

## TxDOT: Woodland to Stay Open

Carol Martin, [membership@srccatx.org](mailto:membership@srccatx.org)

**MOBILITY 35 PROJECT'S PROPOSAL** to close the Woodland crossing was stopped, and public input (that means you!) played an important role in changing TxDOT plans for changing the I-35 intersections at Woodland Avenue and St. Johns Avenue.

**ORIGINAL PLAN** In August 2013, TxDOT's Mobility 35 Plan indicated that the Woodland Avenue crossing of I-35 should be closed to vehicular traffic and reconstructed as a bicycle/pedestrian-only bridge. It included changing St. Johns bridge to a bicycle/pedestrian only bridge. The goal was to improve intersection operation and traffic flow. But improve it for who? Users of I-35, that's who, and at the expense of resi-

*Continued on page 2*

## Get Involved with your Neighborhood!

Gretchen Otto, Vice President,  
[vicepresident@srccatx.org](mailto:vicepresident@srccatx.org)

**VOLUNTEERING WITH SRCC IS A** great way to meet your neighbors and get involved in your community! There are quite a few opportunities to help right now. If you are interested, contact Eric Rangel at [president@srccatx.org](mailto:president@srccatx.org) or Gretchen Otto at [vicepresident@srccatx.org](mailto:vicepresident@srccatx.org).

**ANC Representative** An umbrella organization consisting of representatives from neighborhoods throughout the city, the Austin Neighborhoods Council (ANC) advocates for public policies that build and sustain inclusive, safe, affordable, and livable neighborhoods. This is a good way to start being involved and learn about issues that concern other neighborhoods as well as SRCC

*Continued on page 4*

## City Council Approves Zoning Change for Life Tabernacle Church

Elloa Mathews, Area 5 Coordinator, with Marty Christman, SRCC Committee Parks, Schools, and Environment Co-Chair

**ON JUNE 12, THE CITY COUNCIL ON FIRST READING APPROVED** on a 4-3 vote to increase zoning of the Life Tabernacle Church on Sherwood Lane from Single Family (SF-2) to General Retail with conditional overlay (GR-CO). Council Member Chris Riley made the motion to approve the zoning. Mayor Leffingwell, Mayor *Pro Tem* Cole and CM Spelman joined CM Riley to approve the zoning. Council Members Kathie Tovo, Mike Martinez and Laura Morrison supported SRCC's opposition to the increased zoning. The conditions were:

- A prohibition on all uses other than the civic uses that are allowed in SF-2
- Water quality improvements installing rain garden to treat runoff and provide a diverter
- Impervious cover of 85% subject to revisiting on second reading
- Height limit of 35 feet
- File a neighborhood traffic analysis
- Trip limitation of 1,100
- Additional improvements to bring driveway up to standards
- Square footage limitation

A similar request made to the Austin Planning Commission (PC) last fall was unanimously denied. PC members even pre-emptively denied a lower zoning recommendation, General Office (GO), made by city staff for the church site.

As was reported in the winter

SRCC newsletter, the neighborhood had opposed the upzoning primarily because it could have an enormous impact on Sherwood Oaks when the church eventually sells the property. The church asked for the upzoning to build a fellowship hall addition in a grassy area next to their sanctuary. However, GR zoning is used for developments with high traffic loads and high impervious cover such as a Home Depot. The city traffic report issued on the initial zoning change request stated that the existing vehicle trips per day (vpd) on Sherwood Lane could double with the land uses allowed by GR.

At the first council hearing in March 2014, Council Member Laura Morrison asked that the case be postponed since the church did not have a survey of the site and the amount of impervious cover (pavement, building, etc.) was

*Continued on page 6*

## SRCC Briefs

- **TxDOT's Mobility 35 Project:** Representatives from TxDOT and HNTB Engineering will be at the next SRCC general meeting to present updates to the plan—please attend if you are interested in learning more or have any concerns. The meeting will be August 4, 7:15pm, at Grace United Methodist Church.
- **CapMetro/Project Connect** has several events scheduled over the coming weeks and welcomes you to join them to learn more about Project Connect and the proposed first line of Urban Rail: July 19, 9am-1pm: Sunset Valley Farmers Mkt.; July 26, 9am-1pm: Barton Creek Mall Farmers Mkt.
- **Travis Heights Art Trail (THAT) 2014** will be on Nov. 8 and 9. This year many new artists will add their creativity to the mix of those of us that have been participating for many years, for a total of 33 artists, an all time high. Joining us again is the Travis Heights Elementary School art program. The children's art activates and display of "kid art" is a fun addition to the show. Thanks to your donations, last year they were able to raise a considerable amount of money to support the school art program—new artists in the making!!
- **Austin developer Clark Lyda** is working with architects LakelFlato on a proposed 90-unit hotel to be built on the current Terrace Apartments lot at the corner of Academy Drive and Music Lane. The proposed hotel would be managed by Liz Lambert's Bunkhouse Group which runs the Hotel San Jose and the Hotel St. Cecilia. There will be further information and discussion at future SRCC general meetings, so stay tuned.
- **SRCC's listserv [www.groups.yahoo.com/group/SouthRiverAustin](http://www.groups.yahoo.com/group/SouthRiverAustin)**, run by our longtime Travis Heights resident Jane Kellogg, is open to anyone to post a message. To subscribe, send a **blank** email to: [SouthRiverAustin-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:SouthRiverAustin-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) or visit the newsgroup website.
- **Stay current with official news with SRCC's website** and through RSS, Facebook or Twitter. Visit the site at [www.srccatx.org](http://www.srccatx.org).

*Woodland and Mobility 35, continued from page 1*

dents who rely on east-west access to/from home to nearby schools, businesses, parks, etc. The result would have changed residents' routes to Oltorf or Riverside, increasing the already congested intersections.

**REVISED PLAN** Toni House, SRCC Area 6 and EROC NPCT\*\* member, discovering the plan, alerted SRCC. Residents, especially those in Areas 6 & 7, attended hearings of City Council Comprehensive Planning and Transportation committee; spoke to press and media; and asked Mobility 35 planners to attend a SRCC meeting. The message: Alternative concepts must be developed that address the neighborhoods' needs for east/west connectivity while also satisfying mobility needs within the corridor. As a result, TxDOT released an

## Project Connect and Urban Rail in the Neighborhood

*Gretchen Otto, Vice President, [vicepresident@srccatx.org](mailto:vicepresident@srccatx.org)*

**BOTH AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL AND THE CAPITAL METRO BOARD** of directors have approved the 2014 Strategic Mobility Plan that includes Project Connect's recommendation for an urban rail line. The proposed line would travel from Grove Blvd., through downtown and up to the new ACC campus at Highland Mall. Within the SRCC boundaries, the rail line would travel along Riverside Drive almost to Congress, where it would turn north and cross the river on a separate, new bridge. The plan includes three possible stops within the SRCC: one at Riverside and Lakeshore Blvd, one at Riverside and Travis Heights Blvd, and a 'South Central Waterfront' stop between the Statesmen building and the TxDOT offices off Riverside, where the line would curve north to travel across the bridge.

The proposed bridge across Lady Bird Lake would span from the Statesman property on the south side to Waller Creek on the north side. It could include rail, pedestrian and bike access. The new boathouse on the north shore appears to be in the way of this project and would most likely be altered. The cost of the bridge depends on the design, which is dependent on community input.

As presented at the June SRCC general meeting, the rail line along Riverside will be built in the median between the lanes of traffic. Only small slivers of land will need to be purchased in the right-of-way along the sides of Riverside. The rail will stop at traffic lights just like cars and will move through intersections in its own lane.

The estimated cost for the plan is \$1.38 billion; the city will seek half of the urban rail cost from the Federal Transit Agency. Receiving federal dollars, however, will be contingent upon the city producing the remainder of the funds, likely through a bond to be voted on in November. Cap Metro, the Austin City Council, Project Connect, and various other stakeholders are negotiating over which portion of the plan should appear on the November ballot, what other transportation projects will be included in the bond package, and how much the bond will be—to be discussed at the next city council meeting on August 7.

Project Connect is a partnership between Central Texas transportation agencies aimed at implementing the high-capacity transit component of the CAMPO2035 Plan. The CAMPO plan was adopted by regional government representatives in 2010, after a nine-month public outreach process involving policy makers and community stakeholders. For more information about the proposed rail line, including maps and renderings, visit [www.connectcentraltexas.com](http://www.connectcentraltexas.com). [Note: See the related article on *Mobility 35/Woodland*, in this issue, page 1.] ☼

announcement: "[We are] pleased to announce Woodland Avenue and St. Johns Avenue are to remain open to vehicle traffic and closure is no longer under consideration." Refined concepts can be found at [www.Mobility35.org/solutions](http://www.Mobility35.org/solutions).

**WHAT DO TO NOW?** Get on the Mobility 35 mailing list at [www.mobility35.org](http://www.mobility35.org).

[mobility35.org](http://www.mobility35.org). Read their emails and alert your neighbors and council representatives if you have concerns. Thanks to all of you who collaborated with your neighbors. You made an impact! ☼

\*\*EROC: East Riverside/Oltorf Combined; NPCT: Neighborhood Plan Contact Team. What are these? For more info, go to our website: [www.srccatx.org/category/eroc/](http://www.srccatx.org/category/eroc/).

# Annie/Woodland Repaving and Sidewalks

Mike Sledge, [michaelsledge@gmail.com](mailto:michaelsledge@gmail.com)

**IN JULY OR AUGUST 2014, WORK** is expected to begin on repaving Annie/Woodland from Congress Avenue east under I-35 and over to Willow Creek Drive. Changes to bicycle lanes and street parking will be a part of this effort. Also planned is the installation of sidewalks along the entire north side of Annie/Woodland; this sidewalk work is separate and will most likely take place in late 2015.

At the June SRCC meeting, Aleksina Chapman from the City of Austin provided an overview of the planned changes. On June 4th, she hosted an open house for the neighborhood and reviewed the block by block details of the plan, answered questions, and documented concerns raised by residents. Much of the feedback concerned the preservation of heritage trees along Annie and the loss of parking on some blocks. A follow-up meeting was held June 24th and modifications resulting from the first meeting were presented and discussed. Along with Aleksina, John Eastman attended to answer questions about the planned sidewalks. At that meeting, the City stated that no existing curb lines would be pushed back, meaning the street will not get any wider, and therefore no trees will be affected by the repaving. To preserve large trees near the road between Nickerson and Newning, the planned sidewalks will actually be built out into the street instead of behind the existing curb. Due to this narrowing of the road, there will be no separated bike lane eastbound in this area but there will be markings in the road to indicate that it is a shared bike/auto lane. In response to a question raised at the June SRCC meeting, the City also let us know that

## Travis Heights Elementary End of Year News

Kim-Marie O'Driscoll, [kmh78704@hotmail.com](mailto:kmh78704@hotmail.com), and Molly Cain, [mollyc@saiprograms.com](mailto:mollyc@saiprograms.com)

**GRADUATION NEWS** THES celebrates our fifth graders journeying on to our neighborhood school, Fulmore Middle School. Go Falcons! Fourteen of THES students were accepted to AISD magnet programs of Kealing, Fulmore, and Ann Richards. We are very proud of our entire fifth grade class and we are excited about their next journey to middle school.

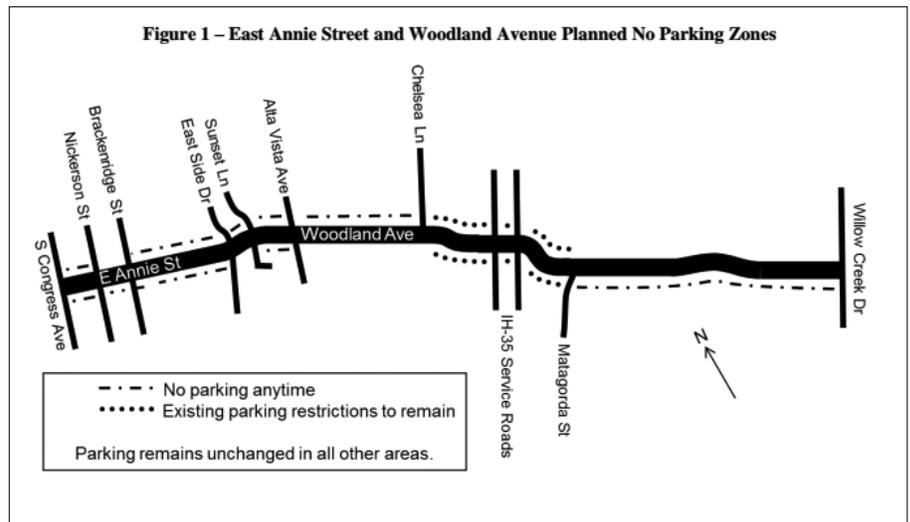
Fifth graders celebrated their final months with a three-day/two-night team building experience at Camp Champions. They also gave an outstanding performance at

*Continued on page 4*

there are no current or planned projects from other departments that could affect the newly repaved surface.

At press time, the following modifications were planned for parking along Annie/Woodland:

- E Annie St (from S Congress Ave to Kenwood Ave): Prohibit parking on the south side of the street.
- E Annie St (from S Congress Ave to Nickerson St): Prohibit parking on the north side of the street.
- E Annie St and Woodland Ave (from Brackenridge St to Alta Vista Ave): Prohibit parking on the north side of the street.
- Woodland Ave (from Kenwood Ave to Chelsea Ln): Prohibit parking on the north side of the street.
- Woodland Ave (from Matagorda St to Willow Creek Dr): Prohibit parking on the south side of the street.



Below are excerpts from the meeting notice provided by the City of Austin about these upcoming changes.

“In order to improve safety for all modes of transportation, the City’s Public Works Department is implementing and improving a bicycle route system, as directed by the Austin City Council per City Ordinance No. 20090611-075 (The Austin Bicycle Plan). East Annie Street and Woodland Avenue from South Congress Avenue to Willow Creek Drive are part of Route 68 of the City of Austin bicycle system.”

“In coordination with routine street maintenance (road re-surfacing and re-striping), and to enhance mobility in the corridor for both motor vehicles and bicycles, the street striping will be reconfigured to include bicycle lanes or to remove parking from existing bicycle lanes. To accomplish this reconfiguration, on-street motor vehicle parking will be prohibited on certain sections of East Annie Street and Woodland Avenue. These proposed changes have been planned in coordination with the City of Austin Sidewalk Program so as to not preclude future sidewalks. The corridor’s safety and mobility, as well as the results of an on-street parking use analysis, were considered to determine these parking modifications.” ☼

our End of Year Celebration at Guero's "Under the Oaks." The celebration also raised money for future Thunderbirds headed to Camp Champions and raised over \$1,200 for next year's fifth grade class.

Our Spring No-Hassle Fundraiser raised a whopping \$12,000+. A special thanks to the Lippincott Family who generously donated \$1,500 as a matching grant on our last day of the fundraiser. Thank you to all in our community who continue to support our neighborhood school.

The first grade students enjoyed the last three weeks of school with swim lessons each day, provided by a generous grant from Colin's Hope. Colin's Hope is an Austin-based non-profit organization that Jeff and Karen Holst created after their 4-year-old son Colin drowned at an Austin fitness center in 2008. It works to raise water safety awareness to prevent children from drowning. It was a great success and our children loved this program.

**SUMMER NEWS** The campus competed our first 3-week long Spanish Immersion Camp thanks to a grant from AISD Bilingual Department. The children visited local museums, engaged in cooking, arts, crafts, theater, and finished with a cultural celebration. Many thanks to the creativity of all of our THES Spanish teachers and teacher's aids. We were lucky to have Ms. Melendez from Fulmore help with our summer camp.

Other Summer Camps at THES also included a two-week Art Camp with Ms. Webb, art teacher, and 1-week Media

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*Volunteer with SRCC, continued from page 1*

residents. The position consists of attending ANC meetings and reporting back to SRCC members at our general meeting. ANC meetings are held the fourth Wednesday of every month, (except November and December); SRCC general meetings are 1st Monday of each month, (except January and July). This is a position that can be shared to allow flexibility in your schedule. For more information, visit <http://ancweb.org>.

**AREA COORDINATOR FOR AREA 1** Area Coordinators recruit block captains to help distribute newsletters and represent your interests at Executive Committee meetings. We try to have two coordinators for each area of the SRCC; currently we are short one for Area 1. The other coordinator for this area, Claudette Lowe, is a longtime resident, so you will have her experience to guide you. Area 1 is bordered by Lady Bird Lake, South Congress Ave., Monroe St, and Eastside Dr./Alameda Dr. Visit our website for a map to see what area you live in: [www.srccatx.org/area-map/](http://www.srccatx.org/area-map/)

**DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES** Under the new ten city district plan, SRCC is located in both District 3 and 9. Especially with the upcoming city elections for new mayor and district members, we need at least two people from each district to be the SRCC representatives to the ANC/Leadership Austin District group. Meeting once a month

Camp with Mr. Hawes, media/technology teacher. Each camp celebrated with art display and performances at the end of camp. Fun!

**MISSION 75** We're excited to announce that this year marks **75 years** of our neighborhood school! And the future has never been brighter. As Travis Heights Elementary is Austin's first District-Approved, Parent and Teacher Led Community School, we have some incredible opportunities available to us. Of course, that means we have some big financial needs. Interested in learning more about your own neighborhood's truly revolutionary school? Willing (or know any local businesses willing) to fund some of these amazing programs? For more information please contact Lauren Davis at [lauren.davis@gmail.com](mailto:lauren.davis@gmail.com).

**SUPPORT THES THROUGH AMAZONSMILE**

You can donate to our school while doing your regular Amazon shopping with no additional charge to you. The THES PTA is registered with the AmazonSmile program and Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to our school. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service.

Please use the following link <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/74-6062872> to donate to THES the next time you make any Amazon purchases. ☘

to discusses common interest/issues of the neighborhoods, the group's purpose is to ensure that the city council members and candidates for city council are aware of the issues that face each of the neighborhoods. Representatives will need to attend the meetings that are usually on Saturdays for two hours and report back to SRCC about what was said and discussed. You would also be the voice for SRCC and ensure that the group is aware of the thoughts and concerns of SRCC. To see which district you live in, visit [austintexas.gov/department/10-one](http://austintexas.gov/department/10-one).

**PUBLIC SAFETY/NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH/PATROL CHAIR** With what started out as a pilot in only one area of our neighborhood, after several years we now have a group of trained patrollers covering the entire SRCC area. Raymond Sinatra has been leading the program for the past couple of years but is now looking for someone new to take the lead. Raymond, with help from past leadership, has laid the foundation that makes the program easy to run and requires a small time commitment. Please let Raymond know if you are interested in helping drive down crime and bring new energy to our program: [raymondsinatra@yahoo.com](mailto:raymondsinatra@yahoo.com)

**QUALITY OF LIFE COMMITTEE CHAIR** This committee was created to focus on issues that directly effect the quali-

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# Austin City Council Prepares for 2015 Commercial Property Tax Challenge

Danette Chimenti, [dchimenti@austin.rr.com](mailto:dchimenti@austin.rr.com)

**AUSTIN'S PROPERTY TAX SYSTEM IS BROKEN.** The current county appraisal system drastically favors commercial property owners over Austin's homeowners. As property values for Austin's homeowners continue to skyrocket, so do their property taxes. Families are being forced out of our neighborhood, because they can no longer afford the ever-increasing taxes on their homes.

Questions are emerging over how the Travis County Appraisal District assigns appraised values for residential and commercial properties. Research by the *Austin American-Statesman*, Real Values for Texas, and many others shows that the while residential properties are appraised at close to fair market value, commercial properties are drastically undervalued. The result is that commercial properties are able to shift their tax burden onto the backs of Austin's homeowners.

A push to mount a challenge to commercial valuations fizzled at the Travis County Commissioners Court. However, the Austin City Council stepped up by adopting several key measures aimed at restoring balance to the property tax system. The effort is being championed by Council Member and District 9 Candidate Kathie Tovo, who laid out an initial plan to address the property tax inequities in three separate resolutions.

The first resolution seeks to address the primary cause of inaccuracies in commercial valuation—insufficient data. The Appraisal District lacks sales price information to properly adjust commercial values to reflect current market trends. Texas is one of only about a half-dozen states that does not require mandatory sales-price disclosure for real property. This leaves an information gap, where commercial property owners can selectively disclose data in challenging and getting reductions on their appraised

values. The Appraisal District stated that as much as 90% of all the commercial property value in Travis County is appealed annually. Because mandatory sales price disclosure would require legislative action, Council voted to add to the City's legislative agenda a mandate to work with the state legislature to require public disclosure of sales for commercial properties.

In Tovo's second resolution, Council unanimously approved filing a city-wide protest to challenge appraised values on targeted categories of commercial properties that can be proven to be undervalued. The next opportunity to challenge the Appraisal District's valuations will be in 2015, so the Council directed the City Manager to take immediate action by compiling the necessary data to support the City's case. The Council's Audit and Finance Committee will oversee the preparation of the petition, and the decision to file it will likely be one of the most significant votes taken by the new 10-1 Council in early 2015.

Tovo met some opposition with her colleagues on the final resolution, which passed on a vote of 5-2 (Mayor Leffingwell and Council Member Spelman voting no). When the City grants property tax incentives in economic development agreements, the amount of incentive offered is based on a cost-benefit analysis that assumes particular appraised values for commercial property. However, when companies can later challenge those appraised values, the cost-benefits analysis is no longer applicable and the city cannot guarantee its return on investment. The resolution, thus, directs the City Manager to develop a policy for Council consideration to require companies who receive property tax incentives from the City to agree not to challenge their appraisals for the period of the agreement. The Council will vote on this new policy by August 30, 2014.

I personally applaud the City Council for taking these steps. The City's leadership on this issue can grow to a larger conversation on how we can reduce the inequities in our property tax system. Easing the tax burden on Austin's residents will go a long way to addressing affordability on a city-wide scale. ☘

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*Volunteer with SRCC, continued from page 4*

ty of life of our residents. While originally driven primarily by outdoor music, noise, events, and litter concerns, it's easy to consider almost any issue something that affects our "quality of life" in the neighborhood. In an effort to narrow the focus of the group, this committee focuses only on issues that are not directly addressed by another committee. Under committee chair Robert Reeves and with significant contributions from Max Woodfin and Laura Toups, the group was able to have an impact on outdoor music issues from South Congress, trash and litter pick-up surrounding the South Congress area, as well as participation in forming the city's new restrictions on helicopter flights overhead. Robert had to resign from being the chair

of the committee and we need new leadership at this time to continue to preserve what makes this neighborhood so wonderful. To learn more about SRCC committees, visit our website: [www.srccatx.org/committees/](http://www.srccatx.org/committees/)

**COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIR** Are you a social media maven? Are you tech-savvy? Do you love communicating with others? You could be our next Communications Chair. This volunteer would help provide support and gather content for our various social media and communications platforms: website, newsletter, Facebook, Twitter, NextDoor, Google and Yahoo Groups. A background in public relations would be a big plus. Help us with reaching everyone in the SRCC! ☘

unknown. The church's representative, Jim Bennett, insisted that the site was less than 70% impervious cover.

When the survey was presented, it was incorrect and, thanks to calculations by neighbor Marty Christman, a corrected survey documented at least 78.4% impervious cover. As 80% is the upper limit for GO zoning, once the church builds their fellowship hall addition, they would exceed the impervious cover for the GO zoning.

Neighbors met with council members during the postponement and proposals from CM Chris Riley's office included ways to accommodate the church by supporting their GR request with all the GR uses stripped out through a conditional overlay to the zoning. This would require that anyone who buys the property in the future return to city council to change the conditional overlay in order to build something on the site other than a church or single-family homes. Since traffic is largely tied to land use, the conditional overlay effectively mitigates concerns about significant changes in traffic volume or patterns.

During SRCC's October 2013 meeting, members voted to oppose the upzoning request, but to support an impervious cover variance in exchange for constructing water quality and runoff controls to mitigate for excessive storm water runoff that flows into Blunn Creek just two blocks away. In the month leading up to the council vote, neighbors Marty Christman and Mike Kelly developed a conceptual layout for practical and cost effective storm water control measures (SCMs) that would accompany SRCC's support for a variance for the church to build their fellowship hall addition. The church agreed to include SCMs for the impervious cover associated with the addition, but they

proposed that SRCC and City of Austin taxpayers fund the SCMs for the existing impervious cover that exceeds the current limit of 45%. Note that the church does not pay taxes on their 1.6-acre property or two duplexes they own on Sherwood. The church's proposal was presented to the neighborhood two days before the council hearing without time for a vote of the general membership to be held.

While city council's approval provides a modest condition for mitigating stormwater runoff from the new addition, the condition does almost nothing to mitigate for the permanent impervious cover increase provided by the zoning change. Under current SF-2 zoning, future site pavement and rooftop area in a redevelopment scenario would be limited to approximately 31,000 square feet; under the approved GR zoning, 59,000 square feet of rooftop and pavement will be allowed. The increased impervious cover allowance translates to an additional 410,000 gallons of stormwater runoff entering Blunn Creek during rain events in an average year. A large portion of the Blunn Creek watershed was developed prior to modern rules requiring flood, erosion, and water quality controls. Recent taxpayer-funded creek bank stabilization projects near Stacy Park were constructed to protect the creek from uncontrolled runoff from these developed areas. Thus, city council's upzoning approval without comparable impervious cover mitigation runs counter to other city and neighborhood creek protection efforts.

Second and third readings for the zoning change will likely be heard by city council this August. For more information, contact Elloa Mathews at 512-442-6986 or Marty Christman at 512-912-0724. ☼



TOP LEFT: Life Tabernacle Apostolic Churches faces East Oltorf.

TOP RIGHT: View of church property from Sherwood Lane.

RIGHT: Parking lot of Life Tabernacle Apostolic Church.

Photos: Elloa Mathews





## Have You Tried the New Boardwalk?

Jeff Kessel, [jeff@impactpro.com](mailto:jeff@impactpro.com)

**THIS IS JUST THE BEGINNING!** The extended lake trail is a great way to see the City and to get to the other side of Austin. While there is trail/boardwalk access located near our neighborhood, there are no “pedestrian only” ways to get there. The safest way is to use one of the controlled crossings of Riverside Drive. Perhaps in the future, a safe access route to the trail for pedestrians and bikes can be created. One possible solution would be to work with the Project Connect group as they advance their Central Corridor plans, which involve building a mass transit system to extend along the Riverside Drive Right of Way. An elevated pedestrian bridge over Riverside at Academy would be a promising location for a bridge.

**ABOUT THE BOARDWALK** The Boardwalk is open from 5am to midnight each day, with a curfew between midnight and 5am. You may access it at several points:

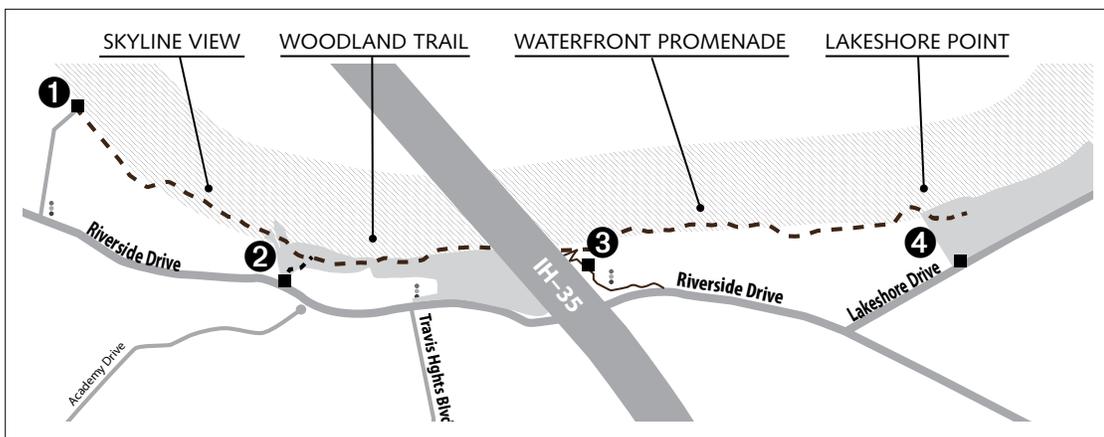
- ❶ northeast corner of the American-Statesman parking lot,
- ❷ off the Riverside Drive sidewalk at Blunn Creek,
- ❸ the northeast corner of Riverside and IH35; and
- ❹ at International Shores Park, 1820 S. Lakeshore Blvd.

Street parking is available along S. Lakeshore Blvd. between Pleasant Valley Road and Riverside. Or if you are walking the Ann and Roy Butler Hike-and-Bike Trail loop, you can park at Festival Beach across the river, or at any of the parking areas near the trail.

**HOW IT CAME TO BE** In 2008, the Austin City Council appropriated funds for preliminary design, engineering, and public involvement for the Boardwalk at Lady Bird Lake. In 2010 and 2012, Austin voters approved additional bond funding, accompanied with a generous list of donors coordinated by the Trail Foundation. Construction started in October 2012 and was completed in early June 2014. The \$28 million project features over 300 piers, 2,200 pre-cast concrete deck planks, 13,000 LED lights, 1.3 million pounds of structural steel, seven viewing areas, ADA accessible pier, and a new trailhead restroom along the 7,250 feet boardwalk. With these improvements, the 1.3 mile gap along the south shore has been closed, and the Trail now serves our city as an alternative transportation route for our urban core. ❁



TOP LEFT: A new skyline view of Austin and its wildlife.  
 TOP RIGHT: One of the several look-out points on the new boardwalk.  
 LEFT: The trail goes under I-35, making a safe and easy connection. ABOVE: Parts of the boardwalk are designed for woodland effect. *Photos: Matt Lynaugh*  
 LEFT BELOW: Map of the trail with its new entry points. *Map: Gloria Lee*



## Area Coordinators

Area 1 Claudette Lowe 512-447-1514  
 Area 1 → **Volunteer Needed!**  
 Area 2 Elizabeth Day 512-441-1759  
 Area 2 Kathy Henley 512-666-3545  
 Area 3a Kathleen Littlepage 512-773-1149  
 Area 3b Brooks Kasson 512-444-8100  
 Area 3b Tim Boswell 512-589-5593  
 Area 4a Sam Martin 512-441-5222  
 Area 4a Mary Friedman 512-619-5773  
 Area 4b Kris Asthalter 512-443-4963  
 Area 5 Neal Nuwash 512-462-9093  
 Area 5 Elloa Mathews 512-442-6986  
 Area 6 Dawn Cizmar 512-443-4231  
 Area 6 Rachel McClure 512-326-5572  
 Area 7 Sounthaly Outhavong 512-518-3666  
 Area 7 Kelvin Glover 512-415-2027  
 Area 8 Maria Martinez 512-443-9784  
 Area 8 Kim Lanzillotti 512-658-8565

## Standing Committees

### Parks, Schools & Environment

David Todd (Parks) 512-416-0400  
 Sherri Ancipink (Sch) 512-707-2627  
 Marty Christman (Env) 512-912-0724

### Planning & Zoning

Jean Mather 512-444-4153  
 Ken Anschutz kent@kentanschutz.com  
 Marc Davis marc.davis@gmail.com  
 Russell Fraser russell\_fraser@msn.com

## Transportation & Public Safety

Mike Sledge michael.sledge@gmail.com  
 Jeff Kessel jeff@impactpro.com  
 Nbrhd. Patrol → **Volunteer Needed!**

## Membership; Communications

Carol Martin 512-441-5222

## Newsletter

Gloria Lee gloria@buds-buck.com

## Financial

Sam Martin 512-441-5222

## Ad Hoc Committees

### Norwood House

Wolf Sittler 512-447-2150

### TH-FP Historic District

Michele Webre 512-422-1262

## Representatives

### Austin Neighborhoods Council

→ **Volunteer(s) Needed!**

### City District 3 Representative (2)

### City District 9 Representative (2)

→ **Volunteers Needed!**

### East Riverside (EROC)

Toni House 512-447-8090

### St. Edward's

Elloa Mathews 512-442-6986

**SRCC Meetings:** We typically meet the first Monday of every month at 7:15 PM at Grace United Methodist Church, 205 E. Monroe. For details: [www.srccatx.org](http://www.srccatx.org).

**We thank all our officers, area coordinators, committees and representatives for their dedication to our community!** Call your coordinator for SRCC questions, to volunteer or to help deliver newsletters.

### Save Town Lake

Dennis Cudd 917-568-3147

### South Central Coalition

Danette Chimenti 512-912-8290

### TH Arts Trail

Margaret Adie 512-440-8579

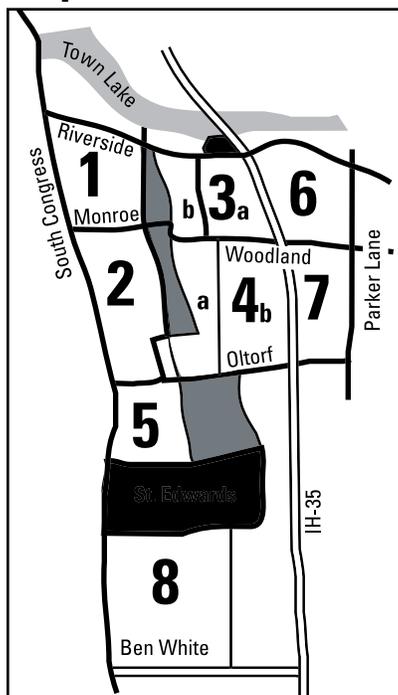
### Travis Park Apt/Austin Interfaith

Terry Franz 512-447-8786

## SRCC Officers

President Eric Rangel  
 president@srccatx.org  
 Vice President Gretchen Otto  
 vicepresident@srccatx.org  
 Treasurer Nancy Byrd  
 treasurer@srccatx.org  
 Secretary Garret Nick  
 secretary@srccatx.org

## Map of SRCC Areas



## Join your Neighbors in SRCC!

### SOUTH RIVER CITY CITIZENS MEMBERSHIP FORM

To pay via PayPal (and where you can also sign-up for a yearly subscription), go to [www.srccatx.org/membership-dues/](http://www.srccatx.org/membership-dues/)

You can also send check made payable to SRCC, along with completed form to:

**SRCC, Attention: Treasurer, P.O. Box 40632, Austin, TX 78704**

*Note: Dues and Contributions are not tax-deductible.*

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS		
NO. OF YEARS	INDIVIDUAL	FAMILY
1	\$20	\$35
2	\$35	\$65
3	\$50	\$95

Membership: = \_\_\_\_\_  
 circle type: **FAMILY / INDIVIDUAL**  
 no. of years: \_\_\_\_\_

Add'l donation to = \_\_\_\_\_  
 SRCC General Fund \_\_\_\_\_

Total = \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
 NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE(S) \_\_\_\_\_  
 EMAIL(S) \_\_\_\_\_