

City of Austin Mobility Report

January 2024



Monthly Highlights

CITY CREWS RESPOND TO HELP AUSTIN COMMUNITY PERSERVE THROUGH WINTER STORM



Freezing temperatures and wintry precipitation caused roads to become icy and slippery during a winter storm that hit Austin over the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday weekend.

Transportation and Public Works (TPW) crews sprung into action before the storm began and continued working during the cold snap to make sure Austin's roadways were safe.

Working around the clock in 12-hour shifts, a dozen crews pretreated, monitored, and when necessary, re-treated roads with brine solutions that prevent icing. Over 500 gallons of brine were applied to 36 high-priority bridges. Additionally, signal crews responded quickly and efficiently to power outages.

In recent months, TPW's Street and Bridge Operations (SBO) crews received special training that had them well prepared. Exercises included chainsaw handling, debris removal, vehicle chain installation and brine and dolomite application. SBO crews also learned basic core skills like first aid and how winter weather affects the roadway.

Thanks to our dedicated employees, and to our partners at the Texas Department of Transportation, who performed similar work on area highways. It's not easy to face a long shift in sub-freezing temperatures, but the safety of everyone on Austin's roadways is the top priority of all of us at the City of Austin.



AUSTIN COMPLETES 2016 MOBILITY BOND SIDEWALK PROGRAM ONE YEAR AHEAD OF SCHEDULE



Eight years ago, Austin voters approved the largest transportation bond in city history, investing \$720 million to make mobility safer and more convenient for everyone.

Since completing its first project — a new sidewalk on Chesterfield Lane in 2017 — the city has been working for years on new streets, sidewalks, urban trails, bikeways, safer routes to school and more.

This fall, one year ahead of schedule, the City passed a major milestone when it completed its sidewalk program funded by the 2016 bond. Over the past six years, the City has constructed or repaired more than 56 miles of sidewalk citywide thanks to the \$37.5 million investment in the 2016 Mobility Bond.



2023 SETS RECORDS FOR BUSIEST DAYS AT AUS

Rank	Date	Number of People Screened Thru TSA	Reason/Event
1	Monday, October 23, 2023	43,243	Monday after F1
2	Monday, October 24, 2022	42,241	Monday after F1
3	Monday, October 16, 2023	38,475	Monday after ACL Weekend 2 '23
4	Sunday, November 5, 2023	38,252	Sunday after AfroTech; UT Game
5	Friday, November 17, 2023	37,792	Fri before Thanksgiving
6	Sunday, November 12, 2023	37,141	Tx Book Festival, Veteran's Day Holiday
7	Monday, October 9, 2023	37,058	Monday after ACL Weekend 1 '23
8	Sunday, October 29, 2023	36,841	
9	Friday, March 10, 2023	36,740	Friday before SXSW '23
10	Thursday, November 16, 2023	36,685	Thurs before Thanksgiving

Austin-Bergstrom International Airport (AUS) has once again broken new records for passenger travel.

While the Department of Aviation will not receive year-end enplanement totals from airline partners until February, the top busiest days of the 2023 calendar year are in: Nearly all top 10 days that saw the highest volume of departing travelers occurred last year, except for the Monday after F1 in 2022, which at the time set a new record for single busiest day.

The Department of Aviation is grateful for the collaboration across the airport from our TSA partners, airline partners and concession partners specifically and deeply appreciates the preparedness and patience demonstrated by travelers.

As more people fly in and out of Austin, the AUS team continues a steadfast commitment to expanding the airport's facilities, improving the customer experience and operating a safe and comfortable airport for all.



AUS LAUNCHES NEW ONLINE PARKING RESERVATION SYSTEM



Austin-Bergstrom International Airport (AUS) has launched a new online parking reservation system that provides convenient and easy, advance-booking for all on-airport campus parking options. This includes both parking garages and all surface parking lots. This new online platform enhances the traveler experience and improves operational capabilities for AUS's parking management team.

Available through the airport's parking system website, ABIAParking.com, this platform caters to traveler needs as the airport continues to serve a record-breaking volume of annual passengers, with an estimated 22 million projected for 2023. This new capability cultivates peace of mind, especially during the holidays and other busy travel periods by allowing travelers to secure their parking in advance. Advance reservations can be made up to 24-hours before travelers' arrival time to the airport.

Amidst record-breaking passenger and airline activity, this upgrade aligns seamlessly with the airport's Journey With AUS expansion program, catering to the air service demands of Austin and Central Texas. All generated revenue from airport parking plays a pivotal role in financing AUS's continued development, near-term improvements and long-term expansion projects.

With the launch of the new online reservation system, AUS looks forward to creating an even more positive travel experience for the evolving needs of its travelers.



CITY COUNCIL APPROVES NEXT STEPS FOR BARTON SPRINGS ROAD BRIDGE PROJECT



City Council voted Dec. 14 to advance the Barton Springs Road Bridge project to the design phase. The approval comes following a comprehensive review of the Bridge Concept Engineering Report (BCER). This report recommended the replacement of the aging Barton Springs Road Bridge.

A robust bridge assessment and cost analysis was conducted to assess the feasibility of replacement versus rehabilitation. City Council determined that the replacement option not only addresses the current structural issues but also provides a long-term solution, minimizing the need for frequent repairs and maintenance once the project is complete.

The City has dedicated approximately \$10 million from the 2020 Mobility Bond for design. Construction and soft cost estimates, post-design phase, hover around \$37 million, subject to final approval from City Council

The design phase of the project will begin in early 2024 and is expected to be completed by 2026. Funding for the construction phase has not been identified, so there is not a set schedule at this time.

The construction for the Barton Springs Road Bridge replacement is expected to limit disruptions to the existing traffic flow. Traffic will be able to cross the bridge during construction work.



AUSTIN TO MANOR TRAIL PROJECT UPDATE



Construction for phase 2 of the Austin to Manor Trail is underway.

This phase extends from Lindell Lane at Walter E. Long Park to Ben E. Fisher Park in the city of Manor. Two trail bridges measuring just over 100 feet long were constructed in September. The contractor is working on subgrade stabilization, a culvert extension at Decker Creek, and has begun to place concrete for the first section of the trail within Walter E. Long Park.

The project is expected to reach completion in summer of 2024.

When complete, the Austin to Manor Trail will be 5.5-miles long, ending at Ben E. Fisher Park in Manor and connecting to the Southern Walnut Creek Trail system. The trail is funded through 2016 and 2020 Mobility Bond funding, a Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) grant, and a Travis County Interlocal Agreement.



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