




AUSTIN PARKS FOUNDATION

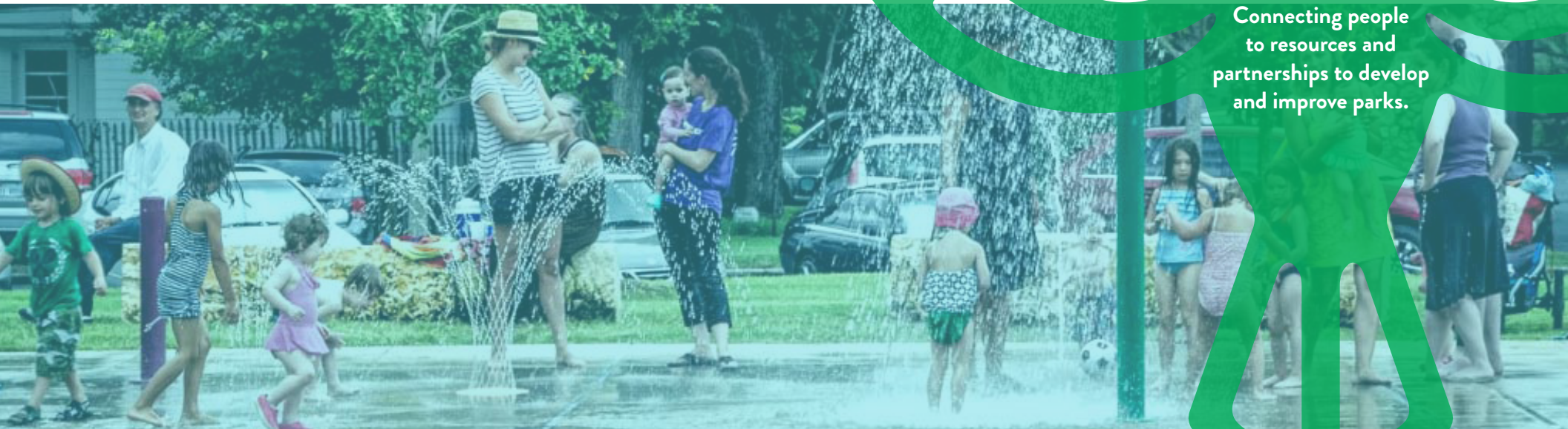
Annual Report
2013

PEOPLE PLUS PARKS
austinparks.org

The Austin Parks Foundation (APF) is a non-profit organization devoted to building public/private partnerships to develop and maintain parks, trails, and open space in Austin and Travis County.



Connecting people
to resources and
partnerships to develop
and improve parks.



Letter From the Executive Director

Friends of APF,

On behalf of the entire staff, board of directors, and all of our volunteers, THANK YOU! 2013 was a banner year for the Austin Parks Foundation. We saw significantly increased participation in all of our programs and events, we gave more grants, and we worked on more projects than ever before. All of this was made possible by your generosity. Thank you.

A few highlights from 2013:

- Contributed \$150,000 towards the construction of The Boardwalk Trail at Lady Bird Lake.
- Helped form the Great Austin Parks coalition and advocated for an almost \$5 million increase in the Austin Parks and Recreation budget.
- Hosted thousands of volunteers for the largest ever It's My Park Day, National Trails Day, and National Public Lands Day.
- Formed a community partnership to finalize the Republic Square Master Plan and began the process of building a plan to renovate the park.
- Became a Founding Sponsor of Austin B-cycle.

We are excited about the year ahead as we work on new partnerships and innovative ways to improve parks across our great city. As Austin continues to grow, APF is more committed than ever before to preserving and improving our precious parkland. Together, we will continue to keep Austin a great and green metropolis.

With sincerest gratitude,



Colin Wallis
Executive Director

PEOPLE PLUS PARKS



Neighborhood Grant Projects

Dove Springs District Park (\$58,000)

The South Austin community in 78744 is part of a large-scale revitalization effort. In 2013, APF provided an \$8,000 grant to Dove Springs District Park as well as \$50,000 in funding to match a \$200,000 grant from St. David's Foundation, which was added to the City of Austin's budget of \$250,000 for the design and installation of a world-class playscape and shade structure for the pool area. This project is also in collaboration with Go! Austin/VAMOS! Austin. The playscape is scheduled to open fall 2014.

Ramsey Park (\$50,000)

As the result of a collaborative effort, Ramsey Park is making progress on an established master plan. This plan includes an APF-funded tennis court improvements, a limestone amphitheater, and basketball court shade structure for the community to enjoy.

Commons Ford Ranch

Metropolitan Park (\$19,248)

In an effort to reclaim acres of native prairie habitat from a former cattle ranch, including wildflowers, native grasses, and food and shelter for hundreds of animal species, APF provided a \$19,248 grant in 2013, the second APF-funded phase for this project.

It's My Park Day Mini Grants

APF provides training, tools, and resources to support our It's My Park Day project leaders in leading successful projects, and our Mini Grants are made available so they can seek out any resources we don't provide like painting supplies, trail mulch, decomposed granite, compost, and soil.

To see a full list of our funded grants, visit austinparks.org/park-grants-program.html

APF-Managed Capital Improvement Projects

Town Lake Metropolitan Park (Auditorium Shores at Butler Park)

APF and the Austin Parks and Recreation Department are working in partnership with Tur Partners, a nationally acclaimed advisory firm, to conduct a study of Town Lake Metropolitan Park to inform a long-term vision for the beloved waterfront park space. In 2013 two public input meetings were held, these will continue until the final report is delivered to City Council in 2014.

In the interim, TBG Partners, an Austin-based landscape architecture and planning firm, served as the design consultant for short-term improvements to Town Lake Metropolitan Park, including a new irrigation system, re-graded lawn, high performance turf grass, and an enhanced off-leash dog area. Construction is in progress.

“I started by lending a hand during It’s My Park Day, and now I organize biannual tree mulching/planting at my local disc golf course. Without APF, it wouldn’t have happened.”

– Brian Litke, Project Leader

Volunteers Make a Difference Across Austin

Annually, APF volunteers contribute thousands of volunteer hours to help maintain and improve Austin’s beloved parks. In 2013, more than 5,000 volunteers, including 16 corporate and student groups, contributed over 16,000 hours at more than 200 park projects—our best year ever! APF volunteers hours are the equivalent of almost 8 park maintenance employees working for a full year.

Through the Adopt-a-Park program in coordination with the Austin Parks and Recreation Department, one-third of Austin’s more than 300 green spaces have been adopted by dedicated community members.



1,335 = 668
CUBIC YARDS OF MULCH TRUCK BEDS OF MULCH

16,022 = 667
VOLUNTEER HOURS DAYS

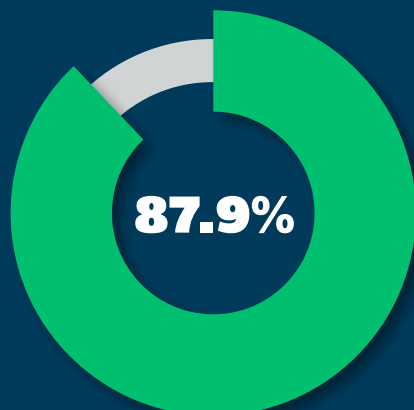


COMMUNITY
PROJECTS
179

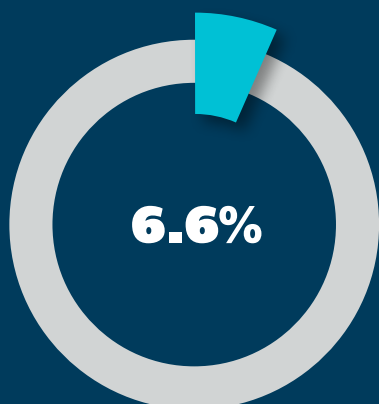
Community Impact Partnership Programs

We believe great parks are well-used and much-loved public spaces. That's why our programs are designed to encourage the Austin community to explore and enjoy our parks.

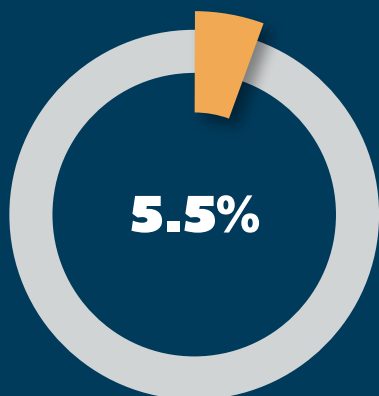
- **Movies in the Park** – A six-movie series in Republic Square Park hosted in partnership with Alamo Drafthouse Cinema.
- **Imagination Playground** – An adaptable playscape for children designed to encourage unstructured free play Saturdays at the SFC Farmers' Market in Republic Square Park.
- **Park Vendors** – In June, local food truck My Thai Mom, took permanent residence in Old Bakery Park as a food vendor. Rent paid goes into a fund for Old Bakery Park improvements and maintenance.
- **Yoga in the Park** – Free weekly classes are held March, April, September, and October in Republic Square Park.



SERVICE PROGRAMS



FUNDRAISING



G & A

Financial Highlights

ASSETS

2013

Current assets:

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,222,135
Investments	469,140
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	2,935
Total current assets	2,694,210
Property and equipment, net	2,000

TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 2,696,210
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LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Current liabilities:

Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ -
Grants payable	327,699

TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	\$ 327,699
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Net Assets:

Unrestricted	481,062
Temporarily restricted	1,887,449
Total net assets	2,368,511

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 2,696,210
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Financial information verified by PMB Helin Donovan.

Looking Ahead

As we reflect on an incredibly fruitful year, we look ahead knowing 2014 will be even bigger and better. Town Lake Metropolitan Park and the Dove Springs District Park playscape, both of which we've begun to lay the groundwork for in 2013, will see construction in 2014.

The new year will also bring the launch of our Park Improvement Education Series (P.I.E.S.) sponsored by Chipotle Mexican Grill. Together with partner organizations we'll host free workshops covering mulching and root collar clearing, water conservation, habitat restoration, and trail repair, that will provide park adopters with even more tools and information to improve our shared green spaces.

We are also excited to launch two pilot projects in the coming year. Habiturf, a mix of native grass species that grow in Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Arizona, is dense, attractive, soft, and needs little water, will be installed in newly created Alderbrook Park. And finally, 2014 will be the year of the goat for APF as we work to introduce Austin's parks to our four-legged friends for poison ivy removal and large land-management projects. The future is bright.



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dwg. landscape architecture

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