

KUT Public File

Community Issues List
3rd Quarter 2022

I. Issues

Energy/Environment
Health/Healthcare
Voting/Elections
Education
Housing and Development
Labor/Business/Economy
Criminal Justice/Emergency Services/Public Safety
Transportation and Infrastructure
Diversity, Race, and Gender Issues
Abortion Rights
Local Government, Management, and Utilities
City Council and City Management
Poverty and Homelessness

II. Responsive Programing

Energy/Environment

Date	Program Name	Air Time	Duration
7/13/2022	All Things Considered	3pm-6:30pm	:40
For the second time this week, the Electric Reliability Council of Texas is asking people to conserve electricity — this time until tonight at 9:00. As KUT's Mose Buchele reports, the request comes as a record-breaking heatwave continues to drive electricity demand in Texas to new heights.			
7/15/2022	Morning Edition	5am-9am	:20
More than 99 percent of the state is seeing some level of Abnormal Dryness or drought, and more than half is in the two most severe categories of drought. That includes roughly the western halves of Travis, Williamson and Hays counties seeing Severe Drought, the second highest category.			
7/28/2022	All Things Considered	3pm-6:30pm	:48
Jacob's Well is a beloved natural swimming hole in the Wimberley Valley. And for the second year in a row, it's stopped flowing. And KUT's Riane Roldan reports that the situation is only getting worse.			
9/19/2022	Morning Edition	5am-9am	1:01
Texas is in the midst of a drought and faces an even larger water crisis as supplies dwindle and the state population booms. To prepare, state leaders are considering building big water reservoirs for storage. But as KUT's Mose Buchele reports, a new study suggests a much simpler and cheaper approach could provide massive amounts of water to the state.			
9/28/2022	All Things Considered	3pm-6:30pm	:53
The results of a study on trash in local waterways was presented this week to Austin City Council, as KUT's Maya Fawaz reports.			

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Health/Healthcare

Date	Program Name	Air Time	Duration
7/1/2022	Morning Edition	5am-9am	:50
Austin-Travis County EMS is rolling out a new life-saving effort by offering blood transfusions to patients before they get to a hospital. Deputy Medical Director Heidi Abraham says they're keeping blood in two of their supervisor vehicles... but plan to add it to all eight by the end of the year.			
7/8/2022	All Things Considered	3pm-6:30pm	1:01
A county-level measure of how COVID-19 is affecting health and healthcare systems is on the rise in Central Texas. KUT's Sangita Menon has the latest on local Community Levels.			
7/14/2022	Morning Edition	5am-9am	:55
Local health officials say there is community spread of monkeypox in Austin and Travis County. That means people who have gotten the disease may not know where exactly they got it. So far, six monkeypox cases have been confirmed locally. Seven others are presumed to be positive.			
7/25/2022	Morning Edition	5am-9am	1:09
A new boutique-style clinic in Austin is offering psychedelic therapy. The center is called "Within" and may be part of an emerging momentum of using psychedelics to treat mental health concerns.			
8/10/2022	Morning Edition	5am-9am	:55
Travis County has declared Monkeypox an emergency as numbers rise but vaccines are hard to come by			

Voting/Elections

Date	Program Name	Air Time	Duration
8/30/2022	All Things Considered	3pm-6:30pm	:45
The City of Kyle will have two City Council races on the ballot this year. KUT's Riane Roldan has the details.			
9/9/2022	All Things Considered	3pm-6:30pm	1:02
The November 8th election, depending on where you live, will include races for Texas governor, City Council, and school board positions. KUT's Sangita Menon has more about where people can register to vote.			
9/12/2022	All Things Considered	3pm-6:30pm	:50
The deadline to register to vote in the November election is October 11. Travis County Voter Registrar Bruce Elfant says the county added about 20-thousand new voters to the rolls from January through August and expects to add 35-thousand more in September and October. In addition to those new voters, Elfant says about 30 percent of the voter registrations they process are for people updating their addresses. Early voting begins on October 24th. Election Day is November 8th.			
9/21/2022	Morning Edition	5am-9am	:37
Travis County officials hope to make it easier for people to vote this November. KUT's Haya Panjwani reports the effort comes after the state passed several new voting laws.			

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Education

Date	Program Name	Air Time	Duration
7/14/2022	All Things Considered	3pm-6:30pm	:53
<p>Schools districts and communities across the state of Texas continue to grapple with the issue of student safety as they gear up for the new school year. Last night, the Leander ISD Board of Trustees hosted the Leander City Council for a joint workshop to discuss school safety, disaster response and emergency management plans.</p>			
7/25/2022	All Things Considered	3pm-6:30pm	1:02
<p>A new report seeks to debunk misconceptions about recapture -- the Texas system that takes money from property wealthy school districts and redistributes it to those that don't get as much funding from property taxes.</p>			
8/23/2022	All Things Considered	3pm-6:30pm	:59
<p>Central Texas school districts continue to recruit substitutes for the new school year. KUT's Becky Fogel stopped by a job fair today for Del Valle ISD.</p>			
9/2/2022	Morning Edition	5am-9am	:50
<p>Texas education officials are expected to postpone an overhaul of the state's social studies curriculum until 2025. KUT's Becky Fogel reports the Republican-controlled State Board of Education is taking a final vote today [Friday] after initially agreeing to the delay earlier this week.</p>			
9/20/2022	All Things Considered	3pm-6:30pm	:51
<p>Texas lawmakers are hearing today hours of testimony on what to do about the state's teacher shortage — made worse by the pandemic. KUT's Becky Fogel reports advocates, university leaders, and state education officials raised similar concerns.</p>			

Housing and Development

Date	Program Name	Air Time	Duration
7/5/2022	Morning Edition	5am-9am	:46
<p>The San Marcos City Council is holding a discussion tonight to address environmental concerns from a new development. The project would build a massive film studio on the Edwards Aquifer recharge zone.</p>			
7/28/2022	Morning Edition	5am-9am	:30
<p>More affordable homes could soon be coming to Southeast and Northeast Austin. The Austin Community Foundation on Wednesday announced a \$4 million dollar investment with the goal of speeding up construction on 150 homes. Austin Habitat for Humanity will tap into the funds in the form of low-interest rate loans. A completion timeline is not clear yet. Households making between 58-thousand and 118-thousand dollars a year will be eligible for the affordable homes through the Austin Habitat program.</p>			
8/2/2022	All Things Considered	3pm-6:30pm	:58
<p>Austin ISD is holding a virtual meeting tonight to get feedback on a proposal to create housing for teachers. KUT's Becky Fogel reports housing may be included in the school district's 2022 bond package.</p>			
8/10/2022	Morning Edition	5am-9am	:50
<p>Average price of rent is nearing \$1700/month</p>			
8/29/2022	All Things Considered	3pm-6:30pm	:36

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The Austin City Council is set to vote this week on a zoning change that city staff has said could transform the city's waterfront – and add some much-needed housing. KUT's Audrey McGlinchy explains.

9/6/2022	Morning Edition	5am-9am	:48
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The average price of rent in the Austin area has gone down for the first time since the end of 2020. KUT's Audrey McGlinchy explains that the drop, while notable, is very, very small.

Labor/Business/Economy

Date	Program Name	Air Time	Duration
8/5/2022	All Things Considered	3pm-6:30pm	1:01
Austin's hot labor summer continues burning. KUT's Skye Seipp reports three local Via 313's are unionizing.			
8/15/2022	All Things Considered	3pm-6:30pm	:29
Austin musicians have another shot at weighing in on the most pressing issues facing the city's music scene. As KUT's Andrew Weber reports this "music census" has a goal of gathering industry and local leaders' insight on affordability issues.			
9/1/2022	Morning Edition	5am-9am	:46
Austin-Travis County EMS and the City of Austin are about to approve a new labor contract. As KUT's Andrew Weber reports, the deal caps off months of negotiations and raises pay in the hopes of retaining medics at a time of record attrition.			
9/23/2022	All Things Considered	3pm-6:30pm	:50
Nurses at Dell Seton have voted to unionize. As KUT's Andrew Weber reports, the union is now one of the largest of its kind in Texas.			

Criminal Justice/Emergency Services/Public Safety

Date	Program Name	Air Time	Duration
7/4/2022	Morning Edition	5am-9am	:40
The McGregor Police Department has issued an Amber Alert for two missing teens. 14-year-old Aysha Lynn Cross is white, five feet two inches tall and weighs about 105 pounds. She has black hair and hazel eyes. 14-year-old Emilee Solomon is white, five feet one inch tall and weighs about 175 pounds. She has brown hair and brown eyes. Police don't have a description of the clothes either teen was wearing when they disappeared. Police also don't have a suspect in their disappearance.			
7/5/2022	All Things Considered	3pm-6:30pm	:43
It was a busy night for the Austin Fire Department and other area firefighters. KUT's Trey Shaar reports they had to work a large number of fire calls and they think most were caused by fireworks.			
7/25/2022	Morning Edition	5am-9am	:25
A wildfire in Williamson County is now 75 percent contained, according to the Texas A&M Forest Service. The San Gabriel fire has burned 500 acres since Friday. Residents who were evacuated over the weekend have since returned to their homes. And down in Caldwell County, four separate fires have burned more than 46 acres. All of those blazes are at least 75 percent contained or more.			
8/5/2022	Morning Edition	5am-9am	:25
More people near the Hermosa wildfires have been told to evacuate			

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9/9/2022	Morning Edition	5am-9am	:49
Travis County officials are considering a proposal that's intended to reduce gun violence.			

Transportation and Infrastructure

Date	Program Name	Air Time	Duration
7/1/2022	All Things Considered	3pm-6:30pm	:58
People who have a TxTag and have not been billed recently - could soon be getting an invoice in the mail. As KUT's Nathan Bernier reports, the Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority will start sending out pay-by-mail invoices soon because of a technical glitch.			
7/8/2022	Morning Edition	5am-9am	:15
For the third consecutive month, Austin-Bergstrom International Airport has set an all-time record for the number of monthly passengers. New data shows more than 2-million people traveled through the airport in May. That's an increase of 83 percent compared to May of last year.			
7/18/2022	Morning Edition	5am-9am	:58
Capital Metro is starting to talk about how to spend hundreds of millions of dollars next year on public transit in the Austin area. KUT's Nathan Bernier reports on the agency's annual spending plan.			
8/31/2022	Morning Edition	5am-9am	:25
Metro Rail operation suspended			
9/7/2022	Morning Edition	5am-9am	:40
A power outage at Austin Bergstrom International Airport this morning has stopped all departing and arriving flights and diverted some incoming flights to San Antonio. Power was out at the Barbara Jordan Terminal since about 4:30 this morning and just was restored a few minutes ago. Passengers are encouraged to check the status of their flights as delays are still expected.			
9/14/2022	All Things Considered	3pm-6:30pm	:57
The City of Austin has connected what's described as the last gap in the hike and bike trail around Lady Bird Lake. KUT's Mose Buchele reports the opening of the new quarter mile of trail also opens up about nine acres of new parkland in East Austin.			

Diversity, Race, and Gender Issues

Date	Program Name	Air Time	Duration
8/15/2022	Morning Edition	5am-9am	:40
Travis County Commissioners will take measures to work on making LGBTQ+ people a protected class of people			
8/16/2022	All Things Considered	3pm-6:30pm	1:09
A majority of LGBTQ people in the Austin area say they have faced discrimination when trying to access health care. So Central Health is letting providers know about training available.			
9/2/2022	All Things Considered	3pm-6:30pm	1:03
The Austin school district is trying to lower the disproportionate number of disciplinary actions targeting Black students and students receiving special education services. KUT's Becky Fogel reports district officials updated the school board on their progress last night.			

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9/23/2022	Morning Edition	5am-9am	1:11
The Miakan-Garza Band in San Marcos have spent the last six years calling on UT to hand over human remains to them for reburial. As KUT's Riane Roldan reports, it's been two years since the UT President promised them to look into the issue.			
9/30/2022	Morning Edition	5am-9am	1:00
Austinites will have the chance to learn more about Muslim culture at an event this weekend. KUT's Maya Fawaz reports on the first ever Muslim festival held in Austin by the Council on American-Islamic Relations.			

Abortion Rights

Date	Program Name	Air Time	Duration
7/7/2022	Morning Edition	5am-9am	:55
Whole Woman's Health will close its four Texas locations. The decision comes after the US Supreme Court returned decisions on abortion to the states - and in Texas, that means just about a complete ban on abortions. They will remain open in Austin through the end of the month. But will only provide post-abortion checkups for patients as the clinic's staff prepares to move.			
7/21/2022	All Things Considered	3pm-6:30pm	:49
The Austin City Council voted unanimously today to pass the GRACE Act, which will effectively decriminalize abortion in Austin, as KUT's Emma Williams reports.			
8/25/2022	Morning Edition	5am-9am	1:35
Abortion trigger law goes into effect today; DA Jose Garza says his office will not prosecute anyone violating this law			

Community Interest and Local Issues

Date	Program Name	Air Time	Duration
7/26/2022	All Things Considered	3pm-6:30pm	:58
Longtime East Austin residents spoke out today against the potential renaming of Pan-Am Neighborhood Park. KUT's Skye Seipp reports that for many, the park is an essential part of a community that is already changing with gentrification.			
7/29/2022	All Things Considered	3pm-6:30pm	:54
Austin FC are on the road again, and head coach Josh Wolff will have to coach his team against a familiar face.			
8/4/2022	Morning Edition	5am-9am	1:10
UT Austin mariachi band wins big competition in Albuquerque, NM			
9/6/2022	All Things Considered	3pm-6:30pm	:52
The Austin Justice Coalition has kicked off its Black Food Week event. KUT's Maya Fawaz tells us more about this annual celebration and how it's grown beyond its name.			
9/12/2022	All Things Considered	3pm-6:30pm	1:05
Tomorrow is HAAM Day -- the Health Alliance for Austin Musicians' most important fundraiser. The organization has been getting healthcare to local musicians since 2005.			
9/13/2022	Morning Edition	5am-9am	:30

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The Austin Animal Center is restricting intake service starting today because it's too full. The center currently houses over 700 animals. AAC will only accept new animals in emergencies. Residents wanting to bring in an animal are asked to call the city's 3-1-1 line to speak with an Animal Protection Officer. This system will remain in place until Austin Animal Center can balance fosters or adoptions with intakes. The Center has waived all adoptions fees and is holding an adoption event on Saturday.

Local Government, Management, and Utilities

Date	Program Name	Air Time	Duration
7/15/2022	All Things Considered	3pm-6:30pm	1:05
People who live in Austin may not see as steep a hike in property taxes next year. As KUT's Andrew Weber reports, City Manager Spencer Cronk's proposed 5-billion-dollar 2023 budget proposal leans more heavily on city fees for services like electricity — not property taxes, as has been the case in previous budget cycles.			
8/4/2022	All Things Considered	3pm-6:30pm	:65
Millions of property tax dollars from Travis County residents goes to Central Health with the purpose of providing healthcare to underinsured folks. And you have a say on how and where that money should be spent...			
8/19/2022	All Things Considered	3pm-6:30pm	:51
Residents of Cedar Park and Leander are being encouraged to conserve water this weekend. KUT's Kailey Hunt reports on an underwater pipeline leak that has been affecting the cities' water supplies.			
9/1/2022	All Things Considered	3pm-6:30pm	:50
Travis County officials are working on the budget for the next fiscal year, and it includes some welcome changes for county employees. KUT's Haya Panjwani tells us what they have to look forward to.			
9/29/2022	All Things Considered	3pm-6:30pm	:46
The City of San Marcos wants to know how people feel about life there. The city is launching a community survey for residents to give their opinions on issues like transportation, housing, and education.			

Poverty and Homelessness

Date	Program Name	Air Time	Duration
7/13/2022	Morning Edition	5am-9am	1:00
Food insecurity in Austin is nearly four percent higher than the national average. The city also has about 33 areas designated as food deserts. That includes a disproportionate number of low-income and communities of color. The city of Austin's Food Justice Mini Grant is trying to help the situation by offering over 20 grants of up to three-thousand dollars to organizations combating food inequities			
7/19/2022	All Things Considered	3pm-6:30pm	:55
Whether it's extreme heat or cold, people in Austin who are unhoused need somewhere to stay when the weather threatens. KUT's Skye Seipp reports local organizations are urging the city council to fund inclement weather shelters.			
7/27/2022	Morning Edition	5am-9am	1:00

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Austin's homeless shelter is soon to be under new management. As KUT's Andrew Weber reports, the Austin City Council will vote on a lone finalist to manage the property this week, but homeless service providers have concerns.

8/10/2022	All Things Considered	3pm-6:30pm	:59
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Capital Metro is lowering the temperature threshold for days it offers free rides to cooling centers. KUT's Skye Seipp reports activists say the change is still not enough to help people experiencing homelessness.

Weather and Emergencies

Date	Program Name	Air Time	Duration
7/11/2022	All Things Considered	3pm-6:30pm	:54
With the area under an Excessive Heat Warning, Austin Public Library branches were opened as cooling centers yesterday and are providing that service again today. KUT's Sangita Menon reports on how libraries are helping people escape the heat.			
8/31/2022	Morning Edition	5am-9am	1:05
Increased rain may not be a reprieve from the drought because the ground is hard and impervious, meaning floods are inevitable			
9/26/2022	Morning Edition	5am-9am	:20
Today's high winds and low humidity are making for high wildfire risk conditions today. The Texas A and M Forest Service forecast puts Central Texas in the "high" or "very high" fire danger category today. The National Weather Service forecast says we can expect wind gusts up to 25 miles per hour today, with humidity dropping as a cold front moves through.			
