

Parks and Greenspaces!



E. Williamson Creek: 78744 GAVA Geo Team Vecinos Unidos and other residents who live near E. Williamson creek will be

supporting Keep Austin Beautiful with their "Beautify Austin" program to restore and clean E. Williamson Creek between IH-35 and S. Pleasant Valley. There will be 6 projects over the course of 3 months.

Police Activities League of Austin (P.A.L.) hosted their end of year soccer tournament with many schools from 78744/45 competing. Over 300 south Austin youth participated!



Many new park amenities have been added at park and green space sites throughout 78744 and 78745! Thanks to the advocacy work of PA Sector teams, PARD committed to funding smaller infrastructure amenities that were priorities for teams and now many of these items have now been installed! Check out the new amenities at these sites: Houston School Park has two new picnic tables and two new benches; The porta-a-potties at Kendra Page Park were reinstalled and are more secure.

Williamson Creek Central Greenbelt received a new picnic table, bike racks, and an additional trash can; There are now two sets of bike racks and two new benches at Joslin Park; Cunningham School Park received six new picnic tables, and Odom School Park recently received an ADA accessible swing; Armadillo Park is in the process of arranging a clearing of tree debris; and St. Elmo School Park received a replacement soccer goal.



The park teams are also regularly maintaining their parks by participating in annual national park and trail days. Four GAVA teams participated in National Trails Day: Onion Creek Greenbelt, Ponciana Park, Williamson Creek Central Greenbelt, and Odom School Park.



This past month La Fuerza, Geo Team in 78745, had a series of beautification projects. Leaders from Tahoe Tr. and W.Wind organized to mulch, plant new flowers along the sidewalk and clean the streets. The team is now officially part of City of Austin's, "Clean Austin" program, which would prevent them from having litter and big trash items on the sidewalks where kids bike and play.

Next with parks: Park teams led site tours with staff members from PARD to discuss lighting at parks in both zip codes. Teams discussed areas for lighting in their parks that are priorities for both safety and recreation purposes. PARD will be submitting a request for funds in the next budget cycle that reflects the lighting needs at these parks.



Photo: Houston park had over 80 residents from 78744/45 helping to beautify the park.

Congratulations to all teams and for being such great stewards for our city's neighborhood parks and green spaces!

More community highlights!

On May 4th National Bike Walk to School Day, leaders and parents from La Fuerza, in collaboration with Sunset Valley Elementary, launched the Safe Routes to School Program. Over 100 students biked/walked to the school and parents and teachers lead the route. This was such a successful program that the team will continue doing this physical activity work during the next school year. The city has also awarded the first HUB System in 78745 to them!



Leaders from the Traffic Committee of Armadillo Park Neighborhood Team in 78745 met with Neighborhood Partnering Program to create possible projects to bring walking and biking connectivity to the neighborhood and create more safety. One of the projects the team presented was an animated and colorful crosswalk for the children to use to cross safely to school and the park.



In May, La Fuerza Walking Group was launched with the participation of 10 women and youth. This program was implemented for the whole neighborhood and to encourage park beautification and after school youth programming. Come join them every Tuesday and Thursday from 6:30-8 pm at Sunset Valley Elementary Park.





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JUNE 2016

78745 Calendar

Meeting / Event	Date	Contact
Weekly soccer game in 78745 Let's play soccer, meet neighbors, build soccer activities and a park adoption team for our neighborhood park!	Every Sunday! 4:00 PM St. Elmo Park, 4312 S 1st	Mariano Di Vincenzo GAVA Community Organizer at FC mariano.divincenzo@foundcom.org , 713-854-2627
Weekly Farm Stands Stop by every week for fresh, affordable, in-season produce! Now offering double dollars for SNAP purchases. Also inquire about volunteer opportunities!	Wednesdays @ Sierra Ridge Apartments 3:00 - 5:00 PM, 201 W St. Elmo Rd Fridays @ Cunningham Elementary 2:45 - 4:00 PM, Berkeley and Buffalo Pass	Simone Benz Sustainable Food Center Community Outreach Coordinator simone@sustainablefoodcenter.org 512-220-1146 (work), 214-449-9957 (cell)
Weekly walking group Come join La Fuerza Walking Group and get active for 1 ½ hr!	Every Tuesday and Thursday 6:30-7pm Sunset Valley Elementary Park	Ivanna Neri Geo-Teams Community Organizer 78745 ivanna@marathonkids.org , 512-998-3648
GAVA Physical Activity Sector Meeting 78744 & 78745 Join PA teams as they work to improve the parks and green spaces in 78744 and 78745! This month teams will be receiving training strategies to develop strong park/green space teams and will also continue to work on park projects.	Wednesday, June 8th 6:30 - 8:00 pm Pleasant Hill Library 78745	Cynthia Rodriguez Austin Parks Foundation GAVA Physical Activity Community Organizer cynthia@austinparks.org , 512-387-2998
Sunset Valley Community Garden work day Come join the Community Garden Team and help them building plots!	Thursday, June 9th 6:30-8pm Sunset Valley Elementary Park	Ivanna Neri Geo-Teams Community Organizer 78745 ivanna@marathonkids.org , 512-998-3648
Join us to learn more about Austin Parks Foundation's ACL Music Festival Grants Program , how to apply, what we fund and more! This class is strongly recommended for those who are interested in applying for a grant. Spanish translation is available.	June 20, 2016 from 12:00 - 1:00 pm and June 29, 2016 from 7:00 - 8:00 pm Terrazas Branch Library 1105 E Cesar Chavez St	Cynthia Rodriguez Austin Parks Foundation GAVA Physical Activity Community Organizer cynthia@austinparks.org , 512-387-2998
CATCH Early Childhood Training A one day training will be conducted by the CATCH Global Foundation for organizations who serve ages 3-5. Participants will receive all materials needed to implement the CATCH early childhood program. These include physical activity and nutrition curriculum as well as supporting equipment.	Monday, June 20 8:30am – 3:30pm \$250 For the City Center, 500 E. St. Johns Avenue	Megan Grayless Allison.M.Conklin@uth.tmc.edu 512-482-6170 Visit www.catchinfo.org to register.
APNA Traffic Committee Meeting	Tuesday, June 21st 7-8 pm Pleasant Hill Library	Ivanna Neri Geo-Teams Community Organizer 78745 ivanna@marathonkids.org , 512-998-3648
Austin Interfaith City-wide Leaders' Meeting Join Austin Interfaith leaders from across the city to discuss how to organize for the issues that affect our families. The meeting will include a training on organizing strategies.	Thursday, June 23rd 7- 8:30pm St. John/San Juan Lutheran Church 409 West Ben White Blvd. 78704	Kathleen Davis kdavis@austininterfaith.org 512-916-0100
Odom/APNA Kick Off Farm Stand Meeting Come join the Farm Stand Committee to plan strategies for the upcoming Farm Stand in the neighborhood	Thursday, June 30th Odom Elementary Park 6-7 pm 1010 Turtle Creek Blvd, Austin, TX 78745	Simone Benz Sustainable Food Center Community Outreach Coordinator simone@sustainablefoodcenter.org 512-220-1146 (work), 214-449-9957 (cell)
Pleasant Hill Neighborhood Meeting Join us as we implement strategies for improving the health of the Pleasant Hill Neighborhood!	First week of July Time, and place are still TBD	Ivanna Neri Geo-Teams Community Organizer 78745 ivanna@marathonkids.org , 512-998-3648
Principal Meeting for Coordinated School Health	July 28th 11:30-1:30pm Location TBD	Megan Grayless Allison.M.Conklin@uth.tmc.edu 512-482-6170





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Ponciana Park Celebration Residents surrounding Ponciana park will be hosting a park celebration after National Trails day with food and games for kids!	Saturday, June 11 National Trails Day mulching from 8:30-10am Celebration from 10-11am Ponciana Park	Cynthia Rodriguez Austin Parks Foundation GAVA Physical Activity Community Organizer cynthia@austinparks.org , 512-387-2998
Healthy Corner Store Initiative Meeting Residents leaders who live along E. William Cannon are hosting an information and strategy meeting to create healthier corner stores in our community. Texaco on E. Willam Canon and S. Pleasant Valley is now stocking a selection of fruits and vegetables.	Saturday, June 11 10:30 - 11:30am SE Branch Library	Estrella de Leon Geo Teams Organizer 78744 estrella@marathonkids.org 206-293-9548
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Vecinos Unidos Summer Celebration Join Vecinos Unidos GAVA Geo team as they celebrate the school year with a youth water tournament. Bring your water gun and enjoy healthy snacks and prizes!	Saturday, July 2 10- 12pm Houston park	Estrella de Leon Geo Teams Organizer 78744 estrella@marathonkids.org 206-293-9548
Principal Meeting for Coordinated School Health	July 28th 11:30-1:30pm Location TBD	Megan Grayless Allison.M.Conklin@uth.tmc.edu 512-482-6170