

Shoal Creek Steering Committee Meeting

January 20th, 2026

Quorum met, last meeting's minutes approved

Attendance:

Jessica Wilson
Elizabeth Barnes
Ivey Kaiser
Linda McCoy
Holland Jones
Joseph Goessling

Krista Kelly
Sierra DaSilva
Ada Forbes
Daniel Kavelman
Dan Lester
Chad Kaiser
Darcy Nuffer
Denise Delaney
Elizabeth Funk

1. Welcome, introductions of any new attendees, vote to approve last meeting's [minutes](#) if we have a quorum.

- Elizabeth Funk from PARD joined today and is working within the Community PARKnerships program
- Denise Delaney is with Watershed in the Grow Green Program

2. Standing agenda item: Open the floor for all partners to share what you, your organization, or your community are currently working on that contribute to our Watershed Action Plan goals.

- Storm drain marking supplies have been replenished

3. Social Indicator Planning & Evaluation System SIPES Survey round II.

- The full presentation regarding round 2 of the SIPES survey will be given at the next meeting in April; Hannah and Kasey are still working on the data.
- Kasey Faust is a committee member and working on the second round of a survey that checks the familiarity of city programs, water related issues, and allows residents to share efforts they're taking for water health. This survey helps us gauge the effectiveness of educational outreach.
- 207 respondents compared to 50 in 2021

4. Waterwise Landscapes Tour (SCC seeking 3-4 residential properties with GSI or healthy riparian buffers, and also sponsors and volunteer docents to support the tour)

- The WLT was designed to offer an easy-access way for people to implement water wise features in their yard.
- Last year's tour featured three yards and one public rain garden; all the houses featured DIY water wise elements in an approachable way.
- Our next tour is on March 21st, 2026
- The [nomination form](#) is live for anyone who has waterwise features in their yards or if they want to nominate a neighbor/friend in the watershed.
- To see highlights from the 2025 Waterwise Landscapes Tour, you can read about it on our blog [here](#).

5. Seiders Springs Greenbelt received a large sapling planting during a volunteer workday in November 2025

- On November 9th, we had 7 volunteers and 2 staff members plant 70 native saplings at two locations; the flat land where the recent bank stabilization project took place, and the hillside east of the footbridge.
- Species planted: Red Oak, Mexican Buckeye, Mexican Plum, Cedar Elm, American Elm, Button Bush, Black Walnut, Anacua

6. Watershed Action Plan phases and goals; SCC's 5-year report

- SCC will be revising and reflecting on the Watershed Action Plan Phase 1, which wrapped in 2025
- A 5-year report will be presented to the Steering Committee in July
- Big focuses and wins of phase 1: Advocated for the installation of 6 new pet waste stations in the watershed, hosted 4 GSI workshops, created a creekside neighbors menu, hosted a Waterwise Landscapes tour, expanded our volunteer trash clean ups, expanded our creekside neighbors program, development of a riparian restoration volunteer program; added 7 new riparian restoration sites, totaling over 95,000 square ft, two new official city of austin grow zones at the restoration sites, trial of the rain garden adoption program and the success of adopting 3 new rain gardens

- Phase 2 has officially started
- Five-year report will be finished in May

7. 2025 Reflections Report

- 70 volunteer events in 2025
- 27,000 lbs of trash collected
- 75 shopping carts were found
- 1,861 were made and dispersed through our workdays and seed ball kit program
- 788 native plants were planted
- [2025 Year in Review can be found here](#)

8. Grant funding: Recap of Austin Water and Texas A&M grant applications + upcoming TCEQ grant application

- Texas A&M grant; we will hear back in a week in a half
 - \$50,000 over two years for trees and water (we plan to install two water tanks to irrigate the wildland plantings in some of our riparian restoration sites)
- Austin Water has launched a conservation outreach program
- TCEQ is the big grant that will be worked on and submitted this summer; we expect to hear back 6 months after it has been submitted.
- Possible grant to look into: [Urban Forest Grant](#). The Urban Forest Grant strengthens Austin's urban forest by funding stewardship activities like tree planting, tree care, education, and disease control projects.

9. Close; next meeting will be Tuesday April 7th, 2026, 1:30pm, hybrid format