# Aquatics Division Operational Presentation 2/27/23







#### **Department Mission**

Inspire Austin to learn, play, protect and connect by creating diverse programs and experiences in sustainable natural spaces and public places.

## Aquatics Vision Plan

A three-year Needs Assessment and Community Engagement process

Provides pool history and condition

Makes recommendations for improvements and expansion

Passed By Austin City Council in February of 2018

Available through the Austin Parks and Recreation website

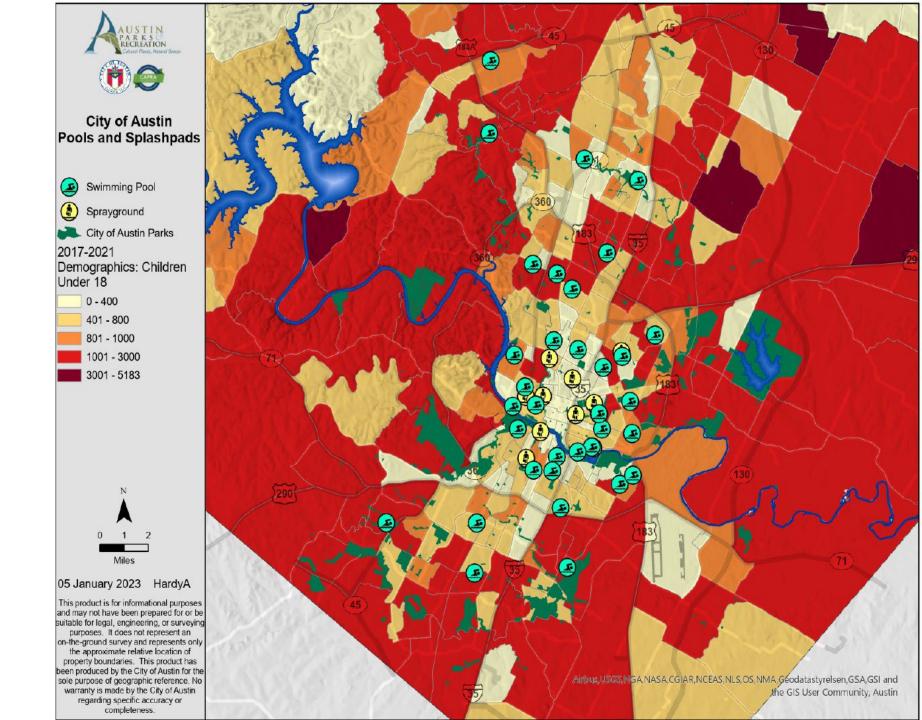
## Vision Plan

The purpose of the Aquatics Vision Plan is to recognize facility management opportunities systemwide and to provide recommendations on the current, expanded or reduced aquatic facility system that would be both more equitable and more sustainable into the future.

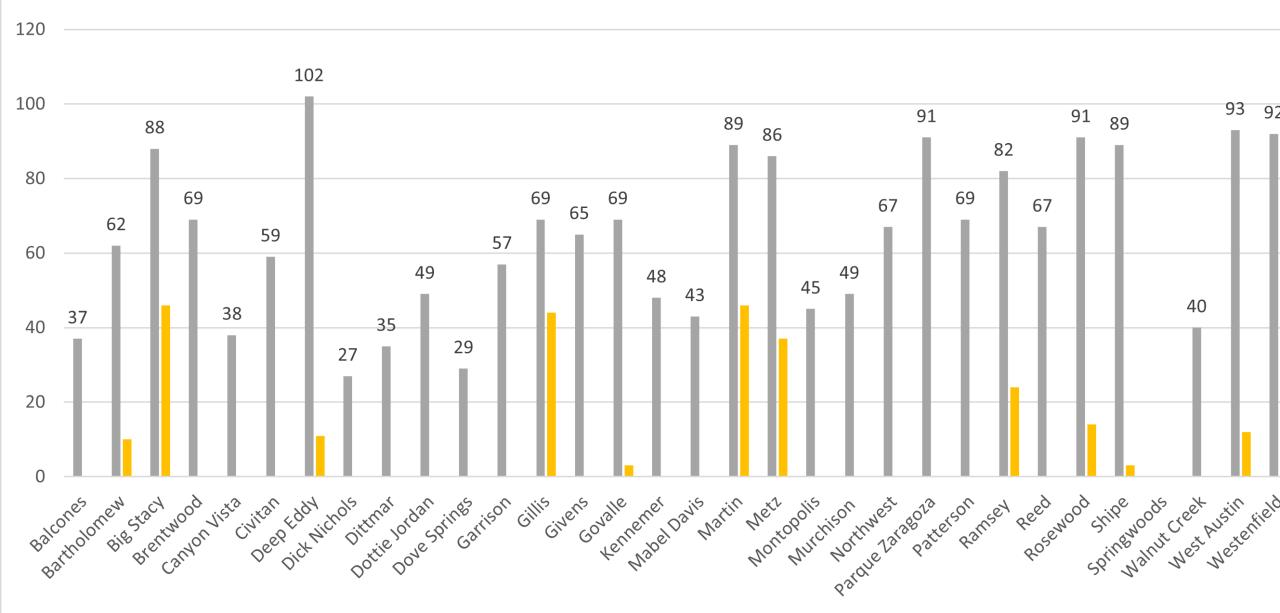


#### 5 Year Update

- Age of Pools
- Renovations / Projects
- Staff needs 800+
- Aquatics Maintenance
- Programs



Pool Age

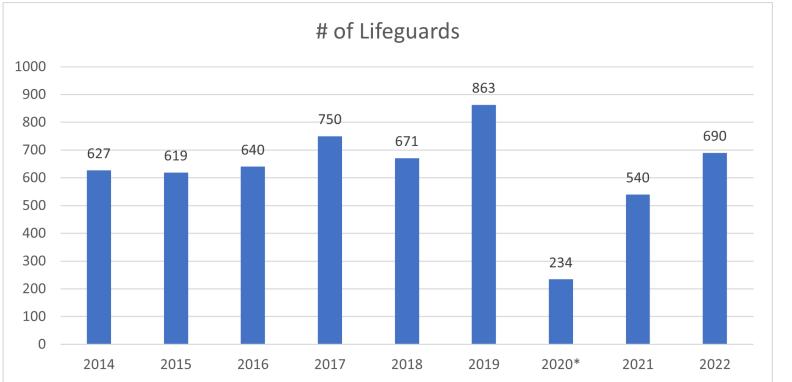


# Renovations & Projects

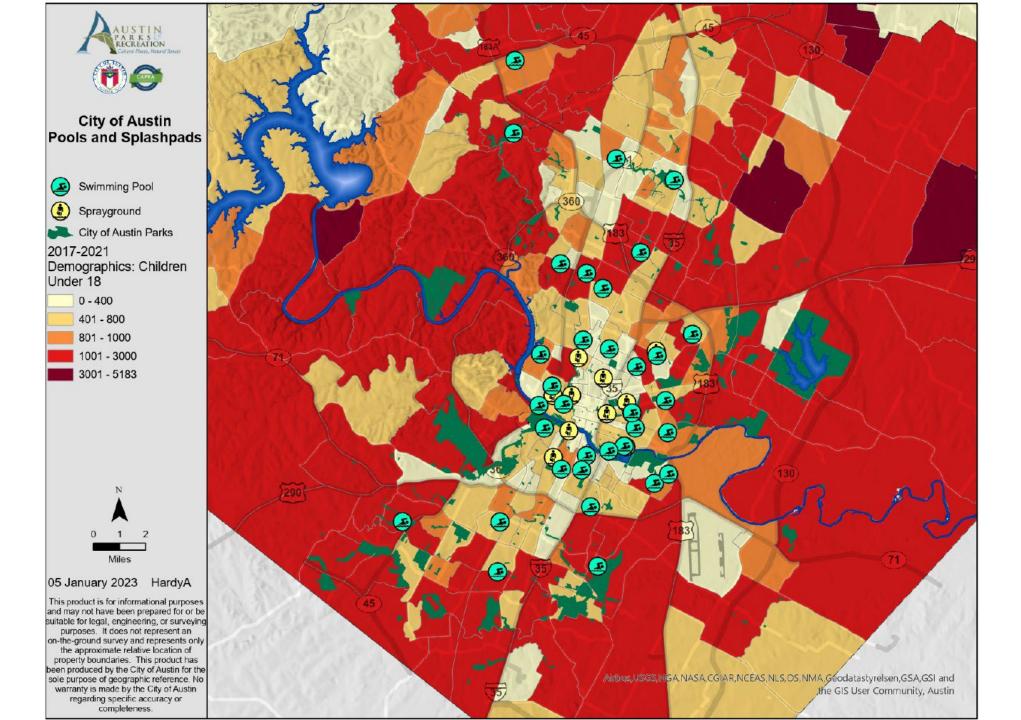
- Colony Park Pool
- Givens Pool
- Shipe Pool
- Govalle Pool
- Montopolis Pool
- Northwest Pool
- Barton Springs Bathhouse
- Parque Zaragoza Bathhouse



## Staff Needs – Lifeguards plus







## Aquatics Maintenance

- Enhanced Operational Support
- Procure additional staff
- Cross-Train Aquatics Professionals
- Standardize equipment and seek out new technologies



## Aquatics Programs

- Provide progressive, responsive programming
- Swim Teams
- Swim Lessons
- Re-engagement for more programming data



#### Aquatics Goals FY23

- Increase Safe Access to Water
  - Open all Pools and splash pads
  - Staff of 800+ Lifeguards
  - Fully Staff Aquatics Maintenance
  - Increase Swim Lesson
     participation
  - Increase Swim Team Participation
- Seek out Operational Efficiencies
  - Work to realign some Division Functions
  - Seek out opportunities for new support positions
  - Streamline Hiring Process
- Continue Teambuilding



# Increasing Safe Access to Water

- Why it is Mission Critical?
- How do we get there?
  - Recruitment & Training
  - Maintenance
  - Program Enrollment



#### Recruitment & Training What's New

- Lifeguards total 800+ needed
- New Pay Rates
- Reduce barriers to entry
  - Free training
  - Work with HR to improve the hiring experience
  - Training completion bonus
  - Issued Uniforms
- Create a culture of retention

### Outreach & Marketing

Messaging - English and Spanish

- Fun, flexible job that pays \$20/hour, has paid training, and perks
- Your career as a first responder starts here!

#### Outreach - Underway

- Focused Outreach at High Schools, Colleges, and Hiring Fairs
- Combine recruiting efforts with Community Recreation

#### Paid Marketing – February - April

- Use \$25k budget to amplify outreach messaging and raise awareness for \$20/hour
- Use tactics with track record of success: signage, over-street banners, radio, targeted digital ads

## NOW HIRING LIFEGUARDS



Interested in a career with EMS, Police, or Fire? Being a lifeguard is a great place to start!



Learn more about City of Austin jobs and how we can help get you started!





We hire candidates from diverse origins, orientations, identities, and abilities.

#### LIFEGUARDAUSTIN.COM

#### Maintenance

- Unit Strategic Realignment
  - Maintenance Specific Supervision
  - Increase Number of Complete units
- Utilize Contractors to assist
- Reduce facility down time
- Extend Splashpad Operating season
- Cross training opportunities

## Programming & the Pipeline

Increase Swim Lesson Enrollment
Increase Swim Team Enrollment
Strengthen the Programming Pipeline
Look for additional programming opportunities

#### Misc.

- Program Manager Hiring
- Other Org Changes
  - Full Time Lifeguard Positions
  - Span of Control Changes
- Uniform Focus Group
- Security Improvements
- Business Process Changes
  - Fee Changes and Standardizing
  - Support Staffing Additions

## Questions?