

AISD 05-20-2021



AISD Environmental Stewardship Advisory Committee (ESAC)

May 20, 2021

The purpose of the ESAC is to assist the district in being a recognized example of environmental education, stewardship, and sustainability.





AGENDA

Welcome & Announcements	5:30-5:40
Public Comments	5:40-5:50
Chair Elections	5:50-6:20
Application of Equity by Design	6:20-6:50
Action Area Updates	6:50-7:25
Requests for Future Meeting Topics	7:25-7:30

Watch live: bit.ly/ESACvideo . The link is also posted on Twitter @AISDGreen



Tech Tips

1. Thank you for your patience, we are learning together.
2. “Rename” yourself in Zoom so that we can see your first and last name.
3. We encourage you to use your video so we can see one another’s wonderful faces!
4. Please keep your microphone muted unless you are speaking. This helps minimize background noise.
5. This webcast is being recorded and also broadcast on YouTube.



Tech Tips

6. Please use the “raise hand” button to ask a question or provide a comment.

7. *Operation: Pumpernickel!*



Public Comments

Visit austinisd.org/advisory-bodies/esac/meetings to submit public comments by noon the day of the meeting



Announcements



THANK
YOU

KEEP IT MOVING

AWARD



Rob Borowski & Kris Hafezizadeh

ARE HEREBY RECOGNIZED FOR MAKING SURE STUDENTS GET TO SCHOOL
SAFELY...MUCH TO THE DELIGHT OF THEIR PARENTS!

ESAC Leadership Team

ESAC LEADERSHIP TEAM

May 20, 2021

DATE

HALL MONITOR

AWARD



Ashley Williams & Rey Torres

ARE HEREBY RECOGNIZED FOR BEING THE MOST VIGILANT WHEN
COLLECTING ENERGY & WATER DATA...YOU TWO KEEP US ENERGIZED!

ESAC Leadership Team

ESAC LEADERSHIP TEAM

May 20, 2021

DATE

FIRST RESPONDER

AWARD



Aimee Aubin

IS HEREBY RECOGNIZED FOR ALWAYS BEING THE FIRST TO RUSH INTO
AREAS THE REST OF US HAVE SUCCESSFULLY AVOIDED!

ESAC Leadership Team

ESAC LEADERSHIP TEAM

May 20, 2021

DATE

ABACUS AWARD

AWARD



Diane Grodek & Anne Muller

ARE HEREBY RECOGNIZED FOR BEING THERE FOR US TO COUNT ON &
CONSTANTLY DOING MATH TO ADD NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

ESAC Leadership Team

ESAC LEADERSHIP TEAM

May 20, 2021

DATE

MASTER OF LAUGHTER

AWARD



Amanda Mortl Walker

IS HEREBY RECOGNIZED FOR ACTUALLY MAKING USED PAPER PRODUCTS,
CONGEALED CARROTS AND MILK CARTONS SOUND ENTERTAINING.

ESAC Leadership Team

ESAC LEADERSHIP TEAM

May 20, 2021

DATE

SINGLE FILE

AWARD



Darien Clary

IS HEREBY RECOGNIZED FOR ALWAYS KEEPING EVERYONE IN LINE.

ESAC Leadership Team

ESAC LEADERSHIP TEAM

May 20, 2021

DATE

ESAC Chair Elections!

Responsibilities:

- Plan direction and priorities for ESAC (with staff)
- Develop ESAC meeting agendas (with staff)
- Establish subcommittees (with staff)
- Lead all non-subcommittee ESAC meetings and enforce parliamentary procedures (subcommittee chairs lead their respective meetings).
- Represent the ESAC and sign on behalf of ESAC
 - Perform other ESAC-related responsibilities as requested by Superintendent or ESAC staff coordinators



ESAC Chair Elections!

THE NOMINEES



ESAC Chair Elections!

Aimee Aubin

Jennifer Cregar

Dub Taylor



ESAC Chair Elections!



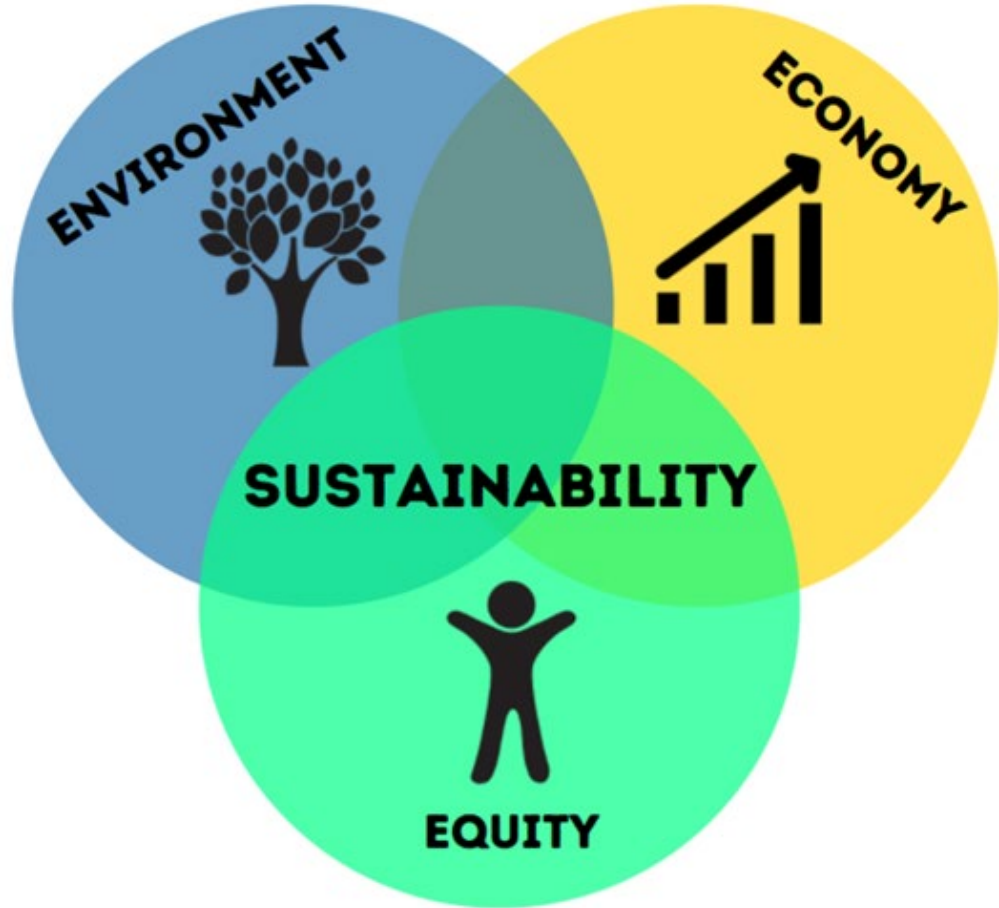
ESAC Chair Elections!



Application of Equity by Design

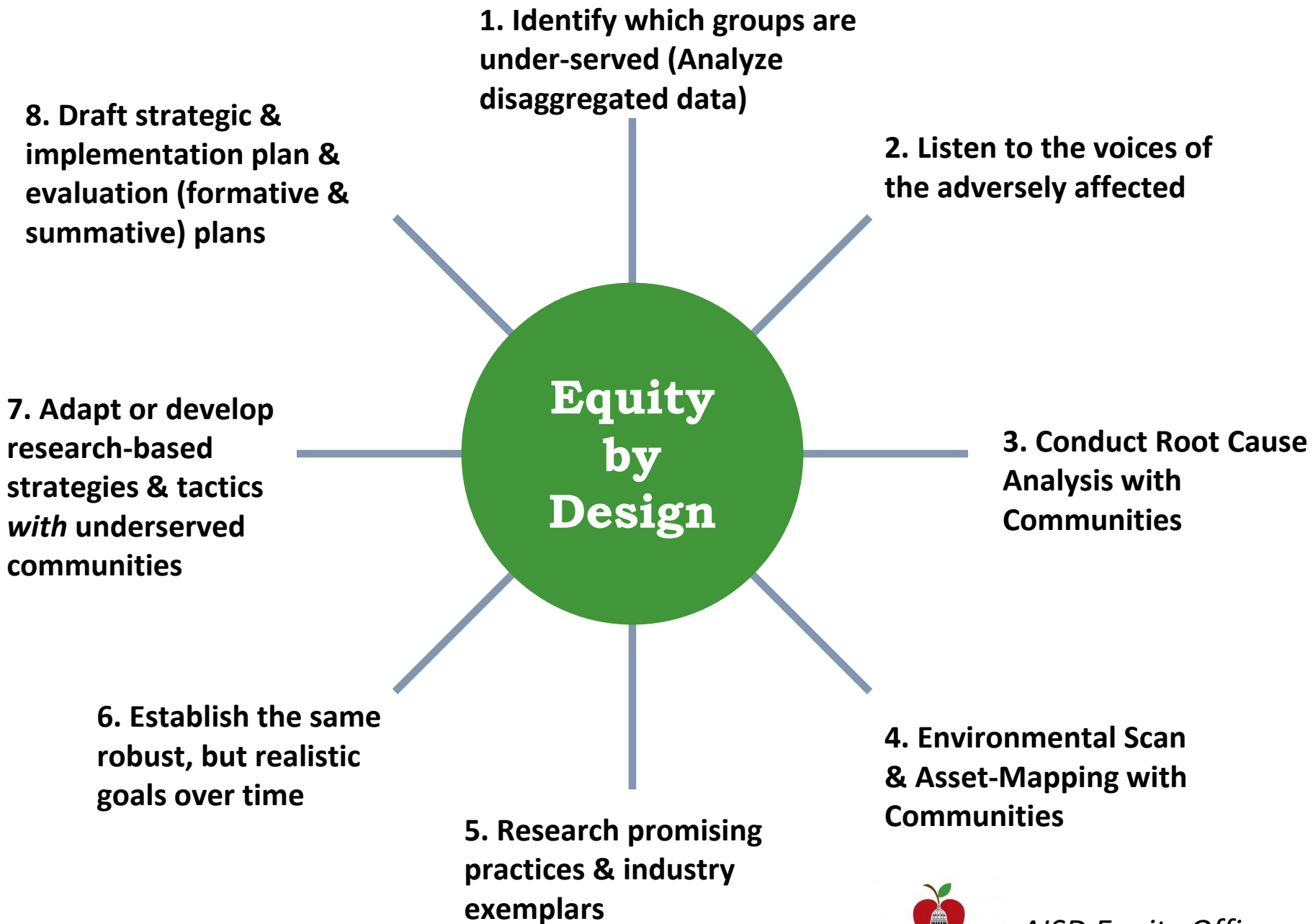
Matt Mears, Darien Clary, Aimee Aubin





Source: www.sustain.ucla.edu/equity-diversity-and-inclusion-in-sustainability/





Equity in Tree Planting Prioritization

- Sustainability Plan
 - Nature
 - Goal 4: Implement sustainable practices and carbon sequestration into AISD land management
 - Increase tree canopy at AISD schools



Equity in Tree Planting Prioritization

- Urban Forest Grant 2021
 - \$650,000
 - ~600 trees
 - ~15 campuses
- How do we choose between 130 facilities?
 - Demand-driven vs. data-driven



Equity in Tree Planting Prioritization

- AISD tree inventory
 - Species diversity
 - Size distribution
 - Tree density
- COA canopy cover analysis
 - % canopy cover per school

Neither illuminates social/demographic disparities

The most densely forested campuses show canopy coverage of over 45%, while 55 AISD schools have canopy coverage of less than 10%. (COA: 31%)



Equity in Tree Planting Prioritization

- City of Austin Community Tree Priority Map
 - Natural Environment (% canopy, floodplains, heat island)
 - Community Investment (prior funds disbursed)
 - Health/Well-being (physical/mental health, air pollution)
 - **Social Vulnerability Index**



Equity in Tree Planting Prioritization

- Social Vulnerability Index
 - Wealth
 - Language and education
 - Age
 - Housing
 - Social status
 - Gender
- Overlaps with AISD Historically
Underserved Students &
Communities

<https://www.austinindicators.org/project/climate-and-community-resilience/>



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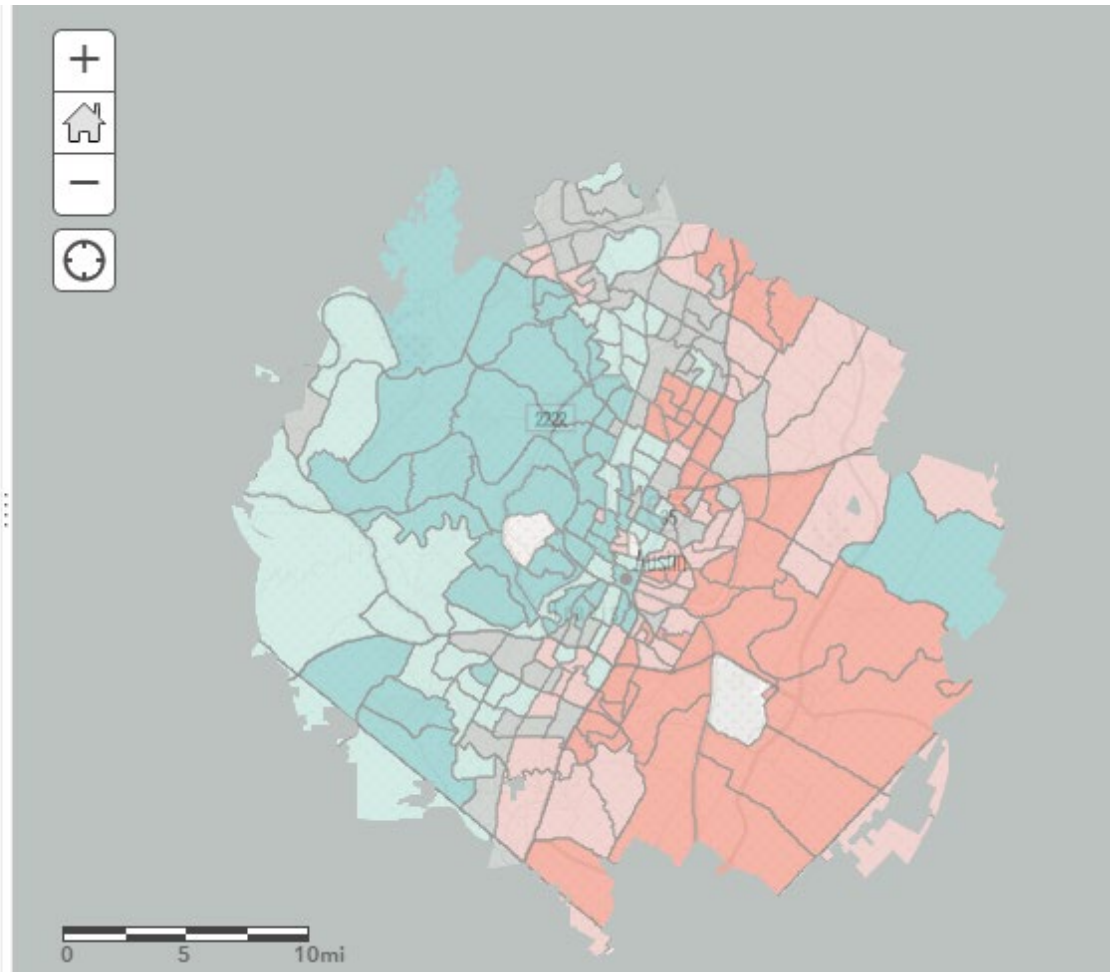
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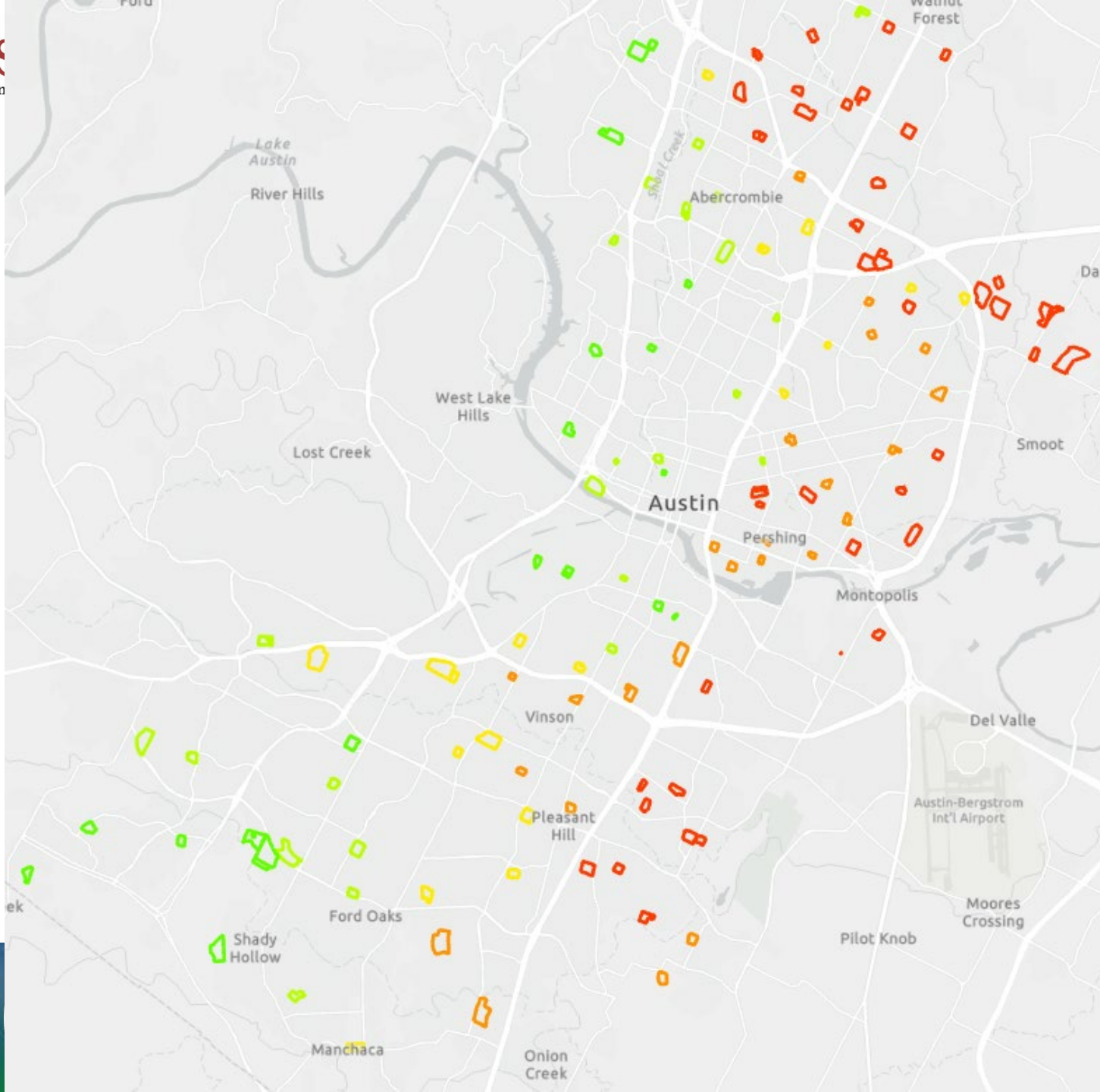


Zipcodes

Community Tree Priorities 2020

- Highest
- High
- Moderate
- Low
- Lowest





Equity in Tree Planting

Prioritization

Next step: combine this information with AISD specific information

- **AISD Prioritization Matrix**

- Social factors:
 - Filtered by schools in High-Highest Priority COA zones (38 schools)
 - %ELLs, % Economically Disadv.
- Biological/Ecological Factors:
 - Ranked by
 - Campus canopy cover
 - Overall tree density
 - Density of small trees
 - Result: 17 schools

All schools on 2021 list have >70% economically disadvantaged families, with 11 of 17 above 90%. 8 of the 17 schools have a majority of English language learners, with no school below 20%.

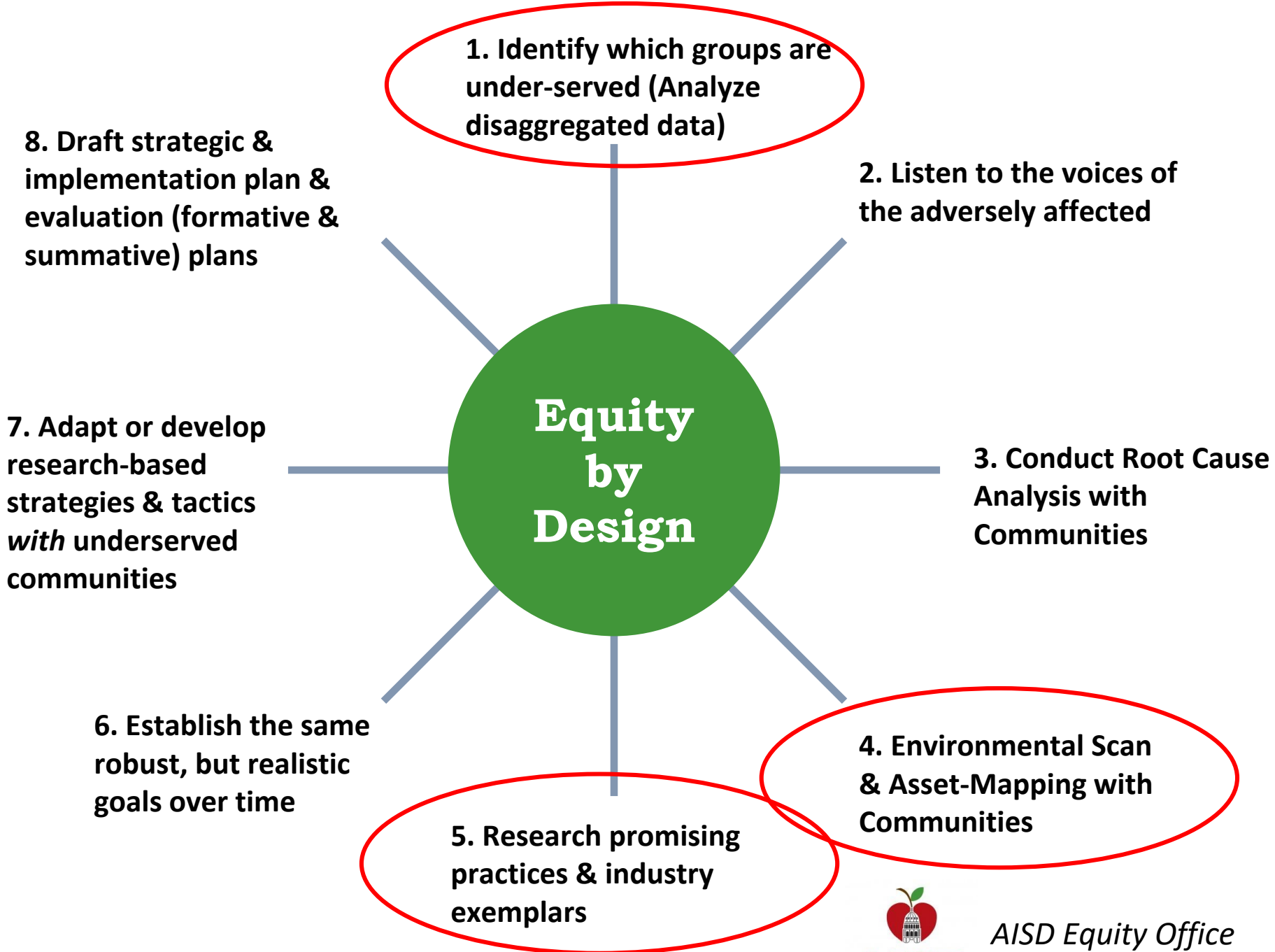


Equity in Tree Planting Prioritization

Blazier ES
Burnet MS
Eastside Memorial ECHS
Rodriguez ES
Navarro ECHS
Linder ES
Mendez MS
Langford ES
Webb MS

Palm ES
Clifton Center
Oak Springs ES
Cook ES
Sadler Means YWLA
Garcia YMLA
Odom ES
Bedicheck MS





Equity in Tree Planting Prioritization

Considerations as the project moves forward...

- School voices have not yet been incorporated in the work (coming during next phase)
 - Campus visits and conversations
 - Surveys (pre- and post?)
 - How do we engage schools long-term around their new trees?
- No defined vision or end state pertaining to campus trees
 - How do we know when when schools have been sufficiently planted?
- Funding and long-term planning
 - Plan for greater than 1-yr timelines
 - Move fully from ad-hoc to strategic
- Where are the blind spots?



Equity in Tree Planting Prioritization

Sustainability Plan

Equity is an overarching goal, but it is represented in the most granular, action-based components of the plan:

- Identify tree-deficient schools
- Engage school community and/or Ecoteam in tree selection, tree care, and ties to the student learning experience
- Connect community resources to tree-deficient schools



Action Area Updates

Energy & Water | Ashley Williams & Rey Torres

Nature | Anne Muller

Food | Diane Grodek

Transportation & Air Quality | Rob Borowski & Kris Hafezizadeh

Zero Waste & Procurement | Amanda Mortl

Equity & Community Engagement | Aimee Aubin



Energy & Water Update

Ashley Williams & Rey Torres



Energy & Water



Austin Independent School District
SAVE ENERGY THIS SUMMER BREAK

HELP   
IN THESE WAYS

TURN OFF AND UNPLUG 
EVERYTHING IN REACH

TAKE  
PERSONAL ITEMS
HOME  

KEEP VENTS UNCLUTTERED

DON'T STORE HERE

CLOSE
  
WHEN YOU LEAVE

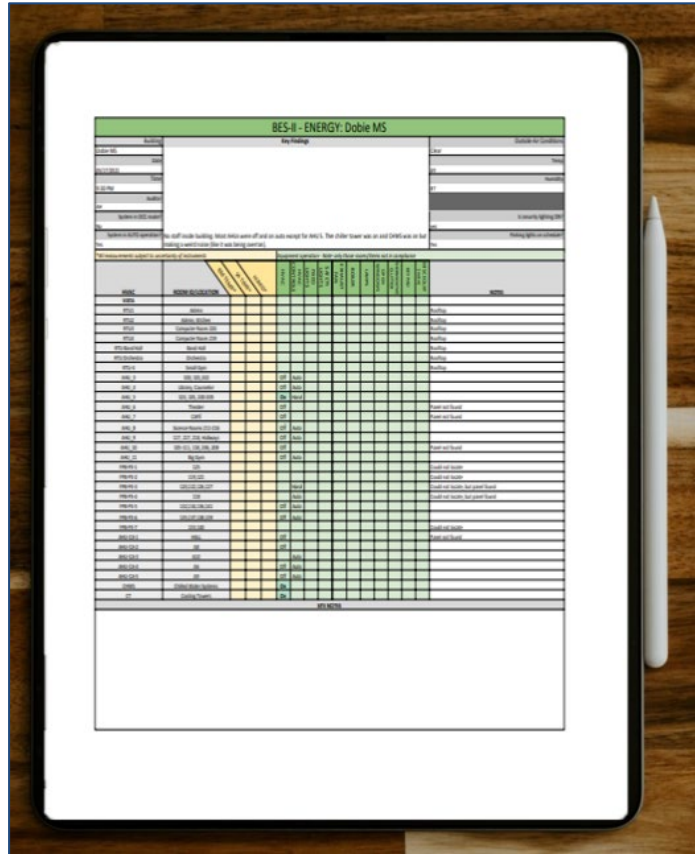
VISIT: AUSTINISD.ORG/SUSTAINABILITY/ENERGYANDWATER

Summer 2021 Building Rest Campaign

- Principal's Weekly
- All district email
 - Guidelines
 - Checklist
 - Reminder Content



Energy & Water



Summer 2021 Energy Leadership

- Energy Conservation Technicians
 - Campus inventories
 - Sharing with principals in fall
- Professional Development Sessions
- Sustainability Plan Dept. Coordination
 - Procurement and IT





AUSTIN

Independent School District



#AISDGreen
@AustinISDGreen

Energy Leadership

with Performance Services

It takes EVERYONE to make a difference!

Lauren Maples- PEAS Water Projects 2020-2021
Special update from Rey Torres and Darien Clary



Energy & Water



PEAS cultivates joyful connections to the natural world through outdoor learning and edible education.

Austin Watershed Protection protects lives, property and the environment of our community by reducing the impact of flood, erosion and water pollution.



2020-21 Rainscape Education

- 2 lessons fall, 2 spring
- 730 (confirmed) students
- Covid - options:
 - Hybrid (virtual then f2f)
 - Virtual only
 - Virtual and maintenance

Schools served: Govalle, Metz, Reilly, Rodriguez, Sanchez, Sunset Valley, Zavala



Energy & Water

Kids can learn a lot from green stormwater infrastructure!

- Covid program format:
 - Video lessons (fall)
 - Virtual toolbox (fall-spring)
 - Nearpod Interactive Lesson (spring)
 - Interpretive lessons (spring)
 - Face2Face (April, May)
- Topics included:
 - Green stormwater infrastructure
 - Rain gardens
 - Cisterns
 - Berms/swales
 - Urban tree canopy
 - Surface permeability
 - Watershed introduction - targeting grades not targeted by WPD programs



Energy & Water

Austin ISD named #2 K-12 Green Power User in the Nation by EPA



See the rankings! epa.gov/greenpower/green-power-partnership-top-30-k-12-schools



Nature Update

Anne Muller



Nature



Linder Elementary Pond-
Brooke Eco-Features Update



Austin High
Monarch Heroes



Nature



Govalle Bees



Green Campus
Administrator Cohort



Nature



Austin ISD Story Stroll- 30
Elementary Campuses



Green School Park
Designation



Nature

AISD/COA Partnership

Youth Forest Council Project



AISD tree inventory ---> Interactive online web map



Food Update

Diane Grodek



Food

- Food Services will continue to offer student and caregiver meals at curbside locations through the summer at 30 locations, while supporting in-school programs by offering breakfast and lunch at 50 locations.
- We are incorporating kitchen-specific sustainability lessons into our monthly training for all of our employees.
- We are joining the 1:4 Challenge through the Chef Ann Foundation. This is an initiative with other districts around the country to commit to serving at least 1 fully Plant Based menu day, per 4 week cycle.
- The Good Food Purchasing Reports are in; AISD earned 7 additional points, and two additional baseline standards by focusing on the follow (9 points to 16 points):
 - Increased local spending from medium family owned businesses by 99K
 - Decreased red / processed meat by 6%
 - Actively sourced from suppliers that qualify in the Valued Workforce category
 - Invested in purchases from USDA Organic Foods, and vendors that met Environmental Sustainability and Animal Welfare goals



Transportation & Air Quality Update

Kris Hafezizadeh, Mike Rios, & Rob Borowski



Transportation & Air quality

- 1) **(Phoebe Romero) May 3-7th was Air Quality Awareness Week.** The City of Austin Office of Sustainability collaborated with various organizations represented in ESAC's Transportation & Air Quality and Equity and Community Engagement Subcommittees to have a pilot online art gallery project. We received art submissions from students at Eastside Memorial HS and members of Youth Forest Council and Creative Action's Color Squad. You can view the gallery here: [artsteps | Air Quality Awareness Week Virtual Student Gallery](#)
- 2) **(Kris, Mike) Transportation Policy change** for 24 schools, district wide bus options for Winn Montessori, Bertha Sadler Means and P-Tech high schools.
- 3) **(Kris, Mike) 3 Electric school buses pilot.**



Transportation & Air Quality

(Sharon Munroe) Campus indoor air quality

- Interest for a subgroup to be formed with a focus on improving campus indoor air quality; includes a review of current AISD buildings' indoor air quality with starting with portable classrooms. Members may come from any other subcommittee or the public (new members).
- Goal is to review any proposed or current plans and practices in the district.
- Then look closely at national guidance from the Environmental Protection Agency and American Lung Association and suggest new district-wide indoor air standards and policies.
- Collaborate with the School Health Advisory Council and school health staff as appropriate on planning and adopting new standards and practices.



Zero Waste & Procurement Update

Amanda Mortl



Expanding Lessons learned



School supply recirculation drive



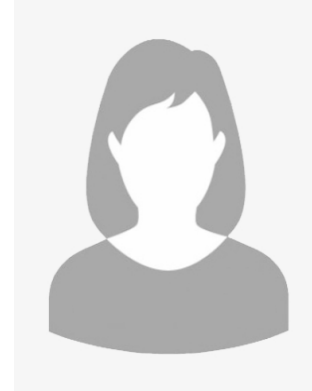
HUB Food Truck collab



ACPTA Survey & Zero Waste Block Leadership



Remote Waste Audit Pilot in BLEND



Connecting student groups



Equity & Community Engagement

Aimee Aubin



Equity & Community Engagement



- Grown from 4 members in May 2020 to **10** in May 2021!
- Completed a prioritization process for our next year.
- Moving forward with 3 focus areas:
 - Work to make ESAC membership more diverse and better reflective of the AISD community.
 - Expand training and shared dialogue on equity, anti-racism, and local history within ESAC.
 - Review & revise internal ESAC mechanisms from an equity-lens.





THANK YOU for all you do to help AISD be green!

