

Laura Dierenfield

Manager, Active Transportation Division

Austin Transportation Department, City of Austin

Ms. Dierenfield leads the Austin Transportation Department's Active Transportation Division with a focus on improving mobility for everyone in Austin by providing safer and more comfortable options for bicycling, walking and access to transit.

She brings 15 years of experience in transportation planning, public policy and community-based non-profit organization leadership. Her team's area of focus includes a growing program in pedestrian safety, bicycle network connectivity and contributions to transit priority design.

Recent successes include completion of over 50 projects in the last 12 months that added safer pedestrian crossings, 40+ more miles of the city's bicycle network and transit priority improvements.

Ms. Dierenfield's team has also ushered in dozens of new community-based events and classes that educate and encourage the use of active modes such as weekly walking programs, learn to ride classes and transit training in partnership with Capital Metro, the City's independently operating transit agency. The Division focuses on delivering a combination of active transportation infrastructure improvements and with encouragement and education intended to contribute to a virtuous mobility cycle that facilitates a shift of single-occupant motor vehicle trips to walking, bicycling, transit and shared car, resulting in a more capacity for moving people and goods safely and reliably in a growing and thriving city like Austin.