

## PARD LAND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

### 2019 WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS AUDIT

**Recommended** that PARD create and implement land management plans with a priority on "high-risk properties."

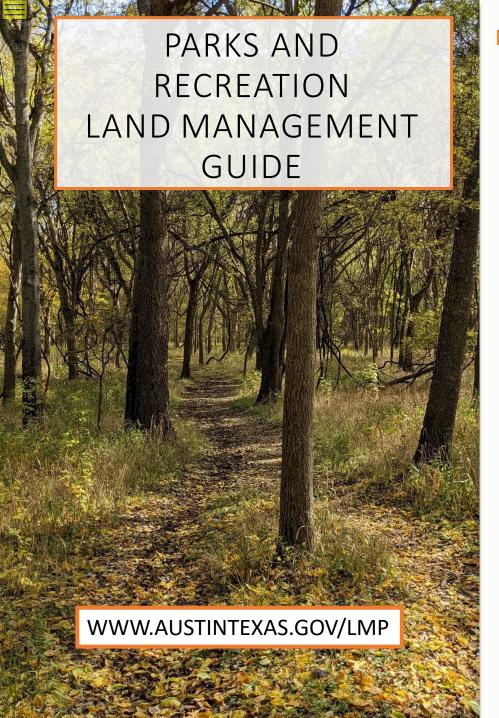
**Response:** PARD established the beginnings of a land management program as well as a technical guiding document to help direct action.

### This strategy is also recommended by:

- Austin/Travis County Community Wildfire Protection Plan
- Austin Climate Equity Plan
- PARD Long Range Plan
- Nine parks vision plans
- Austin Green Infrastructure Strengths and Gaps Assessment
- Austin Healthy Parks Plan (Austin Parks Foundation)

#### Parks and Recreation Land Management Guide

- Approved by Austin City Council September 21, 2023
- 10,347 acres of parkland natural areas



Recommended land management strategies and climate vulnerability analysis

**SITE ANALYSIS:** 

(current challenges)

Current conditions and challenges: Existing vegetation communities, wildfire fuel conditions, soils, hydrology, endangered species, other elements

CLIMATE VULNERABILITY ANALYSIS:

(future challenges)

Defined the components of climate vulnerability. Identifies and maps vulnerability to intense heat, drought, disease, and wildfire. Incorporates social vulnerability as a component of risk.

**MANAGEMENT GOALS:** 

Target vegetation types expected to best withstand and recover from heat, drought, disease, and wildfire throughout 21st century.

**RESTORATION STRATEGIES:** 

Actions for economically and efficiently achieving management goals at large scales

**MONITORING DIRECTION:** 

For evaluating progress relative to management goals

# IMPLEMENTING PARKS AND RECREATION LAND MANAGEMENT GUIDE

- Restoration strategies
  - Selective thinning and fuel reduction
    - In addition to existing process for shaded fuel breaks
  - Prescribed fire
    - Cooperative agreements with Austin Fire Department, US Fish and Wildlife Service, University of Texas, Travis Co. Parks, Austin Water, The Nature Conservancy
  - Invasive species removal
  - Planting and seeding
- FY24 and Beyond
  - Parks and Recreation Staffing
    - Two staff currently dedicated to these efforts with two more joining in FY24.
  - Master Agreements
  - Funding Opportunities
  - Future Growth

