



Quality of Life

- **Affordability:** Grow the City’s efforts to stabilize and sustain neighborhoods, preserve, and expand the supply of housing that is affordable.
- **Community:** Provide social services and housing for individuals experiencing homelessness, mental health and/or substance use disorders.



Local Authority

- **Local Control:** Maintain local control.
- **Public Pensions:** Maintain joint state and local authority over City of Austin employee retirement plans.
- **Local Finances:** Reduce restrictions on the City’s use of financing tools.



Public Safety

- **Emergency Services:** Fund and support Police, Fire, and EMS operations to effectively serve and protect the Austin community.
- **Gun Violence:** Reduce gun violence in coordination with local law enforcement and through community programs.



Infrastructure & Environment

- **Mobility:** Enhance infrastructure safety and deliver critical mobility projects, including Project Connect and Our Future 35.
- **Utilities:** Maintain reliable and sustainable utility services.
- **Outdoor Spaces:** Fund parks, recreation, open space, trails, and tourism.
- **Natural Resources:** Ensure sustainability of the State’s natural resources, including, green infrastructure, water conservation, weatherization and use of sustainable materials.



Growth & Opportunity

- **Land Use:** Preserve property value for Austin taxpayers by protecting the City’s authority to promote good land use.
- **Economic Opportunities:** Support career pathway opportunities, including job training and apprentice programs for students and residents.
- **Innovation:** Foster the responsible use of artificial intelligence (AI).



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**Population:** 981,035 (Austin proper), 2.5 million in the Austin metropolitan area (2025 projected).



**Geography:** Capital of Texas, located in Central Texas along the Colorado River. Known for its rolling hills, Lady Bird Lake, and outdoor activities. Nicknamed “Bat City” for its iconic Congress Avenue Bridge bat colony.



**Budget:** FY 2024-25 approved budget is \$5.9 billion, including \$2.6 billion in new capital appropriations for projects like affordable housing, transportation, and sustainability initiatives.



**Economy:** Known as a global tech hub and innovation center. Key industries include technology, government, education, transportation, healthcare, and creative sectors. Major employers: City of Austin, State of Texas, University of Texas, H-E-B, Dell, Samsung, Apple, and IBM. Unemployment rate: 3.2% (2023).

## CITY SERVICES:



**Parks & Recreation:** 355 parks, 34 swimming pools, 11 splash pads, and the iconic Zilker Park.



**Libraries:** 22 branches providing access to books, digital tools, and community programs.



**Public Safety:** Over 371,000 patrol responses, 7,578 fire incidents dispatched, and 74,652 EMS transports annually.



**Utilities:** Operates Austin Energy and Austin Water, with advanced sustainability programs and a commitment to clean energy.



**Transportation:** Home to Austin-Bergstrom International Airport (21.9 million passengers annually) and major investments in transit such as Project Connect and Our Future 35 to enhance mobility.



**Growth & Innovation:** One of the fastest-growing metro areas in the U.S. Austin’s population has quadrupled since 1970. Continues to lead in sustainability with goals like achieving net-zero emissions by 2040.



**Cultural Highlights:** Celebrated as the “Live Music Capital of the World,” hosting SXSW, Austin City Limits, and a thriving culinary scene with over 2,000 food trucks and award-winning BBQ.



**Government:** Operates under a council-manager form of government. The mayor is elected citywide, and there are 10 council members representing single-member districts.



**Education:** Home to multiple higher education institutions and a school district serving approximately 74,000 students.



**Health:** Investments in public health including homelessness, mental health services and chronic disease prevention programs.



**Equity Initiative:** Committed to affordable housing, supporting our most vulnerable population, including investments in family stabilization programs and homelessness solutions.