

ANNUAL REPORT

FY 2011-2012



AUSTIN
PARKS & RECREATION

Cultural Places, Natural Spaces



Director's Message



The Parks and Recreation Department continues to focus on meeting the needs and priorities of the community, while maximizing funding through partnerships, joint agreements and community sponsored efforts.

I am proud of our staff and the work that they provide to the Austin community. They take PRIDE in the job and work hard to meet your expectations.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sara L. Hensley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end.

Sara L. Hensley, CPRP, Director
Austin Parks and Recreation Department



Parks play an important role for my family and our community. They are places where we go to play, explore, exercise, and relax. Our parks and the department's cultural and recreational facilities provide us opportunities to learn, to grow, and to reflect.

Marc A. Ott
Austin City Manager



We are pleased to share the Parks and Recreation efforts over the 2011-12 fiscal year. Your Parks and Recreation Board works hand in hand with staff and community members to fulfill the needs of the community. The Parks and Recreation Board meets the fourth Tuesday of every month at 6pm in the Board and Commissions Room at City Hall. The meetings are open to the public.

Jane Rivera, Chair
Parks and Recreation Board

CONTENTS

4	Overview
5	Parkland Categories
6	FY 2011-2012 Financial Overview
8	Aquatics
10	Golf
11	Athletics
12	Forestry
14	Austin Grows Programs
15	History, Arts, and Nature
16	Recreation
17	Seniors
18	Management Services
19	Marketing
20	Park Maintenance
22	Park Rangers
23	Special Events
24	Partnerships
26	Planning



Mission Statement

To provide, protect and preserve a park system that promotes quality recreational, cultural and outdoor experiences for the Austin community



OVERVIEW

The Austin Parks and Recreation Department is one of the most dynamic and highly regarded parks systems in the nation. The Department provides leisure and recreational opportunities for thousands of park patrons daily. Programs and services are available to Austin’s community with customers ranging from ages six months to one hundred years old. Since its creation in 1928, the Department has grown to include a large number of parkland amenities, preserves and urban forests. Below are major amenities owned by the Department:

- 175 athletic fields
- 172 playscapes
- 115 tennis facilities
- 50 swimming facilities
- 20 recreation centers
- 9 stages/amphitheaters
- 6 arts and cultural centers
- 5 public cemeteries
- 5 golf courses
- 5 disc golf courses
- 4 reservable buildings
- 3 senior activity centers
- 3 museums
- 1 youth entertainment center
- 1 nature and science center
- 1 garden center
- 1 crafts market
- 1 arts center

TOTAL: **577**

Austin in comparison:

DALLAS
1,625

HOUSTON
914

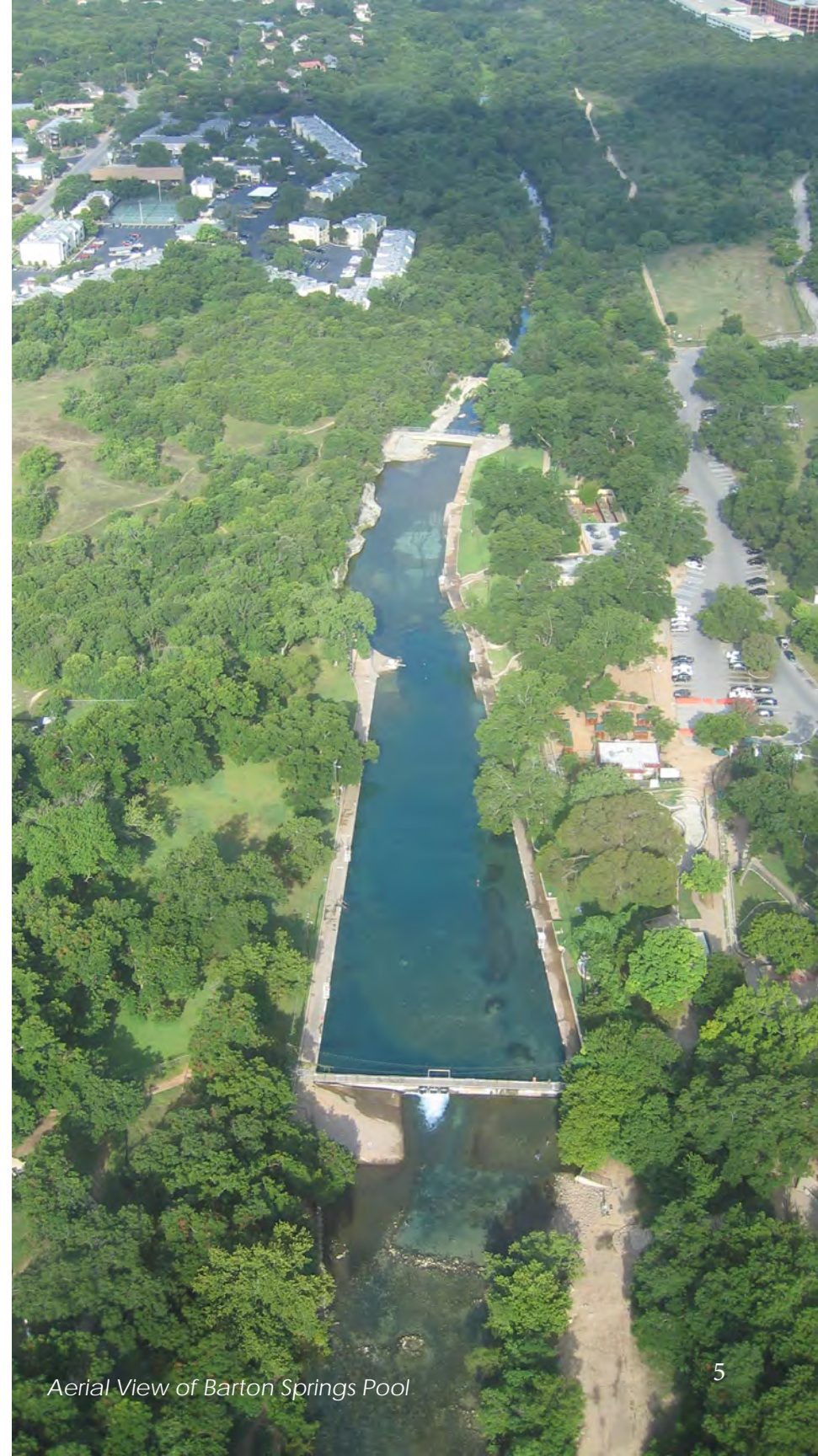
SAN ANTONIO
283

Resources: www.dallascityhall.com/parks/overview.html, www.houstontx.gov/parks, www.sanantonio.gov/parksandrec/directory.aspx

PARKLAND CATEGORIES

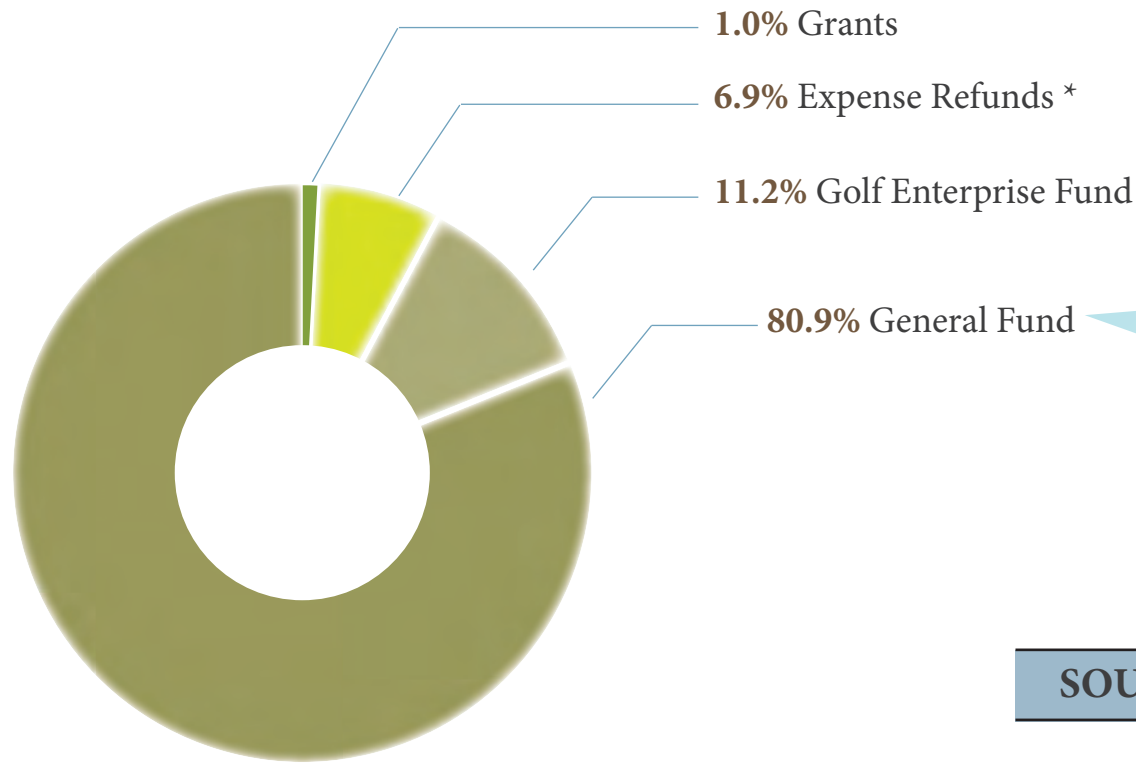
	District Parks	14	946.43
	Golf Courses	5	703.69
	Greenbelts	39	3,665.13
	Metropolitan Parks	11	6,149.93
	Nature Preserves	15	2,513.26
	Neighborhood Parks	79	945.53
	Planting Strips/Triangles	8	5.52
	Pocket Parks	23	22.47
	Joint Use Schools	23	128.90
	Specials	39	848.05
	Cemeteries	5	175.12
	Easements	5	8.88
	Leased Land	3	143.58
	Pedestrian Bridge	1	0.59
	Right Of Ways	2	0.19
	Water Ways	3	3,253.46

TOTAL: 275 parks 19,510.75 acres



Aerial View of Barton Springs Pool

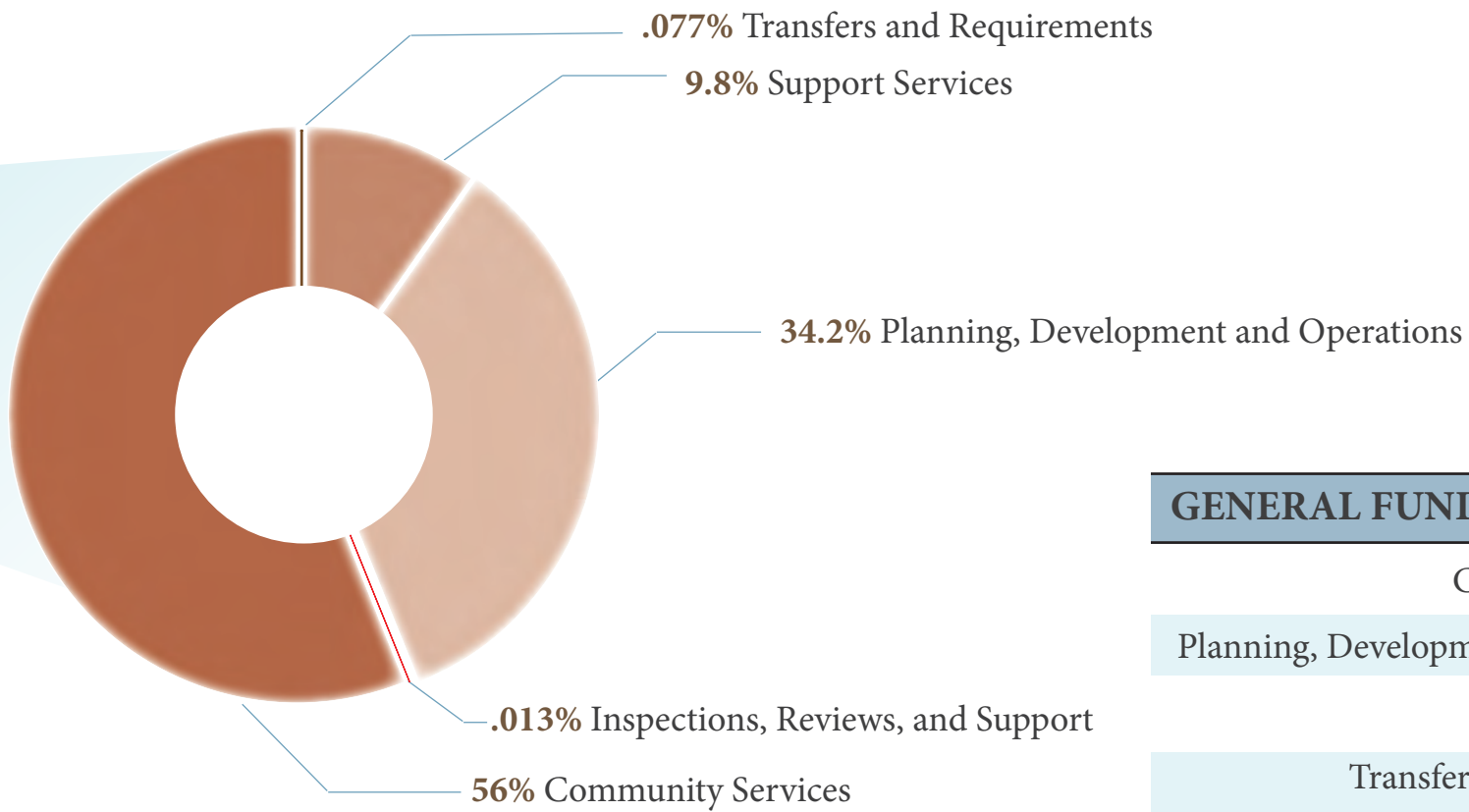
FY 2011-2012 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



SOURCES OF FUNDS - REVENUE	
General Fund	\$44.97 M
Golf Enterprise	\$5 M
Expense Refunds *	\$3.8 M
Grants	\$551,149

Revenue is primarily collected from the Department's 20 recreation centers, 5 public golf courses, 3 senior centers, the Dougherty Arts Center, the Austin Nature and Science Center, 6 cultural centers, 3 museums, 50 public pool facilities, Zilker Botanical Gardens, and Support Services.

* Expense Refunds allow the Department to recoup the costs for after hours staff and utility usage.



GENERAL FUND - EXPENSES

Community Services	\$25 M
Planning, Development and Operations	\$15.4 M
Support Services	\$4.4 M
Transfers and Requirements	\$34,499
Inspections, Reviews, and Support	\$5,731

AQUATICS

Pool Renovations

Rosewood - \$453,698 renovation cost

Deep Eddy - \$2.2 million renovation cost

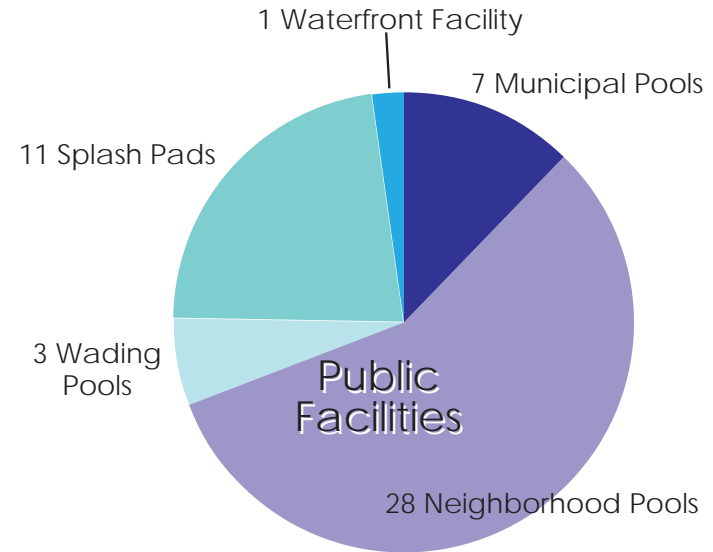
● 1,256,054

annual attendance at pools

● 8.1 million

annual gallons of water managed by the Aquatics Division

The Aquatics Division's mission is to provide a variety of safe and diverse aquatic programs and services to Austin residents and visitors while adhering to high quality standards.



Total: 50 Aquatic Facilities



Pool at Commons Ford Ranch



Walnut Creek Pool

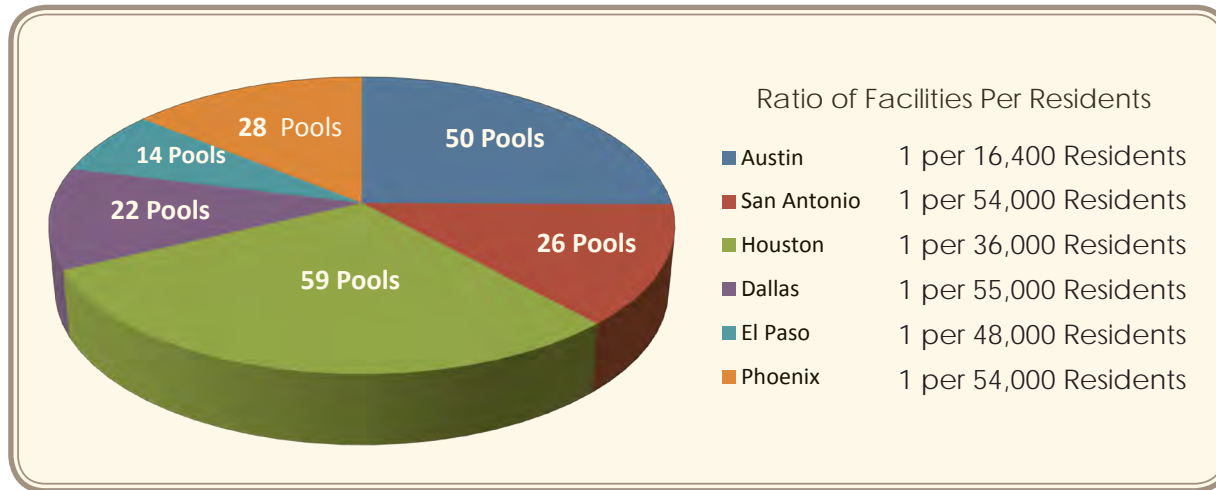
603

students were offered free swim lessons through the Instructional Swim Program, which is 23% of the total participants

2,616

students participated in the Instructional Swim Program

City Comparison Chart Ratio of Facilities Per Residents



FACTS ABOUT BARTON SPRINGS POOL

- Spring fed
- Over 900 feet long
- Created by damming up Barton Creek
- Natural rock and gravel bottom
- Annual water temperature averages 68 degrees Fahrenheit
- Average annual attendance is 560,000 to 570,000

Barton Springs Pool at Zilker Metropolitan Park

GOLF

The City of Austin operates five municipal golf courses and one short practice course all focused on a great golf experience at an affordable price.



\$2 million

Morris Williams Golf Course
in-house golf renovation project



Jimmy Clay/Roy Kiser Golf Course

384

high school golfers hosted at Department facilities for the UIL State Golf Tournament

310

children hosted at the Junior Golf Academy

60,791

rounds of golf hosted at Lions Golf Course



Roy Kiser Golf Course

ATHLETICS

Athletics is more than just physical activity programming. Athletics is a vital community resource to ensure citizens find a healthy mind-body balance. Athletic facilities provide a place for cross-cultural interaction, where citizens build relationships, refine communication skills, discover teamwork, and practice self-discipline.

● 19

competitive ball fields were improved by staff integrating industry standards for ball field maintenance

● 1,768

total registrations for FY2011 - 2012

● 1,000

athletic games facilitated by officials certified by the Department

Highlights

- Athletics held three Community Engagement meetings and discovered that stakeholders seek improvements in facilities, communication and fair play.
- Athletics created a “Standard Levels of Care, Athletic Complexes Manual” to train staff on industry standards and best practices for ball field maintenance. Participants directly benefited from improved safety conditions and playing surfaces.
- Athletics implemented a Facebook (www.facebook.com/pardathletics) site and upgraded the www.capitalcitysoftball.com website. Over 700 people “like” the Facebook page, and the website continued to be an effective tool, averaging 1,100 page views per day.
- Athletics staff officiated over 1,000 games for youth in the community. Athletics hired and trained 50+ staff to provide a reliable source of well qualified officials to supervise youth during physical activities including flag football, basketball, volleyball, soccer and kickball.



Recreation Center Staff and Participants

FORESTRY

Our Foresters, Forestry Specialists and Forestry Technicians performed a wide variety of tasks including tree inspections, maintenance, tree removals, pruning, watering, and tree planting.

● **5,535**

bare root or seedling trees planted

● **435**

tree planting volunteers

● **1,305 hours**

contributed by tree planting volunteers

● **\$200,000**

leveraged funding, donations and contributions

Community/Parks Forestry Services Number of Completed Work Orders

Blind Corners	2
Brush Removal	52
Hanging Limbs	284
Downed Trees	367
Downed Limbs	280
Hauling-Material Handling	27
Inspection - Blind Corners	34
Inspection - Damaged Trees	12
Inspection - Other	35
Inspection - Parks	16
Inspection - Park Trees	292
Inspection - ROW Trees	777
Irrigation System Inspections	227
Mulching	20
Tree Pruning	166
Tree Removals	292
Tree Watering	678
Grand Total	3,561

The Parks and Recreation Department has inventoried 300,000 trees that; based on the average resources involved in performing one tree maintenance service (pruning or removal) per historic work order analysis; forestry staff are able to perform service on each tree, approximately every 90 years.



Mulching at the Parks and Recreation Main Office

Programs and Services:

Site plan and parkland project reviews for impact to public trees

- 215 Commercial site plans reviewed for impacts to public trees
- 11 Parkland project reviews completed for impacts to park trees
- Developed a standard comments sheet

Claims and tree appraisals

- 5 Illegal damage cases investigated
- 1 Encroachment case investigated
- 4 Vehicle crash cases investigated

Cemetery tree maintenance and care

- Performed over 100 hours of inspections and assessments of cemetery trees
- Provided tree care and watering recommendations
- Administered a contract for removal of 74 of the most damaged or dead trees

Forestry Collaborations

- Staff participated in the development of the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan
- Provided technical oversight and quality assurance to the NeighborWoods Program, which distributed over 3,773 street trees to 2,266 households

Projects:

- Established a Comprehensive Urban Forest Plan in conjunction with the Urban Forestry Board (UFB)
- Completion of an Urban Forest Opinion Survey and the adoption of a vision plan by the Board
- Development of the Invasive Species Management Plan on City managed property
- Completion of the second draft of a tree treatment plan at Barton Springs Pool
- Completion of the Zilker Tree Rescue Project in collaboration with the Austin Parks Foundation and volunteers
- Facilitation of intensive care for 91 of the Department's largest trees and the mulching of hundreds of trees in the Zilker Metropolitan Park polo fields area
- Utilization of reclaimed water to reduce potable water use by thousands of gallons per year
- Initiation of a pilot project at West Austin Park to utilize reclaimed water for tree irrigation
- Completion of the first-year implementation of the Decker Tallgrass Prairie Preserve and the Indiangrass Wildlife Sanctuary restoration plan, in conjunction with Austin Energy, Parks and Recreation Park Rangers and the Austin Water Utility Department
- A memorandum of understanding was reached with the Environmental Sciences Institute to co-instruct a University of Texas Field Seminar in Environmental Science and Sustainability

AUSTIN GROWS PROGRAMS

The Sustainable Urban Agriculture and Community Garden Program (SUACG), also known as the Austin Grows Program, was created by the Austin City Council in 2009. The program's purpose is to establish a single point of contact and streamline the process for establishing community gardens and sustainable urban agriculture on City land. SUACG seeks to connect the dots between all of the efforts that make up the City of Austin's local food system, catalyzing partnerships to build community around local food production and food security. SUACG's broader goals include providing leadership, education, policy analysis, and project development support for the City of Austin's community-based food system.



36

community garden
and farm site visits

63

community queries
and consultations

13

new projects/
initiatives in progress

5

research
collaborations with
universities

Austin Grows Program Metrics

HISTORY, ARTS, AND NATURE

The History, Arts, and Nature Division (HAND) celebrates and promotes Austin's diverse history and culture, through community events, exhibits, classes and programs. HAND also provides access to low-cost or free performance, rehearsal and meeting space for the purpose of enriching the quality of life for every citizen in Austin.

The HAND Division includes museums, cultural centers, nature facilities, and an outdoor theater.

● **12,262**

number of Austin artists employed by HAND in FY2011 - 2012

● **672,000**

visitors accessed cultural and nature activities

Highlights

- The Old Bakery and Emporium 3rd floor space transformed into an art gallery and history museum
- Portraying Austin's history during the 19th and 20th centuries
- The exhibit opened in May 9, 2012, in collaboration with volunteers from the Old Bakery's Guild



Interior display located at the Old Bakery

- Completion of a year-long art and science pilot program in partnership with the Recreation Programs Division and Centralized Programming Division, servicing six recreation centers
- O.Henry Museum partnership with the Austin Book Festival, in presenting the national release of The Pen/O.Henry Prize Stories in September 2012

- Grand Opening of the "Original Anderson High School Exhibit" at the George Washington Carver Museum and Cultural Center in June 2012



Anderson High School Exhibit

- The new permanent, multi-media exhibition commemorates the historic East Side High School
- The Elisabet Ney Museum initiated "Museum Soloists" a series of performances by local musicians in July and August of 2012

RECREATION

The City of Austin's Parks and Recreation Department's Community Recreation Division is committed to providing a wide-range of quality recreation programs and services to Austin's community. The Department conducted a series of 'Community Engagement' open house meetings that gathered information to enhance services to communities that neighbor the Department's 20 recreation centers. Division staff worked to improve and standardize Department programs. The goal was to ensure that selected programs reflected the professionalism, equality, affordability and accessibility requested by the communities. The scope of programs offered at the recreation centers is designed to serve all ages and abilities.

2,450

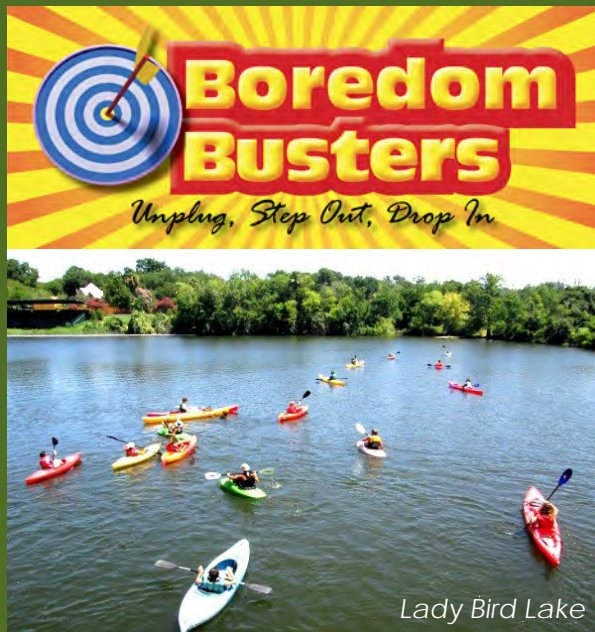
total recreation programs were conducted citywide during FY 2011-2012

1,225

programs were offered at 'no cost' to recreation patrons

24,733

youth participation in after school activities



The new 2012 Summer drop-in program, Boredom Busters, provides youth between the ages of 5 and 18 with an opportunity to experience and participate in structured programs during the summer months. These free programs include enrichment activities, single day tournaments, active play, and field trips.

3,135

Boredom Buster participants served at 8 recreation centers

SENIORS

The Austin Parks and Recreation Department offers a variety of programs and services for people 50 years of age and older. Activities include traveling, pursuing old hobbies, learning new hobbies, socializing with friends, meeting new people, increasing knowledge, physical fitness, supplementing income and contributing to the community.

9,850

total Senior participants served
in FY 2011-2012

12

new computers added to the
Senior Activity Center-Lamar
computer lab



Senior Balloon Ride



Conley-Guerrero Senior Activity Center

The Department has partnered with “Meals on Wheels and More” for the delivery of congregate meals to recreation and senior activity centers throughout Austin. The congregate meals program is open to anyone 60 years of age or older. In addition to lunch, participants share social and recreational activities and receive additional benefits such as nutrition education, health and welfare counseling and information and referral services.

6

Department facilities host the
congregate meal program

MANAGEMENT SERVICES *Partnering for quality workforce solutions*

The Management Services team delivers internal support and business solutions that promote a competent, well-informed and safe workforce. Employee engagement, talent management and investing in the workforce are key priorities for the City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department as strategic means of being a best managed organization. Below are key divisional performance metrics for fiscal year 2012.

Academic Internship Program

- This year fifteen (15) college and university students were involved in internships in a variety of disciplines including Recreation Programming, Planning and Design, Urban Forestry, Aquatics, Marketing, Special Events, and Therapeutic Recreation.
- These students represent six (6) colleges and universities throughout the United States.
- The Department also partnered with Akins High School Career and Technical Education Program to offer internships for twelve (12) high school seniors. This successful program partnered students with Division Managers for mentoring, coaching, and hands-on job experiences.

Occupational Health & Safety Training Program

- The Department developed and delivered a total of sixty nine (69) safety training classes during this fiscal year.
- A total of 994 Parks and Recreation Department employees received training internally on occupational health and safety matters. Training topics included:
 - » Loader & Backhoe Safety
 - » Defensive Driving
 - » Supervisor Focus on Safety
 - » Hazardous Chemicals & Material Handling
 - » Blood-borne Pathogens & Sharps Disposal
 - » Respirator Protection
 - » Confined Space Entry Training

Workforce Demographics

- The Parks and Recreation Department has the third largest General Fund staffing levels within the City of Austin. Including all funds, the total Full Time Equivalent (FTE) count for this fiscal year is 578.25.
- The average number of temporary seasonal employees on payroll is about 1,200 throughout the year. Seasonal staff provides youth programming, camp activities, after-school programs and lifeguarding services for Austin pools.
- The Department's employee turnover rate was 9.97% for the year, similar to the turnover rate last year (9.56%).
- Personnel costs and salaries represent approximately 71% of the total Department budget.

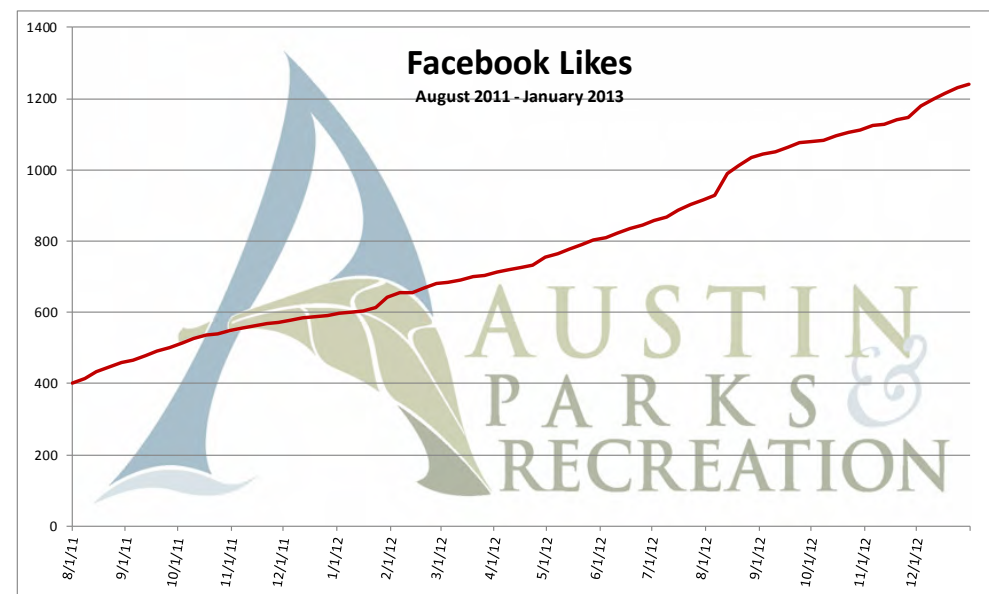
MARKETING

Accomplishments include:

- Recognition by The Learning Resource Network for production of “the best marketing plan in the nation”, in June 2012
- Successfully leading the process to acquire City Council approval for purchase of “RecTrac”, a fully integrated parks and recreation software application that will enhance the Department’s ability to provide customers with online registration and payment for services and programs
- Recognition by the Learning Resource Network for establishing a Single Point of Contact system for the Department as a creative means to enhance the Department’s marketing efforts with limited resources
- Training more than 700 Department staff in RecTrac, marketing, photography, graphics, public relations and social media, in order to enhance delivery of the Department’s programs and services
- Improving Social Media communication efforts and enhancing Facebook touches from 200 in June 2011 to 40,000 in August 2012
- Development of a Partnership with Univision to promote participation by Austin’s Hispanic Community in the parks system

The vision of the Marketing and Communications Unit is to connect people and parks through community engagement, public information and marketing.

Since the conception of the Marketing and Communications Unit in June 2011, the Department’s Social Media efforts have seen a consistent rise of community followers.



➔ **1,139**

fans of the Department’s Facebook page (November 2012) - People that “liked” the Department’s page

➔ **38,097**

friends of fans of the Department’s Facebook page (November 2012) - People linked to the fans of the Department’s Facebook page

PARK MAINTENANCE



Felix Padron, Parks Grounds Supervisor

Highlights

- Completed 16 Community Partnership Park Development Projects at a total value of more than \$400,000 contributed to Austin parks
- Interior renovation project totaling \$220,000 for a historic electrical substation at Sparky Park that will provide a multipurpose meeting space for community events
- The \$23,079 repair of the historic stone arch entry way at Pease Park was a partnership project between the Department and the Pease Park Conservancy
- Restoration of the Tudor Cottage retaining wall totaling \$30,000 worth of repairs



Tudor Cottage in Pease Park

- Completed Phase 1 renovation of Wooldridge Square, consisting of new irrigation system, turf grass, tree planting and new site furnishings. Work was completed in collaboration with stakeholders and the Friends of Wooldridge Square. A total of \$206,000 was spent from Parkland Dedication funds

No-Mow Growing Zones

The Maintenance Division established no-mow growing zones for the purpose of riparian restoration. The riparian zone is the transition area between the aquatic environment and the terrestrial environment. Sixty acres have been removed from mowing which is approximately the size of 40 football fields.

Estimated reduction in Maintenance Labor

60 acres mowed
6 times a year
at a rate of
1.25 hours an acre
for a total of **450** hours

Repurposed Resource

Estimated reduction in Fuel

2 gallons per hour
for a total of
900 gallons of fuel

Repurposed Resource



Riparian Zone from the Shoal Creek Greenbelt

PARK RANGERS

The City of Austin Park Ranger program was created to provide educational services, safety and security in Austin's parks and recreational facilities. Equally important, is the unit's aim to protect and foster stewardship of the natural world. To accomplish this, the Park Rangers have been trained with a focus on emergency medical response, education and public safety. The Park Rangers monitor the Ann and Roy Butler Hike and Bike Trail at Lady Bird Lake, as well as patrol other park areas at the request of Parks and Recreation personnel and citizens.



Park Rangers
Snake Display

● **83**
outreach programs

● **687**
parks burning restriction enforced citations

● **12,699**
total citizen contacts

Major Programs

- Scoop The Poop
- Habitat Stewards Class
- Austin Independent School District Back To School Bash
- Day of Dead Festival
- Earth Day Festival at Mueller
- Earth Day at McKinney Roughs
- Nature Night at Ladybird Johnson Wildflower Center
- Role Model Day
- Ladybird Johnson Wildflower Center Nature Night

Total Programs
Participants
8,353

20
Park
Rangers

113
Events Hosted
for FY 2011-12

Answered
Dog Off
Leash
Complaints

683

Assisted
Other City
Agencies

849

Park
Maintenance
Assistance

1,306

Educational
Contacts

1,761

Provided
Citizens
Information
& Direction

4,558



Austin City Limits

● **700,000**

visitors drawn to special events annually

● **\$106 million**

injected into the Austin economy by the Austin City Limits Music Festival in 2011

● **\$207,484**

raised to assist the Capital Area Food Bank from the Austin Reggae Festival in 2011

● **15,000**

visitors drawn to Fun Fun Fun Fest

SPECIAL EVENTS

The City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department plays a major role in the success of some of the country's best known international music events. These include the Austin City Limits Music Festival and South by Southwest Conference and Festival.

The Department's Special Events Office manages a wide array of special events. It is primarily responsible for facility and park rentals and facility rental marketing. The Special Events Office also manages commercial filming, photography, event contract negotiations and assists event organizers in navigating the City's special events permitting process.

The Special Events office facilitates 1,500 rentals annually. Park rental amenities include 33 picnic sites within 20 of the City's 275 parks, plus four event facilities. The public rents Parks and Recreation amenities for family celebrations, sports activities, classes, and for leisure activities. Corporations, companies and organizations rent park facilities for business functions and recreational activities.



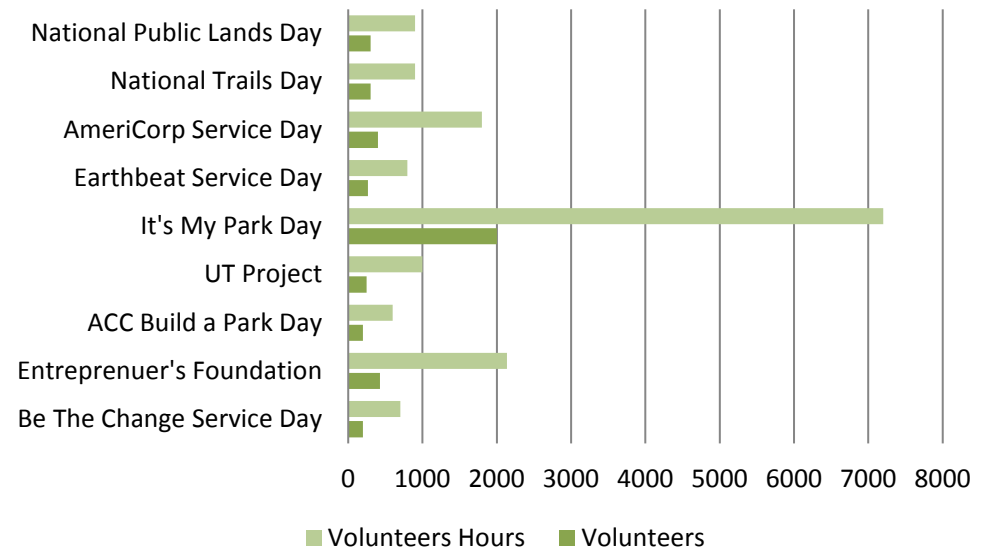
Austin City Limits in Zilker Metropolitan Park



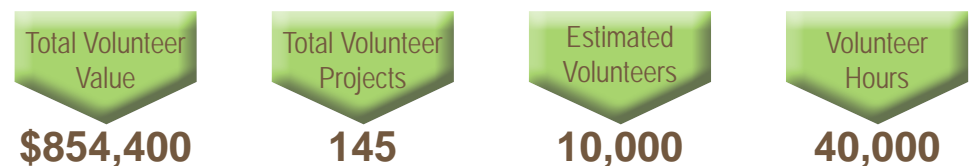
PARTNERSHIPS

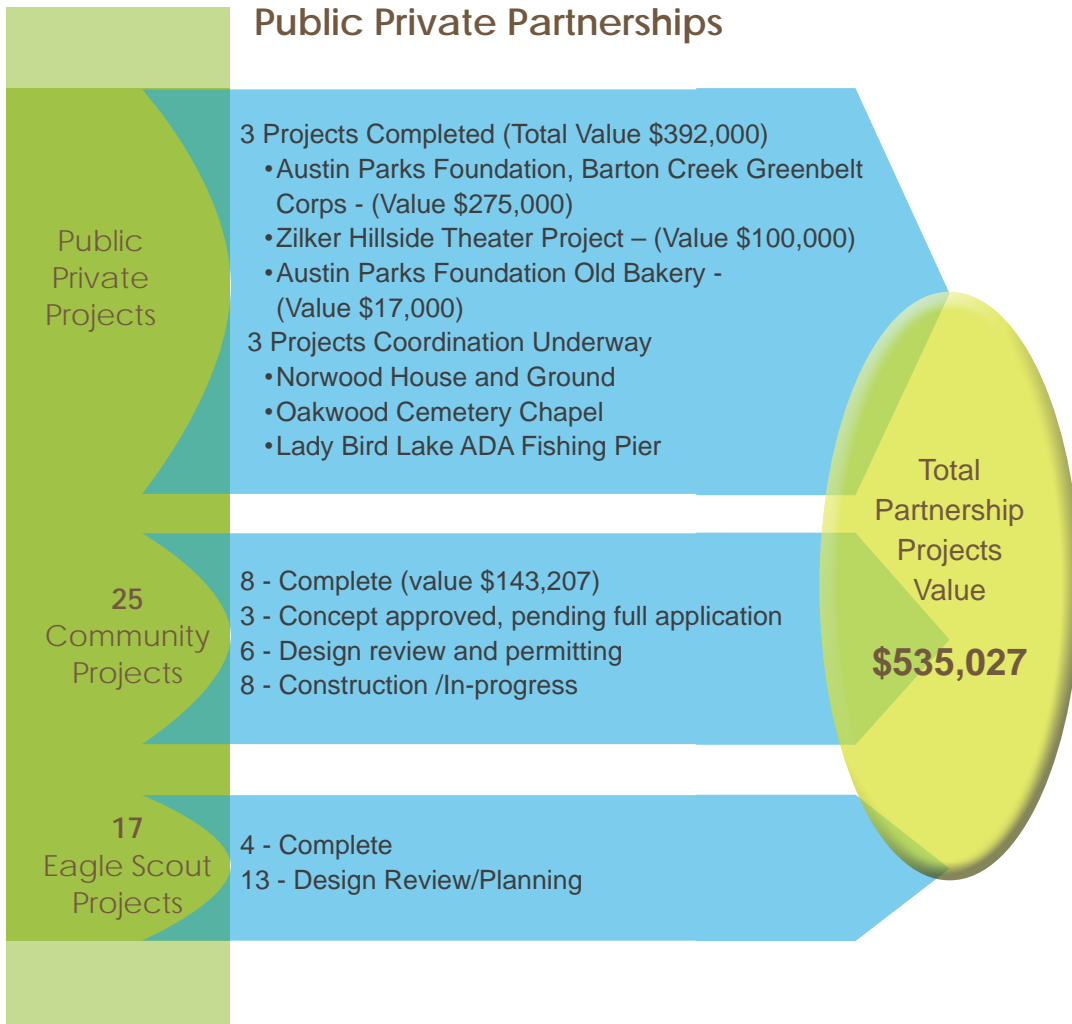
Businesses, non-profit organizations, neighborhood and community groups and individuals are invited and encouraged to partner with the Parks and Recreation Department to enhance and improve parks, increase recreational and cultural opportunities and preserve natural areas in Austin. From volunteer opportunities and the adopt-a-park program, to park improvement projects and public-private partnerships, there are many ways to partner with the department.

Large Volunteer Work Days



Overall Volunteer Contributions





Grants and Fundraising

\$1,306,062 Total Grants and Fundraising Value

Total Active Grants - 14
Active Grants from Previous Years - 8
Total Grants Received – 6 grants, \$1,179,423
New Grants Received – 3 grants, \$1,053,535
Renewals Received – 3 grants, \$125,888
New Applications Submitted - 7

\$126,638 Donations

Cash - \$47,336.61
In-Kind - \$79,302.25

City of Austin Volunteer



PLANNING

FY 2012 CIP Accomplishments

TIER I - Construction Projects

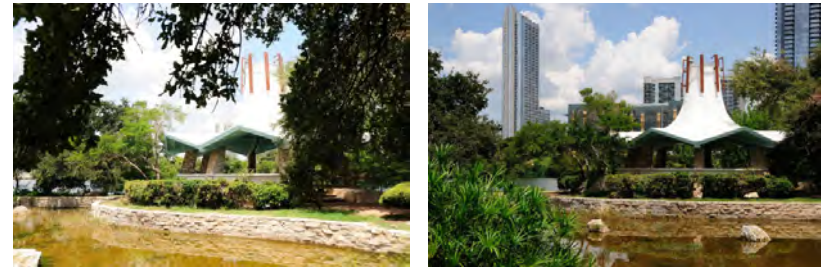
- North Austin Recreation Center / YMCA
 - 39,000 square feet facility
 - Partnership between the City of Austin and the YMCA
- Wooldridge Square Landscape Renovation
 - Improvement includes installation of a new irrigation system, turfgrass, tree plantings and site furnishings
 - Improvements were possible through a with the Friends of Wooldridge
- Roy G. Guerrero Colorado River Metropolitan Park Disc Golf Course
 - Completion of an 18-hole disc golf course
 - The use of sustainable construction methods and materials
- Waller Creek Boathouse
 - 10,800 square feet facility
 - The project is part of the Waller Creek Tunnel project
- Fannie Davis Gazebo Renovation
 - The project included restoration of existing frame structure and roof
- Little Zilker Playscape Renovation
 - Includes the installation of ADA accessibility improvements
- Southern Walnut Creek Trail
 - Improvements are being made to a 7.3 mile trail along Walnut Creek Greenbelt
- Deep Eddy Pool Renovation
 - Enhancements to the pool included the pool shell replacement
 - Includes the installation of ADA accessibility improvements

TIER II - Master Plans and Studies

- Republic Square Improvements
 - Initiation of master plan process
- Holly Shores / Festival Beach
 - Initiation of master plan process
- Condition Assessments / Feasibility Reports
 - Seaholm Intake Facility
 - Rosewood Recreation Center
 - Hancock Recreation Center

Town Lake Metropolitan Park Fannie Davis Gazebo Renovation

The Department completed renovations to the Fannie Davis Gazebo located along Auditorium Shores within Town Lake Metropolitan Park during the summer of 2012. The scope of work included a report by engineering consultants on the existing wooden frame and roof membrane. The report proposed installation of a new roof, painting of the structure to match the original color scheme, and an anti-graffiti coating on the concrete benches. Additional site work related to the surrounding landscaping and pond will be coordinated with the Watershed Protection Department during future phases of work at Auditorium Shores.



Two views of the Fannie Davis Gazebo

Roy G. Guerrero Colorado River Metropolitan Park – Disc Golf Course

On June 9th, 2012, the Department celebrated the grand opening of the newly developed disc golf course at Roy G. Guerrero Colorado River Metropolitan Park in conjunction with the local disc sports community. The full 18-hole course features pro and amateur concrete tee pads, putting and practice areas, reinforced baskets, signage, benches at every tee box, crushed rock paths, water retention areas, erosion control measures, and mulching. All of these adhere to modern sustainable design standards.



Dedication Ceremony

1st Tee



Waller Creek Boathouse Deck



Deck Area

Waller Creek Boathouse

Working collaboratively with the City Public Works and the Watershed Protection Departments, Capital Improvement Project staff from the Parks and Recreation Department assisted in the completion of the much anticipated Waller Creek Boathouse. This building, the first major structure completed under the Waller Creek Tunnel project, provides 10,800 square feet of new building space replacing two buildings on the site of the Waller Creek Tunnel Outlet. In addition to boat storage, office space, an exercise room, locker and shower facilities; the new structure offers a number of amenities for

park users including public restrooms, a viewing deck, and a food and beverage concession. The new building is a contemporary design, built with sustainability and durability in mind, a primary design objective.

On March 1, 2012 the City Council authorized the Austin Rowing Club to manage and operate the facility, with boat storage and office areas reserved for the use of the Austin Rowing Club. In addition to the new building, the project includes landscaping and new boat docks. The Boathouse was completed in May 2012.

Zilker Hillside Theater – Expansion

In partnership with Zilker Theater Productions, the Department completed an expansion to the stage and loading areas at the Zilker Hillside Theater. Through a Public Private Partnership agreement, approved by Council in January 2012, the Department leveraged a contribution of \$180,500 in public funds to compliment approximately \$90,000 of donated in-kind goods and services. These funds were provided by Zilker Theater Productions and stakeholders to complete the project. An aggressive schedule allowed the project to be completed in time for the summer season.



Theatre Seating Area



Theatre Stage

Seaholm Water Intake Structures – Redevelopment Investigation

In the Spring of 2011, the Department retained Cotera+Reed Architects to prepare a report, assessing the existing facilities and considering potential adaptive reuse possibilities for the decommissioned Seaholm and Greene Water Intake structures. The Cotera+Reed study was to analyze broad categories of potential uses and explore opportunities and potential constraints associated with those uses. The final report was presented to the Parks and Recreation Board and the City Manager's Office in March of 2012 in anticipation of future public engagement efforts, design partnering and redevelopment phases.



MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

Lee Leffingwell, Mayor
Sheryl Cole, Mayor Pro Tem
Chris Riley, Place 1
Mike Martinez, Place 2
Kathie Tovo, Place 3
Laura Morrison, Place 4
Bill Spelman, Place 5

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

Marc A. Ott, City Manager
Michael McDonald, Deputy City Manager
Robert Goode, Assistant City Manager
Sue Edwards, Assistant City Manager
Bert Lumbreras, Assistant City Manager
Anthony Snipes, Acting Assistant City Manager
Ray Baray, Acting Chief of Staff

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

Jane Rivera, Chair
Jeff Francell, Vice Chair
William Abell, Board Member
Linda H. Guerrero, Board Member
Carol Lee, Board Member
Lynn Osgood, Board Member
Jerry Perales, Board Member

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Sara L. Hensley, CPRP, Director
Patrick R. Corona, CPRP, Acting Assistant Director
Kimberly A. McNeeley, CPRP, Assistant Director
Cora D. Wright, Assistant Director

Stay in Touch



www.austintexas.gov/parks