



Austin Rowing Club & The Waller Creek Boathouse

Austin Rowing Club board members, staff and supporters attended the City of Austin Parks Board meeting on January 25th night excited to support what we feel is a very strong business proposal for management of the new Waller Creek Boathouse.

The new facility will sit on land ARC has proudly occupied and maintained for 25 years. ARC's vision for this new community resource is of value to the city and of great benefit to the citizens of Austin and the greater community.

Included in the ARC proposal:

- A generous offer of gross revenues, comparable to the competing bidder.
- Over \$3 million annually in economic impact from ARC-managed Regattas.
- FREE offer of space for Texas Rowing for All (non-profit adaptive rowing programs) and the Texas River School (non-profit outreach programs)
- A partnership with best-in-class businesses to manage kayak, SUP and bicycle rentals
- A partnership with a best-in-class locally famous business to manage a Café.
- A current offering of ARC Rowing Programs that include coached programming for juniors and masters rowers, as well as subsidized outreach programs for youth and adults.

ARC's vision for this new community resource is of value to the city and of great benefit to the citizens of Austin and the greater community.

Over 120 ARC members and supporters packed City Hall on the 25th, spilling into the plaza awaiting the opportunity to be heard, but the Parks Board pulled the agenda item at the start of the meeting. Parks Director Sarah Hensley read a statement proclaiming that PARD needed to pull the item to further investigate issues with the City's Purchasing and Legal Departments.

ARC is as much in the dark right now as everyone. Our hope is that the parks department is able to deal with these issues in an expedient manner, as construction of the new facility is currently underway.