



# **Fiscal Year 2024 Annual Report**

# FY24 Financial Overview

## Approved Operating Budget

Community Services	\$72,847,936
Park Planning, Development and Operations	\$34,602,119
Support Services	\$10,902,468
Transfers, Debts, and Other Requirements	\$19,030,061
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$137,382,584</b>

## Funding Sources

City of Austin General Fund	\$107,953,829
PARD General Fund	\$17,548,598
Golf Fund	\$11,880,157
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$137,382,584</b>

## Personnel

Total Full Time Equivalent Staff	811
----------------------------------	-----

## Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Expenditures

Aquatics	\$16,532,264
Athletics	\$725,340
Buildings and Improvements	\$18,841,979
Cemeteries	\$48,938
Golf	\$832,678
Land Acquisition	\$10,590,437
Parks	\$8,378,275
Plans and Studies	\$370,486
Playscapes	\$486,845
Trails	\$9,223,002
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$66,030,242</b>

## CIP Funding Source

Grant	\$3,496
Historic Preservation Fund	\$3,213,263
Non-Voter Approved Debt	\$5,825,243
Other Revenues & Transfers	\$7,037,024
Parkland Dedication	\$14,258,481
Public Improvement Bond	\$35,692,734
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$66,030,242</b>



# A Note from the City Manager



## T.C. Broadnax

### City Manager

*As the City of Austin's City Manager, I'm proud to share the Austin Parks and Recreation Department's (PARD) progress in supporting the values and priorities that are essential to our city. Austinites value access to parks, open spaces, and recreational programs, and we recognize how vital these resources are to the well-being of our communities.*

*In 2024, PARD protected our city's parkland and ecological systems, striving to mitigate the impacts of climate change and safeguard these unique natural resources for future generations. We increased community preparedness and resilience, ensuring that our parks and open spaces play an integral role in improving our ability to adapt to and recover from disruptions and disasters. Most importantly, we advanced equitable access to our parks, trails, and recreational opportunities, ensuring that every resident, regardless of background or neighborhood, can benefit from Austin's natural spaces.*

*These efforts reflect our commitment to creating a more sustainable and resilient Austin, where every resident has access to the green spaces that make our city a great place to live, work, and play.*

# A Note from Leadership



## Jesús Aguirre

### Director

*At Austin Parks and Recreation, we strive to uphold the values and vision the community has for their parks system and public spaces, ensuring that all Austinites, including historically marginalized people, can access the services they want and need. System-wide improvements have led to more equitable access to recreational opportunities and parks that are safer and better-maintained. In partnership with supporters and stakeholders, the Department aims to continue to improve and expand parks, recreation facilities, and public programs to meet the needs of our city's fast-growing population. Building on the previous year's achievements, we aim to enhance core services, encourage park stewardship and advance the objectives outlined in the Long Range Plan.*



## Pedro Villalobos

### Board Chair

*Austin's parks and recreation facilities are the soul of the city, offering spaces where people come to celebrate wellness, community, and connection. Festivals bring these parks to life, filling them with music, food, and joy that reflect Austin's vibrant culture. Dog owners stroll through scenic trails, while fitness enthusiasts take advantage of recreation centers for exercise, whether through swimming, biking, or group classes. These spaces host community events like farmer's markets, outdoor movies, and cultural gatherings, fostering deeper bonds among neighbors. Austin's parks and recreation facilities inspire beauty, connection, and a shared sense of belonging for all who visit.*



# Parks and Recreation in Numbers





# Long Range Plan



## [READ THE LONG RANG PLAN HERE](#)

Our Parks, Our Future is the City of Austin Parks and Recreation Long Range Plan (LRP) for Land, Facilities, and Programs. The LRP, developed every ten years, is the guiding document for parks system planning and growth in Austin and creates the foundation for individual park master plans and capital projects. This plan was informed by a collaborative process with Austin residents, park partners, elected officials and other stakeholders.

The future of Austin's park and recreation system is impacted by a multitude of forces, trends and shifts, including unprecedented population growth, increasing reliance on private and philanthropic funding, and the emergence of best practices in sustainable park development and management. Our Parks, Our Future contains information on how PARD developed the plan as well as a listing of five major goals that resulted from the process. The five goals are supported by strategies that are broken down into specific objectives. These were created to advance outcomes. PARD will use these objectives to track progress on the goals through 2030.

### Goals

- A. Ensure parks act as a relief from urban life**
- B. Expand and improve park access for all**
- C. Activate and enhance urban public spaces**
- D. Align programs with community interest**
- E. Optimize and improve efficiency of operations**





Long Range Plan Goal - A

## Ensure parks act as a relief from urban life:

The impact of Austin's rapid growth is becoming apparent as Austinites increasingly confront the loss of natural areas and increased development. While this growth provides PARD with new resources and more opportunities, it also means PARD has to guard the parks system's role as a relief from, and counterpoint to, Austin's increasingly urban context. Likewise, the parks must become more flexible and multi-purpose to support a higher intensity and wider variety of park users.





## Long Range Plan Goal - A



### Austin Memorial Park Cemetery

This spring, the wildflower meadow at Austin Memorial Park Cemetery flourished. Staff published a digital tour of the cemetery for visitors. Additionally, the forestry team removed diseased trees.

[City Council District 7](#)

### I-35 Expansion

PARD continues to work with Transportation and Public Works (TPW) and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) on balancing the planned expansion of I-35 with Austin greenspace. PARD has been acquiring parkland along existing greenbelts in preparation for key passages. A preliminary engineering report expected to be complete in 2025 will identify additional land that can be acquired.

Plans for a 24-foot pedestrian bridge along the eastern side of the I-35 expansion across Lady Bird Lake continue to develop with PARD's input. The bridge will now house 36 bat boxes, diversifying our central bat habitat in an equitable way. PARD has also agreed to accept a proposed sound barrier wall along Waller Street that will benefit parkland. PARD worked with TxDOT to conduct community engagement that helped build consensus on the potential design and aesthetic features of the wall and continues to provide planning support to the adjacent community garden and food forest. Proposed amenities include water meters to irrigate plants and a drinking fountain.

[City Council Districts 9 and 3](#)



## Long Range Plan Goal - A



### Nature Preserve

City code defines a nature preserve as "...a parcel of land or place designated for the protection and preservation of wildlife, including a wildlife sanctuary, and unique ecological and scenic features." PARD is in the process of updating or replacing signage and installing dodgeways at Stephenson Nature Preserve to clarify and enforce existing preserve rules which prohibit pets and bikes, to provide an immersive experience in nature.

#### City Council District 5

PARD also completed projects on 1200 acres of natural areas to improve ecological health to help sustain these spaces for future generations and to provide an immersive nature experience. This includes substantial work done at Stephenson Nature Preserve to establish boundaries and improve signage.



### Eclipse Programs

Collaborated with the Hill Country Alliance, Austin Astronomical Society, NASA, Department of Astronomy at the University of Texas at Austin, Harvard, and the Smithsonian to provide eclipse-related programs to over 10,000 people.



Long Range Plan Goal - B

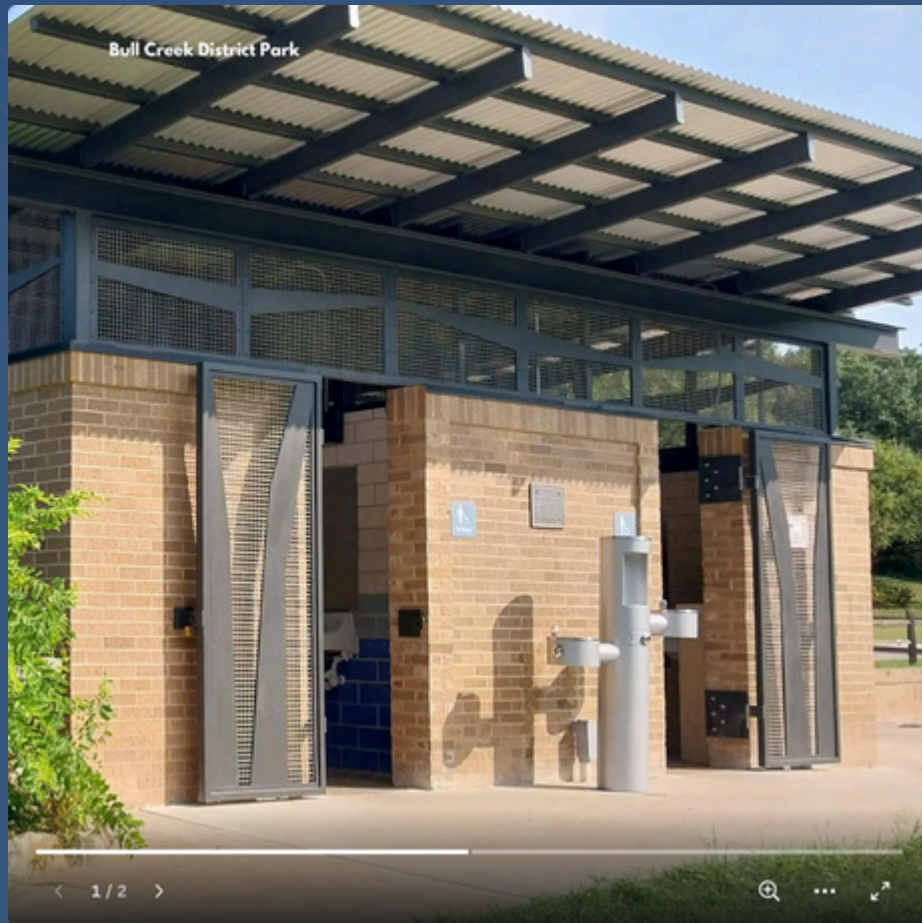
# **Provide equitable access to parkland for all residents:**

Providing equitable access to parkland for all residents is a priority for PARD. Through the planning process community members commented on the difficulty of accessing and navigating the parks system. PARD's goal is to ensure residents living in the urban core should be within a 1/4 mile of a publicly accessible and child-friendly park (a five-minute walk) and within a 1/2 mile (10-minute walk) for those outside the urban core. To meet this goal, the plan outlines multiple tools that to improve park access, including partnering with AISD, to develop button parks, acquiring easements on private property, expanded trail connections, improved wayfinding, and greater sensitivity to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards.





## Long Range Plan Goal - B



### Bull Creek District Park

In continuation of recently completed park improvements, the restrooms at Bull Creek District Park have been renovated. The restroom renovations mark the conclusion of all the improvements originally identified in the 2017 Concept Plan.

[City Council District 10](#)

### Rainey Street Trailhead - Butler Hike-and-Bike Trail

PARD partner The Trail Conservancy (TTC) developed a new Rainey Trailhead that includes improved trail connections to Ann and Roy Butler Hike-and-Bike Trail, ADA accessibility, a nature play area, seating areas, an open play lawn, a small dock, and native plantings. The project opened to the public in July 2024. TTC is responsible for maintenance of the area in accordance with their agreement with the City.

[City Council District 9](#)

### Bolm District Park

The third and final round of community engagement for Bolm District Park's Vision Plan is underway. With over 1,500 survey responses in the first two rounds, project staff pulled together an exciting draft plan to make the most of this beautiful spot adjacent to the Colorado River and 183. Look through the more than 60 images detailing the concept design and let us know what you think.

[City Council District 3](#)

### Earl J. Pomerleau Pocket Park

Completed in the winter of 2024, the Earl J. Pomerleau Pocket Park had its ribbon cutting ceremony on April 10, 2024. It is Austin's newest two-acre park in District 4. Named in honor of Earl J. Pomerleau, a hero for addiction education in Central Texas and Mexico. This project underscores the City of Austin and Austin Parks Foundation's (APF) commitment to equitable park access and will enhance residents' well-being for years to come. This project was funded through a partnership with APF and PARD, with City of Austin Parkland Dedication Fees and Urban Forestry funding for shade tree plantings and tree care.

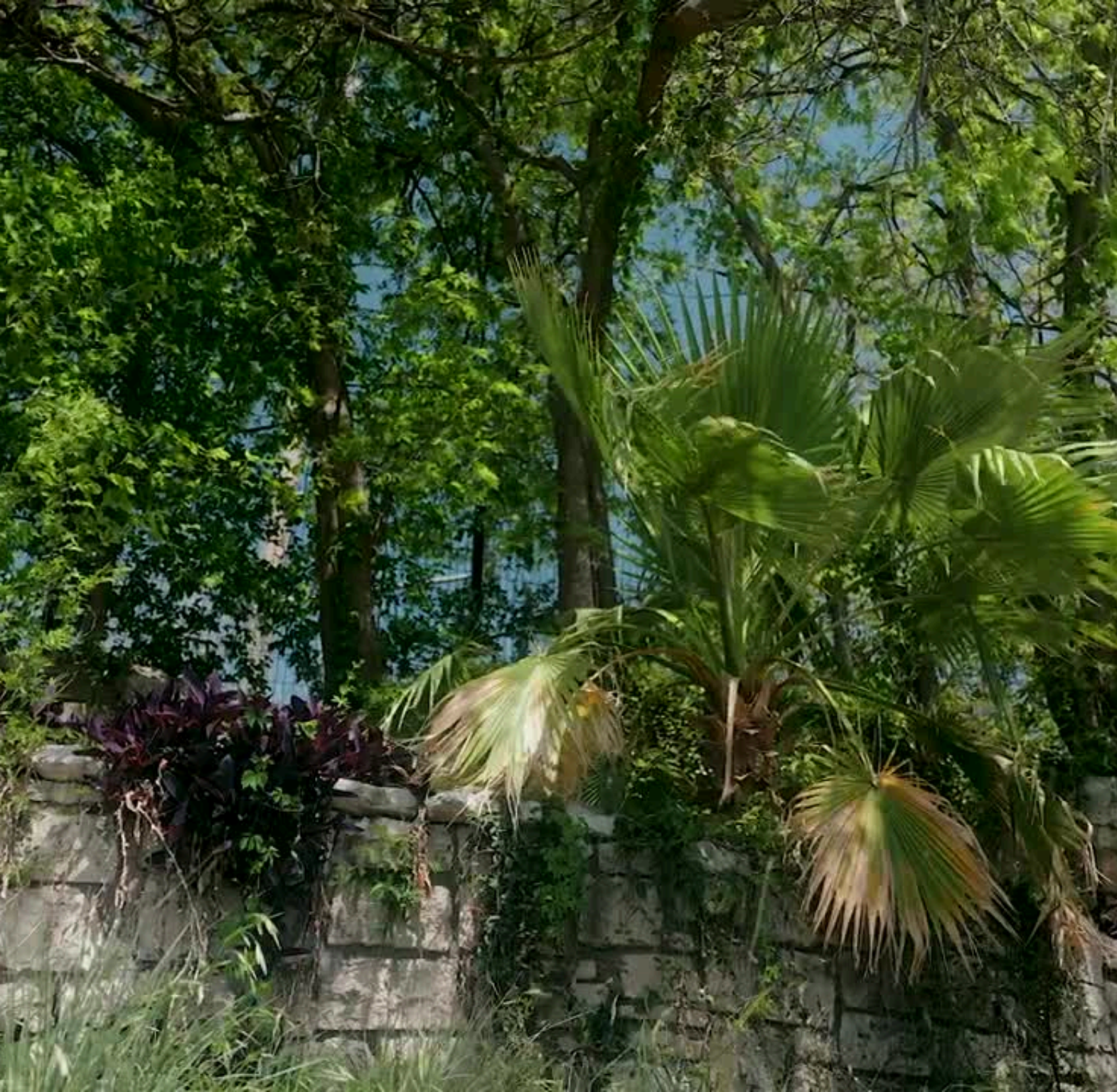
[City Council District 4](#)

### Highland Neighborhood Park Phase 2

Highland Neighborhood Park Phase 2 was complete and had its ribbon cutting on July 19, 2024. Project highlights include new 125-foot kickball fields, new park lighting, new dugouts, a loop walking trail, a rain garden, 45 new trees, and a new parking lot.

[City Council District 4](#)





**1,145**  
**Lifeguards on Staff**

**32**  
**Pools Open (All Pools)**  
including 27 with  
FREE Admission  
and 11 Splash Pads

Garrison and Bartholomew pools held free admission days made possible by the City Council's passage of Resolution No. 20240418-049 in April 2024.

### **Joan Means Khabele Bathhouse**

On April 4, 2024, an Austin City Council resolution renamed the Bathhouse at Barton Springs Pool in honor of Joan Means Khabele. Her courageous act of swimming in Barton Springs to protest segregation at the pool, sparked the civil rights era swim-ins that eventually led to the desegregation of Barton Springs Pool. The Bathhouse closed for construction starting on February 15, 2024, with substantial completion anticipated in spring 2025.

**City Council District 8**

### **Colony Park Pool**

Colony Park Pool began construction in May 2023 and is anticipated to have a soft opening in the winter of 2025. This Community Pool will complement the recently completed Colony Park District Park amenities.

**City Council District 1**



# Key Services and Parkland Access



## Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

The goal for FY24 was for 80% of all PARD programming to be held in ADA-accessible locations, up from 50% in FY23. As of October 2024, the target was reached with 81.25% ADA-compliant programs.

## Inclusion Support Services

In preparation for summer camp, Inclusion Support Services (ISS) provided 256 hours of trainings for PARD staff on positive approaches to behavior, inclusion, disability awareness, and universal program design. ISS met with, assessed, and wrote individualized support plans for 115 children with disabling conditions and provided 6,520 direct staffing support hours dedicated to meeting ADA modifications of participants in summer camp programs.



## Resilience Hubs

PARD partnered with the Office of Resilience, the Building Services Department, and Homeland Security and Emergency Management to complete the installation of transfer switches and generator docking stations at six recreation centers including Northwest, Gus Garcia, Turner Roberts, Parque Zaragoza, Montopolis, and Dove Springs. These sites serve Austin's Resilience Hub Network, and the upgrades will ensure that the Recreation Centers have redundant power during emergencies.

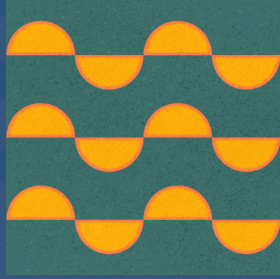


## Update on House Bill 1526

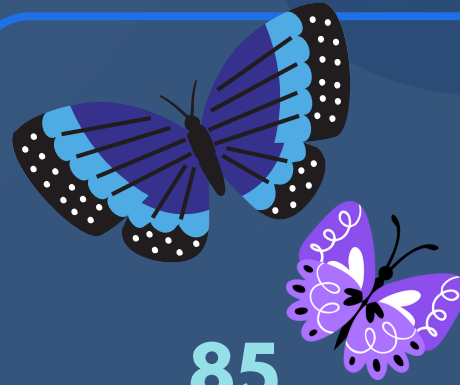
Following the adoption of House Bill 1526 (HB1526) in 2023, PARD staff worked with the City's Legal Department to draft a new Parkland Ordinance to comply with the state law. Per HB1526 requirements, the new ordinance reduces parkland requirements for multifamily and hotel developments, provides new formulas for parkland dedication and fees in-lieu, and places caps on parkland dedication and fees charged. City Council adopted the ordinance in November 2023 and it took effect on January 1, 2024, for applications submitted on or after that date. Those applications can delay payment of the parkland fees until the time of certificate of occupancy. Before HB1526, payment was due when the site plan was approved.



Long Range Plan Goal - B



**2,250**  
Teen Outreach  
Program Hours



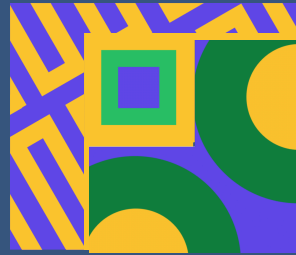
**85**  
Contract Instructor  
Classes



**64,342**  
Meals served in  
partnership with  
Central Texas Food Bank



**19%**  
of Program  
Enrollments Receive  
Financial Assistance



**3,234**  
Youth and Teens  
Participating in Free  
Summer Programs



**2,460**  
Brighter Bites Program  
Participants Received  
Fresh Produce





## Program Scholarship

PARD offers a scholarship program funded through donations by the Austin Parks Foundation, Austin Energy customers via the Parks and Libraries Fund, and individual contributions. The program has grown in both donations and community financial need requiring an exploration of strategies to reduce barriers to participation and increase the utilization of recipient funds.

***“I am writing to express my deepest gratitude for the financial assistance you have provided for my three adopted children. Your support has been a tremendous blessing in my children’s lives. Thank you.” – Scholarship Recipient***

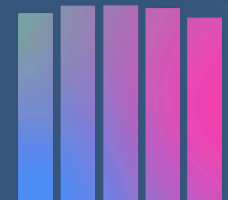
Implementation of a partnership with Austin Energy’s Customer Assistance Program for financial aid auto-renewals for qualifying families resulted in a 75% increase in the dollar amount awarded, a 61% increase in the number of scholarship recipients, and a 56% increase in the utilization rate from the previous year. Direct marketing of available opportunities has shown a reduction in barriers to participation. Additionally, work has been done to analyze data through usage reports, demographics, participant surveys, and GIS mapping of families receiving scholarship funds that allow the department more informed decision-making. PARD’s financial assistance program and scholarship program supports the expansion of opportunities for low or no-cost programming and helps underserved families.

**All City Council Districts**



**728**

**Scholarships Awarded**



**81%**

**Utilization of  
Scholarship Fund**

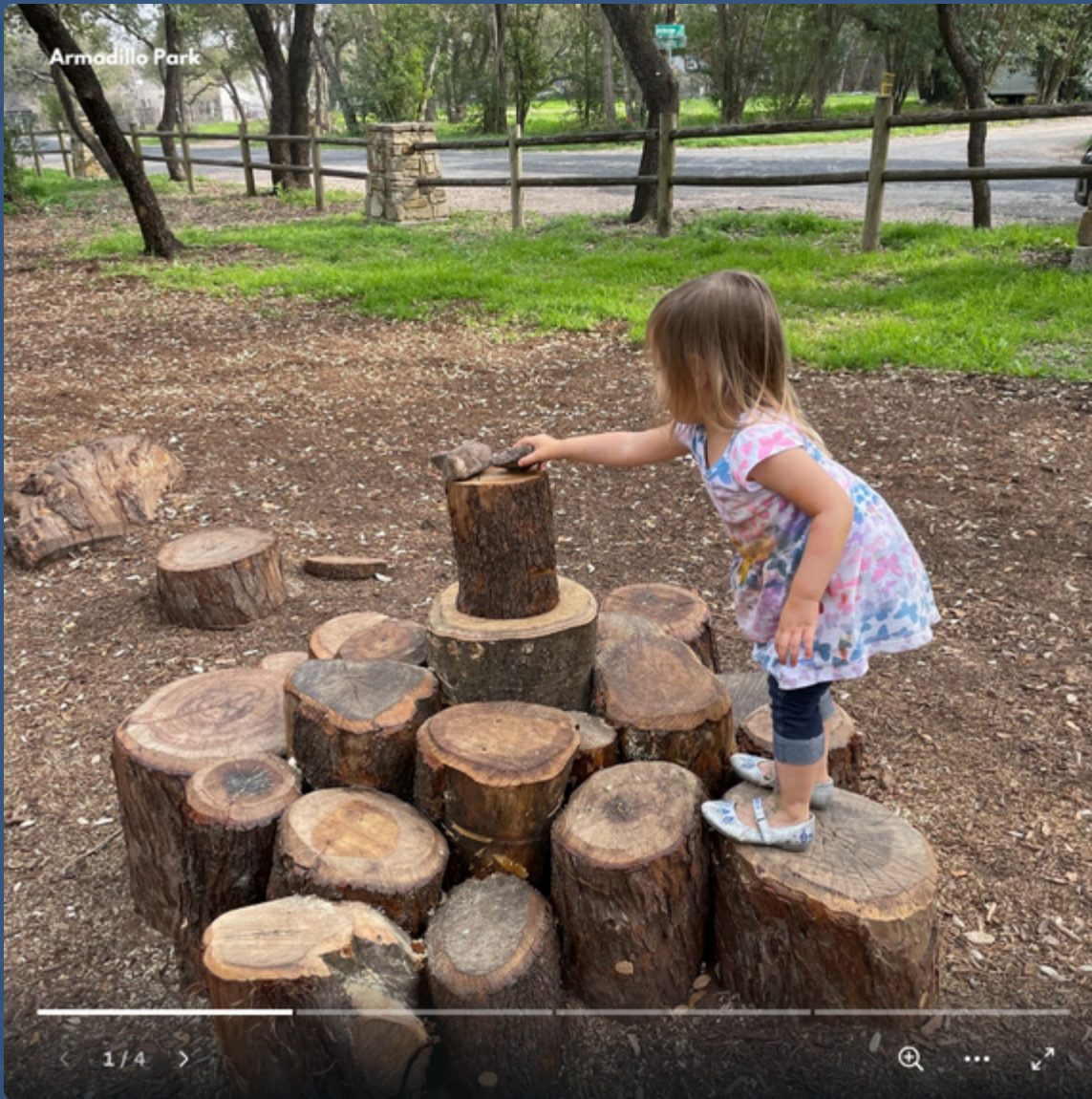


**1105**

**Participants Approved  
for Financial Assistance**



## Long Range Plan Goal - B



### Community PARKnerships

Partnerships contributed more than \$5.8 million private dollars and 75,000 hours of volunteer service to improve parkland. PARD Partners brought more than 700 free public events and 14 Art in Public Places pieces to parks. Cities Connecting Children to Nature (CCCN) expanded its Loose Parts Lending Kit program to reach over 1,500 people and built new nature play areas such as those at Armadillo Neighborhood Park (pictured) and the Walnut Bluffs Trailhead.

Community Activated Park Projects included accessibility improvements and trail connections at the Steck Valley Greenbelt, completed in partnership with Northwest Austin Neighborhood Association, Texas Conservation Corps, and Austin Parks Foundation (APF). Community PARKnerships also joined forces with APF to create the Walnut Creek Metro Park Unified Stewardship Plan. PARD continues to partner with other City departments, such as collaborating on the Old Lampasas Dam renovation project with Watershed Protection and Development Services to repurpose removed trees and boulders for nature play.

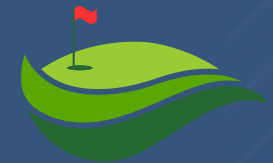
[All City Council Districts](#)



### 329K Rounds of Golf Played

Golf ATX had a record number of golf rounds played on the six City golf courses with over 329,000 rounds played, an 3% increase over the previous year despite two courses under modified operations during a greens' revegetation project. Golf ATX will closed the fiscal year with \$12.9 million in total revenue.

[City Council Districts 1, 2, 8, 9 and 10](#)





Long Range Plan Goal - C

# Activate and enhance urban public spaces:

Urban public spaces require a different approach and have historically been overlooked and underestimated in terms of their ability to improve quality of life in denser urban areas. As PARD looks to expand park access and reach developed areas, activating smaller urban public spaces will become an increasingly crucial strategy to extend the benefits of parks to more people.

To be successful, this will require a flexible, partnership-centric approach with a blend of PARD programming on non-PARD-owned spaces, and partner programming and maintenance at PARD parkland.







## It's My Park Day

Over 23,000 volunteers pitched in to improve Austin parks in 2024

## Volunteers

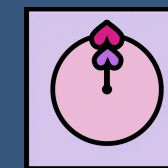
PARD mobilizes partners and volunteers to facilitate community-initiated parkland improvements.

PARD is grateful to the dedicated volunteers and nonprofits who donate time to stewardship of our parks. Parkland stewardship is any form of protecting and caring for parks—cleaning up trash, mulching trees, planting native trees and plants, removing invasive plant species, maintaining park infrastructure, and much more.

All City Council Districts



**24,312**  
Volunteers



**75,424**  
Hours of Work  
worth more than \$2.5M



**14,374**  
Trees & Saplings  
Planted



**251,218**  
Pounds of  
Trash Collected



## Long Range Plan Goal - C



Volunteers at Zilker Botanical Garden

### Strategic Goals

At the end of the 2023 fiscal year, the City of Austin began work on the new Citywide Strategic Plan (CSP) goal priorities including Community Health and Resilience, Economic and Workforce Development, Equitable Service Delivery, Public Safety, Organizational Excellence, Mobility and Critical Infrastructure, and Homelessness and Housing.

PARC owns one CSP Goal – Community Health and Resilience – ensuring and preserving equitable access to parks, trails, open space, and recreational opportunities. PARC is focused on advancing health, well-being, and environmental resilience citywide, including climate action, ecological stewardship, wellness initiatives, and community readiness. While PARC only owns one goal, the department's work supports goals in all seven strategic priorities.

### Asset Management

Asset Management provided program and financial management for \$65.15 million in PARC capital spending, including \$22.3 million from the 2018 Bond Program, on rehabilitation and improvements to parks and facilities, parkland acquisitions and new development.



### Fitness Equipment

Installation of new fitness equipment and renovations to the fitness room at the following facilities:

Givens Recreation Center and  
Conley-Guerrero Senior Activity Center  
**City Council District 1**

Dittmar Recreation Center  
**City Council District 2**

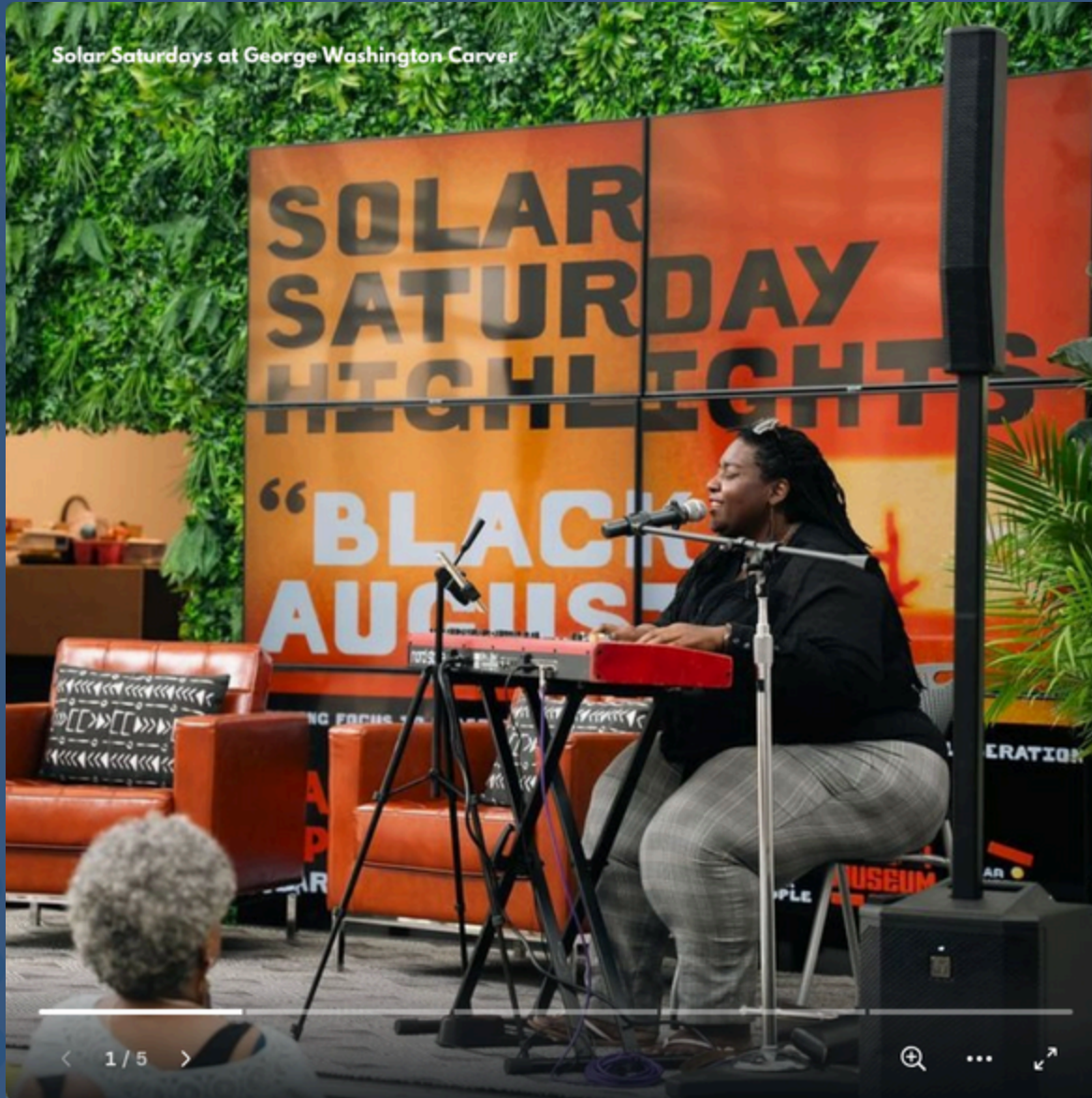
Parque Zaragoza Recreation Center  
**City Council District 3**

Gus Garcia Recreation Center and  
Virginia L. Brown Recreation Center  
**City Council District 4**

Lamar Senior Activity Center  
**City Council District 9**



## Long Range Plan Goal - C



### **Solar Saturdays at George Washington Carver**

In partnership with PNC Bank and HEB, George Washington Carver Museum and Genealogical Center, hosted Solar Saturdays, a multi-generational, multi-ethnic sitewide activation that brings live music, poetry, garden workshops and roundtable discussions with thought leaders to the community. This quarterly program centers Black culture, joy, and liberation while creating a space for the exchange of ideas about art and society, with the goal of strengthening and building community.

[City Council District 1](#)

### **Hancock Golf Course 125th Anniversary**

Hancock Golf Course celebrated its 125th anniversary on Saturday, May 11, 2024. A new historical sign featuring the original 18 holes of the now 9-hole course was unveiled and is a permanent fixture near the #1 tee box.

[City Council District 9](#)

### **Thomas Dambo Troll in Pease Park**

PARD partner Pease Park Conservancy enlisted the renowned Danish artist and designer Thomas Dambo to create an Art in Public Places installation just north of Kingsbury Commons. Malin's Fountain is a whimsical troll sculpture made with 80% recycled and reused wood and other materials.

[City Council District 10](#)

### **New Computer Labs**

Gus Garcia, Oswaldo A.B. Cantu/Pan American, and Montopolis Recreation Centers have new computer labs thanks to a partnership with the Economic Development Department. Users will have the opportunity to acquire technology skills for personal and professional development and participate in educational programs offered by Austin Freenet.

[City Council District 3 and 4](#)



Long Range Plan Goal - D

# Align programs with community interest:

While there is a high demand for more programs at parks, there is also a strong interest in Austin for natural experiences and unprogrammed spaces and activities. As the needs and interests of community members change, program offerings should be evaluated and adjusted as needed to reflect the most relevant programs.

## Conversation Stones

An art installation on the Ann and Roy Butler Hike-and-Bike Trail by Austin-based artist, Diego Miró-Rivera, in partnership with The Trail Conservancy and the Economic Development Department.





# Evaluate Needs and Adjust



## Equity Review

PARD was part of the first group of city departments to complete an Equity Assessment in 2018. After an Equity Review in 2023, PARD went through the assessment process again to ensure diversity of staff participation and process intentionality. PARD's Equity and Inclusion Program Manager recruited full-time and temporary staff to form an Equity Team. Information gathered will be sent to a third-party reviewer to provide recommendations.

**All City Council Districts**



## Equity and Inclusion

Equity and Inclusion Program offered two workshops for PARD staff:

Building Places of Belonging for LGBTQIA+ Communities led by Daring Difficult Consulting. The program works closely with the Equity Office to provide staff opportunities for further developing their race equity lens.

Undoing Racism workshop led by the People's Institute for Survival and Beyond between 2020–2024. 126 PARD staff members participated.

**All City Council Districts**



## Seniors

Community Recreation Centers served **17,756** Meals on Wheels Meals to seniors.

Community Recreation Centers provided transportation for **62,927** seniors.

**All City Council Districts**



# Key Services and Parkland Access



## Asian American Resource Center

The Asian American Resource Center (AARC) teamed up with the Smithsonian's Asian Pacific American Center and local educators to create an educational resource that highlights local Asian American histories.

**City Council District 1**

AARC organized CelebrASIA on Saturday, May 18 during Asian Pacific American Heritage Month to celebrate Asian Pacific American Islander-centered performances, art, and culture.

**City Council District 1**



## ¡Viva México!

The Emma S. Barrientos Mexican-American Cultural Center hosted its 17th annual ¡Viva México! celebration outside of the Oswaldo A.B. Cantu/Pan American Recreation Center on September 14. This lively outdoor celebration on the hillside includes live mariachi music and folkloric dance performances, family-friendly art activities, and a vendor market.

**City Council District 3**



## Pan Am Hillside Summer Concert Series

The Oswaldo A.B. Cantu Pan American Recreation Center and Neighborhood Park along with the Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center organized the 66th annual Pan Am Hillside Summer Concert Series in East Austin to showcase the music and culture of Austin's Mexican, Mexican American, Chicano, and Latino/a/e/x communities.

**City Council District 3**



## Long Range Plan Goal - D



### Austin Nature and Science Center

**121,645** hours of participation.

City Council District 8



### Dougherty Arts Center

The Julia C. Butridge Gallery saw **33,148** gallery visitors, a 30% increase from previous years.

City Council District 9

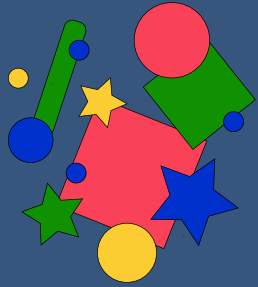


### Community Recreation

The Community Recreation Department (CRD) successfully renovated and restored several fields through a combination of diligent budgeting and a generous grant from the Austin Parks Foundation. Allocating \$136,000 of the budget, CRD implemented significant upgrades to the historic field at the Delores Duffie Recreation Center, including irrigation and new fencing. Additionally, CRD secured a grant from the Austin Parks Foundation to enhance seven fields in various ways such as sand leveling, aeration, fertilization, and seeding.



# Athletic Stats



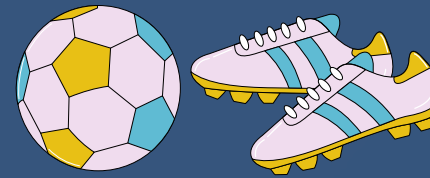
**10,479**

**Youth in Sport  
Organizations on  
City-Owned Parkland**



**1,187**

**Adult Teams in  
Athletic Programs**



**69**

**Fields Maintained  
by Youth Sports  
Organizations**



**2,000**

**Volunteers with Youth  
Sports Organizations**



Long Range Plan Goal - E

# Optimize and improve efficiency of operations:

Leverage partnerships and revenue opportunities to elevate the quality of PARD operations and maintenance while upholding equitable park access and ensuring a sustainable and well-balanced budget.



## Old Bakery and Emporium Mural

Created in partnership with Downtown Austin Alliance and local indigenous mural artist, Ruben Esquivel.





## CAPRA Accreditation

PARD joined the ranks of elite park and recreation agencies across the country by earning accreditation through the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA) and the National Recreation and Park Association. CAPRA accreditation is the only national accreditation for park and recreation agencies. It is a measure of an agency's overall quality of operation, management and service to the community. This mark of distinction indicates that PARD has met rigorous standards in the management and administration of lands, facilities, resources, programs, safety and services.

## Sustainability Certifications

Sustainable SITES Initiative (SITES) and Leadership in Energy and Design (LEED) are globally recognized rating systems that guide, evaluate, and certify sustainability and resilience in the design, development, and management of outdoor spaces (SITES) and buildings (LEED).

In 2021, Austin became the first city in the world to require SITES certification for City landscape improvement projects with a budget of \$2M or more. In FY24, PARD partnered with the City's Offices of Innovation and Resilience, and the United States Green Building Council (USGBC) to bring a Sustainable SITES rating system curriculum to Austin during two days in September. Attendees garnered SITES 101 training; toured two SITES projects, Mary Elizabeth Branch Park (SITES Certified) and Burnett "Blondie" Pharr Tennis Center (SITES pending); and participated in a dynamic SITES Roundtable. The goal of the programming was to increase City employee and local professionals' fluency in designing sustainable and resilient landscapes. With 23 sustainability certifications planned or in progress, PARD demonstrates its commitment to the citywide sustainability and resilience goals.



# Improvements



## Cemeteries

Working with Save Austin's Cemeteries, Cemetery Operations staff were able to install a monument and commemorate the life of Juanita Craft, reset several markers in a lot owned by the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, and completed a second documentary on the lives of those buried in Evergreen Cemetery.

Cemetery Operations also collaborated with Texas A&M students to take GPR readings of Plummers Cemetery and worked with community members to host a Día de Los Muertos celebration at Oakwood Cemetery Annex.

**City Council District 1**



## Deep Eddy Pool

The oldest swimming pool in Texas, Deep Eddy Pool, requires periodic updates to keep it running. In FY24, PARD made a complete replacement of the bulkhead wall dividing the deep and shallow sides of the pool due to growing cracks. The project was completed during three winter months to minimize disruption to swimmers. At the same time, the aging pool lights were replaced with new LED light towers increasing energy efficiency.

**City Council District 10**



## Zilker Shuttle

PARD launched a free summer Zilker Shuttle Bus program in 2022 to alleviate traffic congestion and provide better accessibility to Zilker Park and surrounding amenities including Barton Springs Pool and the 10-mile Ann and Roy Butler Hike and Bike Trail. Now in its third year, the program operated on weekends from Memorial Day to Labor Day, 2024, moving passengers from the City-owned One Texas Center parking garage to Zilker Park and Barton Springs Pool, 1.5 miles away. The timing of the program allowed over 3,700 patrons from Austin and surrounding areas to access the park and pool without having to pay for parking or be part of the traffic congestion problem.

**City Council Districts 5, 8 and 9**





**161**

Days of Filming

**\$30,550**

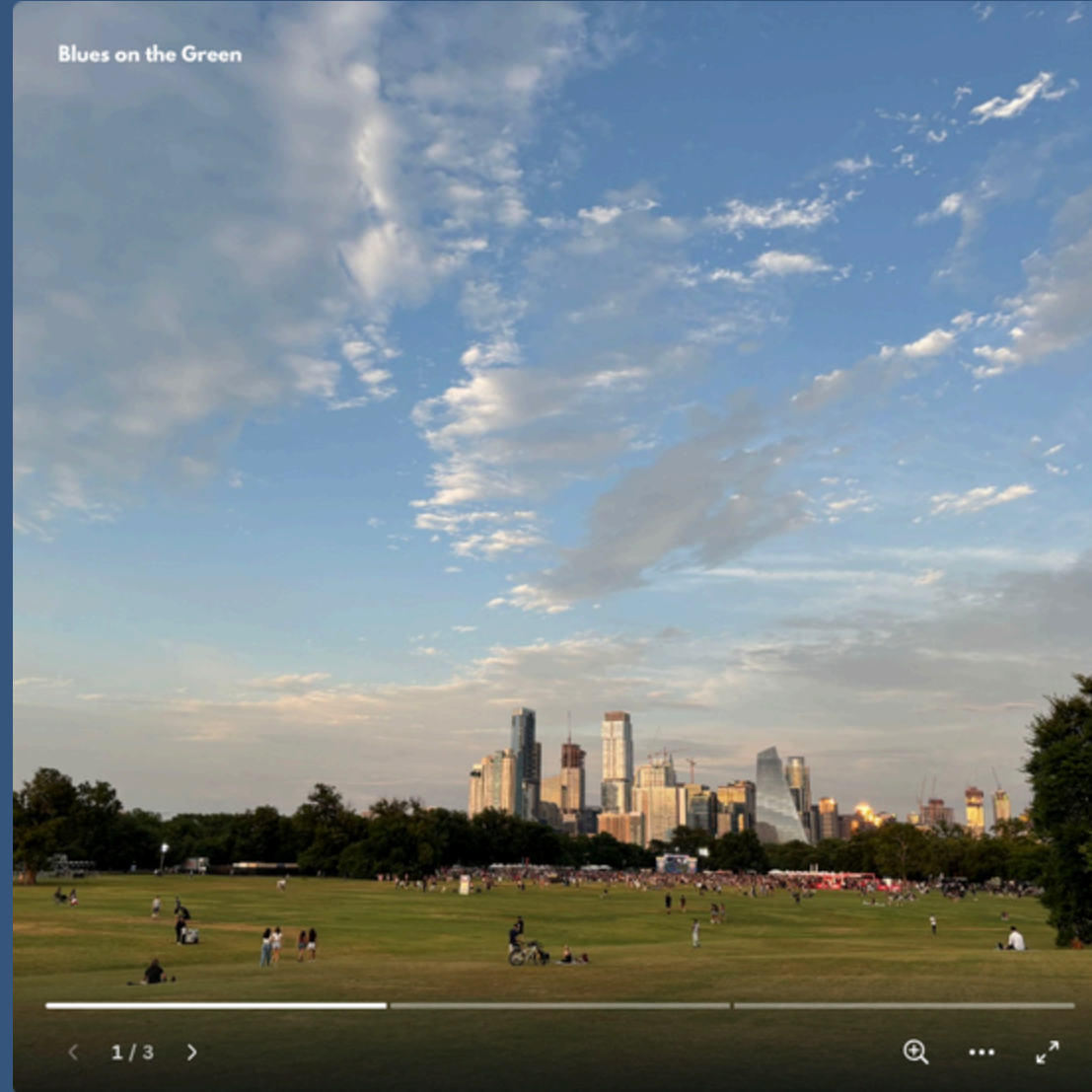
Filming Revenue

**231**

Photo Permits

**\$4,550**

Photo Permits Revenue



**\$2,466,297**

Rental Revenue

**1,990**

Picnic and Facility  
Rentals

**90**

Special Events

**1,088,350**

Special Event  
Park Visitors

**7,120**

Fitness Group  
Participants



Dickenson Museum - Then



## Brush Square

Brush Square was honored with designation as a Lone Star Legacy Park by the Texas Recreation and Park Society in February. A Lone Star Legacy Park is a park that holds special prominence in the local community and the state of Texas, must be a minimum of 50 years old and meet criteria related to historic, architectural, and natural significance.

Brush Square was designated as one of four public squares in the 1839 original plat of Austin. Before it was developed into a park in 1913, it was used as a public market and cotton yard.

Three historic buildings are located on the square, including The O. Henry Museum, relocated in 1934; Central Fire Station #1, constructed in 1938; and the Susanna Dickinson Museum, relocated in 2001.

**City Council District 9**



## Organization

Landscape Architecture Foundation

Texas Recreation and Parks Society

Earth.fm

Austin Chronicle

Austin Monthly

The New York Times

## Award / Recognition

Landscape Architecture Foundation (LAF)  
2024 Case Study Investigation program

Lone Star Legacy Park

The Quietest Places in the World's Loudest Cities

Readers Poll (Kids & Family): Best Playground

Critic's Choice (Sports and Recreation):  
Best Troll with a Purpose

Readers Poll (Sports and Recreation): Best Swimming Pool

Readers Poll (Sports and Recreation): Best Hike/Bike Trail

Readers Poll (Sports and Recreation): Best Place to Walk

Readers Poll (Sports and Recreation): Best Golf Course

Readers Choice: Best Dog Park

Readers Choice: Best Hiking Trail

Readers Choice: Best Golf Course

Readers Choice: Best Park

Readers Choice: Best Water Activity

Readers Choice: Best Tourist Attraction

Bikes + Water: 5 Rides Perfect for the Fall

## Project

Waterloo Park

Brush Square

Mayfield Park

Pease Park

Malin's Fountain, Thomas Dambo troll, Pease Park

Barton Springs

Ann and Roy Butler Hike-and-Bike Trail

Ann and Roy Butler Hike-and-Bike Trail

Butler Pitch n Putt

Zilker Metro Park

Barton Springs Greenbelt  
Walnut Creek Hike and Bike Trail

Butler Pitch n Putt; Lions Municipal

Zilker Metro Park; Pease Park

Barton Springs

Zilker Botanical Garden

Ann and Roy Butler Hike-and-Bike Trail





# PARD Projects Pursuing Sustainability Certifications

## SITES

Brownie Neighborhood Park

Colony Park Pool

Creek Delta at Waterloo Greenway

Brush Square

Walter E. Long Park

Montopolis Pool

Palm Park

John Trevino Jr. Park

Northwest Pool

Givens Pool

Pharr Tennis Center

## LEED

Pharr Tennis Center

Parque Zaragoza Bathhouse

Asian American Resource Center Pavilion

Joan Means Khabele Bathhouse

Zilker Maintenance Barn

Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center Expansion

## ENVISION

Sunken Gardens

