

11:00-11:55am

# Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Conservation in the Hill Country: Why it Matters and Where to Start

As we seek to build a vibrant future for the communities and natural resources of the Hill Country, it is critical that we do so in a way that engages with and reflects the full diversity of the region. This panel will explore why diversity, equity, and inclusion are important for the conservation movement broadly, and how organizations can start or continue their journeys to be diverse, equitable, and inclusive.

### Panelists:

David Buggs, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department; Sapna Mulki, Water Savvy Solutions; Rocío Villalobos, City of Austin Equity Office; Emily Warren, Cynthia and George Mitchell Foundation *Moderator*: Vanessa Escobar, Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Groundwater Conservation District and Hill Country Alliance Board Member

### Friday, September 25

10:00-10:05am

Welcome: Day Three of the 2020 Leadership Summit

10:05-10:45am

# Local and Regional Leadership: Tackling Big Challenges for the Hill Country

As the Hill Country and the state of Texas grows, new pressures are mounting on the resources that define this region. From oil and gas pipelines to land fragmentation, groundwater resources and our view of the night skies, how are locally and regionally elected officials responding to these emergent challenges?

#### Panelists:

State Representative Andrew Murr, House District 53
State Representative Erin Zwiener, House District 45
Commissioner Dennis Neffendorf, Gillespie County
Commissioner Lon Shell, Hays County
Moderator: Vanessa Puig Williams, Environmental Defense Fund and Hill Country Alliance Board President