

LONG RANGE PLAN

OUR PARKS, OUR FUTURE

NUESTROS PARQUES, NUESTRO FUTURO

AUSTIN PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

WHY PARKS ARE IMPORTANT

PORQUE SON IMPORTANTES LOS PARQUES



PARKS PROVIDE ECONOMIC, PUBLIC HEALTH, ENVIRONMENTAL, COMMUNITY, AND EDUCATIONAL VALUE

» Today's urban parks serve as "green engines to help address nearly every critical urban need – health to housing, to education and environmental justice, and countering sprawl to combating crime." (*City Parks Alliance*)

"Parks are vital to the health and enrichment of our communities, from teaching children to be stewards of their natural environments, to keeping residents of all ages healthy, happy, and connected."

JANE RIVERA, PhD
Chair, City of Austin PARD Board

PARKS PROVIDE HANDS-ON ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

- » Exposure to the outdoors improves children's analytical thinking and problem solving
- » Summer activities and education in parks can help to close opportunity gaps



ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY VALUES

- » Redeveloped parks can reduce vacancy rates and increase safety
- » Increased social connections and community cohesion can combat the impacts of social isolation and loneliness (*TPL Healthy Parks Plan*)



HOW AUSTIN COMPARES

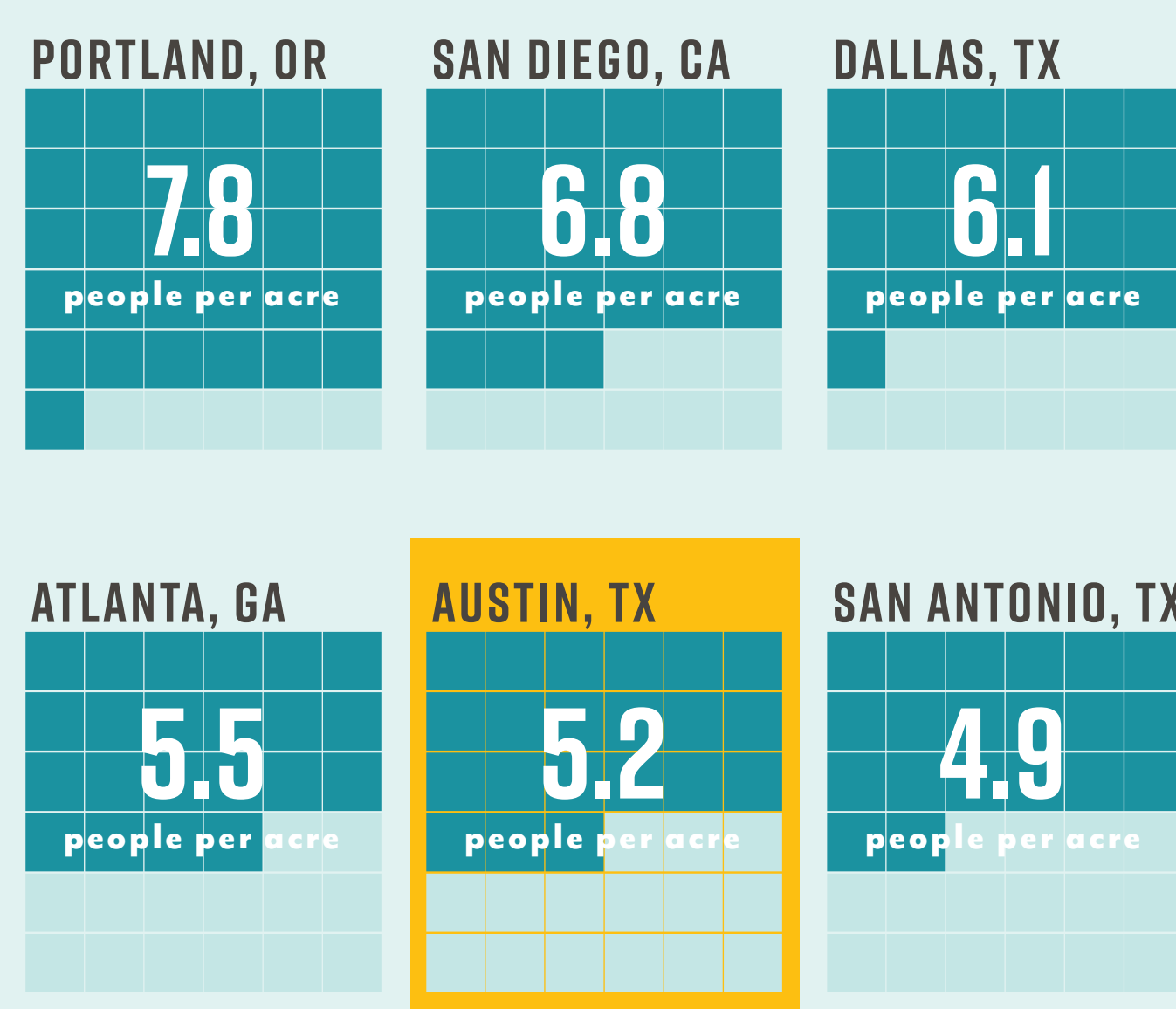
COMO SE COMPARA AUSTIN

PEER CITY SELECTION CRITERIA

Austin is unique in many ways, and its park system reflects this. It is the state capital of Texas and is home of the flagship campus of the University of Texas. The city is rapidly growing, experiencing a population increase of almost 23% since 2010. Long known for its thriving music scene, the city is also a hub for the technology and software industries.

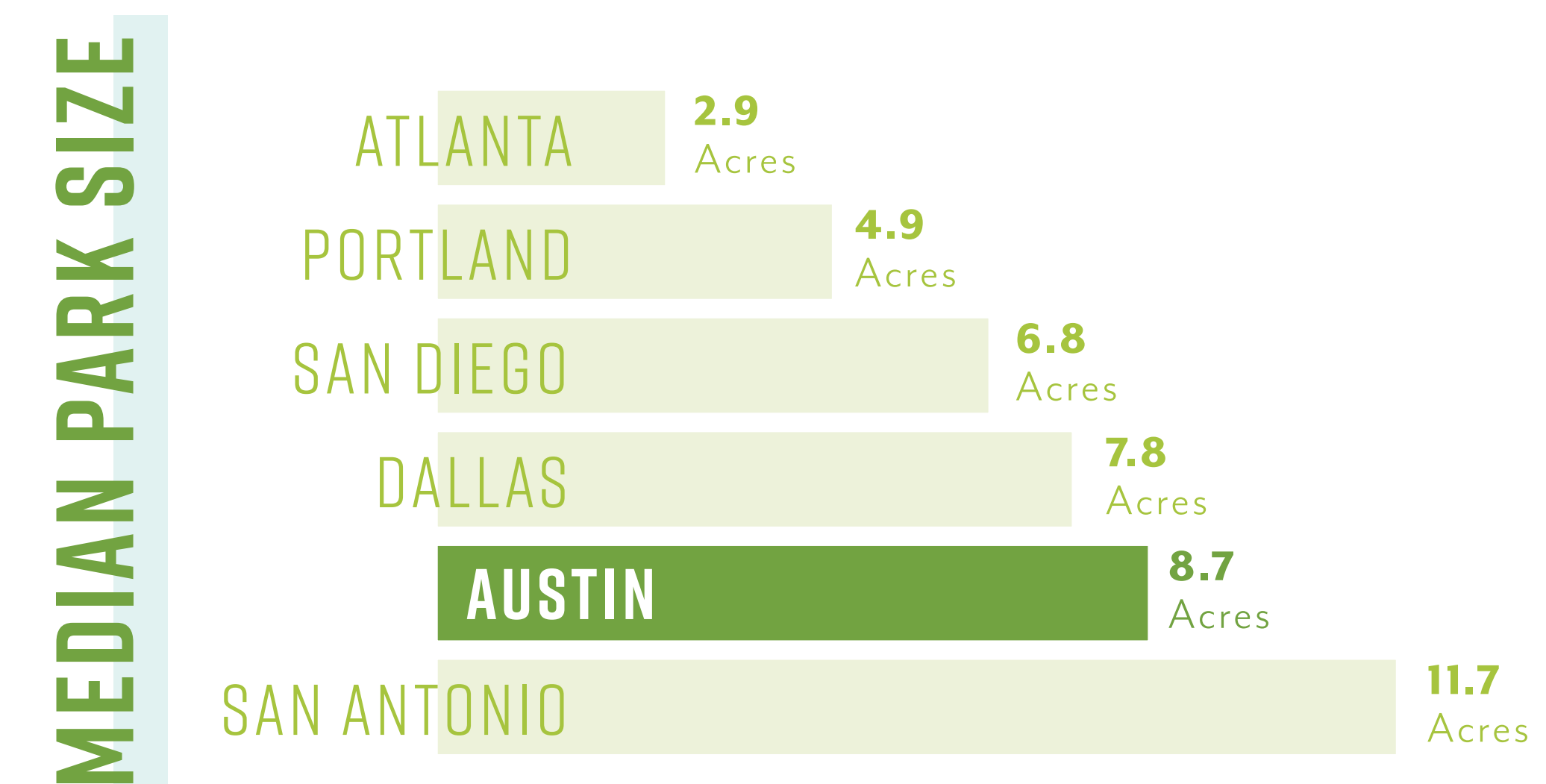
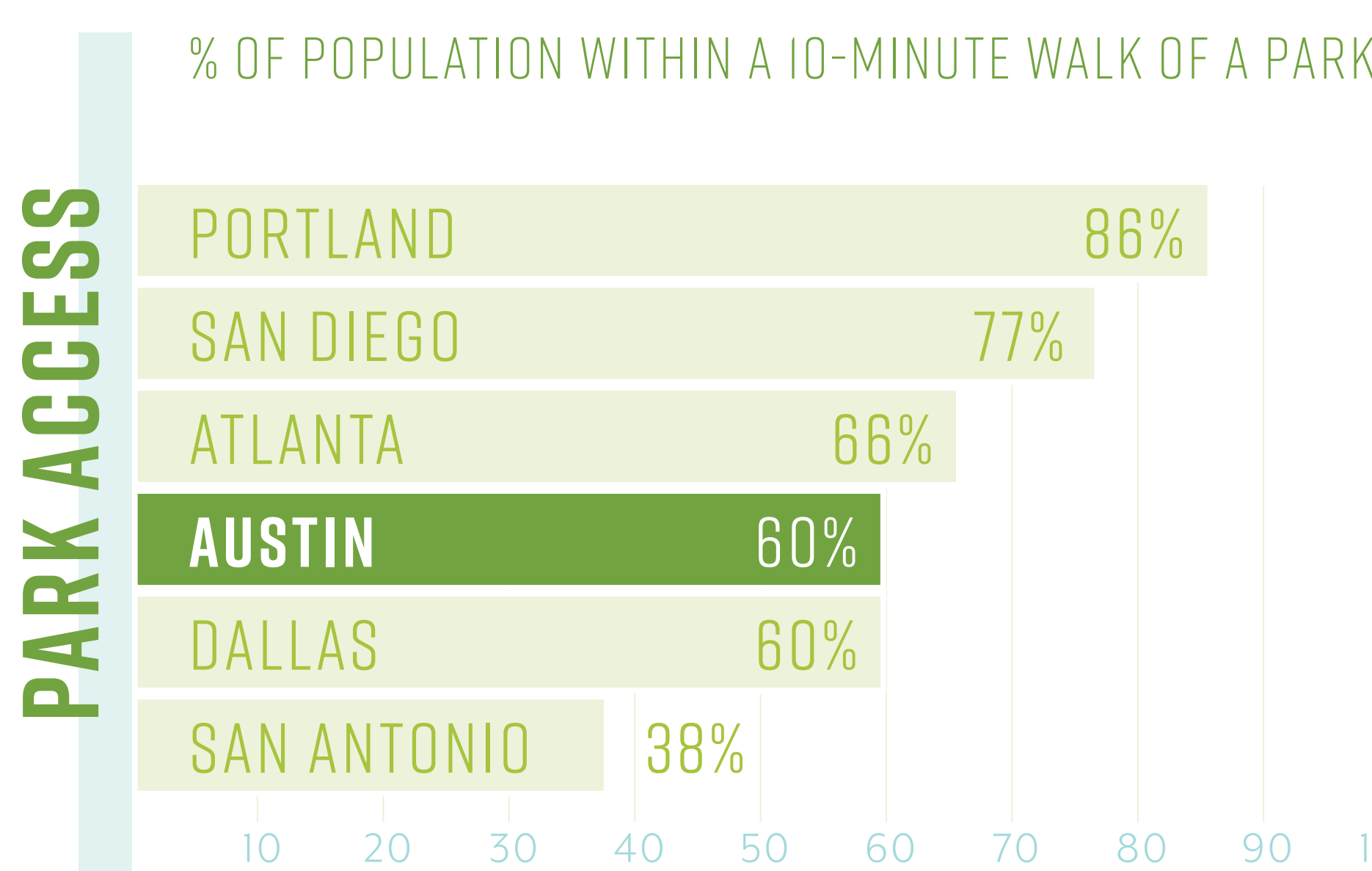
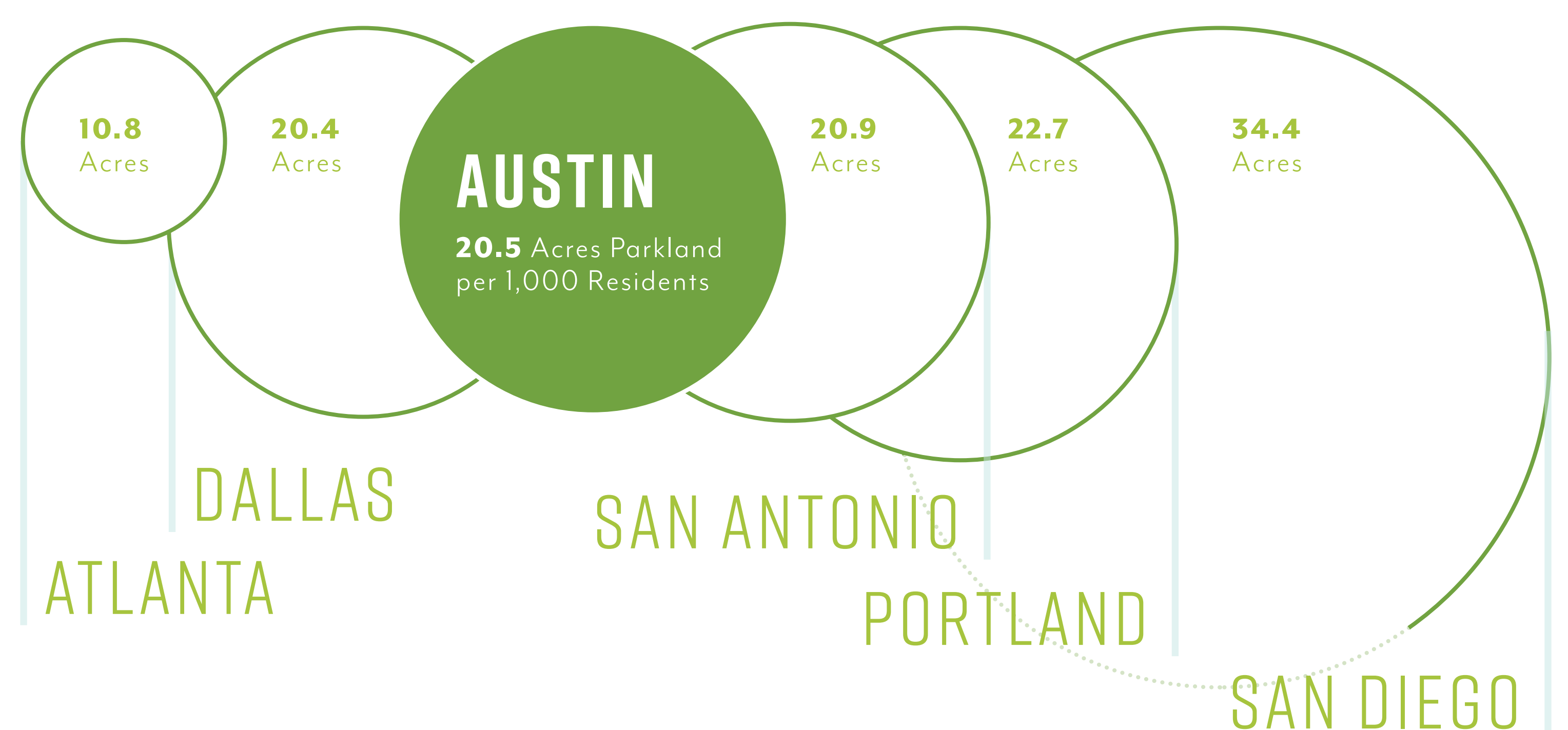
The Trust for Public Land selected comparison cities based on:

- GROWTH**
 - » Were experiencing similar growth, such as Atlanta (14% increase in population since 2010) and Dallas (13% increase in pop since 2010).
- REGIONAL / TEXAS**
 - » San Antonio & Dallas were included to capture elements that are unique to the region.
- CLIMATE & WEATHER**
 - » Cities were also selected that experience similar weather to Austin, as a similar climate means comparable challenges.
- POPULATION DENSITY**
 - » Finally, cities were selected that were comparable in population density.



PARK SYSTEM OVERVIEW & ACCESS

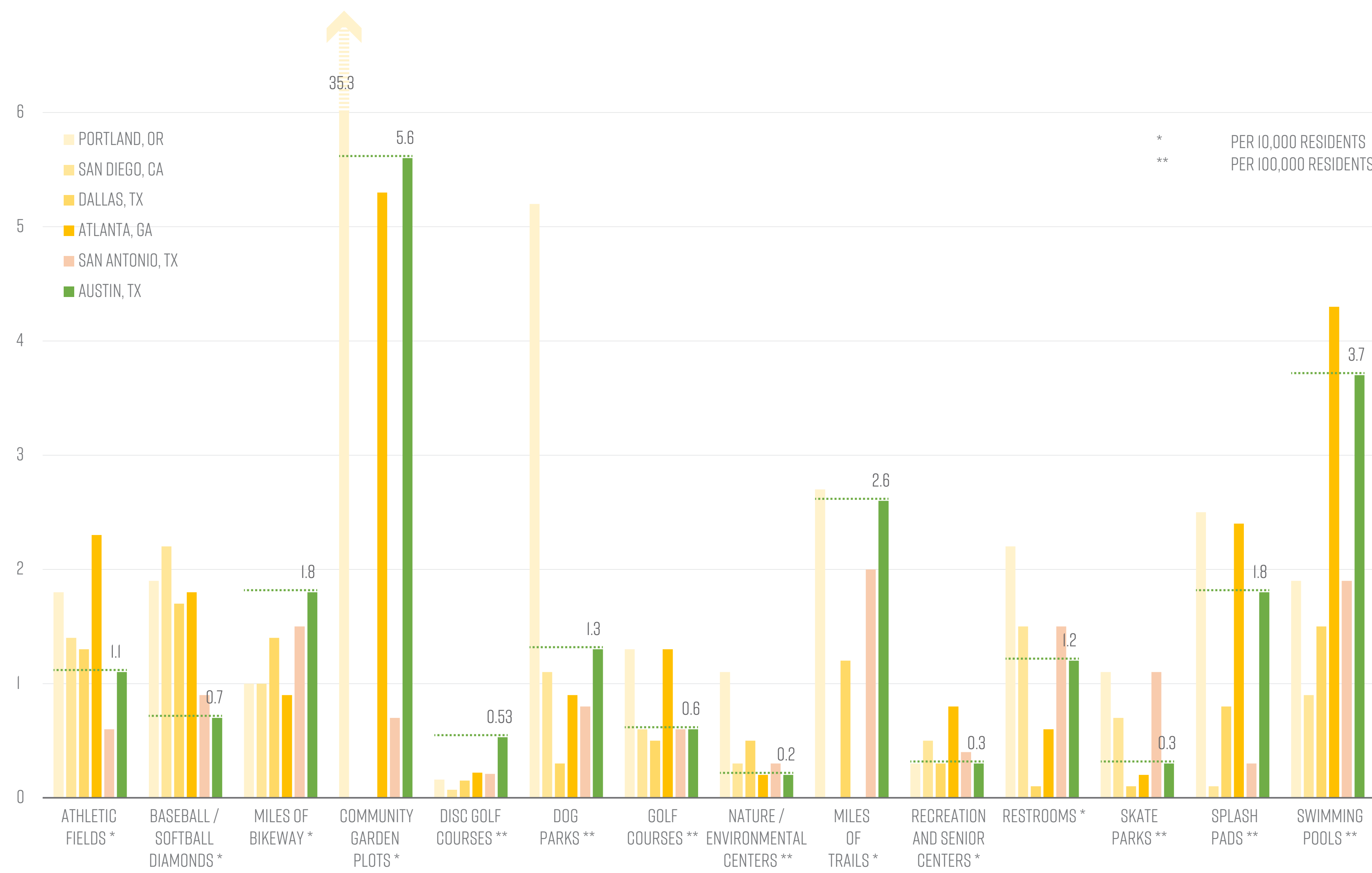
The City of Austin has an expansive park system, but only 60% of residents live within walking distance of a park. This is low among peer cities and the nation, where the median access score among largest US cities is 65%.



FACILITIES & AMENITIES

Austin is well-served in terms of recreational amenities and facilities, surpassing peers in certain areas such as miles of bikeway and disc golf courses, but falling short in others. **Austin might consider expansion of multi-use fields for baseball and softball. The city should explore strategies to increase nature programming and nature facilities as well as the expansion of multi-generational facilities that promote community programming and recreation.**

Community feedback indicated a strong preference for natural areas and amenities that allow for various recreational uses, particularly trails. Trails improve connectivity to existing parks while offering exercise and access to nature. New and improved trails can be added to parks as Austin invests in its existing parks.



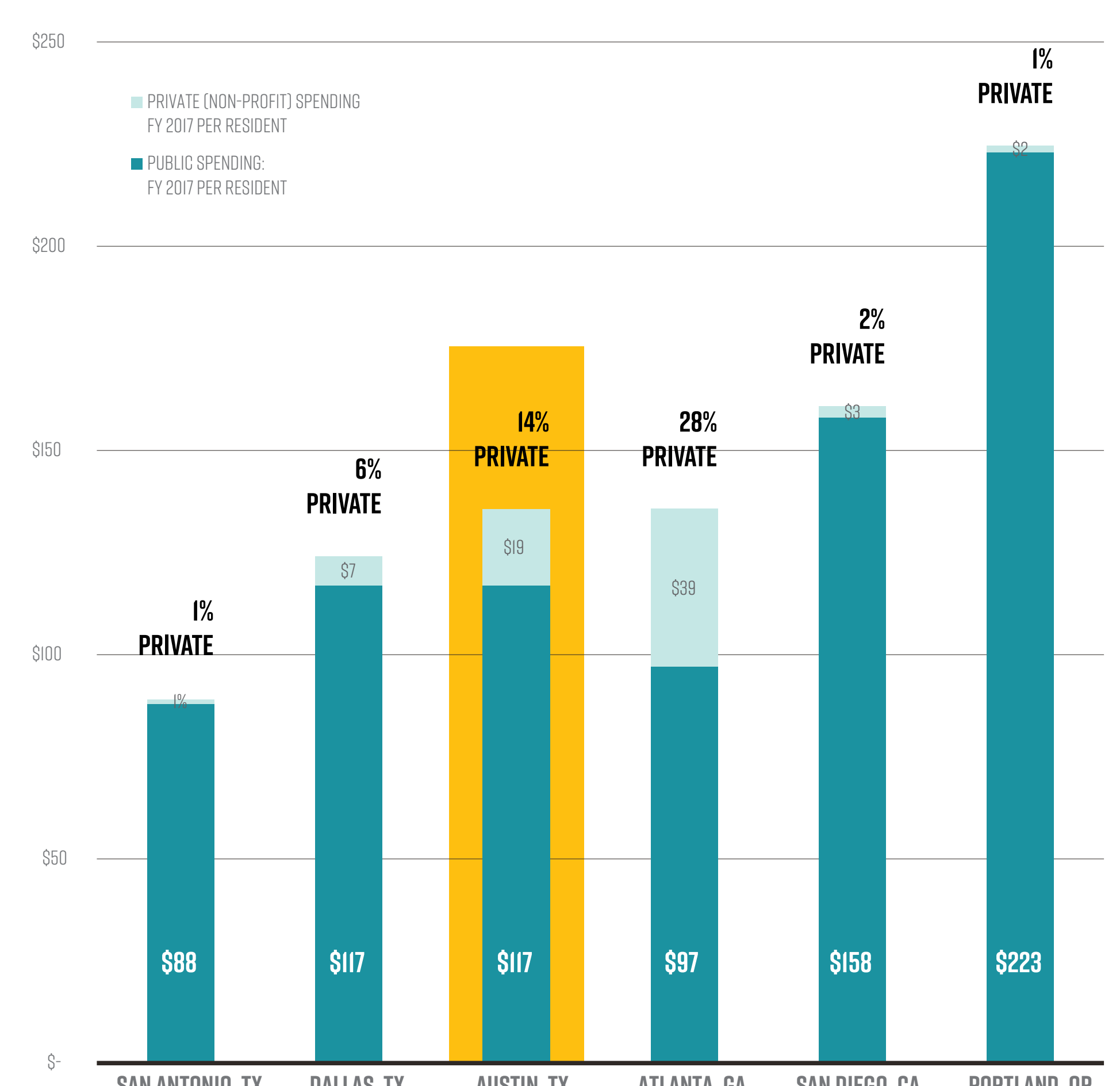
PARK SYSTEM SPENDING

PUBLIC SPENDING

» Austin spends less than aspirational comparison cities Portland and San Diego, is on par with Dallas, and spends more than San Antonio and Atlanta.

PRIVATE SPENDING

» Spending by non-profits (foundations, conservancies, etc.) makes up a significant portion of park investment, totalling 14% of all park investment in Austin.



OUR PARKS OUR FUTURE

2018 - 2028



AUSTIN PARKS & RECREATION LONG RANGE PLAN

AUSTINTEXAS.GOV/AUSTINFUTUREPARKS
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IN COLLABORATION WITH:

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WHAT IS MOST IMPORTANT TO YOU? ¿QUE LE IMPORTA MÁS A USTED?



FUNDING SHOULD BE EVENLY DISTRIBUTED BETWEEN ACQUISITION OF NEW PARKLAND, MAINTENANCE, IMPROVEMENT OF EXISTING PARKS, IMPROVING PARK ACCESS, AND ADDING/ENHANCING PROGRAMS



GROWING DEMAND FOR TRAILS WITHIN PARKS AND CONNECTING PEOPLE TO PARKS



MORE DEDICATED/FENCED SPACES FOR DOGS (DOG PARKS & SECLUDED OFF-LEASH ZONES) ALONGSIDE DEDICATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF DOG-FREE AND LEASHED-DOG ZONES



LIVELY DEBATE ON THE BALANCE BETWEEN ORGANIZED SPORTS AND ATHLETIC FACILITIES VS. NATURAL AREAS WITH MINIMAL INTERVENTION

- "PLEASE IMPROVE OUTDOOR LIGHTING AND POLICE PRESENCE IN THE EVENING, SO THAT IT FEELS SAFER TO WALK AND JOG... AFTER DARK."
- "NATURAL OPEN SPACE IS IMPORTANT FOR KIDS AS WELL AS ADULTS. LET'S NOT CLUTTER OUR GREEN SPACES WITH MANUFACTURED PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT AND SPORTS AREAS."
- "NO MOTORIZED ANYTHING ON THE TRAILS PLEASE."
- "HOMELESS CAMPING MAKES PART OF TRAILS FEEL UNSAFE. PICNIC TABLES AT PAVILION USUALLY OCCUPIED BY HOMELESS PEOPLE ALL DAY. DARK PARTS OF TRAILS AND SIDEWALKS FEEL UNSAFE AT NIGHT."
- "WE NEED A NICE (FENCED IN) DOG PARK THAT HAS GRASS THAT IS SOMEWHAT CENTRAL FOR OUR SIZE CITY THE OPTIONS ARE MINIMAL."
- "PLEASE CRACK DOWN ON OFF-LEASH DOGS AND ISSUE FINES... I AM OK WITH ADDITIONAL DEDICATED OFF-LEASH SPACE AS LONG AS RULES ARE ENFORCED ELSEWHERE."
- "IF THERE IS GOING TO BE AN OFF-LEASH AREA, IT NEEDS TO BE SECLUDED AND AWAY FROM PLAYSCAPES."
- "MORE NATURE, LESS VENDORS."
- "STOP HOSTING AGL AND TRAIL OF LIGHTS. GIVE THE PARK BACK TO THE TAXPAYERS."
- "KIDS NEED SIMPLE NATURAL PLAYSCAPES (NOT ARTIFICIAL PLAYSCAPES MADE TO LOOK NATURAL)."
- "KEEP PROFIT OUT OF THE PARKS."

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TO DATE PARTICIPACION DEL PUBLICO A LA FECHA

COMMUNITY MEETING SERIES #1

NOVEMBER 8 - 14, 2018

Open houses focused on the question "what do our parks mean to you?" and solicited feedback on:

- » Current strengths, deficiencies, opportunities, & challenges
- » Facility and program priorities
- » Budget priorities & trade-offs (e.g., "money game")
- » Park & Recreation future vision

POP-UP SERIES #1

DECEMBER 4, 2018 - JANUARY 12, 2019

Pop-ups as part of existing events or highly trafficked locations (e.g., libraries, farmers markets) provided opportunities to share information about the plan and extend the impact of the Community Meeting Series #1 by engaging residents and stakeholders outside of the meeting setting.

5 OPEN HOUSES
189 PARTICIPANTS

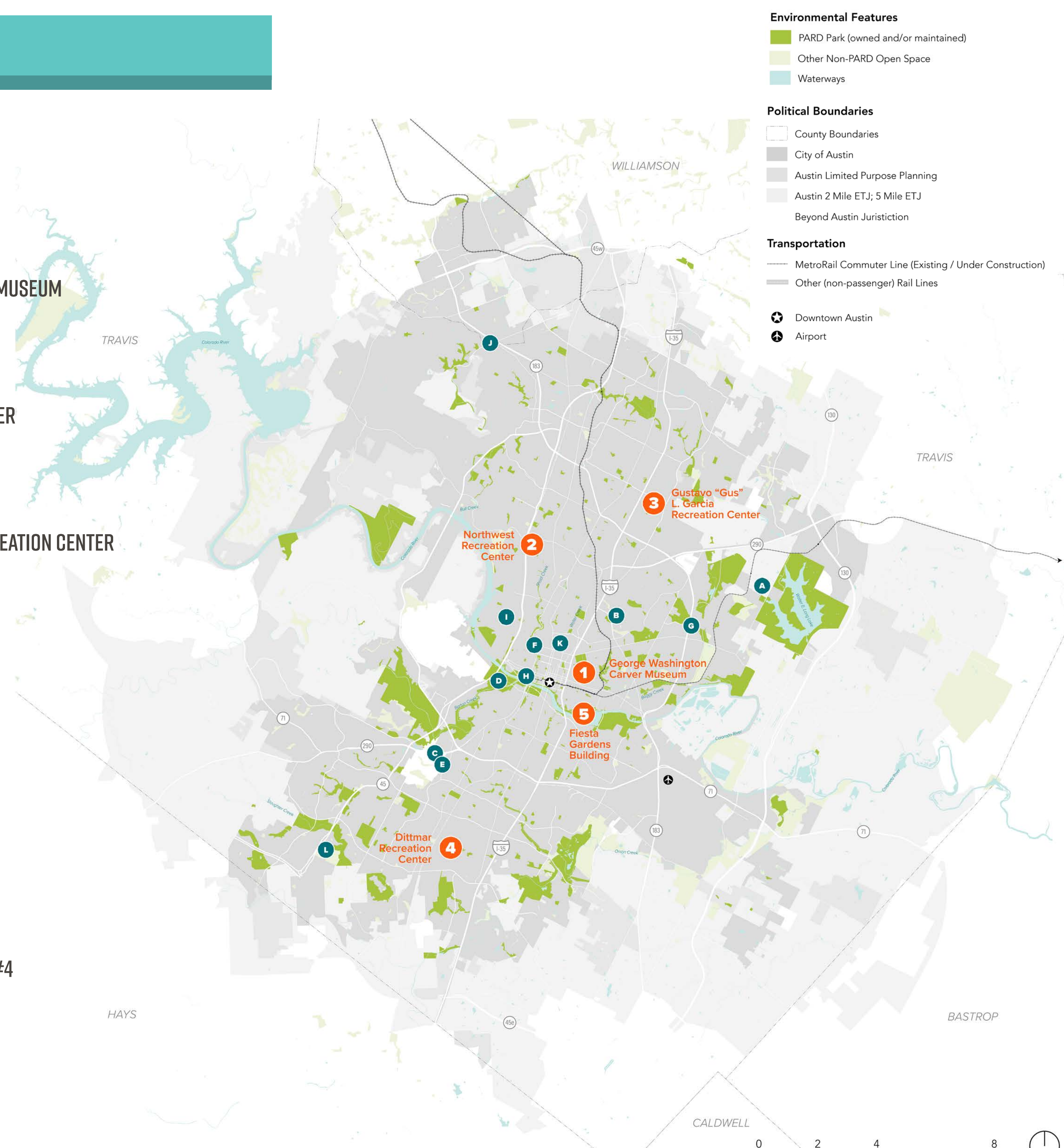
WHERE & WHEN

- 1 GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER MUSEUM**
1165 Angelina Street
November 8, 2018, 6pm-8pm
- 2 NORTHWEST RECREATION CENTER**
2913 Northland Drive
November 10, 2018, 11am-1pm
- 3 GUSTAVO "GUS" L. GARCIA RECREATION CENTER**
1201 E Rundberg Lane
November 10, 2018, 3pm-5pm
- 4 DITTMAR RECREATION CENTER**
1009 W Dittmar Road
November 13, 2018, 6pm-8pm
- 5 FIESTA GARDENS BUILDING**
2101 Jesse E. Segovia Street
November 14, 2018, 6pm-8pm

140+ SURVEYS COMPLETED
12 LOCAL EVENTS ATTENDED

WHERE & WHEN

- A WALTER E. LONG, MP MEETING #4**
Decker Middle School
8104 Decker Lane
December 4, 2018, 6pm - 8pm
Est. Attendance: 70
- B JINGLEBOOZE (THE THINKERY) ***
1830 Simard Avenue
December 6, 2018, 7pm - 10pm
Est. Attendance: 600
- C ASIAN AMERICAN RESOURCE CENTER MASTER PLAN MEETING #1**
3200 Jones Road
December 11, 2018, 6pm - 8pm
Est. Attendance: 50
- D MOVIES IN THE PARK**
Zilker Park
December 13, 2018, 6pm - 8pm
Est. Attendance: 200
- E SFC FARMERS MARKET AT SUNSET VALLEY ***
3200 Jones Road
December 15, 2018, 9am - 1pm
Est. Attendance: 100
- F MT SUPERMARKET**
10901 N Lamar Boulevard G
January 5, 2019, 10am - 2pm
Est. Attendance: 100
- G YMCA MOBILE MARKET**
YMCA of East Austin Branch
5315 Ed Bluestein Boulevard
January 10, 2019, 4pm - 7pm
Est. Attendance: 100
- H TOWNLAKE YMCA**
1100 W Cesar Chavez Street
January 19, 2019, 10am - 1pm
Est. Attendance: 150
- I HOWSON BRANCH LIBRARY ***
2500 Exposition Boulevard
January 12, 2019, 11am - 1pm
Est. Attendance: 10
- J SPICEWOOD SPRINGS BRANCH LIBRARY ***
8637 Spicewood Springs Road
January 12, 2019, 2pm - 4:45pm
Est. Attendance: 12
- K MLK COMMUNITY FESTIVAL**
MLK Statue at The University of Texas at Austin
Houston-Tillotson College
January 21, 2019, 9am - 2pm
Est. Attendance: 300
- L LADY BIRD JOHNSON WILDFLOWER CENTER ***
4801 La Crosse Avenue
DATE, TIME
Est. Attendance: 68



* Indicates Adisa Communications attended; all others staffed by PARD



ONLINE COMMUNITY SURVEY

NOVEMBER 27, 2018 - JANUARY 27, 2019

The online survey provided an additional forum for participation. It was advertised via flyers, email blasts and social meeting, signage, CAP Metro and media/radio ads. Questions focused on current interests and needs of the community related to parks and recreational facilities.

STATISTICALLY VALID SURVEY

JANUARY 2019 - MARCH 2019

This survey was administered via telephone, mail, and internet and was translated as needed in order to capture with a degree of certainty the needs and priorities of all residents in the city—not just those who choose to participate in other forms of engagement. This survey was designed to validate and complement other engagement through the use of more in-depth questions.

4,400+ RESPONSES
9,000 COMMENTS

925 RESPONSES

» This survey provides statistically valid results that have a margin of error of +/-3.5% at the 95% level of confidence at the City level and for the six PARD planning sub areas within the City.



COMMUNITY MEETING AT GUS GARCIA RECREATION CENTER



COMMUNITY MEETING AT GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER MUSEUM



COMMUNITY MEETING AT NORTHWEST RECREATION CENTER



COMMUNITY MEETING AT DITTMAR RECREATION CENTER



LBJ WILDFLOWER CENTER POP-UP WITH MONEY GAME

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OUR FUTURE
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COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS RESULTADOS DE LA ENCUESTA COMUNITARIA EN LÍNEA

GENERAL PARK USE & VALUE

49%
VISIT PARKS WEEKLY

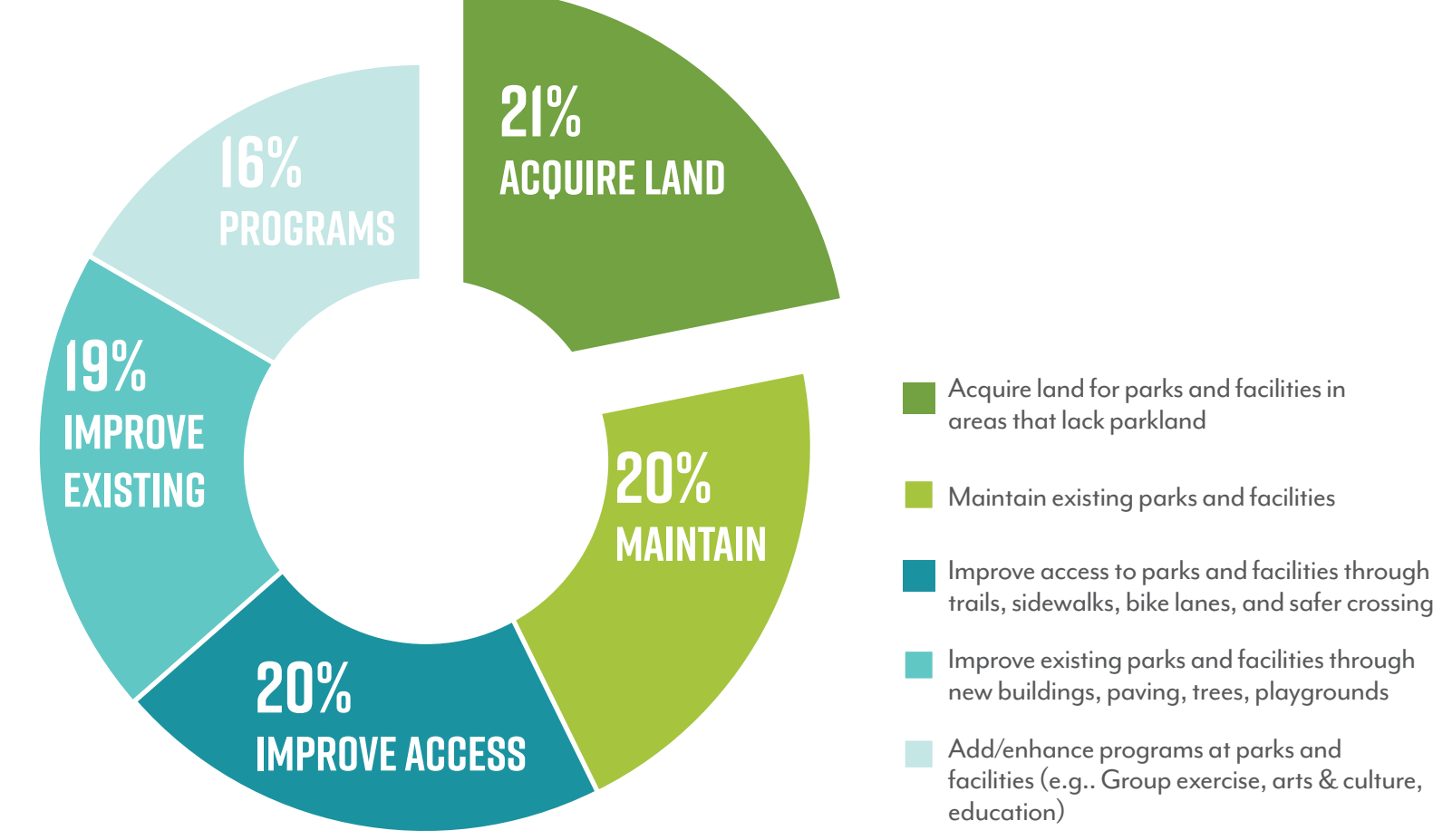
21%
VISIT PARKS MONTHLY

16%
VISIT PARKS DAILY

WHAT DO YOU VALUE?

- #1 BEAUTY (e.g., natural features, landscape, views)
- #2 PLACES TO CONNECT TO NATURE
- #3 CLEANLINESS
- #4 Easy to get to
- #5 Safety
- #6 Places to exercise or be active
- #7 Quiet places and places to relax

INVESTMENT PRIORITIES



WHAT KEEPS YOU FROM USING PARKS?

- #1 CRIME OR SAFETY CONCERNS
- #2 NO PARKS OR FACILITIES CLOSE TO HOME
- #3 PARKS APPEAR DEGRADED AND IN POOR CONDITION
- #4 Inadequate parking
- #5 Presence of people experiencing homelessness
- #6 Lack of lighting
- #7 Parks & facilities do not appear clean
- #8 Lack of awareness of what programs are offered
- #9 Operating hours/length of season too short

WHAT PARKS DO YOU VISIT OUTSIDE OF AUSTIN?

28% VISIT TRAVIS COUNTY PARKS
17% VISIT LCRA PARKS

ABOUT THE SURVEY

4,400+
COMPLETED THE ONLINE SURVEY!

WHO TOOK THE SURVEY...



FAMILY SIZE
42% LIVE IN A 2-PERSON HOUSEHOLD

AGE
46% ARE 35-54 YEARS OLD



TENURE
29% HAVE LIVED IN AUSTIN FOR 30+ YEARS

28% HAVE LIVED IN AUSTIN FOR LESS THAN 10 YEARS

RECREATION & PROGRAM PREFERENCES

WHAT PROGRAMS WOULD KEEP YOU AT A PARK MORE?

38% ARTS & CULTURE

- » Musical or theatrical performances
- » Public art & art programs
- » Movies in the park
- » Culture & heritage events

24% GROUP GATHERINGS

- » Activity groups (e.g., walking clubs, cycling groups, gardening)
- » Neighborhood gatherings & parties
- » Stewardship & volunteer opportunities

12% FITNESS & SPORTS

- » Fitness classes (e.g., yoga, zumba, boot camps, circuit training)
- » Organized Sports Leagues

12% NATURE PROGRAMS

- » Nature education
- » Groups (birding, etc.)



MULTI-GENERATIONAL COMMUNITY CENTERS

NATURE TRAILS

YOUTH EDUCATION

DESIRED PROGRAMS IN THE NEXT 10 YEARS...

- #1 AQUATIC PROGRAMS
- #2 GARDENING PROGRAMS
- #3 GROUP EXERCISE PROGRAMS

DESIRED YOUTH PROGRAMS IN THE NEXT 10 YEARS...

- #1 SUMMER CAMPS (NATURE BASED)
- #2 YOUTH ENVIRON. EDUCATION
- #3 SUMMER CAMPS (ADVENTURE)

DESIRED AMENITIES & FACILITIES IN THE NEXT 10 YEARS...

- #1 NATURE TRAILS FOR HIKING AND WALKING
- #2 NATURAL AREAS & PRESERVES
- #3 MULTI-PURPOSE TRAILS FOR WALKING, RUNNING, HIKING, MOUNTAIN BIKING
- #1 NATURE CENTERS
- #2 MULTI-GENERATIONAL COMMUNITY REC CENTERS
- #3 COMMUNITY CENTERS FOR REC, ART & CULTURE

HOW WE GOT THE WORD OUT...



WEB
SOCIAL MEDIA, E-BLASTS, TEXTS



PRINT
FLYERS, LAWN SIGNS

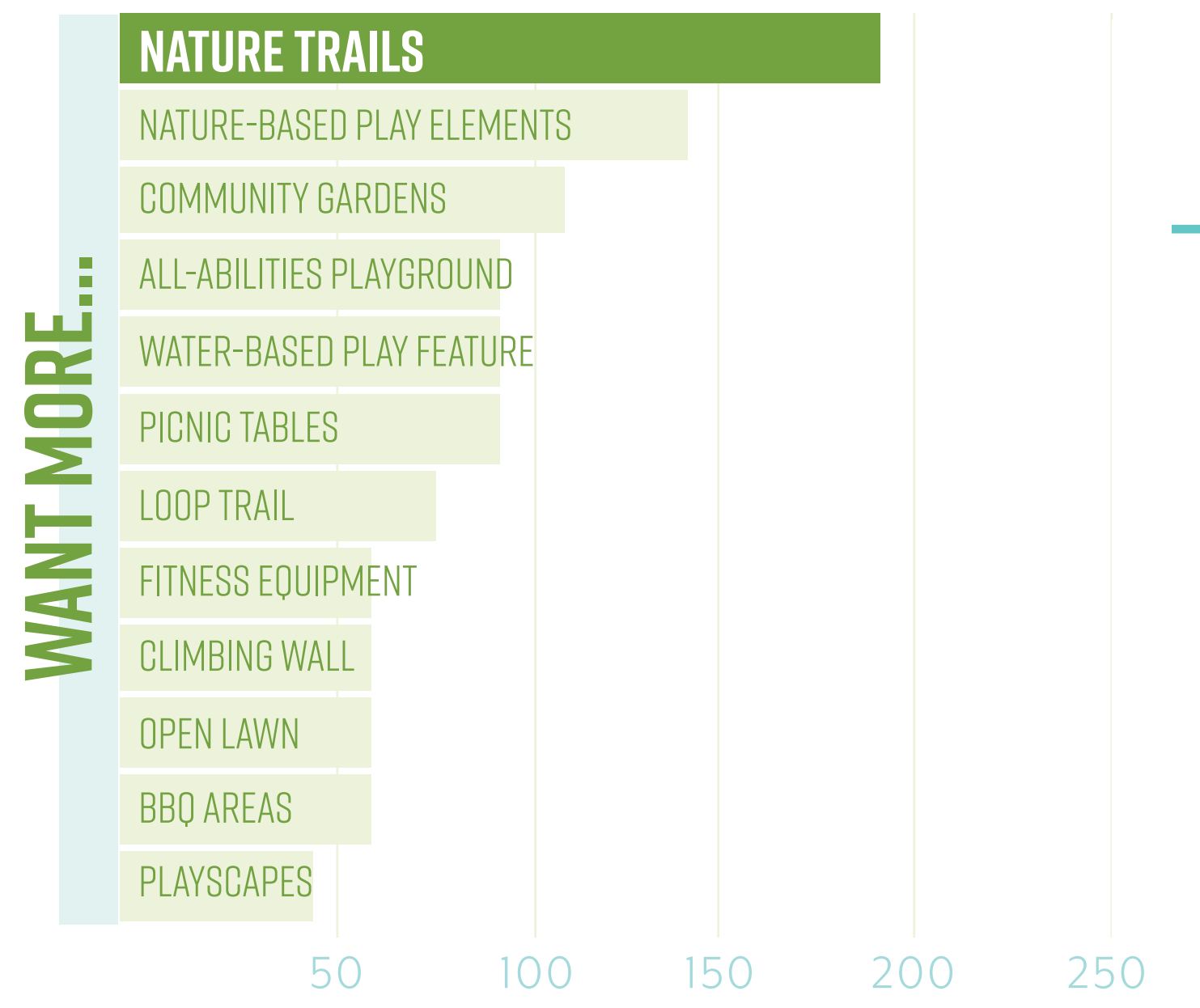
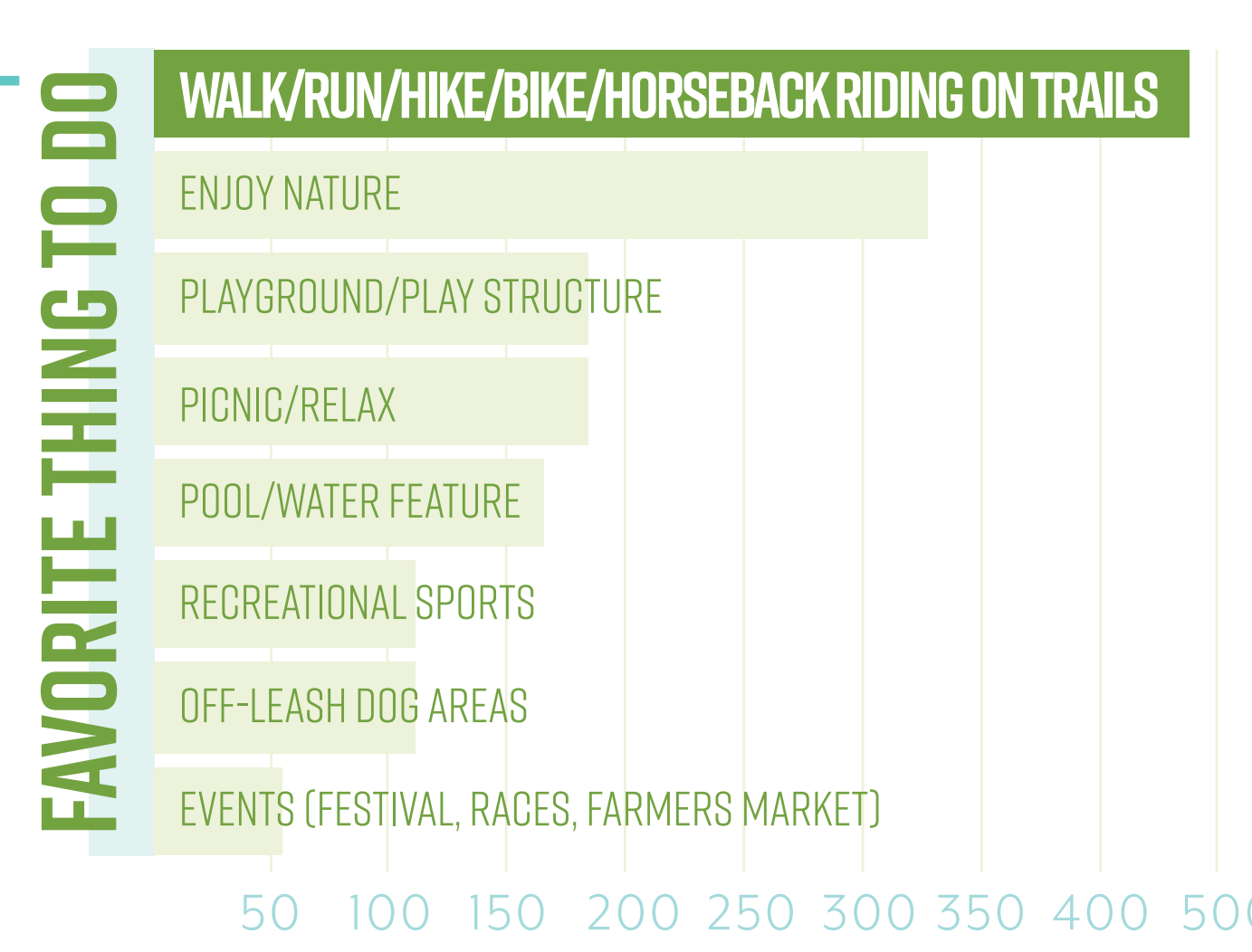


MEDIA
CAP METRO & MEDIA/ RADIO ADS

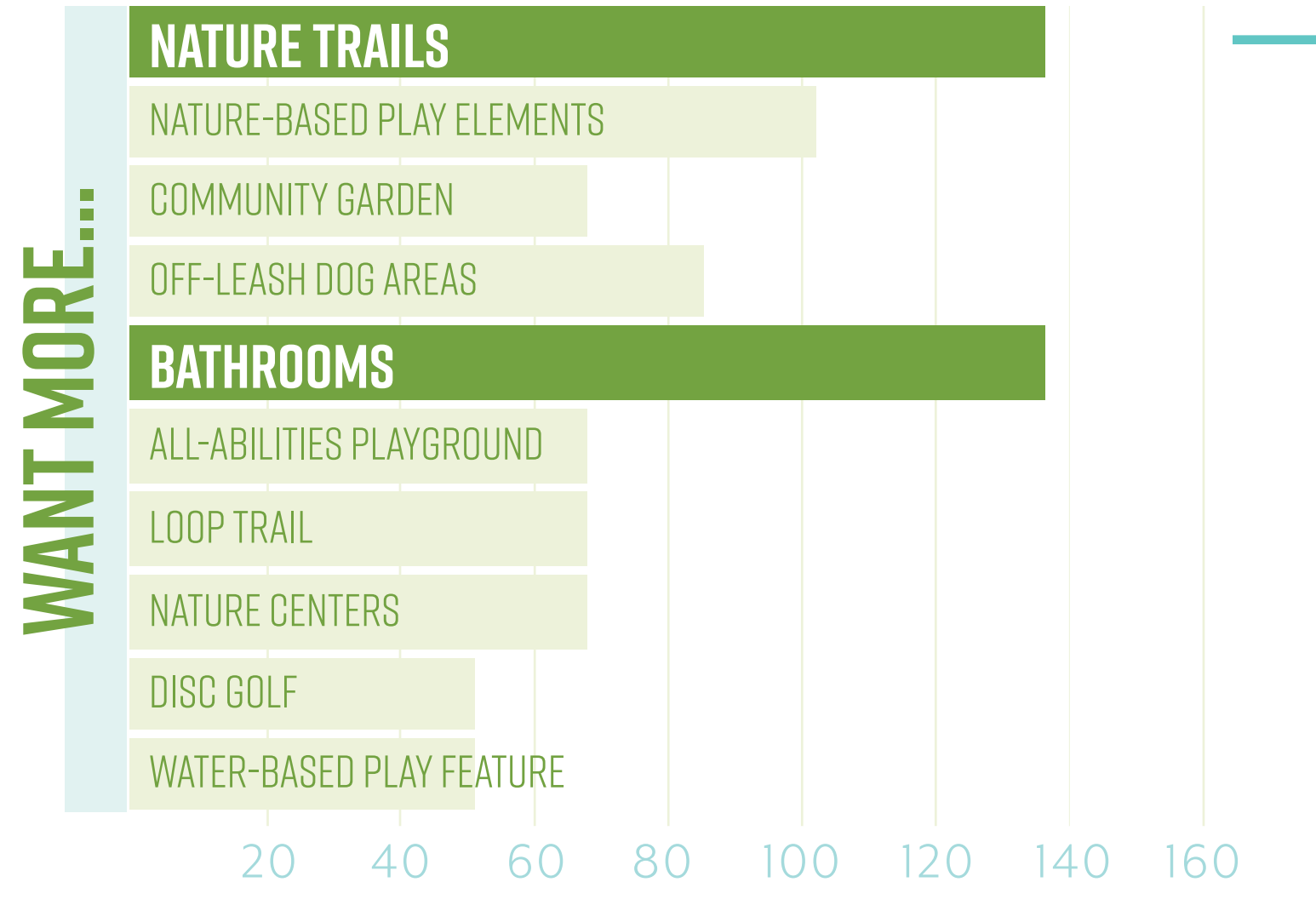
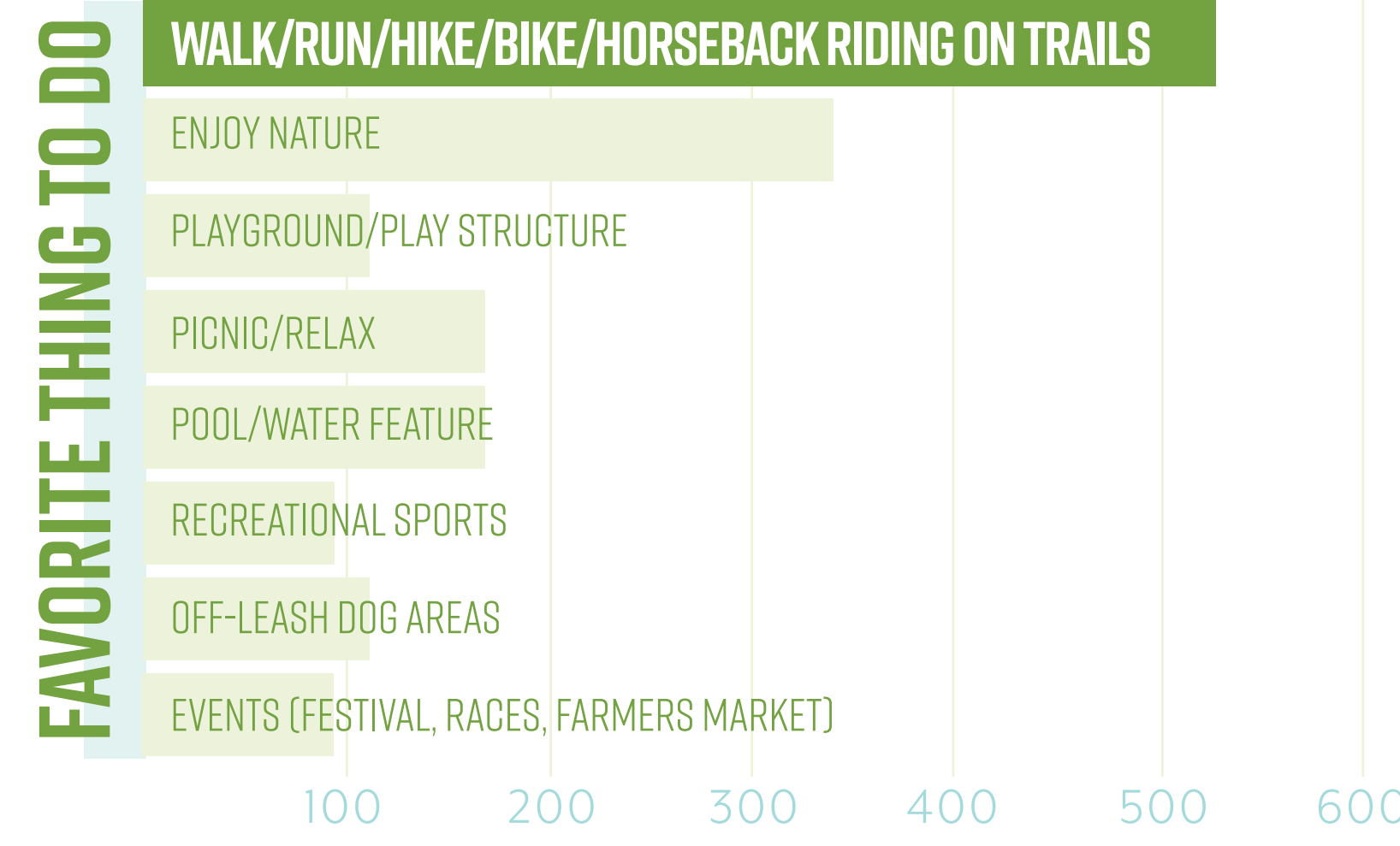
PARK USE PREFERENCES BY PARK TYPE

MOST FREQUENTLY VISITED

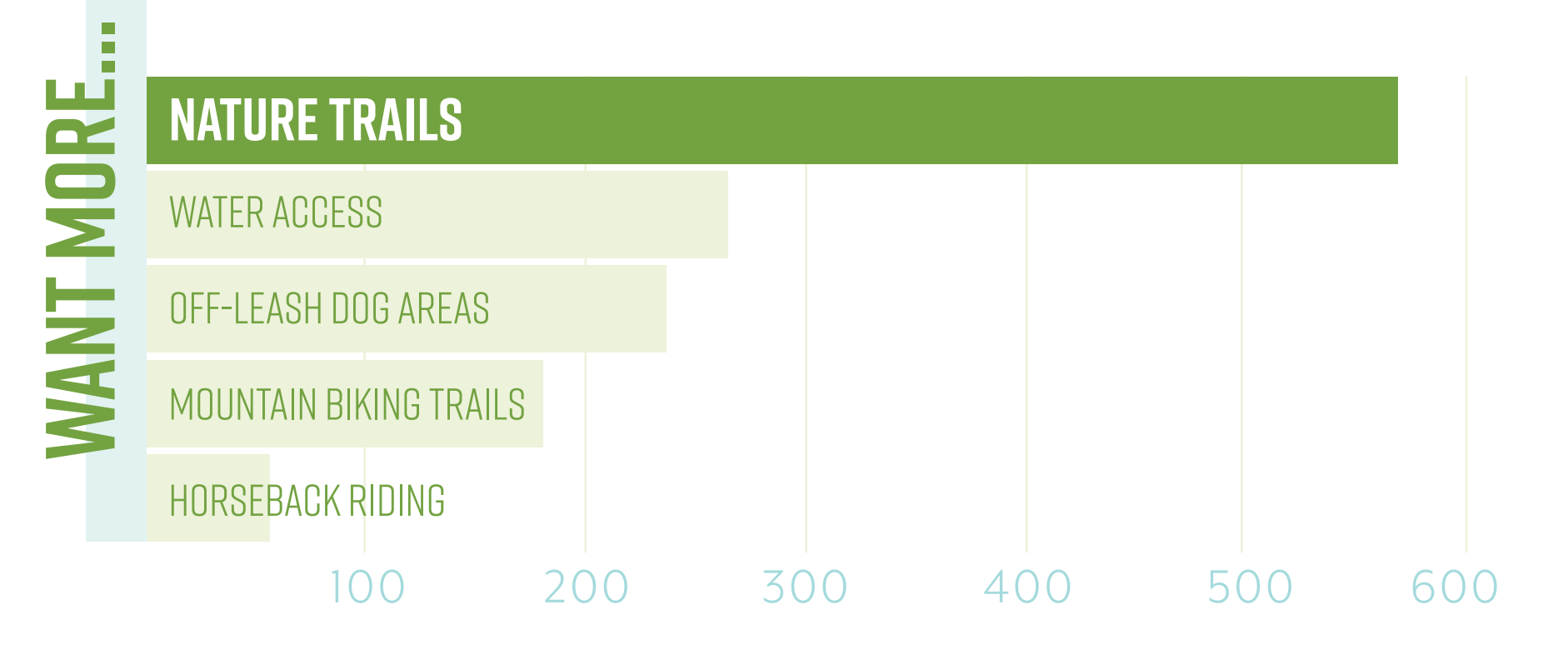
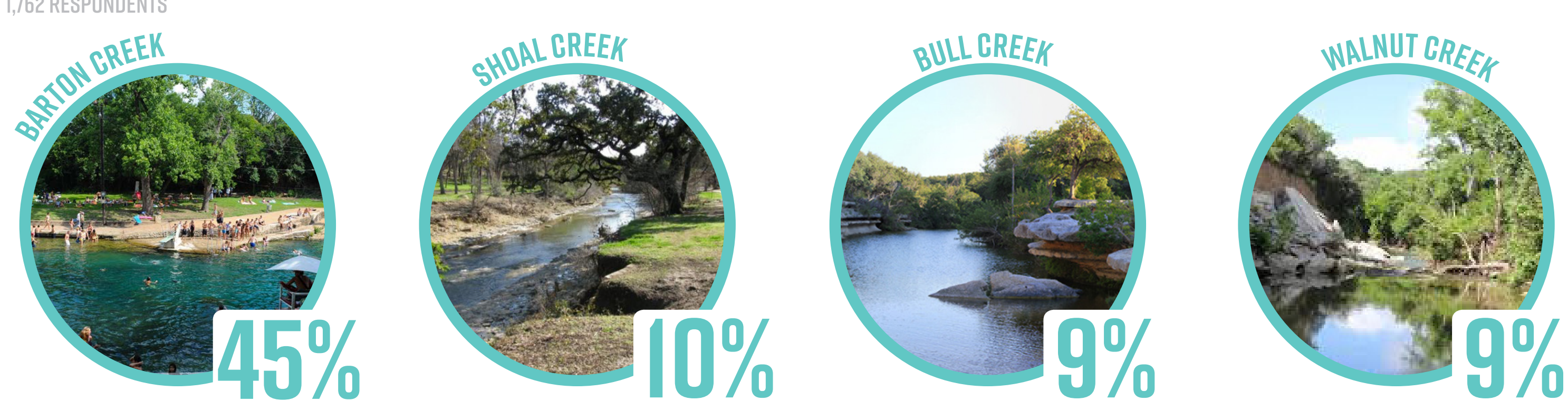
NEIGHBORHOOD/SCHOOL/POCKET PARK 1,006 RESPONDENTS



DISTRICT/METROPOLITAN PARK 2,006 RESPONDENTS



GREENBELT / GREENWAY 1,782 RESPONDENTS



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LONG RANGE PLAN THEMES TEMAS DE LA PARTICIPACIÓN PÚBLICA

The draft Long Range Plan Themes are drawn from the community's input to date. These themes will shape the plan's goals, recommendations, and actions.

NATURAL EXPERIENCES

People express a desire for parks that feel more natural.

- » rustic finishes not paved areas
- » undeveloped, wild natural spaces
- » more native plants

“ PLEASE DON'T DEVELOP OUR NATURAL AREAS! WE NEED NATURAL FORESTED AREAS TO RELIEVE OURSELVES FROM THE STRESS OF THE CITY. ”

“ PLEASE SET ASIDE AREAS IN PARKS WHERE NATIVE PLANTS AND WILDFLOWERS CAN GROW. MANY PARKS ARE MOWED AND WEED-WACKED WITH VERY FEW NATURAL AREAS. ”

“ QUIT PUTTING CONCRETE IN PARKS! THE WHOLE POINT IS THE LACK OF DEVELOPMENT. ”

DISAGREE LOW PRIORITY

AGREE HIGH PRIORITY

NATURAL EXPERIENCES

LINEAR PARKS & TRAILS

People are more interested in parks that allow them to move (walk/run/bike) as opposed to staying in one place.

- » nature and multipurpose trails
- » connectivity between parks

“ I LIKE THE IDEA OF PARKS INTEGRATED INTO EVERY DAY LIFE. SMALLER PARKS THROUGHOUT THE CITY AND BETTER CONNECTIVITY BETWEEN PARKS COULD ACHIEVE THIS. ”

“ BIKE TRAILS PLEASE!! ALL THE WAY UP TO THE DOMAIN, IF POSSIBLE. WHAT AN AMAZING ASSET THAT WOULD BE! (SHOAL CREEK GREENBELT) ”

“ I WOULD LIKE MORE WELL MAINTAINED AND MARKED/ MAPPED MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAILS. SOUTH AUSTIN HAS AN AMAZING TRAIL NETWORK THAT IS ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO NAVIGATE BECAUSE THERE ARE NO SIGNS. ”

LINEAR PARKS

UNSTRUCTURED SPACES

In general, people care less about spaces for specific programming, opting for more multi-use spaces.

- » preserve green spaces
- » bathrooms
- » "natural" and "open" spaces

“ MORE PARKS THAT EMBRACE NATURE AND AUSTIN SPIRIT. DO WE REALLY NEED MORE BUILDINGS IN THIS CITY? ”

“ FOCUS ON ACQUIRING MORE LAND TO LEAVE AS NATURAL GREEN SPACE WHERE PEOPLE CAN RELAX, HEAR BIRDS AND GENERALLY COMMUNE WITH NATURE. FORGET THE ORGANIZED ACTIVITIES AND SPORTS. LET'S LEAVE SOME NATURAL SPACES WHERE PLANTS AND ANIMALS CAN THRIVE TOO. ”

“ THE CAPACITY TO ENJOY THE PARKS AND NATURAL AREAS, IN AN UNPROGRAMMED SETTING, IS WHAT ENABLES MANY PEOPLES ENJOYMENT AND USE OF AUSTIN PARKS. NO NEED TO CLUTTER OR OVERPROGRAM ”

UNSTRUCTURED SPACES

PROXIMITY & ACCESS

People are concerned about both the lack of parks near them and/or their ability to get to parks.

- » lack of adequate parking
- » walkability issues
- » no public transit access

“ I DON'T HAVE A POCKET PARK CLOSE TO ME. DUE TO TRAFFIC AND THE LACK OF SIDEWALKS AND BIKE LANES, I HAVE TO DRIVE TO A PARK TO ARRIVE SAFELY. ”

“ LIKE IT OR NOT, MOST AUSTINITES HAVE TO DRIVE TO GET AROUND TOWN. PARKING AT PARK FACILITIES IS A NECESSITY. WE ARE DECADES AWAY FROM HAVING A TRUE, EASILY ACCESSIBLE MASS TRANSIT. ”

“ I WOULD LIKE TO SEE A BALANCE OF FACILITIES IN ALL PARTS OF AUSTIN, IN OTHER WORDS, THERE IS A CONCENTRATION OF WONDERFUL PARK AMENITIES CENTRAL WEST BUT NOT CENTRAL EAST ”

PROXIMITY & ACCESS

URBAN SPACES

People recognize that urban spaces exist at critical locations, and express a concern that they are underutilized.

- » enhanced programming
- » well-maintained green space

“ BRUSH SQUARE SHOULD BE AN OPPORTUNITY TO SHOW OFF WHAT IS GREAT ABOUT AUSTIN'S OUTDOOR CULTURE TO THOSE AT THE CONVENTION CENTER, INSTEAD OF A FORGOTTEN LAWN! ”

“ IT'S A GEM. PLEASE KEEP IT VIBRANT WITH QUALITY CARE AND COMMUNITY EVENTS. (REPUBLIC SQUARE) ”

“ WOOLDRIDGE SQUARE IS SO UNDERUTILIZED. I WISH THAT THERE WAS MORE GOING ON THERE - IT'S SO CLOSE TO MY WORK, BUT I NEVER GO THAT WAY BECAUSE THERE'S NOTHING GOING ON THERE EXCEPT HOMELESS PEOPLE HANGING OUT AND PEDESTRIANS SHORTCUTTING THROUGH ON THEIR WAY SOMEWHERE ELSE. ”

URBAN SPACES

PARKS & ARTS/CULTURE

People express a desire for increased arts/culture programming in parks.

- » community focused programming
- » cultural centers

“ MAKE MORE ART ALONG TRAILS (BUTLER HIKE AND BIKE TRAIL) ”

“ I LOVE DOUGHERTY ARTS CENTER AND THE WAY IT SERVES BOTH VISUAL AND THEATRE ARTISTS. I WOULD LOVE MORE SPACES LIKE IT ACROSS TOWN! ”

“ I ENJOY MUSICAL AND THEATRICAL PERFORMANCES IN THE PARKS BUT IN RECENT YEARS THE CROWDS AT EVENTS SUCH AS THE ZILKER HILLSIDE THEATER AND BLUES ON THE GREEN HAVE MADE IT TOO DIFFICULT TO ATTEND THESE EVENTS, ESPECIALLY WITH CHILDREN. I WOULD ENJOY SMALLER SCALE EVENTS AT NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS ”

PARKS & ARTS/CULTURE

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

People are interested in more hands-on educational opportunities.

- » youth education
- » art-based education
- » summer camps

“ EDUCATE OUR YOUTH. IT IS COST EFFECTIVE AND FUN. THERE ARE MANY ACTIVITIES YOUTH CAN DO OUTSIDE AND WE NEED THEM OUT IN NATURE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE. IT IS HEALTHY AND HAS BEEN SHOWN TO BE CALMING AND DECREASES ANXIETY. ”

“ IF THERE ARE TO BE ARTS PROGRAMS, THEY SHOULD PERTAIN TO THE LOCAL NEIGHBORHOOD CULTURE AND NOT BE BROUGHT IN FROM OUTSIDE. ”

“ WE NEED ECO CLASSES AND CAMPS TO HAVE A HEALTHIER AND MORE SUSTAINABLE CITY. ”

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

INCLUSIVITY

People express a desire for parks and programming to be more inclusive.

- » more publicity about activities
- » free parking
- » multi-generational programs

“ CITY SHOULD NOT BE CHARGING FOR PARKING AT TOWN LAKE. THE TRAIL IS FOR ALL TO ENJOY NOT JUST THOSE WHO CAN AFFORD TO PAY FOR PARKING. ”

“ AUSTIN HAS AN ABUNDANCE OF SPACES FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES IN COMPARISON TO QUALITY SPACES AND ACTIVITIES FOR THE GROWING SENIOR POPULATION. PLEASE KEEP IN MIND THE NEEDS OF SENIORS FOR NON-CROWDED OR DESIGNATED WALKING, SWIMMING AND SOCIAL ACTIVITIES. ”

“ TOO MANY PROGRAMS AT HIGH COSTS AND FEES. NEED MORE ACCOMMODATIONS FOR LOW INCOME FOLKS. ”

INCLUSIVITY

CLEANLINESS & SAFETY

People are concerned that parks are not being adequately taken care of.

- » more lighting and shade
- » maintenance and recycling
- » off-leash dog areas

“ THE OFF-LEASH AREA NEEDS TO BE FENCED. I CAN'T ENJOY IT FEARING OUR DOG WILL DASH OUT ONTO LAMAR. ”

“ PLEASE IMPROVE OUTDOOR LIGHTING AND POLICE PRESENCE IN THE EVENING, SO THAT IT FEELS SAFER TO WALK AND JOG AROUND LADY BIRD LAKE AFTER DARK. ”

“ MAINTENANCE OF EXISTING PARKS AND FACILITIES MUST INCLUDE MANDATORY RECYCLING. IT IS REALLY HARD TO BELIEVE THAT AUSTIN DOESN'T HAVE RECYCLING BINS AT PARTS SINCE RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES ARE REQUIRED TO RECYCLE AT HOME AND WORK. ”

CLEANLINESS & SAFETY

HOMELESSNESS

People are concerned about the issue of homelessness on many dimensions – safety, park cleanliness, humanitarian.

- » opportunity to work with homeless population

“ PUT OUR HOMELESS FOLKS TO WORK IN OUR PARKS CLEARING OUT INVASIVE SPECIES AND PICKING UP TRASH. AND PAY THEM A DECENT WAGE. MANY OTHER CITIES ARE DOING THIS. ”

“ SOMETIMES I NOTICE HOMELESS PEOPLE SLEEPING ON A BENCH, BUT IN GENERAL I AM HAPPY THAT EVERYBODY HAS ACCESS TO THE PARK AREA AND HAVE NOT FELT THREATENED BY THE HOMELESS PRESENCE. ”

HOMELESSNESS

INFRASTRUCTURE FOR RESILIENCE

Proactively use environmental infrastructure in parks to build a more resilient city.

“ HAVE ALL PARKS BE FUNCTIONAL LANDSCAPES THAT ALSO CONTRIBUTE TO COMMUNITY RESILIENCE (USE GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGIES) ”

“ COMMUNITY GARDENS... ALLOW CHILDREN TO LEARN HOW NATURAL FOODS ARE GROWN. ”

ENVIRONMENTAL INFRASTRUCTURE

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ADISA COMMUNICATIONS, GO COLLABORATIVE, STUDIO BALCONES, PROS CONSULTING, THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND, ETC INSTITUTE

OUR PARKS, OUR FUTURE

NUESTROS PARQUES, NUESTRO FUTURO
AUSTIN PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

HOW WE'RE IMPROVING EXISTING PARKS COMO ESTAMOS MEJORANDO LOS PARQUES EXISTENTES

IN 2018, AUSTIN RESIDENTS PASSED \$215.5 MILLION IN BOND FUNDING TO IMPROVE THE PARK SYSTEM & INCREASE ACCESS

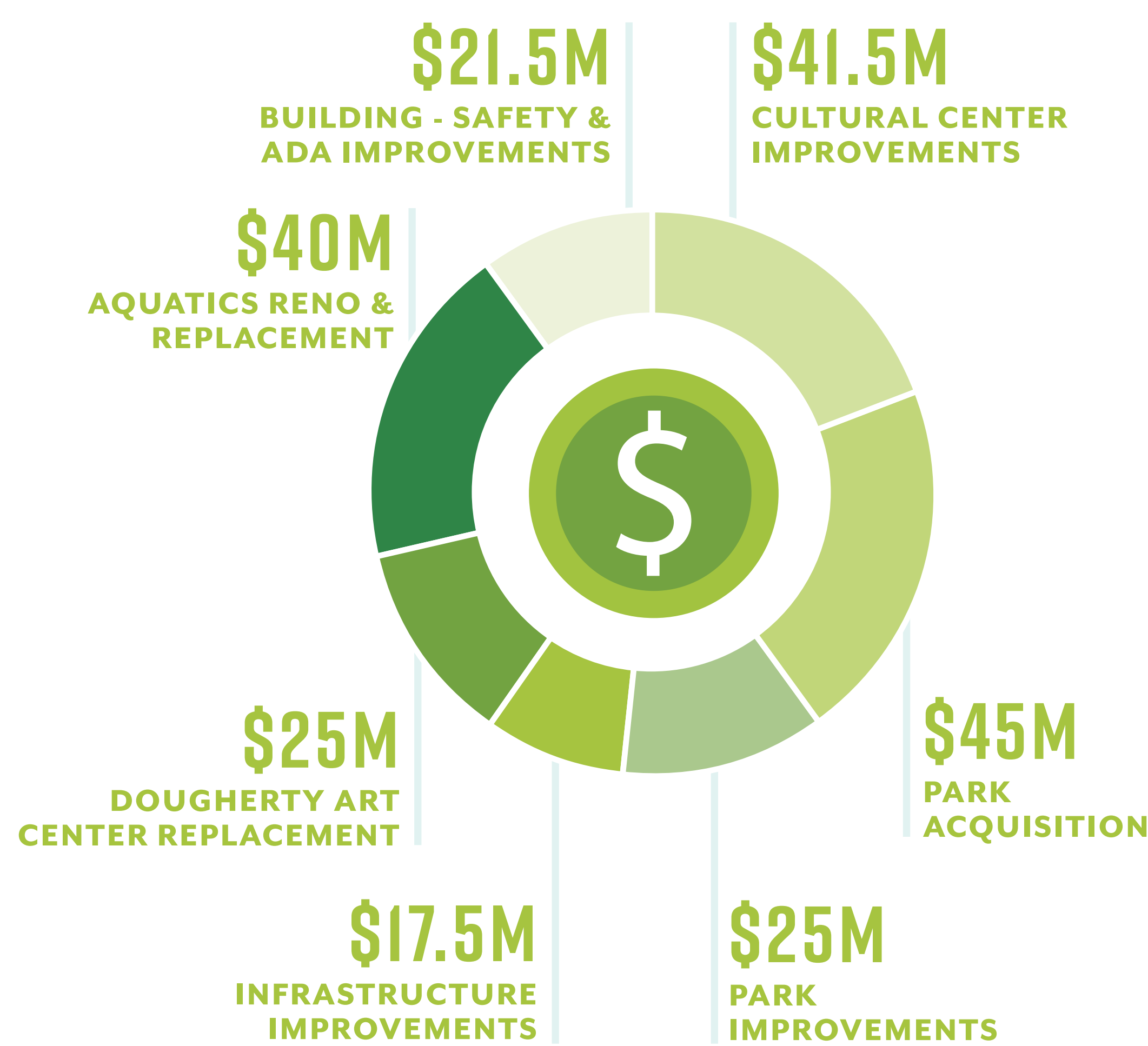


20,000
PARK
VOLUNTEERS!

54,523
VOLUNTEER
HOURS!

PARD WILL CONTINUE TO LEVERAGE AUSTIN'S ROBUST NETWORK OF PARK PARTNERS

These "friends of" groups and sponsorships will help direct volunteer hours and dollars to park capital improvements, clean-ups, and fundraising for individual park improvements and programs.



BOND FUNDING ALLOCATION

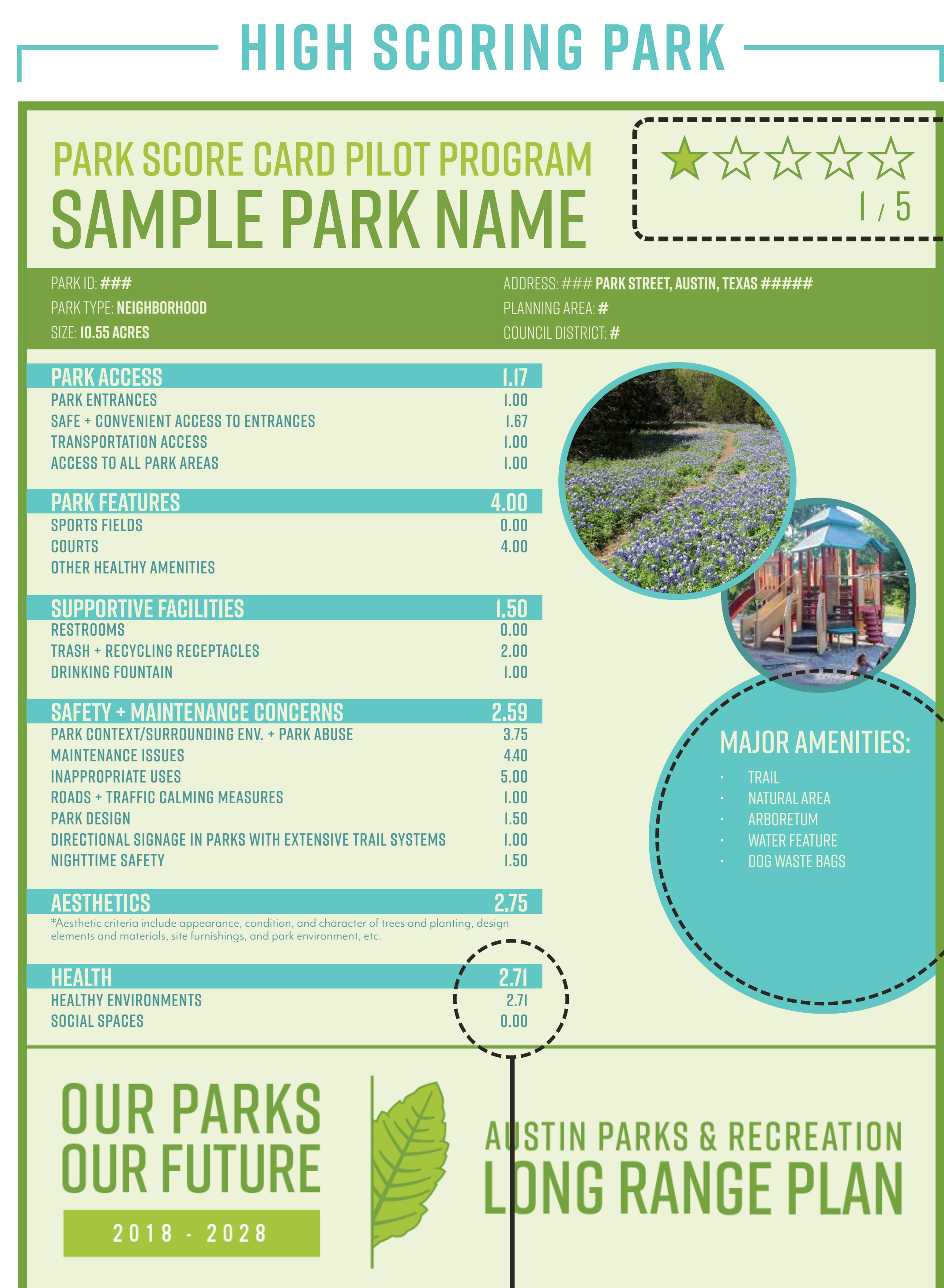
SCORE CARDS: MEASURING PARK PERFORMANCE TARJETAS DE PUNTAJES: MEDICIÓN DE FUNCIONAMIENTO DE PARQUES

WHAT ARE THE PARK SCORE CARDS?

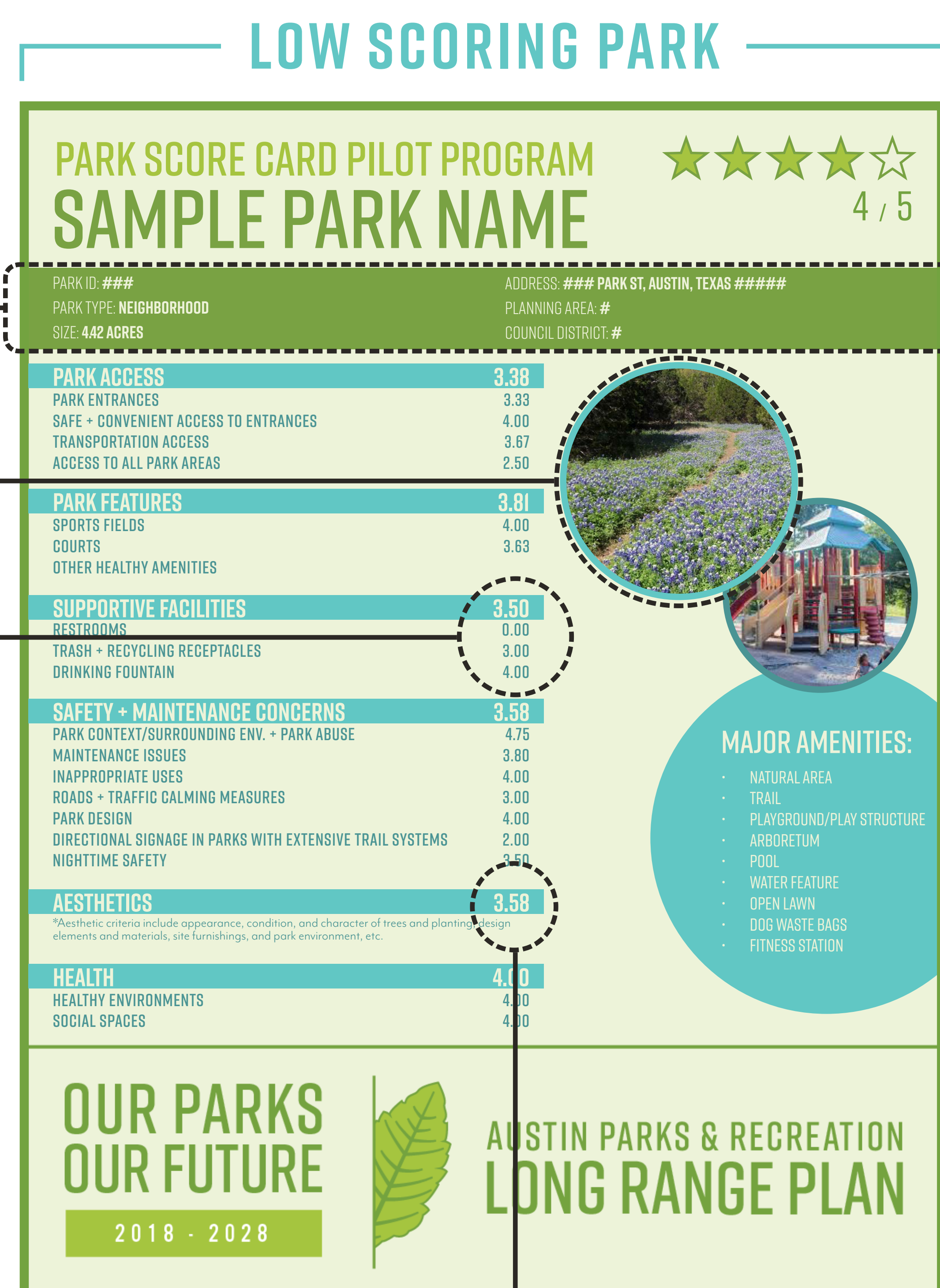
The draft park score cards (below) are a tool we're piloting to assess the city's parks and determine areas where parks are performing well and areas where we need improvement. Criteria for the score cards include topics of park access, key features, supportive facilities, safety & maintenance concerns, aesthetics, and health.

HOW WILL THE SCORE CARDS BE USED?

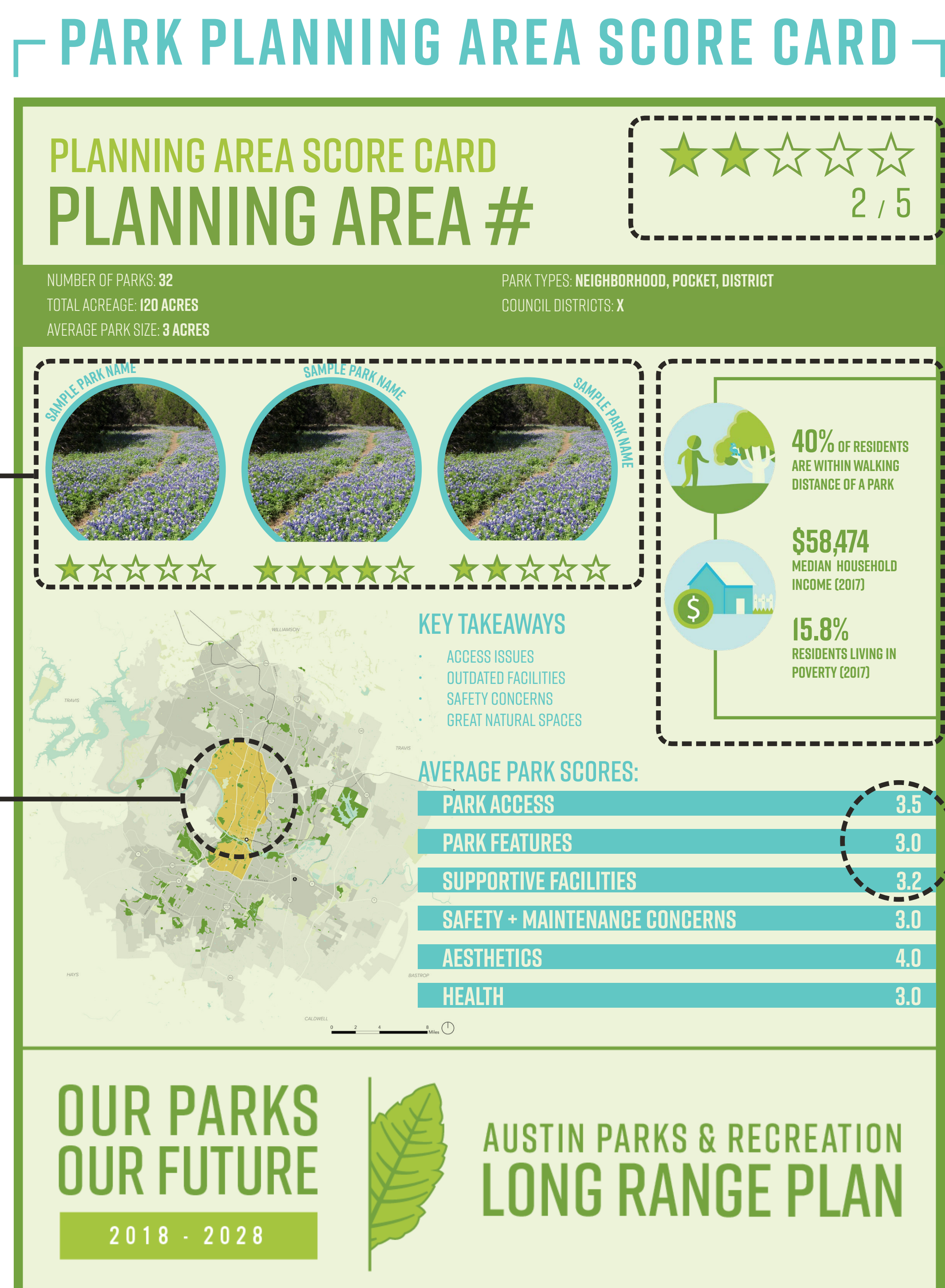
These draft score cards will be both a snapshot and a living database PARD can utilize to make data-driven, priority-based decisions for investment. The score cards will be employed to increase accountability, transparency, and equity in park level of service across the city.



Scored highly in: connections to transportation networks, opportunities for socialization and nature observation, and variety of landscape



Scored poorly in: attractively designed and coordinated park features, well-cared for vegetation and trees, and diversity of uses / activities



OUR PARKS, OUR FUTURE

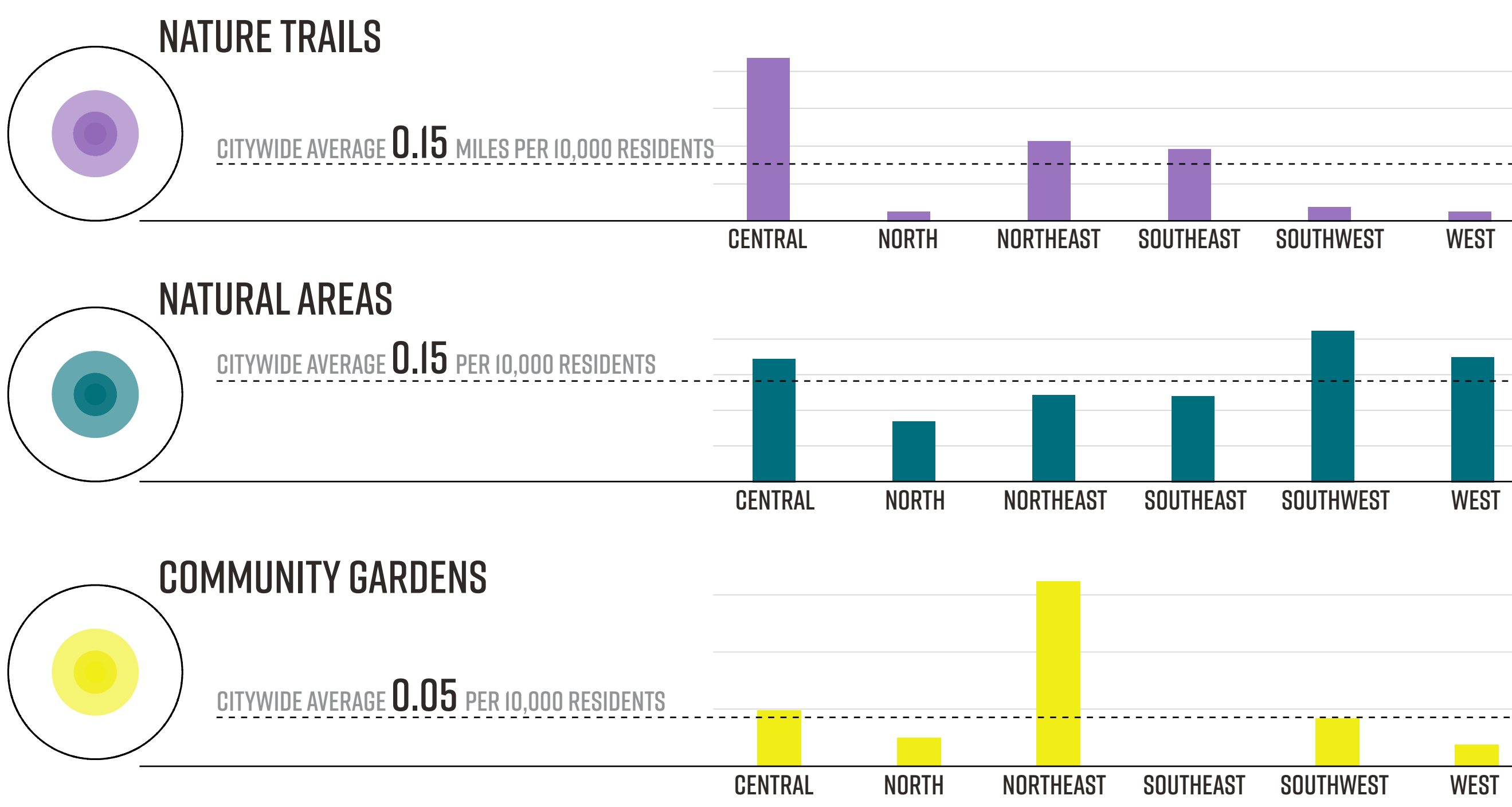
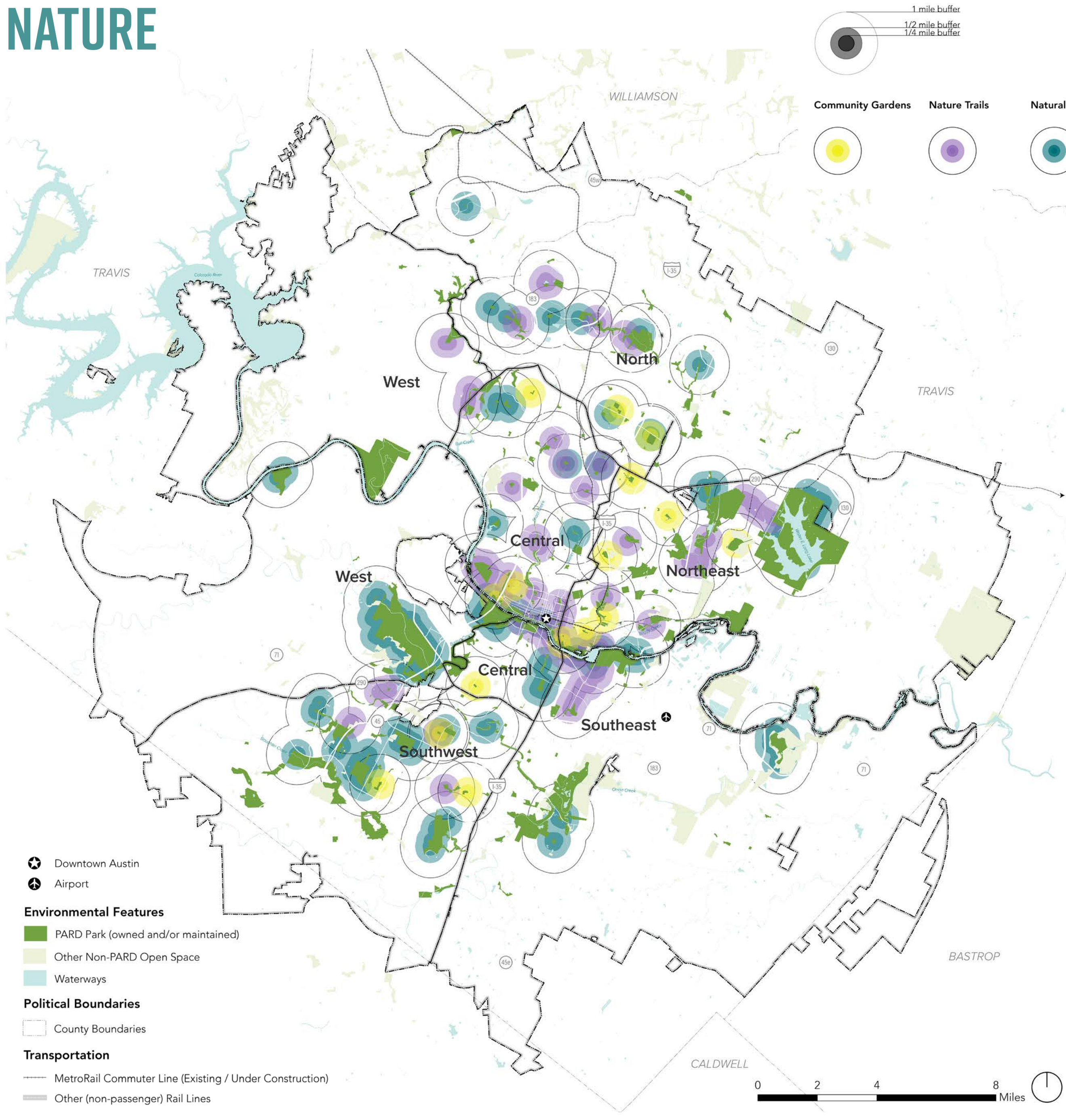
NUESTROS PARQUES, NUESTRO FUTURO
AUSTIN PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

WHERE FACILITIES ARE LOCATED DISTRIBUCIÓN POR TIPO DE FACILIDAD

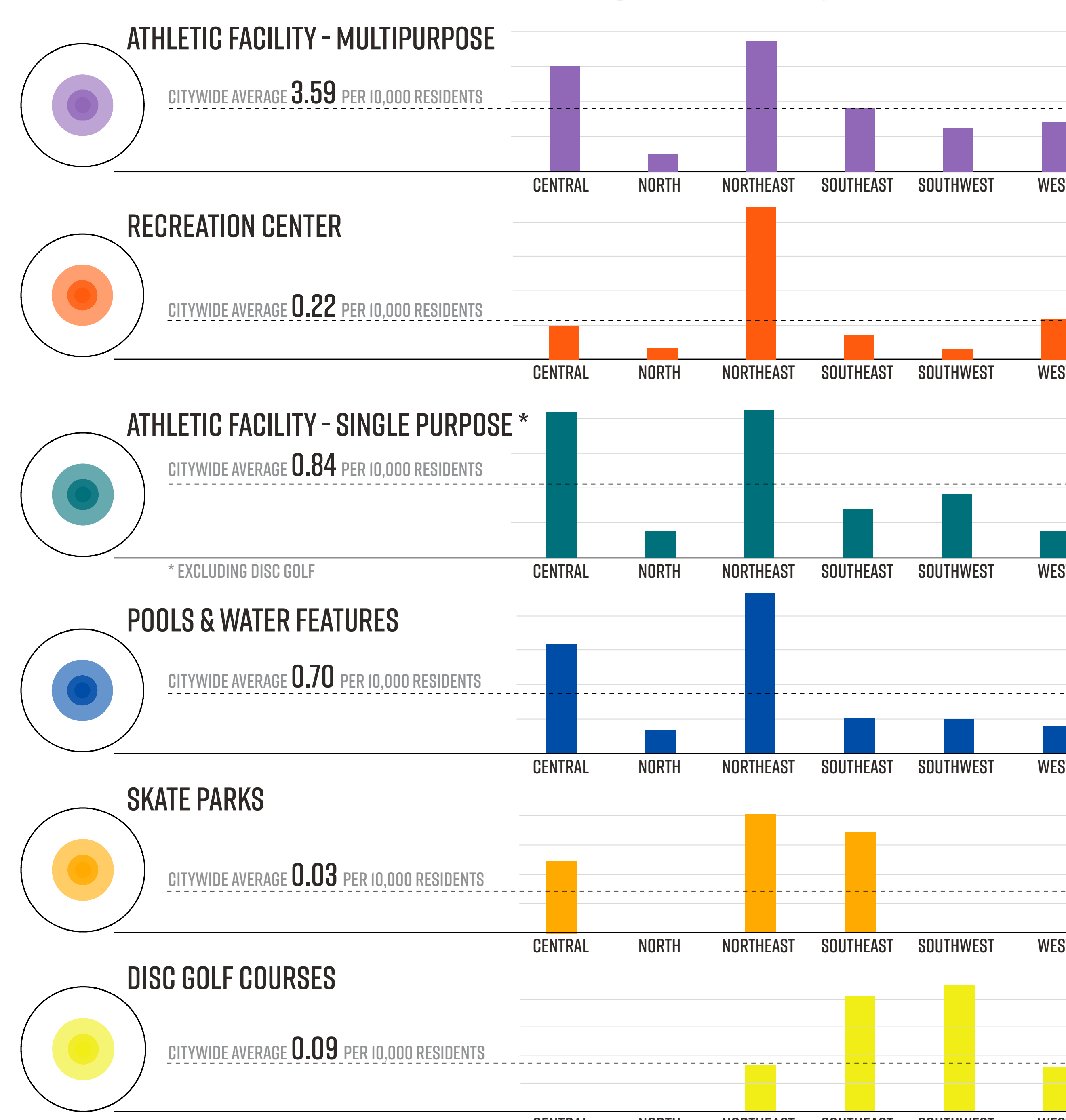
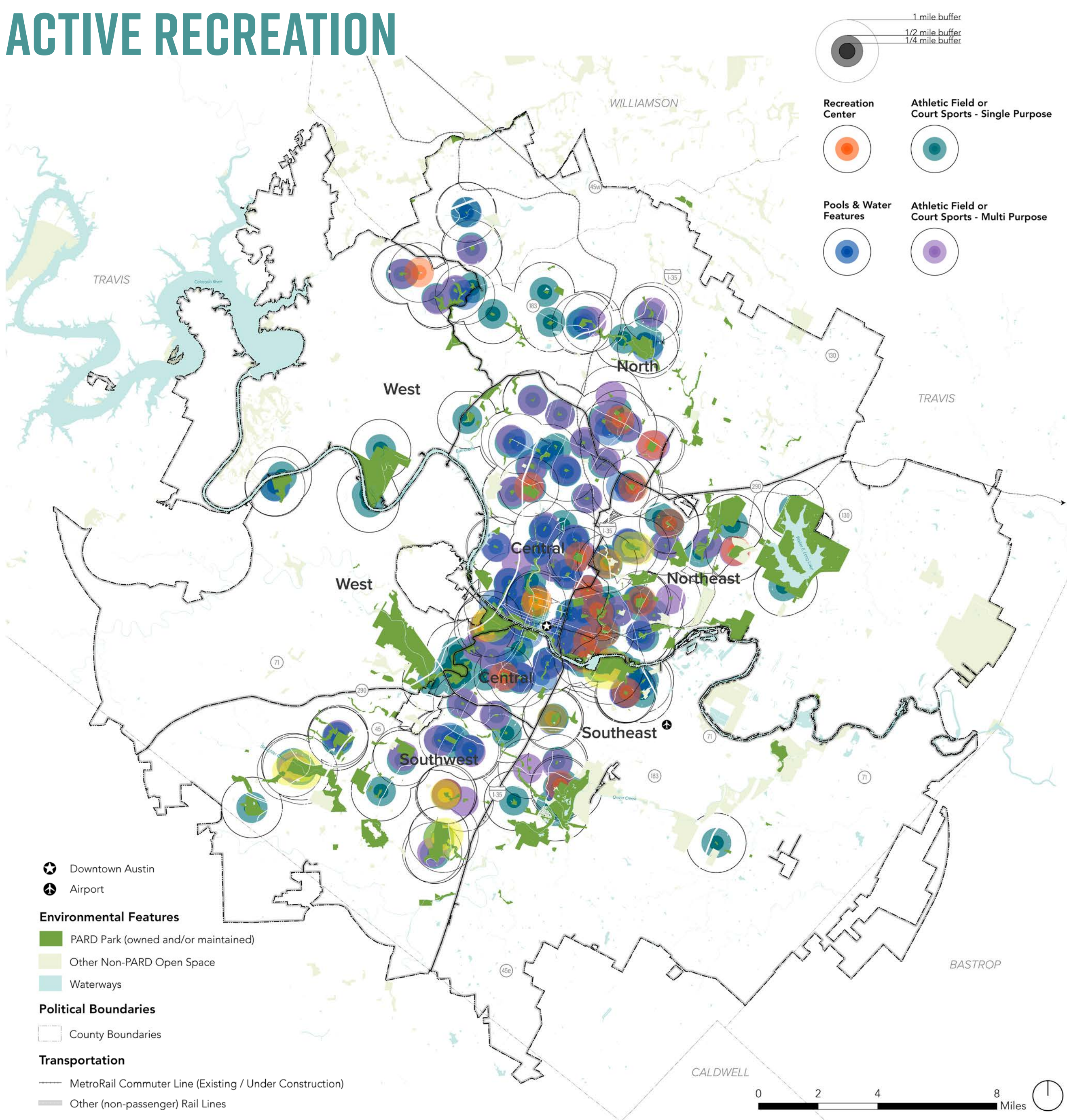
AUSTIN'S PARK SYSTEM OFFERINGS ARE DIVERSE AND THE LOCATION OF FACILITIES VARIES ACROSS GEOGRAPHIES.

This map series shows where there are concentrations of or a lack of different park facility types, grouped by: Nature, Passive Recreation, Active Recreation, Arts & Culture. The city's park planning areas are grouped into North, Central, Northeast, Southeast, Southwest, and West - and compared to a citywide average.

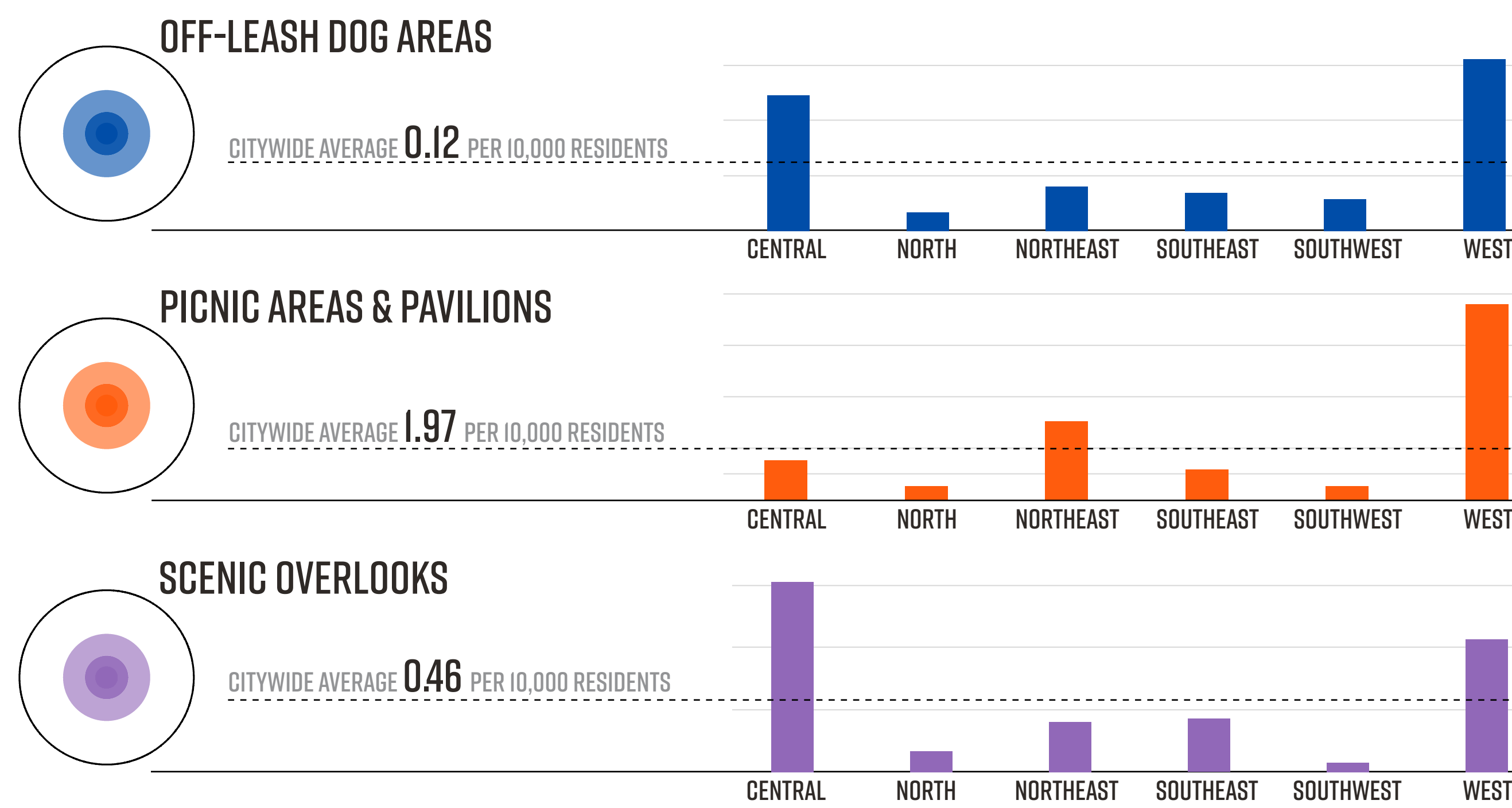
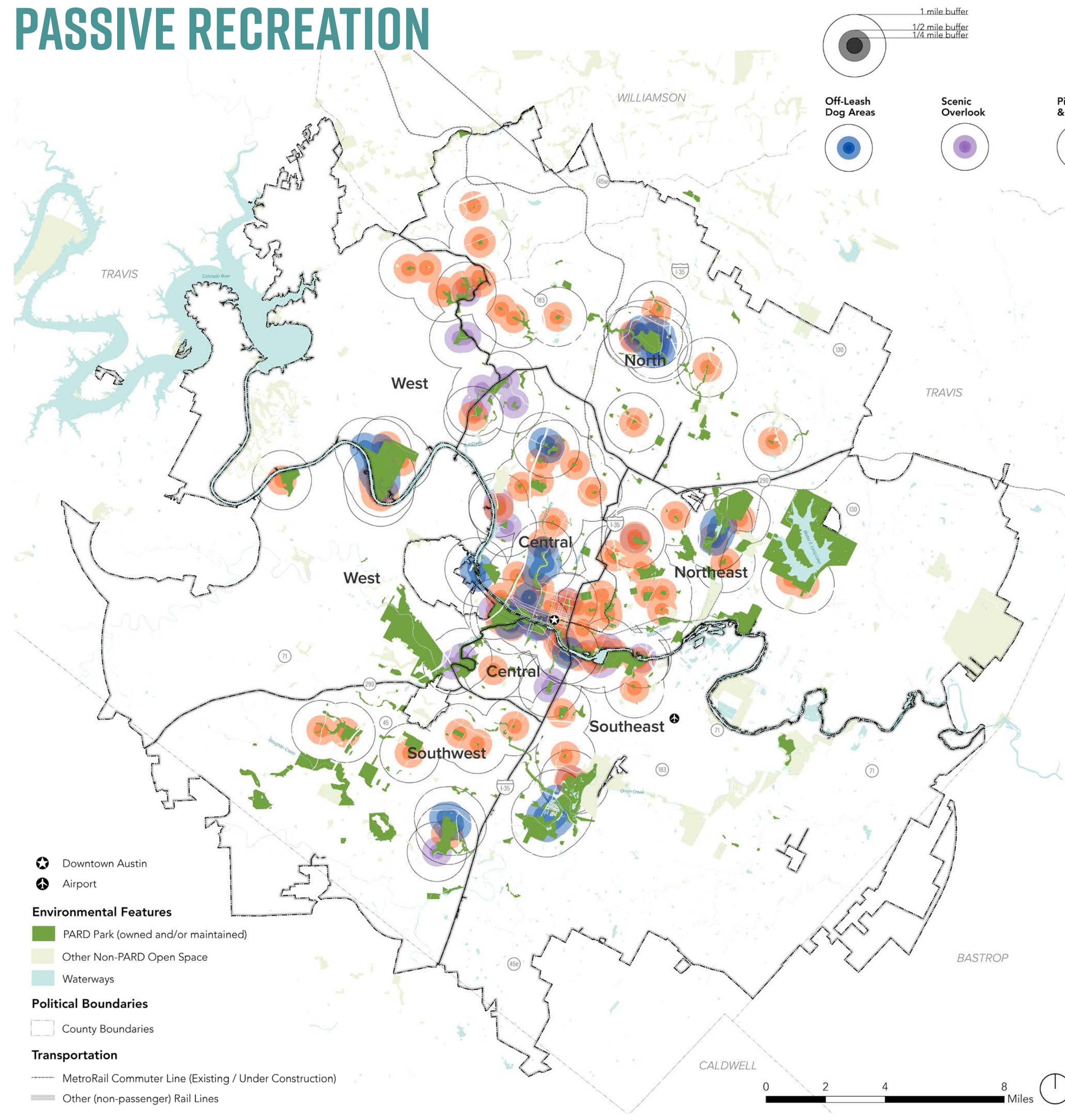
NATURE



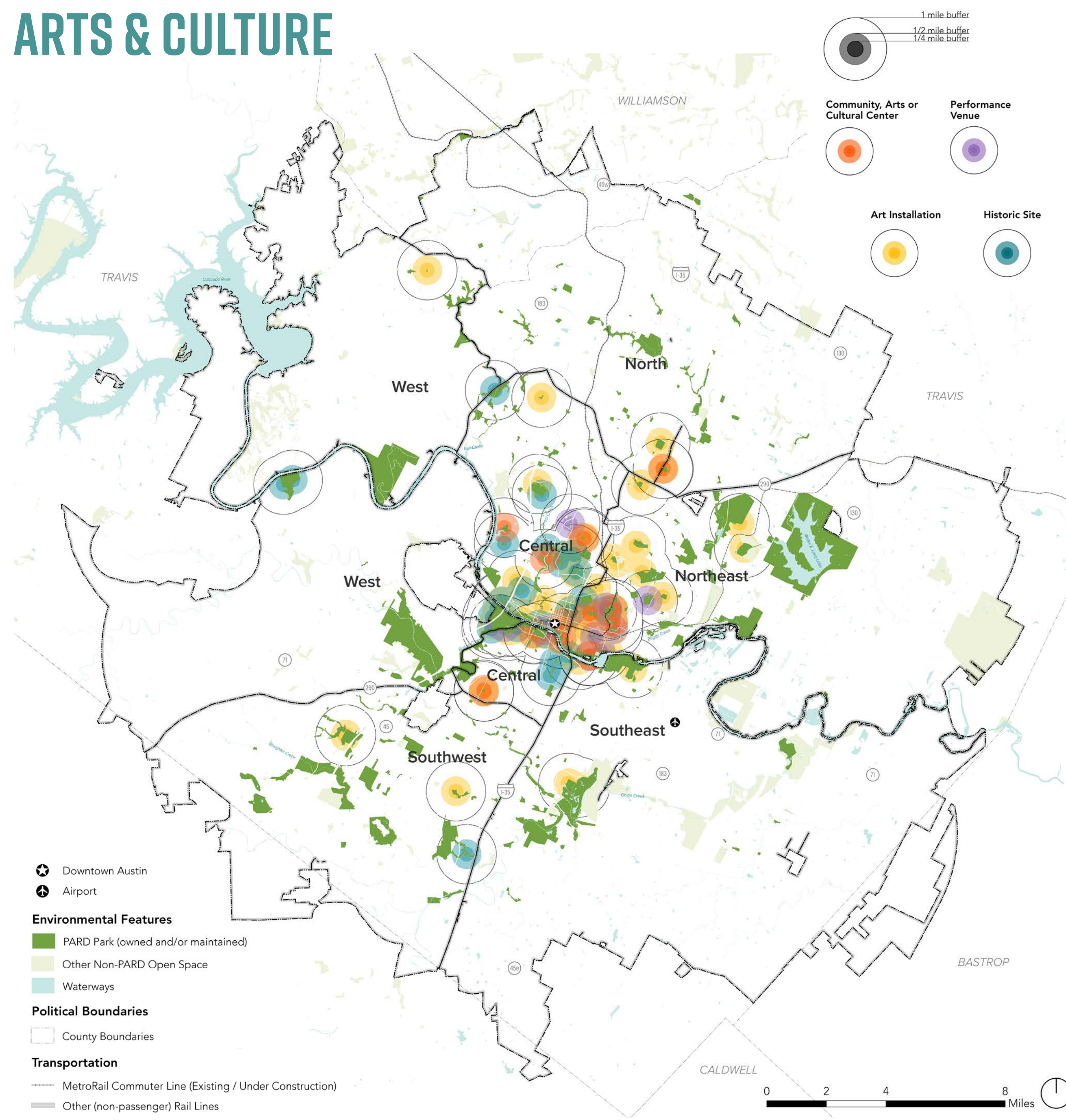
ACTIVE RECREATION



PASSIVE RECREATION



ARTS & CULTURE



OUR PARKS, OUR FUTURE

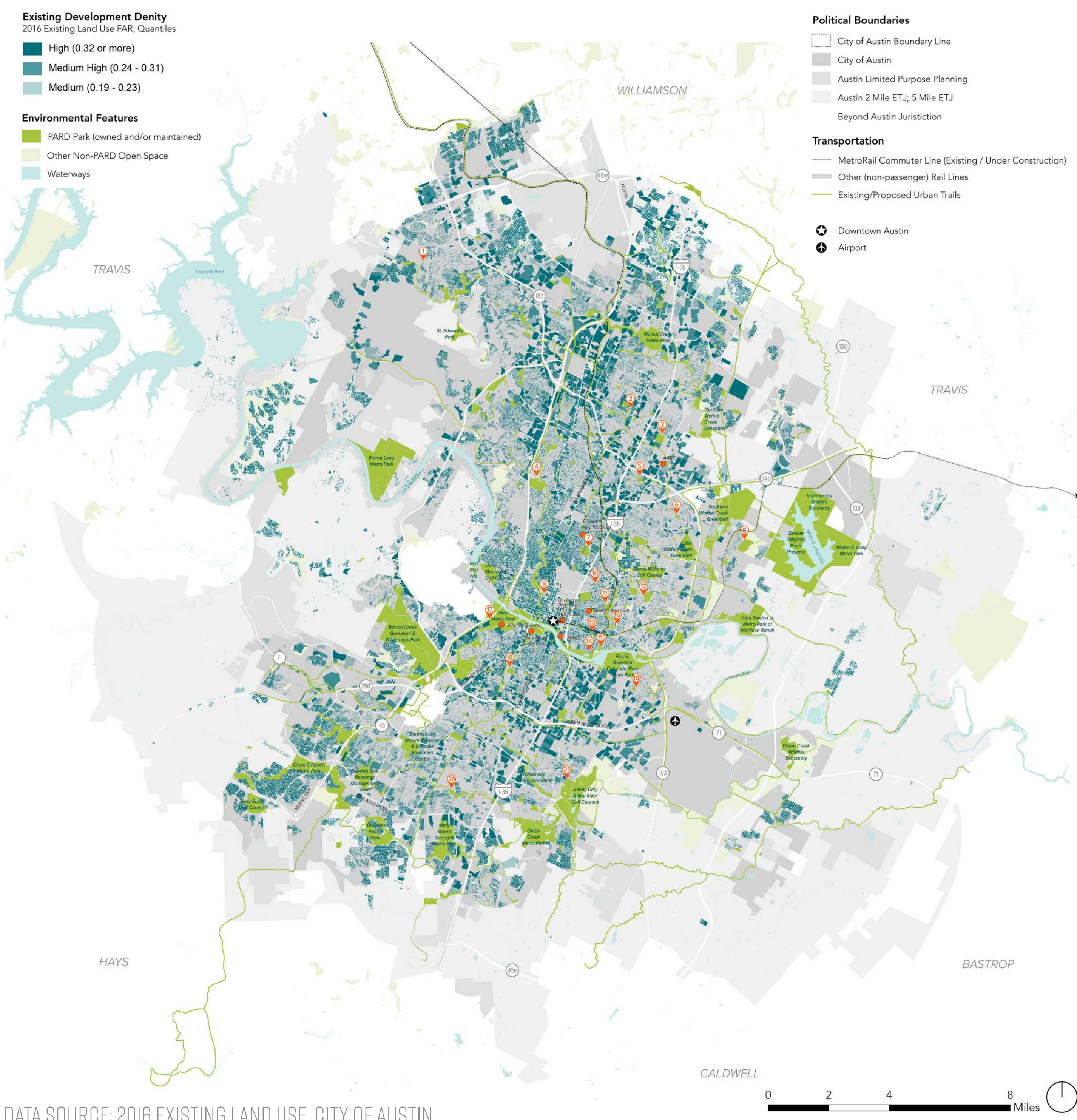
NUESTROS PARQUES, NUESTRO FUTURO
AUSTIN PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

GROWTH TRENDS IMPACTING PARK PLANNING TENDENCIAS DE CRECIMIENTO QUE IMPACTA PLANEAMIENTO DE PARQUES

EXISTING HIGH DENSITY AREAS ÁREAS EXISTENTES DE ALTA DENSIDAD

CREATIVE STRATEGIES ARE NEEDED TO ADDRESS PARK NEEDS IN EXISTING HIGH-DENSITY AREAS

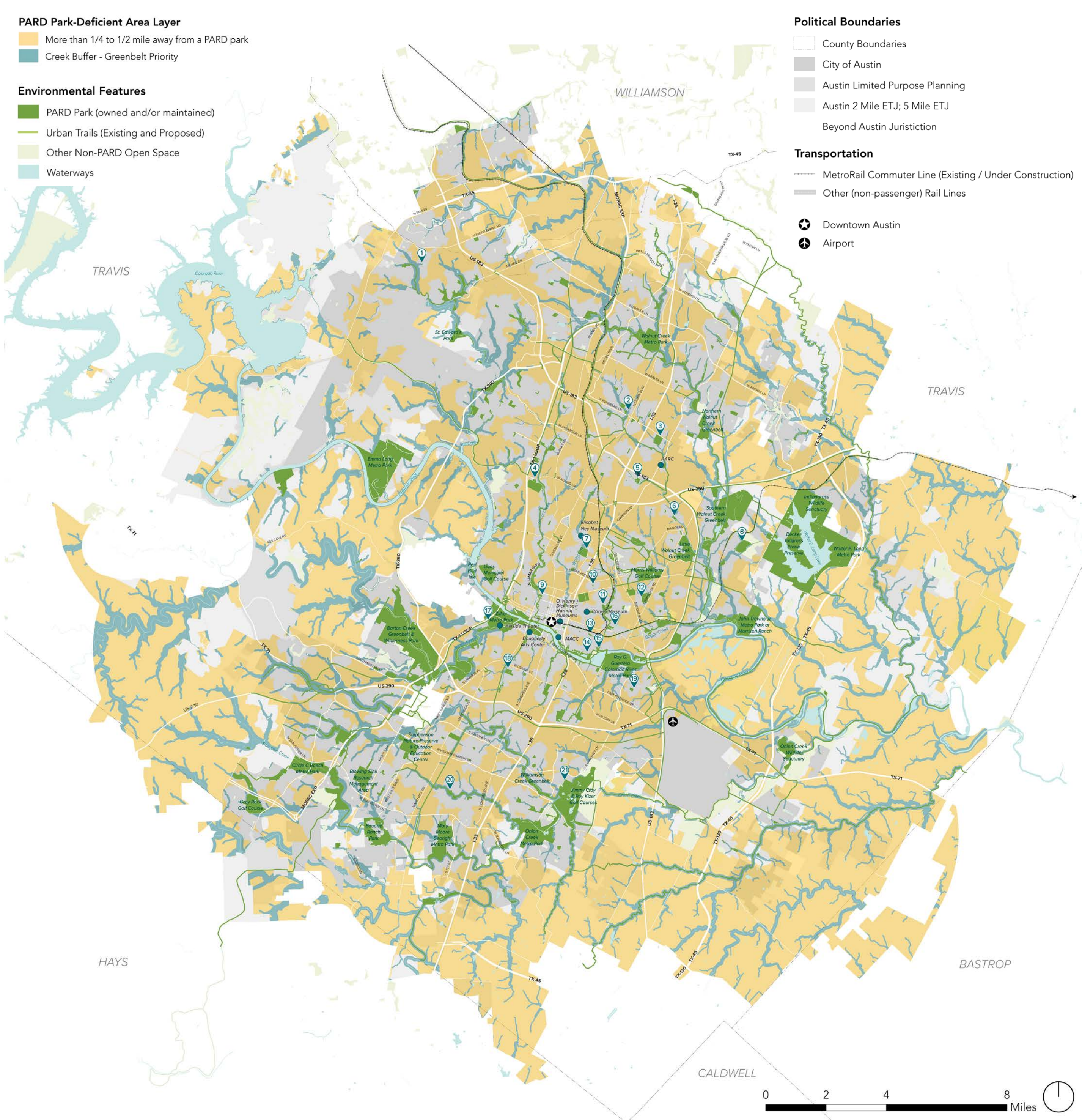
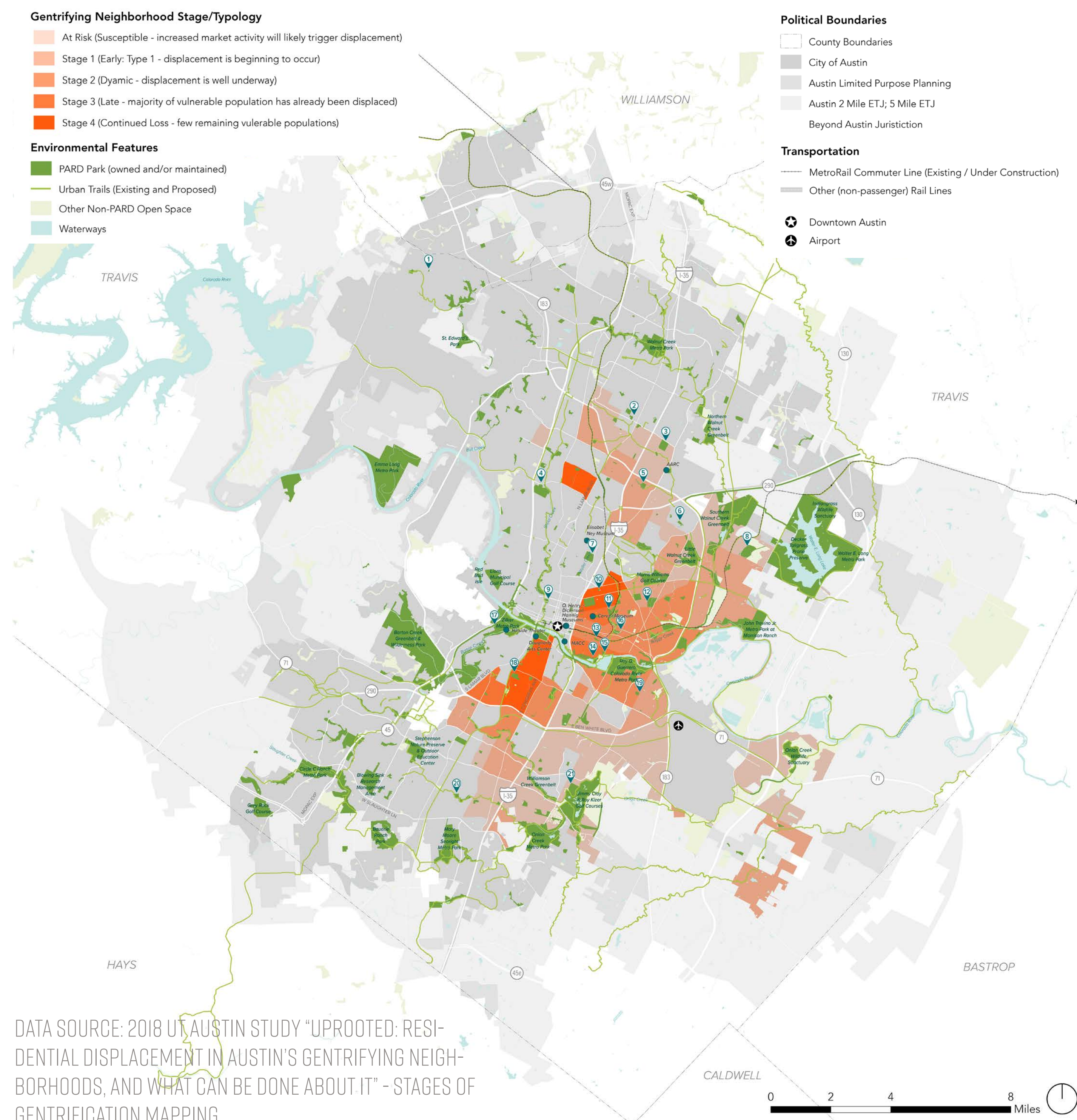
- » Existing high density areas are highlighted in blue.
- » Creative strategies like new entrances, bike/pedestrian connections, expanded greenbelts can improve access to (and thereby expand the impact of) existing parks in areas where land costs are relatively high and new parkland acquisition is difficult.



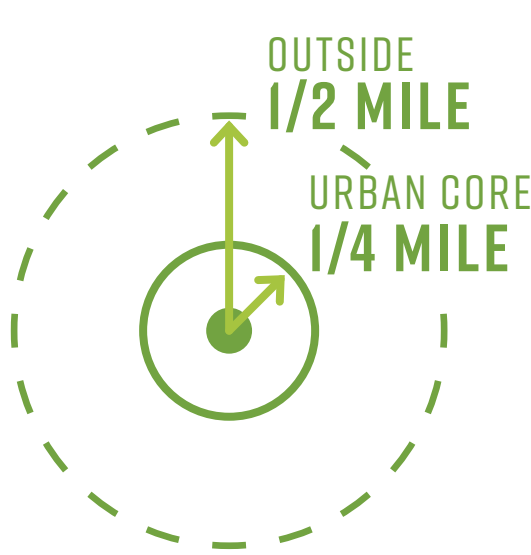
AREAS AT RISK OF GENTRIFICATION PROVISION DE PARQUES SIN DESPLAZAR

2018 "UPROOTED" STUDY IDENTIFIED LOCATIONS AT RISK

- » The City sponsored a UT study of gentrification to better understand trends and where communities are at risk for displacement.
- » Park improvements should be part of larger citywide initiatives to ensure people can choose to stay in their homes and neighborhoods.



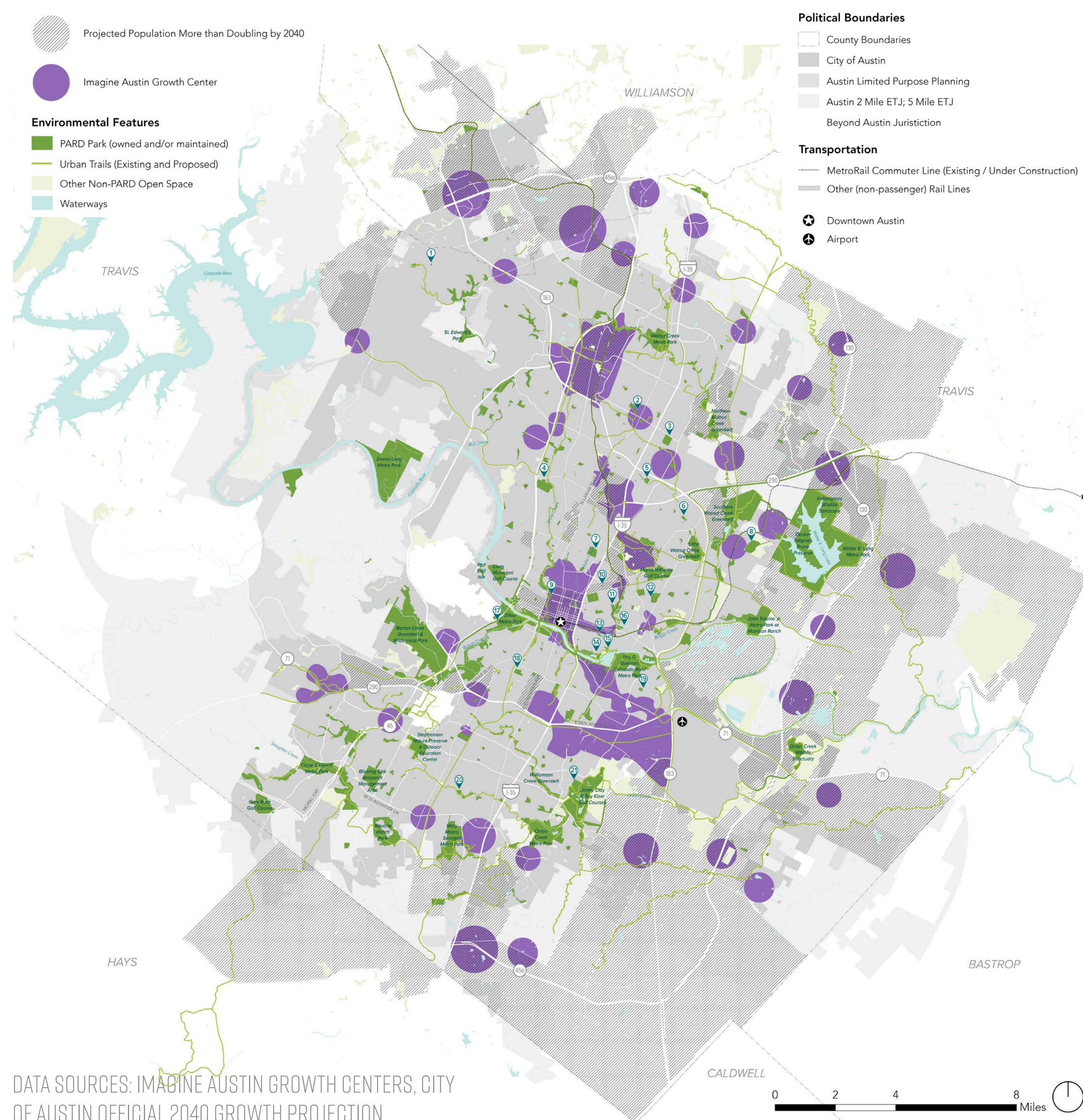
IDENTIFYING AREAS THAT LACK PARKLAND ÁREAS SIN PARQUES



CITY COUNCIL DIRECTED PARD TO INCREASE PARK ACCESS

- » This means ensuring that residents within the urban core are within 1/4 mile (5-minute walk) and those outside of the urban core are within 1/2 mile (10-minute walk) of a park.

- » PARD measures areas of the city that are not within walking distance (1/4 or 1/2 mile) of a park.
- » The distance is based on the transportation network (sidewalks, trails, roadways).
- » This mapping identifies areas where the need for parkland is high and parkland should be added or access improved.
- » Areas in need of parkland are highlighted in orange in the map above, the creek buffer is shown in dark blue.



PROACTIVE PARK PLANNING IN HIGH GROWTH AREAS PLANEAMIENTO PROACTIVO EN ÁREAS DE GRAN CRECIMIENTO

CITY REQUIRES DEVELOPERS TO PAY A FEE OR PROVIDE PARKLAND TO HELP THE CITY MEET ITS PARK ACCESS GOALS

- » The Parkland Dedication Ordinance is helping the city provide new parkland in areas where private development is occurring now and in the future, especially in high-growth areas.

IMAGINE AUSTIN GROWTH CENTERS & 2040 POPULATION GROWTH PROJECTION HELP US ANTICIPATE FUTURE PARK NEED

- » The Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan defines growth centers that will help to create a more compact and connected city.
- » Areas of the city where high growth is anticipated and where the need for parkland is high will benefit from proactive park planning to meet future need.

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AUSTIN PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

CENTRAL SUB-AREA SUB-ÁREA CENTRAL

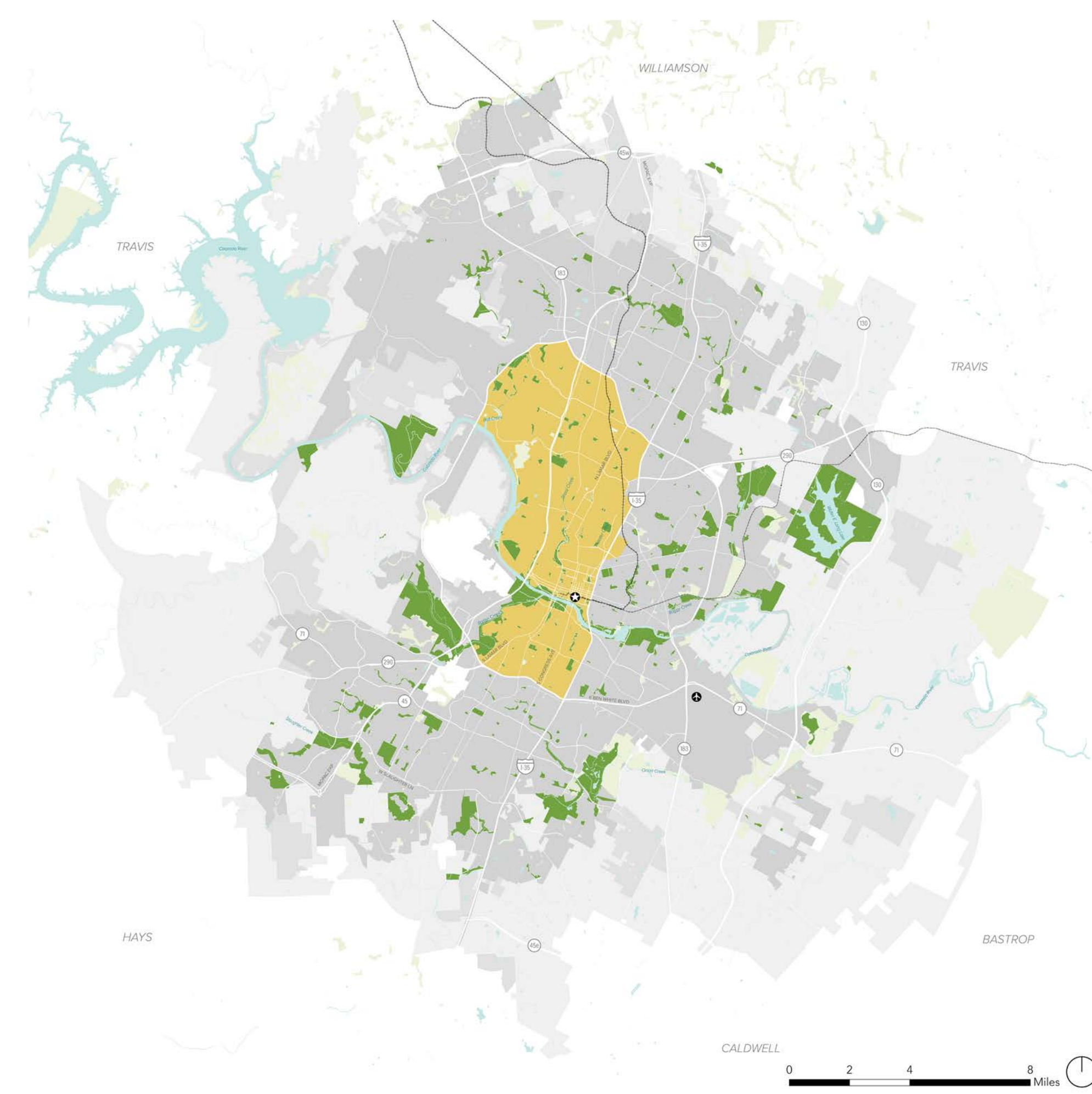
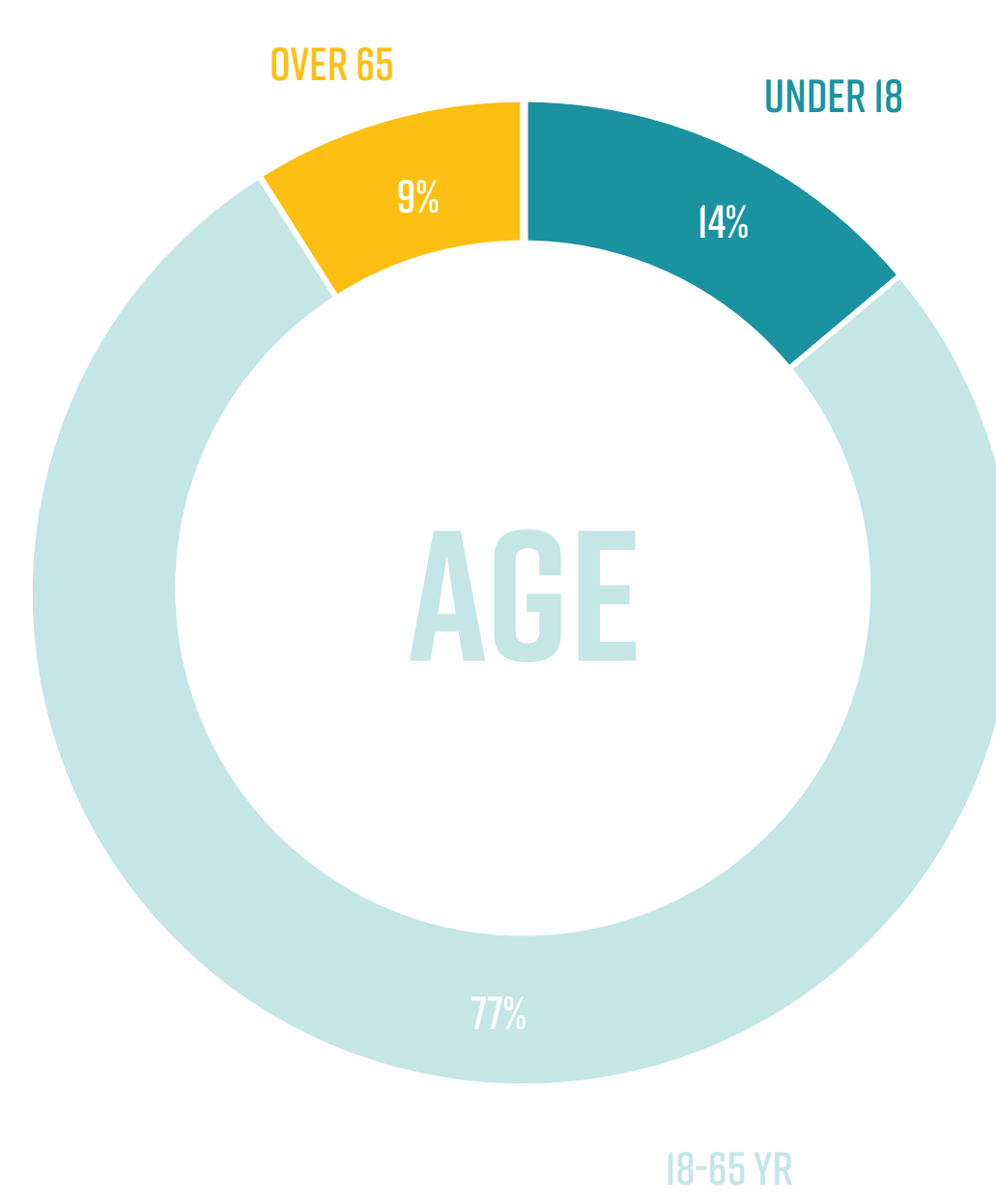
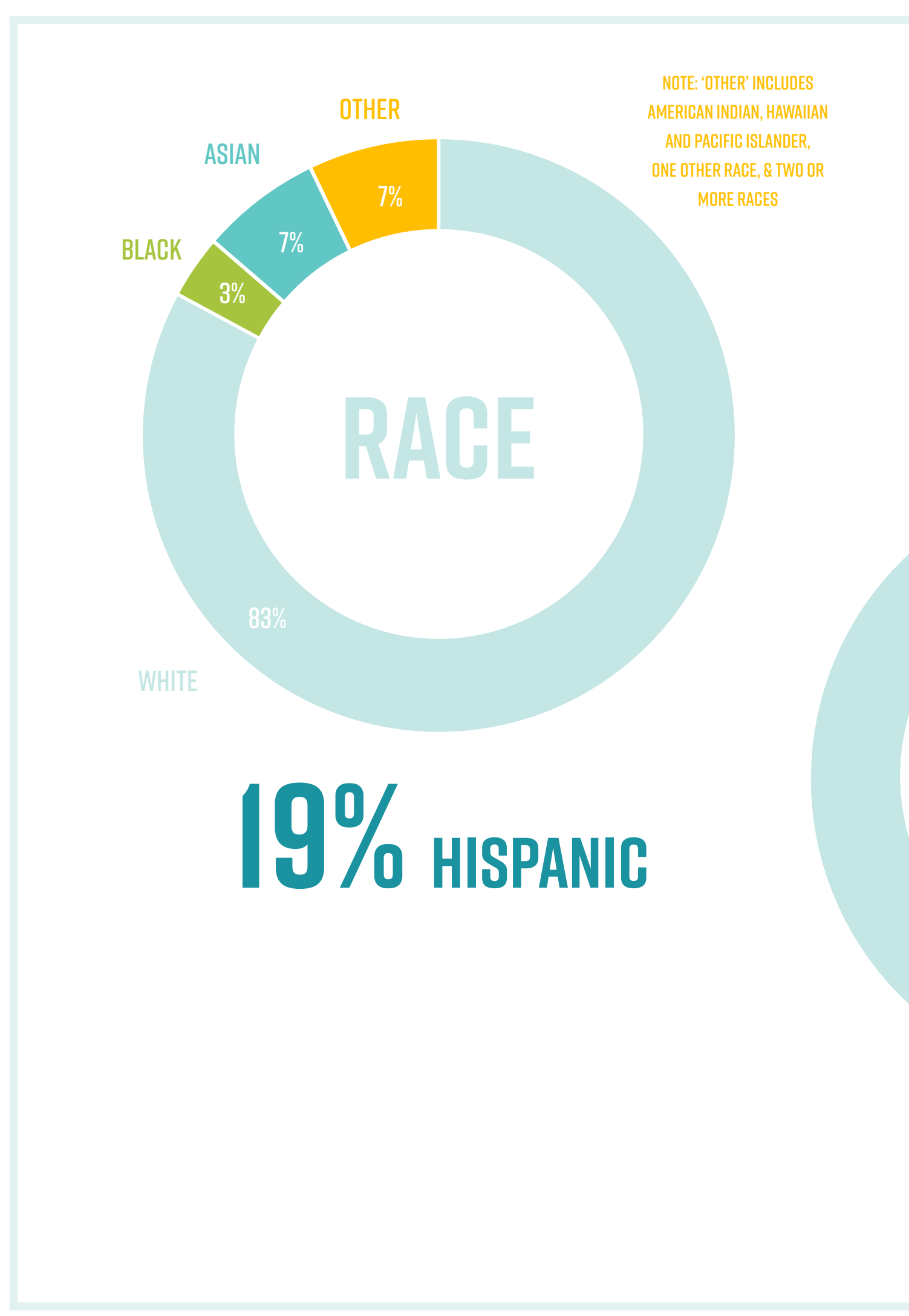
AT A GLANCE UN VISTAZO

40% OF RESIDENTS ARE WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE OF A PARK*

\$58,474
MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME (2017)

15.8%
RESIDENTS LIVING IN POVERTY (2017)

* LIVING "WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE" OF A PARK IS DEFINED DIFFERENTLY FOR DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE CITY: FOR THE URBAN CORE IT IS WITHIN A 1/4 MILE, FOR OUTSIDE THE URBAN CORE IT IS WITHIN 1/2 MILE OF A PARK.



TOP ISSUES CUESTIONES PRINCIPALES

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK!
WHAT TOP ISSUES DID WE MISS?



PRIORITY NEEDS NECESIDADES PRIORITARIAS

Feedback from surveys of central area residents closely match feedback from Austin residents as whole. Residents would like to see more trails, natural areas, outdoor pools, as well as farmers markets, events (concerts, nature programs, movies in the park) and exercise programs in parks.

EXPANDING PARK ACCESS WHEN LAND IS COSTLY

The existing parks of the central planning areas are rich in facilities - outperforming many of the other sub-areas, but access to those parks and their facilities is comparatively low with only 40% currently living walking distance to a park. Given the dense existing development pattern in central Austin, desirable location, and high land costs, potential new parkland may be hard to come by and expensive to acquire.

DISAGREE
LOW PRIORITY

AGREE
HIGH PRIORITY

INTEGRATING PARKS INTO NEW DEVELOPMENT

As residential units continue to expand downtown and the central planning areas begin to approach their projected +50% population growth by 2040, it will be important to continue to expand convenient and safe access to parks to keep up with population needs. Pocket parks may be a key way of meeting growing demand.

DISAGREE
LOW PRIORITY

AGREE
HIGH PRIORITY

CULTIVATING ACTIVE URBAN PARK SPACES

Austin has a rich variety of park spaces and greenbelts that celebrate and highlight the beauty and restorative power of natural spaces. However, some of the smaller centrally-located urban parks are underperforming. Public-private partnerships may be an important tool to cultivate urban parks that are diverse, engaging and welcoming to all residents with more frequent and active programming.

DISAGREE
LOW PRIORITY

AGREE
HIGH PRIORITY

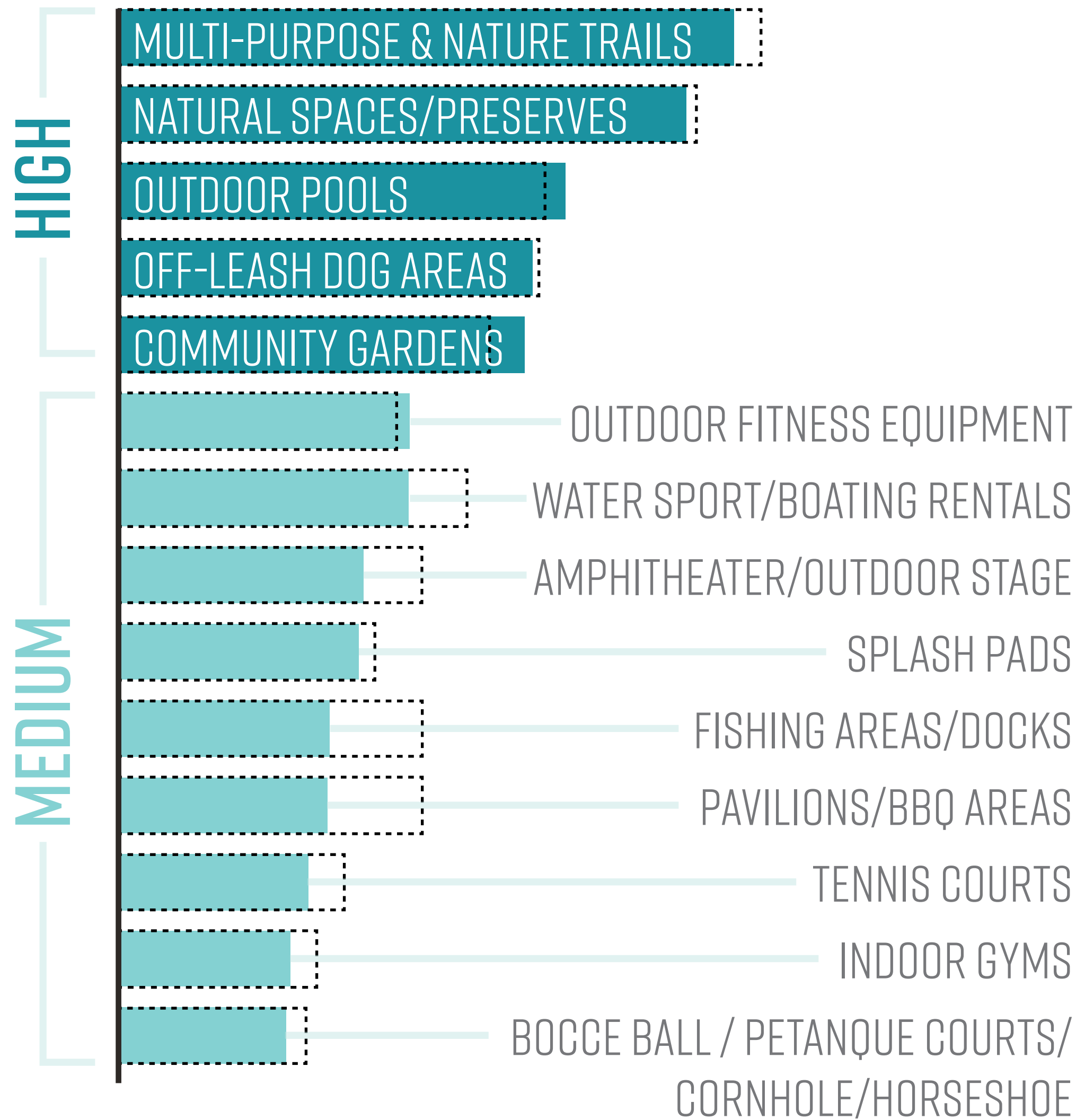
PARKS IN NON-RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Many parts of the central park planning area are dominated by non-residential office, institutional and commercial uses that have unique park needs, including a surge in the daytime population.

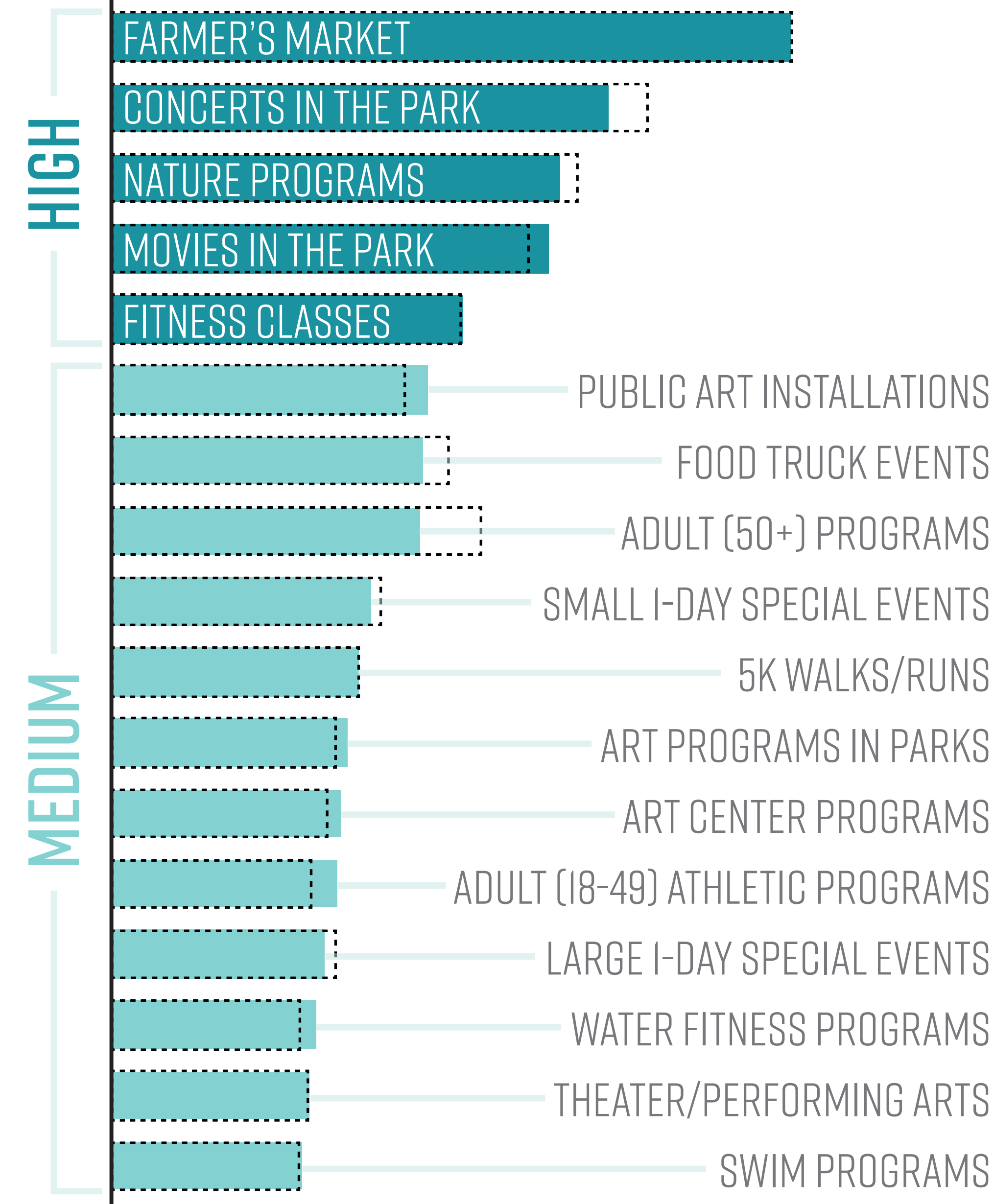
DISAGREE
LOW PRIORITY

AGREE
HIGH PRIORITY

FACILITY & AMENITY PRIORITIES



PROGRAM PRIORITIES



PRIORITIZATION PROCESS

Based on the statistically valid survey of residents of this Sub-Area, the priorities above have emerged in this ranked order (compared against the citywide prioritization of the same elements, depicted in the black dashed outline).

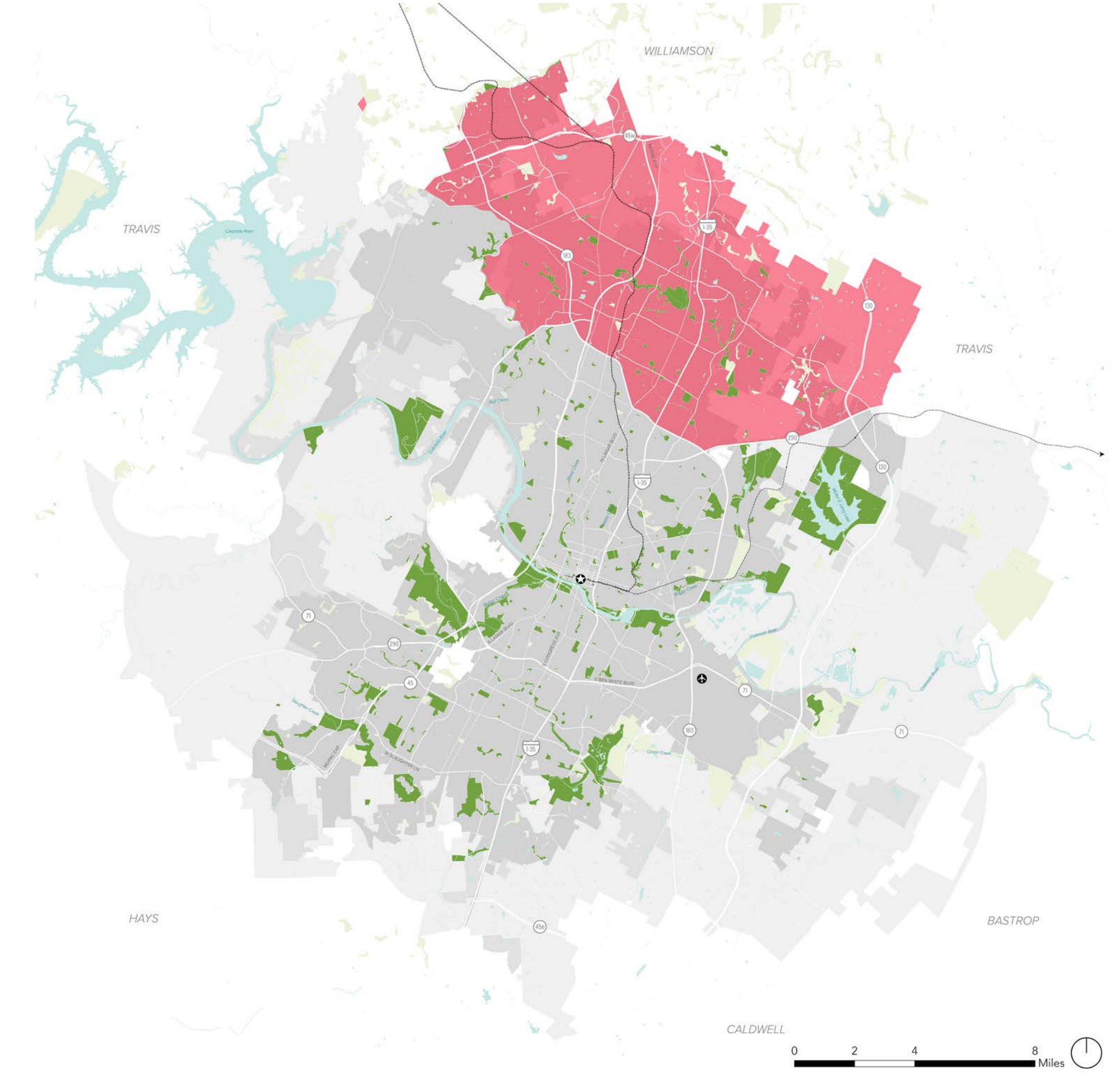


OUR PARKS, OUR FUTURE

NUESTROS PARQUES, NUESTRO FUTURO
AUSTIN PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

NORTH SUB-AREA SUB-ÁREA NORTE

AT A GLANCE UN VISTAZO



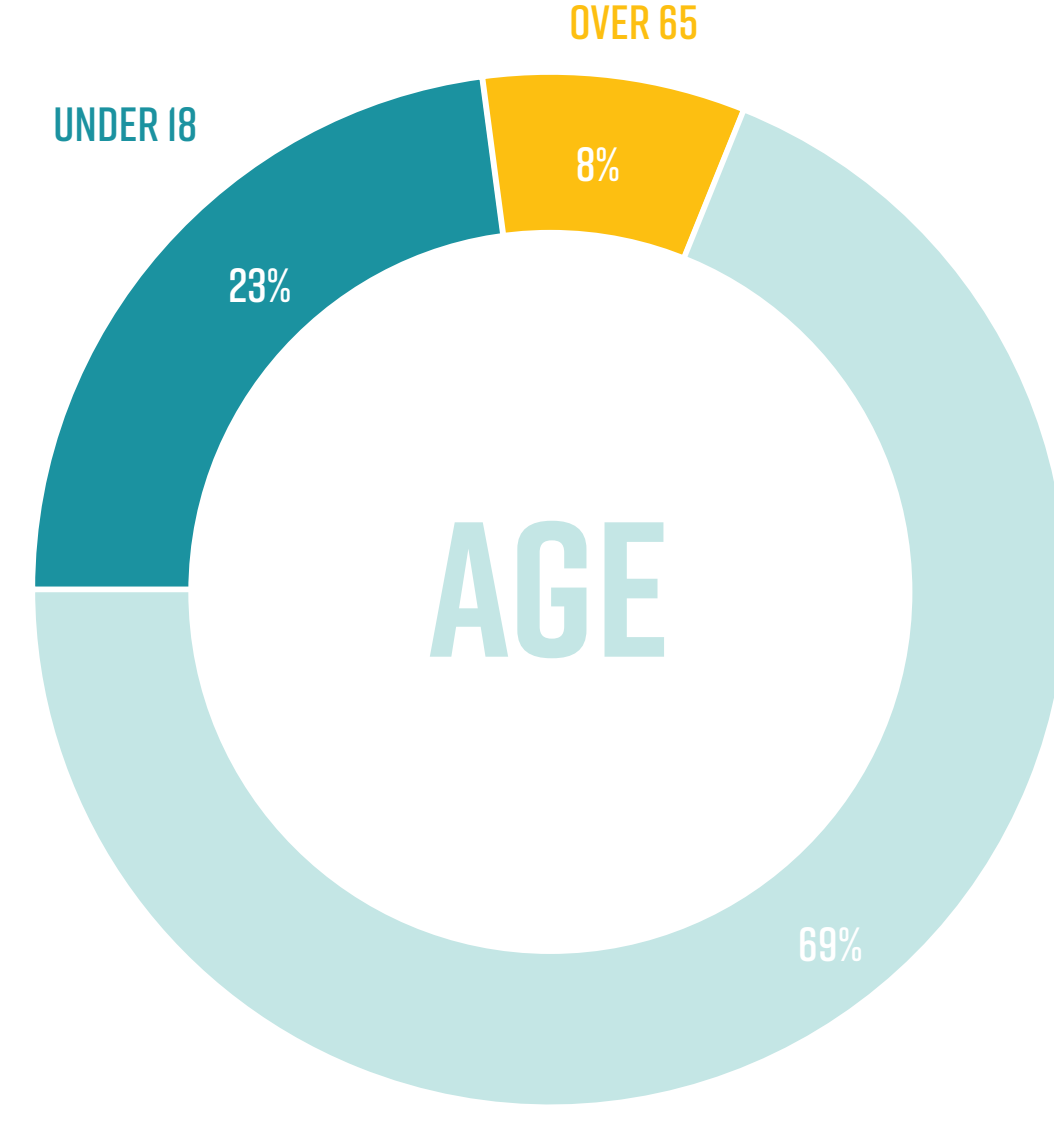
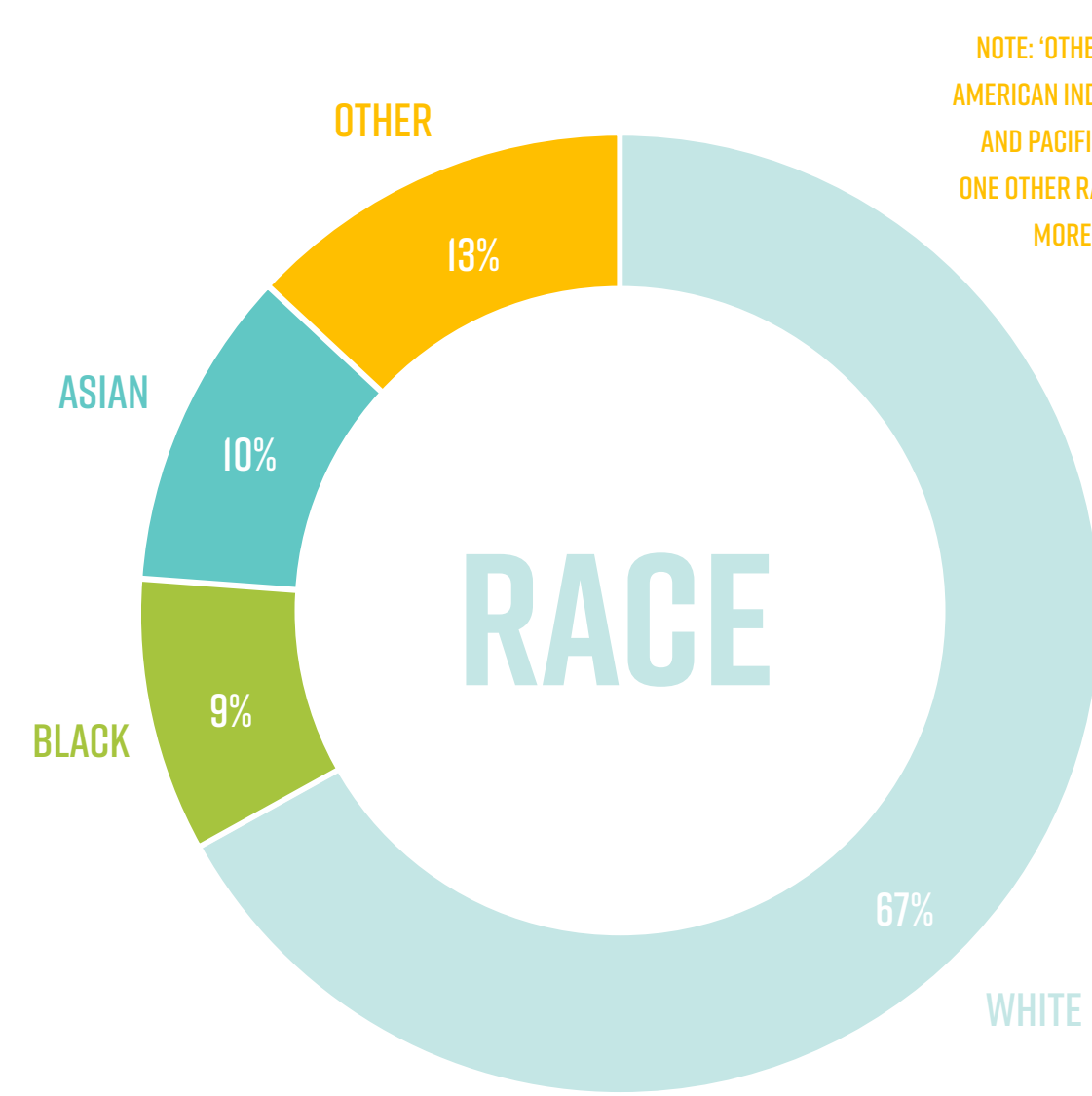
50% OF RESIDENTS ARE WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE OF A PARK *



\$61,192
MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME (2017)

10.5%
RESIDENTS LIVING IN POVERTY (2017)

* LIVING "WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE" OF A PARK IS DEFINED DIFFERENTLY FOR DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE CITY: FOR THE URBAN CORE IT IS WITHIN A 1/4 MILE, FOR OUTSIDE THE URBAN CORE IT IS WITHIN 1/2 MILE OF A PARK.



157,944 JOBS
297,482 RESIDENTS
4.4 PEOPLE PER ACRE

+51% POP. GROWTH BY 2040*
+75% JOB GROWTH BY 2040**

* POPULATION GROWTH CALCULATED FOR 2016 TO 2040
** JOB GROWTH CALCULATED FOR 2016 TO 2040

TOP ISSUES CUESTIONES PRINCIPALES

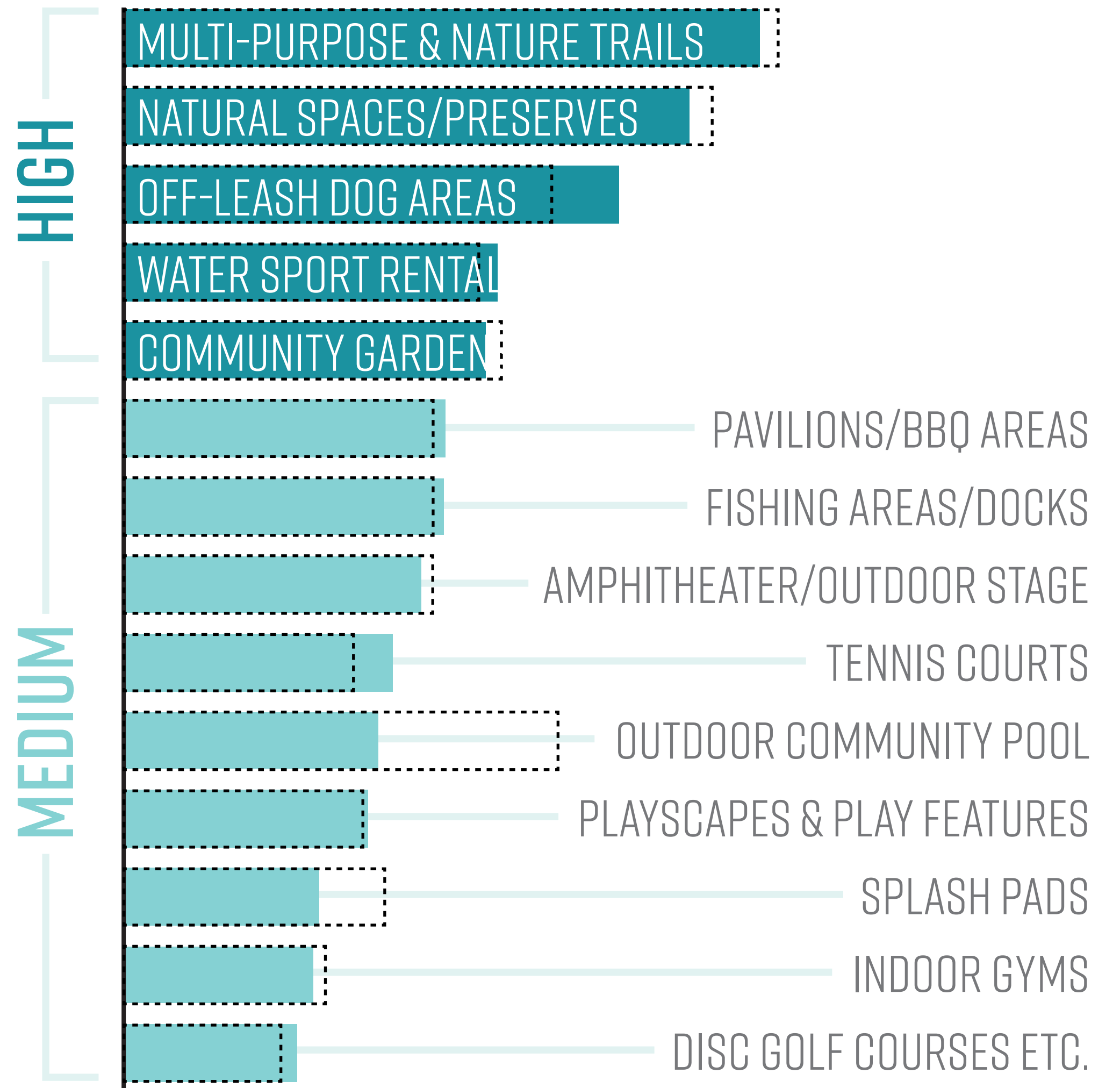
TELL US WHAT YOU THINK!
WHAT TOP ISSUES DID WE MISS?



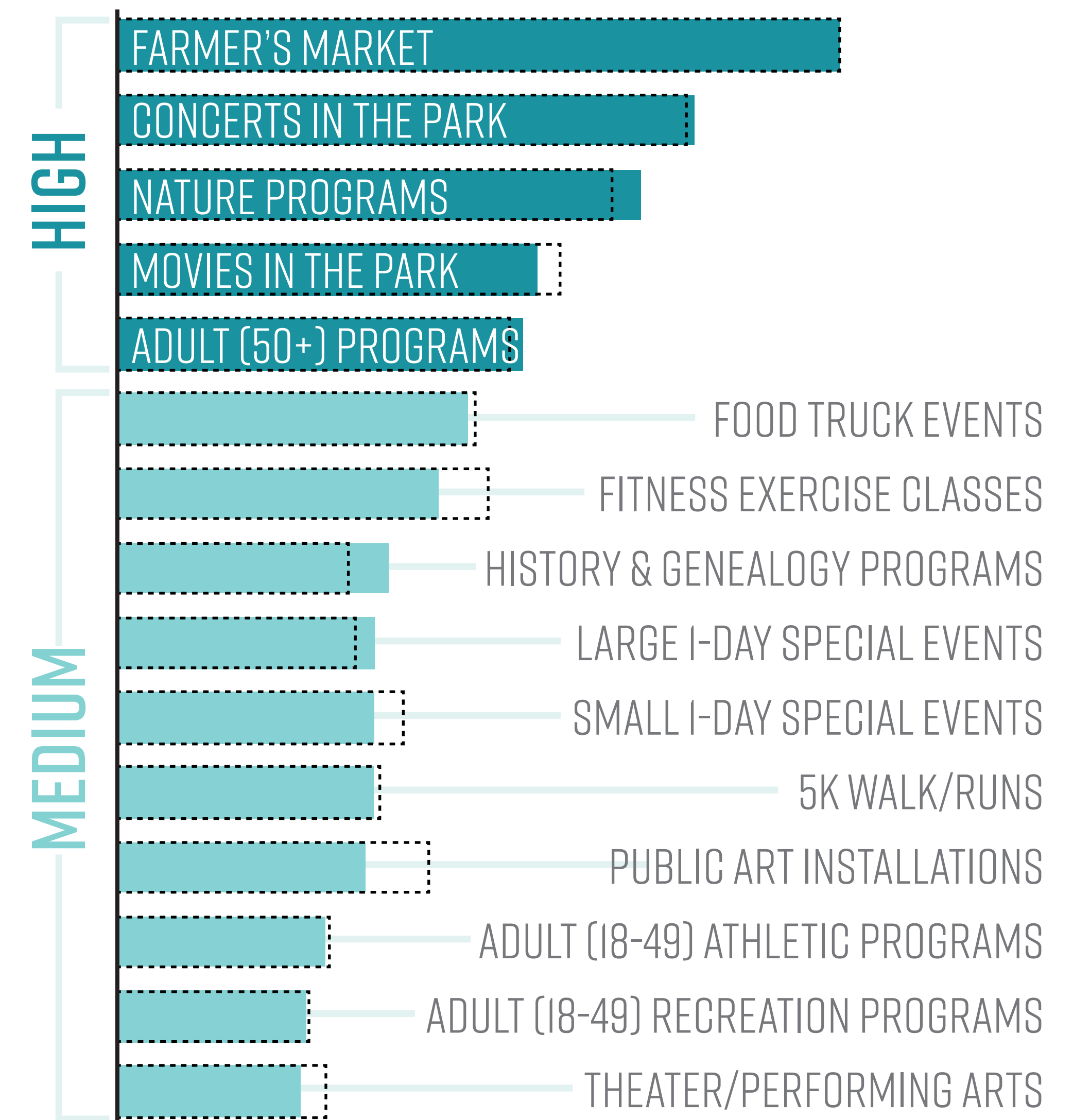
PRIORITY NEEDS NECESIDADES PRIORITARIAS

Feedback from surveys of north park planning area residents closely matched feedback from Austin residents as whole. Residents would like to see more trails and natural areas, as well as farmers markets, events (concerts, nature programs, movies in the park) and exercise programs in parks. There is higher demand for off-leash dog areas and canoe rental, compared to the city overall.

FACILITY & AMENITY PRIORITIES



PROGRAM PRIORITIES

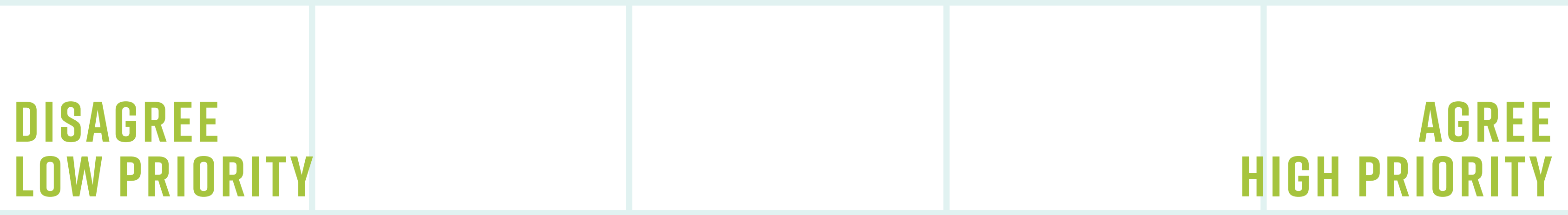


PRIORITIZATION PROCESS

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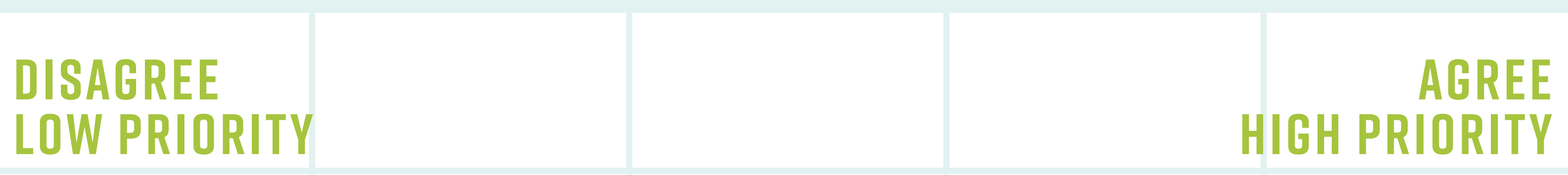
PARK PROVISION ALONGSIDE DENSIFICATION

Neighborhoods in the north park planning areas have the second highest average density, after central planning areas, and nearly 300k residents. New growth is proposed or anticipated in centers (e.g., Domain, Apple Campus) providing an opportunity to expand access and amenities within new development.



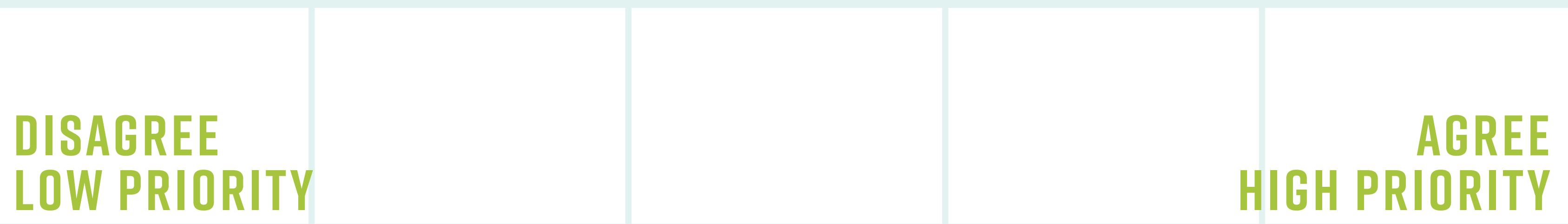
INCREASING RESIDENT ACCESS TO FACILITIES

While more residents live walking distance to a park than in the central planning areas, those parks in general have fewer amenities, such as natural trails and off-leash dog parks. Adding facilities to existing parks will be a key strategy. Several projects are already underway and improvements are planned to increase amenities, including expanded access to greenbelts. Any new parkland should seek to strategically address facility needs.



EXTEND DIVERSE PROGRAMS AT NEW REC CENTERS

Two of Austin's recreation and community centers are located in the north park planning area with four more closeby to the south. While this is below the citywide average, these are two very high-performing rec centers with diverse offerings. The City of Austin/YMCA North Austin Community Recreation Center includes an expansive community garden and community gathering spaces while Gustavo "Gus" L. Garcia Recreation Center provides active recreation for residents including youth, teen, adult, and senior adult programs. These programs could be replicated at other existing park sites that currently have less access to rec centers.



OUR PARKS, OUR FUTURE

NUESTROS PARQUES, NUESTRO FUTURO
AUSTIN PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

NORTHEAST SUB-AREA SUB-ÁREA NORESTE

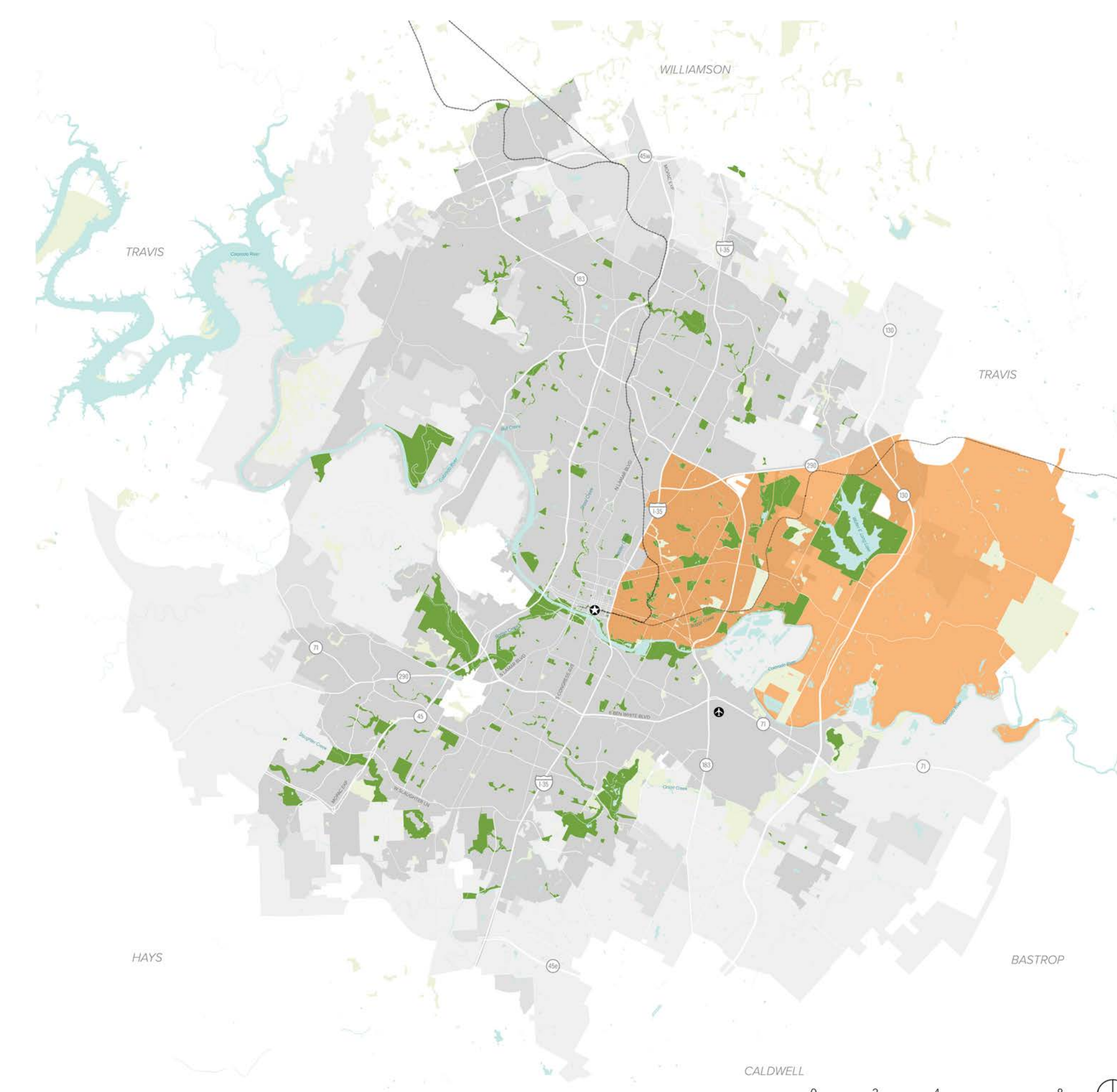
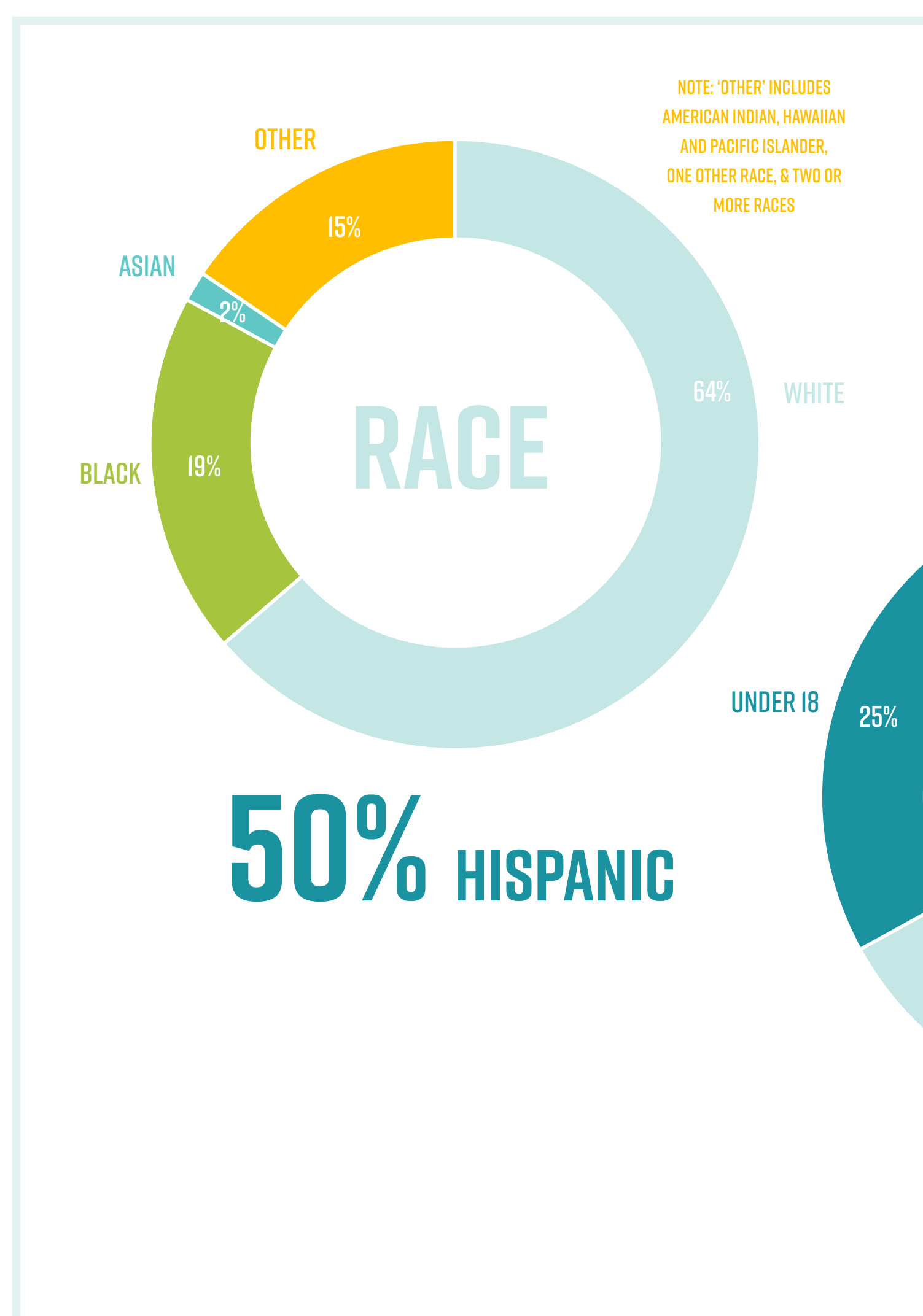
AT A GLANCE UN VISTAZO

42% OF RESIDENTS ARE WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE OF A PARK *

\$43,584
MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME (2017)

23.3%
RESIDENTS LIVING IN POVERTY (2017)

* LIVING "WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE" OF A PARK IS DEFINED DIFFERENTLY FOR DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE CITY: FOR THE URBAN CORE IT IS WITHIN A 1/4 MILE, FOR OUTSIDE THE URBAN CORE IT IS WITHIN 1/2 MILE OF A PARK.



41,767 JOBS
123,579 RESIDENTS
2.0 PEOPLE PER ACRE

+71% POP. GROWTH BY 2040*
+105% JOB GROWTH BY 2040**

TOP ISSUES CUESTIONES PRINCIPALES

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK!
WHAT TOP ISSUES DID WE MISS?



ACCESS TO EXISTING WEALTH OF FACILITIES

The number of facilities per capita is higher than other areas. The more urban areas west of US-183 include a high number of recreation and community centers, as well as the Carver Museum. Still, population is expected to grow, particularly in the urban core and employment is projected to increase by over 100% by 2040. Expanding walkable access to these facilities beyond the existing 42% will be a key way of preparing for growth.



HIGHER RATES OF POVERTY & YOUTH

The poverty rate in the northeast planning area is 23% and 25% of the population is under 18 years old. According to studies of gentrification risk, households within these planning areas are also at risk for displacement moving forward. Planned improvements in parks should be sensitive to the needs of current residents, including young adults and children. Programming should be focused on inclusivity and supporting paths out of poverty through education and health.



NEW PARK IMPROVEMENTS UNDERWAY

The Walter E. Long Metropolitan Park is a large regional park located in east Austin, and a new master plan will guide future park improvements. In addition, a new master plan for development of the John Treviño Jr. Metropolitan Park is slated to begin in 2019.



REFLECTING CULTURAL DIVERSITY IN PARKS

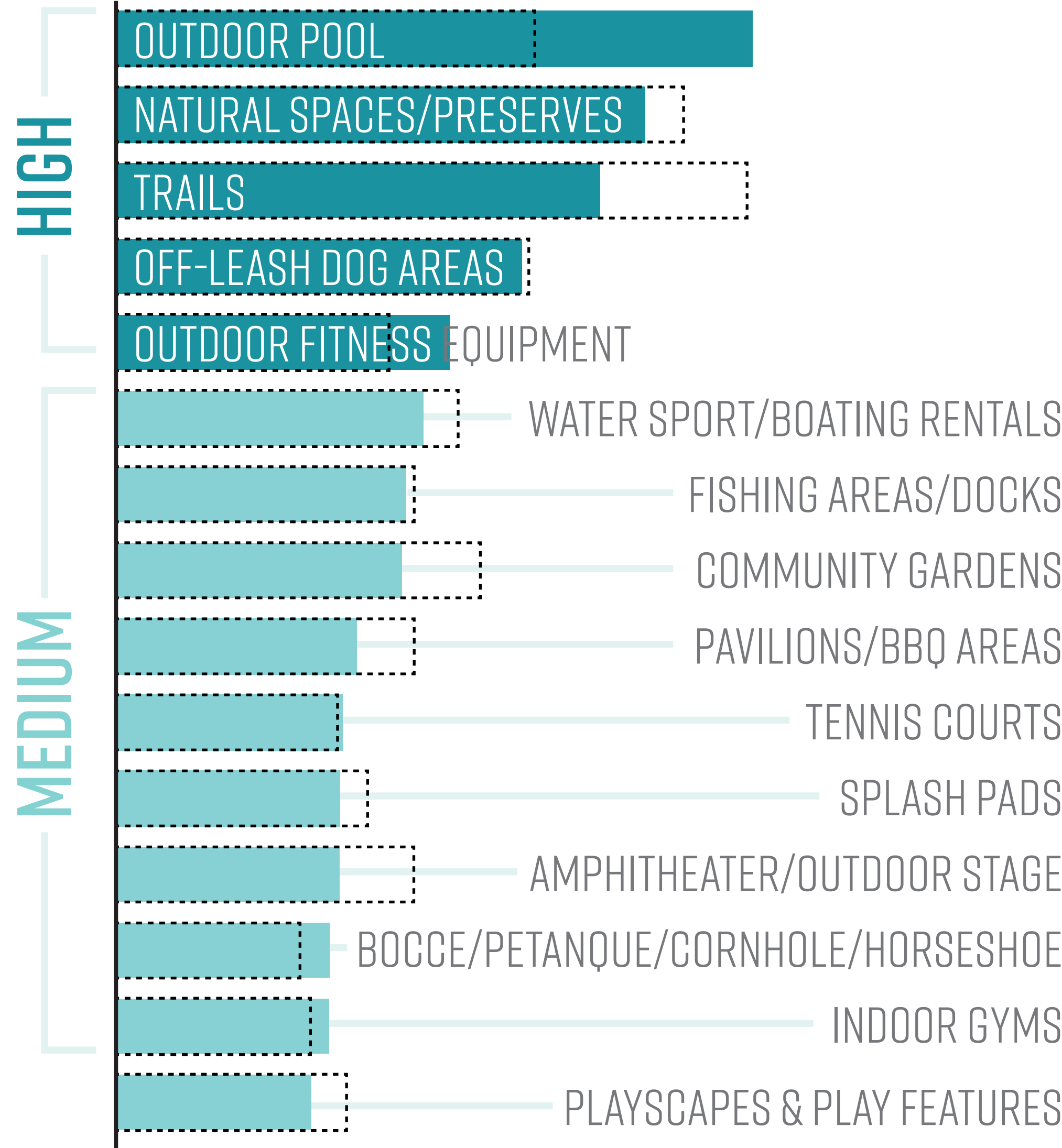
The northeast planning areas benefits from one of the most racially diverse resident populations in Austin with a high percentage of Hispanic residents. Finding ways that the parks can reflect, support and celebrate this diversity through design, multilingual signage, facilities and programming should be a priority.



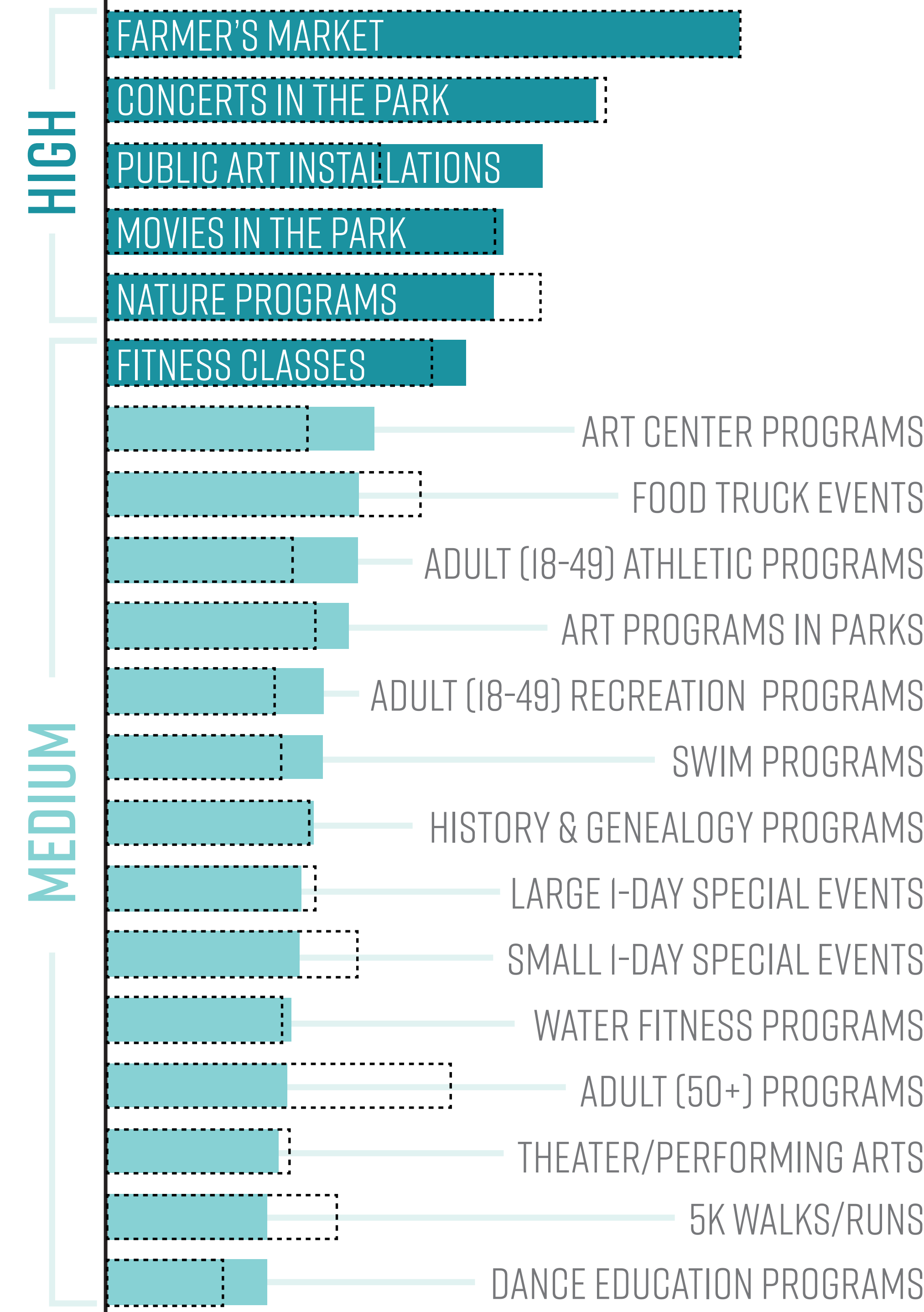
PRIORITY NEEDS NECESIDADES PRIORITARIAS

Feedback from surveys of the northeast park planning areas closely matched feedback from Austin residents as whole. However, residents did express a stronger preference for public art installations in parks, in addition to farmers markets and movies in the parks. Interest in outdoor pools also came out strongly, though the northeast planning areas have higher than the citywide average aquatic facilities per capita.

FACILITY & AMENITY PRIORITIES



PROGRAM PRIORITIES



PRIORITIZATION PROCESS

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OUR PARKS, OUR FUTURE

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AUSTIN PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

SOUTHEAST SUB-AREA SUB-ÁREA SURESTE

AT A GLANCE UN VISTAZO



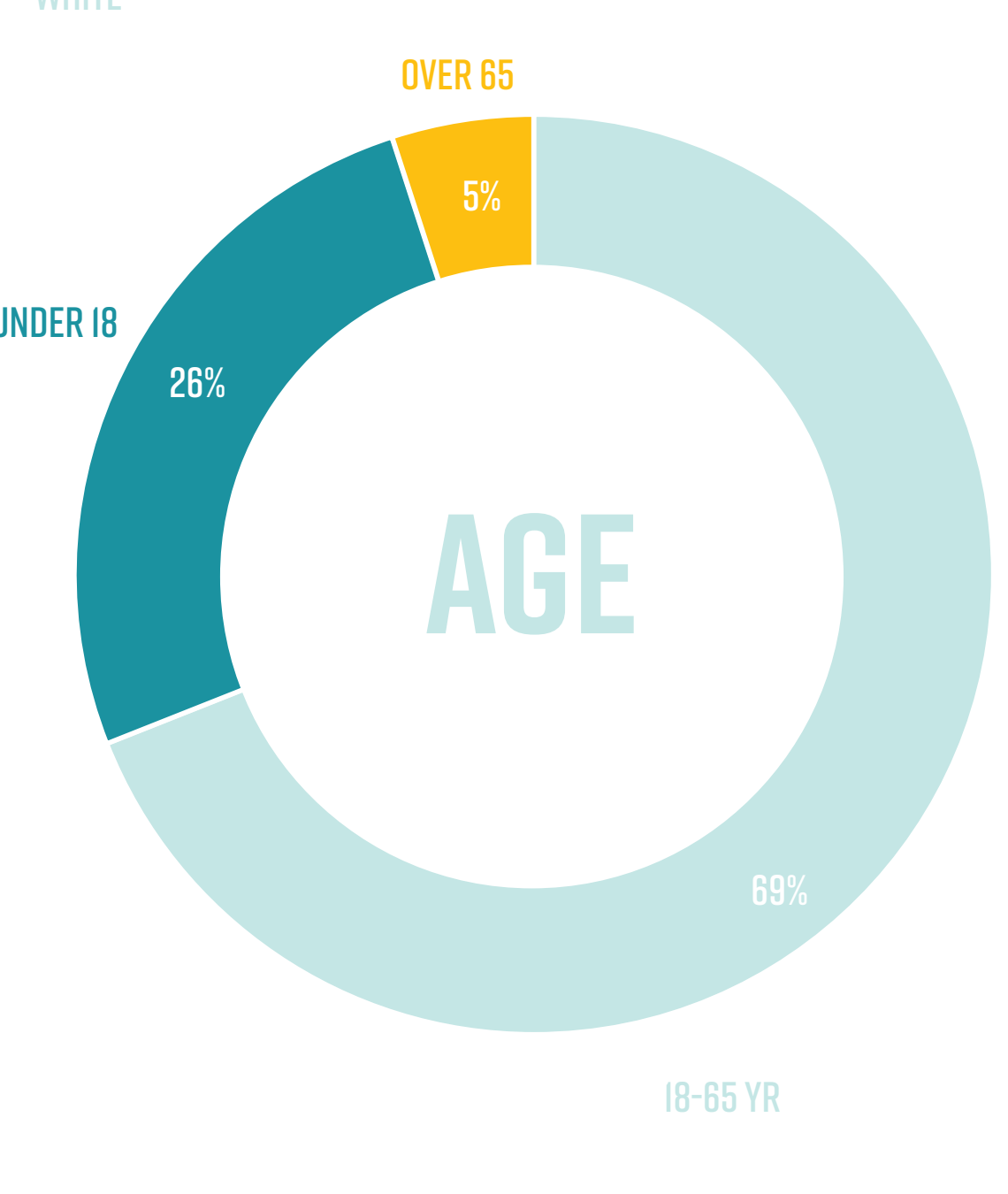
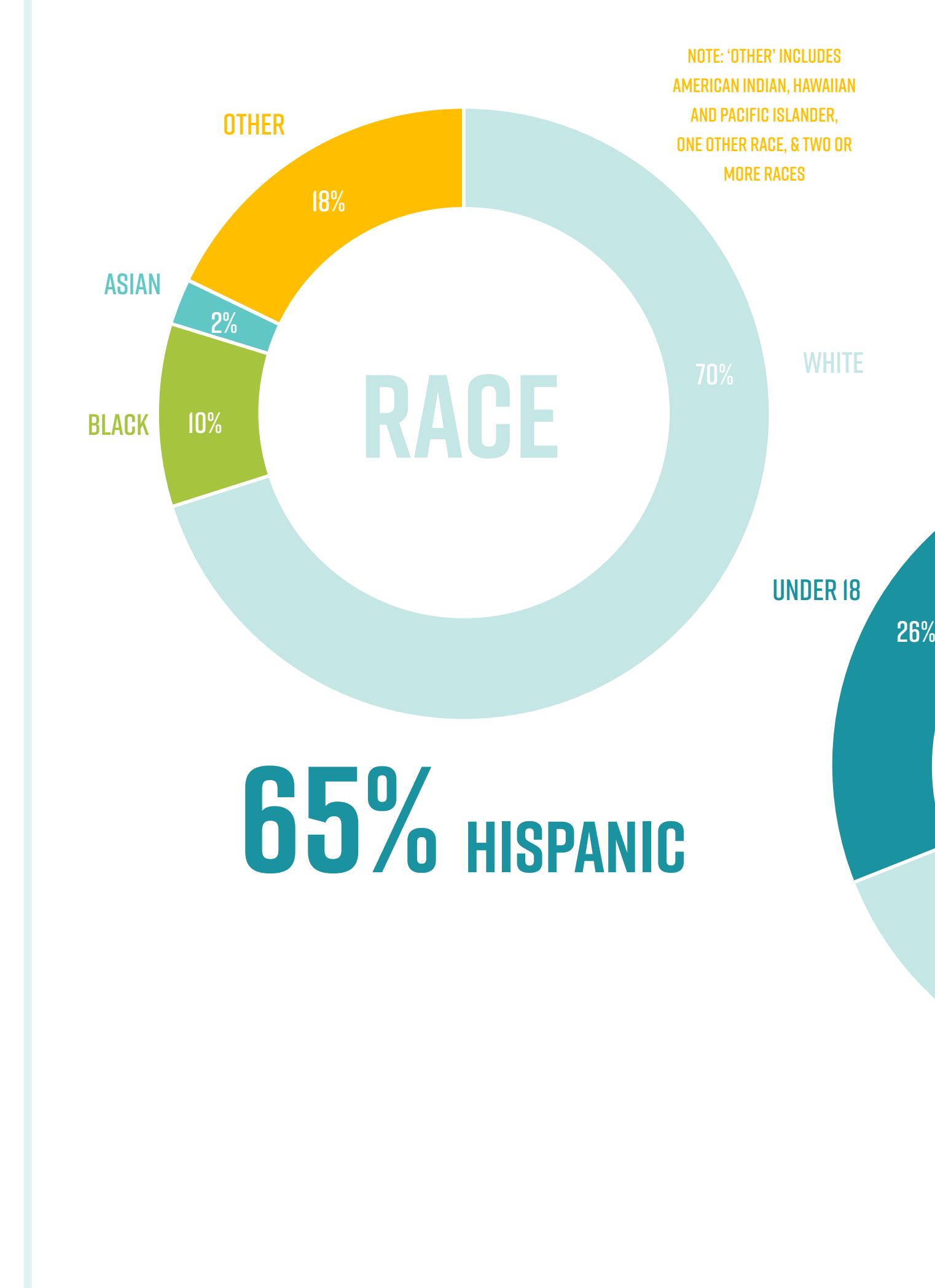
41% OF RESIDENTS ARE WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE OF A PARK *



\$41,609
MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME (2017)

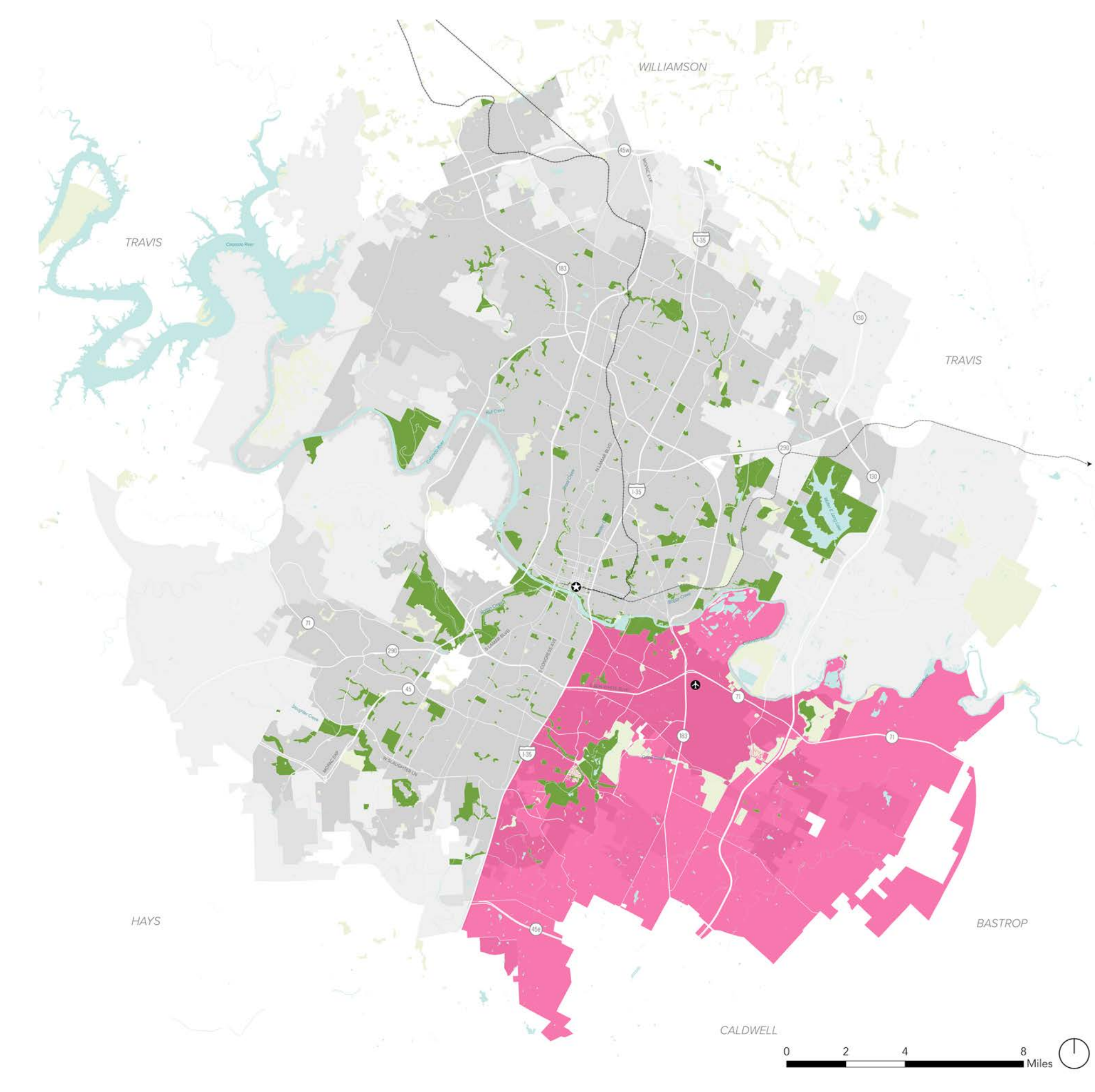
21.9%
RESIDENTS LIVING IN POVERTY (2017)

* LIVING "WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE" OF A PARK IS DEFINED DIFFERENTLY FOR DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE CITY: FOR THE URBAN CORE IT IS WITHIN A 1/4 MILE, FOR OUTSIDE THE URBAN CORE IT IS WITHIN 1/2 MILE OF A PARK.



38,989 JOBS
146,252 RESIDENTS
1.7 PEOPLE PER ACRE

+49% POP. GROWTH BY 2040*
+107% JOB GROWTH BY 2040**



TOP ISSUES CUESTIONES PRINCIPALES

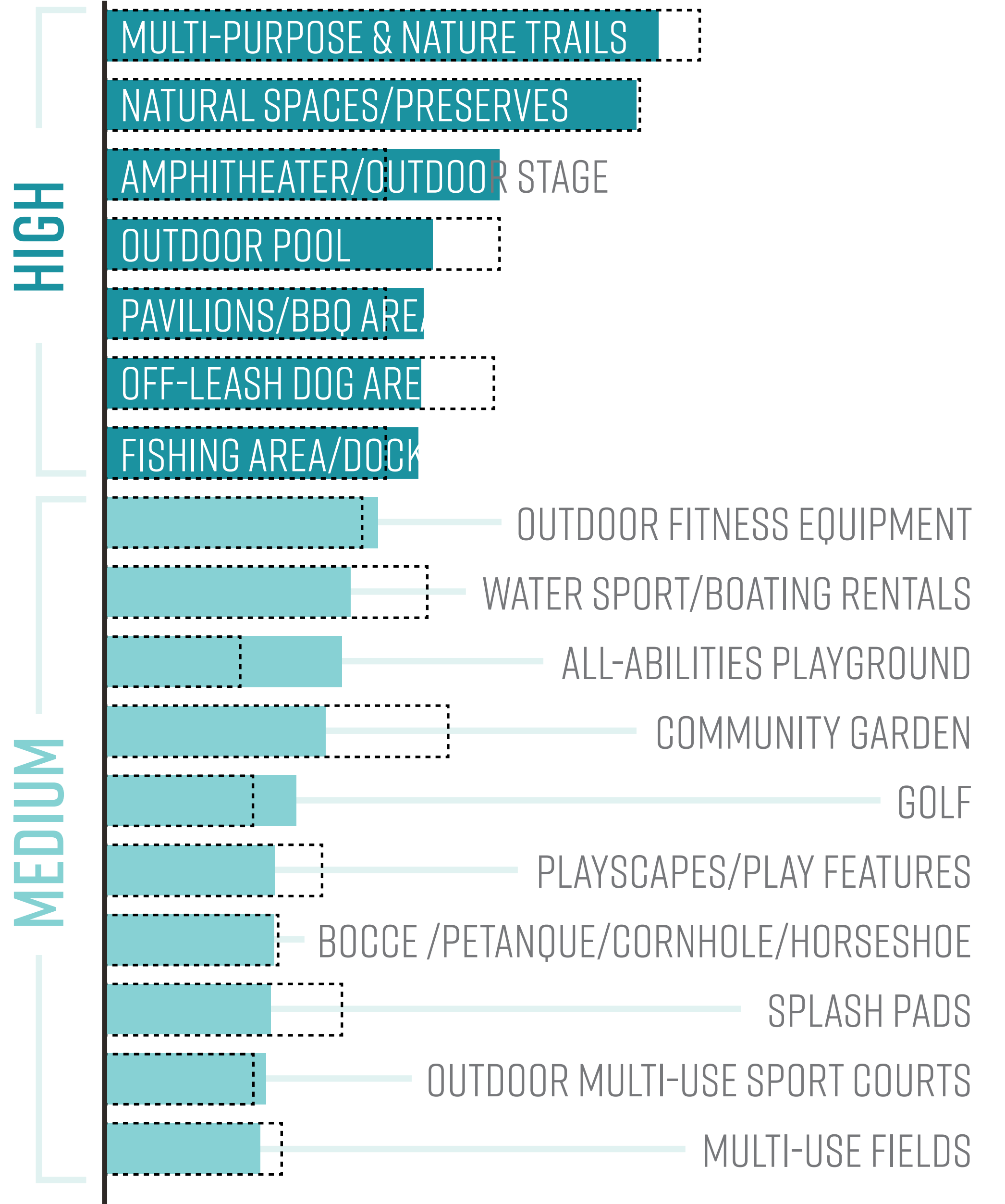
TELL US WHAT YOU THINK!
WHAT TOP ISSUES DID WE MISS?



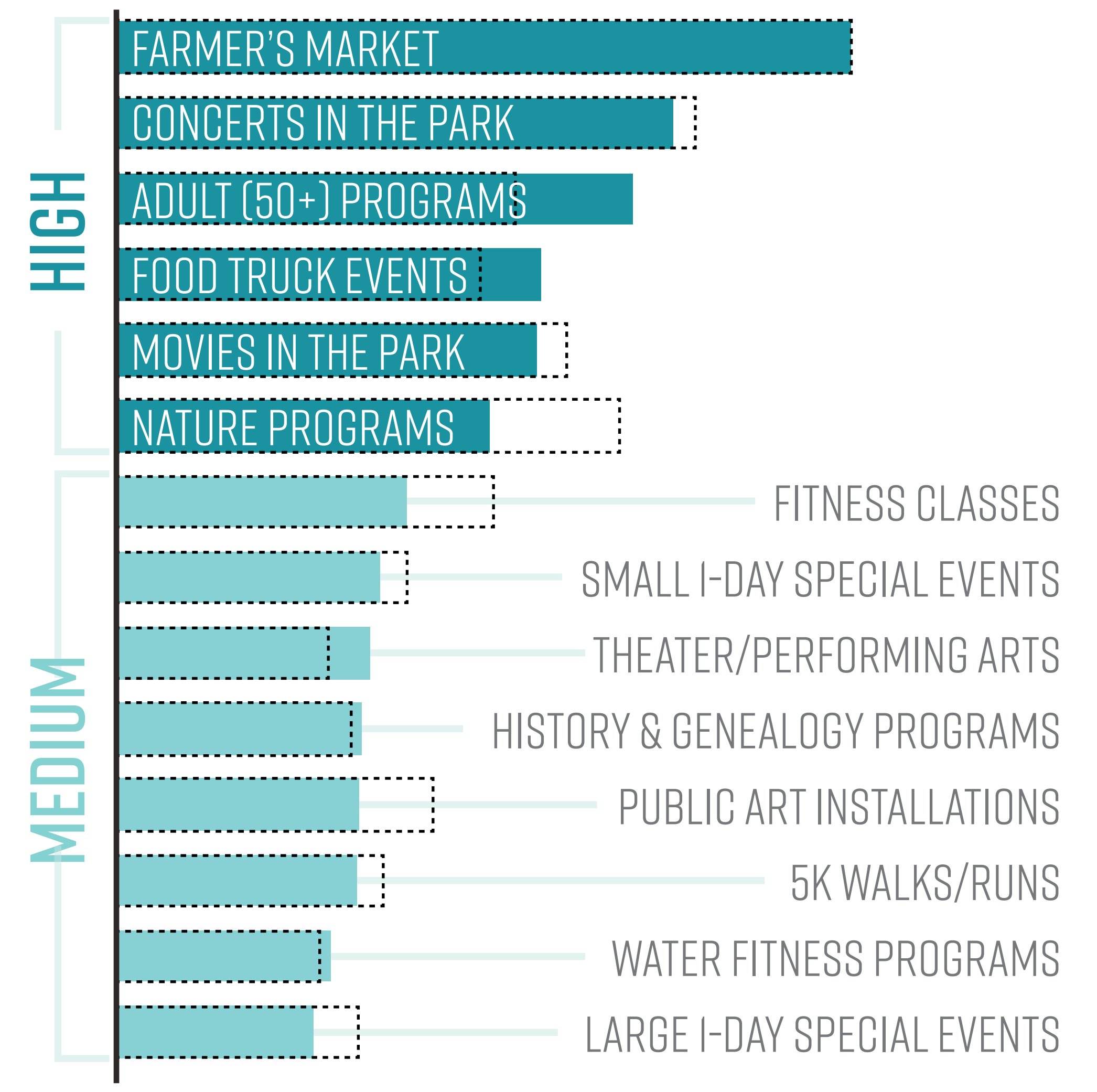
PRIORITY NEEDS NECESIDADES PRIORITARIAS

Feedback from surveys of the southeast park planning areas closely matched feedback from Austin residents as whole. However, residents did express a stronger preference for adult (Over 50) activities, as well as food trucks, outdoor amphitheater, and pavilions / BBQ area in comparison to Austin.

FACILITY & AMENITY PRIORITIES



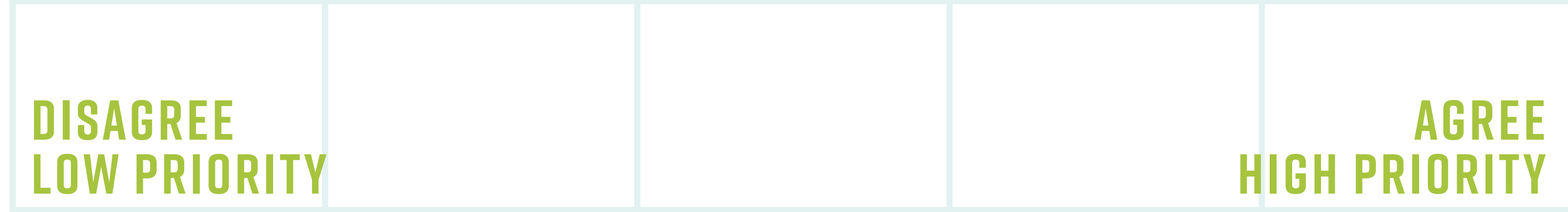
PROGRAM PRIORITIES



PRIORITIZATION PROCESS
Based on the statistically valid survey of residents of this Sub-Area, the priorities above have emerged in this ranked order (compared against the citywide prioritization of the same elements, depicted in the black dashed outline).

EXPANDING ACCESS DESPITE LOW POP DENSITY

The southeast planning areas include a mix of neighborhoods and communities with varying levels of density and development. Residents have relatively high access to nature trails and natural areas, however some areas are lacking in several types of active and passive recreation facilities as well as community gardens and cultural facilities.



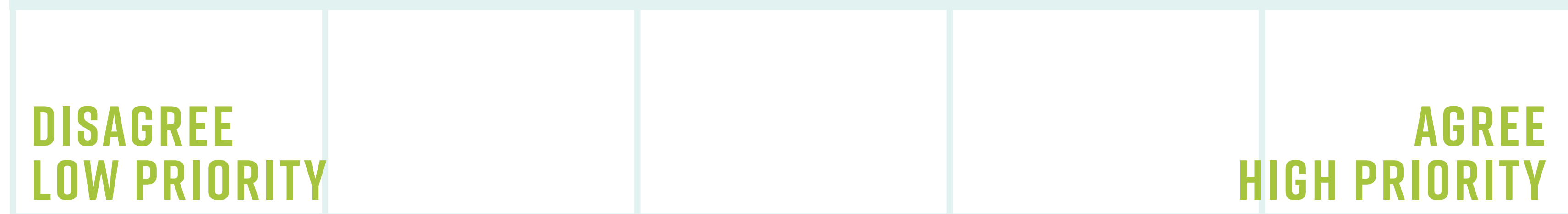
HIGHER RATES OF POVERTY & YOUTH

The poverty rate in the southeast planning area is 22% with 26% of the population under 18 years old. According to studies of gentrification, households are also at risk for displacement as Austin continues to grow. Planned improvements in parks should be sensitive to the needs of current residents, including young adults and children. Programming should be focused on inclusivity and supporting paths out of poverty through education and health.



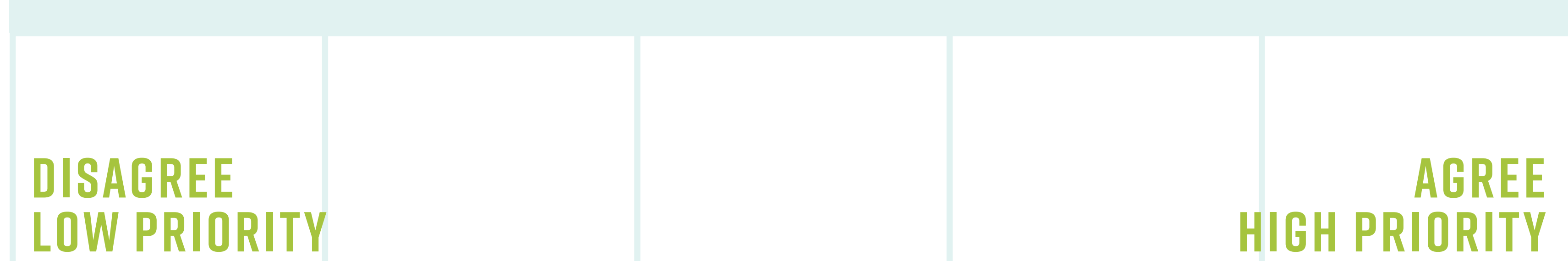
LACK OF CULTURAL FACILITIES

Performance venues, historic sites, cultural / community centers are lacking, as compared to Austin as whole. Any future expansion of cultural facilities and programming should reflect, support and celebrate the racial diversity and high percentage of Hispanic residents in this area.



LEVERAGE CREEK BUFFERS AS OPEN SPACE OPP.

Improvements are underway at Onion Creek Metro Park and the many environmentally sensitive areas along creeks provide opportunity for increased natural areas and greenbelts in the southeast.

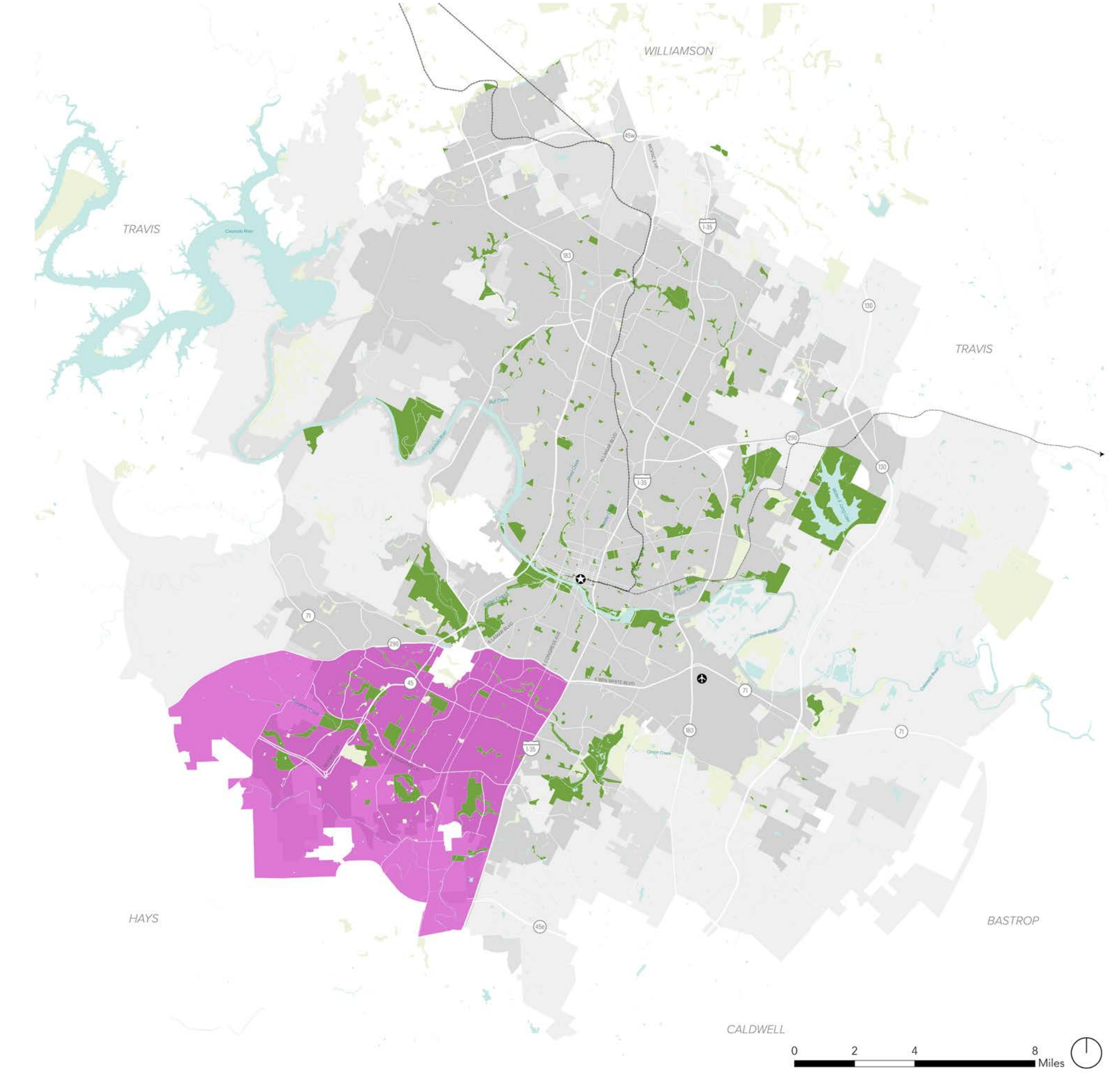


OUR PARKS, OUR FUTURE

NUESTROS PARQUES, NUESTRO FUTURO
AUSTIN PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

SOUTHWEST SUB-AREA SUB-ÁREA SUROESTE

AT A GLANCE UN VISTAZO

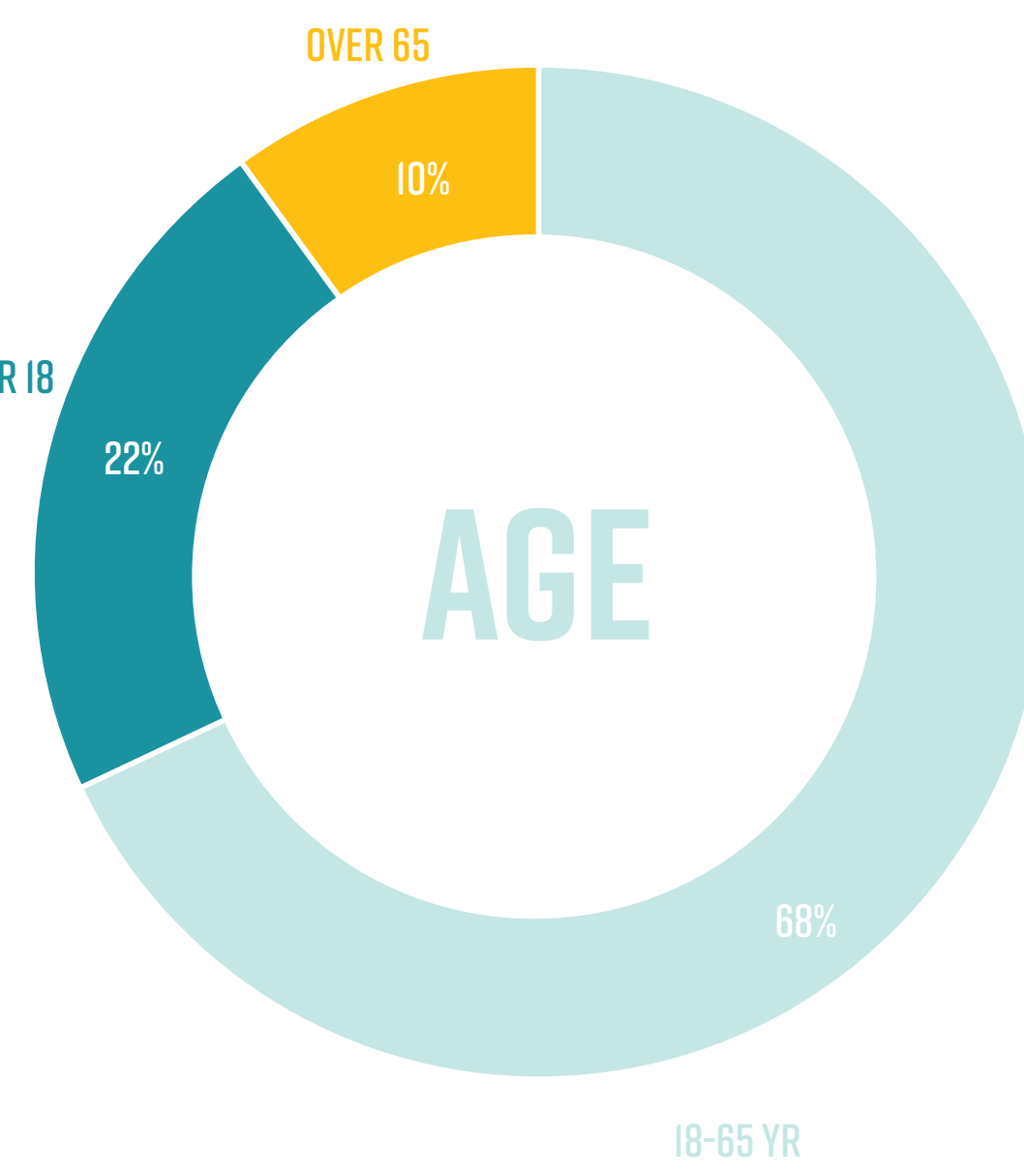
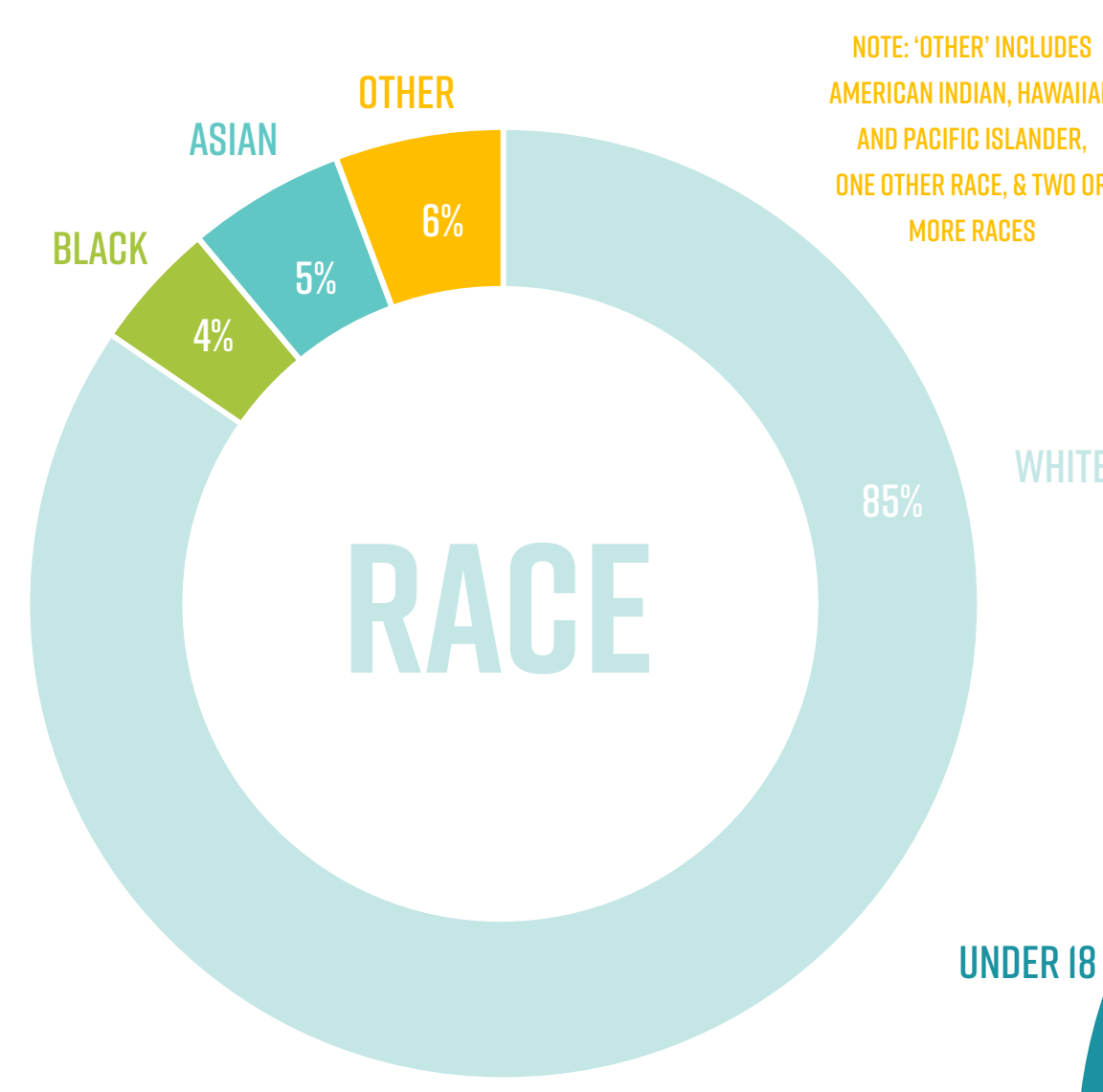


62% OF RESIDENTS ARE WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE OF A PARK *



\$73,949
MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME (2017)

8.1%
RESIDENTS LIVING IN POVERTY (2017)



35,247 JOBS
178,273 RESIDENTS
3.7 PEOPLE PER ACRE

+23% POP. GROWTH BY 2040*
+106% JOB GROWTH BY 2040**

* LIVING "WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE" OF A PARK IS DEFINED DIFFERENTLY FOR DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE CITY: FOR THE URBAN CORE IT IS WITHIN A 1/4 MILE, FOR OUTSIDE THE URBAN CORE IT IS WITHIN 1/2 MILE OF A PARK.

** POPULATION GROWTH CALCULATED FOR 2016 TO 2040 AND JOB GROWTH CALCULATED FOR 2016 TO 2040

TOP ISSUES CUESTIONES PRINCIPALES

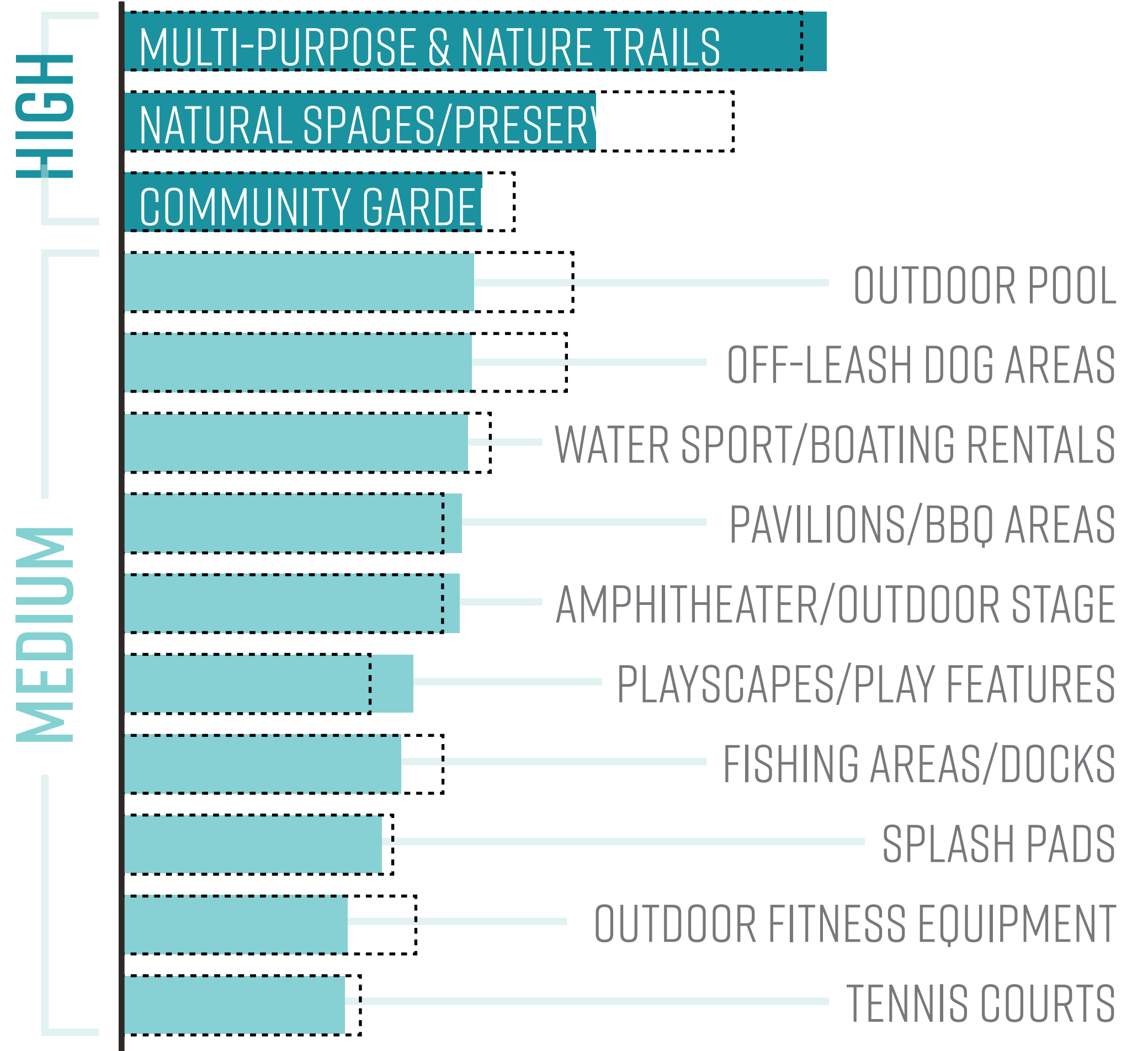
TELL US WHAT YOU THINK!
WHAT TOP ISSUES DID WE MISS?



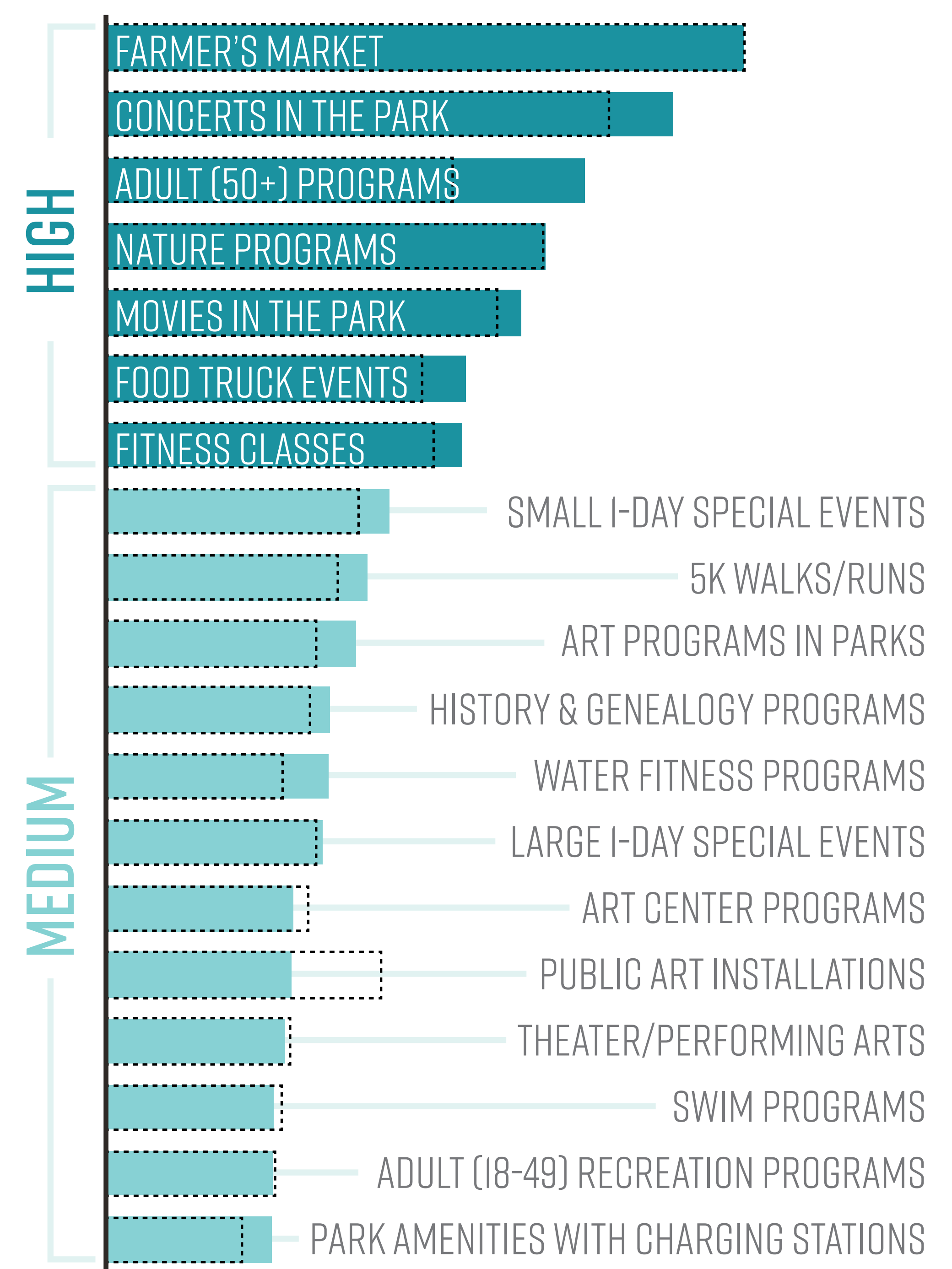
PRIORITY NEEDS NECESIDADES PRIORITARIAS

Feedback from surveys of the southwest park planning areas closely matched feedback from Austin residents as whole. However, residents did express a stronger preference for concerts in the park and adult (Over 50) activities.

FACILITY & AMENITY PRIORITIES



PROGRAM PRIORITIES

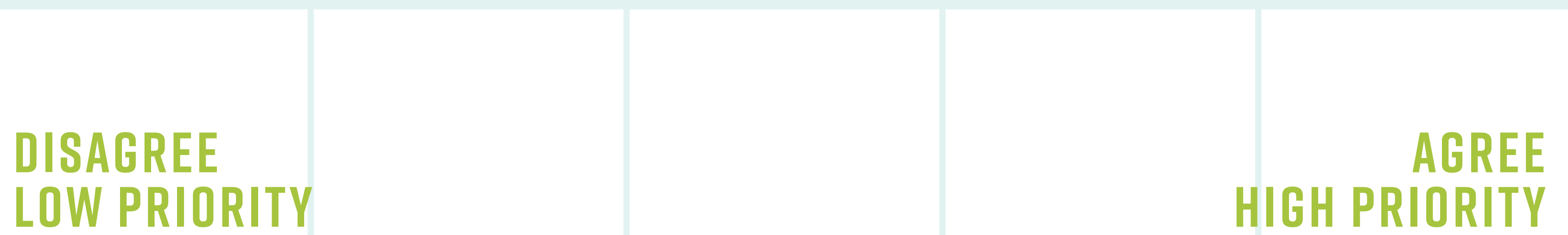


PRIORITIZATION PROCESS

Based on the statistically valid survey of residents of this Sub-Area, the priorities above have emerged in this ranked order (compared against the citywide prioritization of the same elements, depicted in the black dashed outline).

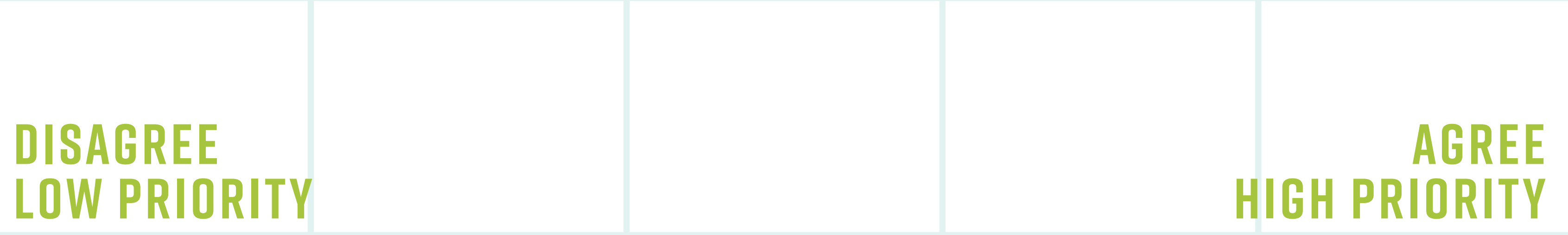
LEVERAGE HIGH ACCESS TO PARKS

About 62% of residents are within walking distance of park. While the number of natural areas per capita is high, access to nature trails and community gardens along with several passive, active, and cultural facilities is below average or low in the southwest planning areas. Selectively adding these facilities to existing parks could be an important strategy moving forward.



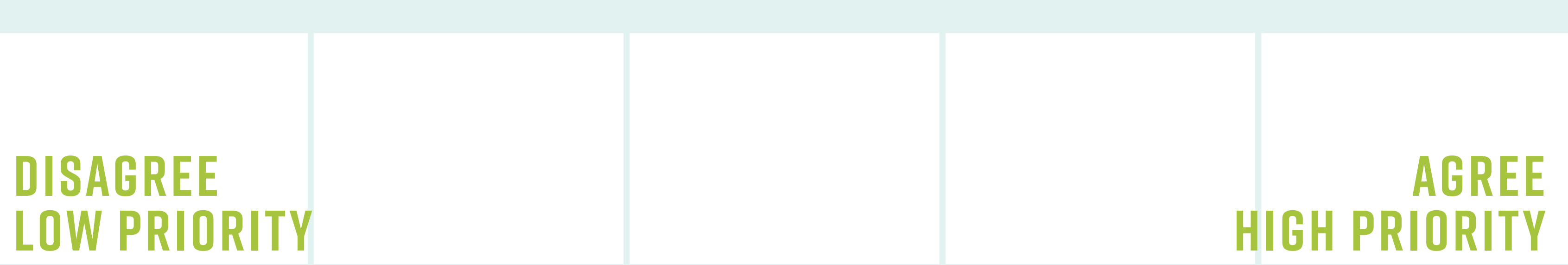
LOWER RATES OF POVERTY & LARGE YOUTH POP

The average poverty rate in the southwest planning areas is 8% with 22% of the population under the age of 18 years old. Families may have greater access to private programming and recreational activities. The full range of facilities may not be wanted or needed in parks if structured private offerings are meeting that need - if this is the case, it may be appropriate for parks to have more limited facilities with an emphasis on unstructured multi-purpose natural and social spaces to complement private offerings.



LACK OF RECREATION / CULTURAL CENTERS

Recreation centers are limited in the southwest planning areas. Performance venues, historic sites, cultural / community centers are lacking, as compared to Austin as whole.




OUR PARKS, OUR FUTURE


NUESTROS PARQUES, NUESTRO FUTURO
AUSTIN PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

WEST SUB-AREA SUB-ÁREA OESTE

AT A GLANCE UN VISTAZO



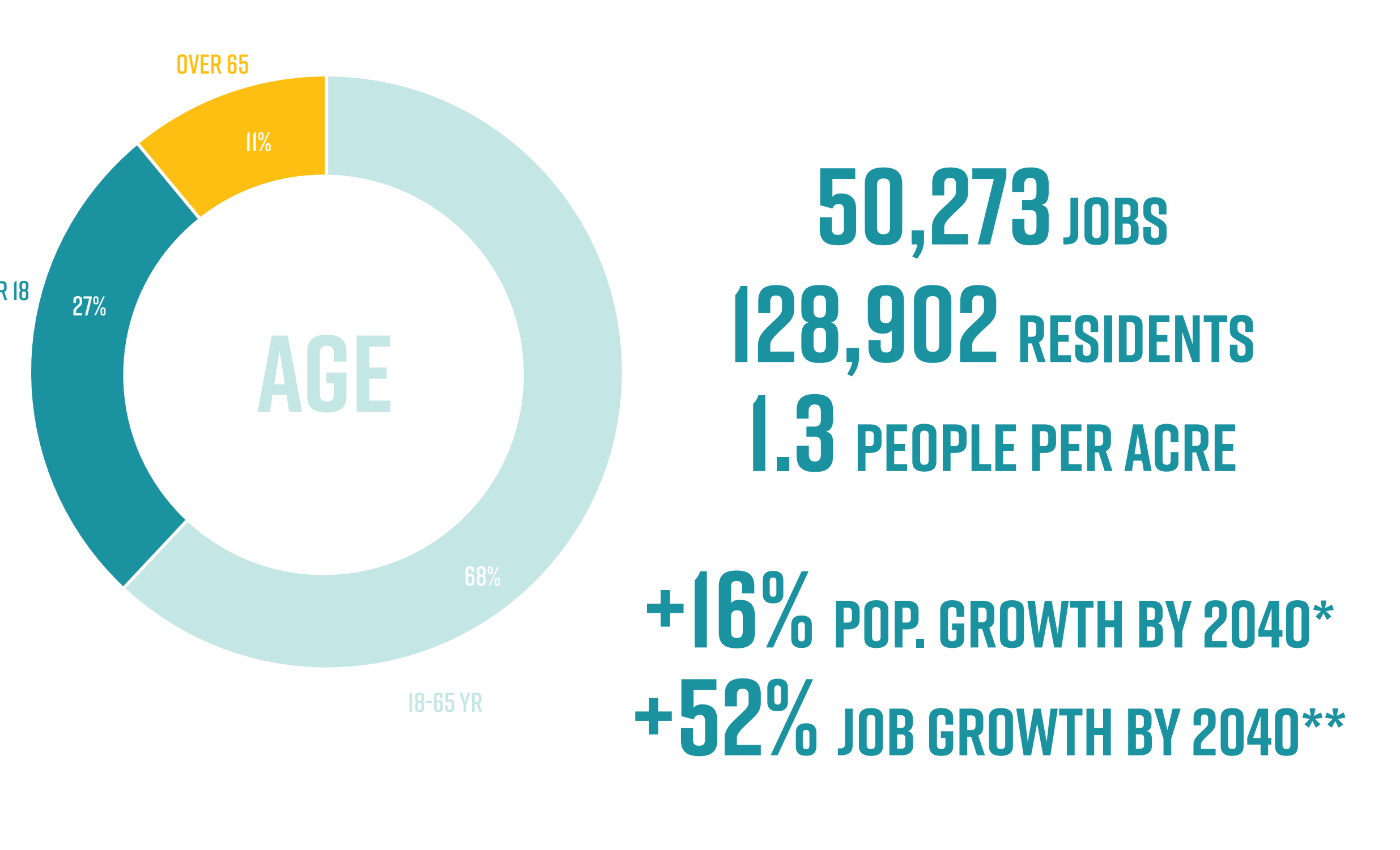
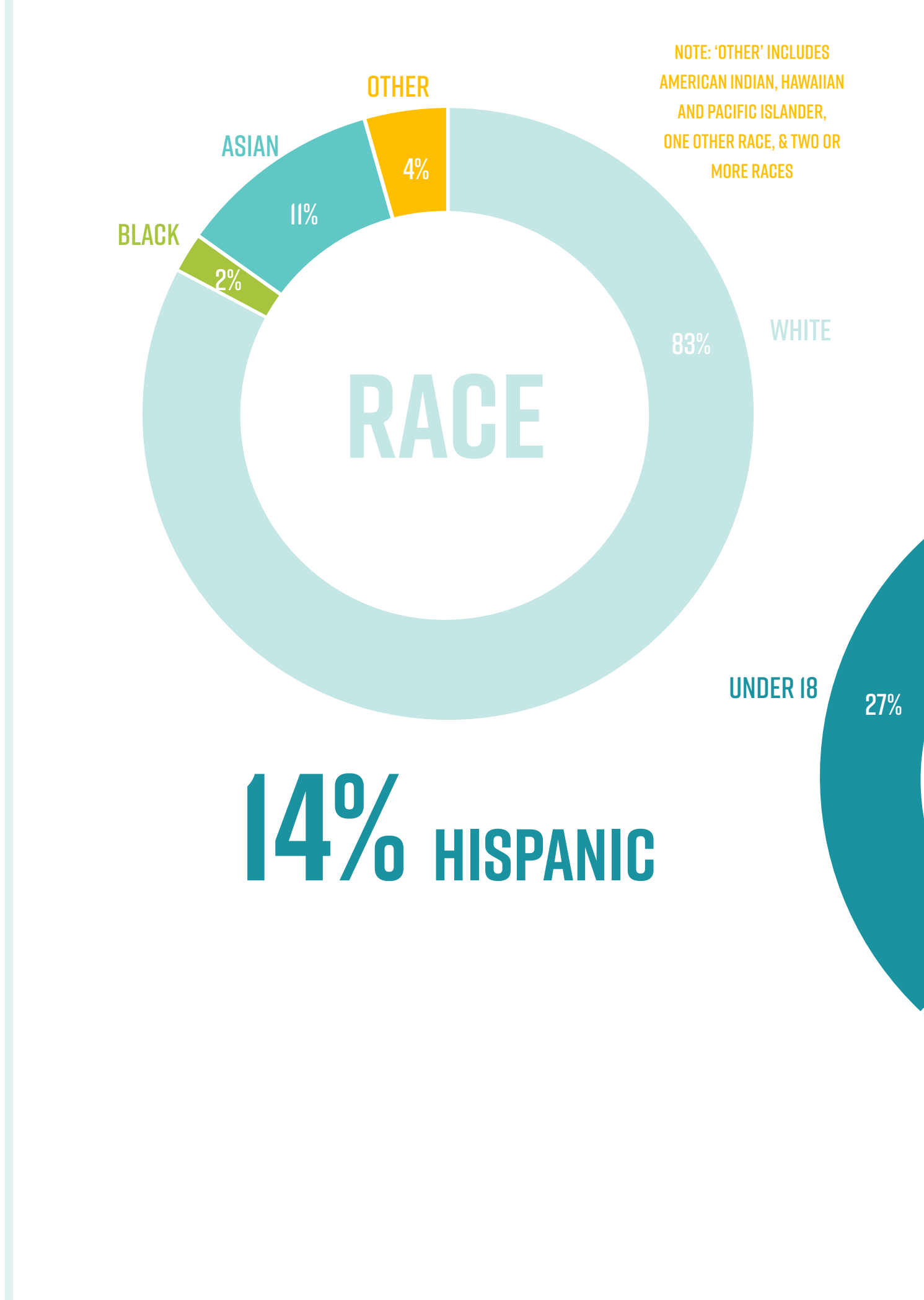
55% OF RESIDENTS ARE WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE OF A PARK*



\$116,173
MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME (2017)

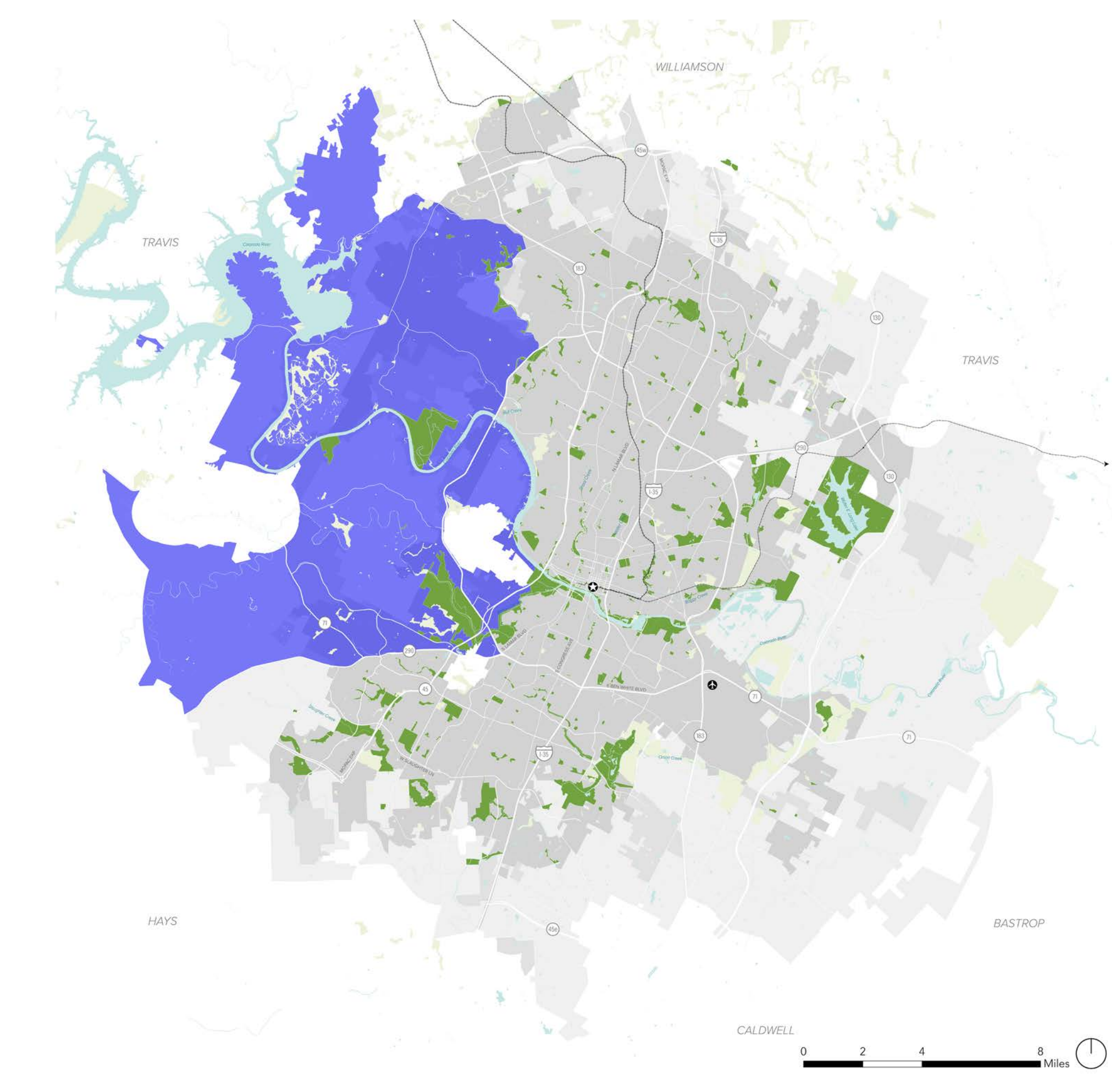
54%
RESIDENTS LIVING IN POVERTY (2017)

* LIVING "WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE" OF A PARK IS DEFINED DIFFERENTLY FOR DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE CITY: FOR THE URBAN CORE IT IS WITHIN A 1/4 MILE, FOR OUTSIDE THE URBAN CORE IT IS WITHIN 1/2 MILE OF A PARK.



50,273 JOBS
128,902 RESIDENTS
1.3 PEOPLE PER ACRE

+16% POP. GROWTH BY 2040*
+52% JOB GROWTH BY 2040**



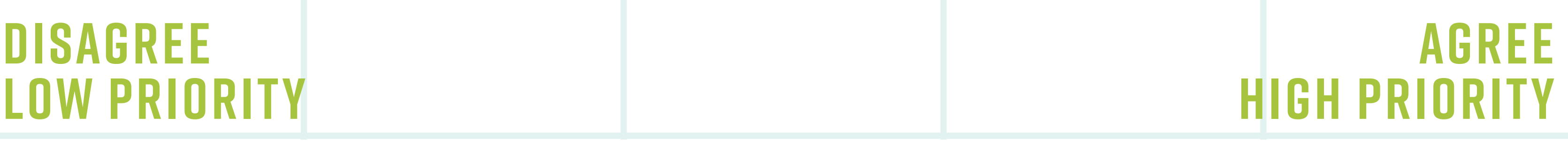
TOP ISSUES CUESTIONES PRINCIPALES

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK!
WHAT TOP ISSUES DID WE MISS?



LEVERAGE HIGH ACCESS TO PARKS

About 55% of residents are within walking distance of park. Nature trails, water features, and community gardens are limited, while natural areas are higher than the city average. The western planning areas are lucky to be home to Zilker Park and benefit from the highest off-leash dog parks per capita compared to Austin as a whole. Selectively adding facilities may make the existing parks more valuable to residents already living nearby.



LOWER RATES OF POVERTY & LARGE YOUTH POP

The average poverty rate in the west planning areas is 5% with 27% of the population under the age of 18 years old. Families may have greater access to private programming and recreational activities. The full range of facilities may not be wanted or needed in parks if structured private offerings are meeting that need - if this is the case, it may be appropriate for parks to have more limited facilities with an emphasis on unstructured multi-purpose natural and social spaces to complement private offerings.



NATURAL AREAS & DISCONNECTED DEVELOPMENT

Some of the lowest densities and population projections are found in the western planning areas. Sensitive environmental features and physical boundaries play a role in development patterns in the western planning areas.



MULTI-MODAL PARK ACCESS

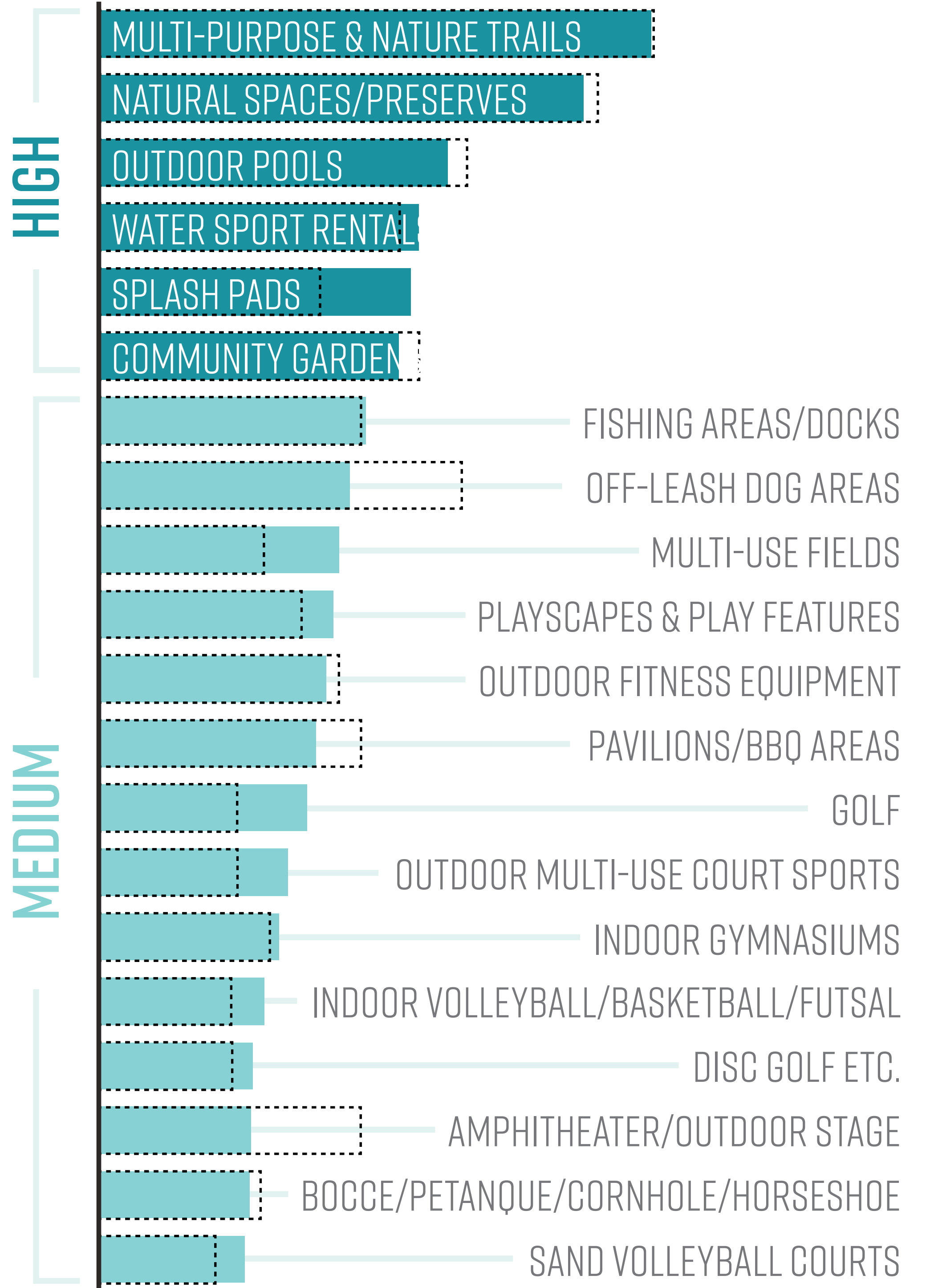
Additional effort may be required to make parks more accessible by foot and by bike due to the low densities and low population projections in this area. Parking needs may also be higher than average.



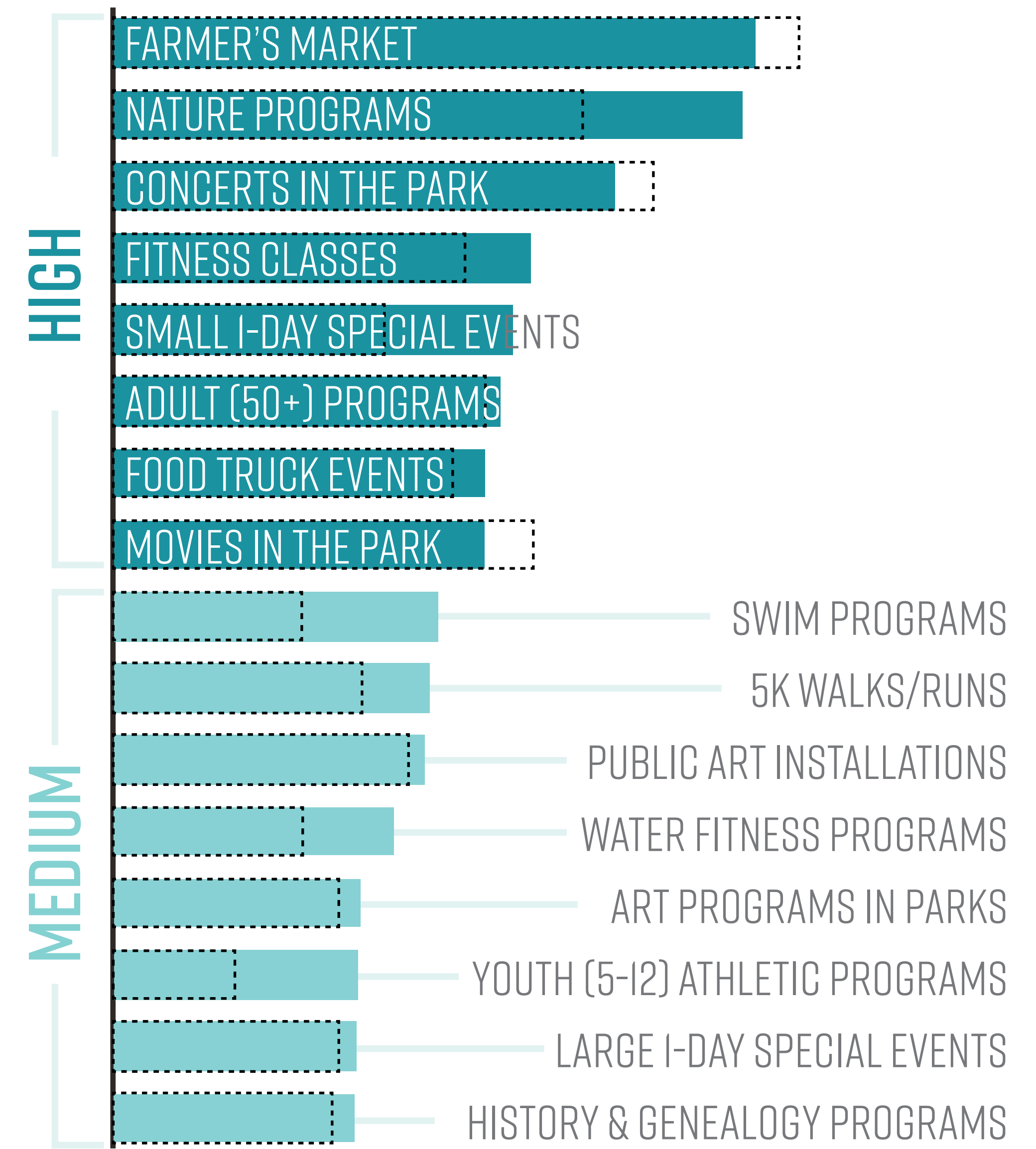
PRIORITY NEEDS NECESIDADES PRIORITARIAS

Feedback from surveys of the west park planning areas closely matched feedback from Austin residents as whole. However, residents did express a stronger preference for nature programs and group fitness.

FACILITY & AMENITY PRIORITIES



PROGRAM PRIORITIES



PRIORITIZATION PROCESS
Based on the statistically valid survey of residents of this Sub-Area, the priorities above have emerged in this ranked order (compared against the citywide prioritization of the same elements, depicted in the black dashed outline).

