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AUSTIN PARKS FOUNDATION

**2022 HIGHLIGHT REPORT
PEOPLE + PARKS**

Dear park friends –

When I look around our city these days, things look different – new buildings, new businesses, and a whole lot of new faces. Coming from all over the state, across the country, and around the world, the cat’s out of the bag – Austin is the place where people want to live. As I think about Austin’s rapid growth, my instinct is to protect our parks and green spaces, but I’ve realized that more people means more sets of sleeves to roll up and help us continue to realize our mission to improve parks, trails, and green spaces in our community.

In 2022, we celebrated our 30th anniversary and hit the ground running and completed some of our most successful projects to date largely due to the strength of our community’s involvement.

- Completed improvements to Alderbrook Pocket Park, installed the new Nature Playscape at Kendra Page Neighborhood Park and completed the renovation of Govalle Neighborhood Park.
- Awarded Design Services, valued at \$125,000, to Adopt-A-Park groups for visioning and design refinement of future improvement projects.
- Launched a new Parks Database, where Austin’s more than 300 parks can now be searched by amenity or activity.
- Successfully engaged over 2,300 people in our Movies, Fitness and Playdates in the park series.
- Hosted 282 volunteer projects, including It’s My Park Day Spring and Fall, benefitting from over \$559,000 of volunteer labor from over 9,000 volunteers.

As our city continues to grow, we welcome and invite old and new Austinites to come together to preserve our beautiful green spaces. Through your donations, advocacy, and volunteerism, you are ensuring these essential resources thrive for years to come.

No matter where you’re from – whether you’ve been here 30 years, 30 days, or even 30 minutes – you’re part of this community and that means you’re responsible for helping to care for and preserve our cherished green spaces. In Austin, we are all park people.

With sincere thanks,



Colin Wallis
CEO | Austin Parks Foundation

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Through our ACL Music Festival Grants program, APF is able to fund community-initiated park improvements, large and small, across Austin. Our Park Design Services are intended to providedesign options to Adopt-A-Park groups at every scale. These funding opportunities are given to park stakeholder groups looking to make a difference in their park.

ACL MUSIC FESTIVAL NEIGHBORHOOD GRANTS (\$500 - \$5,000)

- + Overton School Park (78724) - school garden materials
- + West Austin Neighborhood Park (78703) - greenspace restoration
- + Parque Zaragoza (78702) - outdoor classroom
- + Cherry Creek Community Garden (78745) - orchard irrigation expansion
- + Reed Neighborhood Park (78703) - new park benches and tables
- + Patterson Park Community Garden (78722) - vegetable starter infrastructure
- + North Oaks Community Garden (78753) - perimeter garden fence
- + Georgian Drive Creek Park & Brownie Neighborhood Park (78753) - native grass and wildflower

ACL MUSIC FESTIVAL IMPACT GRANTS (\$5,000+)

- + Gullett School Park (78757) - blacktop resurfacing
- + Cities Connecting Children to Nature (various) - new AISD/PARD amenities
- + Bartholomew District Park Roller Derby Track (78723) - shade structure feasibility
- + Zilker Botanical Garden (78746)- Butler window restoration

COMMUNITY INITIATED DESIGN SERVICES

- + Grand Meadow Neighborhood Park (78747) - APF is providing overall park planning and community engagement efforts with the ultimate goal of a city-approved park concept plan.
- + Mary Dawson Pocket Park (78704) - Design work includes feasability, preliminary design refinement and cost estimating.

PARK IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

In addition to our grants program, APF invests in special, short-term projects, as well as long-term, strategic improvements. By providing design and funding park renovations all over the city, we are increasing access and improving the usability of some of our city’s most well-loved parks, as well as those that need help to become the urban sanctuaries they are meant to be.



GOVALLE NEIGHBORHOOD PARK (78702)

APF led the design, permitting and construction efforts to make significant improvements including the complete renovation of the playground with new playscape equipment, restoration of the basketball court, additional safety lighting throughout the park, trail connectivity and multipurpose field renovation.

INVESTMENT: \$840,000



MOUNTAIN VIEW NEIGHBORHOOD PARK (78750)

At the request of the Parks and Recreation Department, park improvements at this established neighborhood park included resurfacing and restriping of the basketball court and complete restoration of the two tennis courts with resurfacing, restriping and net replacement.

INVESTMENT: \$30,000



SPRINGWOODS NEIGHBORHOOD PARK (78729)

APF completed the renovation of two tennis courts at the request of the Parks and Recreation Department, including resurfacing and restriping to make this existing park amenity more enjoyable and playable for all users.

INVESTMENT: \$21,500



MARY FRANCIS BAYLOR POCKET PARK (78703)

The existing basketball court and pickleball court were repaired, resurfaced and restriped to extend the life of the court, restore the playability, enhance their appearance and make these amenities more enjoyable for all.

INVESTMENT: \$12,500



ZILKER TRAIN INFRASTRUCTURE (78746)

As part of an ongoing effort to bring a miniature train back to Zilker Park, the train tunnel and existing depot building were renovated. Improvements included new roofing, electrical updates, painting, signage, complete interior updates in both the tunnel and building, and the addition of an ADA loading platform.

INVESTMENT: \$150,000



EASTLINK PILLAR PROJECT (78702)

The Pillars Project was derived from the community’s desire to create a new art space at this site along the Eastlink Trail. Given the positive community response, an additional round of artwork included nine additional murals by local artists on pillars along the Eastlink Trail.

INVESTMENT: \$106,000



EASTLINK SIGNAGE AND WAYFINDING (78702)

Identified as a priority project for implementation in the Eastlink Interpretive Placemaking Plan, APF funded design refinement and construction of signage and wayfinding elements along the trail.

INVESTMENT: \$35,000



EARL J. POMERLEAU POCKET PARK (78723)

APF provided the design refinement, engineering and permitting fees to secure the desired approval by the City of Austin for upcoming construction and implementation of the adopted park concept plan for this undeveloped pocket park.

INVESTMENT: \$124,000

VOLUNTEERISM & ADVOCACY



Our 30th anniversary year was a big one for volunteerism and parks advocacy. From expanding our volunteer efforts managing the ACL Music Festival Greening Program to welcoming volunteers back in person for our largest It’s My Park Day events to date, APF engaged thousands of volunteers in the work of maintaining and protecting our parks.

Through our park advocacy efforts, APF helped secure an additional \$600,756 for PARD’s FY2023 Budget for improved Signage and Wayfinding Program, Nature Play and Facilities Maintenance and Modernization.



 **2,232** 
YDS³ OF MULCH

 **9,010** 
VOLUNTEERS

 **27,030** 
HOURS OF WORK

 **282** 
PROJECTS

 **127** 
PARKS

2022 GROUNDBREAKERS

Groundbreakers is Austin Parks Foundation’s leadership giving circle, made up of generous donors who provide support for the general operations of our organization. Groundbreakers – and the generous dollars they contribute – make the difference between just being “good enough” and providing what the people of Austin truly deserve.

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We invest 86 cents of every dollar donated directly into projects and programming in parks, trails and green spaces across Austin! When you support Austin Parks Foundation, you are investing in healthier, more vibrant and safer communities.



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GET INVOLVED

VOLUNTEER

We place tremendous value on the individuals, groups and companies in our dedicated volunteer corps. From city-wide volunteer days, to individual work days, to the Adopt-A-Park Program, we leverage thousands of volunteers to help maintain and preserve Austin's green spaces.

Join us at austinparks.org/volunteer

DONATE

As a non-profit organization, we rely on the generosity of people like you. Join us in enhancing our parks so that they are greener, safer and better able to meet the ever-changing needs of the Austin community.

Support our work today at austinparks.org/donate

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