

# COMMUNITY AMBASSADOR

## AUSTIN WATER - WATER FORWARD COMMUNITY AMBASSADOR GROUP

Water Forward is Austin's 100-year integrated water resource plan developed to respond to challenges such as future growth and droughts made worse by climate change. The plan identifies water conservation and supply strategies to help create a diversified, sustainable, and resilient water future for our community. Water Forward was approved by City Council in November 2018 and will begin its first five-year update in January 2022, with completion anticipated in 2024.

Austin Water is seeking participants to serve as Community Ambassadors to provide input to Water Forward 2024. Leading with equity, this group will assist with developing and incorporating community values into an Equity and Affordability Road Map and Tool for the plan. Participants must be willing to work with diverse members of their community (with a focus on outreach to groups most impacted), attend equity trainings, and commit to being a community advisory group member for a full year beginning in February 2022. People belonging to communities historically underrepresented are encouraged to apply (e.g. communities of color, LGBTQIA+ identities, people with past records or returning citizens, etc.).

### Group Objectives

- Provide additional transparency and accessible information about Water Forward 2024 through direct community engagement.
- Give input to Water Forward 2024 deliverables, community values, and needs through the development of an Equity and Affordability Road Map (EARM).

### Goals

1. **Meaningful Engagement** - Ensure community capacity to play a leadership role in decision-making and the implementation of decisions.
2. **Representation** - Include community members from historically excluded and underrepresented groups in Austin, as well as multiple council districts
3. **Education & Outreach** - Education and leadership development supports residents to make informed decisions that reflect the needs and interests of their communities and share this information with others
4. **Impact** - Build a sustainable relationship between Austin Water and the community; participants gain ownership and understanding of city programs and remain civically involved

### Time Commitment and Compensation

1. Participants must be willing to dedicate at least 5 hours/month and commit to serving 1 year
2. Optional compensation (\$1,500) is available for participants that are willing to register as vendors with the City of Austin. Those not able or unwilling may be able to explore alternate compensation.
3. Please note that most if not all gatherings of Community Ambassadors will be virtual until further notice



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