



# Youth Committee

October 9, 2026



# Meeting Minutes – April 10, 2026

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# Walkability Study Summer Internship

CAST STEM



# San Antonio Southwest Side Walkability Study

An In-depth look of Pearsall Park and health of the community





**CAST STEM is a Southwest ISD high school located within Palo Alto College focused around STEM-based education. All of the interns are seniors from CAST STEM who have earned their Part 107 FAA certification.**



**Center for Health  
Empowerment  
in South Texas**

**CHEST is a locally owned non-profit whose goal is to bridge the gap between the health expectancy around San Antonio. They initially approached us at the 2025 Aviation and Aerospace hall of fame.**



**The *Dee Howard* Foundation**

**The Dee Howard Foundation is focused on sparking youth interests in the aerospace career field. They provided us drones, equipment and various softwares for our 3D mapping.**



# Summer Internship Project



## Purpose:

To document and survey the environmental conditions the areas that affect walkability and health, such as:

- Sidewalk quality or absence
- Overgrown vegetation or encroachments
- Illegal dumping sites or litter
- Park access and conditions
- Shade availability and green spaces

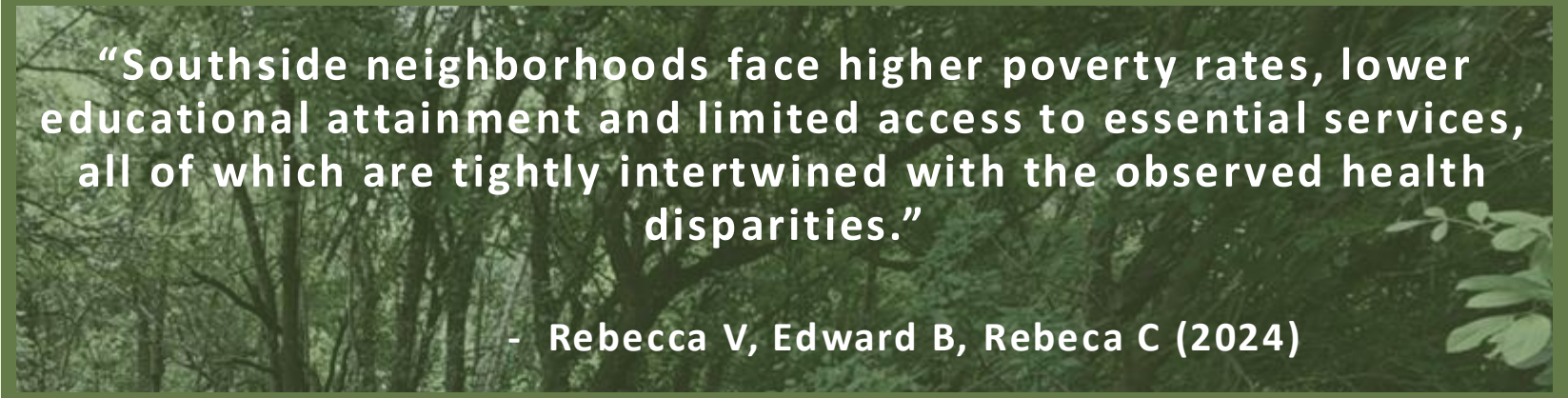
## Drone resources

We were able to use the drone for reaching areas we couldn't reach and to make a layout for a map by using:

- 3rd party waypoint mapping
- Uploading waypoint files onto RC
- Taking timed shots every 2-3 seconds
- Compiling data into 3D models

# Infrastructure and Inequities

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**“Southside neighborhoods face higher poverty rates, lower educational attainment and limited access to essential services, all of which are tightly intertwined with the observed health disparities.”**

**- Rebecca V, Edward B, Rebeca C (2024)**

- Out of the city’s 5,000 hospital beds, only 100 are located south of Hwy 90.
- 28% of San Antonio residents live in a food desert.
- \$6.1 billion in lost productivity annually
- 551,000 life years lost

**“It is important to note, however, that these disparities are rooted in a lack of investment over generations and cannot be attributed solely to individual behaviors.”**

# Benefits of Local Parks



## Health Related

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- Improves cardiovascular health
- Lowers the risk of obesity, diabetes, and heart disease.
- Combats Osteoporosis (Bone Density Loss)
- Improves Mental Health and cognitive abilities

## Community Related

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- Provides a free, safe public meeting place
- Creates local jobs
- Can increase property value
- Removes urban air pollution
- Volunteer opportunity
- Educational outdoors activities

# Defining Walkability

## Key Components

- **Pedestrian Infrastructure**: The presence of continuous, well-maintained sidewalks, accessible crosswalks, traffic calming, and safe intersections.
- **Transit Connectivity**: Public transportation, reducing the need for private vehicle ownership.
- **Proximity & Density**: Having a high concentration of mixed-use buildings, places, and daily destinations within a short, comfortable distance.

## Definition

The measure of how friendly an area is to pedestrians.



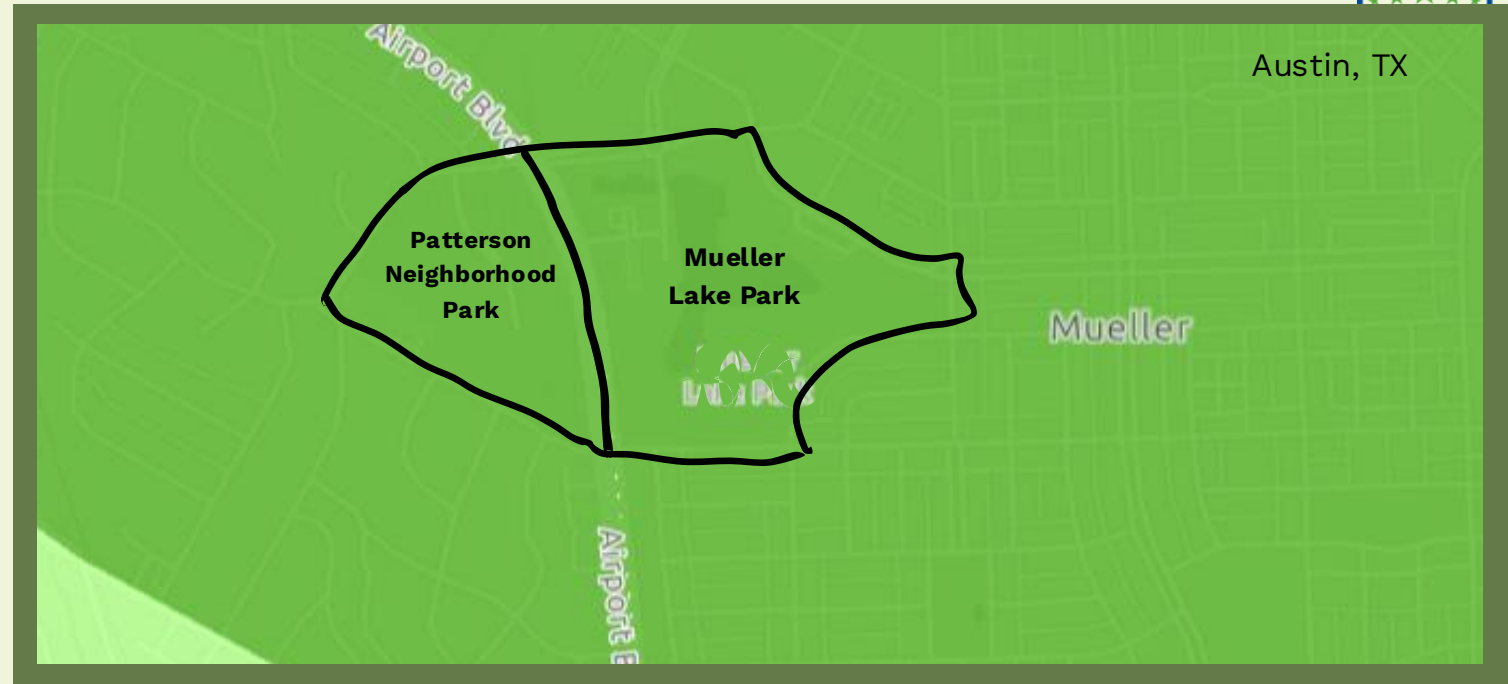
# US ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

## EPA Walkability Index

Provides walkability scores based on a formula that ranks indicators from the Smart Location Database that have been demonstrated to affect the propensity of walk trips.

SLD summarizes more than 90 different indicators:

- density of development
- diversity of land use
- street network design
- accessibility to destinations
- demographic employment statistics



### Walkability Index

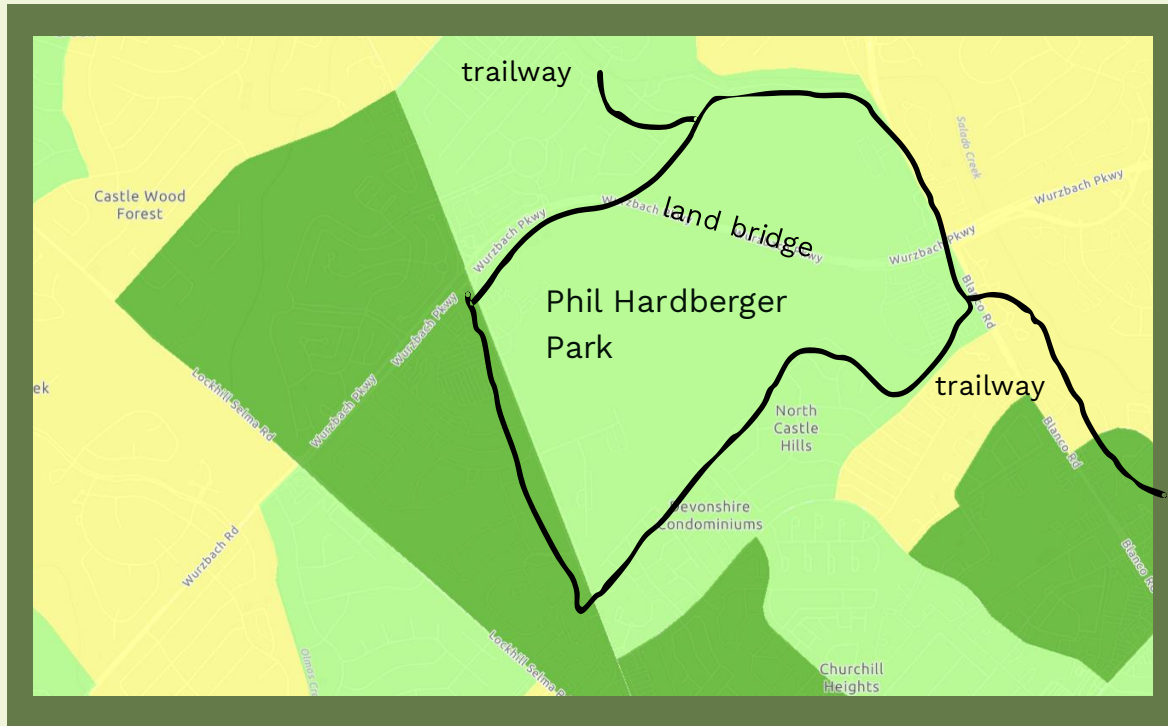
- 1 - 5.75 (Least Walkable)
- 5.76 - 10.50 (Below Average Walkable)
- 10.51 - 15.25 (Above Average Walkable)
- 15.26 - 20 (Most Walkable)



# EPA Walkability

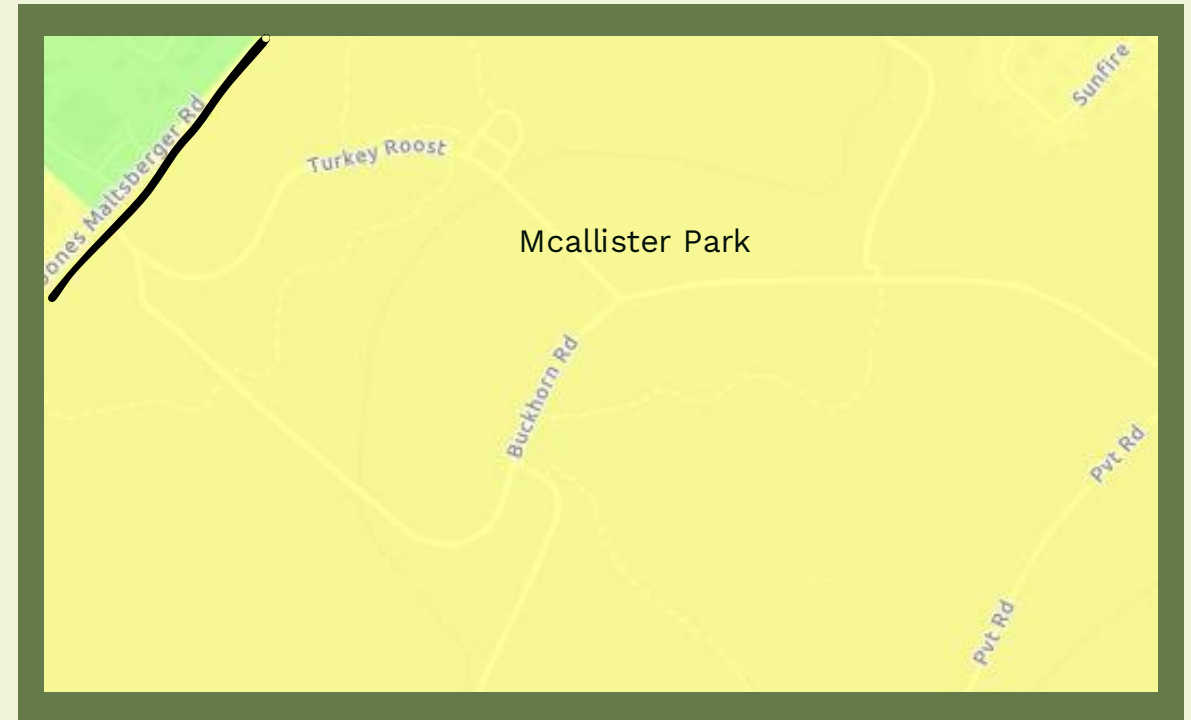


Phil Hardberger Park



- 10.51 - 15.25 (Above Average Walkable)
- 15.26 - 20 (Most Walkable)

McAllister Park



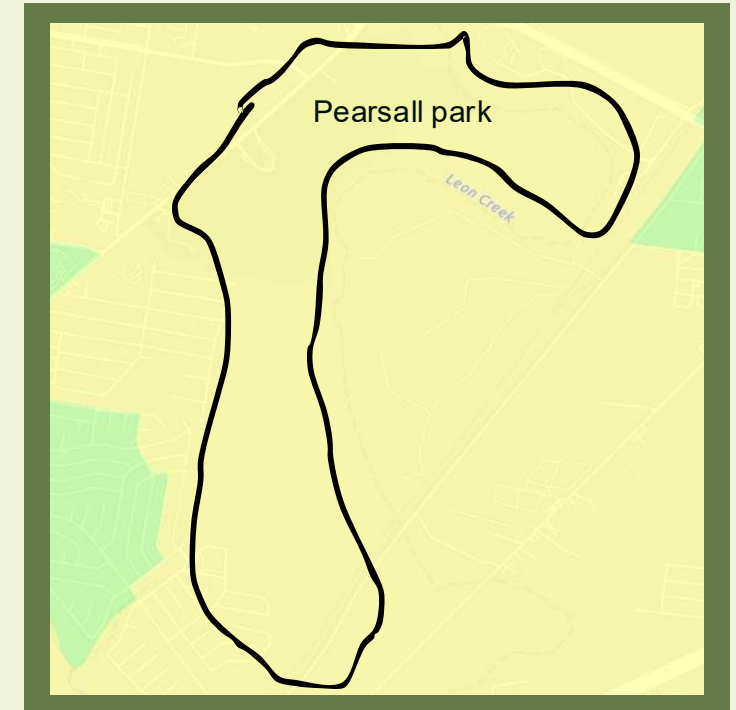
- 1 - 5.75 (Least Walkable)
- 5.76 - 10.50 (Below Average Walkable)

# PEARSALL EPA WALKABILITY SCORE

- **3.9 miles from grocery store**
- **3.6 miles from Emergency Room**
- **3 bus stops within 5 min. walk**

## Walkability Index

-  1 - 5.75 (Least Walkable)
-  5.76 - 10.50 (Below Average Walkable)
-  10.51 - 15.25 (Above Average Walkable)
-  15.26 - 20 (Most Walkable)



# WALKSCORE



Measures from 0-100, Walk Score's data algorithm is aligned with latest academic research intended for analysts and researchers in the fields of real estate, urban planning, government, public health, and finance.

**Walk Score**

**1 - 100**

**Walk Score**

Based on walking routes to destinations such as grocery stores, schools, parks, restaurants, and retail.

**Transit Score**

**1 - 100**

**Transit Score**

Calculates distance to closest bus stop on each route, analyzes route frequency and type.

**Bike Score**

**1 - 100**

**Bike Score**

Based on bike infrastructure, topography, destinations and road connectivity.

# Walkability Throughout San Antonio



## Phil Hardberger Park



Car-Dependent  
Almost errands require a car.



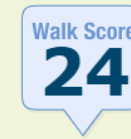
Some Transit  
A few nearby public transportation options.



Bikeable  
Some bike infrastructure.



## McAllister Park



Car-Dependent  
Most errands require a car.



Minimal Transit  
It is possible to get on a bus.



Somewhat Bikeable  
Minimal bike infrastructure.



# Pearsall Park Walk Score



## Car-Dependent

Most errands require a car.



## Some Transit

A few nearby public transportation options.



## Somewhat Bikeable

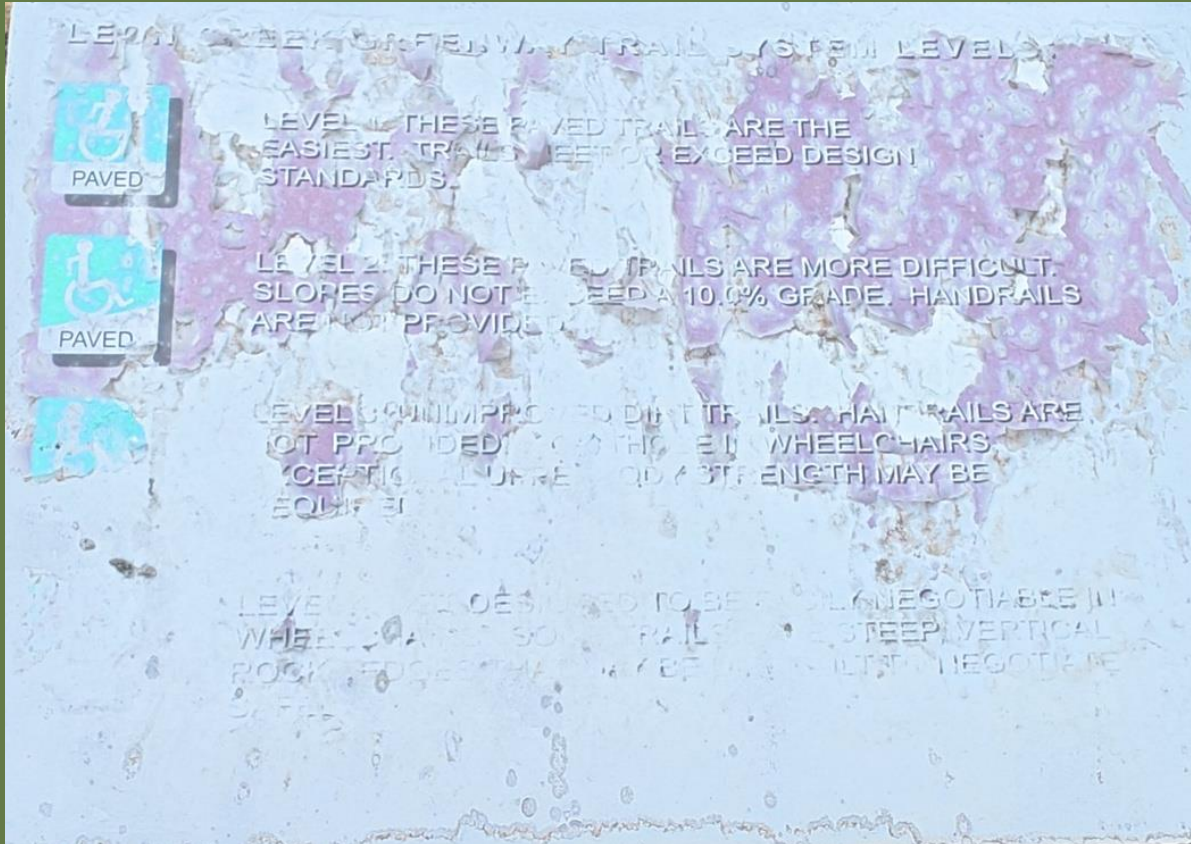
Minimal bike infrastructure.



# Trailhead Signage



- Located near Pumptrack, often unknown to many visitors



## Illegible Wheelchair Accessibility



- Park hours 5AM - 11PM
- Trail hours Sunrise - Sunset

# Push For Change

## **Pet Waste and Trash Receptacles**

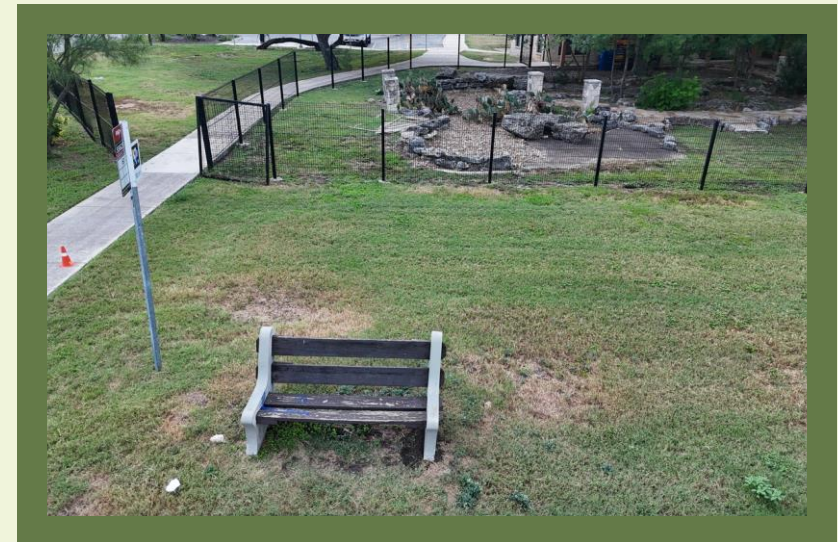
There is a need for the lack of trash receptacles for pet waste and other trash. The ones that were in the park were either damaged or overflowing.

## **Bus Stops**

Some bus stops within walking distance have no covering or a safe way to pass over Old Pearsall Road. Endangering both pedestrians and vehicles.

## **Community Events**

Frequent city sponsored and independent events, but no online presence or official calender for parkgoers to be informed.



# Need for shade

## Shaded Areas

With Texas being as hot as it is, inadequate shade is both insufferable and dangerous. Many tables and bus stops in the area weren't shaded.

Many spots had minimal shade such as

- Some areas along the trail
- On top midden mound and around Cox Tract
- Outer parts of playground
- Bus stops around park





# Geocaching

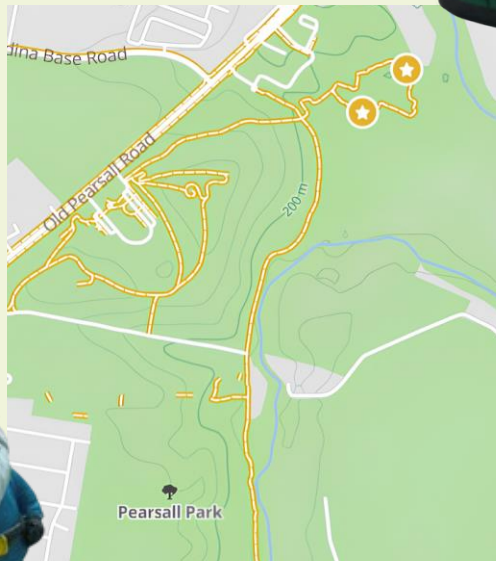
Geocaching is a real-world treasure-hunting experience that gets people outdoors. We placed geocaches around Pearsall Park to encourage people to be more active, explore the park, and enjoy the outdoors.

## Survey

We gave out physical and digital surveys about the park to the locals each Pearsall Park visit.



Survey QR Code



# Pearsall Park Conservancy



## Benefits

- Publicity for city and non-city sponsored events
- Preserve native plant and animal life
- Coordinates volunteer opportunities & educational outside classrooms
- Oversees maintenance, construction, park improvements
- More event spaces
- Fundraising & donation



Pictured: Phil Hardberger Conservancy

# PROJECT LEAD ORGANIZATION



The **Dee Howard Foundation**



Center for Health  
Empowerment  
in South Texas



## Project sponsor Organization





# Questions





# Marketing Updates

Penny Benavidez, Director of Public & Government Relations





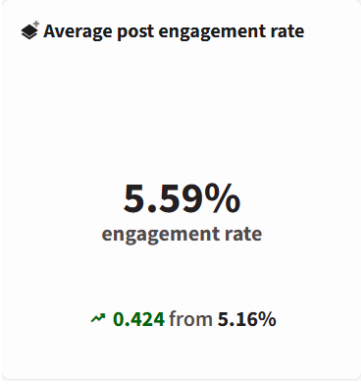
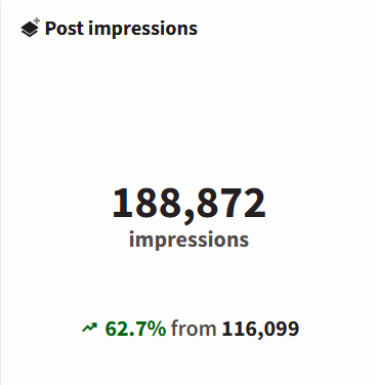
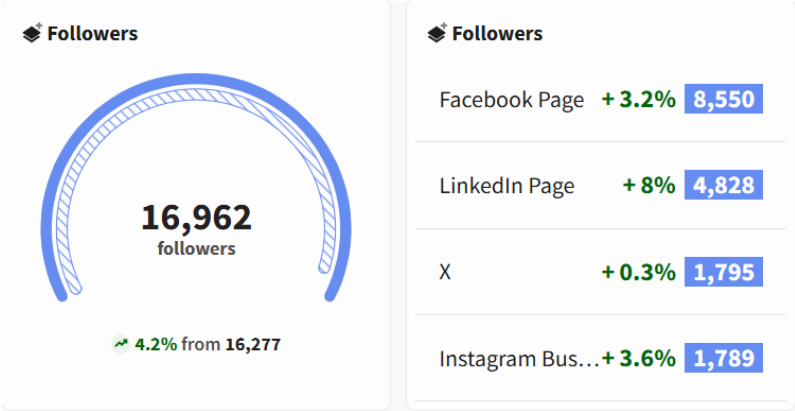
# Media Coverage (May – Aug.)

| Media Outlet                                                             | Date          | Topic                                                                                                  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| San Antonio Woman Magazine                                               | May/June      | Adrian Lopez - "Guy to Know"                                                                           |
| KSAT 12                                                                  | May 5, 2026   | San Antonio Veterans Getting Direct Pipeline to Small Business Ownership through New City Program      |
| Hill Country Community Journal, Kens5, MyFoxZone, Yahoo News, KABB, KSCC | May 6, 2026   | Construction & Skilled Trades Expo on May 12.                                                          |
| San Antonio Report                                                       | May 12, 2026  | San Antonio's Workforce is Evolving. Local Employers Have a Unique Opportunity to Shape its Future.    |
| New Braunfels Herald-Zeitung                                             | June 5, 2026  | Mother, Son Share Moment at Workforce Solutions Alamo Award Ceremony                                   |
| San Antonio Report                                                       | Jul. 7, 2026  | Alamo Colleges District Launches One-Stop Hub for Workforce Training Programs                          |
| WSA Press Release                                                        | Jul. 22, 2026 | Hill Country & South Texas Flood Recovery Resources   We're Here To Help                               |
| San Antonio Report                                                       | Jul. 23, 2026 | San Antonio has Lost 2k Manufacturing jobs since 2024. Industry Experts say they Aren't Too Concerned. |

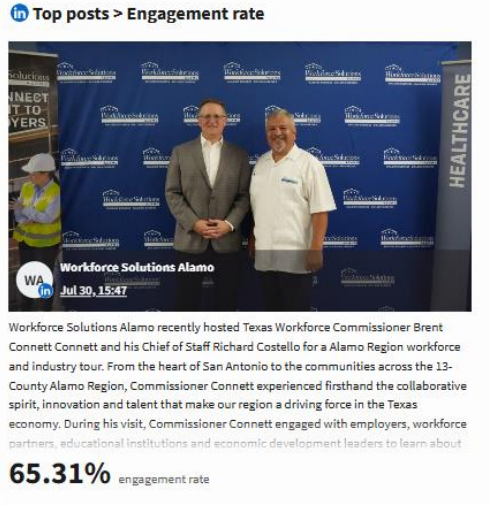
# Social Media Metrics:



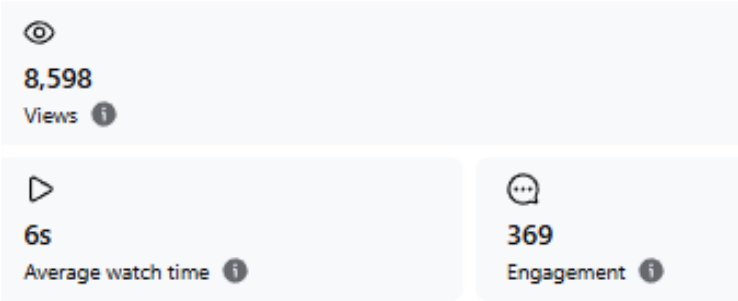
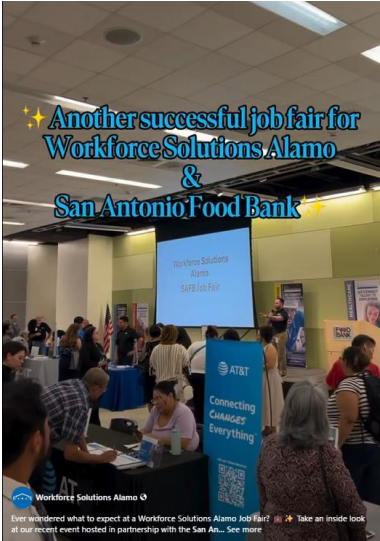
## Followers, Reach, and Engagement:



## Top Performing Posts:



## Capturing Impact Through Video Storytelling:





# Trades Discovery Day

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- **Hosted on Sept. 19th by:**
  - Alamo Trades Club
  - Boys & Girls Club of SA
- **Event introduced teens to careers in the skilled trades:**
  - Hands-on experiences
  - Industry presentations
  - Interactive workshops



ENTRIES CLOSED: October 2, 2026



# WSA Design Contests

- **2027 Fiesta Medal Design Contest**
  - Theme: "Workforce Superhero"
  - Eligibility: Alamo Region K-12 Students
  - Entries: **65+ Entries**
    - Elementary School = 7
    - Middle School = 17
    - High School = 37
- **WSA Mascot Design Contest**
  - Ideas: Careers/Industries, South Texas Roots, Local Culture and Wildlife
  - Eligibility: All Ages in the Alamo Region
  - Entries: **80 Entries**

**Workforce Solutions ALAMO**  
BUILDING BUSINESS • BUILDING CAREERS

ENTER FOR A CHANCE TO WIN  
**DESIGN CONTESTS**  
SHOWCASE YOUR TALENT

ENTER BY:  
SEPT. 30<sup>TH</sup>, 2026

**2027 Fiesta Medal Design Contest**

Design the official 2027 Workforce Solutions Alamo Fiesta Medal and bring our "Workforce Superhero" theme to life!

\*Must be a student K-12 and reside in the 13-County Alamo Region.

**Official Mascot Design Contest**

Your design could make history as the first-ever Workforce Solutions Alamo mascot!

\*Must reside in the 13-County Alamo Region.

Learn more about the contest & submit artwork online at:  
[www.WorkforceSolutionsAlamo.org](http://www.WorkforceSolutionsAlamo.org)



# Summer Earn & Learn Recognition Event



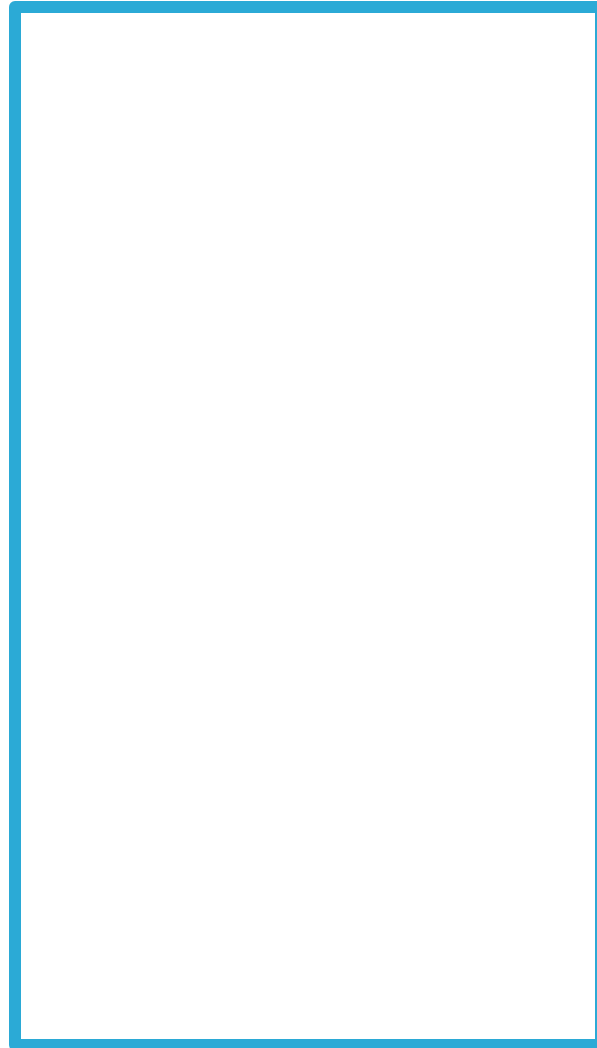
*"One of the things she learned is that she can work.  
That she can get a job. And that she can be successful."*

*- SEAL Participant Parent*



# Summer Earn & Learn Recognition Event

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# 2026 Hiring Red, White & You!

- **2026 Hiring Red, White & You!**

Monday, November 9, 2026

9 a.m – 1 p.m.

(9 – 10 a.m. Priority Service Hour)

Boeing Center at Tech Port

3331 General Hudnell Drive

San Antonio, TX 78226



- **SA Veterans Parade**

Saturday, November 7, 2026

12 noon – 1 p.m.

Milam Park to Houston St.

(Downtown San Antonio, TX)

**Hiring & You!**  
Red, White & You!

**15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

**Largest Hiring Event of the Year**

**NOVEMBER 9, 2026**  
**9:00 AM – 1:00 PM**

**Boeing Center  
at Tech Port**

**BOEING**

**WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS ALAMO**

**TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION**

**WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS TMC**

**TEXAS MEDICAL CENTER**

**PORT SAN ANTONIO**

**TEXAS VETERANS COMMISSION**

A proud partner of the AmericanJobCenter network



# Questions





# Program Updates

Victoria Rodriguez, Director of Workforce Services





# Summer Earn and Learn (SEAL)

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Offers paid, on-the-job, workplace readiness training, work experience, and transferable skills learning opportunities for students with disabilities.

**474**

Student Registrations

**281**

Successful Job Placements

**214**

Students Completing More Than Five Weeks

**28,546**

Total Hours Worked

**\$385,378**

Total Wages Earned

**67**

Participating Worksites



# Student HIreAbility Navigators

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## Disability Etiquette Training

Trained 160+ staff on disability awareness and inclusive service delivery.



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## NDEAM HireAbility Events

Hosted disability-focused career events engaging approximately 39 employers.



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## Helping Hands & Educational Corner

Planning a November event with 30+ disability and postsecondary resource providers.



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## Education & Community Outreach

Engaged schools, colleges, and communities to promote Pre-ETS and workforce services.



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## Employer Engagement

Partnered with Toyota, CPS Energy, and others to expand youth employment opportunities.



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## Work-Based Learning

Connected students with internships, apprenticeships, and summer employment opportunities.



# TX FAME

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## Completed Activities

- June 4 – AMT Graduation: 29 students graduated.
- August 12 – Signing Day & AMT Orientation: 36 students.
- August 13 – MCE 1 Safety Culture Training completed.
- October 1 – Manufacturing Month Proclamation accepted.
- Sponsors: Toyota, TTTX, H-E-B, JCB, Millennium Steel, International.

## Upcoming Activities & Annual Timeline

- Oct 2026–Mar 2027: Application and recruitment period.
- Oct 2026–May 2027: Employer applicant reviews and selection.
- May 2027: Final eligibility, enrollment, and employer selections.
- July 2027: Signing Day, Orientation, and Safety Training.
- Post-Orientation: AMTs begin summer employment with sponsors.



# Questions





# Career Exploration Events

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## July 19 – Intern Day

Connected youth to career exploration, workplace exposure, and internship opportunities across regional industries.



## September 19 – Trades Discovery Day

Introduced youth to skilled trades, hands-on career pathways, and high-demand occupations.



## October 8 – Alamo HIRES

Connected youth with employers, career pathways, and workforce opportunities across the Alamo region.



## Early November – CTE Town Hall

Engages students in CTE pathways and connects education to regional workforce opportunities.



# Questions



# Performance Briefing

Victoria Rodriguez, Director of Workforce Services





# TWC MPR June 2026

| Youth Performance Measure     | Numerator | Denominator | Actual Performance | Negotiated Target | Adjusted Target | % of Target    | Reporting Period | Program Year | Performance vs. Target                                                                              |
|-------------------------------|-----------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Youth: Credential Rate        | 102       | 163         | <b>62.58%</b>      | 57.45%            | 57.45%          | <b>108.93%</b> | 01/24 – 12/24    | 26           |  <b>108.93%</b>  |
| Youth: Employed/Enrolled Q2   | 242       | 313         | <b>77.32%</b>      | 74.21%            | 74.21%          | <b>104.19%</b> | 07/24 – 06/25    | 26           |  <b>104.19%</b>  |
| Youth: Employed/Enrolled Q4   | 255       | 343         | <b>74.34%</b>      | 75.56%            | 75.56%          | <b>98.39%</b>  | 01/24 – 12/24    | 26           |  <b>98.39%</b>   |
| Youth: Measurable Skill Gains | 167       | 187         | <b>89.30%</b>      | 65.30%            | 65.30%          | <b>136.75%</b> | 07/25 – 06/26    | 26           |  <b>136.75%</b>  |
| Youth: Median Earnings Q2     | N/A       | 215         | <b>\$4,337.55</b>  | \$4,000           | \$4,000         | <b>108.44%</b> | 07/24 – 06/25    | 26           |  <b>108.44%</b> |

0%

50%

100%

150%

\*TWC I|3 has suppressed all measures except for REEMS and Initial Job Search.



# Planned Participant Summary

## WIOA YTD Performance by Service Type Program Year 2025–2026 (October – September)

### WIOA ISY

#### Rural – YTD Performance (ISY)

| Service Type       | Total YTD | YTD Goal | Difference | % of Goal | 90% Target | % Target |
|--------------------|-----------|----------|------------|-----------|------------|----------|
| Support Services   | 58        | 114      | -56        | 50.9%     | 103        | 56.5%    |
| Education/Training | 6         | 11       | -5         | 54.5%     | 10         | 60.6%    |
| Work Experience    | 33        | 57       | -24        | 57.9%     | 51         | 64.3%    |

#### Urban – YTD Performance (ISY)

| Service Type       | Total YTD | YTD Goal | Difference | % of Goal | 90% Target | % Target |
|--------------------|-----------|----------|------------|-----------|------------|----------|
| Support Services   | 115       | 254      | -139       | 45.3%     | 229        | 50.3%    |
| Education/Training | 23        | 41       | -18        | 56.1%     | 37         | 62.3%    |
| Work Experience    | 90        | 197      | -107       | 45.7%     | 177        | 50.8%    |

### WIOA OSY

#### Rural – YTD Performance (OSY)

| Service Type       | Total YTD | YTD Goal | Difference | % of Goal | 90% Target | % Target |
|--------------------|-----------|----------|------------|-----------|------------|----------|
| Support Services   | 33        | 29       | 6          | 120.7%    | 26         | 134.1%   |
| Education/Training | 2         | 1        | 1          | 200.0%    | 1          | 222.2%   |
| Work Experience    | 25        | 23       | 2          | 108.7%    | 21         | 120.8%   |

#### Urban – YTD Performance (OSY)

| Service Type       | Total YTD | YTD Goal | Difference | % of Goal | 90% Target | % Target |
|--------------------|-----------|----------|------------|-----------|------------|----------|
| Support Services   | 24        | 115      | -91        | 20.9%     | 104        | 23.2%    |
| Education/Training | 0         | 1        | -1         | 0.0%      | 1          | 0.0%     |
| Work Experience    | 34        | 69       | -35        | 49.3%     | 62         | 54.8%    |

\*Data to August 2026.

\*May vary on available funding.



# Questions





# Youth Services Transition Overview

Victoria Rodriguez, Director of Workforce Services





# Key Transition Activities

## Staff Transition & Leadership

Onboarded 14 staff, established system access, and selected a Youth Program Manager.

## Participant & WEX Continuity

Transitioned active Youth/WEX participants into C2 GPS; reviewed agreements and resolved documentation.

## Timekeeping & Payroll

Delivered four virtual HR timekeeping orientations; monitored timesheet approvals and discrepancies.

## Training & Staff Development

Covered WEX procedures, eligibility, MSG documentation, case closures, and HR onboarding.

## Quality Assurance

Conducted Youth case reviews; resolved eligibility, documentation, and case-management deficiencies.

## Performance & Case Management

Reviewed WEX, training, follow-up, and closure cases; enhanced case-status tracking.

## Ongoing Stabilization

Compiled WEX documentation, corrected legacy issues, and standardized operating practices.



# CEO Report

Adrian Lopez





# Atascosa Internship Award



# Youth Services Briefing

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# Questions





# Chair Report





# Questions



# Thank you!

