

# Community is at the Center...

of the solutions to address the growing **climate, health and equity crises** affecting everyone, and parks and public space are a proven container for building community and democracy.

Authentic community engagement is the key to building public spaces that nurture lasting **community relationships, identity & power.**



Midway Peace Park, St. Paul, MN

# TPL Community Framework:

## Proven outcomes of community-based parks engagement

- Tending to the civic commons is linked with increased **trust in neighbors** (Dresner, 2014; Tebes et al., 2015)
- Community gardens can facilitate **social bridging** (APHA, 2013)
- Residents who visited parks regularly have 66% more **social ties** than those who didn't (Każmierczak, 2013)
- Park safety and community engagement are linked with increased sense of **welcoming and belonging** (Powers et al., 2021).
- Individuals living with easy access to urban parks showed a stronger **sense of place attachment** (Scott et al., 2020)
- Environmental volunteers are more **engaged in civic actions** than the average American (Fisher et al., 2015).
- Pro-social environments of parks contribute to better civic order and indicators of **social capital** (Peters et al., 2010; Mowen & Rung, 2016)





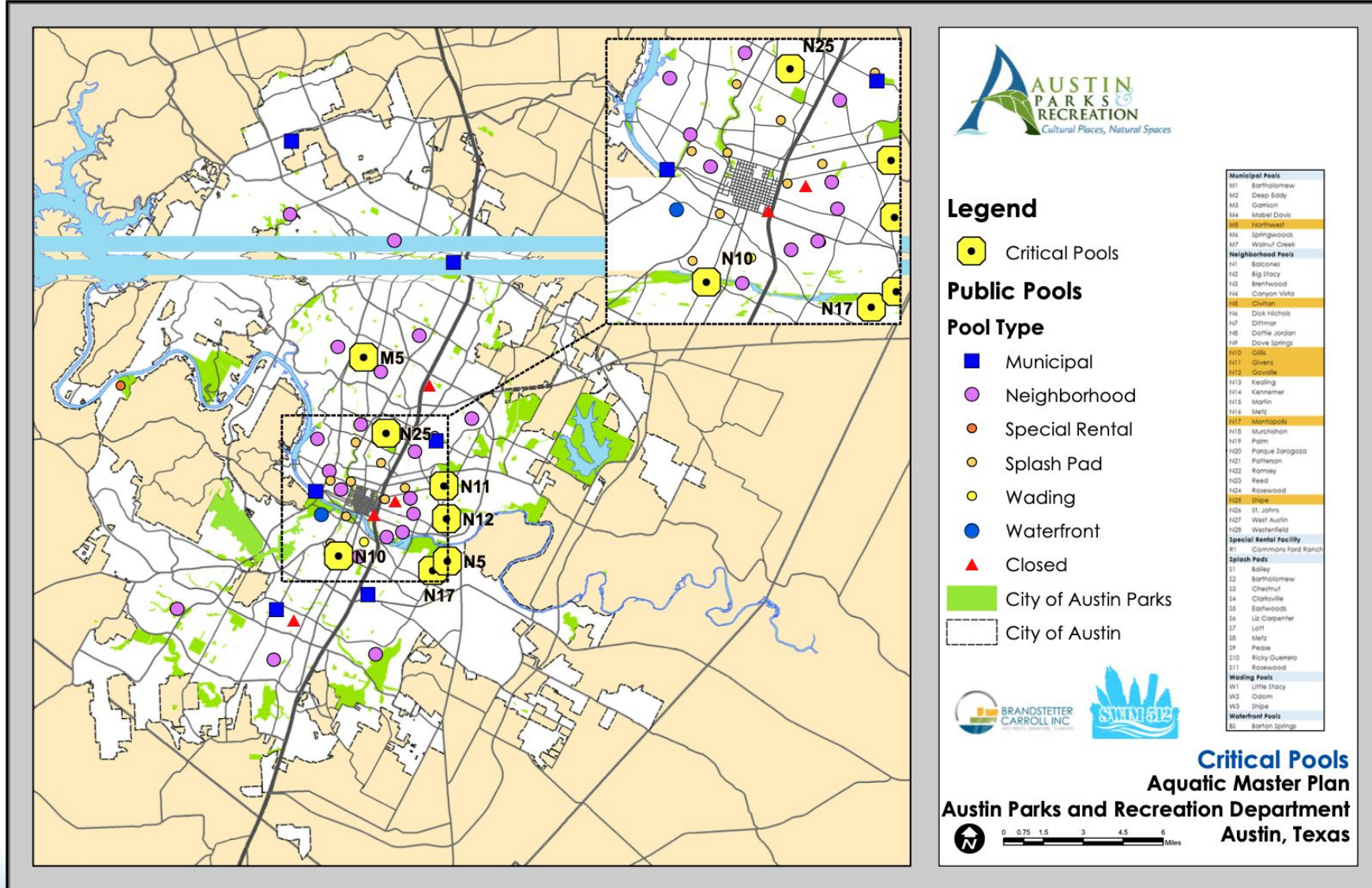


Pump Room  
at  
Givens Pool

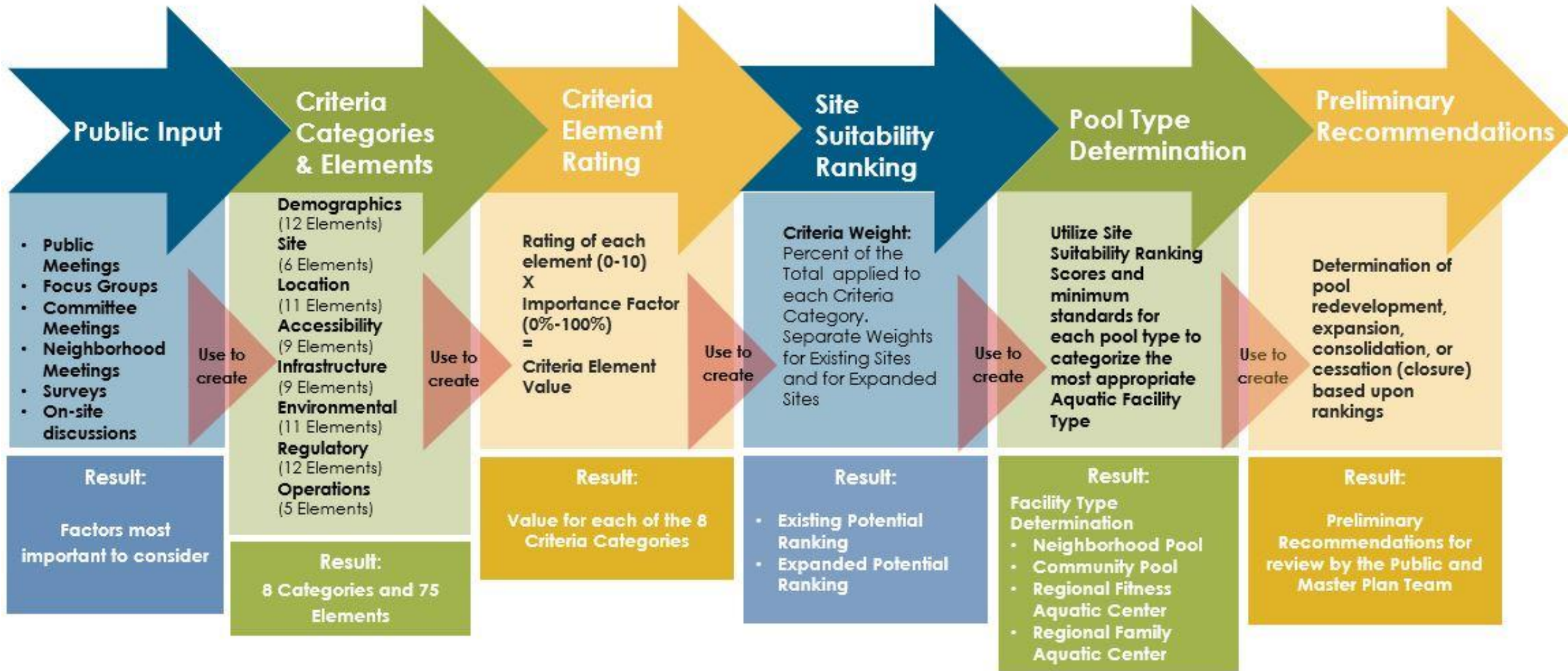




# CRITICAL POOLS AS DETERMINED BY THE 2014 ASSESSMENT



# 2017 Aquatics Master Plan





*art*

# IS FOR EVERYONE



**FORK  
LIFT  
DANCEWORKS**











A person with long dark hair is seen from behind, sitting in a white plastic lifeguard chair. They are looking out over a swimming pool where many children are playing. The scene is captured in a monochromatic cyan/blue color scheme. A large white umbrella is partially visible in the upper right corner. The text "MY PARK, MY POOL, MY CITY" is overlaid in white, bold, serif font in the lower right quadrant. A "2 FT" depth marker is visible on the pool deck in the bottom left corner.

**MY PARK,  
MY POOL,  
MY CITY**

















Dr. Givens







1<sup>ST</sup> LEVEL

## INDIVIDUAL

PERFORMERS, RESIDENTS,  
AUDIENCE MEMBERS

- Improvement in swimming skills.
- Greater sense of self as a creative individual.
- Increased sense of concern for local pools.
- Increased desire to take action in support of city pools.

2<sup>ND</sup> LEVEL

## DEPARTMENT

STAFF, SUPERVISORS

- Increased morale.
- Brought the Aquatics team closer together.
- Positively impacted communications among PARD staff.
- Increased sense of pride in one's work

3<sup>RD</sup> LEVEL

## NEIGHBORHOOD

NEIGHBORHOOD GROUPS

- Increased community pride.
- Positively impacted communication among community members
- Brought the community closer together.
- Increased understanding of community history.

4<sup>TH</sup> LEVEL

## MUNICIPAL

ELECTED OFFICIALS, POLICIES

- Increased knowledge of the City of Austin Aquatics system and its challenges.
- Increased interest in becoming involved in pool advocacy.
- \$40 Million Aquatics Bond package passed.
- Additional \$1.2 million dollars annually.

# Insights from Audience Members

*92% of people surveyed said they had new insights or reflections about Dove Springs Pool or Austin's public pool system based on the performance.*

Most frequent insights included:

- Pools need more support and funding
- The importance of maintenance staff
- How the pool works behind-the-scenes
- The important role of pools in a community
- The large size of Austin's pool system compared to the small size of maintenance staff
- Dove Springs is a vibrant and strong community
- The history of Dove Springs Pool

# Quotes from Audience Members

“Importance of community pools to bring people together”

“All our city workers need their own custom badass soundtrack while they work”

“The community cares for what they have built, a safe place for everyone”

“Gratitude for the people that keep the city pools running”

Que Dove Springs es divertida siempre que su gente esté unida







# **2018 BOND**

**OUR COMMUNITY. OUR FUTURE.**



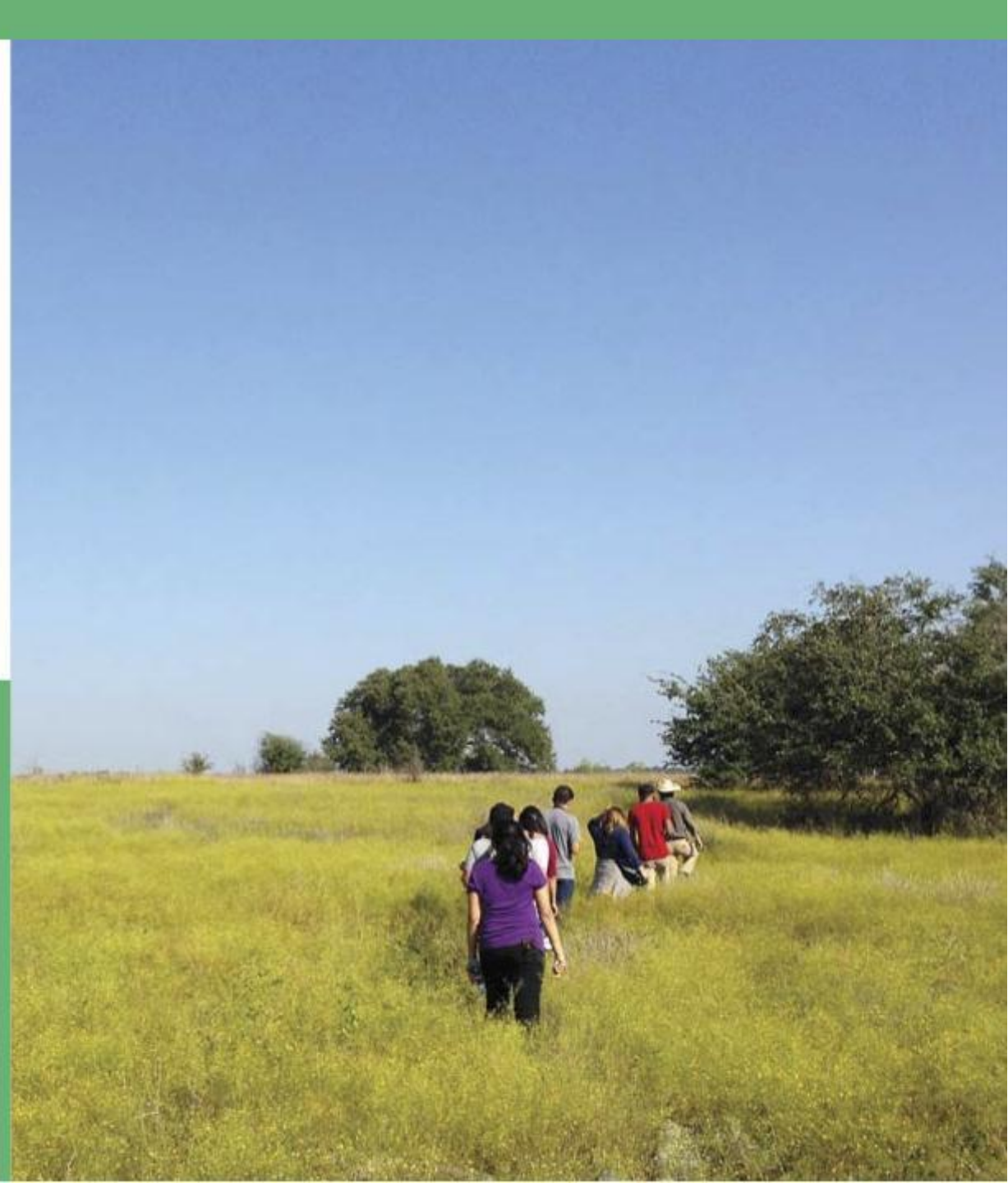


# Proposition C: Parks and Recreation

Proposition C Total: **\$149 million**

This proposition would provide funding for improvements, renovations, and upgrades to various Parks and Recreation assets, as well as for the acquisition of new parkland.

The types of projects and programs to be undertaken as part of this bond proposition, if approved, may include, but are not limited to, the following:



### **Parkland Acquisition \$45 million**

Funding for the acquisition of land, including publicly owned land, to dedicate as parkland, such as a destination park in the Oak Hill area and Lions Municipal Golf Course, infill parks, and greenbelts.

### **Aquatics \$40 million**

Funding for a new Colony Park Pool and major renovations or replacements of existing City pools.

### **Parkland Improvements \$25 million**

Funding for development of existing City parks, including greenbelts, neighborhood parks, district parks, metro parks (such as Roy G. Guerrero Park and John Trevino Jr. Park), and the downtown squares.

### **Building Renovations \$21.5 million**

Funding for renovations/rehabilitation of existing Parks and Recreation facilities and assets, including ADA and safety improvements.

### **Infrastructure \$17.5 million**

Funding for improvements to playscapes, trails, parking lots, and roadways, athletic fields and facilities, and City cemeteries.

### **Ballot Language:**

The issuance of \$149,000,000 in tax supported general obligation bonds and notes for planning, acquiring, constructing, renovating, improving and equipping public parks, recreation centers, natural areas, and other related facilities, including, without limitation, playgrounds, hike and bike trails, sports courts, and swimming pools, and acquiring land and interests in land and property necessary to do so; and the levy of a tax sufficient to pay for the bonds and notes.

















Connecting everyone to the outdoors™

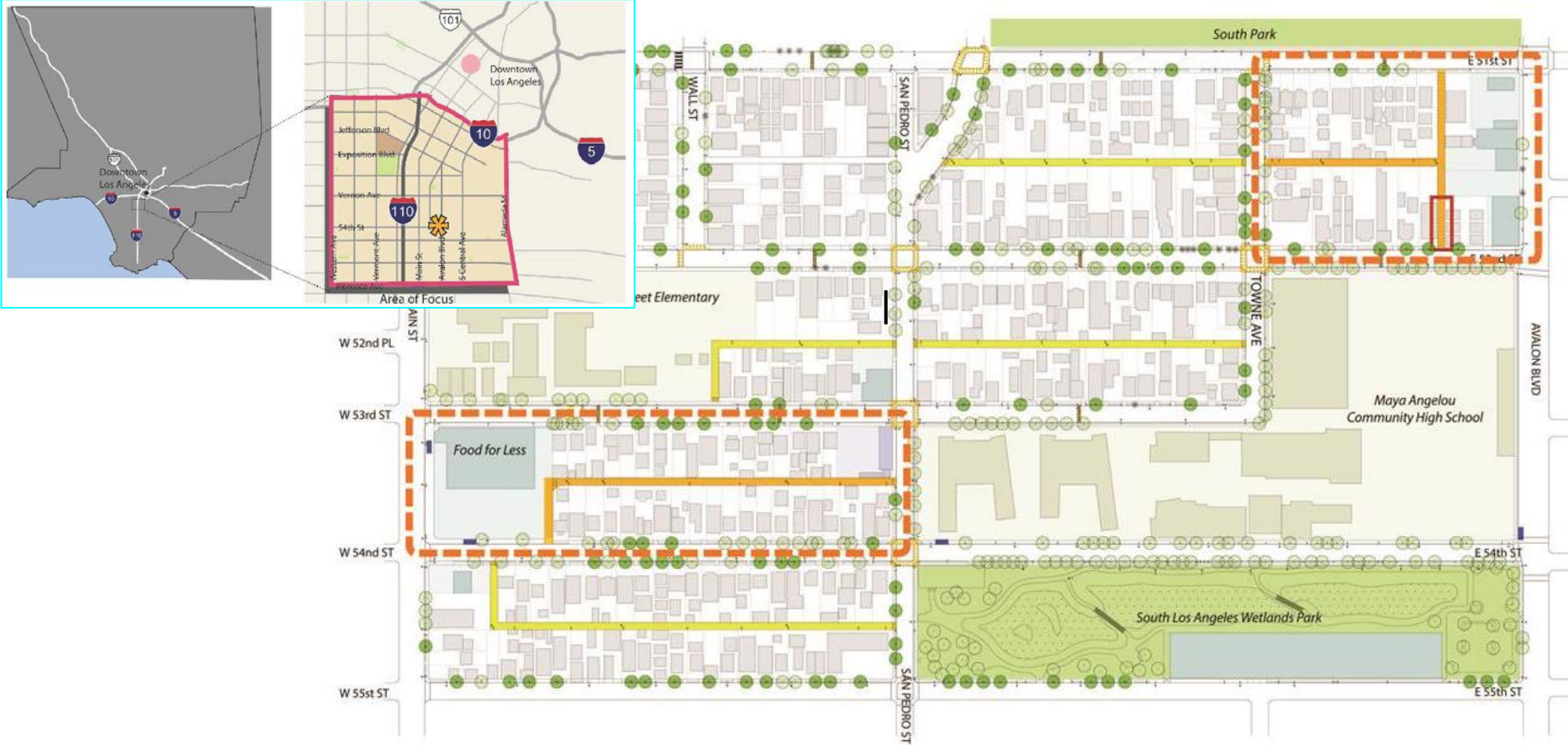
## The Equipo Verde in South Los Angeles: Park and Green Alleys Allies

Sofia Giron, Equipo Verde, Community Leader and Dayana Molina, Trust for Public Land, Community Organizer

Community of Practice, March 09, 2022

# Resumen | Red de Callejones Verde de Avalon

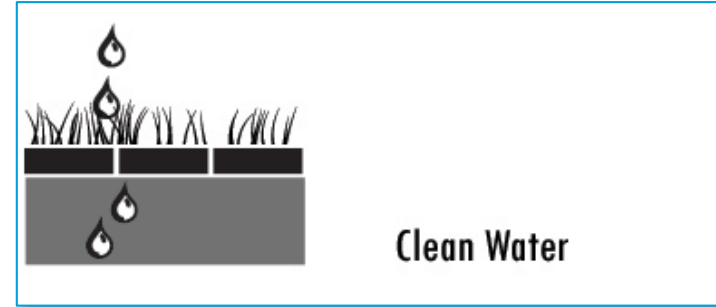
## SUMMARY | Avalon Green Alley Network



# Resumen | Múltiples Beneficios de los Callejones Verdes

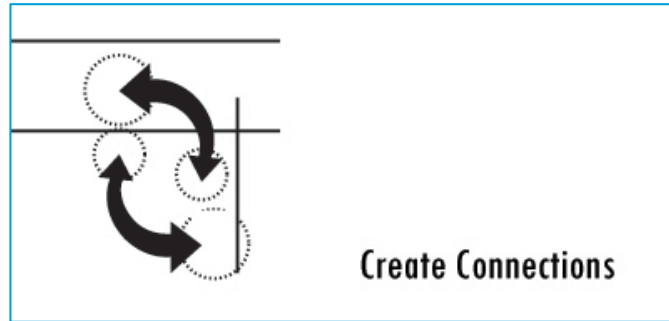
## *SUMMARY | Multiple-Benefits of Green Alleys*

Crea Espacios Abiertos



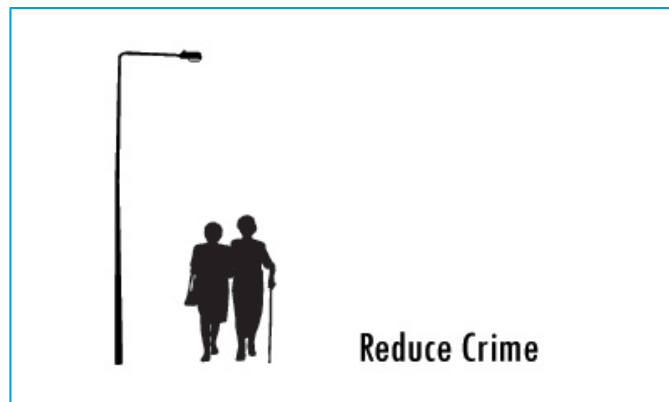
Agua Limpia

Crea Conexiones



Previene inundaciones

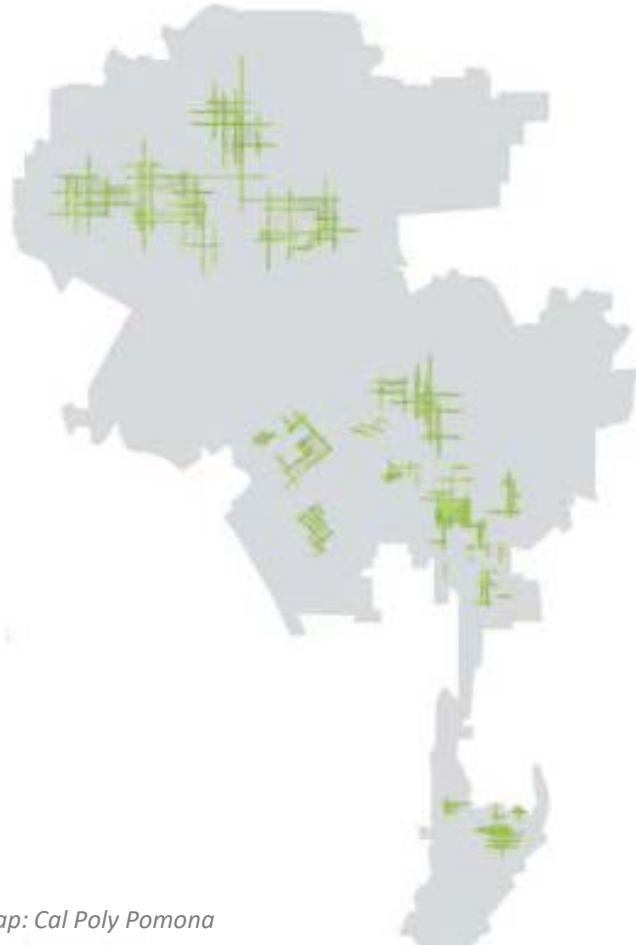
Reduce el Crimen



Reduce el efecto de isla de calor

# Razón Fundamental | ¿Por qué callejones verdes?

*Rationale | Why Green Alleys?*



Map: Cal Poly Pomona



# Razón Fundamental | ¿Por qué callejones verdes?

## *Rationale | Why Green Alleys?*

- La Contaminación del agua
  - Escorrentia al rio de Los Angeles
  - Encharcamiento de aguas pluviales contaminadas
  - Basura
- Isla de calor urbano extremo
  - Dosel de arboles limitados
- Problemas de Salud
  - Las tasas mas altas de obesidad, diabetes y enfermedades cardíacas en el condado
- Pobre de parques
  - 0.42 acres de espacio para 1,000 residentes
- Comunidad con necesidad de mas recursos
  - Falta de sentido de posesion
  - Falta de Seguridad



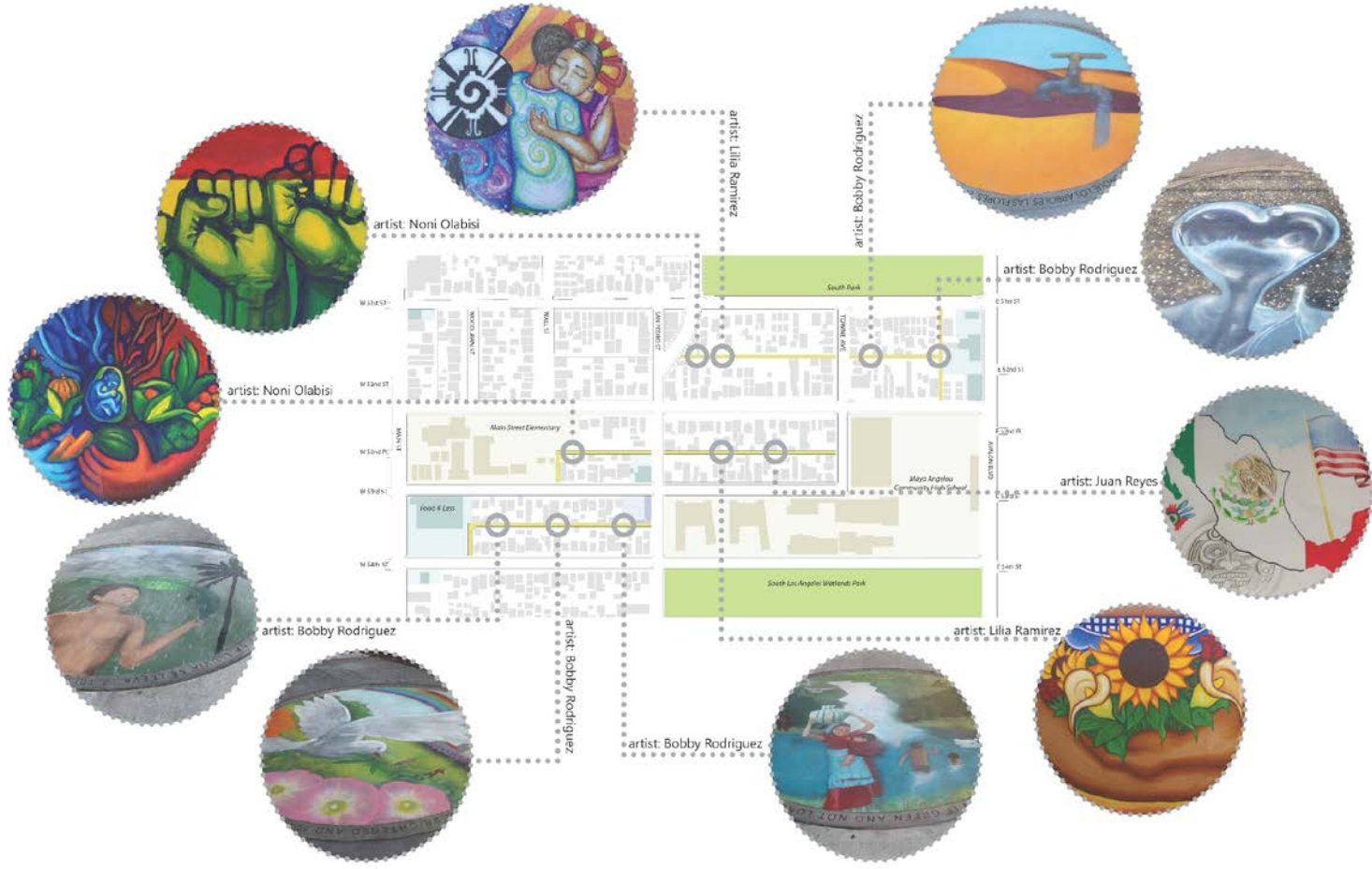
# Enfoque | Participación de la Comunidad

## *Approach | Community Engagement*



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# En Practica | ¿Por qué callejones verdes?

## *In Practice | Why Green Alleys?*



# En Practica | ¿Por qué callejones verdes?

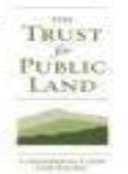
*In Practice | Why Green Alleys?*



# En Practica | ¿Por qué callejones verdes?

## *In Practice | Why Green Alleys?*





*Dr. Maya Angelou Community High School  
Main Street Elementary School  
Jefferson High School  
California State Polytechnic University, Pomona*

*SALT Landscape Architects  
Breen Engineering, Inc.  
Coalition for Responsible Community Development*







## Equipo Verde | Cumple 10 Anos *Equipo Verde| Turns 10*

- Meeting community where they are
  - Sidewalk/alley engagement
  - School parent groups
  - Open membership
- Listening to community
  - engage community early on and often, every step of the way (examples for TPL community cleanups and Equipo Verde Tool Library project)
- Be present
  - Set up ways to engage community on reoccurring basis
  - Resource sharing platform
  - Table often, not every community member knows about your project
- Connect community to other resources
  - Covid 19 Pandemic



Trust for Public Land (TPL) is a national nonprofit that works to connect everyone to the benefits and joys of the outdoors. As a leader in equitable access to the outdoors, TPL works with communities to create parks and protect public land where they are needed most.

Since 1972, TPL has protected more than 3 million acres of public land, created more than 5,000 parks, trails, schoolyards, and iconic outdoor places, raised \$84 billion in public funding for parks and public lands, and connected more than 9 million people to the outdoors.

**Connecting everyone to the outdoors™**

Dayana Molina

[Dayana.Molina@tpl.org](mailto:Dayana.Molina@tpl.org)

# Thank you!