

FY 2026-2027 BUDGET QUESTION

Response to Request for Information

DEPARTMENT(S): Austin Parks & Recreation;

CBQ NO.: 69

REQUESTED BY: (District 3) José Velásquez

DATE REQUESTED: Monday, July 27, 2026 11:35 AM

DATE POSTED: Tuesday, August 4, 2026

REQUEST:

\$400,000 is saved from the elimination of two vacant Austin Parks and Recreation (APR) positions (and moving to a facility-rental model for adult sports leagues). Could you please list the titles of these two positions, a breakdown of their salaries and benefits, the length that they have remained vacant, and the justification for their elimination?

RESPONSE:

The proposed reduction eliminates two vacant Recreation Programs Specialist positions in the Direct Athletics Programs office, resulting in \$165,321 in salary and benefit savings. At the time the reduction was proposed, PCN 111032 had been vacant for 3 months and 24 days, and PCN 115789 had been vacant for 2 months and 11 days.

PCN	JOB_TITLE	Salary	Stability Pay	Insurance	FICA	Medicare	Retirement	Total Salary + Benefits
111032	Recreation Programs Specialist	\$ 54,184	\$ 600	\$ 16,396	\$ 3,397	\$ 794	\$ 5,202	\$ 80,573
115789	Recreation Programs Specialist	\$ 57,470	\$ 900	\$ 16,396	\$ 3,619	\$ 846	\$ 5,517	\$ 84,748
Grand Total		\$ 111,654	\$ 1,500	\$ 32,792	\$ 7,016	\$ 1,640	\$ 10,719	\$ 165,321

The remaining \$234,679 in savings is achieved through reductions to various operating and support costs within the Direct Athletics Programs budget.

As part of this change, the remaining Direct Athletics Programs staff will transfer to the Community Recreation Division. APR will transition to a rental-based model for adult indoor athletics, allowing external organizations to rent City facilities to operate adult indoor sports programming, while the Community Recreation Division will continue to manage select adult leagues.

This change reflects a shift from a centralized citywide programming model to a decentralized approach. The centralized model has proven to be less cost-effective, and varying recreation center schedules have made it increasingly difficult to coordinate and operate citywide adult leagues.