



**Austin Parks and Recreation Department**  
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To: The CodeNEXT Advisory Group

In reviewing the Mobility Code Prescription Paper, representatives from the Cities Connecting Children to Nature Initiative would like to submit the following comments for consideration.

**Safe Access to Open Green Space, Equity & Quality of Life:**

In addition to incorporating Green Street design elements into road, bike pathway, and sidewalk design, city code should also include a focus on creating safe pathways for citizens to access open spaces and parks through urban trails, sidewalks, and public transportation. City code should impress the importance of creating safe transportation routes not only to places of work and commerce, but also to areas of outdoor recreation. Examples include a bus stop at every public park and connected sidewalk access to all park space.

City Code should also encourage development that provides connections to cross-city trails and other off road pathways as well as looking to the natural corridors along our streams as transportation byways.

Recognizing the mental and physical health benefits of the Built Environment as it relates to transportation is important but issues of mobility should also take into account access to natural amenities and open green space. By creating safe access to green space and providing transportation options that encourage physical activity, city code can improve quality of life factors for vulnerable populations in Austin, particularly children in low-income neighborhoods.

Thank you,

Julia Campbell  
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Cities Connecting Children to Nature Planning Grant  
Parks and Recreation Department