

Austin Parks and Recreation Department Asset Management

The Parks and Recreation Department's (PAR) Asset Management Program is in place to develop and maintain a data management infrastructure to allow the Department to plan for the lifecycle management of its assets and ensure their enjoyment by future generations. Maintaining a comprehensive Asset Management System is an industry best practice.

- As a Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA) accredited agency, the Department strives to comply with National Accreditation Standards, including those related to Needs Assessments (10.4), Preventative Maintenance Plans (7.5.2) and Capital Asset Depreciation and Replacement Schedules (7.11).
- *Our Parks, Our Future*, the PAR Long Range Plan for 2020-2030 also identified multiple strategies related to the ongoing assessment of park facilities to inform maintenance and capital renewal needs across the park system.

In recent years, the Asset Management Program has had two primary objectives:

- Completing a comprehensive inventory and assessment of PAR's facilities and parkland assets
- Implementing a new department-wide Computerized Maintenance Management System (CMMS), Maximo Enterprise Asset Management

Facility Services Assessments

In-depth facility assessments occur on a periodic basis at major occupied Parks and Recreation buildings, including recreation centers, senior activity centers, cultural and arts centers, the Austin Nature and Science Center, Zilker Botanical Garden, administrative offices/complexes, and reservable buildings. The team also assesses specialized facilities like Tennis Centers and the Hosteling International Building that are owned by the Parks and Recreation Department but operated by third parties.

Assessments of nearly 50 buildings have been completed in the past two years, many of which have had follow up assessments approximately a year later. Among major occupied buildings, a pair of recreation centers are lacking completed assessments (Dottie Jordan and Dittmar) and some historical facilities (Elisabet Ney Museum). The Millennium Youth Entertainment Center has not yet been included in the facility assessment management assessment.

Information collected during the site assessments serves multiple purposes:

- Identifies near-term work to be completed by PAR staff or contractors during periodic maintenance weeks
- Provides consistent benchmarking for the condition of facilities across the park system. This is invaluable in ensuring PAR is using its resources to ensure health, safety and consider equity
- Provides periodic updates on the condition of major building systems to allow for planning for capital renewal, rehabilitation, and replacement. This information is essential in developing the PAR Capital Improvement Program Plan and securing funding necessary to keep park facilities operational

Parkland Assessments

The PARD team has also completed inventories and assessments of almost 8,000 assets installed at 196 locations. Like the facility assessments, parkland assessments inform operations and maintenance and capital renewal needs system wide.

Asset Management Assessments in Action

The value and necessity of a comprehensive asset management system is exemplified in the outcomes associated with the Aquatic Assessment. The Aquatic Assessment provided a comprehensive evaluation of the Department's Aquatics system. The Aquatics Assessment informed both the Aquatics Vision Plan and the Department's 2018 Bond Program. The Aquatics Assessment outcomes include:

- Bond funding to replace three aquatic facilities
- Bond funding to construct a new one in the highest-need area
- Additional General Fund allocation for aquatics system maintenance

The process demonstrated the needs for replacement, provided a framework for prioritization and justified the allocation of resources in the minds of Council and voters.