
- Adequate stage and theater lights, dressing rooms, art and music classrooms that are appropriate for different mediums (classrooms are not soundproof at all), no dedicated gallery space, classrooms are a bit too small currently

EXHIBITIONS

- Exhibition Hall- Right now, we are using the hallways but we need a separate exhibit space. Maybe, we could have multi-purpose use like use the theater to display the art.
- Gallery
- Exhibit of Asian culture
- More community exhibits
- More exhibit room
- Art Gallery
- More AA history with rotating exhibits
- Gallery workshop space with flexible storage
- Expanding Asian Texans exhibit
- Exhibits that highlight non-dominant Asian American groups
- Better exhibit/gallery space
- Interactive art exhibit openings\
- Artists demonstrations, teaching. Murals. A sculpture garden.

- The center needs a dedicated gallery space, studio spaces and classrooms for summer camps.
- I'd like to see a more formal, expanded gallery space specifically designed for art and artists that is open to the public.
- I think the Gallery or Exhibition should be extended. Community room for people to share some information about asian culture.
- Art gallery space & storage

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING

- We brought our grandson to Chinese event to learn about Chinese yo-yo, This would not have happened without the AARC
- Community corner for kids with cleanable surfaces
- Children play area
- Programs for young adults
- More children activities – partnerships with children organizations (Girl Scouts)
- More play space for children.

LIBRARY

- Library can be used to read and check out books about many cultures. Library brings people together. We want learning opportunities such as cultures and languages. Bring people together.
- We need a collection of cultural books. The library could house books about our heritage.
- More Chinese books and magazines at the library
- Expand library-Chinese books
- Library with Asian and Asian American Lit.
- Real catalog of books- check out books
- Proper library
- Expanded library
- Library better equipped, more seating, larger
- More books/lending
- Library needs to be expanded
- Library check out system
- Real library
- Better library system
- More dedicated staff for library

PARKING

- Parking is very important.

- Garages are very expensive, so we want a bridge between the Center and next door so we can use this parking lot.
- For 5000 people, the parking is used and the parking next door is not enough,
- So far there is enough parking for the overflow for our main events on evenings and weekends. We do not want to spend money on garages. We want a bridge to connect the center and the other side of the street.
- A bridge could cost \$150,000-200,000.00 or more.
- Bridge for parking next door.
- Parking garage to address the parking shortage.
- Parking is critical: ratio of sq. ft. to parking spots is not good
- Flexible parking
- Car bridge to parking lot next door
- More Parking
- New building more important than parking
- Multi-story parking for large events
- More parking is critical
- Multi-story parking garage
- Dual purpose parking garage - Top floor flex space for basketball court etc.
- More land for parking
- Parking! Parking! Parking! Multi-level garage/More ADA spaces
- Better and more parking
- Parking/pedestrian walk
- Park hours 300-500 spaces (?)
- Parking during business hours
- Better parking arrangement. Not necessarily more spaces, but agreements with nearby facilities to use their space in non-Business hours. Perhaps a golf cart to shuttle older people from nearby lots.
- Easier access to building from outside. Having to turn around when I drive through parking lot to exit can be improved.
- If building a separate building there should be a sky bridge or a path to connect the two buildings
- Gateway structure (?)
- Colorful gate
- I do not like the street adjacent to Cameron-better to have two buildings adjacent to Cameron
- Study # 1: Make traffic on-way with one entrance and one exit
- Street light at Cameron Road
- Building to connect each other, not outside walk way
- Parking for seniors must be closer to building
- More towards central/west Austin(2)
- Connect building together
- Access to Main Bldg. from backside-too far.
- Instead a pedestrian bridge, create a vehicular bridge over the creek
- During construction do not make parking hard
- Clean creek -access to AARC (?)
- Hard to leave AARC, have to make a U-turn
- Hybrid Beacon on road to calm traffic
- Improved driveway entrance via median
- ADA accessible bridge
- Bridge to connect Rutherford to AARC
- Right of way street entry
- Ways to restrict access to loading zones
- ADA accessible from side doors
- Left turn or a traffic light
- Please improved ability to enter and exit the building parking lot. If coming from North on Dessau you will have to make a U-turn to enter and if coming south from Dessau will have to make a U-turn to leave
- foot bridge to easily access the police parking lot from the AARC parking lot. Canopies on the outdoor lawns for people to enjoy the outside.
- Removal of road median so cars do not have to do dangerous u-turns and circle around on Cameron Rd, dedicated performing arts stage or black box theatre, more to do outside (maybe a playground), brighter lighting at night for safety.
- The bldg is difficult to access. The bus stops are a long way from the center, especially from the north. There are no accessible entrances on the south side of the bldg.

ACCESS

- Crossing the street is dangerous
- Work with CAP Metro to have bus routes
- Crossing Cameron Rd is dangerous
- The AARC needs a bridge right away.
- Access by road is difficult going south

ASIA STYLE STREET

- Art studio and Asian style streets. 10 Asian stores for a private investor/government venture.
- Area for lots of vendors and more space needed for vendors
- Asian style market with Asian products
- Asian street with bldg.-2 buildings with street in the middle
- Place for parade and plaza for dances
- Commercial zone with consulate offices, Asian style commercial bazaar
- Parking and Building Access Improvement
- "B Plan" – Market street and outdoor plaza to fit 15 vendors/for 1000-1500 visitors

TRADITIONS/CULTURAL EXCHANGE

- Activities for Asian communities: Culture center should carry the traditions of the Asian communities and bring the kids to see the traditions.
- 30,000 Indians in Austin now. For years we talked about having a place to meet and extend culture for our kids, a multi-generational experience
- Asians come together to learn about each other and come to a community center to learn about each other's culture
- Values: Having an Asian Center affirms diversity of Asians and presence in Austin, preserve culture.
- Children's camps about Asian culture during school breaks
- Asian heritage
- Our identity
- Languages cultural exchanges
- Become heart of Asian Community
- Important to maintain culture through food

OTHER

- Houston Asian Society is a privately owned foundation. New York and Houston built a wonderful space.
- Asian population has increased 8% or 120,000
- Many of us are involved with the City through boards and Commissions. We are giving to the

City. This center is for the entire City, bringing the City together.

- Here the City connects with the community. We are a national model for Pan-Asian Center.
- Demonstrate to the nation how Asian cultures can work together.
- How can this be affordable.
- Round Rock has rooms with capacity for 800, 400, 250 and 100 which are affordable.
- Too small and too expensive for a Chinese School
- Not enough free rooms-affordability is an issue
- Give discounts to nonprofits
- Raising prices: too expensive
- Too small and too expensive for a Chinese school
- Not enough free rooms- affordability is an issue
- No Meals on Wheels- food quality is lacking
- Suggestion box
- Building trust that reflects the community
- Community Board for selling and providing services
- Staff improved problem solving
- More meetings like this to small group to share experiences
- More evening and weekend hours
- Need more than 6 months to book here
- More security cameras
- Community boards
- Promote options that allow people to use bldg., parking (?)
- Built in speakers and audio input for all rooms
- More usable space
- Off-street digital AARC sign with event info
- Dedicated mother friendly room
- Lunch room, vending room
- Space for vending machine
- Storage space for staff
- More efficient/storage spaces
- Rentals and reservations storage
- Plan that allows for additional storage to match future programming and staff
- Larger front desk area

- Office space away from classrooms & foyer
- Better reception area
- Better sound control for front foyer
- Copy room/print room
- Better printers
- More office space
- Quieter office spaces
- Meditation/quiet room
- Staff breakroom
- Mother friendly room
- Ways to restrict access to loading zones
- Baby changing station in men's bathroom
- Restrooms in front
- Add more restrooms
- Form AND function of design
- Better HVAC system, building temp fluctuates drastically day to day
- Too many microclimates, better building temperature
- Sound proof rooms
- Storage room
- More comp. for AARC staff (?)
- Better equipment, laptops slow
- Full building sound/PA system; Building PA system for safety and communication
- Sound proof rooms
- Recreation equipment public can check out
- Better building signage and night visibility
- Rooms with windows
- Solar panels
- Storage space for facility equipment
- Furniture needs to be better foldable, configure tables, less bulky chairs
- Ping pong
- Awesome staff
- I come for community (9)
- After coming to the AARC for the first time, I wanted to come every week because the people are great!
- In women's room, water splashes everywhere
- Need Chinese signage in bathrooms
- In women's room, older women don't know the difference between papers
- The facility
- Heart of Asian activities
- Can hold large public events with kitchen facilities
- Large number of small classroom
- Very convenient location
- Very nice big room for events and many meeting rooms
- Brings Austinites together to appreciate Asian culture and heritage
- Staff service is great
- Excellent design architecturally
- Ballroom for events
- Display windows in Hallway
- Classroom for meeting
- Kitchen for food supplies
- Green area outside the building
- Many programs
- Welcoming
- Sharing
- Senior lunch
- Celebrating
- Community
- Tourist attraction
- Connect with next generation
- Enjoy use of the rooms
- Always something new here
- Family friendly programming
- Building lay-out, good flow
- Space reflects demographics
- Asian and Asian-American programs
- Art Exhibits (10)

What I appreciate about the AARC

- I love this country, this city and this center.
- So happy to be here
- Love being her, getting out of the house
- Like being with other Chinese people
- Happy being here like the socializing
- Able to find friends who speak my language

- Free parking
- Ambiance- indoor and outdoor
- Ability to showcase accessible, diverse shows and programs
- Zen garden
- Fact that the AARC exists
- Accessibility
- Green space and trees
- Programs for various age groups
- Ping pong
- Friendly staff(2)
- Seniors having a great time
- Library
- Building is nicely maintained
- Great community feedback at events
- Community events (2)
- Open space without obstacles
- Décor
- Senior meals
- Asian American Hist. Exhibits
- Feels like family
- Lunch
- Tai chi and Qigong
- Senior Fitness
- More Socialization
- Ping pong
- Library that includes Asian American authors for youth and adults
- Multipurpose classrooms
- Open for all people
- Staff
- Exhibit program, which draws interests in Asian arts
- CelebrAsia
- Ballroom/big space
- Adaptability of the ballroom
- Listening to the audio/video needs for people using the space
- Kitchen/catering can use
- Free (no cost) space for groups to use
- Flexible spaces
- Rental options with add-ons
- Open welcoming space
- Aura
- Impression - outside is outstanding
- Green space
- Very clean facility, well taken care of
- Opportunities to meet friends
- Good food
- Staff
- Health checkups
- Socialization/meeting friends (11)
- Enjoying classes: painting art, yoga, increase knowledge
- Yoga/health classes
- Central location/close to home
- Exposure to different cultures
- Likes kitchen big
- Enjoys having space for volunteer activities
- Ambience. Friendly, accepting atmosphere
- Likes walking/sitting in outdoor area
- Sitting in the sun
- Enjoys children @ summer camps
- Gardening
- Nice dining area
- Variety of food
- Trees, green space
- Free community rooms
- Love office space, have windows, nice furnishings, large office rooms
- Newer PARD facility - looks nice and clean
- Study #3
- Office space is great (but outgrowing)
- Love the colors outside the facility
- The lotus sculpture
- Art exhibits
- Art work
- Great lawn
- Outdoor trees, sunset on lotus

- Joyful visitors/users of the space
- Love the excitement of a visitor first time to the center
- Meeting seniors
- Zen garden
- Food! Order great food, share great food
- Permanent Asian American space in Austin - public
- Hours are good. Not as long as other centers and rec centers
- Staff
- Diversity of people that come to the facility
- Love the festivals and programs providing space for celebration
- Love the culture

Community Meeting #1

Summary

Tuesday, December 11, 2018
6:00 pm- 8:00 pm
Asian American Resource Center, Ballroom
(Language Services Provided)

General comments:

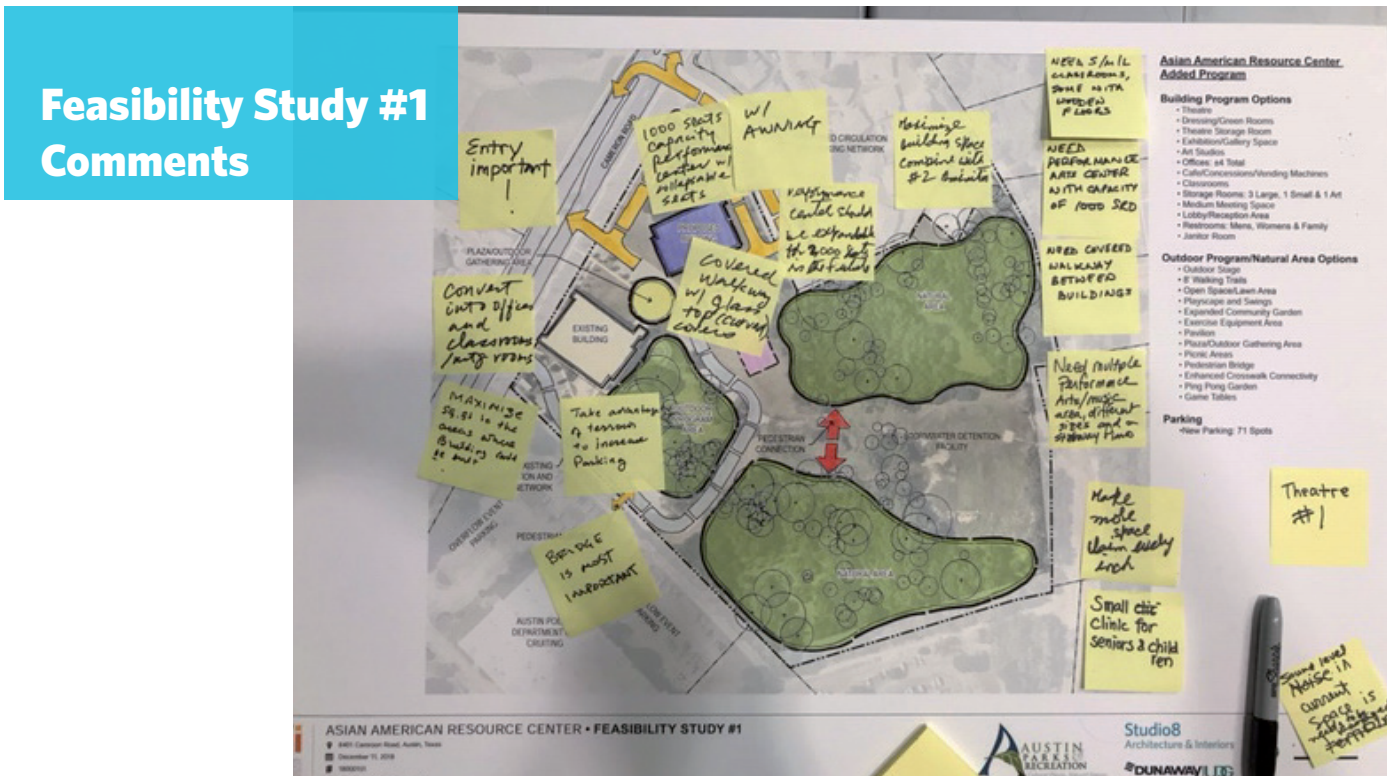
1. Entry Important
2. Convert into offices and classrooms/ management rooms (Existing center)
3. Maximize sq. ft. in the areas where building could be built
4. 1000 seats capacity performance center with collapsible seats with awning
5. Covered walkway with glass top (curved) covers
6. Space for students Robotics (FLL and FTC) to store fields and equipment. Run competitions
7. Café area with internet access
8. Need Small/ Medium/ Large classrooms, some with wooden floors
9. Need Multiple performance Arts/ Music area, different sizes and a Steinway Piano
10. Make more space, claim every inch
11. Small Clinic for seniors and Children
12. Theatre
13. Sound level in the current space needs to be managed.
14. The entrance needs to welcome people showing its always open to Austin people to share many different cultural stories.
15. In the evening, the pedestrian road is too dark to walk or enter the outdoor space
16. College connections information center
17. Need space to offer music arts lessons
18. Community - use cooking space near garden/ showcase with culture w. food
19. Classrooms with wood floors, Y.E.S. (Yoga education in schools) would love to work with R.I.C.E and kids and train with yoga.
20. Yoga studio, medium size with wood floors
21. Music and Cultural Space
22. Need space for violin/ piano rentals, small chamber for music groups
23. Asian sister cities offices/ showcase
24. Co-locating intergenerational activities
25. People come to AARC to enjoy activities and amenities. Make plans to fit that
26. We do not need a park, pool, or Recreational center. We need a buildings and amenities that target the growing needs.
27. Yoga for Kids
28. Mental health counseling space
29. Ability to model programs for other non-Asian facilities in Austin-spread art in all areas of Austin
30. Housing with work opportunity for refugees' services/ asylees close
31. Age-friendly access- current ramp is for those with disabilities drop-off at same level

- 32. Need Japanese room with Tatami to expose to tea ceremony, flower arranging and other arts
- 33. Need performance arts center with capacity of 1000 SRO
- 34. Multipurpose Theatre for film, stage, speaking, music, and reception engagements. 900 seats would be great.
- 35. Space for lectures about Asian history arts, cultures, religions
- 36. Gym space

Outdoor related comments:

- 37. Making playground for children in outdoor space such as natural area
- 38. Food Truck Park
- 39. Outdoor area for Tai-chi and exercise
- 40. Direct transport from where Asian Americans live in Austin

- 41. Please reclaim this area for facilities (natural areas)
- 42. Nature trail and pavilion in lower nature area
- 43. Central part of Natural Area could be used (No Heritage Trees)
- 44. Take advantage of terrain to increase parking
- 45. Bridge is most important
- 46. Japanese style Bridge over the pond
- 47. Need covered walkways between buildings
- 48. Sports facility eg. Basketball court
- 49. The off-site parking is too far for the elderly. Make sure there is enough on-site to accommodate the elderly.
- 50. Outdoor gym for daily activities
- 51. Public transportation/ bus route destination



1. Maximize building space combine with #2 Amenities



Eight one-week camps with different themes to practice mindfulness and explore creative expressions through science, food, dance, exercise, music, and crafts of Asia! Ages: 6 - 10.

Families will have the option to pick and choose weekly camp sessions that suit busy summer schedules.

Fees: Resident: \$150/ Non-Resident: \$165.

Registration opens Saturday, February 16 at 10am* austintexas.gov/parksonline

*10AM FOR CITY OF AUSTIN RESIDENTS; 1PM FOR NON-RESIDENTS

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Fantasy Fun | Explore a world of fantasy with classic fairy tales, sci-fi adventures, and anime.
JUNE 10 - JUNE 14

Compassionate Planet | Discover how you can be kind to animals, people, and the earth.
JUNE 17 - JUNE 21

Meditative Sound | Find inner peace through sound and music.
JUNE 24 - JUNE 28

Innovative Arts | Create art with new approaches and perspectives.
JULY 8 - JULY 12

Mindful Movement | Learn new dances and martial arts with intention and purpose.
JULY 15 - JULY 19

Creative Science | Enjoy scientific experiments with a creative twist.
JULY 22 - JULY 26

Artful Cooking | Apply your artistic touch to cooking.
JULY 29 - AUGUST 2

Time Travelers | Visit the past and future in a time-warp adventure.
AUGUST 5 - AUGUST 9

Camp Hours: Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm. Early drop off and late pick up options available.

For more information visit austintexas.gov/aarc



Asian American Resource Center
8401 Cameron Road, Austin, Texas 78754
512-974-1700