

### Austin's Sidewalk Success: Early Completion and Exceeding Expectations

In fall 2023, the City of Austin achieved what every government agency hopes to: finishing a project early and exceeding its original goals.

In 2016, Austin voters approved the largest transportation bond in city history, investing \$720 million to make mobility safer and more convenient for everyone. Included in that bond package was \$37.5 million for new and improved sidewalks.

Austin Transportation and Public Works (TPW) wrapped up that sidewalk work a year early, constructing or repairing

56 miles, going beyond the 50 originally planned under the bond.

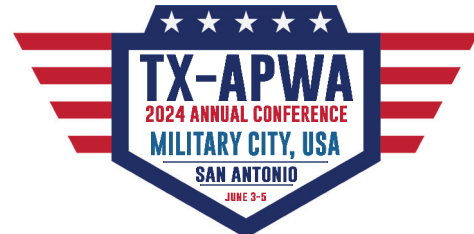
TPW staff won't rest on its laurels. Austin's 2023 Sidewalks, Crossings and Shared Streets Plan identified an outstanding need for 810 miles of sidewalks and 370 miles of shared streets — a program that uses traffic-calming strategies and pedestrian-centered design to make neighborhood streets without sidewalks safer and more comfortable for people walking, biking and rolling.

Thanks to strong community support, TPW has the funding to continue addressing these sidewalk gaps. In bond elections in 2018 and 2020, Austin voters approved an additional \$100 million for walkway improvements.

"I'm proud of the hard work of our staff and gratified to live in a city whose citizens prioritize the mobility and safety of pedestrians," says TPW Director Richard Mendoza. "Austin is a Vision Zero city, meaning it has a goal to systematically reduce serious injuries and fatalities due to automobile

crashes to zero. Providing pedestrians and cyclists with safe places to travel is central to achieving that."

For more information on Austin's sidewalk success story, including the city's future plans and an interactive map of sidewalk projects, visit [AustinTexas.gov/Sidewalks](https://AustinTexas.gov/Sidewalks).



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