



October 4, 2019

Austin Parks and Recreation Department
Community Activated Park Projects Program
200 S. Lamar Blvd.
Austin, TX 78704

Dear PARD Community Activated Park Projects Program:

Austin Youth River Watch transforms and inspires underserved youth through environmental education, community engagement, and adventure. We provide a nature-based and hands-on service-learning program primarily directed towards at-risk teens, and our program takes our students, the “River Watchers,” all over Austin. River Watchers have visited Circle Acres Nature Preserve several times in the last few years, and Ecology Action, the steward of this ecologically rich riparian area along the Colorado River, has worked with us to provide unique and engaging service-learning opportunities in the preserve.

On behalf of Austin Youth River Watch, I am expressing our wholehearted support for Ecology Action’s Future Forest project to establish a trail and further restore the Country Club East Corridor of Roy G. Guerrero Park. Many of our students are from East Austin, and for them to have opportunities to help improve the area is extremely meaningful – it provides a sense of empowerment that programming in other areas cannot quite reproduce in the same way in the River Watchers.

Ecology Action is clearly committed to revitalizing the Country Club East Corridor of Roy G. Guerrero Park, and this benefits all not just neighborhood residents, but all Austinites. We hope that the PARD Community Activated Park Projects Program will support the Future Forest project, and we look forward to working with Ecology Action in continuing to create engaging restoration activities to help inspire the environmental stewards of tomorrow.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Melinda Chow". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Melinda Chow, Executive Director