

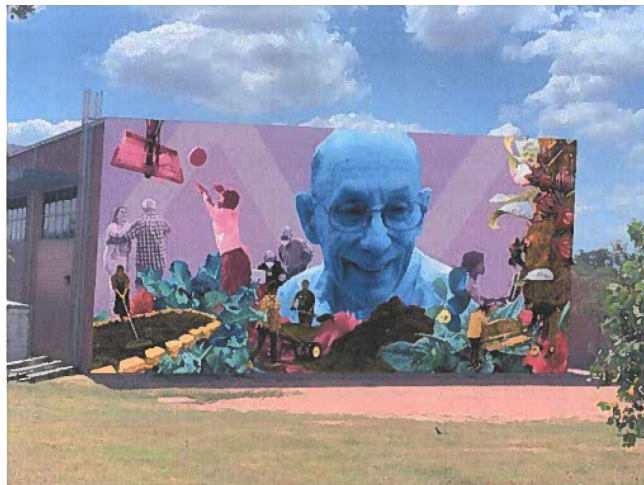
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD DIRECTOR'S REPORT

DATE: April 2023

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENTS:

George Morales Dove Springs Recreation Center: The George Morales Dove Springs Recreation Center celebrated the completion of its outdoor basketball court renovation with a ribbon cutting ceremony. The event took place on Tuesday, April 4th from 5-7 p.m. This renovation project was the result of a community grant program headed by the Austin Spurs and Austin Parks Foundation. Mayor Kirk Watson, Councilwoman Vanessa Fuentes, Constable George Morales, and other city leaders attended this ceremony to celebrate this great addition for the Dove Springs community. **District 2**

Gus Garcia AIPP Mural Project: Gus Garcia Recreation Center (GGRC) and the GGRC advisory board, who are working closely with the Arts in Public Places program, have completed the mural project. This mural highlights Gustavo “Gus” Garcia and everything the recreation center named after him represents, will be unveiled at the ribbon cutting event. The ribbon cutting event is pending a date available to be attended by City of Austin dignitaries and the Garcia family. **District 4**



Gus Garcia Mural

Wooldridge Square Historical Marker Dedication: Friends of Wooldridge Square, in partnership with the Department, will dedicate a new official Texas Historical Commission marker at Wooldridge Square at 10 a.m. on Friday, May 12th, at the park. The marker replaces an existing outdated marker and provides an expanded explanation of the park's historic significance. **District 9**



Flyer for Wooldridge Square Park Marker Dedication

Oakwood Chapel Restoration, All Together Here Memorial Event: The Parks and Recreation Department (Department) will hold a dedication at 2 p.m., Saturday, May 20th, for a permanent monument memorializing the individuals who were discovered during the Oakwood Chapel restoration. The dedication is part of the All Together Here memorial event taking place May 19–21. The events will be free and open to all, with options for both drop-in tours and RSVP'd events. Information can be found on the Oakwood Chapel website. A detailed [memo](#) was sent to Mayor and Council April 5th. **District 1** <https://www.austintexas.gov/departments/oakwood-cemetery-chapel>

PLANNING UPDATES:

Brodie Oaks PUD: The Brodie Oaks shopping center redevelopment is a proposed Planned Unit Development (PUD) located at Loop 360 and South Lamar, at the site of the former Brodie Oaks shopping center. Council approved the zoning on first reading on December 8, 2022 ([Item 96](#)). The proposal currently includes dedicating 11.6 acres of new parkland, expanding the Barton Creek Greenbelt. A hearing has been rescheduled for the second and possibly third reading at the regular Council Meeting on May 18th. The Parks and Recreation Board voted unanimously to recommend the PUD as superior at the September 26, 2022 meeting. **District 5**

Zilker Metropolitan Park Vision Plan: The draft vision plan was presented to and received recommendations from the Bicycle Advisory Council and the Pedestrian Advisory Council jointly on March 6th, the Urban Transportation Committee on April 4th, the Environmental Commission on April 5th, and the Design Commission on April 13th. More information including the draft plan document updated on March 22nd and the anticipated schedule for board and commission presentations may be found on the project website: <https://www.austintexas.gov/ZilkerVision>
Districts 5 and 8

Project Connect Update: Project Connect presented five alignment options to the public on March 21st. Options show a bridge crossing Lady Bird Lake either at Statesman/Waller Beach or at South First Street/Auditorium Shores. The versions shared with the public were high-level and did not show impacts

on the gazebo at Auditorium Shores, though Austin Transit Partnership is aware of Department feedback. The new Department/Project Connect full-time employee started on April 10th. There will be some additional involvement from the Department's parkland dedication team in the 6F process for identifying possible replacement properties dependent on which option moves forward. More information can be found at the project website: <https://www.projectconnect.com/>

All Districts

Texas Legislature Parkland Dedication Bills SB 558 and HB 1526: Two State bills have been proposed as part of the 88th legislative session that would dictate the City of Austin's parkland dedication requirements. The bills greatly reduce the amount of parkland that could be required from new developments. Department staff worked with the City of Austin Intergovernmental Relations Office (IGRO) to communicate the City's concerns regarding these two bills. HB 1526 has been approved, as substituted, by the House on three readings ("engrossed"). It will move on to the Senate for consideration. SB 558 has been reported favorably as substituted by committee and will move on to a Senate hearing and possible vote. **All Districts**

DEVELOPMENT UPDATES:

Lions Golf Course Resurfacing Project: Lions Golf Course has secured funding from the Save Historic Muni District to conduct two large projects on the property. During the ice storm, barrier netting on hole #14 was significantly damaged resulting in a 575-foot void. The work will take approximately four days to complete and is necessary to protect traffic along Lake Austin Blvd from errant golf shots. Also included in the approved funding is the resurfacing of the #10 teeing ground as well as 7200 sqft in the #1 fairway. The resurfacing project will be completed using a shade tolerant zoysia grass. This project is estimated to take six days. **District 10**

Waterloo Greenway – Palm Park: On April 19th, the project team presented the Palm Park Schematic Design and Design Development Phase Plan to the Waller Creek Local Government Corporation for discussion and possible action. The contract amount for this phase plan proposal is \$775,066. **Districts 1 and 9**



Concept design for Palm Park, Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates Inc

Waterloo Greenway – Confluence: Due to the Environmental Commission’s volume of agenda items for the April 5th meeting, the Waterloo Greenway team provided a construction update on The Confluence project to the commission via memo. Additional presentation materials were provided as back-up and any questions from the Commission to the project team were communicated and responded to by email. More information can be found at the project website:

<https://www.austintexas.gov/department/confluence> **Districts 1 and 9**

MAINTENANCE UPDATES:

Aquatic Maintenance:

- **Pool preparation:**
 - Currently working on site clean-up for Parque Zaragoza and Mabel Davis pools.
 - Backwash line at Springwoods Pool has been repaired.
- **Annual Spring Clean – Deep Eddy Pool:**
 - Deep Eddy Pool was closed for its annual spring clean from April 8-21. During this time the new wells will be serviced if the contractor is available. Additionally, four full time lifeguards have been assigned to manage the pool.
- **Barton Springs Pool:**
 - Barton Springs Pool is working to transition the payment kiosks on private Wi-Fi with the end goal of improving the payment transaction process for visitors.
 - There are also five additional fulltime lifeguards who have been assigned to the facility.

Multi-purpose Fields Renovation: Givens Recreation Center continues to move forward with the renovation of their multi-purpose fields. After some recent delays the project is back on track to be completed mid to late August of this year. **District 1**

Repairs to Rock Wall at Main Entrance of Parque Zaragoza Recreation Center: Facility damage to the Rock Wall at main entrance of Parque Zaragoza Recreation Center occurred in 2021 as a result of a car accident. The repair has been completed. **District 1**

Installation of Interior and Exterior Security Cameras at Delores Duffie Recreation Center: Delores Duffie Recreation Center recently received the quote to move forward with the installation of interior and exterior security cameras within and surrounding the perimeter of the main building. The site will be making this addition within the coming months to help improve the security features for the site. The site manager is currently working with the Departments Building services Team after the submittal of an Asbestos, Lead, and/or Mold Request to assess the facility’s integrity to help identify the safe areas for drilling. The site is awaiting approval by PARD purchasing as well as the delivery of installation equipment by Johnson Controls. **District 1**

Renovation of Multi-purpose Courts at Mendez Recreation Center: Mendez Recreation Center continues to move forward with their community project to renovate their multi-purpose courts to include a bike polo court. The project that began late last year and is currently in phase two of the project. The contractors are currently working on erecting the brick wall after completing their most recent demolition. The project has seen recent halts in the progress due to the contractor and Austin Parks Foundation. **District 3**

Martin Fields Renovation: Mendez Recreation Center will begin the installation of their irrigation project later this month. The scope of this project that will include the renovation of Martin fields, will include a new irrigation system for the field, the installation of wooden bollards, as well as the re-turfing of the field space. The site is currently working with their current field rosters, adult sports organization, and the Austin Independent School District to ensure the space is blocked off for at least one month to ensure the completion of the project. The recreation center blocked off the field for renovation beginning on April 17th and the expected timeline will be approximately one month. **District 3**

Northwest Recreation Center: New cabinets, counter, and sink have been installed in the Arts & Crafts Room at the Northwest Recreation Center. The renovation in the Kitchen has been delayed and is not expected to be complete until May. The new playground equipment has arrived and is currently being installed by the contractor. Estimated completion date is May 1st. **District 7**

Hancock Facility Work and Closure Dates Confirmed: Repairs to Hancock Recreation Center's damaged floor and ceiling began on Monday, April 10th and the center's upstairs rooms are expected to be closed for mold/asbestos removal through April 16th. Replacing tile floors will occur after the removal. After School Programs will continue to meet outside and downstairs. **District 9**





Damage to the Center from AC Water Damage

Butler Landfill Zilker Metro Park Maintenance Project: December 2022 saw the application of the winter hydroseed on the 3-acre revegetation area. A permanent hydroseed mix was applied on top of the winter cover crop growth on April 4th and 5th. This represents the final phase of the maintenance improvements made to the Butler Landfill site, which included regrading to prevent ponding, new gates to control vehicular access, a pedestrian gate near Lou Neff Road, and an irrigation system to support the three revegetated acres. The revegetated area will remain closed until 90% of the area exhibits established vegetation, which is expected to take 60-to-90 days depending on weather conditions. Future uses for the lot will be determined according to the Zilker Park Vision Plan. The maintenance project was funded by C3 Presents. **District 8**



Fresh application of hydroseed mix at the Butler Landfill

PROGRAM UPDATES:

District 1:

All Together Here: The event is a public memorial and monument dedication that honors the 36 people recently reinterred in Oakwood Cemetery. It takes place Friday, May 19th through Sunday, May 21st at Oakwood Cemetery, 1601 Navasota St. The weekend events include guided tours of the Historic Colored Grounds and the Oakwood Chapel, a talk by a historian, a racial healing circle, the dedication of the monuments, a walking procession, and a homegoing celebration. These events are free and open to the public. Attendees can [RSVP on Eventbrite](#). To learn more about the history of Oakwood Chapel Cemetery visit [oakwoodsymposium.org](#).

CelebrASIA: The Asian American Resource Center is hosting its 10th annual CelebrASIA Austin event on Saturday, May 13 from 11am to 3pm at 8401 Cameron Rd. The family-friendly festival is free and open to the public and celebrates Asian Pacific American (APA) Heritage Month. This indoor/outdoor event offers performances, food vendors, exhibits, and cultural experiences for the entire family. The 2023 festival will commemorate 10 years of the AARC being rooted in community and culture! RSVP at the CelebrASIA Austin 2023 [Eventbrite](#) page and learn more about the AARC at [austintexas.gov/aarc](#).

Spring Fest at Alamo Recreation Center: More than 200 people attended the first Spring Fest event at the Alamo Recreation Center on March 26th from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. in the Alamo Pocket Park. Events included an Easter egg hunt for all ages, art tables, snow cone food truck, archery tag, prizes, games, Easter photos and a fire truck visit.



Spring Fling at Alamo Pocket Park

Communities Cesar Chavez March: On Saturday, March 25th the Parque Zaragoza Recreation Center supported the communities Cesar Chavez March. Hundreds of participants and families were in attendance for the event to include community leaders Constable George Morales and District 3 Councilmember Jose Velasquez. The event, known as “Sí, se Puede” (Yes we Can) is the motto of the United Farm Workers, a labor union for farmworkers in the United States. The phrase was the rallying cry attributed in 1972 to Mexican American farm worker Cesar Chavez, an American labor leader and civil rights activist. This year marks the second return to the event after previously being halted as a result of COVID.



*Parque Zaragoza Recreation Center Supported the
Communities Cesar Chavez Known as the Sí, se puede March*

Spring Fling at Givens Recreation Center: On Saturday, April 8th, the Givens Recreation Center hosted the annual Spring Fling event. Much like the other parks and recreation centers within the community recreation division that hosted their event Saturday, April 1st, the event included an Easter egg hunt outside, followed by a carnival in the gym. The site opted to host their event one week later in support of the communities' interest for the Texas Relays each year that hosts a car show in the Givens District Park. Supporting community members, stakeholders and community recreation staff from Delores Duffie Recreation Center and Parque Zaragoza Recreation Center was onsite to support the district wide led event. Over 250 attendees were in attendance for the event that was moved indoors due to inclement weather.





Givens Recreation Center hosts its annual Spring Fling Event

Bobcat Day at Texas State University: On Saturday, April 15th, Delores Duffie Recreation Center coordinated a field trip to attend Bobcat Day at Texas State University in San Marcos. The day's event will include an on-campus tour and visit for recreation center teens from the 9th to 12th grade. Over 50 teens from recreation centers throughout Austin will be able to attend the event to get exposure and taste to the like of a Texas State Bobcat. The event will be free for all high school teens and include a free breakfast catered by Chick Fil A, and lunch onsite at the Texas State University cafeteria. Spots are limited and participants must register at their neighboring recreation center.



Bobcat Day

The Legacy of Silk Club Exhibit Reception: The Asian American Resource Center's (AARC) exhibit reception for The Legacy of Silk Club exhibit was held on March 31st, commemorating the 10th edition release of the bi-annual zine, QUIET! The collaborative exhibit showcased the exponential growth and diversity of Silk's work, the persistence and resilience that defines this organization, and the communities it represents. Attendees at the reception enjoyed a zine-making workshop and light refreshments as they viewed the artwork throughout the center. Several Silk Club members and alumni were present, as well as some first-time visitors to the AARC. 63 people attended the event.



Attendees Participating in the Zine-Making workshop

Youth Chess Lessons with Joyous Tutoring: The first in a series of six youth chess lessons went off without a hitch on Thursday, March 30th at the Carver Museum & Cultural Center from 6-7 p.m. In partnership with Coach Gabe Reid of Joyous Tutoring, the kick-off class of this monthly youth chess program was a joyous evening indeed. The program received food donations from two community sponsors, and students had a blast battling it out on the boards. Coach Gabe Reid explained to students that chess enhances creativity, intellectual ability, memory, and increases reading skills, all while having fun. With five sessions remaining on the last Thursday of every month through September, the Carver and Joyous Tutoring expect a healthy turnout through the duration of the series. 17 participants are enrolled in the program.



Students Pair up to Learn the Game of Chess

Historic Preservation and Tourism Program Updates: [The Historic Preservation and Tourism Program](#) supports the preservation, restoration, and promotion of historic Austin parks through capital investment and inclusive marketing of historic sites and events to tourists. The April 2023 issue of Texas Monthly features a full-page ad promoting the spring season of the Huston-Tillotson University Rams baseball team, which plays at Downs Field. The historic grandstands at Downs Field were fully renovated in 2022. Both the renovation and collaborative marketing efforts are supported through the

Department's allocation of Hotel Occupancy Tax revenue for historic preservation at historic sites.

Spring at Fling Turner-Roberts Recreation Center: On Saturday, April 1st, Turner-Roberts Recreation Center hosted their annual Spring Fling event. Staff from the supporting recreation sites in the area were in attendance to include Mendez and Pan Am Recreation Centers. The event hosted over 300 attendees partaking in the Easter egg hunt for four separate youth age groups, walking toddlers to 12 years of age and was followed by a carnival in the gym for the remainder of the event.



Turner- Roberts Recreation Center hosts its annual Spring Fling Event

District 2:

Dittmar Recreation Center: On Wednesday, March 29th, Dittmar partnered with Westlake High School for Senior Service Day. 10 students volunteered their time preparing for Dittmar's Spring Fling event. Preparations included stuffing eggs, making sure inflatables are working, sorting out the decorations, and cutting punch cards. **(Boarders District 5)**

George Morales Dove Springs Recreation Center: The George Morales Dove Springs Recreation Center began the start of its new youth "Tiny Wood Masters" program on Wednesday, March 29th. This innovative out of school time program introduced youth participants ages 10-17 to beginner level wood carpentry and tool usage skills under the guidance of a class instructor. Six participants were enrolled for the first spring session of this program that ended on April 12th.

Spring Fling at Dittmar Recreation Center: On Saturday, April 1st, Dittmar Recreation Center hosted the annual Spring Fling Event with support of South Austin Recreation Center staff members, and 10 vendors. 420 community members attended the event and participated in an egg hunt, carnival games, a bounce house, toddler bounce house, and arts and craft projects. **(Boarders District 5)**



Photo with Easter Bunny and Easter Egg Hunt at Dittmar Recreation Center

Spring Fling at George Morales Dove Springs Recreation Center: The George Morales Dove Springs Recreation Center held its annual Spring Fling Event on Saturday, April 1st from 10:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. This free community event featured an Easter egg hunt, arts & craft activities, family friendly games, prize giveaways, and snacks and beverages for guests. This outdoor event was attended by over 1,100 participants.

District 3:

South Austin Recreation Center: Spring Movie on the Field Series has begun. Movies are scheduled for March 10th, April 14th and May 12th. About 40 people attended the March 10th and April 14th show. began in March at SARC. Our first screening was Moana that 40 community members enjoyed. Movie showings are scheduled for March 10th, April 14th, and May 12th. About 40 people are expected to attend the May 12th movie. **(Boarders District 5)**



Community members enjoying Movie on the Field

Spring Fling at Montopolis Recreation and Community Center: The Montopolis Recreation and Community Center hosted its annual Spring Fling event on April 1st. The Spring Fling consisted of an egg

hunt, bounce house, and carnival games. Guests were also treated with popcorn, snow scones, and cotton candy. Approximately 250 community members attended.



2023 Spring Fling egg hunt

Oswaldo A.B. Cantu/Pan American Recreation Center: On Saturday, April 8th from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m., Oswaldo AB Cantu Pan Am Recreation Center hosted their Community Easter egg hunt. The annual event will include an easter egg hunt for participants ages 0 to 12 and will include a find the golden egg challenge with baskets and prizes. Photo opportunities with a live easter egg bunny will be made available for parents and children to be able to partake in. Over 50 people attended the event.

Care U Transportation Option: Conley Guerrero Senior Activity Center: Care U Transportation Option for Older Adults Resource Fair was held at the city at the Conley Guerrero Senior Activity Center on April 15th 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Annual Easter Egg Hunt: On Saturday, April 8th the Mendez Recreation Center hosted their annual Easter egg hunt in Metz Park at 10:30 AM. Despite having to reschedule the event after bad Thursday's weather on Thursday, April 6th, the site still hosted the annual event which included an Easter egg hunt for youth participants followed by an outdoor event in the facilities parking lot, complete with vendors, community groups and live performers. 200 people attended the event.





Annual Easter Egg Hunt at Mendez Recreation Center

Texas VegFest: The Texas VegFest occurred on Saturday, April 8th from 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. at Fiesta Gardens West End. The annual event had over 3,000 people in attendance over the course of the day.

Adult 50+ Services: Staff are working with Austin Public Health to host the Older Americans Month Kick off at Conley Guerrero Senior Activity Center on May 6th from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. The event will be an Indoor Event and during the celebration there will be bands, vendors, bingo, exercise classes, booster shots, prizes, performances, and Jim Spencer. 250 people are expected to attend the event.

District 4:

Out of School Time (OOST)/Run Club: The Gus Garcia Recreation Center Run club is in its second session with 11 participants. Meetings are on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30-7:30 p.m. from March 21st-May 11th with coach Jeremiah Moton Greene. Participants will be working towards running a color run on the trail at Gus Garcia Park.

Annual Senior Day: Virginia L. Brown partnered with Westlake High School for their annual Senior Service Day on March 29th from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. The recreation center had a total of nine high school volunteers who helped with a garden beautification project. Overall, the project was a huge success.



Virginia L. Brown Recreation Center Senior Service Day

Youth Programming/Spring Fling: On Saturday, April 1st, Gus Garcia Recreation center hosted their annual Spring Eggstravaganza Event from 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Four recreation centers and nine vendors collaborated in part with each other to cultivate a festive experience for the community that also included an egg hunt for participants ages 0-12 years old, carnival games for everyone to enjoy, prizes, a moon bounce, adult potato sack race and food. 543 people were in attendance.

District 8:

Grey Rock Resurfacing Project: Putting green resurfacing and teeing ground resurfacing work will start at Grey Rock Golf Club on May 1st. The Golf Division anticipates operating nine holes from May 1st through May 28th allowing the golf course to remain open and accessible as long as possible. Around May 28th, a full golf course closure will happen to begin work on the remaining holes. During the closure of the golf course, Grey Rock Tennis, practice facilities, game improvement programs, dining and social programs will continue. In the best interest of the project, the annual July 4th celebration will be cancelled due to staffing and cost concerns. Alternative programming has been provided in the form of discounted monthly dues and food credits. All other GolfATX properties will be fully open and accessible during this closure and to date, Touchstone has had no members choose to freeze their memberships related to the closure. The lack of frozen memberships indicates Touchstone has provided a very attractive alternative program/membership retention plan.

District 9:

O. Henry Museum Pun Off World Championships: On May 13th from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Brush Square Museums, in collaboration with the Brush Square Museums Foundation, presents the 46th Annual O. Henry Museum Pun-Off World Championships, an internationally renowned spoken word competition focused on the art of the pun. Usually held behind the O. Henry Museum, this year it will temporarily be hosted at the Hilton Austin, 500 E. 4th St., while Brush Square is under renovation. For details visit www.punoff.com.

Hancock Spring Youth Soccer: Spring Soccer practices at Hancock Recreation Center have started, and games began on April 15th and ends on May 20th. Hancock has a total of 88 players on six teams in four age divisions, 4-12 years of age.



Participants and volunteer Parent Coaches from last Fall Season

Hancock Tiny Tots Workshop: Five children participated in the Hancock Recreation Center's April Tiny Tot Easter Workshop on April 7th from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Children had a fun morning of egg hunts, games and spring-themed arts and crafts.



Tiny Tot Arts and Crafts

Hancock Tweens Night Out – GG (Good Game) Well Played: Pre-teens ages 11-13 are invited to join Hancock Recreation Center Tweens Night Out on Friday, April 28th from 5-8 p.m. for an evening of games and fun. Pre-teens will be introduced to Virtual Reality gaming at *Good Game Well Played* is a futuristic way of gaming. Expected number of participants is 15.



Preteens practicing how to use GG Well Played Games

It's Hot Cooking Club: 13 youth are enrolled in Hancock Recreation Center's After School Program Cooking Club on Tuesdays in April. They will meet weekly to cook and learn about healthy and delicious snacks while getting a cool take home kit and their very own apron.



Chop It Like It's Hot

Urban Music Festival: Urban Musical Festival occurred on Saturday, April 1st, 12-10 p.m. at Vic Mathias Shores.

- Annual public special event that occurs during the Texas Relays weekend. About 1,000 people attended the event.
- [Urban Music Festival](#)

"The Other Side" Artist Talk and Guest Lecture: On Friday, April 7th the Dougherty Arts Center (DAC) hosted a lecture featuring artist Meena Matai, creator of The Other Side exhibition at the DAC; Dr. Guneeta Singh Bhalla, founder of the 1947 Partition Archive; Dr. Amritjit Singh, Professor Emeritus and Partition witness; and Nehah Aziz, creator of Partition Podcast. The lecture was about the peoples' plight during the India-Pakistan partition, and it launched the Partition Archive's first book featuring personal stories and perspectives that explore the ways in which the history of the subcontinent continues to shape our lives today. 121 people attended the event.



"The Other Side" Artist Talk and Guest Lecture taking place in the Dougherty Arts Center's Theatre

Elisabet Ney Museum: Hyperreal Film Club Screening of Marie Antoinette. The Ney and Hyperreal Film Club partnered to create a magical evening in the courtyard of the Elisabet Ney Museum for a screening of Sofia Coppola's stylish 2006 biopic MARIE ANTOINETTE starring Austin resident KIRSTEN DUNST. The night started with a tour of the museum and ended with an outdoor film screening with over 200 guests dressed in the period of Marie Antoinette. A majority of the guests had never visited the museum. 200 people were in attendance.



Woman in bright pink Marie Antoinette wig at Ney's film event, Marie Antoinette

The International Coalition of Sites of Conscience Conference: The Old Bakery & Emporium hosted a two day conference April 24-25 for [The International Coalition of Sites of Conscience](#) that included two days of presentations and thoughtful discussion. Museum professionals came from all over the United States to engage with Museum staff. The International Coalition of Sites of Conscience is the only global network of historic sites, museums, and memory initiatives that connects past struggles to today's movements for human rights, turning memory into action. There were 15 participants at the event.



Photos Depicting the Attendees at Proceedings of the International Coalition of Sites of Conscience

Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center: “Breaking Barriers” Latinx Youth Conference: Thirty teens and mentors gathered at the Carver Museum for a day of exploration in art, music, and mental wellness. This all-day workshop offered multiple art activities for free to teens such as screen printing, painting, and self-portraiture. The teens gathered after lunch for a panel discussion on how to incorporate wellness practices into everyday life, addressing barriers to wellness and providing creative and culturally specific solutions. The day ended with a cleansing and group bonding ceremony over feelings of gratitude and community building. The teens made new friends, built their leadership skills, and connected with resources in Austin to boost both wellness and professional/ artistic development. 30 people attended the event.



“Breaking Barriers” Conference took place in the Carver Museum, in the Boyd Vance Theatre

District 10:

Spring Partnership: Registration has been completed for the Lions Spring Partnership to be conducted on April 22-23. This golf tournament is a two-person competition in which there are 72 teams registered. The Spring Partnership is a highly sought-after event and patrons began lining up on Enfield Road at 2:30 a.m. to be certain there was space when registration started at 6 a.m. This event is always full of excitement and drama to crown the best two-person team in the area.

Masters Golf Tournament Promotions: During the week of April 3rd, the 87th playing of the Masters Golf Tournament was held in Augusta, Georgia. Golf ATX and Lions Golf Course specifically were featured during the par 3 tournament. Two-time Masters Champion and resident Austinite Ben Crenshaw proudly displayed his SAVE MUNY bag during the tournament. The bag was featured several times on ESPN and GOLF ATX is proud to have such an honorable individual advocate to preserve this historic Austin golf course.



*Ben Crenshaw and His Longtime Caddy
and friend Carl Jackson*



*Caddie Carl Jackson Holding
Ben Crenshaw's Save MUNY Bag*

Districts 1 and 9:

College Tour Field Trip: On Saturday, April 14th, Virginia Brown, Delores Duffie and Turner Roberts Recreation Centers partnered to provide a college tour field trip for 20 high school participants from. The campus tour was held at Texas State University, in San Marcos Texas, during their Bobcat Day event. Each teen attendee experienced a day on campus including a tour to of the residential halls, the museum and library, as well as an overview of the campus monuments and its rich history. They were also provided an educational session on financial aid and scholarships, a tour of the recreation center and student union, as well as provided lunch in the campus cafeteria.





*April 14th College Tour Field Trip
Hosted by Virginia Brown, Delores Duffie and Turner Roberts Recreation Centers*

Districts 1 and 9:

Waterloo Greenway Confluence, Meet the Contractor: The City, Waterloo Conservancy and Jay-Reese Construction held a virtual Meet-the-Contractor meeting on April 18th, from 6-7 p.m. The project team introduced the contractor, discussed project impacts, and answered community questions.

Districts 2 and 10:

State High School Golf Tournament: Jimmy Clay Golf Course and Lions Golf Course will be the host site for the 3A and 2A UIL State High School Golf Tournaments in May. 144 competitors will play at each site over a two-week period battling for both team and individual competitions. The Golf Division has a long and storied history of hosting the State High School tournament crowning future professional golfers Stacy Lewis and Jordan Speith. GOLFATX sites are selected based on the professional expertise and the quality of facilities. **Districts 2 & 10**

Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7:

Summer Playgrounds: The [Summer Playgrounds program](#) is re-engaging our communities in North, Central, and South Austin through a series of fun “pop-up” style events this spring leading up to summer. With the first event that happened on Saturday April 8th and will run through May 6th, the community can come and experience a pop-up at their playground park location. This event series is for people of all ages and features live music, jump houses, staff led games, and the opportunity to connect with a number of our community partners such as Urban Forestry, the Urban League, and Travis County Constables about their services. In addition, attendees can also pre-register their children for the Summer Playgrounds program and speak to the Aquatics Division about their lifeguarding job opportunities. 50 people attended this fun event.



AUSTIN PARKS & RECREATION

SUMMER

PLAYGROUNDS PARK POP-UPS

RE-ENGAGING OUR COMMUNITIES

BARTHOLOMEW DISTRICT PARK
5201 BERKMAN DR. - **SATURDAY, APRIL 8**

JAMES A GARRISON DISTRICT PARK
6001 MENCHACA RD - **SATURDAY, APRIL 15**

WALNUT CREEK METROPOLITAN PARK
12138 N LAMAR BLVD - **SATURDAY, APRIL 22**

MARY MOORE SEARIGHT METRO PARK
907 W SLAUGHTER LN - **SATURDAY, APRIL 29**

MARTIN PARK SHELTER
14 SALINA ST - **SATURDAY, MAY 6**

ALL AGES EVENTS
EVENT TIMES
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

LIVE MUSIC
JUMP HOUSES
SUMMER PLAYGROUNDS STAFF LED GAMES

COMMUNITY PARTNERS
URBAN LEAGUE
TRAVIS COUNTY CONSTABLES
WATERSHED PROTECTION DEPARTMENT

 The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. For assistance please contact (512) 974 - 3914 or Relay Texas 7-1-1. 



Playground Park Pop-Ups

District 5 & 8

Zilker Shuttle. The popular Zilker Shuttle service returns this summer. The free shuttle service goes to Zilker Metropolitan Park from the One Texas Center parking garage Saturday, May 27th through Monday, September 4th. The Zilker Shuttle runs every Saturday and Sunday, and during the 4th of July and Labor Day holidays from 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Park in the One Texas Center parking garage, 505 Barton Springs Rd. Parking ticket must be validated by the shuttle driver. The drop-off location is at Zilker Playground/Barton Springs Spillway. For more information, visit [AustinTexas.gov/Zilker](https://austintexas.gov/Zilker).

All Districts:

All Sites Spring Youth Soccer. All Rec Centers are currently registering for youth soccer ages 3- 12 years old. The league began on April 15th. **All Districts**

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES:

Lifeguard Recruitment, Hiring & Training. The Aquatic Division continues with hiring and recruiting efforts on all fronts for full-time and temporary employees. As of April 5th, there has been 807 applicants. All applicants have been contacted with next steps for hiring and are in various stages. Additionally, there are currently a total of 306 lifeguards ready to work.

Below is the schedule of Lifeguard trainings in April:

- Renewal Lifeguard Class at Bartholomew Pool (R13), April 15-16, 2023.
- Full Lifeguard Class at Northwest Pool (F15), April 22-30, 2023.
- Full Lifeguard Class at Garrison Pool (F16), April 22-30, 2023.

Lifeguard and Summer Camp Staff Hiring. Marketing, communications, and outreach will continue through the beginning of June using the \$100k of additional promotional funding. Promotions will continue to focus heavily on \$20+/hour starting wage, up to \$750 Bonus, and \$400 Lifeguard Training Stipend. Additional perks include free bus pass, paid time off, free uniforms, and flexible schedules.

[AustinTexas.gov/SummerJobs](https://austintexas.gov/SummerJobs)

Zilker Train. The Parks and Recreation Board received an update on January 5, 2021, regarding the execution of the Construction, Operations, and Maintenance Agreement for a Miniature Train Operation at Zilker Metropolitan Park with the Austin Parks Foundation (Foundation). During ongoing testing, the Foundation found additional parts and retrofitting were needed. Additionally, the difficulty in obtaining parts timely has further delayed their timeline. The Foundation provided a website with details on opening and activities related to the train at <https://www.zilkertrain.org/>.

In October 2022, the Foundation released a communication that they anticipated not having an operational train until fall of 2023, at the earliest. Since October 2022, the Foundation has reported to have:

- Engaged with Square One Consultants to help with the project management in finding a new train provider;
- Spoken with train operators in Austin, San Antonio, Houston, Arkansas, Mississippi, Montana and California in search of a provider that could meet our needs; and
- Met with five train manufacturers and received proposals from two of them to build a new train as the previous train built by Railway Factory is not reliable and no reputable manufacturer will work on a train that they have not built.

On January 30th, the Foundation reported to have called and emailed all train donors/sponsors to provide them with an update, following the KUT story. On February 10th, the Foundation met with PARD to provide an update on the status of the project. The Foundation anticipates that the earliest the train will return is the fall of 2023.

Recreation Management System. The Department, with the assistance of the Communications and Technology Management Department (CTM), published a Request for Information (RFI) to survey current technology solutions in the Recreation Management Industry. PARD/CTM received three responses and conducted vendor question and answer sessions and vendor system demonstrations, along with meetings with current user organizations, between September and October 2021. Based on the information gathered, the Department will work with CTM to establish a scope of work (SOW) and conduct a formal solicitation for a future Recreation Management System. As CTM is the principal information technology department that focuses on the delivery and operations of vital IT infrastructure

network and telecommunications services for the City, they will facilitate the competitive solicitation process. This includes establishing a CTM project manager and creating a timeline for the solicitation process. In October 2022, the Department began working with a CTM project manager to establish timeline and deliverables for the solicitation scope of work. The Department anticipates the solicitation process will take over a year to complete. The Department will continue to utilize RecTrac services throughout the solicitation process until a recommended vendor is established.

Watercraft Concession at 2418 Stratford Drive. The contract with the current vendor, Rowing Dock, expires April 22, 2023. A Scope of Work (SOW) was developed and presented at the September Parks Board Contracts and Concessions Committee meeting. The solicitation was published on November 9, 2022, and closed January 3, 2023, with four proposals submitted. On March 13th, a recommendation for award to Texas Canoes and Kayaks was posted. The recommendation for the award to the selected vendor is currently under protest. This solicitation remains in a no-contact period until a contract is executed. Additionally, the contract with the current vendor was set to expire on April 22nd. However, it was extended to allow for continued operations through September 4th, and for the removal of property and equipment by October 31st.

Management and Operation of the Pharr Tennis Center. This agreement is for the management and operations of the renovated Burnett “Blondie” Pharr Tennis Center (Pharr). The soon to be renovated facility is anticipated to be completed in August 2023. The Parks Board Contracts and Concessions Committee was briefed at the October 21, 2022, meeting on the solicitation. The solicitation is pending release by Central Procurement. A contract with the successful proposer is anticipated to be executed by the August 2023 renovation completion.

Interlocal Agreement between City of Austin and Austin Community College. This agreement is an interlocal agreement that allows the Austin Community College to utilize specified areas of the Turner Roberts Recreation Center to offer consulting and training classes to the public at no charge to participants nor the City. The Interlocal Agreement was approved by Council on March 9th, with anticipated execution by end of April.

Zilker Café. The agreement with the previous vendor has been terminated. A new solicitation is being developed to operate and maintain the food and beverage concession on the north side of Barton Springs Pool in Zilker Park. The solicitation is anticipated to be released in May 2023.

PARD’s Operating Budget Status as of March 31, 2023. Of the \$119 million General Fund budget, 49 percent or \$50.6M has been obligated as of the end of March as compared to \$45M spent in the same period of the prior fiscal year. \$5.5M of the \$14.1M budgeted General Fund revenue has been collected as of the end of March. Golf revenue equaling \$5.6M has been collected as of the end of March, which is up compared to the \$4.8M revenue collected by March 2022. Of the \$9.2 million Golf expenditure budget, 58 percent or \$4.6M has been obligated. This is \$800K higher in spending as of March of the prior fiscal year.

FY 2024 Budget Development. PARD has submitted its FY2024 Financial Forecast, and the PARD Finance Unit is currently working on the various FY2024 Proposed Budget deliverables that are due on May 5th to the COA Budget Office. Here are some upcoming key dates from the COA Budget Timeline:

| CALENDAR | |
|---------------------|---|
| April 14 | <i>Financial Forecast Report delivered to Council</i> |
| May 5 | 5-year CIP Plan due from Depts. |
| May 5 | Proposed Budget due from Depts. |
| July 14 | Proposed Budget Presentation to Council |
| July 26 – August 10 | Council Budget Work Sessions |
| August 16 - 18 | Tax Rate Hearing and Budget Readings |

Community Engagement Training – Fundamentals of Public Participation. Site Development and Park Planning staff attended an online course, “Fundamentals of Public Participation (P2)”, on April 12th and April 13th from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. The course is a prerequisite for other courses in the Global Learning Pathway that sets out the underpinning models and frameworks of engagement practices used by the City of Austin. The course will be taught by Justin Schneider, Parks and Recreation Department Community Engagement Specialist, and Licensed IAP2 trainer.

Texas American Society for Landscape Architects Conference. Landscape Architects from the Site Development and Park Planning Divisions will attend the 2023 Annual Texas Chapter of American Society for Landscape Architects conference in Fort Worth, TX on April 25-27. The conference showcases vendor exhibits and continuing education sessions for Landscape Architects focusing on sustainability, safety, wellness, and accessibility. The theme for the 2023 conference is “Innovate.”